



City of Annapolis City Council Committee & Commission Referral Action Report

Date: March 3, 2021

To: City Council

The Maritime Advisory Board (MAB) has reviewed Ordinance O-5-21 and has taken the following action:

Favorable

Favorable with amendments

Unfavorable

No Action

Other

Comments:

The MAB appreciates the proposed improvements to the Tucker Street boat launch/ramp. Those improvements will greatly enhance the ramp and street-end.

The MAB also appreciates the need for permitting the launch and recovery of boats, skiffs, rafts, canoes, jet skis or other watercraft at that small facility. However, the MAB is concerned about the application of the permit requirement to vessels arriving by water and recommends clarification of the following.

Tucker Street ends at Weems Creek. That creek is often frequented by local and visiting boaters who anchor in the creek. In addition, Tucker Street is in walking proximity to the restaurants, shops and businesses in West Annapolis, including grocery store, liquor store and drug store, and visiting boaters should be able to access West Annapolis at the Tucker Street ramp.

The permitting process for boats being launched at Tucker Street should make clear that it does include dinghys, paddlecraft and similar vessels from landing at Tucker

Street, and leaving those vessels unattended while visiting the local restaurants, shops and businesses. Further, the proposed improvements should make provision for both uses – launch and recovery of vessels from trailers, and the landing of vessels from visiting boats.

In addition, proposed Section 15.10.005.A. defines Commercial Activity “for purposes of this Chapter”. The MAB believes that language is inconsistent with other provisions of Chapter 15.10. That provision should be amended to read “for purposes of this Section”.

With that clarification and change the MAB would anticipate a favorable recommendation.

Meeting Date: February 16, 2021

Signature of Chair _____