

City of Marco Island Florida

*51 Bald Eagle Drive
Marco Island, Florida
cityofmarcoisland.com*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, June 19, 2025

8:30 AM

Community Meeting Room

Waterways Advisory Committee

Chair: Elliott Mascoop

Vice-Chair: Daniel High

*Committee Members: Chris Lewandowski,
Ralph Rohena, Jim Snider,
Martin Winter, Rick Woodworth*

City Staff: Justin Martin, Tara Kosieracki

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mascoop called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

(2) ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Snider, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

Absent: 1 - Member Winter

Also Present***Citizens and Visitors***

Deb Henry, Marco Island City Councilor

Bonita Schwan, Marco Island City Councilor

Rene Champagne, Marco Island City Councilor

City Staff:

Justin Martin, P.E., Director of Public Works

Tara Kosieracki, Administrative/Project Coordinator

Martin Luna, Visual/Broadcast Technician

(3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Chair Mascoop.

(4) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved with a brief discussion. Member Rohena made comments about two items (File ID 25-4489 Flushing-San Marco Road and File ID 25-4491 Dredging).

MOTION by Member Snider, seconded by Member Lewandowski, that the Agenda be Approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 5 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Snider and Chair Mascoop

No: 1 - Member Woodworth

(5) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes were approved after a brief discussion. Member Woodworth expressed concern that his comments regarding a recommendation to City Council on fertilizer ordinance costs were not reflected in the previous minutes. Director Martin stated that the video recordings and minutes would be reviewed, and any necessary corrections would be made if needed.

[ID 25-4487](#) Approval of the Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2025

MOTION by Vice-Chair High, seconded by Member Lewandowski, that the Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2025 be Approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 6 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Snider, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

(6) OLD BUSINESS**ID 25-4489** Flushing - San Marco Road (Chair Mascoop)

Director Martin discussed the flushing project and reported that the \$2 million allocated for the flushing project remains unused due to funding constraints, prompting discussion on bids, timelines, and capital resources. While the City pursues legislative and grant support, the Committee concluded that no immediate action can be taken. Director Martin also responded to inquiries about culverts and tidal variations.

ID 25-4492 ATON Update

Director Martin provided an update on the status of Marco Island's ATONs, noting that one remains to be secured within City limits, while others face jurisdictional challenges. The Committee discussed the possibility of escalating the matter to the City Council and County officials. Vice-Chair High and Director Martin also addressed ATONs near Hideaway Beach, and Director Martin reviewed the procurement process in accordance with the City's purchasing ordinance, along with the associated costs for recent pilings.

MOTION by Member Woodworth, seconded by Chair Mascoop, for the Waterways Advisory Committee to recommend that City Council contact the appropriate agencies to support the upgrade or replacement of navigational markers that are missing or not clearly visible in the waters surrounding Marco Island, to ensure safety for personal and commercial boating. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 6 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Snider, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

(7) NEW BUSINESS**ID 25-4488** Fertilizer Discussion (Vice-Chair High & Chair Mascoop)

The Committee discussed adopting more sustainable fertilization practices for Marco Island, with Chair Mascoop introducing K and K Super Blend as a potential organic alternative. Concerns were raised about nutrient runoff during dry seasons, and the Committee commented on current ordinances, phosphorus use, and the need for better public education. Following Member Snider's suggestion for further research, the Committee voted for Chair Mascoop to meet with the product's manufacturer to gather more information, aiming to protect waterways while supporting healthy landscapes.

MOTION by Member Snider, seconded by Member Lewandowski, to recommend that Chair Mascoop of the Waterways Advisory Committee meet with a representative from K & K Super-Blend prior to July 17, 2025, to gather detailed information and clarify key points regarding the product. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 6 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Snider, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

ID 25-4490 A White Paper on the Benefits of Implementing a Stormwater Utility District on Marco Island (Member Woodworth)

Member Woodworth presented a white paper advocating for the creation of a dedicated stormwater utility to fund infrastructure projects, noting similar local Florida municipalities. Director Martin recommended researching comparable models, prompting a broader Committee discussion. Member Snider emphasized

the need for further study before making a City Council recommendation, while Member Lewandowski suggested developing a list of focus area for the Committee moving forward.

Public Comment:

David Crain, a resident of Marco Island, stressed the Committee's duty to conduct thorough research before presenting recommendations to City Council. He also referenced the previous waterway symposium and highlighted concerns related to fertilizer practices.

The motion was subsequently withdrawn by Member Woodworth, who volunteered to conduct additional research on the topic. Rather than immediately recommending the proposal to City Council, the Committee decided to gather more detailed information and practical examples before making a formal recommendation.

MOTION by Member Woodworth, seconded by Member Rohena, to recommend that City Council explore the establishment of a stormwater utility as an additional funding mechanism to address stormwater-related costs.

The motion was WITHDRAWN by Member Woodworth.

[ID 25-4491](#) Dredging (Member Rohena)

Member Rohena shared his concerns about the C-HAWQ proposal, prompting a Committee discussion on the importance of developing a strategic plan to address multiple sources of canal degradation. He also recommended acquiring a sludge judge oxygen meter to improve assessments, while Director Martin provided an overview of the City's purchasing policy.

Public Comment:

David Crain, Marco Island resident, mentioned that the Committee needs to conduct more research.

MOTION by Member Rohena, seconded by Member Woodworth, to spend less than \$1000.00 to purchase a sludge judge dissolved oxygen meter. MOTION FAILED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 2 - Member Rohena and Member Woodworth

No: 4 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Snider and Chair Mascoop

(8) STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

(9) CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Marco Island City Councilor Bonita Schwan commented on the capital budget workshop, highlighting the need for a canal depth survey. She also noted the importance of grounding water quality decisions in factual, evidence-based information.

(10) PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was offered during the "New Business" portion of the meeting.

Nick Pierson, owner of Bayshore Marine Consulting, raised his concerns about potential issues with disposing of dredging material north of the midway line of the Marco River. He highlighted the importance of understanding the legal and environmental implications of the proposed dredging project.

(11) NEXT MEETING: CONFIRMATION & ATTENDANCE - 7/17/25 @ 8:30 A.M.

July 17, 2025 at 8:30 A.M. was agreed to be the next Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting.

(12) PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

[ID 25-4494](#) Proposed Agenda Topics for July 17, 2025

The following topics were raised for the Meeting scheduled on July 17, 2025:

- 1. Stormwater Utility District Information (Member Woodworth)*
- 2. K & K Fertilizer Information (Chair Mascoop)*
- 3. Whiteboard all Topics and Create a Strategic Plan (Member Lewandowski & Member Winter)*

(13) OTHER COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

[ID 25-4493](#) Prevention and Remediation (Chair Mascoop)

Chair Mascoop led a discussion on developing a comprehensive strategy to improve water quality on Marco Island, emphasizing key prevention and remediation efforts. He expressed interest in continuing the conversation at the upcoming City Council Water Quality Workshop.

(14) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, Chair Mascoop adjourned the meeting at 10:30 A.M.

MOTION by Member Snyder, seconded by Member Lewandowski to adjourn.

NOTE: TWO OR MORE CITY COUNCILORS OR OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS MAY BE PRESENT