

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item H-3
April 10, 2018
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Frank Quesada
Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Assistant City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Public Works Director, Ed Santamaria

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item H-3 [0:00:00 p.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, amending Chapter 34, “Nuisances,” of the City of Coral Gables Code, by revising hours of operation for power tools and landscaping equipment under Section 34-169, titled “Enumerated Prohibited Acts”, providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, enforceability and providing for an effective date. (Sponsored by Commissioner Keon)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And Item H-3, Commissioner Mena.

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Agenda Item H-3 - Discussion regarding the cleaning and maintenance of the waterway in Gables Estates, particularly along Arvida Lane.

Commissioner Mena: Yes. So, there's actually some photos associated with this item, if I could ask the Clerk to put those up.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, CGTV has those.

Commissioner Mena: Okay. So, I've gotten a few calls from people, specifically in Gables Estates, about the accumulation of seaweed in the waterways in front of their homes. I was out there last week, and that's what I saw last week. That's April 3. As you can see, it's pretty bad. In addition to the seaweed, there's garbage and trash and other things that, obviously, come with it. And so, I put it on the agenda in hopes that we could discuss a more efficient approach to dealing with this. Right now, I've spoken a lot with Ed Santamaria, who's here. The process has basically been, you know, a resident calls, we try to get out there, and so on and so forth. It's more of reactionary responsive to a resident calling. So, I wanted to put it on the agenda so we could discuss it and come up with a more efficient protocol, whether -- you know, brainstorming, whether it should -- would it be better if there was a private entity doing this. I know Ed thinks we're, as a city, much better equipped and responsive to do it. You know, should we -- there are certain times of the year where, apparently, it's much worse than others, and this is that time of year now which we're getting into. So, you know, I was speaking to Ed about, you know, should we have a protocol where we're out there every Friday so at least, you know, they know, hey, every Friday, somebody's going to come out here and they don't have to be calling, during the appropriate time of year. And obviously, we can adjust as we go, but I think the idea being the residents will then know, okay, somebody's coming out Friday. I understand that can accumulate in a relatively short amount of time, so you could be out there and clean it on Friday and it might be back on Monday. But at least that way we can tell the residents, look, we're doing what we can to address this in an affirmative fashion, as opposed to just waiting for you to call us. But, I'm open to suggestions on how we handle it. I provided you all with a letter from one particular resident that I received, Manuel Diaz, who's been at the forefront of dealing with this issue. His house is, in particular, located in a high-problem area in respect to this. So, I

provided you all with a copy of his letter, and he -- I understand Public Works doesn't necessarily agree with the contents of it, but it is a message a from the resident as to his feelings about it and some of the explanations he's been given. I also know there's something in Procurement regarding a new vehicle or vessel that might help with the situation. I don't know how long that process has been playing out or when it's due to come to a conclusion. But again, I just wanted to put this on the agenda, so we can discuss it. I think these people, you know, deserve to have this issue dealt with. I mean, these are extremely valuable properties. They pay a significant amount in taxes, and I think we need to be -- we need to come up with a way to better deal with this issue.

Commissioner Keon: Right. You know what, because it's a mandatory homeowners' association and they have an individual that actually is -- that provide service -- is the secretary that is there all the time to that, it was my understanding in the past that anybody who had a problem just needed to call her and they would call and make arrangements for it to be taken care of. So, you know, I'm -- that maybe isn't working, so...

Commissioner Mena: Right.

Commissioner Keon: Unless, you know, so...

Commissioner Mena: And I...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: And to...

Commissioner Keon: Maybe it's not working.

Commissioner Mena: And I spoke to her, as well.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah. And what was her response?

Commissioner Mena: And she said, you know, there's times that it's worse than others...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: This -- that we're getting into the particularly bad time of year that she would personally estimate that now through about June is the worst time of year, depending on the winds and the tides and things like that, but that, yeah, the system has always been...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Commissioner Mena: Somebody calls, they put in a call, somebody comes out.

Commissioner Keon: And does it.

Commissioner Mena: I think there's some issues with some of the points about navigating the vessel in some of the smaller waterways, where there's boats -- there's obviously challenges. But, what I'd like to come up with is something a little more affirmative where it's not dependent on people calling it in, because we know it's going to keep happening at least right now on a pretty regular basis. So, I'd like to see us be a little more affirmative in how we deal with it, so...

Public Works Director Santamaria: With the permission of the Mayor, if I may, sir, just to provide some background.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, sir.

Public Works Director Santamaria: So, Ed Santamaria, director of Public Works.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yeah, of course.

Public Works Director Santamaria: Members of the Commission. This is a longstanding issue. This has been something that, for many, many years, has been happening. In fact, it's a natural occurrence. In these manmade canals that have dead-ends, when there are prevailing easterly winds and the tide is right, any dead turtle grass that is in the current will end up and collect here, and it has nowhere to go, because it just keeps stalled there. The only time that it will sometimes abate is when the wind switches direction and the tide also is reversed. And, there actually have been times that we get called out to provide service that we arrive and there's nothing there. And so, it is a battle against Mother Nature. I can tell you that the Sea Witch, the particular vessel that is being used right now, has been in use for -- to the best of my knowledge -- at least 20 years, and it's stationed at the seawall abutting a city pump station. I can also tell you that the SS Sea Witch is antiquated. It's a large piece of equipment and it's very complicated sometimes to navigate the vessel. And ironically, it's not the most seaworthy of ships, and just when you need it to be moving is when you have high winds and you have, you know, front current, so it's not the ideal scenario. So, we are looking at ways of replacing this very old piece of equipment that we've been using for a long time. It requires associated barges where the seaweed is picked up and placed upon. The seaweed itself -- the Sea Witch itself is a motorized vessel that collects it, replaces it on the barge, and then there is a crane truck that collects the seaweed so it can be hauled off. We are looking at a new system of doing this. It's a new vessel which has a conveyor belt system, which would eliminate the need for such a large vessel and it would facilitate movement about the channels, and it also is more seaworthy than what we have right now. So, we expect -- and we're evaluating this vessel in the next few weeks -- we expect that, using this vessel, we'll be able to become a more efficient operation. In terms of the way that we respond, I can tell you that the process is set up this way right now. Typically, a resident will call, and within -- and that same day, we will send someone out to assess the situation and come up with a plan. If it's possible to deploy and address the concern that day, we do it. If it isn't the

