

NEW BOAT RAMP AT GODDARD PARK ANNOUNCED WITH BAY DAY CEREMONY

On July 28, during the weekend of the annual Governor's Bay Day, a formal announcement was made regarding the totally refurbished and redesigned boat launch at Goddard Memorial State Park in Warwick.

The 24-foot wide, concrete boat ramp features an adjacent row of floating docks and a 40-foot aluminum gangway that provides ADA handicapped access.

The new parking area features two separate drive aisles, 20 parking spaces for vehicles with boat trailers and five single-car spaces for car-top boat users.

Stormwater controls treat surface water runoff, and a sand filter was installed to protect the adjacent salt marsh and improve water quality in Greenwich Cove.

The new ramp opened in the spring and the design allows boaters and anglers to easily board their boats. It replaces a 1980s-era facility that was demolished to make way for the new ramp.

The facility was paid for with federal Sportfish Restoration Funds, a The Nature Conservancy grant and R.I. recreational fishing license funds.

Speaking at the boat launch formal "opening" was (in photo l-r) Steve Medeiros, RISAA President, Jonathan Stone, Executive Director of Save The Bay, Governor Gina Raimondo, John Torgan, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy, and Janet Coit, Director of RIDEM.



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CRANSTON FISHING BAN (from page 31)

Before the council voted on the ordinance an amendment made by Councilman Michael Favicchio was approved. The spirit of the amendment was to ban fishing on the road but allow it on the beach.

This slightly amended version changed the language to read:

There shall be no fishing at the public access point where Ocean Ave. meets the shoreline at any time. Fishing shall be allowed but confined to the shoreline and not from the roadway or guardrails.

This quick amendment made the ordinance very vague. It is obvious from the aerial view of the site that no one would fish from the road or guardrail. It's much too far from the water's edge.

Councilman Stycos urged clarification in the amendment, but it passed without further alternation.

At press time the approved 'No Fishing' Ordinance was going before Mayor Allan Fung for his approval signature.

A letter was sent to Mayor Fung by RISAA urging him to veto the ordinance. Additionally, this letter advised the Mayor that RISAA would agree to explore helping the City of Cranston (and residents) with fishermen outreach, perhaps with signage and site visits.

The RISAA Board, if unsuccessful with the offer of assistance, has agreed to explore filing suit against the City of Cranston as fishermen are being singled out as a group infringing on their Rhode Island constitutional right to fish.

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