

## Jack London Public Dock

2 Webster Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

<https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/BoatingFacilities/f/513>

*Thanks to the generosity of the California Coastal Commission and the Whale Tail Grants Program, BORP Adaptive Sports & Recreation is proud to share resources that help paddlers with disabilities plan accessible kayaking adventures.*

### **Overview**

Located in the heart of Jack London Square, this public dock provides direct access to the Oakland Estuary — a sheltered yet active waterway popular with paddlers.

This site may be a good fit for paddlers who have their own boat and transportation, can manage moderate changes in level, and are comfortable paddling near ferries and other vessels.

### **Facilities (as of October 2025)**

#### **Path of Travel and Access:**

Access from the Jack London Square promenade is through a single doorway approximately 32 inches wide. While it appears to be a double door, the left-hand panel is welded in place and cannot be opened. Beyond the doorway, a wide ramp with nonslip ridged surfacing and handrails on both sides leads down to the dock.

Beyond the doorway, the ramp widens significantly. It has a textured, nonslip surface with ridges and handrails on both sides. The ramp is approximately 35–40 feet long and has a significant grade that most users should find manageable, though some may need assistance and/or descend backward for stability.

### Dock Surface and Freeboard:

At the base of the ramp is a concrete dock with a freeboard\* exceeding one foot, which may vary with the tide. At present, there is a step down to the dock area where California Canoe & Kayak stored their boats, and another step down to the launch point. It is unclear what infrastructure will remain once CCK vacates the site or which organization may take over management.

### Water Conditions and Traffic:

The Oakland Estuary is an active waterway shared with ferries, sailboats, rowers, and personal watercraft. Paddlers should be alert to wakes and vessel traffic, particularly near the ferry terminals.

### Parking

Public parking garages and metered street parking are available throughout Jack London Square. The Washington Street Garage (101 Washington St.) and Clay Street Garage (66 Franklin St.) offer accessible parking spaces and elevator access to the waterfront area.

### Restrooms

Public restrooms are available nearby at Jack London Square Pavilion (between Broadway and Franklin Streets). These restrooms are ADA accessible and open during business hours. (Confirm restroom hours and accessibility before your visit, as hours may vary by season.)

### **Summary**

The Jack London Public Dock offers central access to the Oakland Estuary and nearby waterfront amenities. While it provides a sturdy concrete dock and a maintained access ramp, the high freeboard and boat traffic may pose challenges for many paddlers with disabilities.

This location may be suitable for you if:

- You have your own boat and transportation.
- You can manage a moderately steep ramp and a high freeboard.
- You're comfortable navigating in areas with active motorized boat traffic.

\* A freeboard is the distance between the top water level and the surface of the dock.