

MacNeil, Jami

From: Diana Coleman <dcolemanglobal@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2021 1:27 PM
To: MacNeil, Jami
Subject: Application #L-20386-4P-P-N

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Red Category

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Jami MacNeil and the Dept of Environmental Protection,

I am writing to state my strong objection to the proposed, revised plan for Rockland, Maine's harbor.

As a resident of Rockland's South End, I join my neighbors in objecting to this plan. Our harbor is small, and this plan is overwhelming. I also object to the changes to Sandy Beach—a beach I go to regularly and swim at, as do many residents and visiting tourists. It is wonderful to have a public beach that's accessible to everyone. Further, our board walk is used constantly by residents and visitors alike. It offers public access to our water, and harbor.

Rockland's Harbor cannot accommodate an increased number of boats—especially large yachts. This is a working community and our residents are employed in businesses, and nonprofits locally—including our Pen Bay-Maine Health Hospital. Changing the look and accommodating wealthy yacht owners will further erode and eliminate the affordability of living in this area. Already, rents have skyrocketed and our hard-working employees are being driven out. With this outrageous plan for our Harbor, local people will be driven out even more.

Our harbor now is attractive with primarily small boats anchored at moorings. We also support our lobster boats—owned by hardworking lobster fishermen and women. Permitting and accommodating huge yachts will overwhelm the harbor, make it crowded, and unappealing. This is Maine!! Not a ritzy marina in Florida or California, nor should it be. Visitors, in addition to residents, come here to enjoy the “small town feel” of charming towns, harbors, and beaches.

We also remain concerned and vigilant about monitoring the quality of our Harbor's water. Adding yachts will severely impact our water's quality, and result in significant pollution, and environmentally unsafe conditions.

I hope for the sake of the people living here, visitors who appreciate and respect the quiet charm of this community, and for the generations of residents and visitors to follow, that the “powers that be” recognize this plan as seriously endangering and impacting the quality of Rockland's Harbor, and our town, and reject this plan.

Thank you.

Diana Coleman
South End Rockland Resident
Avid Swimmer, Walker, and Concerned Citizen