

# Sun Harbor Marina Begins Environmentally Friendly Renovation



Courtesy of Caitlin Kelley

**RESPONSIBLE MARINA** — When Sun Harbor Marina's renovation is complete, it will be one of the most energy-efficient facilities of its kind in the state and 30 percent more energy efficient than before.

**SINCE FEBRUARY**, Sun Harbor Marina in San Diego has been undergoing an extensive renovation to make its facilities more environmentally sustainable.

Designed by Solana Beach architect Caitlin Kelley to be 30 percent more energy efficient than a standard building, the new buildings will be constructed to be as "green" as possible, and even demolition of existing structures will be environmentally friendly. Fifty percent of the remains of buildings that were removed were recycled. The new restrooms will use low-flow showerheads, low-flush toilets and waterless urinals. Flooring will be either a combination of stained concrete and bamboo or carpet made from recycled materials.

Even the positioning of the buildings was influenced by the sun, as the marina's name indicates. Its 200 windows (all double paned) will be positioned to take advantage of the southern exposure and natural light.

Inside, only non-toxic AFM Safecoat paints and coatings will be used to improve indoor air quality,

and all cabinetry will be made of pre-finished wheat board and natural bamboo plywood. Appliances will be "Energy Star" certified. Solar electric panels in the parking lot will further provide energy to the buildings.

On the docks, each slip will have access to the energy generated by the solar panels, and each dock will have its own pumpout station.

"It is my firm belief that the future of building must be sustainable and environmentally responsive," said owner Mary Lou LoPreste, who insisted on Sun Harbor leading the way in environmentally responsible building in San Diego. "Our earth simply cannot continue to be exploited for the sake of new development, but rather must be respected and renewed by our building practices."

Construction company Peterbuilt began work in February and is expected to finish in December. LoPreste, Kelley and Peterbuilt are also working alongside environmental and energy consultants Skip Fralick and Colin Jessop of Sustainable Earth Enterprises to maintain the integrity of the project.

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