



CITY OF MARATHON
PUBLIC WORKS

9805 Overseas Highway, Marathon, Florida 33050
Phone: (305) 289-4109 Fax: (305) 289-4131

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 27, 2024
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 at the fire station has been installed, and all work is substantially completed. We are in the process of finalizing and closing the project out. We have requested additional funding from FDEP, which manages the grant, and they have revised our grant funding from the initial grant amount of \$125,459 to \$370,260.
- **117th Street, 116th Street & 112th Street Bridge Replacement:** The 30% plans for the 117th St and 116th St bridges have been submitted to FDOT for review, as the final design continues. The contract for the 112th St bridge is executed and design for this bridge has begun. We are scheduled to have the design completed for all three bridges and ready for bidding in late Spring of 2025. We received a response from FDOT with regards to bundling the construction of all three bridges under one contract. Although the bridges are budgeted by FDOT over three separate budget years, because all three bridges are identical, there is substantial savings, in our estimate in the \$200K to \$300K savings, in bidding and building the bridges concurrently under one contract. While FDOT cannot advance their funding under one fiscal year, they will allow us to bid and build them under one contract, and the City would then apply for the reimbursement during the fiscal year initially established by FDOT. The current FDOT schedule for construction is 2025 for the 117th St, 2026 for 112th St, and 2027 for the 116th St bridge. Since we would likely start construction around June of 2025, the 117th St and 112th St would fall within their designated fiscal year, as FDOT's fiscal year begins July 1st. The 116th Street bridge would have to be funded by the City, and reimbursement can then be

requested beginning on July of 2026. There is a low risk, which is highly unlikely, that the Federal Government scraps the funding for the 116th St bridge, and as such we would not get reimbursed if we proceeded with construction. The other two bridges would be funded by the time construction begins. We have consulted with our Finance Director, and determined that we can advance the funding.

- **Quay Restroom:** Bids have been received for the Quay restroom, and a resolution recommending approval of the contract is in this agenda. We have already submitted the building permit application, and plans are approved. Once we enter into a contract with the qualified contractor, the permit can be issued and work can begin. The project is scheduled for completion before December 31 of this year.
- **Coco Plum Overflow Parking:** The contract for the work has been fully executed, and the contractor has installed the required erosion control measures. We are waiting for DEO to clear the permit to begin the work. The cost is mostly covered by a TDC grant.

Upcoming Projects:

- **Seven Mile Marina:** All plan revisions based on input from the Construction Manager at Risk (CAM) are complete, and the contractor has provided the cost for improvements. We are currently reviewing these cost, and make a determination on proceeding with the CAM to complete the project, or bidding the project. We have also received TDC funding for the re-construction of the docks in the amount of \$490,000. In addition, we are working with Pigeon Key on a grant that they received, which may offset some of the cost for interior improvements of their facilities.

The application for both the FDEP permit and ACOE permit are complete, meaning that the project is approved and we are waiting for the issuance of the permit. The permit will be issued once the revised submerged land lease is executed by the State. The lease was modified to include the entire basin, which will give the City control and prohibit boaters from anchoring in the basin. The ACOE will issue their permit once the FDEP permit is issued.

- **Quay Property Re-Development:** The plans for the revised re-development of the upland portion of the property are proceeding and are 80% complete. The design for the new boat ramp and shoreline restoration are complete, and submittal to both the ACOE and FDEP are in process.
- **Oceanfront Park Tiki:** The plans for the site modification were prepared by the City, and subsequently submitted to the building department for permitting. City staff has begun work on the demolition and site preparation. To accommodate the

proposed Tiki structure, the existing drive required re-alignment, and adjustment to stormwater components. The stormwater and demolition of this work was performed by PW staff to keep the cost down and within the allocated \$201,495 grant from the TDC.

