



ZERLANG & ZERLANG MARINE SERVICES

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April 9, 2020

Humboldt Bay Harbor Commissioners

RE: Fields Landing Boat Yard Request for Proposal

Greetings To All:

The Fields Landing yard is one of the most valuable assets that the Harbor District owns and very important to the west coast commercial fishing fleet. I understand the District's position regarding costs of operating the yard and the need to make a change.

The original RFQ that was sent out in January for the Fields Landing yard was very vague and confusing. The proposal that is currently being discussed is completely different than the original proposal. Not one local marine contractor in this area has been contacted regarding the latest proposal, and this will affect their businesses and the customers they work with.

Humboldt Bay is known on the west coast for this unique and skilled group of marine mechanics. The Fisherman's Marketing Association was not aware that the Harbor District was proposing any changes in the Fields Landing boat yard operations. This is of great concern. Three local contractors approached me asking where the RFP is for the demolition of the derelict boats. I, also, have not seen the RFP.

The increase of fees being charged by the District is a major concern with the current fishing fleet; and I know of two boat owners that are moving not only their boats, but their families, out of this area. We don't believe any other major changes should be made without discussion at this time.

The lease that the District is proposing for property, buildings, and equipment is way under value and makes it look like a government-subsidized operation.

I and others would request that this venture be postponed until the Covid-19 virus pandemic is controlled and a committee can be set up and meet to determine what is best for not only the commercial fishing fleet and the Harbor District, but this area as a whole.

I'm a very large supporter of the Harbor District (not easy at times!) and have and will continue to help where I can. I do believe that the Harbor District is creating a bad situation here due to lack of planning and thought.

I'm not writing this because I am worried about or don't want competition. I am most concerned about the general area and what is best for our community.

Leroy Zerlang

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