To enrich lives through effective and caring service

Los Angeles County
Department of Beaches & Harbors
Caring for Your Coast

Santos H. Kreimann
Acting Director

Kerry Silverstrom
Chief Deputy

June 24, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

DEPARTMENT OF BEACHES AND HARBORS:
2008 DEPARTMENTAL FEE REVISIONS AND NEW FEES
(THIRD AND FOURTH DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)

SUBJECT:

Request to approve revisions to fees and implement new fees charged by the Department of Beaches and Harbors, effective September 1, 2008. Changes to the Department's fees and the new fees, as listed in the schedule attached as Attachment A, are warranted and appropriate based on a comprehensive review and cost analyses of services provided by the Community and Marketing Services Division.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Find that the recommended action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(8).

2. Adopt the attached Resolution approving the schedule of the Department of Beaches and Harbors' Community and Marketing Services Division fees, effective September 1, 2008, based on Consumer Price Index increases for the Los Angeles, Riverside and Orange County areas and/or comparable with other public agency fees.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Department of Beaches and Harbors (DBH) has completed a comprehensive review of the Community and Marketing Services Division fees it charges for services. Recent surveys and cost analyses indicate that adjustments to these fees are warranted

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and appropriate. Additionally, fees need to be authorized for new services. A schedule of these fees, including current and proposed fees, is included as Attachment A.

The Dockweiler RV Park fees were last revised in 2004, and all other existing fees were implemented in 1984 through 1997. DBH intends for the fees to be implemented as of September 1, 2008, all of which were reviewed to determine whether they are reasonable, consistent with the Consumer Price Index increases for the Los Angeles, Riverside and Orange County areas, and/or comparable with other public agency fees. The results are reflected in our recommendations.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Increased and new fees will promote and further the Board-approved Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility, by strengthening the County's fiscal capacity through increased revenue and recovery of a portion of the costs of the services provided. The proposed fee increases and new fees will also enable DBH to continue to meet the Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence, by providing the general public with high quality beach and recreational services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

It is anticipated that the proposed fees will increase DBH's annual revenue by a minimum of $300,000 and will be utilized to fund general Beach operating cost increases.

Operating Budget Impact

The recommended action will increase Beach operating revenue by an estimated $300,000 in FY 2008-09. This estimate was included in the DBH's FY 2008-09 Proposed Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

BURTON CHACE PARK

Kayaking Class/Tour

DBH provides two classes, Harbor Kayaking and Surf Kayaking. The two-hour Harbor Kayaking class begins with Los Angeles County Lifeguard kayak and water safety instruction and then allows participants to enjoy the Marina's basins. The three-hour Surf Kayaking class provides participants the opportunity to kayak through the Marina harbor and head out to the North Jetty, where participants surf the waves aboard sit-on-top kayaks.

It is recommended that a kayaking class registration fee be implemented at Burton Chace Park in the range of $30 to $35 based on the age of the participant. The class fee is comparable with fees charged by others as documented in Attachment B.

Kayaking Rentals

It is recommended that kayaking rental rates be established as detailed in Attachment A, which are comparable with the rates charged by other agencies as documented in Attachment C.

DOCKWEILER RV PARK

Full Hook Ups/Pets/More than Four Guests

It is recommended that the rates for full hook-ups, pets and more than four guests be increased as noted in Attachment A. The RV Park reopened in March 2007 after completion of major renovations to the facility. With the completion of the renovation, each of the RV Park's 117 spaces is now equipped with full electricity, water and sewage hook-ups to accommodate Recreational Vehicles up to 37 feet in length. In addition, restroom facilities and the RV Park office have been renovated and are now in compliance with ADA requirements. Other RV Park amenities include picnic tables, laundry facilities and hot showers. At the RV Park, visitors can enjoy beachfront views, use the fire pits on the beach, hang glide off nearby bluffs, or bike along the 22-mile South Bay Beaches coastline bike path. The proposed increases will be used to partially defray operating costs and bring the rates charged at the updated RV Park facility in line with the rates charged by comparable facilities as documented in Attachment D.

Extra Vehicle Fee

It is recommended that the extra vehicle charge be increased from $6.75 per car to $7 per car during the summer season, which begins on the Saturday before Memorial Day and ends the last Sunday of September. This recommended increase is consistent with the summer daily parking rate currently charged at the adjacent day use parking lot.

Reservation Fee

It is recommended that the reservation fee be increased from $7 to $10 to provide for additional staff needed to staff the reservation line. The additional one night's deposit is designed to deter customers from not honoring their reservation, but will be refunded if cancellation occurs seven or more days in advance of the reservation date.

Early Check-in Fee

It is recommended that a $17 early check-in fee be established to strengthen RV Park controls, provide a service to Park patrons, and to maximize RV Park usage. Currently, early check-in is not allowed and RV Park patrons must wait in the adjacent day use parking lot until the check-in time. The $17 fee is equal to one-half of the winter daily rate for a back row space.

Sewage Dumping Fee

It is recommended the sewage dumping fee be increased from $5 to $10. The sewage dumping fee charge is for non-RV Park patrons. This service is not provided at other RV Parks in the area. The sewage-dumping fee has not been increased in over ten years.

THE W.A.T.E.R. PROGRAM

In 1986, DBH established the Water Awareness, Training, Education and Recreation (W.A.T.E.R.) Program. The W.A.T.E.R. Program is a youth outreach program with the goal to educate the County's youth in organized activities that provide skills, knowledge, and personal experiences in ocean and beach safety. Special effort is made to recruit youth with limited access or opportunities to engage in harbor and beach activities.

Initially, DBH offered only two W.A.T.E.R. programs: Sailing Camp and the Junior Lifeguard program. Subsequently, the Fire Department took over the Junior Lifeguard program, and DBH developed and offered additional programs, including Surf Camp, Dolphin Camp, and Ocean Sports Camp.

The cost to operate the various programs, including personnel and supplies, has increased an average of 11% each year over the past five years. DBH's current marketing agreement with Verizon subsidizes most program costs; however, an additional subsidy by DBH is necessary to maintain current service levels and to offer financial aid to families when needed (DBH uses the same financial aid standards as the Department of Public Social Services' Food Stamps Eligibility Guidelines). For instance, the cost to operate the W.A.T.E.R. Program in 2006-07 was $732,918, with program fee collections of $59,380 and marketing program subsidies of $502,000.

It is recommended that Consumer Price Index increases in program fees be implemented to bring fees more current in order to alleviate continued increased program costs, while continuing to ensure the programs remain affordable with financial aid available when needed.

PERMITS

Special Events

Special events are activities conducted by outside agencies, organizations, or the public, using DBH beach and harbor facilities. Examples of special events are as diverse as weddings, parties, picnics, corporate events, volleyball tournaments, camps, surf contests, and private lessons.

The current permit fee for a special event is $150, plus 10% to 25% of the gross receipts generated by the event. It is proposed that the base fee be increased to $200, which will more closely provide DBH with reimbursement for the administrative staff time needed to issue a special event permit. The percentage of gross receipts fee will not change. This permit fee is within the range of fees charged by other agencies as documented in Attachment E. This fee was last updated in 1984.

Administrative Parking Permit Fee

It is recommended that a fee for custom parking permits be established in the amount of $50 based on the significant increase in requests for custom parking permits for Special Event Permit holders that must be reviewed and approved by DBH personnel.

Public Hearing Requirements

Public hearing notice requirements of Government Code Section 6062a have been satisfied and public hearing requirements of Government Code Section 66018, for fee increases and new fees, will be satisfied by this action.

The five members of the Beach Commission in attendance at the Commission's May 28th meeting considered these fee revisions and new fees and voted unanimously in support of the recommended fees. The Small Craft Harbor Commission will consider the fee revisions and new fees at its July 16th meeting, and its action will be reported to your Board prior to your consideration of this item.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed fee changes and new fees are statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(8), upon your Board's finding that such fees are necessary to meet operating expenses, including employee salaries and benefits and/or necessary supply, equipment and material costs.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The fee adjustments and new fees are not expected to have a significant impact on the use of affected facilities or services.

CONCLUSION

Please return one copy of the adopted stamped letter to the Department of Beaches and Harbors.