General Public Works Issues and update:

- **109th Street Kayak Ramp: See attached report**
- **Building Plan Review:** The Public Works & Engineering department has processed 83 permits reviews, and 41 inspections for projects requiring engineering review and inspections in the last month.
- **Boat Ramp and Beach Parking:** The revenue collected from parking and user fees for July is \$162,260.80.
- **Street Signs:** We have received the replacement signs for various locations throughout the City, and Our crews dedicate 1-2 day a week to install and replace signs, while still providing for other maintenance requirements and small project performed by our facilities/infrastructure maintenance crew.
- **Quay Property Access Improvements:** Public works staff constructed an access ramp at the eastern most entrance to the Quay property in time for Mini-Season, to allow boat trailer access from this drive, which allows any vehicle stacking on US 1 to utilize the 12-foot shoulder instead of the travel lanes. The existing drive was extremely steep causing vehicles and trailers to bottom out.
- Staff has repaired approximately 30 potholes throughout the City which appeared after the last couple heavy rain events.
- Staff continues with the clean-up at 20th Street on the first of every month. There are times where the users get a little confrontational with our staff, and we now have the Sheriff department out there during these clean-ups.



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THROUGH: George Garrett, City Manager
SUBJECT: Kayak Ramp at 109th Street

As requested by the City Council, we have investigated the possibility of installing a ramp for kayaks and similar recreational devices for the local residents.

History:

The City recently vacated a small portion of the R/W at the end of 109th Street, which included the remnants of a wall and a narrow steep ramp to the water. The ramp and wall were apparently constructed in the R/W when the house was originally built in 1946. The wall extended to the end of the road, and the ramp is located inside of the footprint of the wall (See Figure 1). The wall was partially knocked over during Hurricane Irma, and as a result the ramp, was exposed to the public (See Figure 2). Soon after some of the area neighbors discovered the ramp and began using the ramp to access the water. Some time in 2023, the code department informed me of a code issue with regards to the wall, and it was then that we determined that the wall and ramp were in fact in the R/W. I met with the owners on site as they were seeking a resolution, and upon inspection of the ramp, I determined that the steepness of the ramp posed a risk of injury and a liability to the City. After further discussion for a resolution with the owner, I informed them that they can petition for a vacation of a portion of the R/W so that the wall and ramp would be within their property. I mentioned that if it stayed public, we would likely remove the ramp due to the potential liability to the City. Subsequently, the owners applied for the portion of the R/W encompassing the ramp and wall to be vacated, and the process was approved through the normal process, resulting in the loss of use by the area residents.

New Ramp Installation:

We have reviewed the area and determined that a new ramp can be constructed with minimal impact to the water. A new ramp can be constructed in the upland area at the end of the road, with the only impact to the water being the removal of the existing rock retaining wall (See Figure 3). We have reached out to our coastal/environmental consultant and local contractor for

their opinion on the design, permitting, and construction cost for the ramp. Below is a summary of the cost for the design, permitting and construction of the work:

- Specific Purpose Survey (~\$5K
 - Survey of the ROW, property limits, seawall limits, existing elevations, elevations in front of seawall, etc.)
- Coral Survey (~\$6k
 - Need to inspect the seawall for potential corals that may be in the area or impacted by project.
- Permitting (~\$10k
 - Secure FDEP SWERP General Permit pursuant to 62-330.417
 - Secure USACE General Permit consistent with the conditions of GP-82
- Engineering Design (\$14k)
 - Design of existing wall demolition
 - Design of sheet pile return walls.
 - Design of concrete kayak launch ramp.

Overall Design/Permitting Budget \$35k

It is estimated that the design and permitting would take about 6 months to complete.

