



# **CONSIDERATION OF AN ANNUAL FUNDING REQUEST FROM MARINE MAMMAL CARE CENTER LOS ANGELES FOR OPERATIONAL SUPPORT**

May 20, 2025



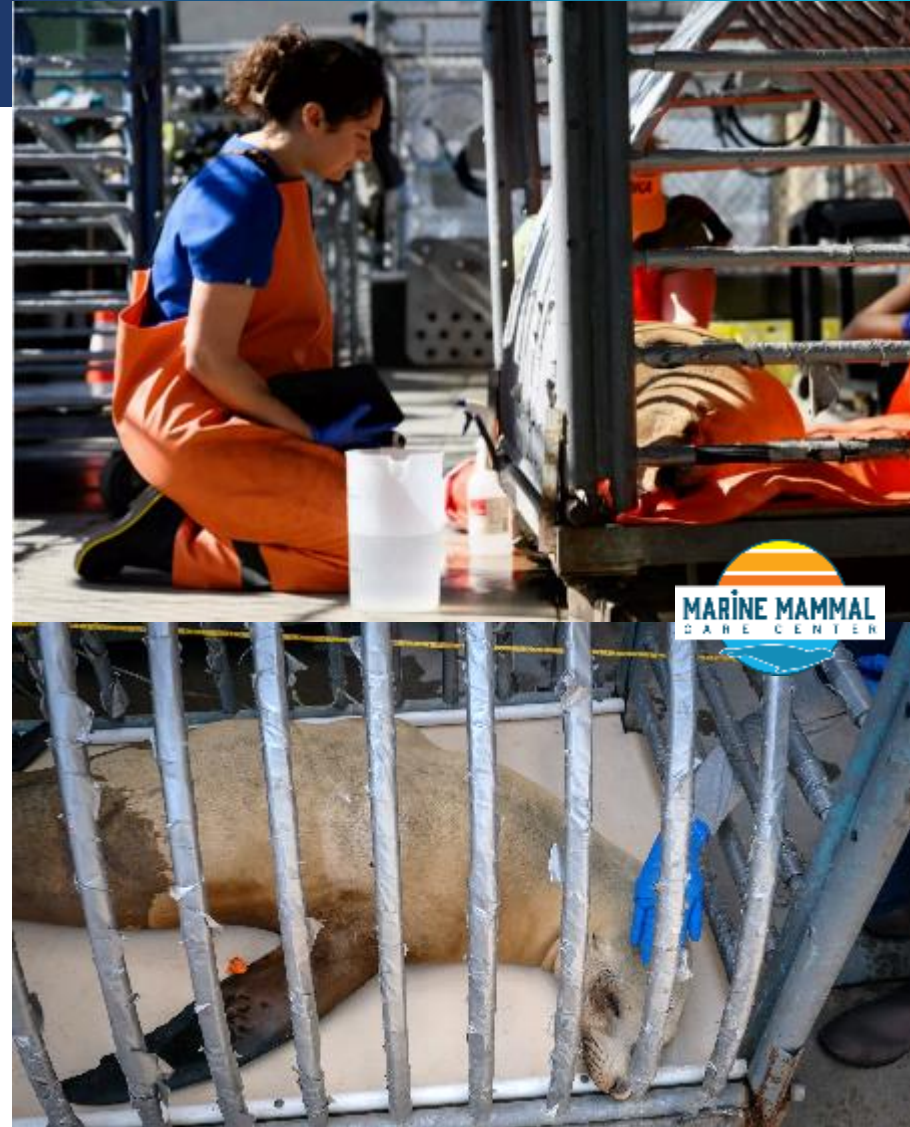
\*Note: This PowerPoint presentation is intended solely as a visual aid to an oral staff presentation of an agenda report topic. In the event of any differences between the presentation and the agenda report, the information in the agenda report prevails.\*



# BACKGROUND

## About MMCC

- MMCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
- The only year-round authorized rescue service for ill, injured, or malnourished marine mammals in Los Angeles County
- Rehabilitated more than 10,000 marine mammals since 1992





# BACKGROUND

Mission: Inspire ocean conservation through marine mammal rescue, rehabilitation, education, and research.



CITY OF  
**MANHATTAN BEACH**

CONSIDERATION OF AN ANNUAL FUNDING REQUEST FROM MARINE MAMMAL CARE CENTER LOS ANGELES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 FOR OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

**MAY 20, 2025**



# BACKGROUND



Operates  
365 days a  
year

22 staff and  
more than  
380  
volunteers

\$3.1  
million



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# BACKGROUND

- Marine Animal Rescue conducted rescue and response program to retrieve mammals and transport them to MMCC
- Became financially insolvent and ceased operations in 2022
- MMCC has since established a rescue and response program to ensure continued rescue services





# BACKGROUND

- MMCC is submitting proposals to all Los Angeles County coastal cities
- Ensuring a collective annual appropriation of funds
- Meets service needs associated with a rapidly changing environment and increasing marine mammal strandings





# DISCUSSION

- MMCC has historically relied on private philanthropy for the bulk of its budget
- Additional funds needed to respond to ever increasing number of strandings in LA County – both annually and during emergencies
- Ensure financial stability for continued operations
- Agreements coordinated with four cities and pending with three cities and the County





# DISCUSSION

- Response areas divided into zones
  - Manhattan Beach is in Zone 2
  - Zone 2 accounts for more than 45 percent of MMCC's annual rescues
- Seeking \$50,000 from the City of Manhattan Beach





# DISCUSSION

- Worst stranding event ever in LA County
- Domoic acid impacts on marine mammals:
  - Seizures
  - Disorientation
  - Aggression
  - Death
- Threat to health and safety of beach goers





# DISCUSSION

## Animals Rescued

Annual  
average

**250-  
500**

Jan - April  
2025

**400+**

## Animal Strandings Feb 20 – April 21

2024

**71**

2025

**250**

## Calls to the Hotline

Annual  
average

**4,000**

March  
2025

**3,800+**

## Patients currently on-site



California Sea Lions: 66



Northern Elephant Seals: 21



Fur Seals: 1



Pacific Harbor Seals: 1

*As of April 28, 2025*



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# DISCUSSION

Impacts to:

- Tourism
- Access to recreation
- Management of ill or injured marine mammals



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# DISCUSSION

## Regular patrols



## Rescue



## Outreach and Education



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# RECOMMENDATION

- A. Provide direction to staff; and
- B. If the City Council supports Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles's request for support, direct staff to include \$50,000, or an amount that the City Council determines to be appropriate in the FY 2025-26 Budget, authorize the City Manager to execute the associated agreement, and identify a term period for the agreement (i.e. three years).







**THANK YOU**

CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT FOR MARINE MAMMAL CARE CENTER LOS ANGELES  
**JUNE 3, 2025**



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