

April 11, 2024

Meeting Agenda and Notice

Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC)

Thursday, April 11, 2024– 1:00 p.m.

Collier County Board Chambers

Collier County Government Center

3299 Tamiami Trail East, Third Floor, Naples, FL

Sunshine Law on Agenda Questions

2024 CAC MEETING DATES

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Changes and Approval of Agenda

V. Public Comments

Va . Presentation by Eugene Wordehoff on the effects of wastewater reuse irrigation pollution.

VI. Approval of CAC Minutes

January 11, 2024

VII. Staff Reports

Extended Revenue Report

VIII. New Business

1. ES - BCC - 2025-2026 Park Shore Renourishment APTIM

- Work Order

2. ES City of Naples Amended TDC Grant Applications

- First Amendment TDC Grant Agreement Pier and maintenance
- TDC Grant App. Beach Maintenance
- TDC Grant App. Lowdermilk Park
- TDC Grant App. Pier

IX. Old Business

X. Announcements

XI. Committee Member Discussion

1. CAC - USACE CSRSM Position Paper

- Christman comments
- Hushon comments
- Roth comments
- Trecker comments

XII. Next Meeting Date/Location

May 9, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

XIII. Adjournment

All interested parties are invited to attend, and to register to speak and to submit their objections, if any, in writing, to the board prior to the meeting if applicable. For more information, please contact Andrew Miller at (239) 252-2922.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Collier County Facilities Management Department located at 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, FL 34112, (239) 252-8380.

Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes unless the Chairman grants permission for additional time.

Collier County Ordinance No. 99-22 requires that all lobbyists shall, before engaging in any lobbying activities (including, but not limited to, addressing the Board of County Commissioners) before the Board of County Commissioners and its advisory boards, register with the Clerk to the Board at the Board Minutes and Records Department.

MINUTES OF THE COLLIER COUNTY
COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Naples, Florida, January 11, 2024

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee, in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 1 P.M. in REGULAR SESSION at Administrative Building F, 3rd Floor, Collier County Government Complex, Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN:	Joseph Burke
VICE CHAIRMAN:	David Trecker
	Councilor Erik Brechnitz
	Jim Burke
	Councilman Raymond Christman (excused)
	Dr. Judith Hushon
	Steve Koziar
	Robert Raymond
	Robert Roth

ALSO PRESENT:

Andy Miller, Director, Coastal Zone
Management
Colleen Greene, Assistant County Attorney

Anyone in need of a verbatim record of the meeting may request a copy of the video from the Communications, Government & Public Affairs Division or view it online.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum of eight was established in the board room.

Vice Chair Trecker said several members must leave early.

IV. Changes and Approval of Agenda

Councilor Brechnitz moved to approve the agenda. Second by Vice Chair Trecker. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Chairman Burke noted that several members need to leave by 2:30 p.m., but based on the agenda, he didn't think the meeting would go over that.

V. Public Comments

Patrick J. Wack, a Seagate resident, told the CAC:

- He's been coming to Naples for 40 years and keeps a boat at Wiggins Pass, so he has a lot of interest in what's happening.
- He's appointed himself to be the head of Seagate's waterway management, so he wanted to introduce himself.
- He understands there's a lot of history there but is looking forward to any advice the CAC can provide.
- If any CAC member could, he'd like them to reach out offline to educate him on what's going on. He'd appreciate that.

VI. Approval of CAC Minutes

November 9, 2023

Mr. Roth said he'll make a motion to approve the minutes on the condition that they discuss the Action Items listed on the November minutes that aren't reflected under Old Business on the agenda. He'd like to bring them up under Old Business so they can go through them.

Chairman Burke agreed they can cover those in Old Business.

Mr. Roth moved approve the November 9, 2023, meeting minutes. Second by Mr. Raymond. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

VII. Staff Reports

Extended Revenue Report

"[FY24 TDT Collections Revenue Report](#)" dated Nov. 30, 2023.

Mr. Miller detailed a PowerPoint presentation and told the CAC:

- This is actually the October collections. The list on the side starts in November, so this is the November reporting for October collections.
- He superimposed in shaded black last year's 2022 revenues and we're slightly above what we did last October and well above what we did the year prior.
- We reached 69.1% above our budgeted collections for October. The November reporting is essentially parallel to what we did last year.
- We probably will report this with some updates for the next several months in March, but the percentage above our projected budget is 69.2%, so we're well above what we anticipate. We hope the recent weather doesn't take a toll on those numbers.

A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- The fund numbers changed. Instead of 195, Coastal Beach Management is now 1105. Nothing changed except that prefix.
- The red line represents collections, and the blue line represents this year's budget, which increased over last year.
- The increase was due to the cost of living.
- Collections are greater than expenditures, so the money rolls over into the reserves. Coastal Zone management has a healthy reserve, but Hurricane Ian took its toll on that, taking about \$20 million from our reserves and we're trying to get some money back from FEMA and FDEP.
- Coastal Zone will be building on those reserves this year.

VIII. New Business

APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure Inc.

2025-2026 Local Government Funding Request (LGFR) Work Order

Recommendation to approve a work order with APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure Inc. to provide professional engineering services for 2025-2026 Local Government Funding Request under Contract No. 18-7432-CZ for time and material not to exceed \$27,010.00, authorize the chairman to execute the work order, and make a finding that this item promotes tourism (Fund 195, Project No. 90065).

Mr. Miller detailed the item:

- This action item is brought forth every year and involves hiring and paying a consultant to assist the county and Coastal Zone in applications for state funding of coastal management projects, inlets and beaches.
- The consultant is APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure Inc., which we have used year after year and they've been very successful.

[Mr. Miller read the recommendation.]

A discussion ensued between Vice Chair Trecker and Mr. Miller and the following points were made:

- This is a DEP requirement and we're asked to do this to qualify for reimbursement.
- APTIM is invited to do this. If the county doesn't do this, we don't get funds, so we want to apply.

- The cost is consistent with past work orders but is about \$1,000 more than last year. The primary reason is because we asked APTIM to conduct an after-the-fact review of the points that we scored, the amount of funds we get and to detail what we can do better next year to see if they can find anything that might increase next year's allotment.
- The county increased the tasks by that amount and APTIM increased the fee by about \$1,000.
- The items covered can change from year to year, but this is an annual requirement.

A discussion ensued between Dr. Hushon and Mr. Miller and the following points were made:

- There are some bills in the state legislature that probably will pass, which would provide money for feasibility studies. Some relate to beaches. How do we get considered?
- Mr. Miller said he could discuss it offline if she could provide information on the bills. He can send the information to his grant team.
- More information will be available in about two months, at the end of the legislative session, when the Budget Committee meets and cuts the state budget. It's a work in progress until it's released.
- Mr. Miller said he'll follow that legislation and noted that the County Manager's Office sends a notice to management staff to ensure we're aware of what the legislature passes that may affect our divisions.
- Dr. Hushon noted that there's also money for wastewater treatment, which is causing some issues involving releasing pollutants in fairly high levels to our estuaries. There was money available in past years and it will be available this year.

Vice Chair Trecker moved to recommend approval of a work order with APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure Inc. to provide professional engineering services for 2025-2026 Local Government Funding Request under Contract No. 18-7432-CZ for time and material not to exceed \$27,010.00, authorize the chairman to execute the work order, and found that this item promotes tourism. Second by Mr. Raymond. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

IX. Old Business

Mr. Roth discussed Action Items listed in the minutes:

- He spoke to (Resiliency Director) Chris Mason about why Marco Island was pretty much dropped from the study Army Corps of Engineers study because the federal government, since the 1980s, decided it won't spend money in erodible areas/areas that are subject to change. His emailed conversation with Chris was provided to the CAC.
- Why can't the county spend the money in those areas as we did with Tiger Tail Beach's ecological restoration last year? That's in one of these zones.
- At least the Army Corps of Engineers could study it for us and maybe we don't need to use federal funds for the work. We can use county monies.
- There may be an update from Chris Mason on that.
- We have a January 24th Zoom meeting with the Corps of Engineers, but he's not expecting to hear a lot of news because they're crunching numbers now.

- After the Corps dropped Marco Island, we accepted it, but it should be challenged. That's a significant thing.

Mr. Miller agreed but said he won't weigh in on what projects the Corps is or isn't doing. He suggested staying abreast of the Corps' available monthly public meetings. They're going to be in town next week and he'll send them that information so they can speak to the Corps about it.

Dr. Hushon said the purpose of those meetings was mainly to target environmental justice. We were inviting people in the poorer areas who were inundated to tell the Corps what they needed.

Mr. Miller said the Corps will be here next week or you may be able to catch them offline to ask questions. He plans to ask questions. There's also the monthly Zoom meeting at the end of January. He suggested keeping conversations with the Corps separate from the Coastal Advisory Committee, unless we invite the Corps here directly. They can speak for themselves. He can't do that.

Mr. Roth said he's just trying to fight for Marco Island.

Dr. Hushon said she understood. The Corps has made it very clear that some of the things may have to be paid for by the county, not the Corps, and we will share the payment on some, maybe a 65%-35% split. Others may have to be totally done by the county and may be complementary to some of those things we're sharing.

A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- The sharing rate is 65% for the Army Corps of Engineers and 35% county for Corps-driven projects.
- The plan won't come out for a while, so it's not going to be a fast fix. It could take four or five years.
- At a previous CAC meeting, we talked about CAC taking a position if we reach a consensus.
- Mr. Roth was trying to contact the other committee (Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study Advisory Committee), but there are no meetings pending.
- It comes out in June and Collier could get cut short.
- We should put something together before that.

Chairman Burke offered to draft some bullet points based upon his experience.

Dr. Hushon suggested adding maps to the draft because some issues are map related.

Chairman Burke said this is what the Corps does. They're feeling time pressure and even more money pressure. The money is driving the time, so we're rushing to a solution that nobody will be happy with. He noted that the military magazine he receives just published an article showing that what's being proposed in Newport News to protect the naval yards is what we proposed for Doctor's Pass.

Dr. Hushon said the Hampton Roads crew was doing the designing there. There may be something in that.

Chairman Burke said the Corps is implementing these strategies at military bases, so he'd be happy to put together a draft we can work on. The county needs to be more involved and needs to be front and center, driving the conversation toward a solution that will work and be accepted.

Vice Chair Trecker noted that the CAC is an advisory group for the county.

Chairman Burke noted that they have the CAC and a separate committee (Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study Advisory Committee) working with the Corps.

Mr. Roth said it would be great if the chairman could put together a bullet-point memo.

Attorney Greene advised the chair to send it to Mr. Miller, not the entire CAC, so it will adhere to the Sunshine Act.

Action Item: Chairman Burke will draft a bulleted memo for Mr. Miller to send to the Army Corps of Engineers, including maps. Mr. Miller will send it to CAC members for review first.

Mr. Roth asked about the Office of Management & Budget and the loan to the Paradise Coast Sports Complex.

Mr. Miller said he sent some documents to all CAC members. One is a December 2020 executive summary detailing the methods, means and logic for payback of the \$10 million. He encouraged them all to read it.

Chairman Burke said he didn't understand it.

Mr. Miller agreed he didn't either.

Attorney Greene said she has the ordinance and sent out a document with a table of the distribution of the various percentages of each penny. It's not her expertise, so if they have questions, she can bring back answers. The distribution of the pennies, as identified in the table, is part of the ordinance and is set pursuant to state statute, which defines how each penny may be spent. That's how our shore's development tax plan is set up.

[The percentage table was displayed on the overhead projector for the CAC.]

Dr. Hushon said if they were to be spent on beaches and were spent on the sports park, how does that line up?

Attorney Greene said it could be a loan. She hasn't reviewed it yet, but it was set up through the County Attorney's Office and the OMG to detail the way the funds are collected and distributed pursuant to statute.

Dr. Hushon said she understands that, but there was a diversion of funds, whether it was a loan or not. What guarantees are there that these funds are going to come back through this fund?

Attorney Greene said she'll review that with the OMB.

Councilor Brechnitz said it's the strangest loan document he's ever read. The bottom line is that if they choose, they don't have to pay it back.

Dr. Hushon said that's her concern. She doesn't think that's just asking for a donation.

It's a taking from one fund to put into another to offset a debt. Is that appropriate?

Attorney Greene said she'll review it. That's a complicated question. Before it went to the Board of County Commissioners, it was reviewed by OMB and the county. She'll work on this with Andy for the next meeting. She didn't realize it was on the agenda. **Dr. Hushon** said it's an action item from the last meeting.

A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- The infrastructure penny sales surtax that just ended wasn't intended for the Paradise Sports Complex. The fifth penny of the surtax was dedicated to the sports complex.
- The 1% sales surtax was for a period of seven years or \$490 million, whichever occurred first, and was for other infrastructure and capital improvements. The \$490 million was reached before the year ended, so year-end collections exceeded that amount.
- There was a gap in the budget and county commissioners looked for money, decided we had a lot of money and that we were a convenient source, so that's a concern.

A discussion between Mr. Roth and Attorney Greene occurred over another Action Item and the following points were made:

- Tiger Tail Park is a county park owned and maintained by the county.
- The county purchased it from one of Marco Island's developers, Marco Island Development Corporation, an affiliate of Deltona Corporation.
- Sand Dollar Island is state-owned and state-maintained and the county does not have jurisdiction to work on Sand Dollar Island.
- The money awarded last year for the Sand Dollar Island project was for an island under state jurisdiction, but there was a benefit to a county lagoon in a county park.

A discussion ensued over another Action Item and the following points were made:

- The CAC was to consider inviting an environmental group or two to the next meeting for a presentation, possibly on advanced wastewater treatment and the levels to which water is treated.
- Among groups/speakers being considered were the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, the Collier Waterkeeper and Eugene Wardehoff from Marco Island.
- Eugene has published a lot. He just put together a PowerPoint on the oxygen content and phosphate levels of water, where our pollution was coming from and from which plants.
- He knows a lot about what levels Collier is treating water to. He's an expert and has been following it for a long time.
- We could invite Eugene, the Collier County Waterkeeper and someone from the Conservancy.
- Attorney Greene suggested that Mr. Miller invite them on behalf of the CAC.

Action Item: Mr. Roth will provide Mr. Miller with the contact information and Mr. Miller will reach out to possible speakers for an upcoming CAC meeting, possibly March.

Mr. Roth said the last Action Item asked Colleen to detail the remit on the CAC's

expanded duties involving water quality and she did.

Attorney Greene noted that she provided a copy of the Coastal Advisory Committee Ordinance, which was amended in 2019 to add subsections F and G for water quality issues. The board expanded the CAC's functions and duties to include water quality. She understands there is a subcommittee that needs support from county staff.

Vice Chair Trecker said after the remit, in May 2021, the CAC submitted a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners that covered three items. The most relevant was to investigate the cost benefit of fully advanced wastewater treatment to reduce nutrient levels in reclaimed water. It was favorably accepted by the Board of County Commissioners, but we didn't follow up on it and should have. The recommendations were very well thought through. He can provide copies to anyone who wants them.

Mr. Roth said if the speakers come to a future meeting, it will continue that discussion and possibly help advance it. Eugene Wardehoff was trying to bring attention to the fact that Collier County's own pollution control division recommended in its last report that its wastewater plants should be upgraded to advanced. In my opinion, rather than just advanced, it should be upgraded to the best available technology because advanced is a 40-year-old statute so there are bigger and better systems that the county should consider.

Vice Chair Trecker noted that Lee County already has done this.

Dr. Hushon said she has a copy of the CAC Water Quality Subcommittee report, which asked for three items: remote compliance with the county's fertilizer urban landscaping ordinance; to conduct training of lawns and landscape companies; and to investigate the cost benefit of installing advanced wastewater treatment to reduce nutrient levels in reclaimed water.

Vice Chair Trecker said they were all accepted and looked upon favorably by the BCC. We made a mistake by not aggressively following up on it right away.

A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- We need to make sure that the Wastewater Treatment Office group within Utilities starts to put together specs so they can request monies to do this. The next thing that must happen is that someone in the county needs to request those modifications to the wastewater treatment plants.
- The CAC's job is not to implement any of this, but to make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. We're an advisory group.

Councilor Brechnitz told the CAC:

- He has copies of an extensive engineering study that looked at reclaimed water on Marco Island and found that its negative effect on Marco Island waterways was *de minimis*.
- Marco is a boating community, with 100 miles of streets and 120 miles of canals and 70% of the homes have access to the Gulf of Mexico by boat.
- Our waterways are considered impaired by the Florida DEP, so we've been doing lots of work testing our water in 20 different places, including off island to see where pollutants are coming from.
- We also paid for a fairly extensive study on reclaimed water and what effect it may be having on our canals.

- The conclusion was that reclaimed water was having a *de minimis* effect and the cost benefit of changing it didn't make sense.
- The common opinion of most people is that reclaimed water is a problem that needs to be solved, but this report provides a different viewpoint.
- The real problem isn't nitrogen because we're now below that and unless you do isotope testing, you don't know whether the nitrogen is coming from fertilizer or rotting vegetation.
- Weeks after Hurricane Wilma, we had a jump in nitrogen. It could have been due to post-hurricane.
- We're now under the nitrogen level required for impairment and have been for almost two years.
- It's going to take us another year to get off the impaired list.
- The real problem is the lack of oxygenated water, which promotes the growth of sea plants.

Chairman Burke noted that it decreases the BOD (biochemical oxygen demand).

Councilor Brechnitz said he could provide the report to the CAC. It's a large report and probably doesn't make sense to email it.

Dr. Hushon told the CAC:

- One of the biggest problems is the phosphates that aren't being removed from the recycled water/gray water we use for irrigation.
- They're doing a better job of removing nitrogen than they are removing phosphate.
- While they both cause problems, we can have issues with red tide from either. Both could cause those problems.
- For comprehensive monitoring, you'd look for levels of phosphate, nitrogen and chlorophyll. How much green there is in the water color reflects algae.
- We're basically talking about that getting stimulated, so they regularly take all three measurements all around. They're taking it from Marco Bay to all the estuaries.
- The county has all that information, so it would be good to examine in detail.
- It also would be worth examining in historic detail what the monthly reclaimed water readings are.
- What does the analysis look like for nitrogen phosphate or chlorophyll from each water plant?

A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- Every sewer plant submits a monthly report containing data.
- Data from each plant could all be pulled into one document so we can make conclusions.
- Dissolved oxygen is the other variable that we need to look at because that's the measure of how healthy the water actually is for wildlife and plants.

Action Item: Councilor Brechnitz will provide the consultant's reclaimed water report to the CAC at the next meeting.

Action Item: Staff was asked to obtain monthly sewer plant reports for the county, Naples, Marco Island and Everglades City to compile a year's worth of data to

determine how healthy the water is for plants and wildlife. If possible, provide that data to the CAC before its March meeting.

X. Announcements

Mr. Miller said the agenda says we'll have a meeting on February 8th but Coastal Zone doesn't have any action items pending for that meeting. We have one pending for March, a fairly important meeting involving the City of Naples and its TDC grant applications.

XI. Committee Member Discussion

Chairman Burke said no meeting in February will give us some time to line up speakers for the March meeting.

Dr. Hushon said if we're going to pull that data together for the county, we also should pull data together for the cities because they run their own water treatment plants in Naples, Marco Island and Everglades City. It would be very nice to have just all of them in one paper. A year's worth of data would be enough to make conclusions.

Vice Chair Trecker said it would be good to get that data well in advance of the March meeting. That would be very helpful to everybody.

[The Action Item above was amended to include the cities and to provide data before the March meeting.]

Mr. Roth said the City of Naples already has advanced wastewater treatment, so it meets that criteria. It has to show that on each monthly report submitted to the DEP. For the county and Marco Island plants, there are no limits. It just has to be reported, so that data can be mined and put into a report.

Dr. Hushon said it would be interesting to see the contrast, which will tell a story.

Mr. Roth said you don't even need the actual numbers from Naples because you know what their limit is, and you can compare that.

Dr. Hushon said it would be worth it. Everglades City is currently meeting the requirements, according to a briefing she saw yesterday, so they may have a new wastewater treatment plant. They have a new plant, so if Everglades City and Naples are meeting the requirement, we have Marco Island and the county. What do their numbers look like?

Mr. Roth said putting together that data is more than a summer intern's job. Is there somebody on staff who can do this?

Mr. Miller said he'd have to go through Public Utilities or Pollution Control. It would help if someone could formalize the request for information, send it to him and he'll distribute it to the right people.

A discussion ensued and the following points were made:

- This data already may be summarized.
- There's federal reporting and annual reports for wastewater treatment plants.
- We're only asking for summary data, not a lot of detail.
- We want volume and concentration.
- Every monthly report has a monthly average of nitrogen and phosphorous. That's

not from the sewer plant. That's a separate water-quality test.

- The sewer plant monthly reports show nitrogen, phosphorus and volume.
- That information is in the DEP database but may not be in a usable form. We may have to pull all the data from each report, the lower-right hand corner, put it on a chart and plot it.
- That would enable us to see the different plants.
- It would be nice to see how far below the minimum standard Naples is.

XII. Next Meeting

March 14, 2024, 1 p.m.

XIII. Adjournment

Councilor Brechnitz moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Burke. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

There being no further business for the good of the county, the meeting was adjourned by order of the chairman at 1:52 p.m.

Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee

Joseph Burke, Chairman

These minutes were approved by the Committee on _____, (check one) as presented, _____ or as amended _____.

FY 24 TDT Collections Report						
29-Feb-2024						
Fund Reporting	Fund	Adopted Budget	Updated Annual Forecast	Budgeted YTD	YTD Actual	Variance to Budgeted YTD
Beach Park Facilities	1100	1,234,300	1,455,125	380,302	601,187	220,885
TDC Promotion	1101	12,221,500	14,765,829	3,765,582	5,636,188	1,870,607
Non-County Museums	1103	658,500	776,310	202,891	320,250	117,359
TDC Admin	1104	-	-	0	-	-
Beach Renourishment	1105	13,438,900	15,843,217	4,140,676	6,544,644	2,403,968
Disaster Recovery	1106	-	-	0	-	-
County Museums	1107	2,000,000	2,000,000	616,223	1,290,075	673,852
TDC Capital	1108	4,923,200	5,803,996	1,516,893	2,398,298	881,405
	Gross Budget	34,476,400	40,644,478	10,622,567	16,790,643	6,168,076
	Less 5% Rev Res	(1,723,800)	17.89%		% Over/(Under) Bud	58.1%
	Net Budget	32,752,600				

Month Reported	Actual	Cum YTD	% Budget Collected to Date	% Variance FY23 Collections	% Variance FY22 Collections	% Variance FY21 Collections
Nov	2,566,657	2,566,657	7.44%	9.03%	14.03%	116.41%
Dec	3,274,362	5,841,019	16.94%	23.72%	12.56%	106.35%
Jan	4,411,181	10,252,200	29.74%	18.85%	-1.89%	53.59%
Feb	6,538,444	16,790,644	48.70%	20.84%	9.49%	84.87%
Mar	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apr	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
May	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
June	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
July	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sept	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oct	-	16,790,644	48.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	16,790,644	16,790,644	YTD	18.89%	7.44%	82.87%

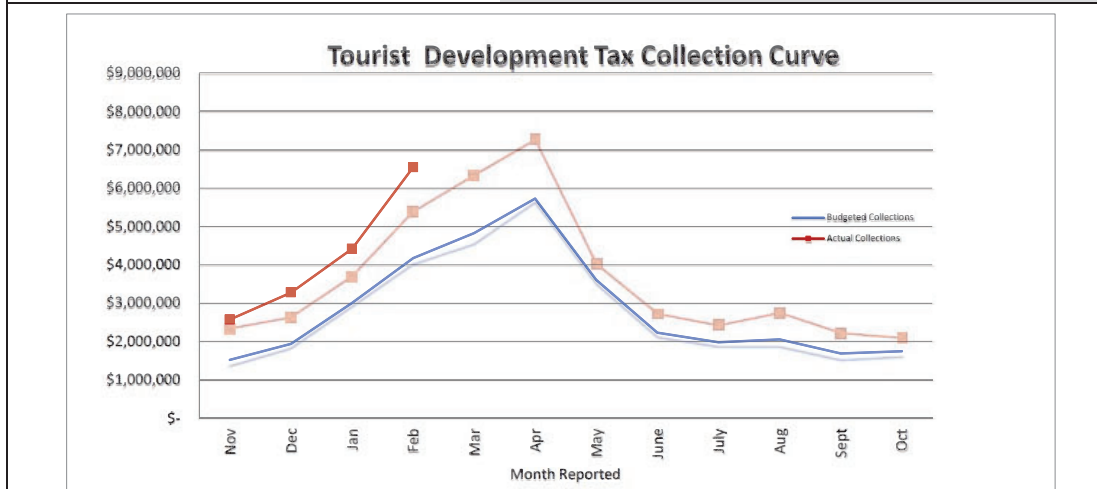
40,644,478

	5 Yr History-Cum	5 Yr History-Monthly	Budgeted Collections	Actual Collections	Budget to Actual Variance	Updated Forecast
Nov	4.4%	4.4%	1,517,975	2,566,657	1,048,682	2,566,657
Dec	10.0%	5.6%	1,934,395	3,274,362	1,339,967	3,274,362
Jan	18.7%	8.7%	3,001,834	4,411,181	1,409,346	4,411,181
Feb	30.8%	12.1%	4,168,363	6,538,444	2,370,081	6,538,444
Mar	44.8%	14.0%	4,823,183	-	-	4,823,183
Apr	61.4%	16.6%	5,723,547	-	-	5,723,547
May	71.9%	10.5%	3,606,621	-	-	3,606,621
June	78.3%	6.5%	2,229,096	-	-	2,229,096
July	84.1%	5.8%	1,983,274	-	-	1,983,274
Aug	90.0%	6.0%	2,053,876	-	-	2,053,876
Sept	94.9%	4.9%	1,685,186	-	-	1,685,186
Oct	100.0%	5.1%	1,749,050	-	-	1,749,050
Total	100.0%	100.0%	34,476,400	16,790,644	6,168,077	40,644,478

% over/(under) budget

58.1%

17.89%



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve a work order with APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. to provide professional engineering services for 2024-2025 Park Shore Renourishment Project under Contract No. 18-7432-CZ for time and material not to exceed \$102,117.70 and make a finding that this item promotes tourism (Fund 1105, Project No. 90067).

OBJECTIVE: To move forward with professional Engineering Services for the FY 2025 Park Shore Renourishment Project.

CONSIDERATIONS: APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. will assist the County in conducting beach renourishment activities on Park Shore Beach from FDEP reference monuments R-44 to T54. This work order will provide professional services including engineering design, preparation of construction plans and technical specifications, bidding services, coordination with permitting agencies for Notice to Proceed, and serving as the Engineer of Record for the construction event.

This item is consistent with the Quality of Place Objectives of the County's Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT: Funding in the amount of \$102,117.70 is available within Tourist Development Tax Beach Renourishment Fund (1105), Project 90067 (County/Naples Beach Monitoring).

FDEP cost-share funding will be requested if eligible at a future date to reimburse Collier County for a portion of the completed work.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPACT: This item is consistent with the Conservation and Coastal Management Element of the Growth Management Plan.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: This item will be presented to the Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC) on April 11, 2024, and the Tourist Development Council (TDC) on April 16, 2024

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS: This item is approved as to form and legality and requires majority vote for approval. – CMG

RECOMMENDATION: To approve a work order with APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. to provide professional engineering services for 2024-2025 Park Shore Renourishment Project under Contract No. 18-7432-CZ for time and material not to exceed \$102,117.70, and make a finding that this item promotes tourism (Fund 1105, Project No. 90067).

Prepared By: Andrew Miller, P.E., Coastal Zone Management, Capital Project Planning, Impact Fees, and Program Management Division

WORK ORDER/PURCHASE ORDER

Contract 18-7432- CZ "Professional Services Library-Coastal Engineering Category"

Contract Expiration Date: March 9, 2025

This Work Order is for professional Engineering services for work known as:

Project Name: 2024 Park Shore Renourishment
Project No: 90067.1

The work is specified in the proposal dated March 19, 2024 which is attached hereto and made a part of this Work Order. In accordance with Terms and Conditions of the Agreement referenced above, this Work Order/Purchase Order is assigned to: APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, L.L.C

Scope of Work: As detailed in the attached proposal and the following:

- * Task 1 Design, Construction Plans and Specifications
- * Task 2 Bidding Assistance & Notice to Proceed
- * Task 3 Engineer of Record

Schedule of Work: Complete work within 270 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed which is accompanying this Work Order. The Consultant agrees that any Work Order that extends beyond the expiration date of Agreement # 18-7432-CZ will survive and remain subject to the terms and conditions of that Agreement until the completion or termination of this Work Order.

Compensation: In accordance with the Agreement referenced above, the County will compensate the Firm in accordance with following method(s): Negotiated Lump Sum (NLS) Lump Sum Plus Reimbursable Costs (LS+RC) Time & Material (T&M) (established hourly rate – Schedule A) Cost Plus Fixed Fee (CPFF), as provided in the attached proposal.

Task 1	\$35,139.00
Task 2	\$9,887.90
Task 3	\$57,090.80
TOTAL FEE	\$102,117.70

PREPARED BY: MillerAndrew Digitally signed by MillerAndrew
Date: 2024.03.21 15:00:58 -04'00' _____ Date _____
 Andrew Miller, Manager - CZM

APPROVED BY: Johnssen_b Digitally signed by Johnssen_b
Date: 2024.03.26 13:00:44 -04'00' _____ Date _____
 Beth Johnssen, Division Director


MLD APPROVED BY: ScottTrinity Digitally signed by ScottTrinity
Date: 2024.03.28 16:02:34 -04'00' _____ Date _____
 Trinity Scott, Department Head



By the signature below, the Firm (including employees, officers and/or agents) certifies, and hereby discloses, that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, all relevant facts concerning past, present, or currently planned interest or activity (financial, contractual, organizational, or otherwise) which relates to the proposed work; and bear on whether the Firm has a potential conflict have been fully disclosed.

Additionally, the Firm agrees to notify the Procurement Director, in writing within 48 hours of learning of any actual or potential conflict of interest that arises during the Work Order and/or project duration.

ACCEPTED BY: APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, L.L.C



Jeffrey Andrews, Director

Date

03/28/24

(Remainder of page intentionally left blank)



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto, have each, respectively, by an authorized person or agent, have executed this Work Order on the date and year first written below.

ATTEST:

, Clerk of Courts

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____

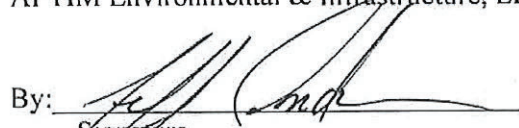
By: _____
, Chairman

Dated: _____
(SEAL)

APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC.



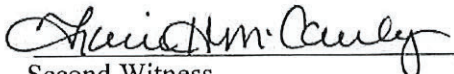
First Witness

By: 

Signature

DOUGLAS W MANN
↑Type/print witness name↑


Jeffrey Andrews, Director
↑Type/print signature and title↑



Second Witness

Tracee H.M. Cauley
↑Type/print witness name↑

Approved as to Form and Legality:



Assistant County Attorney

Print Name





APTIM
6401 Congress Avenue, Suite 140
Boca Raton, FL 33487
Tel: +1 561 391 8102
www.aptim.com

March 19, 2024

Andy Miller
Collier County Coastal Zone Management
2685 S. Horseshoe Drive, Unit 103
Naples, FL 34104

Re: Engineering Services for Park Shore Renourishment (Contract No. 18-7432-CZ)

Dear Andy:

This letter is in response to Collier County's (County) request for a proposal for Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC (APTIM) to support the County in conducting beach renourishment activities on Park Shore (R44-T54) beaches. APTIM will perform professional services including engineering design, preparation of construction plans and technical specifications, coordination with permitting agencies for a Notice to Proceed, and serve as the Engineer of Record for the construction event.

Included as Exhibits are: the Scope of Work (Exhibit A), Fee Proposal (Exhibit B), and the Rate Schedule (Exhibit C). APTIM proposes to provide these services on a lump sum basis with a cost of \$102,117.70 under the terms and conditions of the existing Contract No. 18-7432-CZ and as amended May 7, 2020. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, all work will be completed within 270 days of receiving the Notice to Proceed.

Sincerely,



Nicole S. Sharp, P.E.
Director, Coastal Sciences & Engineering
Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC



Jeffrey Andrews, C.H., P.S.M.
Director, Subject Matter Expert
Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC

cc: James Austin, P.E., APTIM
Steve Keehn, P.E., APTIM



Exhibit A
Scope of Work

**EXHIBIT A
SCOPE OF WORK
PARK SHORE RENOURISHMENT
COLLIER COUNTY, FL
MARCH 2024**

Introduction

This is a scope of work for Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC (APTIM) to provide the engineering services described below to support the County in preparing the design, plans and specifications, bidding, construction & permit documents for conducting a truck haul beach renourishment project on Park Shore (R44-R54) beaches.

This proposal contains the tasks necessary to bring the project through construction. APTIM will assist the County in preparing for construction by conducting analyses to determine project extents and volumes, producing construction plans and technical specifications, coordinating with FDEP for Notice to Proceed, and providing bidding assistance to the County. APTIM will support the County's inspection efforts during construction and will develop the post-construction certification based largely on the surveys, reports and observation of the contractor and the County during construction.

1. Design, Construction Plans & Specifications

APTIM engineers will perform engineering analysis to determine project extents and estimate volumes needed. The goal of the design will be to place material so that the project area will be able to absorb 5 to 6 years of typical erosion in order to last until the next major nourishment project, barring any major storm events. The design will be based on the matrix design method updated with the latest composite erosion rate and 2023 annual monitoring survey. After review of the preliminary volume estimates, an analysis will be conducted to optimize placement areas and volumes. APTIM will finalize the quantities and fill areas based on consultation with Collier County and permitting agencies. APTIM will support the County with one coordination meeting related to the project with local stakeholders.

APTIM will consult with permit agencies and their consultants, about the newest permit conditions. This will include Specific Conditions described in the November 2017 FDEP Permit No. 0331817-004-JM., which include

- Fill history and incremental volume analysis (paragraph 1.b.)
- Refine beach design to avoid or minimize hardbottom impacts based on the latest physical and biological monitoring surveys.

Once the target volumes and placement areas have been approved by the County, APTIM will conduct engineering design work to prepare the construction templates. APTIM's GIS/CAD professionals will work directly with APTIM engineers to update the construction plans including plan views and cross-sections of project areas, beach access, equipment storage areas, environmental protection areas and other information required for execution of this project.

The construction plans and volumes for bidding will be based on the 2024 annual physical monitoring surveys provided by a third party. Technical specifications developed for the project will integrate the QA/QC plans, environmental standards, and permit conditions into the work.

APTIM will assist the County in preparation of the environmental protection plan, which will be integrated into the bidding documents.

APTIM understands that time is of the essence on this truck haul renourishment project and will have plans, specifications and bidding documents prepared by 7/1/2024 to allow beach renourishment to begin by 11/1/2024, provided that required documentation such as survey data from others and County approvals are received in a timely manner to proceed with the work.

2. Bidding Assistance & Notice to Proceed

Once the construction plans and technical specifications are completed, APTIM will provide the FDEP all items necessary to request a Notice to Proceed (NTP) and provide the County with a bid package containing: construction plans, technical specifications, project permits, bid form, contractor questionnaire, and engineer's opinion of probable costs. The questionnaire will be integrated into the technical specifications.

APTIM will assist the County in their lead of the bidding process. APTIM will participate in the Pre-Bid Meeting via phone conference, and assist the County in answering technical questions as needed during the bidding process. Once the bids have been opened, APTIM will assist the County in reviewing the bids and provide a recommendation to the County based on a review of the submitted bids.

3. Engineer of Record

As the Engineer of Record, APTIM will conduct pre-, during- and post-construction tasks necessary for certification of the project. An APTIM engineer will attend the pre-construction conference and update the construction profiles using the Contractor's pre-placement surveys. During construction, APTIM will support the County's inspection efforts and perform weekly site visits to inspect the work and attend weekly construction meetings. It is assumed that there will be up to 10 weeks of active hauling during construction. APTIM will prepare a QA/QC check list, delineating the County, contractor, inspector and APTIM duties as a guideline for during construction coordination.

APTIM will prepare a post-construction certification to meet permit requirements, based largely on surveys, weight tickets, daily reports and observations made by the contractor and County inspectors. APTIM will also provide a construction and as-built summary based on the contractor's as-built drawings. It is assumed that the annual physical monitoring survey and engineering report will be contracted by the County under separate work order. The third party's annual monitoring report will serve as the post-construction report and may include APTIM's as-built summary as an appendix.

APTIM will review the contractor's pay applications, reconcile and/or review the pay volumes/tonnage based on mine records, weights tickets collected at the beach and physical surveys.

Summary

This work will be performed on a lump sum (LS) basis with a cost of \$102,117.70 as outlined in the attached fee spreadsheet. The overall time of the contract to complete design, construction administration, and Engineer of Record signoff will be within 270 days of receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

Assumptions

- Dune restoration and dune vegetation are not part of this work assignment.
- County inspectors will collect weight tickets, observe delivered sand quality and beach construction, and reconcile sand mine records with weight tickets collected at the beach.
- The County or a third party will perform and prepare reports on the following tasks:
 - 2024 Physical Monitoring
 - Turbidity Monitoring
 - Biological Monitoring and Hardbottom Edge Surveys
 - Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Surveys
 - Marine Turtle Monitoring and Related FWC Coordination
 - Shorebird Monitoring



Exhibit B
Fee Proposal



Exhibit C
Rate Schedule

* * * * *

SCHEDULE B-ATTACHMENT 1

RATE SCHEDULE

Title	Hourly Rate
Principal	\$231
Senior Project Manager	\$203
Project Manager	\$160
Senior Engineer	\$177
Engineer	\$130
Senior Inspector	\$126
Inspector	\$93
Senior Planner	\$150
Planner	\$120
Senior Designer	\$140
Designer	\$105
Environmental Specialist	\$120
Senior Environmental Specialist	\$167
Scientist/Geologist	\$115
Senior Scientist/Geologist	\$153
Marine Biologist/Hydrogeologist	\$120
Senior Marine Biologist/Hydrogeologist	\$145
Senior GIS Specialist	\$155
GIS Specialist	\$115
Clerical/Administrative	\$73
Senior Technician	\$103
Technician	\$83
Surveyor and Mapper	\$125
CADD Technician	\$107
Survey Crew - 2 man	\$145
Survey Crew - 3 man	\$180
Survey Crew - 4 man	\$215
Senior Architect	\$160
Architect	\$125

The above hourly rates are applicable to Time and Materials task(s) only. The above list may not be all inclusive. Hourly rates for additional categories required to provide particular project services shall be mutually agreed upon by the County and firm, in writing, on a project by project basis, as needed, and will be set forth in the Work Order agreed upon by the parties.

Grant Funded: The above rates are for purposes of providing estimate(s), as required by the grantor agency.

* * * * *

Page 2 of 3

First Amendment to Agreement # 18-7432-CZ
Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC



Direct Select Form

Request Date	Contract No.	Proposal Cost Estimate	Construction Cost Estimate
03/07/2024	18-7432-CZ	175,000	\$2,000,000
Requested By (Use name as it appears in Outlook): Andrew Miller		Division / Department: Coastal Zone Management	
Administrative Agent (If different from Requestor):			
Library Category: Coastal Engineering		Vendor Name: APTIM	
Work Assignment Title: FY24-FY25 Beach Renourishment			
Description of Requested Services: Professional engineering services for the design, bidding, permitting, and construction administration for Park Shore Beach Renourishment.			
Justification: (Select all that apply and explain below)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Past experience with project <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of previous work assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Unique qualifications <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Comments / Explanation of Direct Select: APTIM has provided design services for similar efforts and is well acquainted with the project area and renourishment challenges in Park Shore. APTIM is also providing post-design services for the emergency berm in South Naples during the same time that Park Shore will be under construction, so having one Engineer of Record monitoring construction on both projects will be more efficient. (PO 450022753, PO 4500193844)			
Requestor: Andrew Miller		Signature: MillerAndrew	Digitally signed by MillerAndrew Date: 2024.03.07 12:36:16 -05'00'
Division Director: Beth Johnssen		Signature: Johnssen_b	Digitally signed by Johnssen_b Date: 2024.03.11 15:51:06 -04'00'
Procurement Director/Designee:		Signature: SarahHamilton	Digitally signed by SarahHamilton Date: 2024.03.18 09:32:50 -04'00'

Please be sure to attach the fully approved form to the requisition in SAP.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve the First Amendment to the Tourist Development Council Grant Agreement based on updated requests from the City of Naples for FY 2023-2024 in the amount of \$2,500,000, budget these expenditures, approve any required budget amendments, and make a finding that these expenditures promote tourism.

OBJECTIVE: To obtain approval of additional funding for the City of Naples Tourist Development Fund (1105/195) Grant application requests for FY 2023-2024 in the amount of \$400,000.

CONSIDERATIONS: On September 26, 2023, (Item 16.B.9) the Board of County Commissioners approved the TDC Grant Applications received from the City of Naples (City) as follows:

FY 2023-2024 Tourist Development Council Fund (1105/195) Grant Applications

PROJECT / DESCRIPTION:	STAFF REQUESTED	APPROVED 9/26/23
Beach Maintenance		
90527 - Beach Maintenance - City of Naples* Carryforward Funding will be utilized to fully fund the request.	\$200,000	\$200,000
Structures		
90096 - Naples Pier Repair & Maintenance	\$200,000	\$200,000
TOTAL APPROVED GRANTS	\$400,000	\$400,000

The City has requested to amend the approved Grant Agreements by adding the following funding requests as follows:

FY 2023-2024 Amendments to Tourist Development Council Fund (1105/195) Grant Applications

PROJECT / DESCRIPTION:	STAFF REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED
Beach Maintenance		
90527 - Beach Maintenance - City of Naples	\$300,000	\$300,000
Structures		
90096 - Naples Pier Repair & Maintenance	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Beach Park Facilities		
50308 - Lowdermilk Park Maintenance - City of Naples	\$200,000	\$200,000
TOTAL GRANT AMENDMENT	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000

Beach Maintenance: The City of Naples maintains the City’s beaches in Park Shore and Naples to provide an exceptional experience for our visitors and residents. The City desires to add \$300,000 to the initial approved \$200,000 grant. Approval is recommended.

Structures: The City of Naples is requesting a 5-year advance of \$400,000 per year, totaling an additional \$2,000,000 in grant funding for the maintenance, upkeep, and safety of the Naples pier. The City agrees to forego requests for TDC funding for the pier for FY25 through FY29. Approval is recommended.

Beach Park Facilities: The City of Naples is requesting an additional \$200,000 in grant funding for parking lot maintenance at Lowdermilk Park. Approval is recommended.

FISCAL IMPACT: A budget amendment in the amount of \$2,500,000 is necessary to reallocate funding from reserves within the TDC Beach Renourishment Fund (1105) to the projects shown below:

Project	Amount
90527 - Beach Maintenance	\$ 300,000
90096 - Naples Pier	\$ 2,000,000
50308 -Beach Park Facility- Lowdermilk	\$ 200,000
Total Budget Amendment	\$ 2,500,000

The source of funds is Tourist Development Tax.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPACT: This project meets current Growth Management Plan standards to ensure the adequacy and availability of viable public facilities.

ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS: This item will be presented to the Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC) on April 11, 2024, and the Tourist Development Council (TDC) on April 16, 2024.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS: This item is approved as to form and legality and requires majority vote for approval. - CMG

RECOMMENDATION: To approve the First Amendment to the Tourist Development Council Grant Agreement with the City of Naples for FY 2023-2024 in the amount of \$2,500,000, budget these expenditures, approve any required budget amendments, and make a finding that these expenditures promote tourism.

Prepared By: Andrew Miller, P.E., Coastal Zone Management, Capital Project Planning, Impact Fees and Program Management Division

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO
2023-2024 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX
GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
COLLIER COUNTY AND CITY OF NAPLES
CATEGORY "A" CITY OF NAPLES' PROJECTS**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT is made and entered into this ___ day of _____, 2024, by and between Collier County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida ("County"), and the City of Naples.

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into a Tourist Development Tax Grant Agreement dated September 26, 2023, a copy of which is attached to this Amendment, wherein the County agreed to provide the City of Naples with tourist development tax funds for City of Naples Beach Cleaning and Maintenance Staff Salaries (\$200,000) and Naples Pier Repair and Maintenance (\$200,000) subject to review and reimbursement by the County; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2024, the City of Naples requested additional funds for City of Naples Beach Cleaning and Maintenance Staff Salaries and Operating Costs in the additional amount of \$300,000; and

WHEREAS, the City has also requested additional funds for maintenance at Lowdermilk Park in the amount of \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, the City has also requested additional funds for Naples Pier Repair and Maintenance in the additional amount of \$2 million; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Advisory Committee and the Tourist Development Council have reviewed the Amended Grant Applications and made recommendations to approve funding these additional expenditures and have also made findings that these expenditures promote tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to fund these Projects with Tourist Development Tax and finds that these expenditures promote tourism.

WITNESSETH:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and covenants contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration exchanged amongst the parties, the parties agree as follows:

1. All of the above RECITALS are true and correct and are hereby expressly incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully below.
2. The City of Naples requested additional funds for City of Naples Beach Cleaning and Maintenance Staff Salaries and Operating Costs in the additional amount of \$300,000. (Exhibit A-1).

Words Underlined are added; Words ~~Struck-Through~~ are deleted.



3. The City of Naples has requested funds for parking lot maintenance at Lowdermilk Park in the amount of \$200,000. (Exhibit A-2).

4. The City of Naples has requested an additional \$2,000,000 for repair and maintenance of the Naples Pier. The City of Naples agrees to not seek additional funding for the repair and maintenance of the Naples Pier for five years from the date of this Grant Agreement. (Exhibit A-3).

5. The total amount of the FY 24 Grant Agreement is hereby amended to include the additional funds as follows:

Section 2. PAYMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT. The aggregate maximum reimbursement under this Agreement shall be ~~Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000)~~ Two Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,900,000). GRANTEE shall be paid in accordance with the fiscal procedures of COUNTY upon submittal of an invoice and upon verification that the services described in the invoice are completed or that goods have been received.

6. Exhibit "B" Budget – City of Naples is hereby amended to reflect the additional funds requested and attached hereto

7. Except as set forth above, all other terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement, as amended, continue in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Collier County and the City of Naples have respectively, by an authorized person or agent, hereunder set their hands and seals on the date and year first above written.

[SIGNATURE BLOCK ON NEXT PAGE]



EXHIBIT "B"

BUDGET – CITY OF NAPLES

Beach Cleaning and Maintenance Staff Salaries	\$200,000	<u>\$500,000</u>
<u>Lowdermilk Park Parking Lot Maintenance</u>		<u>\$200,000</u>
Naples Pier Repair and Maintenance	\$200,000	<u>\$2,200,000</u>
<u>Total Grant Award (reimbursable)</u>		<u>\$2,900,000</u>

Words Underlined are added; Words ~~Struck-Through~~ are deleted.



COLLIER COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
CATEGORY "A" GRANT APPLICATION
Beach Renourishment and Pass Maintenance

Naples Beach Maintenance

1. Name and Address of Project Sponsor Organization:

City of Naples
735 8th Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

2. Contact Person, Title and Phone Number:

Name: Chad Merritt – Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Director
Address: 280 Riverside Circle
Naples, Florida 34102
Phone: 239.213.7111

3. Organization's Chief Official and Title:

Jay Boodheshwar, City Manager

4. Details of Project- Description and Location:

This is an annual TDC funded project essential for support of maintenance on local beaches. The City is responsible for the upkeep and grooming of TDC eligible beaches within the City limits. Under this project, the City removed litter, accumulation of algae and rocks along public access beach portions of the Gulf within the City's jurisdictional limits. These funds would also help to support the daily operation on the beach. Funding is a benefit to both residents and tourist populations, and to the preservation and protection of the beach, shoreline and its overall appearance and investment. This year's request includes the partial reimbursement for FY24 beach maintenance operations, which is \$1,305,001. Our plan is to enhance beach facilities & much needed staffing. We are requesting an amendment of the previous application amount of \$200,000 with a new requested total of \$500,000.

Location: Naples Beach – Beaches located in the city limits of Naples.

5. Estimated project start date: October 1, 2023

6. Estimated project duration: 12 Months

7. Total TDC Tax Funds Requested: \$500,000

8. If the full amount requested cannot be awarded, can the program/project be restructured to accommodate a smaller award?



Yes (X) No ()

**Collier County Tourist Development Council
Category "A" Grant Application (Page 2)**

Naples Beach Maintenance



COLLIER COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

CATEGORY "A" GRANT APPLICATION

Beach Renourishment and Pass Maintenance

Lowdermilk Park Maintenance/Repairs

1. Name and Address of Project Sponsor Organization:

City of Naples
735 8th Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

2. Contact Person, Title and Phone Number:

Name: Chad Merritt – Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Director
Address: 280 Riverside Circle
Naples, Florida 34102
Phone: 239.213.7111

3. Organization's Chief Official and Title:

Jay Boodheshwar, City Manager

4. Details of Project- Description and Location:

This is an annual TDC funded project essential for support of maintenance at Lowdermilk Park. The City is responsible for the upkeep and grooming of TDC eligible beaches within the City limits. The City performs necessary maintenance in Lowdermilk Park (beach park) each year, which includes the upkeep of the concession/restroom building, walkovers, landscaping, parking lot improvements, and other maintenance tasks as needed. During the FY24 the City plans to complete maintenance that include paving/restriping the existing parking lot (\$200k).

Location: Lowdermilk Park

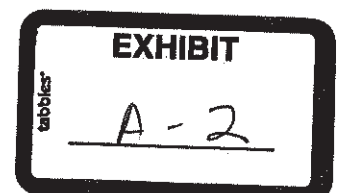
5. Estimated project start date: October 1, 2023

6. Estimated project duration: 12 Months

7. Total TDC Tax Funds Requested: \$200,000

8. If the full amount requested cannot be awarded, can the program/project be restructured to accommodate a smaller award?

Yes (X) No ()



Collier County Tourist Development Council
Category "A" Grant Application (Page 2)

Lowdermilk Park Maintenance/Repairs

PROJECT BUDGET

<u>PROGRAM ELEMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
TDC Funds Requested	\$ 200,000
City/Taxing District Share	\$
State of Florida Share	\$ -
Federal Share	\$
TOTAL	\$ <u>200,000</u>

PROJECT EXPENSES:
(Engineering, Mobilization, Contractor, Monitoring etc)

<u>Maintenance to parking lot</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ <u>200,000</u>

I have read the Tourist Development Category "A" Beach Funding Policy covering beach renourishment and pass maintenance and agree that my organization will comply with all guidelines and criteria.

Signature of Sponsor Organization's Chief Official

Date



COLLIER COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
CATEGORY "A" GRANT APPLICATION
Beach Renourishment and Pass Maintenance

Naples Pier Maintenance/Repair

1. Name and Address of Project Sponsor Organization:

City of Naples
735 8th Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

2. Contact Person, Title and Phone Number:

Name: Chad Merritt – Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Director
Address: 280 Riverside Circle
Naples, Florida 34102
Phone: 239.213.7111

3. Organization's Chief Official and Title:

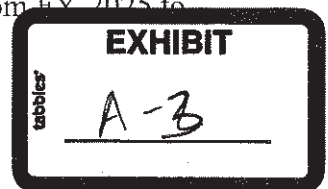
Jay Boodheshwar, City Manager

4. Details of Project- Description and Location:

Naples Pier – 25 12th Ave South, Naples, Florida

This annual TDC funded project includes maintenance, labor, material, supplies and equipment for the upkeep and safety of the pier. The Naples Pier is a public access beach facility and a tourist attraction and destination. The Naples Pier, a historically significant structure originally constructed in 1887, serves as a public access beach facility, as a major tourist attraction and vacation destination. The Naples Pier captures non-county and local visitors as well as tourist populations from throughout the region and world.

This year this grant application will be extremely important as we rebuild the iconic Naples Pier. We have begun the design of the pier with the goal of making it stronger and more user-friendly. We anticipate this project to be in the tens of millions, perhaps higher. This grant funding will help to offset a portion of the costs as we construct the new and improved Naples Pier. Moving forward these funds will also help with the daily maintenance and upkeep of the restrooms, shelters, picnic tables, signage, and over structure. The Operating Cost for the Naples Pier is \$107,493 for FY24. The estimated rebuild cost is estimated at \$20 million. In addition to asking for an increase in the cost of ongoing repair and maintenance, we respectfully request consideration for the annual amount to be increased from \$200,000 to \$400,000 annually and allow the City to seek 5 years of funding, which is \$2.0 million, from which to draw during construction. The City of Naples would not request funding for the Naples Pier from FY 2025 to



FY-2029, if approved for this advancement. Over the next couple of years, the Naples Pier will be under construction and these advanced funds would help us in the rebuilding. We would like to amend the previous application for \$200,000 by adding the additional \$2mil to bring the total request to \$2,200,000.

5. **Estimated project start date:** October 1, 2023
6. **Estimated project duration:** 12 Months
7. **Total TDC Tax Funds Requested:** \$2,200,000 (5 years advanced at \$400,000/year, plus previous request)
8. **If the full amount requested cannot be awarded, can the program/project be restructured to accommodate a smaller award?**

Yes () No ()

COLLIER COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

CATEGORY “A” GRANT APPLICATION

Beach Renourishment and Pass Maintenance

Naples Beach Maintenance

1. Name and Address of Project Sponsor Organization:

City of Naples
735 8th Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

2. Contact Person, Title and Phone Number:

Name: Chad Merritt – Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Director
Address: 280 Riverside Circle
Naples, Florida 34102
Phone: 239.213.7111

3. Organization’s Chief Official and Title:

Jay Boodheshwar, City Manager

4. Details of Project- Description and Location:

This is an annual TDC funded project essential for support of maintenance on local beaches. The City is responsible for the upkeep and grooming of TDC eligible beaches within the City limits. Under this project, the City removed litter, accumulation of algae and rocks along public access beach portions of the Gulf within the City’s jurisdictional limits. These funds would also help to support the daily operation on the beach. Funding is a benefit to both residents and tourist populations, and to the preservation and protection of the beach, shoreline and its overall appearance and investment. This year’s request includes the partial reimbursement for FY24 beach maintenance operations, which is \$1,305,001. Our plan is to enhance beach facilities & much needed staffing. We are requesting an amendment of the previous application amount of \$200,000 with a new requested total of \$500,000.

Location: Naples Beach – Beaches located in the city limits of Naples.

5. Estimated project start date: October 1, 2023

6. Estimated project duration: 12 Months

7. Total TDC Tax Funds Requested: \$500,000

8. If the full amount requested cannot be awarded, can the program/project be restructured to accommodate a smaller award?