Construction:

- Estimated Construction Cost (~\$200K)

Total Estimated Cost:

\$235,000

Conclusion:

A new ramp can be constructed at this location with an estimated total cost of \$235,000. The only potential issue is that the new ramp would not be limited to just the local residents, but the public at large. Parking has the potential to be an issue if the ramp becomes popular. The City currently has a Kayak launch at Community Park, within one half mile of this location. We are also building a new Kayak launch at the Quay property. Upon direction from Council, staff is ready to proceed and work with the Finance Department to incorporated into the 2024/2025 budget.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3a

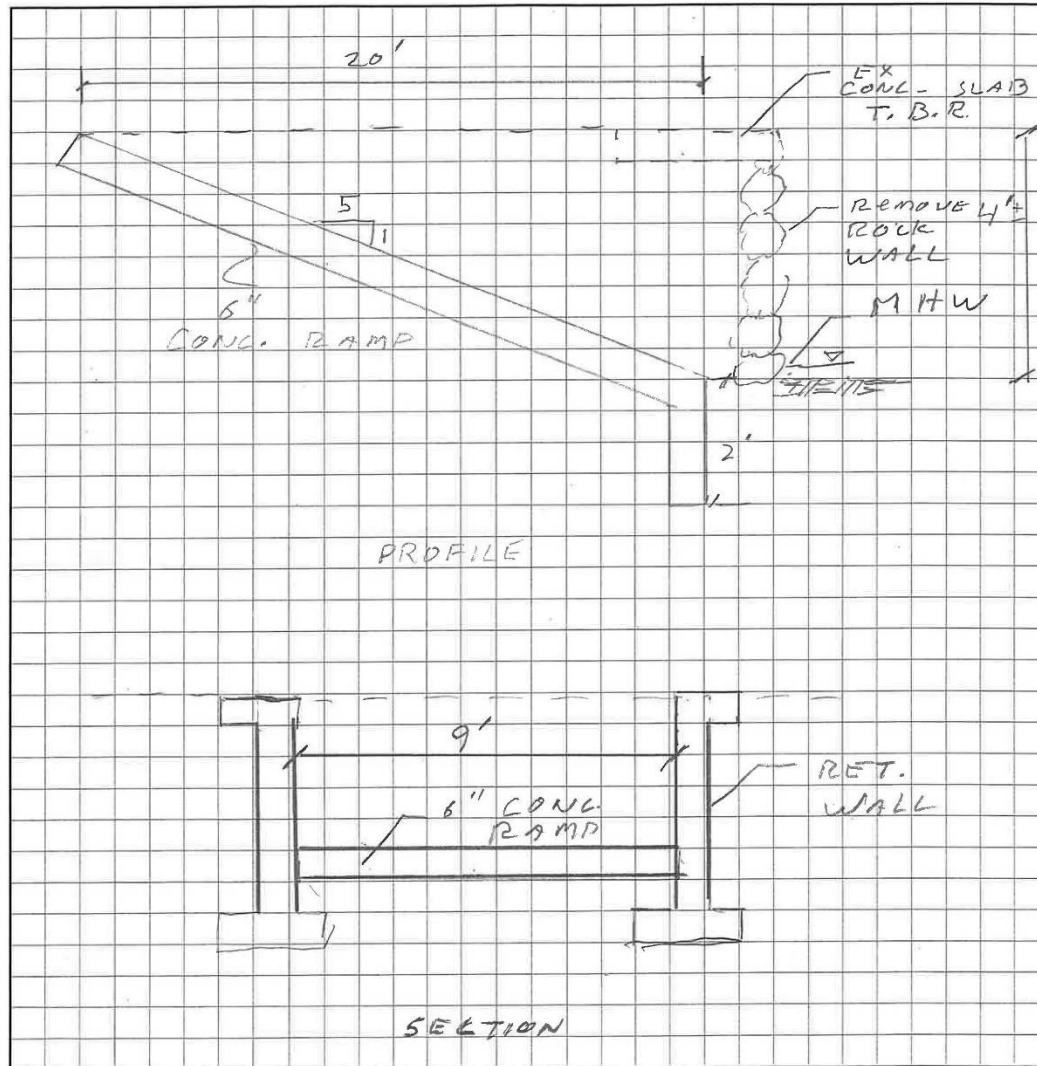


Figure 3B