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Dana Point Harbor Revitalization Plan Advances

(Santa Ana, CA) — OC Dana Point Harbor has received approval for its years-in-the-making Revitalization Plan from the Dana Point Planning Commission.

The commission's approval of the harbor's Coastal Development Permit application culminates 15 years of planning, hundreds of public meetings and extensive community support, resulting in an approved design to rebuild the harbor's commercial core.

Additionally, the Coastal Development Permit was determined to have met all of the requirements of the Local Coastal Plan, as certified by the California Coastal Commission in 2011. Coastal Commission approval is required for projects within a specified coastal zone.

"This is a huge step that will finally bring the harbor revitalization project to reality," said Supervisor Patricia Bates, who represents Dana Point Harbor. "This could not have been accomplished without the tremendous support from our community members, local businesses and the visitors to the harbor. They should be proud of the work that they have done in bringing this much needed project to fruition."

Action by the city planning commission brings the County closer to beginning work on the \$150 million revitalization project. The permit allows for renovation of 13 of the harbor's commercial and boater-support buildings, replacing them with seven larger structures that will add 30,000 square feet of retail, restaurant, commercial and office space. A two-level parking structure will add 545 parking spaces.

Next steps include finalizing cost estimates and financing for the approved plan, completing design work and beginning preparation of bid requests for construction contracts.

The current timeline anticipates construction to begin in the first quarter of 2015.

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