



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

San Francisco Maritime  
National Historical Park

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## San Francisco Maritime News Release

For Immediate Release – February 20, 2009

Contact: John Cunnane, Supervisory Park Ranger, 415-561-7170

### **San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Announces Proposal to Close Aquatic Park Recreational Pier (Muni Pier) from Dusk to Dawn Due to Unsafe Conditions**

**Public Access to Pier Would Not Change During Daylight Hours**

*Public Comments Welcome through March 23, 2009*

San Francisco – San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is considering a change of public hours at the Aquatic Park Recreational Pier (Muni Pier). The 1400-foot Pier is now open 24 hours a day; under the proposed new hours, the Pier would remain open during the day, but would close after sundown, beginning March 30, 2009. All current daytime uses of the Pier would continue.

The Park has taken a number of actions to protect public safety following a 2007 engineering study, which identified advanced deterioration of the Pier's 60-foot wide concrete deck and 634 concrete-encased timber pilings. Installation of an entrance gate (to manage visitation during large public events), and construction of a longitudinal safety fence (to prevent public access to the weakest portions of the 1929 structure), have allowed the Pier to remain open.

However, the Pier's historic "street lamps" were not designed to illuminate potential structural hazards, and advancing deterioration has rendered the electrical system itself unreliable. In addition, work schedules do not allow Park staff to monitor Pier visitation/use -- or enforce safety regulations -- during evening hours.

The park welcomes your input on this proposal, and will be accepting public comment until Monday, March 23, 2009. Comment will be accepted by mail to: Planning, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, Building E, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA 94123; by telephone to: 415-561-7006; by email to: [SAFR\\_planning@nps.gov](mailto:SAFR_planning@nps.gov); or online at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/>.

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