

From: [Ray Christman](#)
To: [Andrew Miller](#)
Subject: Re: CAC CSRM Position Paper - DRAFT FOR COMMENTS
Date: Monday, March 4, 2024 7:21:03 AM

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Good morning Andy:

I wanted to provide my comments on Joe Burke's position paper on CSRM as requested. Please share these with the members of the CAC as I will not be able to attend the March 14 meeting due to an out-of-town travel commitment and therefore will not be able to speak to this subject at the meeting.

As I have gotten to know Joe through the CAC and otherwise, I have come to greatly respect to knowledge, expertise and common sense views on marine engineering and coastal resilience matters. I share his concern that the current draft CSRM plan, in its apparent effort to move entirely away from consideration of any physical infrastructure investments in the Collier County shoreline to only nature-based solutions, is perhaps "swinging the pendulum too far" from where the original 2018-20 draft plan landed, which was largely centered around extensive hardscape solutions.

The question as to what combination of investments might best reduce coastal storm flooding risk may remain unanswered.

That said, I have several concerns with the proposed CAC position paper.

First, while it may be a valid point that structural measures should be considered as part of the plan, it depends on what measures in what location. It is all in the details and specifics and I am not comfortable signing on to a document that makes a recommendation for structural measures in the abstract and the general. That will only reignite a firestorm in many parts of the City of Naples at least, who will suspect the worse intentions.

Second, from a matter of process, the Commissioners could have designated the CAC as the oversight advisory committee for the CSRM. Given our charter, that would have been the logical choice. Instead, they created a new ad-hoc committee that has met only twice with one meeting being a short organizing session.

The Commissioners have demonstrated no interest in hearing the CAC point of view on this study, even if we could fashion consensus on one. I think it is therefore

presumptuous for us to do so. If on the other hand, any of us individually wish to present observations and recommendations to the ad hoc committee and/or the commissioners, then I think that is appropriate.

In summary, I agree with Joe's conclusion that this study is a rare opportunity to develop (and implement) a comprehensive plan to reduce coastal flooding. I share his concerns as to whether all the best ideas have been given the opportunity to surface. But given the process that county leadership has set forth, I am not supportive of the CAC as a body providing its recommendations and cannot lend my name and vote to any such action.

Raymond Christman
Naples City Council

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All,

Please review and return Joe's DRAFT position paper for CSR and return any comments **ONLY TO ME**. I'll do my best to incorporate suggestions into a final draft for presentation / approval at CAC in March.

Thank you,
Andy Miller, P.E.
Manager
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Collier County

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