PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SANTA CRUZ WHARF MASTER PLAN AND ENGINEERING REPORT COMMUNITY BRIEFING

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA - May 5, 2014

The City of Santa Cruz Economic Development Department is hosting a Santa Cruz Wharf Master Plan and Engineering Report Community Briefing on Monday, May 19, 2014 from 6:00 – 9:00 PM in the Police Department Community Room located at 155 Center St., Santa Cruz.

Funded by a U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Grant, the Master Plan responds to a number of study objectives established by the City related to economic development, design and development standards, re-visioning of public spaces, enhancement of recreational use and public access, integration of educational and scientific resources and assets, and evaluation and recommendations related to public safety.

The Engineering Report encompasses an engineering inspection and structural evaluation of the Wharf's pilings and decking, an evaluation of the existing boat landings, roadways, pedestrian walkways, and parking areas, analysis of sewer, refuse handling, lighting, and fire suppression systems, identification and evaluation of mitigation measures designed to reduce environmental impacts related to climate change and severe seismic and weather events, and an evaluation of the potential for a new landing capable of handling research and passenger vessels.

The May 19th Community Briefing will feature a summary of the community process and a presentation of the Wharf Master Plan Study by ROMA Design Group followed by a public comment period. Large scale printed graphics and a model of the proposed improvements will be on display and representatives from the city's Planning, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Economic Development Departments will be in attendance.

"We're excited to showcase the concepts and recommendations coming out of the Wharf Master Plan" said Economic Development Director Bonnie Lipscomb. "The Wharf Master Plan provides the City with a multi-faceted approach to enhancing the Wharf through increased public access, recreational activities and economic development opportunities, and will help in firmly establishing the Wharf as a vibrant year-round destination for residents and visitors alike".

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