



City of Marco Island

City Council Vacancy Application

29 Questions

Your Name

1) Last Name *

Woodworth

2) First Name *

Douglas "Rick"

3) Middle Name

Address

4) Number and Street *

908 N. Barfield Drive

5) Apt. Number

6) City *

Marco Island

7) State *

Florida

8) Zip *

34145

Phone Numbers

9) Home

10) Cell

312 961-9586

11) Business

12) Email Address *

douglaswoodworth@comcast.net

13) Organization *

City Council

Other

Current Background

14) How long have you been a resident on Marco Island? *

Less than 1 year

1-2 Years

3-4 Years

4-5 Years

5-10 Years

10-15 Years

More than 15 Years

15) Are you a qualified elector of the City? *

Yes

No

16) Have you previously served on the City Council for more than eight [8] years? *

Yes

No

17) Have you ever been convicted or found guilty of a criminal offense (any level felony or first degree misdemeanor only)? *

Yes

No

18) Would you (or any organizations with which you are affiliated) potentially benefit on a personal level from decisions or recommendations made by this board? *

Yes

No

19) Do you currently hold public office? *

Yes

No

20) Do you now serve, or have you ever served on a Collier County or City of Marco Island board or committee? *

Yes

No

Current Qualifications

21) Please list your community activities and positions held (Example: Civic clubs, neighborhood associations, etc.): *

Member, Waterways Advisory Committee to Marco Island City Council (Twice, once as Chairman) Former Member, Audit Advisory Committee, Co-Founding Member and partner in Clean Marco Waters, LLC, a community-based water quality advocacy group, and member, the Italian American Society of Marco Island.

22) Why do you want to serve on the City Council? *

After nearly a decade living on Marco Island, I believe that I can contribute to solving the issues facing our island. Our canals are impaired. Our wastewater has been ignored and maintaining other infrastructure has been deferred for too long. Our budget process has drifted. And too many decisions are being made without the financial rigor, technical scrutiny, or resident-first perspective that Marco Island deserves. I believe I can bring all three to the Council table on day one. I also believe I bring something Marco Island specifically needs right now: independence. I have no business interests on Marco Island (other than one rental boat slip) no clients before the City, no development projects in the pipeline, no contractor relationships, and no professional ties to anyone who does business with the City. I am not running to advance an agenda for anyone but the residents who live here full-time, the businesses that serve the residents and pay the taxes that fund this government. That independence — combined with the

executive, financial, and fiduciary skills I have spent a career developing — is what I intend to put to work for Marco Island.

23) What issues do you think should be addressed by the City Council? *

Issues the City Council Should Address Open, honest, and accountable government. Residents deserve clear visibility into how public funds are spent and meaningful accountability when they aren't spent wisely. Fiscal discipline. The City must live within its means, meet its financial obligations, and respect the Charter spending cap as written rather than reinterpreted. Capital projects should be prioritized by urgency and real impact on quality of life, not political convenience. Proactive infrastructure maintenance. Implement AWT. Roads, bridges, sewers, swales, bike paths, parks, and canals should be maintained before they fail, not after. This requires a comprehensive asset management policy and honest long-term planning. Responsible growth. Density and development must not outpace infrastructure, overwhelm public services, or erode the character that makes Marco Island exceptional. Property rights matter, and so does every resident's right to peaceful enjoyment of their home. Fair and consistent code enforcement. Laws and ordinances must be applied evenly and respectfully, without favoritism. A fair share of county and state revenue. Marco Island residents and visitors generate substantial tax revenue for Collier County and Florida. The Council should advocate vigorously to bring more of that back to the Island and pursue partnerships and outside funding so residents are not the sole underwriters of city operations

24) Resume

Rick Woodworth Background and Experience 5-8-26.docx

RICK WOODWORTH

Background and Qualifications

Rick Woodworth bought his Marco home in 2016 and has been a full-time Marco Island resident since 2017 with his wife Valerie. He has more than 50 years of real estate, business, financial, and civic experience. His background in large-scale real estate management, municipal committee service, and community advocacy makes him a supporter of disciplined governance and long-term infrastructure investment.

Marco Island Civic Engagement

Rick has been actively engaged in Marco Island's city government since shortly after arriving as a full-time resident. He was appointed to the Waterways Advisory Committee in July 2018, served as its Chairman beginning in February 2019, and was appointed to the City's Audit Advisory Committee in February 2020. He was reappointed to the Waterways Advisory Committee in 2025. He also served on the campaign team for Sam Young's successful 2018 election to the Marco Island City Council. He volunteered to assist the new City Finance Director in preparing readable financial statements for the City. His help was acknowledged by Carol McDermott at a recent City Council meeting. This sustained civic involvement gives him a firsthand understanding of how City government operates, its budgeting processes, infrastructure challenges, and the relationship between appointed advisory bodies and elected Council members.

Rick is also a founding Managing Member of Clean Marco Waters, LLC, a citizens' advocacy organization dedicated to restoring and protecting Marco Island's canal system and marine ecosystems through community outreach, science-based research, and policy advocacy. In that capacity he has led a sustained, data-driven campaign to advance Advanced Wastewater Treatment at the City's Reclaimed Water Production Facility, work that included commissioning independent water quality testing, engaging the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and presenting technical analysis to the Waterways Advisory Committee and City Council.

Since retiring to Marco Island, Rick has held no Marco business interests, other than owning a rental boat slip with his brother and sister, and has no clients, development projects, or contractor relationships involving the City of Marco Island or anyone who does business with the City.

Business and Financial Background

Rick's professional career was built in Chicago, with The Habitat Company, one of the most successful private real estate development and management firms in the Midwest. Joining in 1973, he rose to President, Managing Director, and Partner, a role he held until 2007. During that 33-year tenure, he was a senior partner in growing the firm from a 3,000-unit operation to a portfolio of over 32,000 residential units spanning Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, Atlanta, Kansas City, and Oklahoma, with combined assets valued at over \$5 billion, gross revenues exceeding \$200 million, and more than 1,200 employees.

His responsibilities spanned nearly every dimension of large-scale real estate, including development, management and financing of major residential properties, property rehabilitation and repositioning, brokerage, and the formation of an offshore insurance captive with Lloyd's of London covering over \$1 billion in property values. He also developed and operated Wedgewood Communications, a pioneering independent private cable, telephone, and internet company serving over 16,000 subscribers in metropolitan Chicago, which was eventually sold to a franchise cable operator in 1997. In 1985, he founded Corporate Suites Network, a furnished apartment business specializing in short-term rentals of 30 days or more, which he built and operated until selling his interest to one of his business partners in 2022. Finally, he operated retail entities including restaurants, a grocery store, hardware store and a travel agency, all related to his primary businesses.

After his diverse real estate career, Rick served as Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Crystal Productions, a family owned award-winning publisher of art education resources. He also served as Executive Director of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit affordable housing corporation, overseeing property financing and rehabilitation in partnership with the Illinois Housing Development Authority.

He currently serves as Trustee and member of the Executive Committee of the Service Employees Local 1 Health, Welfare and Pension Funds in Chicago, two fully funded funds covering more than 5,000 members and their families with combined assets exceeding \$350 million, a fiduciary responsibility he has held for more than 30 years.

Industry Leadership

Rick is a past President and current Director of the Apartment Building Owners and Managers Association (ABOMA) in Chicago, which represents more than 600 buildings and 150,000 residential units. He was also a founding member of the Chicagoland Apartment Association. These leadership roles required him to engage regularly with municipal governments, regulatory bodies, and legislative processes on behalf of the real estate industry, experience that translates directly to understanding how local government policy decisions affect residents and property owners.

Education

Rick holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Pre-Law from Illinois Wesleyan University.

Other

After a lifetime of competitively racing sailboats, Rick also has cruised extensively by powerboat in south Florida, visiting over 30 cities and anchorages affording him the opportunity to observe marine life, water conditions and harbors and the effect pollution has had on water conditions. In addition to travelling on Florida's west coast, his travels have taken him on the Caloosahatchee River, across Lake Okeechobee, and down the Florida Keys to as far south as Ft. Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas.