

# WHAT'S HOLDING UP NAVY PIER MARINA?

## DEVELOPER SUES THE CITY OF CHICAGO & ITS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR DENYING A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FOR THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED RECREATIONAL MARINA AT ICONIC NAVY PIER

NPM Venture LLC (“NPM”) [www.navypiermarina.com](http://www.navypiermarina.com) is still waiting for the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) to issue a permit for construction of the CDOT stalled marina. Navy Pier Marina has received permits and approvals from all other governmental agencies including the US Corp of Engineers (USACE), the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDNR), the Illinois EPA, **as well as unanimous City Council approval of the project in September 2016.**

CDOT also has no authority to “overrule” the state and federal governments, and the City’s own City Council, all of which determined and agreed that a marina could be built and operated in the federal waters on the north side of Navy Pier!

Navy Pier Marina will accommodate 100-150 boats with broadside mooring and will be the first marina on Lake Michigan to exclusively offer short-term “transient” docking facilities with immediate access to Navy Pier’s dining, shopping and entertainment, and the closest proximity to downtown Chicago. The Marina will put Navy Pier on the map as the premier boating destination for all Chicago Harbor and Lake Michigan boaters, as well as Loopers, looking to spend time at Navy Pier for lunch, dinner, or over-night stays.

The Marina is estimated to bring more than \$10 million to the city annually in economic revenue and create about 100 new jobs.

When denying the permit, CDOT Commissioner Gia Biagi said the marina posed “unacceptable security risks due to its proximity to the Jardine Water Treatment Plant” but did not identify any such risks – yet the USACE and the US Coast Guard, which are responsible for safety and security on the Federal waters of Lake Michigan, did not identify any such risks and have

imposed no restrictions on the use of the North Slip - for the marina or otherwise. There is no Federal security zone between Jardine and Navy Pier where the boating public is free to navigate. But for a couple of illegally placed buoys, those waters are not a legal security zone. What's more, Jardine has no fence on its north, east and south sides - the simplest of security solutions its management could have undertaken over the past 2-decades! The Marina will provide safeguards that will actually enhance security in the area in numerous ways, including monitoring what boats come in and out of the North Slip, which is not being done now. That's why CDOT's actions make no sense. Security is a priority to both Navy Pier and the Marina.

Let's face it, boaters frequent the "Playpen" and navigate all around the water treatment plant. All waters surrounding on Lake Michigan, including those within Chicago Harbor, are Federal waters. The City has no legal right to stop boaters from entering the North Slip. Ask the USACE or the Coast Guard, they will confirm that!

Navy Pier Marina will improve the area economically as well and add a new vibrancy to Navy Pier. Navy Pier wants boaters to feel welcome there! NPM has worked non-stop and invested a great amount of time and money to bring the project to the Chicago the recreational boating community. Its goal is to have the marina open as soon as possible! We need your help:

**For project updates and to show your support sign up at [navypiermarina.com](http://navypiermarina.com)**

**Email City officials today to encourage them to issue the construction permit**

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Gia Biagi, Commissioner, CDOT [giabiagi@cityofchicago.org](mailto:giabiagi@cityofchicago.org)

**Let's rally around this project for the boating community and spread the word on social!**