

To: Members, Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee

From: Andrew Tyler, Marco Island

Date: November 15, 2022.

Re: Request from Hideaway Beach for support for dredging and beach Remodeling

Dear Committee Members;

It has come to my attention that the City of Marco Island, fronting for the Hideaway Beach special tax district, will be approaching your Committee with a request for funding. They are seeking additional funds to enhance the budget for the remodeling of Sand Dollar Island and dredging of Tigertail lagoon. I will be out of town for some weeks starting tomorrow, and unable to attend any meetings before New Year, so I am writing today to state my opposition to any such request.

My reasons for opposing County funding are as follows:-

1. Hideaway Beach is not a public beach with public access. Responsibility for funding should lie with the Hideaway Special Tax District that exists to support such projects when approved, and not with County tax payers.
2. Failure to fund contingencies appropriately ahead of such a project is not the fault of the taxpayers. In fact, one wonders whether the tax district has adopted a classic “get it started and worry about the final cost later” strategy.
3. Hideaway Beach pumped sand *into* the lagoon in 2018 (?) to remodel their beach. It seems unreasonable to expect County taxpayers to now pay to remove that sand.
4. I imagine you are all familiar with the state of the beaches after Hurricane Ian, as so admirably captured and presented on the County web site. <https://www.colliercountyfl.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/102201/638036700607289370> . In the current environment , there must be a very

competitive environment for beach-related funding, I believe it is important to consider the relative merits based on a number of criteria, including:

- a. How many Collier residents and businesses stand to benefit from any expenditure?
 - b. Does the beach contribute to tourism revenue creation, the bedrock of the County's economy?
 - c. To paraphrase the Chairman of Marco City Council "What is the return on investment for these dollars?"
5. I'm sure you are all aware that numerous hotels and hospitality-related businesses have closed for the foreseeable future. I would urge you to consider the merits of all proposals based on criteria that include the potential impact on business and employment in the areas that form the bedrock of the County economy. The sooner these beaches can be rendered functional and safe, the sooner the Collier economy can start to heal from Hurricane Ian.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Andrew Tyler

North Collier Boulevard,

Marco Island

TurnerFarron

From: Barbara Findlay <barbarafindlay1993@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 7:45 AM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: CAC Inquiry

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I am opposed to Marco Island property owners paying for any cost over runs in the Tigertail beach area.

Barbara Findlay
821 Old Marco Lane
219-746-2880

TurnerFarron

From: Christine Dowell <carndt56@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:50 AM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: Coastal Advisory Committee

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As a homeowner living full time on Marco Island, I am not responsible to pay for the project budget overrun that has occurred by Hideaway Beach gated community's dredging project. They have their own taxing body and it is NOT the responsibility of Marco island residents nor the taxpayers of Collier County to foot the bill. Neither group of individuals will benefit from this project.

Both Eric Brechnitz and Steve Koziar are HB residents and should recuse themselves from the vote due to conflict of interest.

--

Christine Dowell
1500 Biscayne Way
Marco Island, FL 34145
(815) 441-7452

TurnerFarron

From: D Grey <rgdoshie382@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 9:22 AM
To: MillerAndrew; HumphriesLarry; KingBryan; Nick.Bornstein@bcolliercountyfl.gov; DarcoChristopher; Justin.Vasvary@colliercountyfl.gov
Subject: Hideaway Beach Overrun

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Dear Sirs,

As a Marco Island taxpayer, long time and full time resident of Marco Island, I would object to adding the overruns of the Hideaway Beach project to the Marco Taxpayers. When Hideaway provides beach access with public parking to allow visitors and Marco Islanders access to their beach. It might be a consideration. As long as the beach access at Hideaway remains private and Hideaway is a private community this should not be a problem for Marco Island Taxpayers. I responsibility of this should short fall should come from the County Bed Tax if anything.

Rozine Grey
239 Sunflower Court
Marco Island

TurnerFarron

From: Gwyn Steiner <steiner35g@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 11:28 AM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: CAC Inquiry

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OMG, why should other Marco residents be taxed for the overage on the Hideaway project? A private community! Would that mean we could all access Hideaway?

Can't even believe this has been broached!

Gwyn Steiner
1472 Butterfield Ct,
Marco Island, FL 34145

TurnerFarron

From: Katya Landeiro <landeiro69@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 1:07 PM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: CAC Inquiry

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Dear Coastal Advisory Committee and Board Members,

As an owner of residential properties of Marco Island I see it unnecessary to pay for the \$600,000.00 over budget cost of Hideaway Beach Project. Hideaway has an association that can assume the cost of their own project. The citizens of Marco will have no benefit from this project. The city should not be responsible or the purse for Hideaway Beach overbudgeted projects. During the upcoming vote please take into consideration that Erik Brechnitz and Steve Koziar are residents of Hideaway Beach. This is a conflict of interest.

Best Regards,

Katya Landeiro

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

TurnerFarron

From: Kathryn Eil <kathyadew@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 1:08 PM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: Hideaway restoration overrun, Marco Island

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My husband and I have heard that Hideaway's restoration overrun might involve raising taxes for all other Marcoites to cover the expense. This sort of thing has happened before in the past 25 years, but new county and city government officials have changed since then.

We are year round residents and would not approve of this at all. At the very least, the two committee members who live in Hideaway (Koviar and Brechnitz) should recuse themselves on this vote.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Kathryn and Mitchell Eil then

TurnerFarron

From: phyllis schwindt <kischwindt@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 7:50 PM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: CAC Inquiry

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Marco should NOT pay for the Hideaway Beach project that is over budget by \$600,000. There is absolutely no reason. The City did not approve.

Phyllis

TurnerFarron

From: Custom Signs <customsignsofmarco@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 10:49 PM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: CAC Inquiry

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Hideaway is on there own. Do not tax us for their issues they should never have had the trees removed years ago. It has changed ever since they did that. We payed once, and then they made broken promises for acess to the beach if we helped them.

We have arevown issues from the last flooding.

Please do not tax us more. Ive lived here 25 years and ut is getting harder and harder to afford here.
Crystal Foster

TurnerFarron

From: Don Findlay <donfindlay01@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 9:08 AM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: CAC Inquiry

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Dera Mr Miller,
I live on Marco Island. I am a retired exploration oil geologist who studied barrier islands and sandbar formation for most of my 35 year carrier. What you are doing on Sand Dollar Island will be reversed by mother nature within five years if not before.


The fact that you are destroying the natural habitat is a crime in itself. However to make the citizens of Marco Island pay for any shorfalls, which I believe you are voting on next week, is the classic adding insult to injury.

I would try to convince you to stop the project, but I do not think that is possible. However, I do urge you to not vote in favor of making Marco residents pay for something they did not want.

As you probably know, you have stirred up a hornet's nest on Marco...

Don Findlay

Sent from my iPad

From: **Barbara Cooper** barb@welcometomarco.com 
Subject: CCAC January 12the Vote
Date: **January 6, 2023 at 9:35 PM**
To: djtrecker@yahoo.com

CB

Dear Mr. Trecker,

I'm contacting you to ask you please Vote NO on the Hideaway Beach Assessment that is being considered for filing against Marco Island residents and taxpayers.

It IS NOT our project, it IS NOT our responsibility, and we DO NOT have access to Hideaway property.

Thank you in advance.

Blessings, bc



Barbara A. Cooper
239-293-2422

TurnerFarron

From: Glenn Baker <baker6611@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 10:29 AM
To: MillerAndrew
Subject: CAC Inquiry

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My wife and I are 100% against the residents of Marco Island having to pay for the cost overruns for the Hideaway Beach restoration which has been currently identified to be \$600,000. First of all the project should have stopped before and cost overruns were incurred until it was determined where the additional funds would come from. The cost overrun should be billed to the residents of Hideaway Beach or the residents of Collier County. To saddle the cost to the residents of Marco Island alone is unfair and unjust.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: **Beth Argeros** sailaway3401@yahoo.com
Subject: Hideaway Beach
Date: **January 9, 2023 at 7:59 AM**
To: djtrecker@yahoo.com



AB

Dear Mr Trecker,

It is my understanding that the Hideaway Beach project has gone over budget and a council member is proposing that Marco Island residents pay for the continued expense. I am a resident and I strongly disagree with that! Hideaway Beach is a private gated community that non members do not have public access to, why should we be required to pay for any of that project! This project is the responsibility of the owners in Hideaway Beach, not the residents of Marco Island.

