

Facts about the Port Expansion Scheme

1. Over the years there have been a number of proposals from developers to expand the Port and build a marina in Xàbia
2. All the proposals have been rejected by the Xàbia Town Council with popular support from the people.
3. The Town Council has asked Valencia for funds to optimise the current Port area to create more moorings, but without success.
4. The latest Port expansion proposal (2008) was presented by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport of the Valencia Government. This project involves demolishing the current harbour wall (left) and building a new one further out (right). It was rejected by a council meeting in July 2008. It seems to be a cut down version of proposals previously submitted by a private company, Marina Punta del Este, S.A in 2004 (centre) and unanimously rejected.



5. In its 2008 report on the state of the Spanish Coastline, Greenpeace identified Xàbia as a “black Spot” because of the proposed Port expansion scheme which threatens the Grava beach and the marine reserve of the Cabo de San Antonio.
6. The Valencia Parliament decreed that no Port expansion would go ahead without the express agreement of the National Ministry of the Environment (coastline division), Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (Valencia) and Town Council.
7. Despite the non-agreement of Xàbia Town Council, the Valencian Draft Budget for 2009-2011 includes over 22 million Euros for Xàbia Port Expansion.
8. The Mayor of Xàbia and the Association for the defence of the land and coast of Xàbia (La Plataforma Cívica en Defensa del Territori i del Litoral de Xàbia) has sent petitions to the European Parliament to ask for mediation in this issue, citing the likely negative environmental and scenic impacts both on the nature reserve and the urban centre. These will be heard in December 2008.
9. They are also petitioning the Valencian Parliament to redirect the 22million Euros earmarked for Port Expansion to municipal projects which the town has long been asking for.(e.g. Municipal Auditorium, covered municipal swimming pool and upgrading of school buildings)
10. They are asking residents of, and visitors to Xàbia to support these two petitions by adding their signatures to the documents.