

RESOLUTION No. 30940

**Resolution No. 30940**  
A RESOLUTION relating to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Marine Operations Center, Pacific, noting its historic importance and economic impact, and urging NOAA to maintain its marine operations in Seattle.

*Jean Godden*  
*[Signature]*  
*Lan Dregg*

FC 12/11/06 ADOPTED 9-0

<b>Introduced:</b> 12.11.06	<b>By:</b> Godden, Co-sponsor - Lan Dregg
<b>Referred:</b> 12.11.06	<b>To:</b> Full Council for Intro + Adoption
<b>Referred:</b>	<b>To:</b>
<b>Reported:</b> 12/11/06	
<b>Passed:</b> 12/11/06	<b>Signed:</b> 12/11/06
<b>Filed:</b> 12/12/06	<b>Published:</b>

US5171

*Law Department*

RESOLUTION 30940

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2 A RESOLUTION relating to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA)  
3 Marine Operations Center, Pacific, noting its historic importance and economic impact,  
4 and urging NOAA to maintain its marine operations in Seattle.

5 WHEREAS, today's NOAA ships descend from ships of the U. S. Survey of the Coast, the  
6 nation's oldest scientific and technical agency, having received its charter from President  
7 Thomas Jefferson in 1807; and

8 WHEREAS, Survey of the Coast ships began operations in the Seattle area and Puget Sound in  
9 the late 1800s and the Survey of the Coast established its first permanent office in Seattle  
10 in 1898 in the Bailey Building located on the southwest corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Cherry  
11 Street, which is now on the National Register of Historic Places; and

12 WHEREAS, Survey of the Coast ships found winter moorage in Puget Sound until completion of  
13 the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks and the Lake Washington Ship Canal in 1916, and  
14 afterwards have been based in Lake Union, where they remain today, at the Marine  
15 Operations Center, Pacific on Fairview Avenue East; and

16 WHEREAS, Seattle has been the principal NOAA ship base in the Pacific Ocean and has been  
17 the center for marine charting and oceanographic research operations from the north coast  
18 of Alaska through the Bering Sea, the Aleutian Islands and Southeast Alaska, throughout  
19 Puget Sound and off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, California and Hawaii; and

20 WHEREAS, NOAA's Marine Operations Center, Pacific, together with the neighboring Lake  
21 Union Ship Dry Dock Company, are the remaining vestiges of historic maritime  
22 endeavors on Lake Union; and

23 WHEREAS, the scientific and technical achievements of NOAA ship operations provide a  
24 heritage of maritime activities of which Seattle is proud; and

25 WHEREAS, the long presence of NOAA ship operations has been a significant economic benefit  
26 to Seattle and a source of employment for Seattle residents; NOW, THEREFORE,

27 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THAT:**

28 Section 1. The Seattle City Council finds that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration's Marine Operations Center, Pacific is an important facet of Seattle's marine

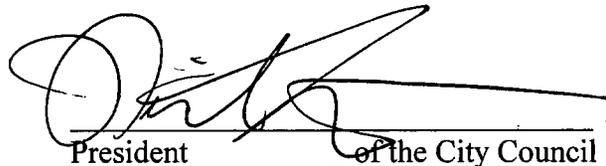


1 heritage, as well as a beneficial economic factor for Seattle and source of employment for its  
2 residents.

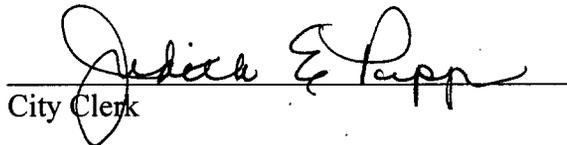
3 Section 2. The Seattle City Council believes it is important that these marine operations  
4 remain in Seattle, and urges the NOAA administration to consider making essential repairs to  
5 facilities at the Marine Operations Center, Pacific in order for the Center to be maintained here in  
6 Seattle. The Seattle City Council strongly supports NOAA's continued presence in Seattle and  
7 states its intention to cooperate in achieving this goal.  
8

9 Section 3. The Seattle City Council hereby instructs the City Clerk to transmit copies of  
10 this resolution to the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the  
11 commanding officers of the Marine Operations Center, Pacific, and each member of the Seattle  
12 delegation to the U.S. Congress.  
13

14 Adopted by the City Council the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006, and signed by me in  
15 open session in authentication of its adoption this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006.  
16

17   
18 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

19  
20 Filed by me this 12 day of December, 2006.

21   
22 City Clerk

23  
24 (Seal)



**FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Contact Person/Phone:</b>	<b>DOF Analyst/Phone:</b>
Legislative	Jeannine Souki, x64619	

**Legislation Title:**

A resolution relating to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Marine Operations Center, Pacific, noting its historic importance and economic impact, and urging NOAA to maintain its marine operations in Seattle.

