

30 April 2012



City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor & Council

Fr: John Nabb, City Facilities Supervisor

Re: Houseboats Mooring Northeast Bay of Coney Island

Recommendation:

That Council authorize the mooring of the existing identified houseboats in the Northeast Bay of Coney Island for a term of one year (May 2012- May 2013); and further

That the owners of these identified houseboats shall be required to provide a copy of their liability insurance and proof of ownership to the City no later than May 31, 2012; and further

That the the vessal being moored shall have sufficient anchorage to prevent the vessal leaving the moored position under any and all related weather and ice conditions; and further

That a detailed description of the of the anchorage weights along with the confirmation of these weights shall be provided with the application of mooring to the City.

Background:

For many years the Northeast Bay of Coney Island has been the home to 4 or 5 houseboats that remain moored there in a semi-permanent state. Over the last couple of years, it has been noted that several complaints have been brought forward to the City from property owners on Coney Island that the vessels were encroching on there property. After a full review conducted by City staff, it concluded that the houseboats in their current location were not creating any encroachment on any of the properties in question and it was confirmed that they were moored on City property. Further, with deputations made last year from the houseboat owners it was decided by Council to allow the houseboats to remain in there current moored position with further review by staff to determine issues and concerns and a long term resolution.

Upon review from staff issues became clear that ice and weather conditions can cause major concerns for the security of the mooring as indicatideted this year when two housboust became free when ice flows moved them off there mooring position. Clearly if the direction will be to allow the grandfathering of these houseboats to remain at there said location a detailed description of there anchorage indicating that the mooring anchor weight will be suficent to hold the vessel in place in all conditions. Additionally liability insurance and all ownership detials should be provided to the City with there request to continue mooring in this location.

Budget:

N/A

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements: