

**From:** Donna Marsh <dwmarsh430@msn.com>

**Sent:** Saturday, January 17, 2026 11:06 AM

**To:** Assembly <assembly@petersburgak.gov>

**Subject:** harbor rate increase request

Dear Assembly members and Mayor:

Please do not approve the request by the Harbor Department for increased moorage rates, especially for the commercial fleet. Commercial fishing has taken a beating in the past decade with fish numbers declining for many reasons. In addition, costs of everything have increased: fuel, repairs and maintenance, boat and crew insurance, moorage rates in 2022, the list goes on.

We have a great harbor and a dedicated staff working hard to keep it that way.

However, increased rates do not necessarily increase the quality. For a department that has \$1,000,000 in reserves, collected from the ratepayers, to dedicate to American Cruise Lines for their new dock, it is evident that the harbor rates have already been over estimated.

It is impossible to tax a population into prosperity, whether it's in harbor rate increases, property tax increases, or increased application and building permit fees.

Regards,  
Donna Marsh