

Moss, Julia

From: Mick <qwakwak@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 6:29 PM
To: City Council
Cc: Goldstein, Jamie (jgoldstein@ci.capitola.ca.us); Herlihy, Katie (kherlihy@ci.capitola.ca.us)
Subject: Item 8E Wharf enhancement

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Council Members,

As part of the approval for the Wharf Enhancement Project, please direct staff to carry out the direction of the Planning Commission to install a palm tree to replace the canary pine at the intersection of Wharf Rd and Stockton Ave. Its been about a year since the PC gave that direction as a condition for removing the canary pine. Its far past time to plant the palm tree.

Mick Routh

Sent from my iPhone

Moss, Julia

From: skip allan <skipallan@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 8:20 AM
To: City Council
Cc: CapitolaDPW; Kahn, Jessica; allan skip
Subject: Wharf Lighting Enhancement Proposal Concern

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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7/24/23

Dear Capitola City Council,

Tonight you will be reviewing the Wharf enhancement proposal. As a professional mariner and long time Capitola resident I have serious concerns the Wharf lighting enhancement proposal may not fully comply with Capitola Code 17.96.110 regarding outdoor lighting as well as California Coastal Commission mandates. The Capitola Wharf's hours have been sunrise to 10:30 pm at which time the gates are closed to the public. Currently there are a half dozen lighting fixtures along the Wharf that have met the requirement for public safety during these open-to-the-public hours. If so, why is enhancement being proposed?

As 17.96.110 requires, "light pollution is to be minimized to maintain enjoyment of the night sky." Sadly, our night sky and view of stars and constellations have been degraded by Capitola's loom of lighting. If increased, decorative, or enhanced lighting is allowed on the Wharf, the view of the night sky and ocean, including phosphorescence displays, will be impacted or lost over water, especially given unnecessary lighting can cause temporary night vision blindness when looking into a dark sky..

17.96.110 also prohibits any lighting that "flashes, blinks, alternates, or moves." "Nor shall any glare be directed onto the beach." It has been observed at informal CWEP discussions of using changing colored lights as enhancement to the Wharf. This idea is both inappropriate and illegal.

My concern is enhanced lighting on the Capitola Wharf may run afoul of the law of unintended consequences. Many bird species migrate at night, and bright and flashing lights extending into the ocean from the Wharf in a dark night sky can have deleterious effects on bird and other wildlife navigation. Lights reflecting into the water can also mess up sea creature feeding patterns.

My request is not onerous: Hold CWEP enhancements strictly accountable to Capitola and Coastal Commission Codes vis-a-vis outdoor lighting. As well, mandate that all unnecessary lighting after public hours on the Wharf be extinguished manually, by timer, or otherwise.

Thank you for our concern.

Skip Allan and family, 310 McCormick Ave. Capitola