Respectfully submitted,

Santos H. Kreimann, Acting Director

SHK:ks

Attachments (6)

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Beaches and Harbors

RESOLUTION APPROVING VARIOUS FEES FOR BEACHES AND HARBORS PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County ("County"), through its Department of Beaches and Harbors ("DBH"), has completed a comprehensive review of the Community and Marketing Services Division fees it charges for services at its facilities and proposed new fees; and

WHEREAS, recent surveys and cost analyses indicate that adjustments to existing DBH fees and the proposed new fees are warranted and appropriate for cost-recovery purposes; and

WHEREAS, it is in the County's interest to maintain the high standards expected by the public at DBH facilities; and

WHEREAS, the County has reviewed a market survey and analysis of the new fees and proposed fee increases and finds these new fees and fee increases to be appropriate; and

WHEREAS, these fees do not exceed the cost of the services provided by the County; and

WHEREAS, these new fees and fee increases will help offset operating costs; and

WHEREAS, the additional funding is in the public interest and welfare; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code Section 50402, the County has the authority to charge for use of park and recreational facilities and services it offers at these facilities as may be provided by resolution of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the County has conducted a noticed public hearing on the new fees and proposed fee increases; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, as follows:

The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors may make the adjustments to the fees it charges at its facilities and implement new fees as outlined in "Attachment A" entitled "2008 Community and Marketing Services Fee Revisions".

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the __, ___ day of _____, 2008, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

SACHI A. HAMAI, Executive Officer-Clerk
Of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.
County Counsel

By: _____
Deputy

Department of Beaches and Harbors
2008 Community and Marketing Services Fee Revisions

TYPE OF FEE	CURRENT FEE		LAST CHANGED	PROPOSED FEE		SURVEY INFORMATION	ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REVENUE
COMMUNITY AND MARKETING SERVICES DIVISION							
Burton Chace Park							
Harbor Kayaking & Surf Kayaking Class/Tour 10 – 18 years old 19 years or older	New Fee		N/A	$30 $35		Attachment B	*
Kayak Rentals 1 – 4 hours 4 hours Daily	New Fee		N/A	Single $10/hour $30 $40/day	Double $15/hour $45 $55/day	Attachment C	*
Dockweiler RV Park	SUMMER	WINTER		SUMMER	WINTER		
Front Row w/ hook-up	$32.00	$28.00	2004	$45.00	$38.00	Attachment D	$91,320
Middle Row w/ hook-up	$30.00	$26.00	2004	$43.00	$36.00		$79,350
Back Row w/ hook-up	$28.00	$24.00	2004	$41.00	$34.00		$96,845
Extra Vehicle Charge	$6.75	$5.00	Post 1991	$7.00	No Change		$5,795
Pets	$2.00		2004	$3.00			$4,885
More than 4 guests	$2.00/person		2004	$3.00/person			**
Reservation Fee	$7.00			$10.00 + 1 night's deposit			**

* This is a new fee, therefore additional revenue cannot be estimated.
** Additional revenue cannot be estimated at this time.

Department of Beaches and Harbors
2008 Community and Marketing Services Fee Revisions

TYPE OF FEE	CURRENT FEE	LAST CHANGED	PROPOSED FEE	SURVEY INFORMATION	ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REVENUE
Cancellation Fee	1st day's fee if not cancelled within 7 days before reservation date.	2004	No Change	N/A	N/A
Early Check-in Fee	New Fee	N/A	$17.00	Attachment D	*
Group Rate Discount	10%	1989	No Change	N/A	N/A
Dumping Fee	$5.00	1996	$10.00	N/A	$9,000
W.A.T.E.R. Program					
Sailing Camp	$100	1987	$115	N/A	$1,200
Surf Camp	$120	1989	$135		$2,250
Dolphin Camp	$125	1991	$140		$2,385
Ocean Sports Camp	$135	1997	$150		$1,525
Permits					
Special Events	$150 + 10% – 25% of gross receipts	1984	$200 + 10% – 25% of gross receipts	Attachment E	$17,770
Special Event Parking Permits	New Fee	N/A	$50	N/A	*
Total Annual Additional Revenue					**$312,000**

* This is a new fee, therefore additional revenue cannot be estimated.
** Additional revenue cannot be estimated at this time.

