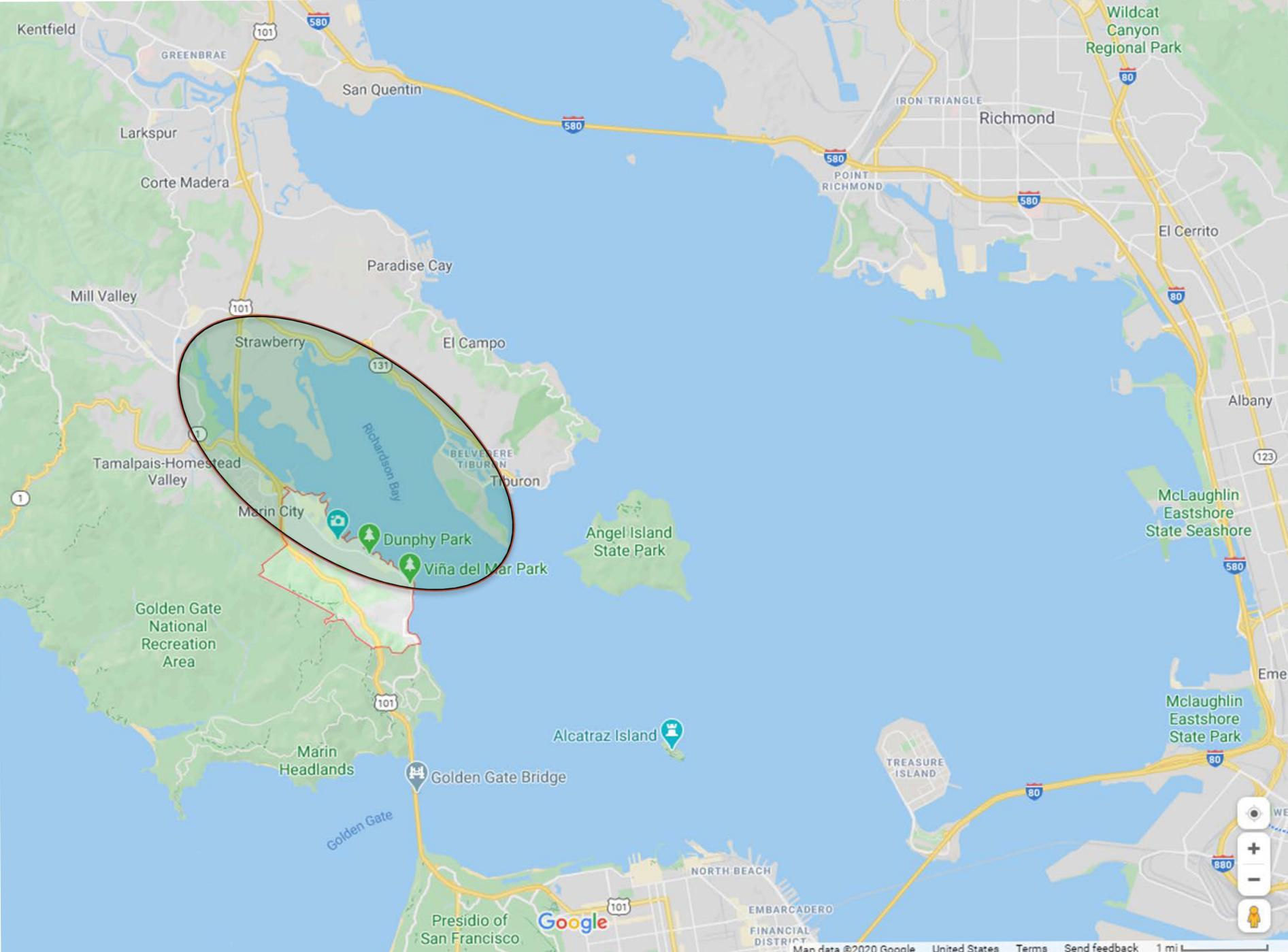


# Richardson's Bay Regional Agency

Bay Conservation & Development  
Commission

Enforcement Committee Briefing

July 9, 2020



Kentfield

GREENBRAE

San Quentin

Larkspur

Corte Madera

Mill Valley

Paradise Cay

Strawberry

El Campo

Tamalpais-Homesstead Valley

Marin City

BELVERE TIBURON

Tiburon

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Marin Headlands

Angel Island State Park

Dunphy Park

Viña del Mar Park

Alcatraz Island

Golden Gate Bridge

TREASURE ISLAND

Wildcat Canyon Regional Park

Richmond

POINT RICHMOND

El Cerrito

Albany

McLaughlin Eastshore State Seashore

McLaughlin Eastshore State Park

Emer

Presidio of San Francisco

Google

NORTH BEACH

EMBARCADERO

FINANCIAL DISTRICT



# Briefing Outline

RBRA Transition Plan commitments

Current anchorage status

Response to Committee comments  
of April 9, 2020

# Richardson's Bay Regional Agency

## TRANSITION PLAN

Vision ~ Goal ~ Principles ~ Policy ~ Resources

# RBRA TRANSITION PLAN COMMITMENTS

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- Enforcement of time limits on vessels that are unsafe, unseaworthy, unregistered and otherwise fail to meet Safe & Seaworthy Program requirements in stages over the next 15 months
- Set a sunset date for ending deferred enforcement of time limits on all vessels
- Support efforts for relocation to alternative housing
- Initiate eelgrass restoration and protection measures

# Vision

*Richardson's Bay has essential value as a recreational and environmental resource where eelgrass and the ecological systems it supports are increasingly protected, preserved and restored; vessels on the anchorage become safe, seaworthy, operable and compliant with other requirements; and the number of occupied vessels diminishes over time.*

# Goal

A safe, healthy, and well-managed Richardson's Bay

# Principles

- Affirm Richardson's Bay as a temporary anchorage and prevent additional vessels from extended stays
- Conditionally and discretionarily allow occupied legacy vessels that comply with RBRA requirements to remain for a limited period of time
- Support initiatives for relocating occupants of vessels to alternative housing
- Realize a decreasing number of occupied vessels over time
- Protect and promote eelgrass habitat and growth

# Policy Direction Summary

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- No unoccupied vessels and no extended stays for incoming vessels
- Safe & Seaworthy Program for eligible vessels to improve conditions, comply with requirements, and stay for a period of time
- Outreach to connect persons with housing and create more housing
- Sunset date for occupied-vessel anchorage
- Eelgrass protection and restoration measures

# Policy Direction – Continue Vessel Limitations

Maintain existing enforcement priorities for unoccupied vessels and time limits on incoming vessels

- No unoccupied vessels
- Incoming vessels subject to time limits
  - Permit required to anchor more than 72 hours
  - 30-day anchoring permits only

# Policy Direction – *Safe & Seaworthy* Program

*As a discretionary determination by RBRA, defers enforcement of RBRA time limits on eligible vessels that meet all other RBRA requirements and State and Federal vessel regulations*

- Vessels in August 2019 census eligible to enroll
- RBRA vessel inspections to identify improvements needed to meet requirements
- Vessels compliant with required vessel conditions and other rules become eligible for legacy status and deferred enforcement of RBRA time limits
- Must continue to maintain vessel safety, seaworthiness & compliance with requirements

# Policy Direction - Housing

Connect persons living on vessels with outreach agencies and organizations for assistance with finding alternative housing

Encourage expansion of housing opportunities

- Vulnerable people, vulnerable vessels
- Outreach connections
- Expanding housing opportunities
- Marina slips

# Policy Direction – Sunset Date

RBRA Board will set a sunset date by which occupied vessels will no longer be eligible for deferred enforcement of RBRA time limits

Sunset date factors include:

- Information obtained through the Summer/Fall 2020 Vessel Enrollment Program
- Alternative housing availability and affordability
- Grant funding and other resources to manage final transition

# Policy Direction - Eelgrass

Collaborating with agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders, develop eelgrass protection measures and consider specific eelgrass restoration funding and projects

- Explore potential designation of zones for varying levels of vessel usage and eelgrass restoration and protection, such as:
  - Eelgrass Restoration Zone
  - Eelgrass Protection Zone
  - Anchoring Zone
- Seek grant funding for research, protection and restoration opportunities

# Resources

- Harbormaster & Assistant Harbormaster
- Local law enforcement agencies' assistance
- Division of Boating & Waterways SAVE grant for vessel abatement
- NOAA 2019 grant funds expended; next potential grant cycle: funds in 2021
- RBRA funding coordinated outreach, dependent upon other agencies/organizations and for services and housing, who in turn depend on grants/State/Federal \$
- Potential Federal, State, Non-Profit grants for eelgrass

# Safe & Seaworthy

OBJECTIVES

ELIGIBILITY

REQUIREMENTS

LEGACY VESSEL STATUS

TIMELINES

# *Safe & Seaworthy* - Objectives

- ✧ Avoid injury or death on the bay
- ✧ Protect bay habitat, prevent polluting waste and debris
- ✧ Minimize risk of vessels running adrift or aground or sinking
- ✧ Encourage those with aspirations for extended travel to realize these dreams with a safe, working vessel
- ✧ Promote vessel eligibility for marina slips
- ✧ Limit new persons and vessels from settling in to the anchorage
- ✧ Improve management of the bay

