



## MEMORANDUM

Date: As of 27 March 2015  
To: Marine Advisory Committee  
From: Charles Mopps, Project Manager  
Subject: **April 2015 MSBU Project Update**

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**Ackerman Waterway:** Refer to Manchester Waterway.

**Alligator Creek:** The project includes the removal of the existing silt to the existing permitted conditions (-5ft MLW) and pursue permits to increase the depth of the Access/Main channel to -6ft MLW via a separate project. Coastal Engineering Consultants (CEC) is assisting the County with the engineering and permit process. The FDEP permit was received for the -5ft MLW maintenance dredge project. The FDEP permit was received for the -6ft MLW project which includes public interest in the form of purchasing and donating an YSI Water Quality Monitor to the Friends of CHAP. The ACOE has combined the two projects even though they are different in their scope. The ACOE initiated informal consultation with NMFS specific to the smalltooth sawfish mid-February. The ACOE determined the project "*May affect, is not likely to adversely affect*" the sawfish and requested that NMFS concur with their determination in 30 days. CEC and the County will continue to work with the Waterways Committee to advance this through the federal process.

**Buena Vista Area Waterways:** Johnson Engineering was selected to provide services for project and is currently reviewing the pre-existing permits and documents. They have completed the Survey after having to resurvey some areas and preliminary design is complete. A pre-application meeting was held with the FDEP on July 8. FDEP was not able to issue on behalf of the ACOE. ACOE was supplied the requested information and has initiated consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). NMFS is currently reviewing the project per their web site. The 80% Construction plans have been reviewed by staff and the comments for corrections have been received.

**Edgewater North:** DMK was selected to perform the Survey and Provide estimates of quantities. To restore the system to -4 feet Mean Low Water, 41,000 cubic yards of material would need to be dredged. Estimated cost to complete the work would be \$1.4 Mil. To dredge to -5 feet MLW there would be an estimated 97,500 cubic yards to remove at a cost of about \$3.4 Mil. A mass mailing went out to all the citizens in that area to sequester their opinion on an increase to their tax to accomplish this project. Staff is awaiting guidance on how to proceed.

**Community Development Engineering**

410 Taylor Road | Unit 104 | Punta Gorda, FL: 33950  
Phone: 941.575.3632 | Fax: 941.575.3664

**Gulf Cove Waterways:** The project includes the removal of the existing silt to the previous dredge depth of -4ft MLW within the lateral/access channels and 100 feet into the interior canals. CEC is assisting the County with the engineering and permit process. The bathymetric surveys of the waterways have been completed. The Preliminary Plan Set has been completed and is under review by County. CEC has proposed an alternate path forward to improve the navigation project will yielding cost savings over time through reduction of maintenance dredging needs. The approach includes collecting additional data to identify combining multiple canals into single channels extending to the river. The County issued a revised task order to Coastal Engineering to proceed with the additional survey and design work. CEC has completed the additional survey and alternate design alignments to create the connector channels. This work was reviewed with the Committee and they gave direction to proceed to expand and enhance the project versus the routine maintenance dredge program. Purchasing has amended the scope of services to reallocate the funds to accomplish this project.

**Harbour Heights:** A Request through purchasing has been initiated to retain Engineering services to Permit, Survey and Provide Construction Related Services for minor shoaling within the Harbor Heights Waterway System. The Consultant is in the process of gathering survey and permitting data. This phase should be complete with submittal to the permitting agencies in early April 2014. Staff reviewed the 80% design plans with the consultant (Stantec) and permitting strategies were discussed. These strategies should lead to a streamlined process. The permit application was submitted to staff for review the week of April 14, 2014. After review and approval the permit application was submitted on the week of April 21, 2014. The permits were received in May from the agencies. The bid specs have been reviewed and modified. The citizens would like to see some Mangrove trimming added to the contract to ease line of sight and navigation issues. This project has been placed on hold while awaiting the Countywide Permit. Staff has reached out to the ACOE for a status update. ACOE has informed the County that the NMFS review is underway, however according to the NOAA web site the project has been under review since Sept of 2014.

**Hayward Canals:** No active projects at this time.

**Manchester Waterway:** No active project at this time.

**Manasota Key North Beach Erosion Study:** Public Works, Engineering is requesting a RLI be requested from the library of Engineering Firms to complete a regional Beach Erosion Study (BES) on the north end of Manasota key from R monument 1 to R monument 15 that was asked for by the citizens affected by critical beach erosion. This study once finished will Provide the following:

- a. Beach Profile Surveys.
- b. Erosion Analysis
- c. Sand Volume Analysis.
- d. Conceptual Restoration Plans
- e. Natural Resource Surveys.
- f. Develop Funding Approaches and Strategies to mitigate total cost
- g. Participate in all stakeholder meetings.
- h. Provide potential cost estimates.
- i. Provide Permit Feasibility

Upon Completion this information could be used to develop funding strategies and further the project into Permitting

**Northwest Port Charlotte:** The dredge project has been completed. The new markers have been installed. The locations of the markers are being verified for proper placement.

