

**From:** Allyson Richards <[allysonrichards@me.com](mailto:allysonrichards@me.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 16, 2024 2:36 PM  
**To:** Allyson Richards <[allysonrichards@me.com](mailto:allysonrichards@me.com)>  
**Cc:** Rich Blonna <[rblonna@marcocitycouncil.com](mailto:rblonna@marcocitycouncil.com)>; Jared Grifoni <[JGrifoni@marcocitycouncil.com](mailto:JGrifoni@marcocitycouncil.com)>; Becky Irwin <[BIrwin@marcocitycouncil.com](mailto:BIrwin@marcocitycouncil.com)>; Joe Rola <[JRola@marcocitycouncil.com](mailto:JRola@marcocitycouncil.com)>; Erik Brechnitz <[EBrechnitz@marcocitycouncil.com](mailto:EBrechnitz@marcocitycouncil.com)>; Greg Folley <[GFolley@marcocitycouncil.com](mailto:GFolley@marcocitycouncil.com)>; Darrin Palumbo <[DPalumbo@marcocitycouncil.com](mailto:DPalumbo@marcocitycouncil.com)>; Samantha Malloy <[SMalloy@cityofmarcoisland.com](mailto:SMalloy@cityofmarcoisland.com)>  
**Subject:** Merchant Marine Flag Display

Dear Marco Island City Council Members,

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee ("Committee") respectfully requests your support in ensuring the inclusion of the United States Merchant Marine ("Merchant Mariners") in our city's Veterans Day, and Memorial Day celebrations held at Veterans Community Park as well as installing a flag similar to the other distinguished service flags.

Merchant Mariners played a critical role in wartime by delivering vital supplies across treacherous waters, often facing enemy attacks. Their service was instrumental in securing victory for the United States.

We urge the City Council to honor the Merchant Marines by allowing them to fly their flag at Veteran's Community Park. The Merchant Marines bravely served our country during wartime, and their sacrifices deserve recognition alongside other military branches. The Merchant Marines of Marco Island are happy to cover all costs associated with the flag and its installation. There will be no financial burden on the city.

Respectfully,

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee  
Allyson Richards, Chair  
[allysonrichards@me.com](mailto:allysonrichards@me.com)