

Lee County Board Of County Commissioners

Agenda Item Summary

Blue Sheet No. 20020221

1. REQUESTED MOTION/SOURCES

ACTION REQUESTED: 2002 MAR 20 APPROVED: Approval of transfer of funds from tourist tax CIP reserves in the amount of \$45,000 to fund the replacement of the Tarpon Bay dock at J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge and amend FY 2001-02 / 2005-06 CIP budget to include this project.

WHY ACTION IS NECESSARY: Board of County Commissioner approval is required for all amendments to the CIP budget.

WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES: Amends CIP budget and funds the project, allowing work to begin immediately.

2. **DEPARTMENTAL CATEGORY:** 01 - County Administration
COMMISSION DISTRICT #: 1

3. **MEETING DATE:** 04-02-2002

4. **AGENDA:**
 CONSENT
 ADMINISTRATIVE
 APPEALS
 PUBLIC
 WALK ON
TIME REQUIRED:

5. **REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE:**
 (Specify)
 STATUTE
 ORDINANCE
 ADMIN. CODE AC 3-6
 OTHER

6. **REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION:**
 A. COMMISSIONER
 B. DEPARTMENT VCB
 C. DIVISION
 BY: D.T. Mirich, Executive Director
 3-12-02

7. BACKGROUND:

The Tourist Development Council approved this request at their meeting on Friday, March 1, 2002. The dock at the Tarpon Bay Recreation Area collapsed in October 2001, the beginning of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services' budget year. Due to the emergency nature of the project and the fact that no federal funds are available during the current year to fund the dock replacement, J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge managers sought the assistance of the Tourist Development Council. Should the Refuge's request for dock funds be approved during the next U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service budget cycle, these funds will be reimbursed to Lee County.

Funds will be available in account 20184230101.508309 - Capital Projects, Ding Darling Tarpon Bay Dock, Capital Improvement-Tourist Development Beach Fund, Other Grants and Aids

- Attachments:
- Request for budget transfer of funds
 - Project narrative/request from J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge
 - Letter of assurance from J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge

8. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

9. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL:

| A Department Director | B Purchasing Or Contracts | C Human Resources | D Other | E County Attorney | F Budget Services | | | | G County Manager |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | | OA | QM | Risk | GC | |
| <i>[Signature]</i> 3-12-02 | | | | <i>[Signature]</i> | <i>[Signature]</i> 3-18-02 | <i>[Signature]</i> 3/18/02 | <i>[Signature]</i> 3/19 | <i>[Signature]</i> 3/19 | <i>[Signature]</i> 3-19-02 |

10. COMMISSION ACTION:

- APPROVED
 DENIED
 DEFERRED
 OTHER

Rec. by CoAtty
 Date: 3/15/02
 Time: 3:22 pm
 Forwarded To:
 ADMIN
 3/15/02 4:30 pm

RECEIVED BY
 COUNTY ADMIN.
 3/15/02
 4:30 pm
 3/19 5:00

BEACH AND SHORLINE PROJECT REQUEST FORM FY 02-03
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge
TARPON BAY DOCK

I Project Summary – The wooden Tarpon Bay Dock will be rebuilt with recycled plastic lumber decking and marine-grade pressure-treated wood pilings, stringers and joists.

II Project Abstract

A. Project Description: The 90-foot long wooden dock needs to be replaced. The dock partially collapsed on October 10, 2001. This dock is located at Tarpon Bay Recreation Area and is utilized by 170,000 visitors each year. The dock is used to access private boats, rental canoes and kayaks, and tour boats. The project consists of

- i. removing the existing wooden dock.
- ii. rebuilding the Tarpon Bay Dock with marine-grade pressure treated wood (pilings, stringers and joists) and recycled plastic lumber (decking).
- iii. constructing the dock to meet ADA accessibility standards.

Recycled plastic lumber (reinforced with fiberglass) will be used for the decking. This high quality material has been used on the Refuge's Shell Mound Trail boardwalk , Administrative Building and Visitor Center entrance ramp, and the government dock and by the City of Sanibel for beach boardwalks. The material should last 30+ years, which will reduce the need and costs to replace the dock every 15 years.

