

**Lee County Board Of County Commissioners**  
**Agenda Item Summary**

Blue Sheet No. 20040503

**1. REQUESTED MOTION:**

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Adopt a Resolution to the City of Fort Myers supporting the Waterways Advisory Committee's concerns over the disposition of the Centennial Park Boat Ramp.

**WHY ACTION IS NECESSARY:** To inform the City of Fort Myers of the County's concerns relating to the fate of the boat ramp at Centennial Park.

**WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:** Adopts a Resolution to the city of Fort Myers from the Board of County Commissioners.

**2. DEPARTMENTAL CATEGORY:**

COMMISSION DISTRICT #:  
 Countywide

*C 8 A*

**3. MEETING DATE:**

*05-04-2004*

**4. AGENDA:**

- CONSENT
- ADMINISTRATIVE
- APPEALS
- PUBLIC
- WALK ON
- TIME REQUIRED:

**5. REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE:**

(Specify)

- STATUTE
- ORDINANCE
- ADMIN. CODE
- OTHER

**6. REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION:**

- A. COMMISSIONER all
- B. DEPARTMENT Public Works
- C. DIVISION Natural Resources
- BY: Roland Ottolini, Division Director

*[Signature]*

**7. BACKGROUND:** On April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004 the Waterways Advisory Committee passed a motion to adopt a Resolution directed to the City of Fort Myers from the Board of County Commissioners expressing concern over recent information relating to the fate of the Centennial Park Boat Ramp. Recent articles in the News-Press have discussed possible development plans along the Riverfront that include the removal or relocation of the boat ramp. The potential loss of public access to the River is a cause of great concern to the Committee members. The members of the WAC feel strongly that the boat ramp needs to stay in its current location and that either removing or relocating the ramp is not a viable option to the boaters of Lee County. The ramp was built with money from the Florida Boating Improvement Program and the contract includes a commitment that the ramp remains functionally intact for 25 years from date of construction, September 1989.

**8. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**9. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL:**

A Department Director	B Purchasing or Contracts	C Human Resources	D Other	E County Attorney	F Budget Services <i>4/21/04</i>				G County Manager
					OA	OM	Risk	GC	
<i>[Signature]</i> 4.19.04				<i>[Signature]</i> 4/21/04	<i>P.M.</i> 4/21/04	<i>[Signature]</i> 4/21/04	<i>WR</i> 4/21/04	<i>[Signature]</i> 4/21/04	<i>[Signature]</i> 4.19.04

**10. COMMISSION ACTION:**

- APPROVED
- DENIED
- DEFERRED
- OTHER

Rec. by CoAtty  
 Date: *4/20/04*  
 Time: *3:45 pm*  
 Forwarded To:  
*Co. Admin*  
*4/21/04*

RECEIVED BY  
 COUNTY ADMIN: *[Signature]*  
*4/21/04*  
*9:30am SUT*  
 COUNTY ADMIN  
 FORWARDED TO:  
*4-22-04*  
*11:25am*

**A RESOLUTION BY THE  
LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RELATING TO A BOATING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT,  
FORT MYERS CENTENNIAL PARK BOAT RAMP**

**RECITATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Waterway Advisory Committee has been appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to make recommendations relating to public access to and use of the local waters; and

**WHEREAS**, Lee County and City of Fort Myers entered into a Boating Improvement Project Agreement with the Florida Department of Natural Resources in 1989, whereby the State provided funds for the express purpose of developing a public boat ramp and related recreational facilities to improve boating access to the Caloosahatchee River; and

**WHEREAS**, for the citizens who live in Lee County and the tourists who visit Lee County each year, a public boat ramp, dock and related recreational facility offer opportunities to experience Lee County's natural environment, provide people with access to healthful outdoor activities, develop a strong sense of identity with the land, and to learn appreciation for and the responsible use of natural resources in order to preserve them for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, boating access points and public access to Lee County's waterways is becoming increasingly important with the possible implementation of new Federal Government Manatee Protection Speed Zones; and

**WHEREAS**, the Boating Improvement Project Agreement states that the ramp will be operated for a minimum of 25 years, and in the event the project becomes utilized for other than public recreational boating purposes during this period, the County and City will return the funds, with interest, to the Department, and

**WHEREAS**, the City has expressed interest in removing the boat ramp to make the land available for other types of development,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Lee County, Florida, that:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners supports the Waterway Advisory Committee's opinion that the existing public access at the Centennial Park Boat Ramp is important to the general boating public and should be preserved.

Section 2. The City of Fort Myers is respectfully reminded of the previous commitment to operate the Centennial Park Boat Ramp for a minimum of twenty-five years and asked to do everything in their power to honor this commitment.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Lee County, Florida this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004 by a vote of \_\_\_ to \_\_, the motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

BOB JANES	_____
DOUGLAS ST. CERNY	_____
RAY JUDAH	_____
ANDREW W. COY	_____
JOHN E. ALBION	_____

ATTEST:  
CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEE COUNTY,

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

APPROVED AS TO FORM

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
ASST. COUNTY ATTORNEY