Yes (X) No ()

**Collier County Tourist Development Council
Category "A" Grant Application (Page 2)**

Naples Beach Maintenance

POSITION PAPER for

Collier County Coastal Storm Risk Management (CCCSRM) Feasibility Study

Prepared By: Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC)

Date: DRAFT February 19, 2024

TOPIC: CAC input on current progress by US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on the CCCSRM Project

After two significant hurricanes impacting the county in the last 7 years causing significant damage from coastal flooding it is critically important for the county and the county residents which live within the areas susceptible to coastal flooding to implement a plan which prevents or at a minimum mitigates storm driven coastal flooding. Through the efforts of the county's coastal zone management staff, the county has been able to secure the USACE interest in a project and develop tentative options to mitigate storm driven coastal flooding. The first part of the project is the preparation of a Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) based on cost-benefit driven flood protection/mitigation measures identified by USACE. USACE brings a wealth of experience and expertise and important federal funds to help pay for the design and construction to potentially be implemented by the County through a cost sharing agreement.

Unfortunately based upon the CACs participation in various planning sessions, public meetings and County and USACE led in person and virtual public meetings, it is CAC's opinion that the project is not trending towards the goal of preventing storm driven coastal flooding. This has occurred through a series of delays, mis-information and special interest environmental groups outside the county co-opting the message. Failure of this project to meet the goal exposes significant portions of the county to future destruction of homes, businesses, critical infrastructure and its overall impact on tourism, ultimately impacting the county economy. CAC's basis for this opinion include:

- Structural measures for flood protection have been eliminated from the USACE project driven by:
 - Construction cost inflation which has skewed the economics for "cost effective" available coastal flood prevention measures.
 - USACE has indicated its the county's preference for "nature based" solutions which cannot from a practical approach prevent coastal flooding via unprotected coastal inlets and exposed shoreline. Vocal environmental lobbying is driving nature based solutions as a realistic alternative to structural measures to prevent coastal flooding. This would not be achievable with the current USACE plan.
- Marco Island and other portions of the county have been excluded from the USACE project.
- USACE TSP project schedule compression which is primarily driven by funding limitations is pushing accelerated completion of the TSP without adequate understanding of the economics being used to screen available prevention or mitigation measures.
- As currently proposed, the project appears to be headed towards a beach renourishment and mangrove planting project for limited areas of the county. This will not prevent coastal flooding.
- The current USACE schedule is to release the TSP to the public in September 2024 and allow a 30 day comment period as required by Federal law. However, USACE and Collier County have failed to note that this is the minimum federal requirement period for public comment.

Furthermore the comment period will be at a time when the County's population is at the lowest during the year and occurs during the height of hurricane season. A comment period of at least 90 days is necessary for the public, engineering professionals and other parties to adequately review and comment on the TSP.

If the county waits to act until USACE releases their Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) it will be too late. CAC is recommending the county commissioners take a more proactive role in shepherding this project with clear communication that the county is in support of the project and is willing to do more to protect areas and communities which are at risk of coastal flooding but which are not part of the current USACE plan.

Our Recommendations

- The County elected officials communicate their dedication to the USACE project and the need to get this right from the beginning and not rush to issue a TSP which does not meet the stated goal of preventing storm driven coastal flooding.
- The County's engineering experts become more directly involved in understanding the economic models being used, the resultant flood elevation, the defined areal flood zone for the model, and post flood impacts for each proposed flood mitigation measure.
- The County work with USACE on screening additional mitigation measures for improvements in areas currently not in the USACE plan or for improvements to USACE proposed mitigation measures (eg dune height increase, inlet protection, etc).

In conclusion the county has a once in a lifetime opportunity to reduce the risk of coastal flooding with technical support from USACE and substantial Federal funding. We cannot squander this opportunity.

From: [Ray Christman](#)
To: [Andrew Miller](#)
Subject: Re: CAC CSRM Position Paper - DRAFT FOR COMMENTS
Date: Monday, March 4, 2024 7:21:03 AM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email is from an external source. Confirm this is a trusted sender and use extreme caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

Good morning Andy:

I wanted to provide my comments on Joe Burke's position paper on CSRM as requested. Please share these with the members of the CAC as I will not be able to attend the March 14 meeting due to an out-of-town travel commitment and therefore will not be able to speak to this subject at the meeting.

As I have gotten to know Joe through the CAC and otherwise, I have come to greatly respect to knowledge, expertise and common sense views on marine engineering and coastal resilience matters. I share his concern that the current draft CSRM plan, in its apparent effort to move entirely away from consideration of any physical infrastructure investments in the Collier County shoreline to only nature-based solutions, is perhaps "swinging the pendulum too far" from where the original 2018-20 draft plan landed, which was largely centered around extensive hardscape solutions.

The question as to what combination of investments might best reduce coastal storm flooding risk may remain unanswered.

That said, I have several concerns with the proposed CAC position paper.

First, while it may be a valid point that structural measures should be considered as part of the plan, it depends on what measures in what location. It is all in the details and specifics and I am not comfortable signing on to a document that makes a recommendation for structural measures in the abstract and the general. That will only reignite a firestorm in many parts of the City of Naples at least, who will suspect the worse intentions.

Second, from a matter of process, the Commissioners could have designated the CAC as the oversight advisory committee for the CSRM. Given our charter, that would have been the logical choice. Instead, they created a new ad-hoc committee that has met only twice with one meeting being a short organizing session.

The Commissioners have demonstrated no interest in hearing the CAC point of view on this study, even if we could fashion consensus on one. I think it is therefore

presumptuous for us to do so. If on the other hand, any of us individually wish to present observations and recommendations to the ad hoc committee and/or the commissioners, then I think that is appropriate.

In summary, I agree with Joe's conclusion that this study is a rare opportunity to develop (and implement) a comprehensive plan to reduce coastal flooding. I share his concerns as to whether all the best ideas have been given the opportunity to surface. But given the process that county leadership has set forth, I am not supportive of the CAC as a body providing its recommendations and cannot lend my name and vote to any such action.

Raymond Christman
Naples City Council

239-213-1035

From: Andrew Miller <Andrew.Miller@colliercountyfl.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:20 AM
To: djtrecker@yahoo.com <djtrecker@yahoo.com>; EBrechnitz@marcocitycouncil.com <EBrechnitz@marcocitycouncil.com>; therightperson71@gmail.com <therightperson71@gmail.com>; judyhushon@aol.com <judyhushon@aol.com>; Ray Christman <rchristman@naplesgov.com>; rwr720@hotmail.com <rwr720@hotmail.com>; koz516@aol.com <koz516@aol.com>
Cc: jsanteburk@gmail.com <jsanteburk@gmail.com>; Maria Becerra <Maria.Becerra@colliercountyfl.gov>; Colleen Greene <Colleen.Greene@colliercountyfl.gov>
Subject: CAC CSRМ Position Paper - DRAFT FOR COMMENTS

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Naples e-mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

All,

Please review and return Joe's DRAFT position paper for CSRМ and return any comments **ONLY TO ME**. I'll do my best to incorporate suggestions into a final draft for presentation / approval at CAC in March.

Thank you,
Andy Miller, P.E.
Manager
(239)-252-2922

Collier County

Transportation Management Services Department
Coastal Zone Management Section
2685 South Horseshoe Drive, Unit 103
Naples, Florida 34104
Andrew.Miller@colliercountyfl.gov

Under Florida Law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by telephone or in writing.

NOTIFICATION TO RECIPIENTS: Under Florida law, e-mails created or received by a government agency are public records. Both the message and the e-mail address it was sent from (unless otherwise exempt under Florida law) may be released in response to a public records request. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this office. Instead, you may contact City Hall by phone or in writing.

NOTIFICATION TO RECIPIENTS: Under Florida law, e-mails created or received by a government agency are public records. Both the message and the e-mail address it was sent from (unless otherwise exempt under Florida law) may be released in response to a public records request. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this office. Instead, you may contact City Hall by phone or in writing.

POSITION PAPER for

Collier County Coastal Storm Risk Management (CCSRM) Feasibility Study

Prepared By: Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC)

Date: DRAFT February 19, 2024

TOPIC: CAC input on current progress by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on the CCSRMR Project

Collier County has experiencedAfter two significant hurricanes impacting the county in the last 7-seven years causing significant damage from coastal flooding. It is therefore critically important for the county and the county residents which liveliving within the areas susceptible to coastal flooding to implement a plan which that prevents, or at a minimum, mitigates storm driven coastal flooding. Through the efforts of the county's coastal zone management staff, the county has been able to secure the USACE interest in a project and that would develop identify tentative options to mitigate storm driven coastal flooding. The first part of the projectThe initial task is the preparation of a Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) based on cost-benefit driven flood protection/mitigation measures identified by the USACE. The USACE brings a wealth of experience and, expertise and important federal funds to help pay for the design and construction of infrastructure to potentially be implemented by the County through a cost sharing agreement.

Unfortunately, based upon the CAC's participation in various planning sessions, public meetings and County and USACE led in person and virtual public meetings, it is CAC's opinion that the project is not trending towards the goal of preventing storm driven coastal flooding. This has occurred through a series of delays, mis-information, and special interest environmental groups outside the county co-opting the message. Failure of this project to meet the goal of protecting Collier's coastline and residents exposes significant portions of the county to future destruction of homes, businesses, critical infrastructure and its overall impact on tourism, ultimately impacting the county economy. CAC's basis for this opinion includes the facts that:

- Structural measures for flood protection have been eliminated from the USACE project driven by:
 - Construction cost inflation which has skewed the economics for "cost effective" available coastal flood prevention measures.
 - USACE has indicated its that the county's preference is for "nature based" solutions which which cannot from a practical approach prevent coastal flooding via unprotected coastal inlets and exposed shoreline. Vocal environmental lobbying is driving nature based solutions as a realistic alternative to structural measures to prevent coastal flooding. This would not be achievable with the current USACE plan.
- Marco Island and other portions of the county have been excluded from the USACE project.
- The USACE TSP project schedule has been compression-compressed which is primarily driven by funding limitations. This is pushing accelerated completion of the TSP without adequate understanding of the economics being used to screen available prevention or mitigation measures.