Attachment B

County of Los Angeles
Department of Beaches and Harbors
Fee Survey – Harbor Kayaking & Surf Kayaking Class/Tour
March 2008

Location	Name of Rental Company	Type of Class	Number of Hours/ Class	Cost per Person
Newport Beach	China Cove Kayak Adventures, Inc.	Guided Tour	Various	$39.00+
Marina del Rey	UCLA Marina Aquatic Center	Sunset/Full Moon Paddle Birding by Kayak, Level I Marina Kayak Tour, Level I Sea Kayaking I Sea Kayaking II Sea Kayaking III Sea Kayaking IV	2 Hours 3.5 Hours 3 Hours 4 Hours 4 Hours 4 Hours 4 Hours	$35.00 $30.00 $20.00 $130.00 $130.00 $130.00 $150.00
Santa Barbara	Paddle Sports of Santa Barbara	Santa Cruz Island Tour Coastal Trips Sea for Yourself Classes Introduction to Sea Kayaking Kayak Surf Classes	Full Day 2.5 Hours Full Day Full Day 3 Hours	$184.00 $85.00 $50.00 $100.00 $75.00
San Diego	Aqua Adventures	Sea Kayaking 1 Kayaking Basics	7 Hours 3 Hours	$115.00 $60.00
Range of Comparables		**$20.00 - $85.00 Up to 3.5 Hours** **$39.00+ - $150.00 4 Hours** **$50.00 - $184.00 Full Day**		

County of Los Angeles
Department of Beaches and Harbors
Fee Survey – Kayak Rental Rates
March 2008

Location	Name of Rental Company	Type of Kayak Rental	Rental Rate	Equipment Included
Catalina Island	Joe's Rent-A-Boat	Single Kayak Hourly 4 Hours Double Kayak Hourly 4 Hours	 $15.00 $45.00 $20.00 $60.00	Life vest Back rest Paddle
Catalina Island	Descanso Beach Ocean Sports	Single Kayak Hourly ½ Day Daily Double Kayak Hourly ½ Day Daily	 $16.00 $35.00 $48.00 $24.00 $52.00 $64.00	Life vest Back rest Paddle
Malibu	Malibu Surf Shack	Single Kayak Hourly Daily Double Kayak Hourly Daily	 $15.00 $35.00 $20.00 $50.00	Life vest Paddle
Marina del Rey	UCLA Marina Aquatic Center	All Fees are Daily Touring Kayak Sit on Top Single Sit on Top Double	 $25.00 $25.00 $30.00 + $5.00/Guest	Life vest Paddle Wetsuit
Santa Barbara	Paddle Sports of Santa Barbara	Single 2 hours 4 hours Daily Tandem 2 hours 4 hours Daily	 $20.00 $30.00 $40.00 $30.00 $40.00 $50.00	No equipment included
Dana Point Harbor	Up Sports on Water	Hourly Rate	$25.00	Life vest Paddle

Location	Name of Rental Company	Type of Kayak Rental	Rental Rate	Equipment Included
Huntington Beach	Malibu Sports	Single Kayak 3 hours Daily Double Kayak 3 hours Daily	 $8.00 $35.00 $14.00 $45.00	Life vest Paddle
Range of Comparables		**Hourly** **3 – 4 Hours** **Daily**	**Single** **$10.00 - $25.00** **$8.00 - $45.00** **$25.00 - $48.00**	**Double** **$15.00 - $24.00** **$14.00 - $60.00** **$30.00 - $64.00**

Attachment D

County of Los Angeles
Department of Beaches and Harbors
Fee Survey - RV Parks
March 2008

