

Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District

**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Updated Redwood Marine Terminal Business Plan Available
for Review**

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The Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District (District) is pleased to announce that the Final Draft Redwood Marine Terminal Business Plan is available for review on the District's website at www.humboldtby.org or at the District's office at 601 Startare Drive, Woodley Island, Eureka, California between the hours of 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Monday-Friday.

On November 14, 2008 the District's Board of Commissioners will hear an updated presentation by representatives of TranSystems, the consulting firm retained to produce the Business Plan. Written and oral comments on the first draft Business Plan were taken by the Board of Commissioners at five Board meetings and over a 64-day comment period ending August 28, 2008. At the November 14 meeting, TranSystems will present an updated report providing additional information based upon the comments received. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Board will consider receiving and filing the Business Plan and directing District staff to proceed with the environmental review process. The Board meeting will be held at the City of Eureka's Wharfinger Building at the Eureka Public Marina at 7:00 PM.

The Redwood Marine Terminal Business Plan is a continuance of the District's efforts to revitalize and diversify the maritime uses of the harbor portion of Humboldt Bay in an effort to create jobs, provide funding for the District's recreation and conservation needs and stimulate the local economy. The first step in this process was the completion of the Harbor Deepening Project in 2000 that allowed Humboldt Bay to be competitive in Pacific Rim maritime shipping. Building on the deepening project, the Harbor Revitalization Plan was completed in 2003 and concluded that, although there were challenges, the Port of Humboldt Bay was viable for a variety of maritime uses. As a result, the District obtained the Redwood Marine Terminal between 2004-2006.

The District retained TranSystems in 2007 with funding from Humboldt County's Headwaters Fund to produce a feasibility study and business plan for modernization of the Redwood Marine Terminal. The Feasibility Study phase of the project included a site assessment, market evaluation and two development options for the Redwood Marine Terminal property. The Feasibility Study was completed in February 2008 when the Board authorized TranSystems to proceed with the development of a Business Plan for a multi-purpose berth integrated with long term expansion.

The purpose of the Business plan is to present a set of development objectives and the plan for achieving those objectives. The business plan proposes two concepts for development: (1) an initial multipurpose berth and terminal infrastructure to handle cruise, cargo, short sea shipping and non-cargo uses and (2) future long term expansion which, depending on market conditions, could center on containers, an enlarged multipurpose terminal or other market sectors. These reports and the recommendations are available on the District's website.

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