**Peace River Shores:** No active projects at this time.

**Pirate Harbor:** This project provides for engineering, design and permitting to dredge a 2300 feet access channel that was not covered under previous permitting. The bathymetric and seagrass surveys are complete. The jet probe survey and geotechnical report are complete. The updated channel design is complete which proposes a 45-foot wide channel located within the limits of the existing marked channel. Seagrasses exist within the limits of the existing marked channel which will need to be mitigated for due to the dredging impacts. The ERP Permit Application is near complete. The site visit to gather data for the Unified Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM) analysis and to search for possible mitigation sites was conducted by CEC and FDEP on October 29. The search for potential mitigation sites did not find enough suitable areas within the vicinity of the project area, thus a wider search area will be examined by CEC using aerial photography. FDEP completed the UMAM ranking on the seagrass impacts from the proposed dredging. CEC has identified four potential sites for creating a seagrass mitigation project (e.g., fill blow-holes / prop-scars). Additional discussions with FDEP are ongoing to confirm the suitability of these sites. Upon the start of seagrass growing season, March 1<sup>st</sup>, CEC will conduct the site visit and field work with the FDEP and ACOE to confirm their acceptability of these sites for use in developing the seagrass mitigation plan. Need to wait for the seagrass growing season to conduct the benthic surveys.

**Southbridge Waterway:** Project Complete.

**South Gulf Cove:** A Request for Letters of Interest was submitted to Purchasing to sequester an engineering firm to permit a Boat Turn Basin at the Harbor side portion of the Lock. This work was awarded to Johnson Engineering. Meetings with the permitting agencies have been conducted and the design is complete. The State Parks manager has accepted the placement of the Material at a Placida Location for future use. This location was accepted as the spoil disposal site that will substantially reduce the cost of hauling material. The permit application was submitted to the regulatory agencies and the FDEP permit was issued. The ACOE Permit was issued on March 26th. Johnson Engineering is in the process of reviewing billing and conducting a pre-construction update survey to insure the Dredge Quantities are still accurate prior to bidding.

**South Gulf Cove Parallel Lock:** The South Gulf Cove Waterway Benefit Unit Advisory Committee is concerned about the congestion of the existing lock and the fact when it is in the need of repair or maintenance boating through the lock is restricted. They recommend an additional lock be placed parallel to the existing one.

This project provides for Engineering, Permitting and Construction Management services for Creation of a new Parallel Lock located next to the existing South Gulf Cove Lock. The design of this project is funded by assessments in the South Gulf Cove Waterway MSBU.

Public Works, Engineering has requested a RFP be asked for from the library of Engineering Firms for Engineering, Permitting and Construction Management services for Creation of a new Parallel Lock located next to the existing South Gulf Cove Lock.

1, Services provided for Creation of a new Parallel Lock located next to the existing South Gulf Cove Lock.

a. Conduct additional surveys as necessary to determine location and configuration of new lock in relation to existing.

**Community Development Engineering**

- b. Review all existing permits and design and process / submit on behalf of the county any and all material needed to gain all permits and approvals from the State and Federal Governments.
- c. Provide construction management of the project (Bid Specs/Process, Construction Inspection/Certifications as necessary IAW any/all permits, Environmental inspections/reporting, construction scheduling and updates, and any other item necessary to facilitate project accomplishment)
- d. Conduct Construction related visits and surveys (as-build) to determine that design specs are met and permit conditions are adhered to.
- e. Participate in all stakeholder meetings.
- f. Provide all estimates

**Suncoast Waterway:** The dredge project has been completed. The new marking of the channels is complete. Project awaiting certification by Engineer of Record.

**Stump Pass:**

The FDEP issued their formal second RAI response to the County. CEC and the County are working to respond including minor drawing edits, minor changes to the biological monitoring program, and formal public noticing and erosion control line process for sand placement and terminal groin installation on the Stump Pass Beach State Park. The RAI Response is complete, undergoing internal qa-qc review, and will be submitted within the week.

Coordination with ACOE is ongoing. The Engineering Section in Jacksonville will begin their technical review of the terminal groin design; CEC has met with their Chief and expects this review to go smoothly. The ACOE has submitted the permit documents to the State Historic Preservation Office for their review on potential impacts to historical and cultural resources. It is noted that the Consulting Team included a marine archaeologist who assisted with the design elements to avoid such impacts. The USFWS is actively working on the new Biological Opinion for the Project. It is noted that the Red Knot was recently listed on the T&E species list, thus the new BO will have to review the Project for migratory birds, Piping Plover, and Red Knot as well as sea turtles. The NMFS consultation was initiated by the ACOE Fall 2014 and the County and CEC are working to identify their review period.

The County and CEC are developing the 2015 scope of services for the beach and inlet program including quarterly condition surveys to be more proactive and address the navigation interests timely. This will be on the BCC agenda on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

The County is actively working to renew the original project's easements with specific beach front property owners for temporary construction and other access needs. Further, the County is seeking to request temporary construction easements from the beachfront property owners outside the original project limits, specifically from the State Park Beach to the County Beach Park on Manasota Key.

Easements necessary to complete the project are starting to come back from the property owners. A legal review has been initiated to Expand the MSBU to fund sand placement north of the State Park to the Northern Limit of the project (Properties just south of the Charlotte County Beach Complex).

**Dayboards:** Staff is continuing to replace non-reflective dayboards as needed.