

**Board of Pilot Commissioners for the Bays
of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun**

660 Davis Street., San Francisco, CA 94111
Phone: (415) 397-2253 Fax: (415) 397-9463
E-mail: bope@bope.ca.gov
www.bope.ca.gov



Sarah Madland, General Manager
San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, California 94117

July 7, 2026

Dear Ms. Madland,

The Board of Pilot Commissioners for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun (Board) would like to express serious concerns regarding the proposed closure of the Gashouse Cove gasoline and diesel fuel dock as part of the San Francisco Marina Improvement and Remediation Project.

While acknowledging that environmental remediation must occur in the East Harbor, we request that the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department reconsider closure of the fuel dock in furtherance of the project. We believe that environmental remediation and ongoing maritime operations can safely coexist in this location.

The Board provides oversight of the state-licensed pilots charged with conducting the movements of all ships of 750 tons or greater, moving on the Bay. Our licensees operate as part of a separate, third-party association called the San Francisco Bar Pilots (SFBP). In the course of meeting their statutorily mandated obligation to provide pilotage services, the SFBP regularly fuels the Pilot Vessel GOLDEN GATE at the Gashouse Cove fuel dock and if it closes, there are no operationally viable alternatives. (see attached letter from the SFBP).

In addition to the concerns of our licensees, the Board is aware of the key safety role that this location plays in maritime activities on the Bay. We understand that key government partners, in maintaining safety on the Bay, utilize this dock for emergency response operations, medical evacuations, and other public safety missions. These partners include the United States Coast Guard, the San Francisco Fire Department, the San Francisco Police Department (Marine Unit).

The Board respectfully requests that, given the impact on maritime operations on the Bay, including maritime safety, closure of the Gashouse Cove fuel dock during and following the remediation be reconsidered.

Respectfully,

Karen Tynan, President
Captain William Benedict, Commissioner
Captain Robert Carr, Commissioner
Joanne Hayes-White, Commissioner
Captain Lynn Korwatch, Commissioner
Captain Roy Mathur, Commissioner
Sam Rodriguez, Commissioner

Christine Casey, designee for Ex Officio Member Secretary Omishakin,
California State Transportation Agency

Cc: Port Agent John Carlier
Anne McIntyre, SFBP