



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA

HARBORMASTER • TOWN HALL

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TO THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE,

The Town of Manchester is requesting funding to enhance and expand the commercial docking facility at Morss Pier providing two positive outcomes.

1. Waterfront communities such as Manchester benefit from the presence of a working commercial area. Unfettered access to gear, bait and unloading of catch is vital to commercial success. It is also important to note that this facility will have the front row to downtown. Anyone visiting coastal towns knows to look for the working boats in the harbor. Fishing and lobster fleets are sought after scenic stops for visitors and residents alike.

Originally settled as fishing village Manchester has gone through several transformations. Once no more than a shallow channel accessible only at high tide, the harbor is now home to a modest fleet of lobstermen, purse seine fishermen that contribute heavily to the fabric of this busy and vibrant harbor.

Two seasons ago the town made two docks available for lobstermen. It was determined that the two senior lobstermen would receive these coveted tie-up spots. Both have reported the likelihood of continuing to fish for more years since the move from moorings to the dock. The goal of proposed project is to simply improve and extend access for our fishing fleet. The expansions outcome allows more fishermen to extend their careers and create an enticement for younger fishermen to join the Manchester fishery.

2. In addition, the location further enhances Manchester's coastal community image and supports the vision of Manchester Harbor as the center piece for the town. The addition of this facility and connecting it to the Reed Park transient facility will create open access for residents to fully engage with the waterfront. The ability to walk the docks from Masconomo Park all the way to end of the Reed Park docks would greatly enhance the existing character of the harbor. Combined, the facility would have two access points one of which is ADA compliant.

The COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT General Laws Chapter 44B
(including all amendments through July 2019) Section 2-

Open space”, shall include, but not be limited to, land to protect existing and future well fields, aquifers and recharge areas, watershed land, agricultural land, grasslands, fields, forest land, fresh and salt water marshes and other wetlands, ocean, river, stream, lake and pond frontage, beaches, dunes and other coastal lands, lands to protect scenic vistas, land for wildlife or nature preserve and land for recreational use.

“Recreational use”, active or passive recreational use including, but not limited to, the use of land for community gardens, trails, and noncommercial youth and adult sports, and the use of land as a park, playground or athletic field.

Long term maintenance and care of the facility has traditionally fallen to the harbor department, this will remain the case. In recent years the harbor department completed a rehabilitation project on all town docks. All the existing docks are in good condition and will be integrated into the new facility. As always new docks will be constructed by the harbor department. This program has saved the community tens of thousands of dollars in construction costs. Seasonal storage is also the domain of the harbor department again saving tens of thousands of dollars in outside contract costs.

Costs for this project were provided by FOTH Engineering. Foth has completed the engineering portion of this project and are in the permit phase. This project has not started. Applications will be submitted to the Army Corps, DEP, CZM and the Town of Manchester. Foth would also oversee the bid and construction phases of this project should the project move ahead.

Source	Total	Secured/Pending	Additional Details
Seaport Economic Council*	\$132,000	Pending	
Municipality	\$33,000	Pending	
Federal			
Other			
Total Budget	\$165,000		

Action	Total Cost	Funding Source	Status of Funding Source (secured or unsecured)
Feasibility	\$45,000	Waterway Fund/SEC	Unsecured
Survey	\$15,000	Waterway Fund/SEC	Unsecured
Permitting	\$45,000	Waterway Fund/SEC	Unsecured
Design/Engineering	\$50,000	Waterway Fund/SEC	Unsecured
Construction			
Bid Phase	10,000	Waterway Fund/SEC	
			Unsecured

Milestone	Start Date	End Date
Feasibility	7/2021	7/2021
Survey	7/2021	8/2021
Permitting	8/2021	2/2022
Design/Engineering	8/2021	8/2021

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT. I WOULD BE PLEASED TO PROVIDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION NEEDED TO HELP IN YOUR DELIBERATIONS.

SINCERELY,
 BION PIKE
 MANCHESTER HARBORMASTER