B. Overall Context: Interpretive signage will be added to the adjacent viewing deck within the next two years.

A. Impact to Tourism: The J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is located on Sanibel Island and is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Lee County. The Tarpon Bay Recreation Area is located on the refuge and provides a variety of recreational opportunities to local residents and tourists: boat launching, canoe and kayak rental, canoe trails, fishing, and nature tours (estuary and bird rookery tours).

Over 800,000 people visit the refuge each year. Approximately 170,000 visitors use the Tarpon Bay Recreation Area annually. This dock was closed to public use in October 2001 after it collapsed. Unfortunately, this severely impacted visitors and their ability to safely access private boats, canoes and kayaks.

B. Estimate Project Time: Permitting: 30 days
Construction: 45 days

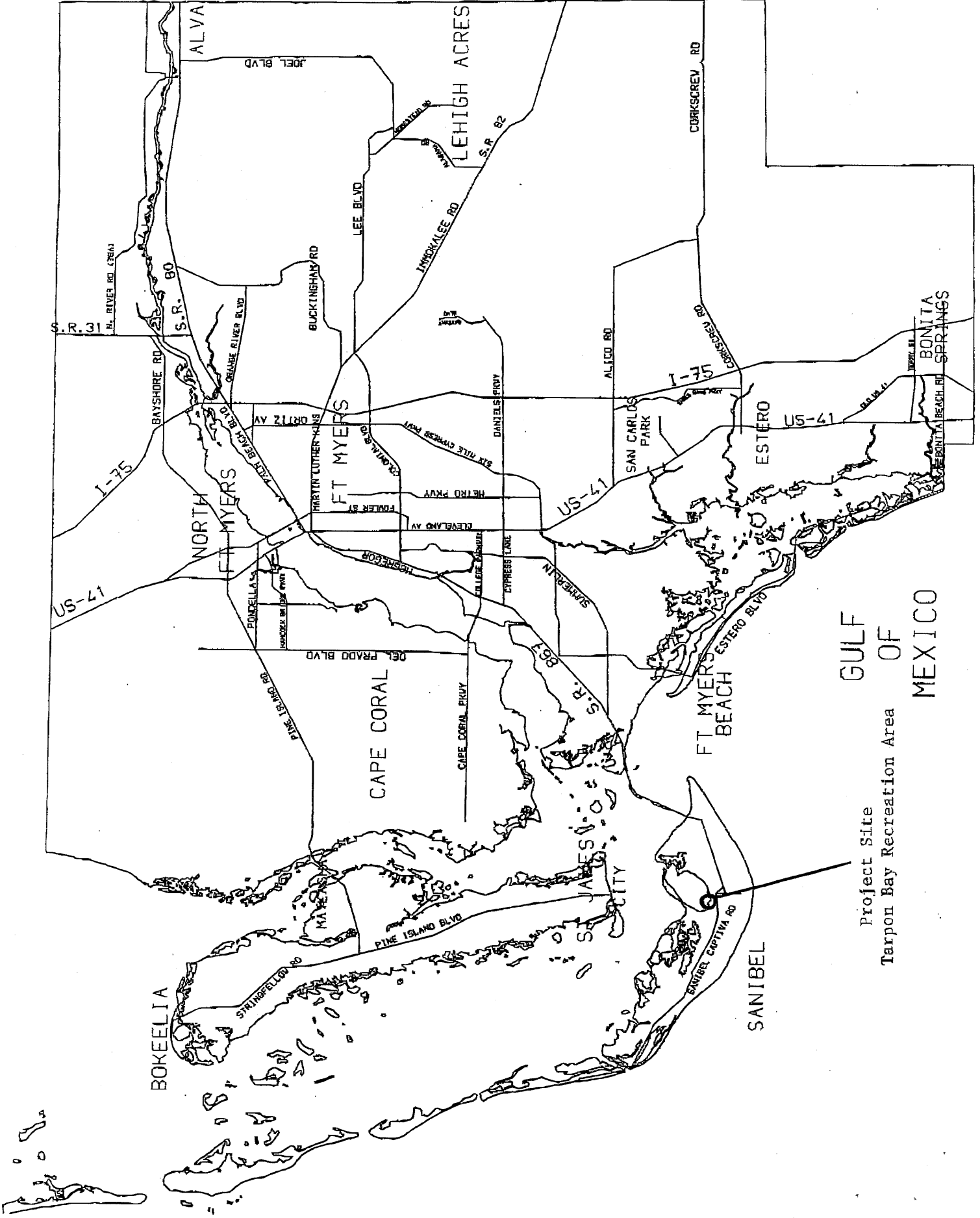
III. Maps – see attached

IV. Budget Information

A. Budget for Project – Engineering: \$ 8,000
Construction: \$37,000
Total: \$45,000

B. Facility Maintenance Budget

- i. This dock will be maintained by the staff of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.
- ii. First Year Maintenance Costs - \$1,000 (salaries): Will include cleaning boardwalk of pressure washing two times a year and checking for and repairing any loose boards.
- iii. Source of Maintenance Funds – Operations and Maintenance funding through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



GULF OF MEXICO

Project Site
 Tarpon Bay Recreation Area

SANIBEL

MEXICO



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge

1 Wildlife Drive
Sanibel, Florida 33957

March 14, 2002

D.T. Minich
Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau
2180 W. First St., Suite 100
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

Dear Mr. Minich:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) appreciates the support the Tourist Development Council (TDC) has provided the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) during the past years. You have assisted us with funding several important projects: Shell Mound Trail Boardwalk, Wildlife Drive Fishing Pier (planned completion Summer 2002), and the Indigo Trail Boardwalk (planned completion Fall 2002). Additionally, you have assisted with our exotic plant program through the City of Sanibel. Your partnership with the Refuge has greatly improved our ability to provide quality services to our visitors.

In October 2001, the Tarpon Bay Dock collapsed, preventing Refuge visitors from easily accessing private and rental canoes/kayaks and boats. Unfortunately, due to the funding cycles of the Federal Government, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was unable to fund this project during FY 2002 (October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003). Fortunately, on March 1, the Tourist Development Council agreed to fund this project.

During the next funding cycle for FY 2003, we will continue to request funding for the Tarpon Bay Dock replacement (approximately \$45,000). If this project is funded, we will request that the Service consider using this funding to off-set TDC costs on the Indigo Trail Boardwalk.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call (941/472-1100 x223). Again, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Robert Jess
Refuge Manager

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

FUND NAME: Capital Improvement - Tourist Dev. Beach Project DATE: 03/04/02 BATCH NO. _____

FISCAL YEAR: 01/02 FUND #: 30101 DOC TYPE: YB LEDGER TYPE: BA

TO: Capital Project Parks Capital Projects
 (DIVISION NAME) (PROGRAM NAME)

NOTE: PLEASE LIST THE ACCOUNT NUMBER BELOW IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:
 FUND #-DEPT/DIV #-PROGRAM #-OBJECT CODE #-SUBFUND #-PROJECT#-COST CENTER #.
 (EXAMPLE: BB5120100100.503450)

| ACCOUNT NUMBER | OBJECT NAME | DEBIT |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 20184230101.508309 | Other Grants and Aids | \$45,000 |
| TOTAL TO: | | \$ 45,000 |

| FROM: <u>Non-Departmental</u> (DIVISION NAME) | <u>Reserves</u> (PROGRAM NAME) | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| ACCOUNT NUMBER | OBJECT NAME | CREDIT |
| GC5890130101.509930 | Reserve for Future Capital Outlay | \$45,000 |
| TOTAL FROM: | | \$ 45,000 |

EXPLANATION: Transfer funds from Reserve for Future Capital Outlay to Ding Darling Tarpon Bay Dock (Project # 201842) for the replacement of the collapsed dock at the Tarpon Bay Recreation Area.

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------|
| DIVISION DIRECTOR SIGNATURE | DATE | | 3-5-02 |
| DBS: APPROVAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | DENIAL <input type="checkbox"/> | | 3-18-02 |
| APPROVAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | DENIAL <input type="checkbox"/> | | 3/18/02 |
| CO. ADMIN.: APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> | DENIAL <input type="checkbox"/> | CO. ADMIN. SIGNATURE | DATE |
| BCC APPROVAL DATE | BCC CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE | | |