City of Marathon Florida	**Press Release (#123-26)** | **CITY OF MARATHON** 9805 Overseas Highway Marathon, Florida 33050 305-743-0033

For Immediate Release:

Email scheme targets city's Planning Department

MARATHON, FL (Oct. 2, 2026) – Throughout the Florida Keys and the nation, people are being bombarded by schemes and scams designed to separate unwitting victims from their finances.

Marathon officials this week announced an email scam targeting applicants with upcoming matters within the city's Planning Department.

In the email, the fraudster claims Planning Department staff has completed a review of the victim's application but requires settling administrative requirements by paying an invoice for services.

A victim of the scam contacted Planning Director Brian Shea, who verified the email was not from the city and recommended the victim should not open the email or send any payments.

The scammer used the email address of planning.cityofmarathongov.@mail.com. Email from the City of Marathon's Planning Department would have the address of planning@ci.marathon.fl.us.

Similar schemes appeared during the summer in Key Colony Beach and throughout Monroe County.

If you receive a suspicious email, contact City Hall by phone at 305-743-0033 or email at cityofmarathon@ci.marathon.fl.us.

Media contact: Chris Seymour, City of Marathon Public Information Officer
Email: pio@ci.marathon.fl.us Cell: 645-206-4368

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For inquiries, contact City of Marathon, 305-743-0033