

11/11/2021

TO: City Council of Marco Island  
FROM: James and Margo Boylan, 1237 Martinique Court, MI  
SUBJECT: Support Petition BD-21-000177, 986 Sundrop Court, Marco Island, FL

I would like to address the refusal of the Planning Board to grant a variance for a new dock in front of the home on Sundrop Court. The Marco Island we now live on is not the same sleepy town that we moved to 22 years ago. While we enjoyed that quiet lifestyle we find that you cannot stop progress. Our current island could be best described as bigger and better. And, unfortunately, getting bigger and better includes growing pains and inconvenience.

Our City is currently building a large bandshell and bathrooms in Veterans Park. I am quite sure that some residents will now be looking at the side or the back of the bandshell, view diminished. The fire station on San Marco Road will be demolished this week to make room for a larger more modern facility. This will undoubtedly create noise and dirt for residents nearby, maybe even a diminished view.

As more large mansions are constructed where small Deltona homes used to be our view gets diminished. However, we will still enjoy the beautiful water views which are filled with large boats and sailboats as well as dolphins and manatees such as the views are from the properties surrounding the Sundrop property.

Marco Island is a boating community with 80% of the homesites water front. The vast majority of those have their boats parked behind the house. We enjoy a great deal of boating on the Marco River and see no threat to navigation posed by the dock extension. As you know, the river is quite wide at that point. I am also aware of other boats 50' tall that have been allowed on Marco and feel that theses decisions should be consistent.

I can't understand how anyone would feel it is fair to allow the yacht club to build docks halfway into the river for the purpose of increased profit and then, deny a small extension for a private property owner, in much the same situation on the river, a few short blocks away, to enable him to park his boat behind his house on a very wide stretch of river. It sounds as though the objection is not so much about the dock extension, but rather, because of the size of boat he wants to buy. That, we believe, amounts to over-reach of authority!

Jim and Margo Boylan