

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: May 11, 2023

From: City Manager Department/Recreation Division

Subject: Lifeguard Service Policy & Procedures

Recommended Action: Authorize staff to submit the Capitola Seasonal Lifeguard Policy and Procedure Manual as a part of the City's application for USLA Open Water Lifeguard Agency Certification.

Background: On June 23, 2022, the City Council approved the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget which included the development of a City-run Lifeguard Program. Previously, the City contracted with the City of Santa Cruz Fire Department (Santa Cruz) for lifeguard services, which began in 2012 and ended in September 2022. On July 28, 2022, the City Council approved a permanent position in the Recreation Division, Recreation Coordinator: Beach Lifeguard Services, to assist in the development and supervision of the Capitola Lifeguard Service.

Discussion: The City intends to apply for USLA Lifeguard Agency Certification in September 2023. USLA is a national organization that certifies lifeguard agencies and ensures that their training program meets or exceeds USLA standards. The application process requires the City develop a training program appropriate for the conditions and geographic features of the area, establish policies and procedures that support USLA guidelines, identify required equipment, and establish staff qualifications for training and supervision of the operation.

City staff developed the attached "Seasonal Lifeguard Policy and Procedure Manual" to comply with USLA application requirements. The Manual has been reviewed by the Capitola Police Department along with input from Santa Cruz Fire and Central Fire District.

Future revisions of this document will be revised administratively.

Fiscal Impact: None

Attachments:

1. Capitola Seasonal Lifeguard Policy and Procedures Manual

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Reviewed By: Julia Moss, City Clerk

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager