

City of Marco Island Florida

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



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, December 1, 2025

1:30 PM

City Council - Capital Workshop

Community Meeting Room

City Council

Chair: Darrin Palumbo

Vice-Chair: Rene Champagne

*City Council: Erik Brechnitz, Tamara Goehler,
Stephen Gray, Deb Henry,
Bonita Schwan*

Interim City Manager: Casey Lucius

City Attorney: Alan L. Gabriel

City Clerk: Joan Taylor

1. Call to Order

Chair Palumbo called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Councilor Brechnitz, Vice-Chair Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Councilor Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Schwan and Chair Palumbo

Also Present

*Casey Lucius, Interim City Manager
Joan Taylor, City Clerk
Alan L. Gabriel, City Attorney (via Zoom teleconference connection)
Tracy Frazzano, Police Chief
Dave Ennis, Police Captain
Chris Byrne, Fire Chief (via Zoom teleconference connection)
Mat Marshall, Deputy Fire Chief
Carol McDermott, Finance Director
Daniel J. Smith, Community Affairs Director
Justin Martin, Public Works Director
Joe Parrilli, Fleet & Facilities Manager
Martin Luna, Video/Broadcast Technician
Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist
Citizens and Visitors*

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Chair Palumbo.

4. Business - Capital Workshop

[ID 25-4933](#) Capital Projects Workshop - Casey Lucius, Interim City Manager

Attachments: [Proposed Capital Projects](#)
[Proposed Capital Maintenance](#)
[Capital Projects Not Recommended](#)
[Proposed Ten Year Capital Plan](#)

Interim City Manager Casey Lucius briefly reviewed the intended objective of the Workshop and highlighted the nature of the information provided to the Council prior to the meeting. She, with the support of City Finance Director Carol McDermott, summarized the insights provided by the City's Bond Counsel prior to the Workshop, and she invited the members of the Council to forward any further questions for the Bond Counsel to address at the City Council's regular January 5, 2026 meeting.

Questions were raised on the State of Florida's requirements regarding capital improvement project categories, the City's Five-Year Capital Improvement Project (CIP) plan, and the process for implementing corresponding modifications to the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Vice-Chair Champagne shared visuals outlining his understanding of: 1) the State's capital improvement project requirements; 2) the categories under which five nearby Florida municipalities list their capital improvement projects, and; 3) the seven potential categories under which the City of Marco Island may wish to consider grouping its proposed CIP projects. Later in the Workshop, he also shared a

bridge-by-bridge overview of the five Marco Island vehicle bridges most in need of replacement or repair, as well as an analysis of the expected road repaving needs of the Island over the next ten years.

The Council elected to first address the proposed Public Works projects listed in the document entitled "Capital Infrastructure/Equipment Investment Recommendations".

Following review and considerable Council discussion regarding each proposed Public Works project listed, Chair Palumbo received Council consensus to direct the City Staff to group: 1) the proposed traffic intersection upgrades and projects (approximately \$8.5 million); 2) the City's long-term road repaving needs (approximately \$25.0 million), and; 3) two (2) bridge replacements (approximately \$15.0 million) into a potential \$48.5 million "Transportation Bond" public offering on the August, 2026 ballot.

Council provided consensus with a second group of capital items: 1) the proposed Tidal Flushing Project 1 initiative (approximately \$1.9 million), and; 2) the anticipated ten (10) year exfiltration swale conversions (approximately \$2.2 million) for \$4.1 million "Water Quality Bond" public offering for a potential vote on the August, 2026 ballot.

[THE WORKSHOP WENT INTO RECESS AT 3:54 P.M. IT IS NOTED FOR THE RECORD THAT ALL COUNCILORS WERE PRESENT WHEN THE WORKSHOP RECONVENED AT 3:59 P.M.]

Following discussion of the proposed Fire Rescue Department, Police Department, Mackle Park, City Hall, and Racquet Center projects listed in the document entitled "Capital Infrastructure/Equipment Investment Recommendations", Council provided consensus to group: 1) the restoration of the medians along the City's major roadways (approximately \$1.5 million), and; 2) the listed bike lane and shared use path projects (approximately \$6.8 million) into an \$8.3 million "Community Enhancements Bond" public offering, with the potential for some additional shade enhancements for the City's parks to be included in this or the "Transportation Bond" proposed public offering. [Editorial Note: further discussion and direction on this item will be conducted at a future meeting of the City Council].

Council provided consensus with a 4th group: 1) a space analysis and renovation of two City buildings (approximately \$3.0 million); 2) upgrades to the outdoor fields, courts, and tot lot at Mackle Park (approximately \$3.5 million) into a \$6.5 million "City Facilities & Parks Bond" public offering for potential voter approval on the August 2026 ballot.

The Council will prioritize and refine the content and number of potential public bond offerings at one or more of its regular City Council meetings early in calendar year 2026.

Interim City Manager Casey Lucius reminded the Councilors to share their list of 2026 priorities (as requested at the Council's November 17, 2025 City Council Meeting) on or before December 22, 2025.

5. Public Comment

Mr. David Rasmussen (Caxambas Ct.) complimented the Council on its collaboration, and he encouraged them to consider the cost-effectiveness of eliminating the sources of excess waterborne nutrients before they are allowed to enter the City's waterways.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, Chair Palumbo adjourned the Workshop at 4:30 P.M.

Darrin Palumbo, Council Chair

ATTEST:

Joan Taylor, City Clerk

PREPARED BY:

Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist