

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Discuss a Coastal Zone Manager Position to Oversee All Beach, Inlet and Coastal Issues

OBJECTIVE: Discuss the addition of a new position to oversee all coastal projects.

CONSIDERATIONS: At the February 2005 TDC meeting, the Council discussed the staffing needs of the tourism office for the coming year. One of the positions discussed was a Coastal Zone Manager as recommended by the Coastal Advisory Committee (CAC). At the time the Council did not support moving forward with this position. Since that time, the Chairman of the CAC has indicated that he feels Gary McAlpin, Coastal Projects Manager is adequately handling the suggested duties of this new position and at this time is recommending the County not pursue this position.

COUNTY ATTORNEY FINDING: Not needed for this item.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: CAC recommended this position be included in the FY 06 budget.

FISCAL IMPACT: The Source of funds would be Category “A” Tourist Development Tax Fund

GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPACT: There is no impact to the Growth Management Plan related to this action.

RECOMMENDATION: That TDC reaffirm the decision to not pursue this new position in the FY 06 budget.

PREPARED BY: Jack Wert, Tourism Director

-----Original Message-----

From: Ron Pennington [mailto:betty.ronpenn@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 1:34 PM

To: WertJack

Subject: Coastal Systems Management

Jack, as a follow -on to our discussion this AM.

For quite some time the CAC has recommended establishment of a staff organizational entity with responsibility for over-all planning and management of our coastal systems. This was initiated because we had encountered problems of finding any organizational entity to address certain beach/inlet concerns as the staff person working with CAC was assigned on a project basis only. I understand that from the budget workshop the need was recognized but the question of funding the new position was not resolved, although at least partial funding from TD Cat "A" would be appropriate.

Although our original recommendation was to establish the management position to be filled with a scientist, e.g. a marine biologist at PhD. level. We have found that our recently assigned new employee, Mr. McAlpin, an engineer, has really been filling the needs of the position. He has not felt constrained to limit his concerns to an individual project but has shown the vision to initiate planning to resolve future concerns of our coastal systems. Since all elements effecting our coastal systems have a direct relationship to the health and welfare of our beaches and inlets, our primary tourist attraction, it is my view and recommendation that this position be funded from our Cat "A" funds, as Mr. McAlpin currently is, and that his position be expanded to include over-all management of the County's coastal systems with responsibilities inherent therein.

Ron Pennington, Chairman

Collier County Coastal Advisory Committee