Thank you for your consideration

Beth Argeros

Sent from my iPad

TurnerFarron

From: Rich Blonna <rblonna@marcocitycouncil.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 10:47 AM
To: djtrecker@yahoo.com; MillerAndrew; ScottTrinity; LoCastroRick
Subject: Tigertail Lagoon/Sand Dollar Island Project

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Hello Folks,

I am writing in support of the Tigertail Lagoon/Sand Dollar Island Project.

Thanks for all that you do to serve the residents of Collier County. I was planning on attending the Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee meeting tomorrow and reading this letter but I just tested positive for Covid so I will have to watch from home. I would appreciate it if one of you could read this letter at tomorrow's meeting for me.

I am, and have been from the start, a big supporter of the Tigertail Lagoon/Sand Dollar Island Project. I have spent many hours studying the plan, speaking with the Project Engineer Mohamed Dabees, and walking the entire length of the lagoon with Brad Cornell and Brittany Piersma of Audubon Western Everglades.

I take a holistic view of the entire area affected by the project. I think that Tigertail Beach County Park, the entire lagoon from the park to the San Marco River, and the beachfront that extends all the way to the end of the Sand Dollar spit, represent one of the County's greatest recreational and tourist assets.

The two most important reasons for my wife and I moving to Marco Island were the beach and the easy access to the water provided by Tigertail Beach County Park. As beachcombers, birdwatchers, and calm water kayakers, we were immediately drawn to these features. Up until Hurricane Irma we either walked the beach or paddled the lagoon 3-4 times each week. While doing so we met thousands of fellow Collier County residents and visitors (walkers, runners, swimmers, paddle boarders, kite surfers, kayakers) whose main reason for being there was access to the beach and the calm waters of the lagoon. I mention this because many of the people who are against this project do not share this experience.

Hurricane Irma destroyed the beach and the lagoon. It cut two breaches from the gulf into the lagoon and poured hundreds of thousands of yards of sand into that body of water. These breaches eventually closed on their own, leaving behind a lagoon that was shallow, narrow (over 100' loss of lagoon in the central area), and unusable for kayakers and paddle boarders. This resulted in an almost complete loss of business for the county and the vendor at the park.

Irma's devastation of the beach opened the door for Hurricane Ian to cause even more destruction to this area. Hurricane Ian caused another breach, and pushed an additional 100' or more feet of sand across the lagoon all the way to the mangroves in Hideaway Beach. This left a tiny opening for water to flow from the lower lagoon to the upper two thirds creating a mud-flat for several hundred yards in the middle section of the lagoon. Ian also added to the build-up of sand at the very end of the Sand Dollar spit threatening safe passage into the upper end of the lagoon in front of Hideaway Beach. As many of you know, the upper lagoon

in front of Hideaway Beach is a popular place for Collier County residents and visitors to beach their power boats or kayaks and enjoy the upper sand dollar spit area.

As a result of these two Hurricanes, and other minor storms, Collier County has lost three very valuable assets that benefit residents and visitors: (1) access to the full beachfront for walkers, runners, and beachcombers, (2) use of the full lagoon (lower, middle, and upper) to kayakers and paddleboarders, and (3) safe passage through the opening to the upper lagoon near Hideaway Beach for power boaters, kayakers, and paddleboarders.

Because of the reasons listed above I support all efforts to complete the full dredging project. The master plan for this project requires that all phases need to be completed in order for the full lagoon and beachfront to be restored and protected.

Please do not short-change the residents of Collier County and hundreds of thousands of tourists and other visitors to this area. I urge you to use all of your influence to get funding for the full project through the TDC or other Collier County resources.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Blonna, Marco Island City Council.

From: [Glenn Davis](#)
Subject: Marco Island Hideaway project
Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 3:26:57 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email is from an external source. Confirm this is a trusted sender and use extreme caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

Hello, and thank you in advance for reading this email. I will keep this short.

I understand that the Hideaway project is \$600,000 over budget and that the wealthy Hideaway residents have refused to pay for this. I also understand that there is a proposal that the Marco property owners should be taxed for this outstanding amount.

I want to express my outrage towards this proposal and in the strongest terms, I object to it. Of course, we concerned residents of Marco Island will be watching closely to see how the Coastal Advisory Committee proceeds in this matter.

Thank you and I wish you and your family well!

Warm regards,

Glenn Davis
1948 Sheffield Avenue
Marco Island, FL 34145

cel) 215-872-1779
