



## **Schooner North Wind Ceases Operation**

As of May 17, 2021, Gloucester City Sail has been forced to cease its operations of the Schooner North Wind until further notice.

The Schooner North Wind is owned by the City of Gloucester City, and leased to Gloucester City Sail to operate the North Wind's Youth Programs, as well as run public and private charters to fund the youth programs.

In early 2021, Gloucester City's new Acting Administrator ordered a review of our 12 year old lease and operation. They determined that our operation represented an unacceptable potential liability to the City and suggested we needed "at least" 10x the insurance coverage which we have carried and is typical for operations of our size.

The City of Gloucester City has ordered the Schooner North Wind to **not leave its dock** until the City's concerns about our lease and insurance were addressed. Even though the new insurance cost was over double our typical yearly revenues, two local family foundations came to our rescue to provide \$25,000 for the 2021 insurance bill. Despite this action, Gloucester City has still not allowed us to sail finding technicalities as a reason to not accept the added insurance.

As we are now at an impasse, Gloucester City Sail has to face the reality of the our stay at dock order. We have now passed our USCG inspection date, and have already had to cancel several charters and youth program sails. With the City seeming to be working to find ways to stop our operation, instead of finding solutions, we find it unlikely that a near term solution can be achieved.

We hope to be able to work with the City of Gloucester City and other area governmental entities to move the ownership of the Schooner North Wind, such that sometime in the future, we can restart our youth programs.

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