

Kings Beach Pier Feasibility Study Public Workshop: April 1, 2015

California Tahoe Conservancy and California State Parks staff hosted a public workshop to consider public views on the feasibility and potential for reconstructing the public pier at Kings Beach State Recreation Area. The workshop took public input on three specific topics: potential recreation users for the pier, location options, and pier design issues. Workshop sign-in sheets recorded 38 attendees. The following notes transcribe comments written on poster paper. For ease of reading, some notes have been repositioned to group like comments together.

Recreational Users: Characteristics and Needs

General Comments:

- Project should encompass boat ramp & pier (breakwater) & KB economy.
- What is the economic effect of the pier for the community?
- What about buoys?
- Not sure how this would support recreational boating activities other than providing 15 min. rest stop.
- How does proposed boardwalk incorporate into KBSRA general planning process?

Motorized Boaters

- How many boats can park?
- Fuel for boaters
- Locate pier at commercial entity

Non-Motorized Boaters

- Paddle boarders access to Crystal Bay –longer distance from beach to go around pier - if we can go under pier ok
- Scenic impact- both locations - noise
- Human powered/beach users should be the priority. Motorized boats not (noise, access, scenic impact)

Other Users

- Fishing [note: comment included twice]
- Weddings
- Reading
- Experience to be out in water- only 2% of visitors go out on Lake.
- Meetings
- Yoga
- Marked swim zones if boats at pier
- Beach Users
- ADA accessible?
- Swimmer safety w/ boats
- Sightseeing
- Interpretive panels
- ADA compliant (More than Accessible!)
- Inclusive only-0 exclusive
- Solar Power build for enduring beauty & functionality forever
- TREX
- Glass bottom to view lake

LOCATIONS OPTIONS

General Comments:

- Need for 90% of public that can walk out to lake that would normally stay on beach/not boat
- Too early to be only two alts
- East pier location is currently “dog beach” will “dog beach” be relocated or given another area?
- Use existing pier - extend to save \$ & permit issues

Beach Location

Pros

- Public Access
- Take advantage of existing location
- Please keep present location-great for pedestrians & senior citizens
- Closer to businesses
- Close to parking
- Already existing/sandy substrate
- Move it west to Conference Center [note: comment included twice]
- Easier ADA access
- Center of town
- Easier to separate boats & human powered
- Better connection to promenade being planned by Placer County

Cons

- Too long-too flat, an area in swimming area blocks ramp
- Greater impact on swimming area
- Traffic safety interaction between boats & people
- Scenery
- Too much noise –blocks view

Rocky Point Location

Pros

- Start at “boat ramp” and angle westerly toward pre dominate waves & boats will face wind better
- Minimizing conflicts between swimmers & beach users. Allows no boating buoys to protect beach swimmers
- Shorter pier
- Less impact on scenic from beach [note: comment included twice]
- Like the area- Is there consideration for the “dog beach” upgrades? Making it safer for more animals?
- Better to keep beach uses “together” vs boat uses at east end
- Shorter & Deeper- out of the way of swimmers
- Close to parking [note: comment included twice]
- Less interruption on beach & could be shorter
- Shorter pier- less impact to beach & scenic
- Like location better for boats - should keep current [existing pier] as well for general pedestrian use
- Closer to existing private piers- less visual impact on public beach
- Can be aimed into prevailing waves more easily
- Needs to be coordinated with boat ramp. Will boat ramp be reconfigured?

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Cons

- Congestion by boat ramp
- Stay at angle to minimize anchor issues for boat ramp
- Too far from commerce areas [note: comment included twice]
- More difficult access- rocky vs sand
- More impact to neighbors!
- Not adequate parking
- Dog Beach conflicts
- Would rather see usable ramp & impaired park instead of new long pier –can just upgrade existing not lengthening
- Don't put in view of residents to east
- Will degrade scenic vista & property values because of commercial component due to owner on Brockway Vista Ave.
- Extremely rocky
- Don't block views of beach - unmolested beach worth conserving
- Too far from center of town
- Conflicts with boat launch users: like beach as is; put it further west; \$ used on something else
- Too close to neighborhood

