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TO: Jill R. Goldsmith, Town Manager
Select Board

CC:

FROM: Robert Duncanson, Ph.D., Director of Health & Natural Resources

DATE: January 20, 2023

SUBJECT: Update – Fish Pier South Jog Bulkhead Replacement Project

MAS Building & Bridge, Inc., Project Contractor, mobilized to the Fish Pier in early December and began demolition in preparation for installation of the new South Jog bulkhead. Bulkhead installation is critical to getting the facility operational for the upcoming fishing season.

Steel sheet pile for the new bulkhead arrived in mid-December and the Contractor began installation. As work progressed it became apparent there was an issue with the steel sheet piles. There was a deformation in the sheets that made driving the sheets with the vibratory hammer to the design depth and in proper alignment impossible. The Contractor, Engineer, and Pomroy Associates held multiple meetings to review the issue, the Contractor discussed internally and even reached out to competitors in the industry for potential solutions. Several options were identified which the Contractor attempted without success in getting the sheets to the design depth. The Contractor held discussions with the mill that produced the sheets ultimately resulting in a representative from the mill coming to Chatham to review the sheets. The representative determined the sheets did not meet specifications.

The Contractor had already been aggressive in identifying other sources of sheets that would meet specifications and were available. A meeting was held on 1/10/23 of Town Staff, Engineer, and Pomroy Associates to review options provided by the Contractor of sheet pile options. That meeting concluded with approval being given for one of the sheetpile options that would meet Project specs (i.e., design life) and would be available in a timely manner to keep the Project on track.

The first batch of the new sheets are due for delivery to the Fish Pier today and the Contractor is ready to start installation as soon as they arrive. Additional batches of sheets should arrive early next week with the Contractor estimating they will be complete with sheet installation next Friday or Monday (1/30/23).

The Contractor is well aware of the tight timeline for Project completion and is working on a make-up schedule, likely to include longer shifts and Saturday work, to achieve the completion target.