

# Memo

**Thru :** Mark Gorman, Municipal Administrator

**To:** City and Borough of Sitka Assembly

**From:** Jay Sweeney, Chief Finance and Administrative Officer

**Date:** February 6, 2014

**Re:** Executive Summary of Changes to Sitka Harbor Schedule of Rates and Fees, Approved by the Port and Harbors Commission

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Mayor McConnell and Assembly Members,

Over the course of the last three months, the Port and Harbors Commission has engaged in rigorous and thorough discussions of possible changes to the schedule of fees and charges in effect in the Sitka Municipal Harbor System. During those discussions, members of the public, especially commercial fishermen, participated with suggestions, comments, and sometimes criticisms. A comprehensive public conversation was conducted over the course of several meetings.

In addition, Municipal staff participated in and facilitated the discussions, providing analyses, rate models, and financial projections as requested by the Port and Harbors Commission. The Assembly Liaison, Assembly Member Hunter, was also present for most of the meetings, participating fully.

As a result of these discussions, the Port and Harbors Commission has voted to recommend approval of the following changes to the schedule of fees and charges:

Permanent Moorage (effective April 1, 2015) –

- Vessels 20 feet in length and under \$2.24 per foot per month, if owners pay in advance for one year
- All other Vessels \$2.99 per foot per month

*(Note: the April 1 effective date was chosen to coincide with quarterly moorage billing.)*

This increase represents an increase of 6.68% in the permanent moorage rate with one exception: a vessel 20 feet in length and under will experience a 20% decrease in the permanent moorage rate (if a year's moorage is paid in advance).

Transient Moorage (effective immediately)–

- Vessels up to eighty feet in length \$.93 per foot per day.
- Vessels eighty-one feet to one hundred fifty feet in length \$1.59 per foot per day.

- Any vessel greater than one hundred fifty feet in length \$2.39 per foot per day
- A 25% credit in daily transient moorage will be given to any commercial vessel actively loading or unloading fish and which produces a fish ticket or processor contract. The credit will be good for up to 10 days per fish ticket or contract.

This increase represents a 6.68% increase in transient rates, with the following exception: a vessel receiving the credit will experience a 19.5% decrease in the daily transient rate.

Monthly Transient Permit Moorage (effective immediately) –

- Vessels up to one hundred fifty feet in length \$15.94
- Vessels over one hundred fifty feet in length \$23.91

Eliason Harbor end ties (effective immediately) –

- All vessels \$2.75 per foot per day

O'Connell Bridge Facility (effective immediately) –

- All vessels \$5.00 per foot per day

Tender Fees (effective immediately) -

- \$1,145.87 per ship per day

It is important to note that there was not unanimous consensus from all of the public who attended the various meetings, but the majority of the public, commercial fishermen, and Port and Harbors Commission members support the recommended fee changes.