

## CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT  
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# F19b

**Prepared December 12, 2022 for December 16, 2022 Hearing**

**To:** Commissioners and Interested Persons

**From:** Kevin Kahn, Central Coast District Manager  
Kiana Ford, Coastal Planner

**Subject: Additional hearing materials for F19b  
CDP Number 3-22-0280 (Santa Cruz Harbor Minor Improvements  
Program)**

This package includes additional materials related to the above-referenced hearing item as follows:

Additional correspondence received in the time since the staff report was distributed

**From:** [Tracey Weiss](#)  
**To:** [CentralCoast@Coastal](mailto:CentralCoast@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support: Permit Application 3-22-0280  
**Date:** Friday, December 9, 2022 4:16:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [OSO LOS SC Port 2022.pdf](#)

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On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the O'Neill Sea Odyssey I am submitted the following letter of support for Coastal Development Permit Application Number 3-22-0280.

O'Neill Sea Odyssey provides over 5000 youth annually with the opportunity to visit and attend a free marine science program located at the Santa Cruz Harbor. As long time partners, we support the application for a 5-year maintenance application. A safe, and well-managed Harbor benefit all individuals.

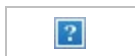
The approval of a five-year permit would allow the Port District to work with partners (such as OSO) to plan for the regular maintenance, replacement and monitoring of Harbor infrastructure. We look forward to working with the Santa Cruz Port District staff to ensure deferred maintenance and additional facility related concerns are monitored and managed to mitigate concerns to the boats, programs, visitors and wildlife that all utilize the Port District regularly.

The following letter outlines our support as a partner and committed provider of programs that increase access to our coastline through the California Coastal Act (Section 30001.5). If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I appreciate the hard work of the Coastal Commission to ensure a safe, vibrant and accessible Californai Coastal Zone for California's youth and families.

Kind regards,  
Tracey Weiss

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**Tracey Weiss (she/her)**  
Executive Director at O'Neill Sea Odyssey

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**Join us!** [Celebrate the next generation of ocean stewards](#)



*O'Neill Sea Odyssey provides a hands-on educational experience to encourage the protection and preservation of our living sea and communities.*

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December 7, 2022

California Coastal Commission  
725 Front Street Suite 300  
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To California Coastal Commission Commissioners:

The O'Neill Sea Odyssey (OSO) is a marine science program that provides 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth with the opportunity to visit and access the Monterey Bay through the Santa Cruz Harbor. For 25 years, OSO has worked in partnership with the Santa Cruz Port District to The O'Neill Sea Odyssey is writing in support of the Coastal Development Permit Application 3-22-0280 for the Santa Cruz Port District.

The O'Neill Sea Odyssey has been working to bring youth and community to the Santa Cruz Harbor for over 25 years. Working with the most vulnerable in our community, we provide over 200 classes (an estimate of 5,000 individuals) annually from Santa Cruz, Monterey, and Santa Cruz Counties with hands-on STEAM learning. Our program is free and reaches diverse students from traditionally underserved communities at a critical point in their development with a comprehensive science program designed to support the next generation of ocean stewards. Our program relies upon our partnership with the Team O'Neill Catamaran. The Team O'Neill vessel is a 65 feet long floating classroom that provides a critical resource for our community. The O'Neill Sea Odyssey relies upon regular access for our students, staff, teachers and administrators to the Team O'Neill dock.

A well-maintained Harbor benefits everyone. Working with youth and public classes, who report that 30% have never been the beach prior, and over 50% who have never been on a boat, it is critical that harbor environment is safe and well maintained. The Coastal Act (Section 30001.5) highlights the goals of maximizing access for the public to the coastal zone. A well-maintained harbor ensures that the youth and our public school system will be able to participate in educational and recreation based opportunities inside the coastal zone. Recently, the Team O'Neill vessel, and the O'Neill Sea Odyssey program had to shift its operations to a new dock due to a piling that cracked making the dock unsafe for mooring. We hope that this permit and appropriate planning could prevent future challenges.

We look forward to working with the Santa Cruz Harbor staff to mitigate any potential impact that future repair and maintenance work might have upon our program. O'Neill Sea Odyssey operates from September to early December and then again from March through May annually. We look forward to monitoring and strategizing ways to minimize any impacts that may be caused due to proposed repair and maintenance work.

As a longtime tenant of the Santa Cruz Harbor, we look forward to working with Harbor leadership to ensure a positive and safe experience for the youth that visit the Harbor annually.

In Community,



Tracey Weiss

Executive Director O'Neill Sea Odyssey