

## Comments to the Council and BOS May 18,2021

I am making similar comments to both this board and the Oxnard City Council.

I have been involved in harbor affairs since the 1990s. I am an original member of the Task Force formed by then mayor Flynn to craft a city/county agreement to replace the one referenced by Mr. Powers that expired in 2013 extended to 2018. Mr. Powers indicates that this agreement failed. I would add this was due to verbiage added by the county at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour.

Development in the harbor must be guided by a transparent and public RFP process and a redo of the Public Works Plan. The wording of certain paragraphs acknowledges that this is still a point of controversy.

However, the desire to facilitate the long planned hotel and the inclusion of the understanding that the harbor visioning process will guide the future development process are hopeful signs that there is an understanding of how important this is to both entities and to the entire county public.

I continue to hope that the desire for public serving harbor/beach development that meets the intent of the coastal act to both maximize access and protect the coast and coastal habitat will allow for more openness and creativity about future harbor revenues and development funding mechanisms.

I congratulate both the county and the city for their sensitivity to the importance of this harbor, the need for joint action and funding to ensure the water quality, and the acknowledgment that jurisdiction over water cannot end at a bridge.