



## CITY OF MARATHON PUBLIC WORKS

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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 11, 2023  
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
FROM: Carlos A. Solis, P.E. Director of Public Works & Engineering  
THROUGH: George Garrett, City Manager  
SUBJECT: Public Works Update

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The following is an update of the status of Public Works projects and related issues:

#### Capital Infrastructure Projects

- **Marina & Station 14 Generators:** Work has started on the infrastructure for the installation of the generator at the Marina. We expect the project to take about three months. The fire station generator is set to be delivered by the end of the year. The contractor will provide a back-up generator at the site through hurricane season.
- **117<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge:** the RFQ for the design of the 117<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and the 116<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge is out, and due on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will bring the ranking recommendation to Council on the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting, and if acceptance begin negotiations with the highest rank firm. Design is expected to begin in July of this year.
- **33<sup>rd</sup> Street Repair:** Repairs for the pilings at the boat ramp are complete. We noticed in the implementation of this project that the bents for the dock are worn, and will budget to get them replaced in next year's budget.
- **Aviation Curve Area Shoulder Repair:** Work on the shoulder repair and drainage improvement along the curve at Aviation Blvd. has begun, and this work should be completed in the next three weeks. The project will stabilize the shoulder adjacent to the road and improve the ponding in the area.

#### Upcoming Projects:

- **Seven Mile Marina:** The final plans are complete and being reviewed by staff for. Upon final review and completion of any revision, the project will be let out to bid. We have received comments from FDEP for the reconstruction of the piers, and our consultant is working on the response.

- **Quay Property Redevelopment** Our consultants are working on the evaluation of the seawall condition and shoreline to determine the extent of repair or reconstruction needed to ensure the overall safety and longevity of the shoreline of the property. Plans are also being prepared for the development of the park area.
- **City Hall Office Renovation:** Based on an internal meeting with staff, we are modifying to plans to better accommodate future use of personnel and met with our Architect two weeks ago to review the revisions. We expect revised plans in about four weeks. The project will provide better security for City Hall so that none of our employees are exposed to or isolated from the rest of the staff. The project will also create additional work areas for anticipation of additional needed staff in the Code and Planning Departments.

### **General Public Works Issues and update:**

- **Building Plan Review:** The Public Works & Engineering department has processed 35 permits reviews, and 61 inspections for projects requiring engineering review and inspections in the last month. We are still working with contractors to come into compliance with the required erosion control measures and stormwater criteria. In some cases, we've had to issue Stop Work Orders on projects to get certain projects to come into compliance. We will continue to educate the local designers and contractors on these issues as required under the City's MS 4 permit, and plan to offer a workshop in January accordingly.
- **Boat Ramp and Beach Parking:** The parking and boat ramp usage fee system went into effect on April 1. As with all new systems, we are still working out some bugs and compiling issues that have come. The enforcement system is lagging by about four weeks, though this information is not being let out to the public and coincides with the grace period anticipated before citations are issued. Some of the issues, and potential for solutions are as follows:
  - Repeat Long Term Vacation rentals, people that rent property in Marathon every year for 3-4 month, are not exempt from beach parking, and state the beach is one of the main reasons they come to Marathon every year to spend the winter. Their cost to go to the beach daily, as many do, can amount to over \$1,500. A potential solution would be to sell monthly passes, at a rate established by the council, to collect some revenue, but also provide some relief for long-term vacation rental that have been coming here for years to enjoy our beaches. The same concept may be applied to Monroe County residents that don't live in Marathon, but use our facilities often. A monthly or yearly pass can be sold so that these non-permanent residents still pay a fee, but due to the frequency of the use does not make it unreasonable. This is a discussion that Council can have to determine if we want to offer this as an alternative to these frequent users.

- Houses that are in trust currently do not have the benefits of the exemptions, even if they are full time residents. As a solution, if the name of the trust is an individual with a matching vehicle registration, perhaps this can be included. Again, this is a discussion for the Council.

There will be other issues and concern that will arise as we move forward with the program, and we will keep the Council updated.

- **Oceanfront Park:** Oceanfront park is still being utilized by several State Law Enforcement agencies. The PW staff in continuing to work with this group to minimize the impact on park users.
- **Vegetation Cutbacks:** Crews have completed cutbacks in Grassy Key and we are currently working in the neighborhoods behind the airport.
- **FDOT LAP Certification:** Some time in April, I along with our Grants coordinator and Chris Nolan will be going up to FDOT for our interview for our LAP re-certification, which is required every three years. This will enable us to continue to receive grants from FDOT for a variety of infrastructure improvements.

### **Stormwater Report:**

We are working with the Utilities department with the ongoing schedule of storm structure inspection and cleaning. The correction to the system in Sombrero Blvd is complete and seems to be working well. While there still may be some local flooding during the peak of a large rain event, as the gravity injection well still has some limitations due to high tide waters, the situation should be much improved, and water from the road should be cleared shortly after the rain stops.

We are still looking for funding opportunities to address the high tide flooding issues on 92<sup>nd</sup> Street. We are currently looking at applying for a hazard mitigation grant to address this issue.