

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES**  
**WATERWAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
 HYBRID MEETING AT BUILDING DEPARTMENT/ZOOM  
 WEDNESDAY, September 3, 2025 - 5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS	District	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
		25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
Debbie Swain	2						P	-	P	P				Vince Lago
Pat Nolan	1	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P				Melissa Castro
Nicole Pack	3						E	-	A	A				Rhonda Anderson
Rodney Barreto	1						P	-	P	A				Richard D Lara
Manny Portuondo	7						E	-	P	P				Ariel Fernandez
Bertram Goldsmith	7	E	P	P	P	P	E	-	E	P				Commission-As-A-Whole
Levi Meyer	6	P	P	P	P	P	E	-	P	P				Board-As-A-Whole
Adriana Fernandez	CR								P	P				Peter J Iglesias
Vacant														Commission-As-A-Whole

**P – Present**

**E – Excused Absence**

**A – Absent**

**R – Resigned**

**(-) – No Appointment**

**(-) – No Meeting**

**STAFF:**

- Lorena Garrido, Central Division Administrative Manager
- Anthonique Jay, CIP Projects Analyst
- Sergeant Guido Antezana, Marine Patrol

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Lorena Garrido. Quorum was met.

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Mrs. Swain made the motion to approve the minutes of August 6, 2025, seconded by Mr. Nolan, all were in favor, and adopted unanimously.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Portuondo made the motion to nominate Mr. Meyer as Chair, seconded by Mr. Nolan, all were in favor, and adopted unanimously.

Mrs. Fernandez made the motion to nominate Mrs. Swain as Vice Chair, seconded by Mr. Meyer, all were in favor, and adopted unanimously.

It was further suggested that the Board review and update the priority list at the next meeting to evaluate ongoing initiatives and accomplishments.

**MARINE PATROL REPORT:**

Sgt. Antezana reported this past month has been relatively slow. The regular lobster season has started, and it appears that many individuals have already participated during mini season, as there were not many boats out.

An incident was reported at the Cocoplum Yacht Club, where a boat sank at the docks overnight. No one was on board at the time. The vessel, approximately a 35-foot sport fisher, is currently being salvaged. The cause of the sinking remains unknown until the boat is fully recovered.

In addition, efforts are underway to acquire more boats capable of navigating the mangrove channels and flats. The first vessel, funded through a grant, is a 28-foot aluminum Safe Boat equipped with a protective tube around the hull. The main dock is currently located at the Cocoplum Yacht Marina. As additional vessels are acquired, dockage capacity and deployment locations will need to be evaluated. There has been discussion regarding the possibility of deploying a vessel further south, as requested by certain community members. While this would provide greater coverage on the water, challenges exist in terms of land access. If crews must travel by road during peak traffic hours to reach the southern location, response times could be delayed compared to deploying directly from the marina. A potential location suggested is near Gables by the Sea, which makes sense from a water access standpoint.

Board member Goldsmith asked for clarification regarding the authority to stop boats and Sgt. Antezana explained due to a change in state law passed in August, officers may no longer stop vessels solely for the purpose of conducting a safety inspection. Like a traffic stop on land, an observed violation is now required to initiate a stop. However, for highly regulated activities such as fishing and lobstering, inspections may still be conducted. In addition, the U.S. Coast Guard retains jurisdiction throughout the waterways and may stop vessels at any time to conduct inspections.

Vice-Chair Swain inquired about the suggestion of the City installing cameras along the waterways. Sgt. Antezana explained that the City currently operates one camera with a waterway view. While there have been requests for more cameras, there have been pushback from members of the community. Additionally, logistical challenges regarding placement and the financial cost remain obstacles to expanding camera coverage.

Board member Swain also requested a year-to-date report of crimes occurring on the waterway.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.