Outlook

Berkeley Marina paid parking permit: Protect practical access to the water

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To BCDC Public Comment <publiccomment@bcdc.ca.gov>

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I use Berkeley Marina for open-water swimming, wingfoiling, and sailing. Having parking near the water matters, particularly when I need to unload and carry equipment to launch and landing areas. Free parking a third of a mile away is not a practical alternative.

I oppose charging for parking at South Cove and the South Basin. My understanding is that the city's own survey found that these lots serve 70% of swimming visits and 76% of sailing and boating visits. These are clearly important access points, not just convenient places to park.

I urge BCDC to deny the paid-parking permit and to consider it together with the ferry terminal's parking plan. Decisions about each should account for their combined impact, using actual recreational-use data and ensuring no net loss of recreational parking during peak hours.