

# Channel Islands Neighborhood Council

Serving 1,900 homes on Channel Islands Harbor



## Will C.I. Harbor no longer be a REC1 waterbody? MAC speaks at June 11th, 2020 LA Water Board Hearing.

If left up to the City of Oxnard, the LA Water Board and the local farmers organization VCAILG\*, our harbor could become polluted and unsafe—like McGrath Lake to our north. At issue—the ‘QAPP’ Quality Assurance Project Plan for water quality monitoring has been revised/downgraded for almost a year, by city staff according to the Water Board at a public meeting (6/11/20). CINC/MAC advocates for ongoing bacterial and nutrient testing by the City with volunteer labor provided by MAC and students from CSUCI. The financially responsible parties are both the City and the County. It is up to them to identify a solution, bringing our harbor back to the pristine condition it once was. When the power plant closed in 2018 it exposed the fact that for years, 2,400 acres of ag fields discharged unfiltered runoff into the Edison Canal. Both the City and the County’s scientist/consultants have stated their opinions about excess nutrients and pesticides found in farm field runoff. The County BOS has voted and approved \$477,000 (2020) to trace bacteria that ends up on our harbor’s Kiddie & Hobie swimming beaches. VCAILG’s BMPs (best management practices) are not addressing the environmental issues of today, in our harbor.

\* Ventura County Agricultural Lands Group

### REC1: defined by the State of California Water Board 2.1.15

Uses of water for recreational activities involving body contact with water where ingestion of water is reasonably possible. These uses include, but are not limited to, swimming, wading, water-skiing, skin and scuba diving, surfing, whitewater activities and fishing. Water contact implies a risk of waterborne disease transmission and involves human health; accordingly, criteria required to protect this use are more stringent than those for more casual water-oriented recreation. Excessive algal growth has reduced the value of shoreline recreation areas in some cases, particularly for swimming. Where algal growths exist in nuisance proportions, particularly blue-green algae, all recreational water uses, including fishing, tend to suffer. One criterion to protect the aesthetic quality of waters used for recreation from excessive algal growth is based on chlorophyll a. Source: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov>



Swim Team in wetsuits enjoy morning laps around Seabridge’s Coral Island.



Body contact with water-absolutely!

CINC’s Marine Advisory Committee—The defenders of our REC1 Harbor!

For more information visit: [www.cineighbors.com](http://www.cineighbors.com)