



News Release

Harbor Commission to Meet Twice Monthly New schedule designed to boost public participation

May 22, 2012

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners is revising its public meeting schedule, switching to twice-monthly meetings beginning June 4; the Board will meet on the first and third Mondays of each month, with one meeting during the day and the other in the evening.



The new, streamlined schedule is designed to give commissioners and the public more time to review agenda items and increase public participation.

"We believe in open and transparent meetings," said Harbor Commission Vice President Thomas Fields. "We think it is important for the public. We think it is important for our stakeholders to be part of our decision-making process."

Fields, along with commissioners Rich Dines and Doug Drummond, voted unanimously to approve the new schedule during the Board meeting on Monday, May 21. Board President Susan E. Anderson Wise and Commissioner Nick Sramek were away on Port business.

The new schedule will be implemented during a 90-day trial period, after which the Commission will decide whether or not to make the changes permanent. The next meeting of the Board of Harbor Commissioners is scheduled for Monday, June 4 at 5 p.m. at the Port's Administration Building, 925 Harbor Plaza.

Agendas will be posted two Fridays before a meeting, with a revised version posted on the Thursday before the meeting if necessary. If a scheduled meeting falls on a holiday, the meeting will be held on the following Monday.

The change is designed to provide better access to the public and other interested parties who want to attend Board meetings and give their input.

"We know we are a public asset, and we ultimately answer to the citizens of this city, this region, this state," said Fields.

In the past, the Board met three times a month, on Mondays, usually at 1 p.m., with agendas posted on the Friday prior.

For more information about the Board of Harbor Commissioners and schedule of meetings, go to www.polb.com/commission.

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