

October 4, 2019 Captain Doug Heil President, Vineyard Yachting PO Box 143 Edgartown MA, 02539

Town of Tisbury Massachusetts 51 Spring St. P.O. Box 1239 Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Captain Doug Heil and I am writing to completely support the *Martha's Vineyard Shipyard's* plan for a 48 slip Marina at its Beach Road, Vineyard Haven location.

I came to Martha's Vineyard at age 21 in 1993 to run the Junior Sailing Program at Vineyard Haven Yacht Club. After working with the MV Shipyard that summer maintaining the clubs boats, I quickly realized the MV Shipyard as the boatyard leader with quality and proper service to its maritime community.

Since then, I've dedicated the past 26 years getting people safely on the water thru professional sailing instruction, race coaching, and now my own boat management business, *Vineyard Yachting*.

I work directly with MV Shipyard to mange the boat owner's maintenance, commission/decommission, winter projects, Captain Services, Operational Instruction, Storm plans, Fleet Acquisition and operational set up. I see first hand the need for the proposed expansion plan and the positive effect and opportunities it will have on the maritime community.

I fully support the MV Shipyard's proposed plan for the following reasons:

1. Martha's Vineyard is a maritime community rich with maritime history. This plan positions Vineyard Haven and the island wide maritime community (professional and recreational), the boatyard and its employees/customers, for the future by addressing coastal flooding, sea level rise, climate change, mooring/dockage/maintenance/storm challenges, boat owners needs, VH parking/traffic concerns and preservation of the working waterfront.

- 2. Increases recreational boater's SAFE access to the water that includes on site operational maintenance, support, and proper storm plan execution.
- 3. Provides opportunities for commercial and professional mariners year round.
- 4. A well thought out plan, with proper due diligence research, that addresses the vulnerability of VH harbor, the water quality, and will have a low environmental and shellfish impact that includes a plan for storm water management.
- 5. With mooring wait lists (in each town) 20+ years and seasonal dockage limited to those with waterfront homes, The 48 slip Marina will provide very much needed dockage for recreational and commercial boaters.
- 6. Will provide more opportunities and jobs for commercial and maritime professionals.
- 7. The Hale family has dedicated their lives for 3 generations running a family boatyard. Since 1993 I've had the pleasure to know and work with Tom Hale, Phil Hale, and now James Hale. Their plan is genuine. They believe in the town and their role to the success of the town and maritime community.

I respectfully request the Town of Tisbury approve this proposed plan. It is well thought and will benefit the town, the maritime community, recreation boaters, commercial and professional mariners, The MV Shipyard owners and employees.

Sincerely,

Doug Heil