

March 6, 2018



Honorable Jane Kim
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Dear Supervisor Kim:

I write on behalf of US Sailing to share our opposition to the recent proposal forwarded by the Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA) to expand the existing marina in Clipper Cove.

As the National Governing Body for the sport of sailing, US Sailing's mission is to provide leadership for the sport of sailing in the United States.

The proposal adopted by TIDA on October 30, 2017, would dramatically reduce public access to Clipper Cove and significantly diminish the public recreation and education programs operated by the Treasure Island Sailing Center, particularly the Center's youth programs. Clipper Cove, widely recognized as one of the best small boating venues on the West Coast, would be significantly and permanently diminished.

The Treasure Island Sailing Center in Clipper Cove is one of 35 Community Sailing Centers in the United States accredited by US Sailing. These Community Sailing Centers have proven to be engines for community development across the United States and represent the fastest growing segment in the sport of sailing.

We believe diversity is essential to the sport of sailing and Community Sailing Centers are at the forefront of bringing diversity to the sport. For us, diversity refers to the differences of culture, ethnicity, race, gender, age, beliefs, religion, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, family status, physical ability, appearance and ideas. We are committed to achieving greater diversity throughout the sport and fostering an environment that is more inclusive. TISC has helped an unbelievable number of underserved kids in San Francisco who otherwise would have no access to the bay or to sailing's unique ability to develop their self-reliance, independence, citizenship, problem solving skills and overall self-image.

To help us achieve our mission, we seek to identify organizations that provide the highest quality of education and support access to sailing for all. These are organizations that align with the standards set forth by US Sailing and offer safety, fun and learning through their programming. The Treasure Island Sailing Center in Clipper Cove meets these standards and more.

We strongly urge you to work toward marina development that preserves public access to Clipper Cove and supports the Treasure Island Sailing Center that brings so much to San Francisco.

Thank you for your attention here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Gierhart", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jack Gierhart
CEO, US Sailing

