

City of Marco Island Florida

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Thursday, December 18, 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

Not Present: 1 - Member Winter

(Note: Member Winter arrived via Zoom after Roll Call at 8:37 A.M.)

Also Present

City Councilor Bonita Schwan

CITY STAFF:

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

Tracy Frazzano, Police Chief

Josh Ferris, Police Officer

Theresa Swanson, Deputy City Clerk

Tara Kosieracki, Administrative/Project Coordinator

Martin Luna, Visual/Broadcast Technician

(3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Chair Mascoop.

(4) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Waterways Advisory Committee briefly discussed the Marco Island Police Department agenda item and held a short conversation regarding the rodent trap agenda item.

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

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

(5) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

[ID 25-4983](#) Approval of the Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2025

MOTION by Vice-Chair High, seconded by Member snider, that the Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 20, 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

6A [ID 25-4984](#) 2026 Waterways Advisory Meeting Calendar

The Committee discussed its 2026 meeting schedule and approved the calendar to continue monthly meetings. Justin Martin, P.E., Director of Public Works, reviewed procedures and protocols for public meetings.

MOTION by Member Woodworth, seconded by Vice-Chair High to approve the 2026 Waterways Advisory monthly calendar as proposed, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

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

MOTION TO ALLOW REMOTE COMMITTEE MEMBER PARTICIPATION

MOTION by Member Rohena, seconded by Member Lewandowski that Member Winter be able to actively participate and vote on matters coming before this Committee this day, December 18, 2025. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

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

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Mascoop invited the Marco Marine Police Unit to provide their update.

[ID 25-4989](#) Marco Island Police Department Marine Unit

Marco Island Police Marine Officer Josh Ferris provided an update on the Seabed 2030 mapping project, reporting that data collection is complete and that work is currently underway with the mapping vendor to produce visual maps. He emphasized the importance of community participation to increase available data points and reported the routine removal of submerged hazards, including channel markers and concrete, in coordination with county, state, and Public Works staff. Officer Ferris explained how you can view the Seakeepers data. (see meeting details) Officer Ferris encouraged the public to report waterway hazards to any agency for faster response and offered to provide ongoing monthly updates.

Police Chief Tracy Frazzano reported that the police boat dock project is advancing through EPA grant-related permitting in coordination with Collier County. The project is expected to go out for bid in January, with Collier County managing the bidding process as part of the joint effort. She confirmed ongoing efforts to ensure a Marine Officer attends monthly Committee meetings and reiterated the commitment to continued coordination and marine safety initiatives.

6B [ID 25-4985](#) Fertilizer Regulation Discussion (Chair Mascoop)

Eileen Ward, a certified horticultural professional and longtime Marco Island landscaper, presented on fertilizer impacts, recommending that the City follow Florida's science-based fertilizer model rather than the current blackout period ordinance. She emphasized proper timing, calibrated application, licensed applicators, improved irrigation, and healthier root and organic practices to reduce nutrient leaching and protect waterways. Eileen Ward provided informational materials, including University of Florida research packet, and engaged in discussion with the Committee regarding the existing ordinance, nutrients, blackout periods, and correspondence from the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. (see attached meeting details.) Eileen Ward noted that additional information on licensed fertilizer applicators can be obtained through the Department of Agriculture's Division of Licensing.

(7) NEW BUSINESS

7A [ID 25-4988](#) Water Quality Testing (Chair Mascoop)

The Committee reviewed water quality testing frequency and site coverage, discussing DEP requirements and noting that recent changes in detection limits have impacted nitrogen readings. Members considered reallocating or rotating sampling locations to include Isles of Capri and Goodland—areas of concern for septic leaching—either by adjusting existing sites or adding pilot sites, with alternatives including quarterly island testing and alternating Capri and Goodland sampling in intervening months. Director Martin will consult with the laboratory regarding potential site changes, costs, and contract impacts and will provide prior correspondence and summaries to the Committee.

During public comment, City Councilor Bonita Schwan recommended that the Committee present the water quality testing topic to City Council for review prior to implementing any changes.

MOTION by Member Lewandowski, seconded by Member Snider, directing Director Martin to explore the feasibility of conducting quarterly water quality testing in Marco Island, with additional testing in Isles of Capri and Goodland during the intervening months of each quarter. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Snider, Member Winter, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

7B [ID 25-4987](#) Rodent Traps (Chair Mascoop)

Chair Mascoop proposed tabling agenda item 7B for the next meeting to allow for more discussion.

(8) STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Justin Martin, P.E., Director of Public Works, announced that the Waterways Advisory Committee will present its quarterly update to the City Council on February 2, 2026. He noted that Vice-Chair High plans to introduce an item regarding the Tigertail/Sand Dollar Island Restoration permit modification and the associated offshore borrow area, and indicated that additional presenters beyond the Chair may participate in the update.

City Councilor Bonita Schwan added that it would be appropriate to include discussion of projects and funding during the Committee's quarterly report to the Council.

(9) CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

See 7A, 8 and 12.

(10) PUBLIC COMMENT**(11) NEXT MEETING: CONFIRMATION & ATTENDANCE - 1/15/26 @ 8:30 A.M.****(12) PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**

The following topics were raised for the next meeting:

- 1. Rodent trap (Chair Mascoop)*
- 2. Committee member goals and objectives for 2026*
- 3. Dredging discussion (Member Rohena)*

Chair Mascoop emphasized the need to vet ideas with the appropriate regulatory agencies prior to Committee discussion. Additional comments addressed the use of beneficial bacteria, with City Councilor Bonita Schwan noting such methods are not approved for saltwater projects and reaffirming City Council's oversight role. Chair Mascoop reviewed the Committee's four mandates—water quality, safe boating, seawall and boat dock issues, and public awareness and education. The Committee discussed C-HAWQ City Councilor Bonita Schwan noting that the motion did not carry. Member Winter requested an update on the Advanced Water Treatment report at the next meeting and recommended inviting Jeff Poteet to present the findings.

(13) OTHER COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

[ID 25-4990](#) Florida Friendly Landscaping (Chair Mascoop)

Agenda item not discussed.

(14) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, Chair Mascoop adjourned the meeting at 10:29 A.M.

Tara Kosieracki, Administrative/Project Coordinator

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