

OPINION: Mayor Mitchell brags about New Bedford's port status, but endorses projects that hurt fishing industry

The following is an opinion sent to New Bedford Guide. It does not reflect the opinion of New Bedford Guide, nor is it an OP-ED. In fairness and objectivity, we share opinions from our readers whether we agree or disagree with their opinion.

"This was a really sad day for us. After 24 years of docking our lobster/fishing boats at Marine Hydraulics, the City of New Bedford has decided to eliminate 15 small commercial fishing berths to build the North Terminal.

Ironically, the mayor said the project will add much-needed commercial fishing berths. Please explain??!

I understand the need for the City to expand and adapt to future technologies but don't totally displace the industry that put us on the map for the last 22 years and longer, especially small family businesses. Mayor Mitchell constantly brags about New Bedford's number one fishing port status, but then contradicts himself with projects that hurt the fishing industry.

We were told for the past two years that they would relocate our boats, but they bailed out at the 11th hour and now we have nowhere to go. To quote the NBPA, "You've had it too good for too long."

We are currently not allowed to keep our boats at recreational docks. Please share if you feel New Bedford needs more

commercial fishing dockage for these small family businesses.”
-Jarret Drake.



“Before.” Photo by Jarrett Drake.