# *SAFE & SEAWORTHY* - ELIGIBILITY

Enrollment open to vessels on  
the August 2019 census

Enrollment:

- RBRA vessel inspection to identify improvements needed to comply with requirements
- Enroll vessel occupants

# *Safe & Seaworthy* Requirements

- Vessel complies with existing RBRA vessel regulations, as well as state and federal regulations
  - Seaworthy - including operability, secure ground tackle
  - Valid registration or documentation
  - Waste facilities & decks clear of debris
  - No criminal activity on bay, docks, shoreline
  - Maintains up-to-date occupant enrollment, ongoing occupancy, and vessel compliance

## *Safe & Seaworthy* – Legacy Vessels

- Vessels that meet and maintain compliance with Safe & Seaworthy requirements are eligible for legacy vessel status
- Legacy vessels become eligible for discretionary RBRA deferral of time limit enforcement
- Vessels that do not comply with eligibility, requirements and timelines are subject to removal as an RBRA enforcement priority

# *Safe & Seaworthy* - Timeline

- October 15, 2020: Enrollment Deadline
  - Ineligible vessels and un-enrolled vessels subject to removal
- February 15, 2021: Vessel registration/documentation
  - Invalid or no registration/documentation: Subject to removal
- October 15, 2021: Meet all Safe & Seaworthy requirements: Non-complying vessels subject to removal
- At any point in time: Falling out of program compliance
  - Vessel subject to removal
- Sunset date for deferred enforcement of occupied vessels : To be set by the RBRA Board

# Current Status of Anchorage

- 126 vessels as of 7/6/2020
- Transition Packets have been distributed
- Notices provided to unoccupied marine debris
- Aggressively pursuing housing opportunities
- Initiating impound and citation programs

# Response to Comments

ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE OF  
APRIL 9, 2020

*BCDC: “Provide a policy proposal that results in removing all illegal anchor-outs from the Bay within five years”*

RBRA Policy Direction: Remove vessels failing to comply with RBRA vessel requirements within two years

Outcome: Safer, healthier, better managed anchorage

RBRA to set a sunset date for deferred enforcement on occupied vessels

RBRA will consider information such as that obtained through the Safe & Seaworthy vessel enrollment in the determination on a sunset date for deferred enforcement

## *BCDC: How will RBRA standards align with marina berthing requirements?*

Vessel conditions required under Safe & Seaworthy program align with marina berthing requirements, and will facilitate acquiring vessel insurance needed for berthing

*BCDC: Coordination with marinas  
should include plan to abate  
abandoned vessels*

Capacity to abate vessels abandoned in marinas is dependent upon State Boating & Waterways grant funding and anchorage abatement funding needs

RBRA support efforts and urges BCDC to help lead efforts to expand abatement resources

*BCDC: Instead of one-time vessel replacement provision, remove vessels & provide alternative housing*

Low income vessel occupants have few resources and options relative to the general population

RBRA modified provision – now at discretion of the Harbormaster for achieving *Safe & Seaworthy* objectives

RBRA is funding work to connect persons with housing alternatives and supports regional efforts to establish more supportive housing

*BCDC: Eelgrass restoration -  
Anchorage zones, ground tackle, moorings, natural and  
proactive restoration, size, resources and timeline*

Working with stakeholders  
including BCDC, RBRA will develop  
an eelgrass management plan

RBRA is retaining the services of an  
eelgrass habitat specialist to  
coordinate eelgrass management  
planning and grants

*BCDC: Eelgrass restoration -  
Anchorage zones, ground tackle, moorings, natural and  
proactive restoration, size, resources and timeline*

Data & information from Merkel &  
Associates 2019 Mooring Study and  
eelgrass & bathymetric surveys as  
foundation for future planning,  
policies and projects

*BCDC: Eelgrass restoration -  
Anchorage zones, ground tackle, moorings, natural  
and proactive restoration, size, resources and  
timeline*

With stakeholders/organizations – including BCDC, RBRA will:

- Explore concept of defined anchorage zones for restoration, protection, and anchoring
- Consider ground tackle and/or mooring options and specifics for eelgrass protection

*BCDC: Eelgrass restoration -  
Anchorage zones, ground tackle, moorings, natural  
and proactive restoration, size, resources and  
timeline*

With stakeholders/organizations including BCDC:

- Pursue projects – research (e.g. best practices, planting vs. natural restoration) and restoration implementation
- Seek Funding:
  - Senator McGuire's collaborative support
  - Federal, State, and Regional sources

# Conclusion

**COMMITTEE QUESTIONS?**