RV PARK *	SUMMER **	WINTER **
Chula Vista RV Park	$51.50 - $67.00	$45.00 - $59.00
More than 4 guests	$3.00 per person	$3.00 per person
Extra Vehicle	$3.00	$3.00
Pets	$1.00	$1.00
Cancellations	$5.00	$5.00
Reservations	One night's deposit	One night's deposit
Bolsa Chica State Beach RV Park	$34.00 - $44.00	$29.00 - $39.00
Additional Vehicle	$4.00 - $14.00	$4.00 - $14.00
Cancellations	$7.00	$7.00
Reservations/Changes	$7.50	$7.50
Sunset Vista RV Park		
Front Row/Back Row	Not open during the	$60.00
Cancellations	summer months	One night fee
Newport Dunes RV Park	$64.00 - $185.00	$55.00 - $96.00
Extra Vehicle	$3.00	$3.00
Pets	$2.00	$2.00
Cancellations		
48 hour notice	$25.00	$25.00
Less than 48 hour notice	1st Night's stay	1st Night's stay
Golden Shore RV Park	$50.00 - $62.00	$50.00 - $62.00
More than 4 guests	$2.00 per person	$2.00 per person
Cancellation Fee	$10.00 - $75.00	$10.00 - $75.00
Reservations	One night's deposit	One night's deposit
Dogs	$1.00/night	$1.00/night
Malibu Beach RV Park	$62.00 - $95.00	$37.00 - $55.00
More than 2 guests	$5.00 per person	$5.00 per person
Extra Vehicle	$10.00	$10.00
Pets	$3.00	$3.00
Cancellations	$20.00	$20.00
Jalama Beach County RV Park	$20.00 - $30.00	$20.00 - $30.00
Extra Vehicle	$10.00 per person	$10.00 per person
Pets	$3.00	$3.00
Pismo Sands RV Park	$42.00 - $50.00	$35.00 - $46.00
More than 4 guests	$4.00 per person	$4.00 per person
Extra Vehicle	$4.00	$4.00
Cancellations	$10.00	$10.00
Pets	$40.00 per month	$40.00 per month
Pismo Coast Village RV Park	$45.00 - $51.00	$36.00 - $39.00
More than 6 guests	$2.00 per person	$2.00 per person
Cancellations/Refunds	$10.00	$10.00
Range of Comparables	**$20.00 to $185.00**	**$20.00 to $96.00**

* RV Parks are listed geographically from south to north.
** Fees are per day, unless otherwise specified.

County of Los Angeles
Department of Beaches and Harbors
Fee Survey - Beach/Harbor Use Permits
March 2008

City or Municipality	Type of Permit	Fee Specifications	Processing Fee
City of Santa Monica	Beach Parking Lot	- Application Fee - Permit Fee	$50 - $200 $2,000 - $8,000
City of San Diego	Special Event Permit	- 75 - 150 people - 151 - 300 people - 301 - 1,000 people - 1,000 + people	$175 - $350 $250 - $450 $600 - $800 $1,000 - $1,250
City of Redondo Beach	Beach Use - Seaside Lagoon	Day Parties (150 people) - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (each from 151 to 300) - Each additional person to capacity Day/Night Parties - 10 a.m. to Midnight (each from 151 to 300) - Each additional person Night Parties - Monday - Thursday 6 p.m.-10 p.m. (each from 151 to 300) - Each additional person Day & Night Parties (Exclusive Use of Lagoon) - Friday - Sunday 6 p.m.-12 p.m. (each from 151 to 300) - Each additional person	$250 minimum $3.00/person $1.75/person $1,000 minimum $3.75/person $1.75/person $450 minimum $3.00/person $1.75/person $700 minimum $3.00/person $1.75/person
State of California Parks & Recreation	Beach Use	- 0 - 50 people - 51 - 100 people - 101- 150 people - 151-200 people - 200 + people	$125 $175 $225 $275 $275 + $2/person
County of Orange	Special Events	Non Refundable Deposit Permit Fees	$65 $65 - $291
Range of Comparables		**Beach Use** **Special Events**	**$125 to $1,000** **$65 to $1,250**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED FEE INCREASE AND NEW FEES

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors regarding increases to the Department of Beaches and Harbors' Community and Marketing Services Division fees and new fees, effective September 1, 2008. The new fees and proposed fee increases are to assist in covering beach and Marina operating cost increases and to maintain the high standards expected by the public at Department facilities. If the new and proposed fee increases are not adopted, the Department of Beaches and Harbors will need to reduce services, as maintaining current service levels is dependent upon the additional revenue to be received due to the fee increases and new fees.

Said hearing will be held on **July 22, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Hearing Room of the Board of Supervisors, Room 381B, Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street (corner of Temple Street and Grand Avenue), Los Angeles, California 90012.

The Board of Supervisors will consider and may adopt the fee schedule. Further, notice is given that the Board of Supervisors may continue this hearing from time to time.

Written comments may be sent to the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors at the above address. If you do not understand this notice or need more information, please call (310) 577-9274.

Si no entiende esta noticia o si necesita mas informacion, favor de llamar a este numero (310) _____.