



Staff Report

TO: Board of Harbor Commissioners

FROM: John Moren, Director of Operations
THRU: James B. Pruet, General Manager

DATE: June 18, 2025

SUBJECT: Monthly Surfers Beach Pilot Restoration Project Update

Recommended Action/Motion:

Project Update, information only.

Policy Implications:

Consistent with the District's goal to use excess sediment build-up from within the Harbor for beneficial re-use on Surfers Beach.

Background:

Construction for the Surfers Beach Restoration Pilot Project (Project) is being planned for a spring/summer 2025 timeframe. Permits have been approved by California Coastal Commission, SF Regional Water Quality Control Board, National Marine Sanctuaries, Army Corps of Engineers, and Caltrans. The Project design/engineering team at ESA finalized Project plans and Technical Specifications. The Invitation for Bid for actual construction was posted on April 7, 2025, and bids opened May 6th.

Vortex Marine Construction, Inc. was found to be the low bidder and the Board approved moving forward with construction at the regular Board meeting in May.

The Project is being led by the San Mateo County Harbor District (District) and planning has been underway since 2017. The project area is located inside, and adjacent to, Pillar Point Harbor. The overall goal for the proposed Project is to address the significantly accelerated coastal erosion rates that have occurred on the beaches adjacent to the Harbor due to the construction of the East Breakwater approximately 60 years ago and address the severe shoaling that has occurred inside the Harbor since the outer breakwaters were constructed.

The project involves dredging up to 100,000-cubic yards of clean sand along the Harbor's East Breakwater and near the Boat Launch Ramps and using that sand to restore a previously existing beach through construction of an elevated berm along a ~1,000-foot-long section of shoreline at Surfers Beach. The project also will mitigate for current and future damages to eelgrass by creating new eelgrass habitat and relocating eelgrass within the harbor to improve conditions for fish and wildlife species.

The IFB and a detailed Surfers Beach project description along with download links for various project planning documents, including recent planning and permitting status

updates, is available on the District's Surfers Beach project webpage at <https://www.smharbor.com/surfers-beach-pilot-restoration-project>.

The construction contractor, Vortex Marine, is working on final permitting compliance and submittals. The design consultant team is working on required final eel grass mitigation surveys. The required black abalone survey results identified no establishment, so this potential issue will cause no delay. Project remains on schedule.