

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: April 27, 2023
From: City Manager Department
Subject: California Assembly Bill 953

Recommended Action: Authorize the Mayor to sign a letter in support of California Assembly Bill 953, which proposes a voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program.

Background: At the April 13, 2023, City Council meeting, Vice Mayor Brown requested an item be brought forward to Council to support proposed California State Assembly Bill 953 (AB953), which would implement a statewide voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program for the California coast in order to reduce air pollution, the risk of fatal vessel strikes on whales, and harmful underwater acoustic impacts.

Assemblymembers Connolly and Hart (Districts 12 and 37 respectively) presented AB953 to the California Assembly on February 14, 2023; the Bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources on March 28, 2023.

The California League of Cities has taken a “watch” position on AB953.

Discussion: Attached is a letter of support for AB953, which, once signed, will be sent to the California Committee on Natural Resources, and the California Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife with copies to Assemblymembers Connolly, Hart, and Addis.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Attachments:

1. Letter of Support

Report Prepared By: Austin Westly, Deputy City Clerk

Reviewed/Approved By: Julia Moss, City Clerk; Jamie Goldstein, City Manager