



## Waterfront Organizations of Oregon

To: Oregon State Marine Board Members

Val Early- Chair

Craig Withee

Laura Jackson

Colleen Moran

Jorge Guzman

Date: August 12, 2022

RE: August 28th Board Meeting Follow Up

This letter is being sent collectively from WOOO (Waterfront Organizations of Oregon), Columbia River Yachting Association and the Portland Marina group which represent in total nearly 10,000 boats. We all commented at your last board meeting on August 28th but feel we got mixed in with the dozens of other speakers regarding boat noise.

This letter is to confirm our concerns and requests for funding for the ADV problem. We assume you are aware of the out-of-control problem of the ADV and the many safety and environmental concerns. You are also aware that OSMB has not made any effort in over 10 years to increase their small budget of \$150,000 for ADV's. despite 2 major registration fees. There have been a few \$100,000 grants from NOAA for boat turn in programs that have been phenomenally successful and we feel it needs to be expanded to stop the end-of-life boats from becoming ADV's.

We are aware of 2 large State agencies that are proactively seeking substantial funding to deal with both the commercial and recreational ADV's. Attached is the recent press release from the Department of State Lands seeking \$40 million dollars. Their report states that several hundred thousand more each year will be needed to keep up

with the new ADV's. We also have heard directly from Oregon Department of Environmental Quality that they also are working on substantial funding for ADV removal.

Our request to you, the governing body of the OSMB, is to request an increase in ADV funding of at least \$500,000 of which a substantial portion is dedicated to a boat turn in program that is open to all marinas. This is a legislative process and time is of the essence as the 2023 session will be here soon.

This is a severe problem for which OSMB needs to increase their funding and programs to stop the ADV's and keep our waterways safe and clean.

Please request this topic to be on the agenda of the next board meeting for deliberation and for public comment.

Best regards,



Ron Schmidt

President, WOOO

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