



Executive Summary

To: Jim Scholl, City Manager

From: Mark Tait, Marilyn Wilbarger

Date: June 1, 2012

Re: Grant Application for Floating Dock along Trumbo Rd

ACTION ITEM

The purpose of this item is to receive approval to apply for grant funding in the amount of \$480,000 from the Florida Boating Improvement Program.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

In Key West Bight Marinas Submerged Land Lease renewal a 204 foot floating dock was approved for construction. There currently is a grant available through the Florida Boating Improvement Program that will pay 75% of the new dock construction. Key West Bight Marina would be responsible to pay the remaining 25% equivalent to \$160,000. The new floating dock will be a 204 foot floating dock with five 50 foot finger piers that will accommodate transient boats of various sizes. The new construction will include costs associated with the design, engineering and permitting and construction of this floating dock along with all associated fresh water plumbing, electrical and sewer pump-out infrastructure.

One of the grant requirements is that Key West City Commission adopts a resolution that the Project Manager has the authority to apply for and administer the grant on the behalf of the City of Key West.

PURPOSE & JUSTIFICATION

Key West Bight Marina is a mixed use marina with fixed docks in the Key West Historic Seaport. The current mix of the marina is approximately 45% commercial and 45% transient with a small 10% of the slips designated to pleasure and live-aboard tenants. Key West Bight Marina is City of Key West owned and operated and is always in high demand for transient boaters because of its location and affordable rates. Because of that demand there are many times every year when the marina is at full capacity and there are no transient slips available for visiting boaters.

In the marina's recent submerged land lease renewal the State of Florida approved the addition of a 9 slip floating dock that will accommodate transient boats of various sizes. Because of the limited geographic space in Key West even including private marinas the addition of this dock will provide additional transient dock slips for transient vessels during the busier times of the year. It will also allow visitors to choose between docking at the current fixed docks in the marina or the new floating dock which many boaters prefer. Key West Bight Marinas rates are the most affordable in downtown Key West and 90 percent of its slips are available to boaters on a first come first serve basis.

This item was approved by the Key West Bight Board on 6/13/2012.

OPTIONS

1. The City Commission can adopt a resolution so that the Project Manager for Key West Bight has the authority to apply for and administer the grant on the behalf of the City of Key West.
2. The City Commission may elect not to adopt a resolution to apply for and administer the grant at this time.

ADVANTAGES

- The addition of new floating dock will expand the number of slips in the marina that can accommodate transient boaters. There are many times during the year when all transient slips are rented and staff has to turn boaters away.
- The majority of the cost to construct this dock will be paid for with grant money.
- Constructing a dock parallel to Trumbo Rd will stabilize that end of the property. There currently is only cursory oversight of that vacant area.
- Constructing this dock will stop boaters from illegally tying up to the Trumbo Rd shoreline.

DISADVANTAGES

- Staff sees no disadvantage to applying for the grant money to construct this dock.

FINANCIAL ISSUES

This will be a reimbursable grant. If the grant is approved Key West Bight Marina will have to pay the 25% match and the 75% reimbursable monies up front. The grant will reimburse Key West Bight Marina the 75% as indicated. \$640,000 will be budgeted in the FY 12-13 budget to cover the upfront costs.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Commission adopts a resolution that the Project Manager for Key West Bight has the authority to apply for and administer the grant on the behalf of the City of Key West.