• **Summary of the Legislation:**

This resolution recognizes the long and commendable history of NOAA's Seattle-based operations. These operations have been and continue to be a vital facet of Seattle's maritime industry as well as a significant economic benefit and source of employment for Seattle and its residents. This resolution affirms the city's relationship with NOAA and urges NOAA to continue its Marine Operations Center, Pacific in Seattle.

• **Background:**

Previously ships that were based in Seattle included the Gedney, Patterson and McArther. These vessels were moored in the Puget Sound until the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks and Lake Washington Ship Canal were completed in 1916. Since that time, ships have been home ported in Lake Union. In 1947, a six-ship fleet was home ported together for the first time at the southeast corner of Lake Union. This site was occupied until July 1963, when the Marine Operations Center, Pacific was established on the east shore of Lake Union at 1801 Fairview Avenue East.

• *Please check one of the following:*

X This legislation does not have any financial implications.





**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

Honorable Jim McDermott  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1809 7th Avenue, Suite 1212  
Seattle, WA 98101-1399

Dear Congressman ~~McDermott~~ *Jim*:

I am pleased to transmit to you a Seattle City Council Resolution citing the historic importance and economic impact of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Marine Operations Center, Pacific in hopes that you support the Council's request that NOAA maintain their operations in Seattle.

As the primary sponsor this resolution, I am pleased to recognize the long and commendable history of NOAA's and its predecessor marine agency's ship operations based in Seattle. These operations have been, and continue to be a vital facet of Seattle's maritime heritage. The Marine Operations Center, Pacific has also been a significant economic benefit and a source of employment for Seattle and its residents.

While this resolution reflects the sentiments and good will of the Seattle City Council as a whole, I have a personal reason for sponsoring it. My father was an officer in the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and served for several years on ships based in Seattle. As a Coast Survey dependent, the NOAA ships and ship base are, too, a part of my heritage, one I am proud to honor.

The Seattle City Council recognizes that the unfortunate fire in July 2006 crippled NOAA's Marine Operations Center, Pacific and has forced NOAA to seek temporary berthing for its ships and to assess alternatives to the current location of the Center. It is the Council's hope that NOAA considers retaining its fleet in our city. No alternate location would provide a greater appreciation of and goodwill towards NOAA's ship operations and the Marine Operations Center, Pacific.

Thank you in advance for your support.

My regards,

Jean Godden  
Seattle City Councilmember

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City Hall 600 Fourth Avenue, Floor 2, PO Box 34025, Seattle, WA 98124-4025

(206) 684-8807, Fax: (206) 684-8587, TTY: (206) 233-0025

E-Mail Address: [jean.godden@seattle.gov](mailto:jean.godden@seattle.gov)

Internet Address: <http://www.cityofseattle.net/council/godden>

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**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

Honorable Jim McDermott  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1035 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman McDermott:

*Jim:*

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**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

Captain Jon E. Rix, NOAA  
Commanding Officer  
NOAA Marine Operations Center - Pacific  
1801 Fairview Ave. East  
Seattle, WA 98102-3767

Dear Captain Rix:

I am pleased to transmit to you a Seattle City Council Resolution citing the historic importance and economic impact of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Marine Operations Center, Pacific and urging that NOAA maintain their operations in Seattle.

As the primary sponsor this resolution, I am pleased to recognize the long and commendable history of NOAA's and its predecessor marine agency's ship operations based in Seattle. These operations have been, and continue to be a vital facet of Seattle's maritime heritage. The Marine Operations Center, Pacific has also been a significant economic benefit and a source of employment for Seattle and its residents.

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My Regards,

Jean Godden  
Seattle City Councilmember

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**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., USN (Ret.)  
Administrator  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
U. S. Department of Commerce  
Herbert Clark Hoover Building, Room 5128  
14<sup>th</sup> Street and Constitution Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Admiral Lautenbacher:

I am pleased to transmit to you a Seattle City Council Resolution citing the historic importance and economic impact of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Marine Operations Center, Pacific and urging that NOAA maintain their operations in Seattle.

As the primary sponsor this resolution, I am pleased to recognize the long and commendable history of NOAA's and its predecessor marine agency's ship operations based in Seattle. These operations have been, and continue to be a vital facet of Seattle's maritime heritage. The Marine Operations Center, Pacific has also been a significant economic benefit and a source of employment for Seattle and its residents.

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**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

Honorable Maria Cantwell  
U.S. Senate  
717 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cantwell:

I am pleased to transmit to you a Seattle City Council Resolution citing the historic importance and economic impact of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Marine Operations Center, Pacific in hopes that you support the Council's request that NOAA maintain their operations in Seattle.

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Thank you in advance for your support.

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Jean Godden  
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**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

Honorable Maria Cantwell  
U.S. Senate  
915 Second Avenue, Suite 3206  
Seattle, WA 98174

Dear Senator Cantwell:

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**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

Honorable Patty Murray  
U.S. Senate  
173 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

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**Jean Godden**  
Seattle City Councilmember

December 18, 2006

Honorable Patty Murray  
U.S. Senate  
915 2nd Avenue, Suite 2988  
Seattle, Washington 98174

Dear Senator Murray:

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