Commented [JH1]: I disagree with this sentence. It is trending the right way, just not the way Marco residents want. But because of its 5' height and SLR it is next to impossible to protect Marco Island from storm surge. The gates that were proposed would flood other parts of the island. The only options for Marco are nearshore offshore islands to the south and west that could receive Mangroves in the future and maybe encouraging the sandbar that is forming to the south. The other alternative is increasing dunes and perhaps hardening them to better protect the shoreline. Not sure what Marco is asking for.

Commented [JH2]: While they cannot remove this risk, they can mitigate it. Storm Surge is the biggest concern and if we can break up the waves off the coast it will go a long way to addressing the problem. So far they have not focused on strategies to break up waves like nearshore offshore reefs that are being used in other locations.

- As currently proposed, the project appears to be headed toward a beach renourishment and mangrove planting project for limited areas of the county. This will not prevent coastal flooding.
- The current USACE schedule is to release the TSP to the public in September 2024 and allow a 30 day comment period as required by Federal law. However, USACE and Collier County have failed to note that this is the minimum federal requirement period for public comment. Furthermore, the comment period will be at a time when the County's population is at the lowest during the year and occurs during the height of hurricane season. A comment period of at least 90 days is necessary for the public, engineering professionals and other parties to adequately review and comment on the TSP.

If the county waits to act until the USACE releases their Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP), it will be too late. CAC is recommending that the county commissioners take a more proactive role in shepherding this project with clear communication that the county is in support of the project and is willing to do more to protect areas and communities which are at risk of coastal flooding but which are not part of the current USACE plan.

Our Recommendations

- The County elected officials communicate their dedication to the USACE project and the need to get this right from the beginning and not rush to issue a TSP which does not meet the stated goal of preventing storm driven coastal flooding.
- The County's engineering experts become more directly involved in understanding the economic models being used, the resultant flood elevations, the defined areal flood zones for the model, and post flood impacts for each proposed flood mitigation measure.
- The County work with USACE on screening additional mitigation measures for improvements in areas currently not in the USACE plan or for improvements to USACE proposed mitigation measures (e.g., dune height increase, inlet protection, etc).

In conclusion the county has a once in a lifetime opportunity to reduce the risk of coastal flooding with technical support from the USACE and substantial Federal funding. We cannot squander this opportunity.

Commented [JH3]: You have not mentioned the Environmental Justice element of their plan which has real potential to help many lower income residents, especially those experiencing flooding from storm surge up Naples Bay. I realize that none of the EJ areas are in Marco Island so maybe you were not aware of this emphasis.

POSITION PAPER for

Collier County Coastal Storm Risk Management (CCSRM) Feasibility Study

Bob Roth
2/22/2024
Comments

Prepared By: Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC)

Date: ~~DRAFT~~ February 19, 2024

Redate

TOPIC: CAC input on current progress by US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on the CCSRSM Project

After two significant hurricanes impacting the county in the last 7 years causing significant damage from coastal flooding it is critically important for the county and the county residents which live within the areas susceptible to coastal flooding to implement a plan which prevents or at a minimum mitigates storm driven coastal flooding. Through the efforts of the county's coastal zone management staff, the county has been able to secure the USACE interest in a project and develop tentative options to mitigate storm driven coastal flooding. The first part of the project is the preparation of a Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) based on cost-benefit driven flood protection/mitigation measures identified by USACE. USACE brings a wealth of experience and expertise and important federal funds to help pay for the design and construction to potentially be implemented by the County through a cost sharing agreement.

Unfortunately based upon the CACs participation in various planning sessions, public meetings and County and USACE led in person and virtual public meetings, it is CAC's opinion that the project is not trending towards the goal of preventing storm driven coastal flooding. This has occurred through a series of delays, mis-information and special interest environmental groups outside the county co-opting the message. Failure of this project to meet the goal exposes significant portions of the county to future destruction of homes, businesses, critical infrastructure and its overall impact on tourism, ultimately impacting the county economy. CAC's basis for this opinion include:

- Structural measures for flood protection have been eliminated from the USACE project driven by:
 - Construction cost inflation which has skewed the economics for "cost effective" available coastal flood prevention measures.
 - USACE has indicated its the county's preference for "nature based" solutions which cannot from a practical approach prevent coastal flooding via unprotected coastal inlets and exposed shoreline. Vocal environmental lobbying is driving nature based solutions as a realistic alternative to structural measures to prevent coastal flooding. *but that is an unrealistic*
This would not be achievable with the current USACE plan. - delete? Rework?
- Marco Island and other portions of the county have been excluded from the USACE project.
- USACE TSP project schedule compression which is primarily driven by funding limitations is pushing accelerated completion of the TSP without adequate understanding of the economics being used to screen available prevention or mitigation measures.
- As currently proposed, the project appears to be headed towards a beach renourishment and mangrove planting project for limited areas of the county. This will not prevent coastal flooding.
- The current USACE schedule is to release the TSP to the public in September 2024 and allow a 30 day comment period as required by Federal law. However, USACE and Collier County have failed to note that this is the minimum federal requirement period for public comment.

Furthermore the comment period will be at a time when the County's population is at the lowest during the year and occurs during the height of hurricane season. A comment period of at least 90 days is necessary for the public, engineering professionals and other parties to adequately review and comment on the TSP.

If the county waits to act until USACE releases their Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) it will be too late. CAC is recommending the county commissioners take a more proactive role in shepherding this project with clear communication that the county is in support of the project and is willing to do more to protect areas and communities which are at risk of coastal flooding but which are not part of the current USACE plan.

CAC's
~~Our Recommendations~~ *are:*

- The County elected officials communicate their dedication to the USACE project and the need to get this right from the beginning and not rush to issue a TSP which does not meet the stated goal of preventing storm driven coastal flooding.
- The County's engineering experts become more directly involved in understanding the economic models being used, the resultant flood elevation, the defined areal flood zone for the model, and post flood impacts for each proposed flood mitigation measure.
- The County work with USACE on screening additional mitigation measures for improvements in areas currently not in the USACE plan or for improvements to USACE proposed mitigation measures (eg dune height increase, inlet protection, etc).

In conclusion the county has a once in a lifetime opportunity to reduce the risk of coastal flooding with technical support from USACE and substantial Federal funding. We cannot squander this opportunity.

POSITION PAPER

Objections by the Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC) to the Coastal Storm Management Feasibility Study

After two significant hurricanes impacting the county in the last 7 years and causing significant damage from coastal flooding, it is critically important that the county and county residents implement a plan that prevents or at least mitigates damage from storm-driven coastal flooding.

Through earlier efforts by the Coastal Zone Management, the county secured the participation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in a study to develop options to mitigate such damage. The first step was a feasibility study to be completed in 2025. If approved, that would lead to a cost-sharing program with the USACE to flesh out the plan and implement the project.

Unfortunately, based on the CAC's participation in planning sessions and public meetings – some led by the USACE – it is the CAC's opinion that the project as now portrayed will **not** prevent widespread damage from coastal flooding. This is due to a series of delays, misinformation, and special-interest environmental groups coopting the message. As a result, the project, if implemented as it now stands, would expose significant portions of the county to destruction of homes, businesses and critical infrastructure. That, in turn, would impact tourism and marine businesses and affect the county's economy.

CAC's basis for this opinion is as follows.

- Structural measures, so-called “hardening,” have been completely eliminated from the feasibility study. That is a recipe for disaster. Widespread coastal engineering experience teaches that at least **some** hardening – groins, seawalls, jetties, floodgates – is necessary to prevent widespread flooding.
- Such measures have been eliminated because (1) construction cost inflation has skewed the economics for “cost effective” options and (2) vocal environmental lobbying has driven “nature-based only” solutions.

- Marco Island and other portions of the county have been excluded from the USACE project, ensuring the plan will not be comprehensive.
- Time compression of the feasibility study means measures other than “nature-based only” cannot be thoroughly examined.
- The current USACE schedule calls for the tentatively selected plan (TSP) to be released in September 2024 and to allow only a 30-day comment period, hardly enough at a time when a large part of the population is away and when the hurricane season is at its peak.

If we wait to act until the USACE releases its TSP, it will be too late. We urge the county commissioners to take a proactive role to ensure the plan is not dead on arrival. In its current form – with hardening and large portions of the county excluded – **widespread coastal protection cannot be ensured.**

The CAC proposes the following.

- County officials should convey to the USACE that their ongoing support is contingent on not rushing approval of a TSP. A 90-day comment period is recommended. Let’s get this right from the beginning.
- County engineering experts, including those in advisory groups, should become actively involved in devising models that ensure widespread protection. That includes a better understanding of flood zones and elevations, as well as flood impacts. It also involves modeling of selective hardening, dune heights and plantings.

In conclusion, the CAC feels Collier County has a realistic chance to reduce the risk of damage from future storms – but not with the current USACE plan. Significant changes are needed. Let’s not squander this opportunity.

Joe Burke, chairman
Coastal Advisory Committee