

**VENTURA PORT DISTRICT
BOARD COMMUNICATION**

WORKSHOP ITEM 1

Meeting Date: September 14, 2016

TO: Board of Port Commissioners
FROM: John Higgins, Harbormaster
SUBJECT: Ventura Harbor Tsunami Planning Efforts

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Port Commissioners receive a presentation from Kevin Miller, Tsunami Program Officer from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services and Rick Wilson, PG CEG, Senior Engineering Geologist from the California Geological Survey on the tsunami planning efforts for Ventura Harbor.

BACKGROUND:

Ventura Harbor has been the recipients of the effects of Tsunamis three different times in the last 6 years. The impacts to our Harbor in each of these events have been unique and long lasting in comparison to other Southern California Harbors. In each of the events, Harbor Patrol staff were communicating with numerous Government agencies and documenting the effects real time. This valuable information was gathered and disseminated throughout California Emergency Planners and amongst Academic Research Groups. Key partnerships were developed and exciting products have been developed.

The California Geological Survey (CGS) provides geologic and seismic expertise to the public, other State government offices, and local government agencies. They work closely with the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Earthquake and Tsunami Program, and the Tsunami Research Center at the University of Southern California to produce statewide tsunami inundation maps and preparedness information for California.

Rick Wilson a Senior Engineering Geologist with (CGS) & Kevin Miller (CAL OES) are two of Ventura Harbor’s strongest partners. Together they have worked with the Ventura Port District to assist in Tsunami planning, response, and mitigation. They selected Ventura Harbor to be one of the models for a statewide “Maritime Tsunami Response Playbook” implementation. Since that time, they continue to work to refine the information and are always available to answer questions and provide assistance.