

## Manatee Pocket Mooring Field Revised 7/28/2023

**Category** Non-Concurrency  
**Project Number** 9933A  
**Location** Manatee Pocket  
**District** District 4



**Project Limits** Within the current anchor areas in the Manatee Pocket

**Related Projects** Resilience  
**Lead Dept/Division** Public Works/Coastal  
**Year Project Initiated** 2016

**Project Life Cycle** 10 Years

**Resilience Requirements**  2040 Vulnerability  2070 Vulnerability  2100 Vulnerability



**DESCRIPTION**

The project is located in a protected embayment near the intersection of the Okeechobee and Atlantic Intracoastal Waterways, an area with high boat traffic. The mooring field would provide a safe and secure anchorage along with amenities such as bathrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. Customers in the mooring field would be governed by a management plan that provides a standard for boaters' activities, ensuring proper anchoring, pump out, maintenance and appearance of vessels.

**BACKGROUND**

Improperly maintained and anchored vessels in Manatee Pocket present serious issues. Setting an anchor securely in the deep muck layers that comprise the substrate is virtually impossible. Boats can drag anchor and damage private property during storms. The degraded condition of many vessels in Manatee Pocket increases the probability that sewage, fuel, other contaminants and debris might be released into the water. The finite number of anchoring or mooring spaces in Manatee Pocket are often taken up by boats that do not move for months or even years at a time. This leaves no room for cruisers who might otherwise come through the area. Current state laws limit the ability of the County to control activities on the water in the absence of a viable mooring alternative. The proposed project includes design, permitting, public involvement, a business plan and designation of a Harbor Master facility location and mooring field operation. Input has been solicited from the local residents and business owners at public workshops, outreach and boater education meetings.

**PROJECT ORIGATION**

Commissioners

**JUSTIFICATION**

This area of the Indian River has no managed mooring fields, although there is one mooring field, operated by the City of Stuart, in the St. Lucie River. These are attractive amenities to boaters and "cruisers", and would provide an additional tourism draw to the County. It would provide added security to nearby residents and increase accessibility to the commercial waterfront. Properly installed moorings would provide a safe and secure option for boaters.

Expenditures	Total	To Date	Carryover	Funded					Unfunded
				FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28-FY32
Design	219,000	219,000							
CEI	0								
Construction	1,695,404	392,000		1,303,404					
<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>1,914,404</b>	<b>611,000</b>		<b>1,303,404</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>To Date</b>	<b>Carryover</b>	<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY24</b>	<b>FY25</b>	<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>	<b>FY28-FY32</b>
Ad Valorem	645,000	220,000	275,000	150,000					
Vessel Registration	375,000	1,000	374,000						
Grants	894,404	390,000	504,404						
<b>Revenue Total</b>	<b>1,914,404</b>	<b>611,000</b>	<b>1,153,404</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Unfunded</b>									<b>0</b>

**OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT**

Estimated operational cost will be \$95,000 per year.