

March 5, 2018

From: Frank M. Fedeli, Customer Services Supervisor

To: Parks and Recreation Committee members, Board of Representatives

Subject: Marina dredging concerns responses

Dear Committee members: I am sending you two memos regarding the marina dredging, maintenance and funding concerns outlined during your Feb. 26, meeting.

This memo will deal with dredging at Cove Marina, its status and suggested solutions for all marina maintenance and future dredging on Stamford Harbor's four federal channels.

I request that all personnel, including me, involved in the Cove Marina dredging project attend the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

I was able to reach the person in charge for the Cove Marina dredging project, David R. Provencher of Coastal Consulting & Development. He reports to City of Stamford staff engineer Zvonko Barisic.

Coastline was hired with state grant money.

Mr. Provencher informed me during a telephone interview that a dredging permit application has not been filed because more sample testing of the Cove Marina channel bottom is needed.

He said the dredging permit application will follow this summer and will take at least a year to obtain.

I stressed to him that such a delay could make Cove Marina unusable because the shallow channel continues to silt up. My research shows that a lack of centralized supervision has put this project in slow motion. Responsibility for the project is divided amongst the Land Use Bureau, the Engineering Bureau and Coastline Consulting.

Senior city officials have not earmarked capital funds for the dredging and maintenance of the channels.

To put the Cove Marina dredging project on a fast track, I suggest the city uses the mandates for dredging and marina maintenance outlined in the Harbor Management Plan so Stamford Harbor can remain a thriving port for commercial shipping and recreational boating.

Listed below are the mandates for the dredging of Cove Marina and all Stamford channels.

COVE ISLAND NAVIGATION CHANNEL – SHOULD BE MAINTAINED TO AN APPROPRIATE WIDTH AND DEPTH FOR SUPPORTING VESSELS USING THE COVE ISLAND MARINA AND BOAT LAUNCHING RAMP. MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF THE CHANNEL SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN THE MOST TIMELY MANNER NEEDED TO PROVIDE SAFE NAVIGATION AND THE CONTINUED VIABILITY OF WATER DEPENDENT USES AT COVE ISLAND.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ALL FEDERAL CHANNELS IN STAMFORD HARBORS, WEST BRANCH, EAST BRANCH, WESTCOTT COVE.

THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION SHOULD SERVE AS THE CITY'S PRINCIPAL ADVOCATE FOR MAINTENANCE AND DREDGING OF THE STAMFORD HARBOR FEDERAL NAVIGATION PROJECT AND SHOULD WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO ENSURE THAT MAINTENANCE DREDGING IS CARRIED OUT IN THE MOST TIMELY MANNER NEEDED TO MAINTAIN EASE AND SAFETY OF NAVIGATION.