



City of Annapolis City Council Committee & Commission Referral Action Report

Date: June 2, 2014

To: Jessica Cowles,
City of Annapolis Office of Law,
Legislative and Policy Analyst

The Maritime Advisory Board has reviewed the proposed fee legislation as it relates to mooring fees and has taken the following action with respect to the proposed increase in dock fees:

Favorable

Favorable with amendments

Unfavorable

No Action

Other

Comments: The Board recommends against an increase in dock fees.

The Board notes that local marinas are not full and are making daily deals for overnight vessels at rates below the City's proposed fees, thereby driving those that can least afford the fee to alternate venues, as well as competing for the larger vessels.

What is overlooked when just focusing on docking fees is the broader impact of the visiting boater. A vessel docking at City Dock will invariably discharge its passengers ashore to visit local businesses; driving them to Chesapeake Harbor or elsewhere will result in a loss of that revenue.

Lastly, this proposed increase again will send the wrong message to visiting yachtsmen at a time when, in the most recent Annapolis Citizen Survey (Fall, 2013), the Maritime Industry was rated by 64% of the respondents as "Critical" or "Very Important".

Meeting Date June 3, 2014 (Finance) Signature of Chair _____

cc: MAB Members
Harbormaster