

MacNeil, Jami

From: Rich Smalley <clinician01@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 7:16 PM
To: MacNeil, Jami
Subject: Re: Rockland, ME Public Landing

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Dear Ms. MacNeil,

Thank you for your prompt response to my concerns.

Sincerely,

Rich Smalley
Rockland, ME

From: MacNeil, Jami <Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 6:54 AM
To: Rich Smalley <clinician01@live.com>
Subject: RE: Rockland, ME Public Landing

Mr. Smalley,

Thank you for your comments regarding the expansion of an existing marina in Rockland Harbor as proposed by SHM Rockland, LLC. The Department is currently reviewing the application (#L-20386-4P-P-N) under Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA). The Department accepted the application as complete for processing on July 26, 2021. The deadline for public comments on the application closed on November 4, 2021. The Department anticipates issuing a decision on the project within the next few weeks.

Although our record is now closed for public comment, the concerns you express are similar to those submitted by other commenters, and will be considered during the review.

Sincerely,

-Jami MacNeil (she/her)
Environmental Specialist III
Bureau of Land Resources
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
(207) 446-4894 | jami.macneil@maine.gov

From: Rich Smalley <clinician01@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 13, 2021 7:18 PM
To: MacNeil, Jami <Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov>
Subject: Rockland, ME Public Landing

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.

Dear Ms. Macneil,

It is my understanding that you are providing oversight of the Safe Harbor proposal to dredge up Rockland harbor and seriously change the aesthetics of our beautiful waterfront. If I have reached you in error, would you please forward my concerns to the appropriate person(s)?

I am writing to you to express my concern regarding the recent request of Safe Harbor Inc., to expand Rockland harbor by dredging this area making it 15 feet deeper to allow for multimillion dollar recreational yachts/boats/ships/helicopters, etc., and to add "finger shaped piers" that will potentially block much of the view that our families have enjoyed for generations.

You may be aware that it was only 3 years ago that the citizens of Rockland voted down a similar proposal made by the previous owner. We do not want to compromise the natural beauty of our home amenity.

It is my understanding that the Rockland city council is working with the Safe harbor brand to secure citizens access to a popular boardwalk in return for selling out the dredging and pier expansions. I am deeply troubled that the city needs to negotiate something that local citizens have enjoyed since it was originally built by MBNA. Safe harbor does not seem to believe in the concept of being a good corporate citizen. Clearly, the only way for continued access of the boardwalk is to sell-out our harbor, and frankly, this should not be up for sale.

Safe Harbor purchased this marina with no guarantee or expectation that they could move in and take over our natural waterfront. Why is the city and our citizens now required to be forced to jump through hoops, both legal and financial to address a corporate agenda that was disingenuous by its design?

Sadly, we cannot trust our city councilors to protect the wishes of the same citizens that elected them to office, our only hope is that state oversight will do what is right and protect our amazing waterfront.

Respectfully,

Rich Smalley, MSW
14 Purchase Street
Rockland, ME
04841