Pier Design

General Comments:

- No floating (structural issues ADA- Grove Street Pier as example)
- Need Bar (drinking) on pier
- Need low loading side floats
- Structural hybrid floating/fixed is best for KBSRA
- Moorings?
- Safety Issue related to height of fixed portion of pier. (Jumping/diving)
- After commenting on design, rec, etc. & reading comments my vote is No new pier- the current pier serves the beach & swim /shop/kayak users. We don't need increased boat traffic off our beautiful beach. Instead maybe add interpretive signs to existing access improvements. Or add a T w/ benches, signs for viewing
- Zero emission, KB can be a human powered mecca, don't ruin it
- Lower carbon foot print
- Just build it, don't delay- decide and move forward
- Is there a need?
- Closer to boat ramp

Pier Length

- Can you add a float to the forward end of the pier for very, very low water years?
- As long as possible for observation
- As long as possible fixed & floating
- No scenic impact, land & commercial
- Long Tall Pier
- Long tall facing predominate wind direction- with low floating tether & boarding piers
- Mooring duration?

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- Wave action in afternoons make docking impossible w/o a dog's leg
- Make it a stop for water shuttle/taxi to KB economy
- As long as possible
- Short as needed to get to deep water [note: comment made twice]
- Long enough for emergency boat access (Coast Guard in low water)
- Got to accommodate future transit needs

Pier Width

- 15' and shorter –make it an amenity
- Larger Pier head & benches
- Easy access for loading/unloading/SUP/kayaks
- Fixed pier best for swimmers & kayakers to go under
- As wide as we can
- Wider pier head but narrow approach
- Enough for pedestrian seating & railings

Amenities (Lights, benches, interpretive panels, etc.)

- Gates, lights, benches, interp/educ
- Need electricity
- Need bw access for jet skis
- No lights
- Turtle lights if Lights
- Permanent "View Scope"
- Swim ladder & swim area off of pier separated from motor boats
- For beach users
- Moving pier off beach will open up beach & move boating activities away from swimmers
- Best current beach area use, swimmers, paddlers, SUPs-concern with more boats, safety & gas spills
- Keep railing and seating on sides-swimming access on low float piers on sides-low for safety- 2 broken necks :☹ No bikes or skate boards
- Safety
- Beach users would like to see on beach improvements to bathrooms, etc.
- Observation pier only make it shorter/wider to service non-motorized boaters.
- Downlights, interpretive panels, need places to rest- benches for sale
- Could benches/other features be for sale? As a community recognition item- Yes!
- Planters along way
- Garbage cans down pier
- Railings then lower floaters for boarding & swimmers
- Navigational safety lighting

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Other Design Issues

- Breakwater
- No gas tanks on pier
- Can there be an L shape to have safe harbor on one side?
- Can/should dredging be considered when the pier is installed, as is being proposed at the Coast Guard pier?
- Whether the public pier to the east is too close to the private pier?
- Would either pier location affect the boat ramp (+/-) how?
- Navigational safety for night time boaters
- Can we use to stage fireworks on 7/3? Or other dates
- Copy what Hyatt did in Incline with bar & restaurant
- Need to upgrade Coon Boat Launch so local users can benefit from pier, otherwise pier access benefits boaters from other launches only
- If East pier is chosen why does current pier need to be removed? I think it should stay
- Allows for Kayak/paddle boarders to paddle under fixed section
- Floating cat-walk at the outer portion of a fixed pier could accommodate varying water levels.
- Chairs & area for relaxing sight seeing
- Make pier pedestrian friendly
- Needs to accommodate water borne transit
- If we build it "they will come".
- Accommodate all users-deep enough for transit.
- Break water to shelter- beach revamp?
- Boating vs human powered
- -600' Pier??? How about a moving sidewalk!
- ADA compliant- both pier and to get to pier
- Most – many people might use this pier to experience being on/over the lake
- Launch kayak from pier
- Surface of pier that can be used by people in wheelchairs/ scooters
- Surface that can be walked in barefoot comfortably. Also it is really hot in the summer w/ southern exposure & even the sand is too hot sometimes