

RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

RESOLUTION NUMBER 12-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY ESTABLISHING A VESSEL BUYBACK PROGRAM

WHEREAS, eel grass has value as a foundational element to a healthy marine environment and habitat for the herring and anchovy fisheries and the birds which are native to or stop in Richardson Bay; and

WHEREAS, vessels anchored within the eelgrass beds cause damage to the eelgrass; and

WHEREAS, the Richardson Bay Regional Agency (RBRA) is committed to protecting and restoring the eelgrass beds of Richardson Bay; and

WHEREAS, the RBRA entered into an Agreement with the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) in August of 2021 that requires certain actions by the RBRA and outlines goals to be reached for removal of all illegally anchored vessels and floating homes in Richardson Bay; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, RBRA codified an Eelgrass Protection Zone and developed an Eelgrass Protection and Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, RBRA desires to facilitate the removal of vessels and floating homes from the waters of Richardson Bay, and in particular from the Eelgrass Protection Zone, and believes incentives are preferable to enforcement; and

WHEREAS, accordingly RBRA has identified funding for a vessel buyback program; and

WHEREAS, RBRA wishes to implement the Program to facilitate and advance the removal of vessels from the Bay; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

In order to expedite the removal of vessels from Richardson Bay, and to prioritize incentives over enforcement, the Board hereby adopts the Vessel Buyback Program, as proposed.

REGULARLY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of June, 2022.

Votes:

CERTIFICATION:

Stephanie Moulton-Peters - Board Chair

Karen Prows, Board Clerk

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