

# News FROM THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **City seeks input on harbor management pilot program**

### *Public input sought at second workshop set for June 30*

With the approval by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the agency responsible for the state's waterways, the City of St. Augustine is one of five Florida coastal cities selected for a pilot program that will allow further development of the harbor management system in a way that is essentially tailor-made to meet the specific needs of this community.

The initial step towards a more developed management system is to listen to the community's suggestions for policies that might be included. The first public meeting was held May 19. The second meeting will be held Thursday, June 30 at 5:00-6:00 p.m. in The Alcazar Room, City Hall, 75 King Street. Please note that one or more members of the St. Augustine City Commission may be in attendance at the public meeting.

Ordinances passed during in the Pilot Program are good for a three year period. At the end of three years the Florida legislature will either adopt the ordinances into law or they will allow the ordinances to expire.

Whether a boat owner or not, it is clear that the entire community has benefited thus far from the implementation of an organized anchorage in the city's waterways brought about by the mooring fields. With vessels restricted to designated moorings, boats are anchored a safe distance from other vessels and owners must dispose of trash and sewage properly. Additionally, the program has greatly reduced the derelict vessel problem created by boat owners abandoning vessels which become the responsibility of the city.

For more information about the city's harbor management plan and the upcoming public meeting, please call the city's General Services Department at 904.825.1010.