



CITY OF MARATHON PUBLIC WORKS

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 13, 2022

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

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

Capital Infrastructure Projects

- **Marina & Station 14 Generators:** The generator for the marina is expected to be delivered in early to mid-January and should take another three weeks for final completion. The fire station generator is still on backorder, and we are looking at other alternatives to get it installed prior to the next hurricane season.
- **Bridge Repair Projects:** The replacement of the Coco Plum Bridge is proceeding, and we expect to have substantial completion by the end of December, with final completion before the end of January. The repairs for the 116th, 112th, Yellowtail, Flamingo Isle and 25th Street bridges are complete.

We have been awarded a grant for the replacement of the 117th Street Bridge, with the design phase to begin this FDOT fiscal year. We expect to have the LAP agreement brought before the Council at the next meeting. The construction phase is approved for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1.

While we performed repairs to the 116th Street Bridge, the repairs only extended the life for a while. FDOT, is also funding the replacement of this bridge, which design is set for next fiscal year, and construction scheduled for the following year.

- **33rd Street Repair:** We will begin a project to replace the concrete pilings at the pier/docks at the 33rd Street boat ramp. The existing concrete pilings are not a good design, and we have discovered that they easily break upon impact. We received a grant from the County Boater Improvement Fund and will be replacing all pilings to avoid another breakage, and possible damage to the docks themselves.

- **Parks and Recreation Office Expansion:** The expansion project is going out to bid this week. The project was previously bid, but the bids were rejected as the project cost was over budget. The budget has been adjusted and will be re-bid. We anticipate bringing a recommendation to award at the February council meeting.
- **Quay Property Restroom:** The bid for the new restroom at the Quay Property will be going out to bid within the next two weeks. The project was previously bid on, but the cost was significantly more than the TDC grant at the time. We requested that the grant be rescinded, and made a new application, and now have the funding to cover 75% of the cost.
- **Kmart Bus Shelter:** The tiki bus shelter at the Kmart Shopping Center is completed and seems to be well received by the many users of both the Key West bus system, and the Miami-Dade buses.

Upcoming Projects:

- **33rd Street Re-Development:** The agreement for the transfer of the property is in progress. We have sent out a questionnaire developed by our consultant K2M to all potential users within the corridor to establish the needs of all involved. This information will be used to develop the corridor programming and preliminary plans for the project.
- **Seven Mile Marina:** The site work for the property is complete and ready for Pigeon Key Foundation to move onto the property utilizing a temporary trailer to service the tour to Pigeon Key until the building is renovated. We expect to have the final completed plans the first of the year, and the project will be let to bid at that time.
- **Quay Property Redevelopment** We are negotiating the fees for the design work associated with the re-development of the Quay Property. The project will consist of replacing the seawall as required, re-building the historic lighthouses, adding pavilions and areas to picnic, an area for food trucks, landscaping, a kayak dock, and other features.

General Public Works Issues and update:

- **Sombrero Beach Road Swale:** We recently were awarded a grant from FDOT to improve the area around the curve along Sombrero Beach Road where the swales and bike path is frequently submerged. The project will consist of elevating the trail, installing an injection well, and re-shaping the swale. The funding is 4-5 years away. In the interim, Public Works staff will be removing some of the muck material from the swales and replacing it with sand and topped with gravel to better maintain the area until permanent improvements can be made.

- **Citywide Street Signs:** We have completed a new inventory list of signs required throughout the City and have placed a new order for missing signs. Many signs were replaced after Hurricane Irma, but we have since lost several to theft and other weather events. The installation of the new signs should begin in January.

Misc.

- **Vehicle Maintenance:** Our new mechanic has completed his training and certification process to work on both fire engines and EMT vehicles. He will be taking several courses over the next four months and is expected to be fully certified by October. Upon completion, the majority of the work on these vehicles will be performed in-house here in Marathon at a tremendous saving in dollars and time to the fire department.
- **Building Plan Review:** The Public Works & Engineering department has processed 32 permits reviews, and over 60 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 Pay Station for the beach and boat ramp parking fee collection should be delivered before the end of the year. Public Works staff will have the pads constructed for the stations, and they will be ready to install once we receive them.

Stormwater Report:

The Utilities department is back on track for continuous inspection and cleaning of stormwater structures throughout the city. The storm that passed through at the end of May dumped quite a bit of rain in the area, with the usual low areas experiencing some flooding. Of particular interest was the Sombrero Blvd area. While the area still experiences road flooding during the event, which also coincided with a high tide and slight surge, unlike the past where water would stand for weeks, the area was dry within a couple of days after the event.