concern is usually addressed within 24 hours, and that includes holidays and weekends. And so, that's my concern with going to an external source for this kind of service. I don't -- I do not know that that external source will have that level of responsiveness. Yes, I do agree that we're purely reactive right now. But, I think that you can be reactive and responsive at the same time, and that's where we are right now. That said, I have no problem whatsoever in analyzing the situation with staff, seeing if we can come up with a protocol that, perhaps, will make us a bit more proactive on this. But again, it's kind of hard to predict when this happens. I can tell you it does happen when easterly winds prevail, and this is that time of year when it does, but it's not every day. And so, it just fluctuates.

Commissioner Mena: But I'd rather, frankly, if this is the time of year where it's most prevailing, I would rather you go out there and there not be that much seaweed to deal with that day and maybe you pick up a couple items of trash than not go out and have it accumulate. So, we need to come up with a plan for how to deal with this aggressively. Again, it's not the whole year. So, during the times of year where it's particularly bad, like now, that is just more frequent and that is just us going out there on a regular schedule where residents can expect that it's going to be dealt with, where if it's, you know, Thursday and they're seeing what we just saw on those pictures, they could say, well, I don't even need to call because they come on Fridays. I'm making up a day and I'm open to your suggestions on what the schedule is, but we need to be a little more affirmative with how we deal with this because, I mean, those three or four houses at the end of that canal are probably paying a million dollars in taxes a year. I mean -- and frankly, it ruins their entire property to have that out there, and I just think we need to provide better service on that front.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So...

Commissioner Mena: Again, I'm not talking about your efforts in response. I understand you guys are responsive when they call and do the best you can, but if it's a new vessel, then we need to get it and we need to get it done because...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It's very important.

Commissioner Mena: Some of the people have indicated that that discussion of a new vessel has been ongoing for some time.

Public Works Director Santamaria: So, it is in the budget for this fiscal year, and we have evaluated options previously that did not work. This option is a different option and it seems like it may work. We still have yet to demo it, but I can tell you that that will happen within the next -- within the coming weeks.

Commissioner Lago: Quick question. In regards to the individual who mans this vessel, and possibly a new vessel, do they have an outside job in the sense of are they basically moved when the City receives a phone call to deal with this issue? Like are they handling, you know, an office job and then they come out and they do this for a few moments and then they go back to their job or how does it work?

Public Works Director Santamaria: So, the individual that's tasked with this is Randall Bentley (phonetic). He's an Operator III with the department.

Commissioner Lago: Okay.

Public Works Director Santamaria: As an Operator III, he does operate different pieces of equipment. However, this is his primary task is to respond to this. And so, it's him and another individual, because that's one of the inefficiencies of the process. You do have to deploy an anchor. Sometimes the anchor doesn't take well, so it's a two-person operation. And then you have to, obviously, commit a truck. So, I can tell you that Mr. Bentley is -- when the concerns come in, this is his primary responsibility.

Commissioner Lago: So, would you say that this mostly happens during April, May and June?

Public Works Director Santamaria: Yes, but it has also happened other times of the year, you know. The winds being what they will be and so, it's just alignment of different factors; the tide, the winds and the availability of any debris, flotsam jetsam, dead turtle grass, which is primarily what it is, and then maybe some sargassum in there as well.

Commissioner Lago: So, this -- what is -- outside of those three months, what does the individual do when there isn't any sargassum or dead turtle grass?

Public Works Director Santamaria: He works in our right-of-way.

Commissioner Lago: Is he monitoring the rest of the canal to make sure that any debris that's been...

Public Works Director Santamaria: He works in our right-of-way division. He also operates our -- I forget the name of the boat, but there's another boat that we use to maintain bridges and paint and whatnot.

Commissioner Lago: And, I'll tell you why I'm asking this question because what if -- what -- I have one more question. What is the cost that we have -- what is the fee that we have budgeted right now -- the total, excuse me, not fee. What is the total that we have budgeted for this possible new machinery?

Public Works Director Santamaria: Right now, I believe the new equipment would be less than what we have budgeted for. We have budgeted somewhere around \$200,000 -- I'm just going off the top of my head. I'd have to confirm the numbers, but it's less than what we have budgeted. So, it's fully within our ability to procure it, provided that it's something that meets our needs.

Commissioner Lago: And, I ask you because you don't think it would be maybe better just to outsource this?

Public Works Director Santamaria: Commissioner...

Commissioner Lago: What is the fear?

Public Works Director Santamaria: My fear is that we're going to lose responsiveness and that we're going to be taken to task, because the responsiveness by a private company is not to the level that we provide. I think that we provide fairly good service. I don't know of any other municipality in Miami-Dade County that provides this level of service on this particular concern.

Commissioner Lago: Let me ask you one question to Commissioner -- to Vice Mayor Quesada. Your parents, they live on the waterway. I remember multiple times...

Vice Mayor Quesada: They don't get this issue.

Commissioner Lago: But, they get a bunch of debris that goes at the end of...

Vice Mayor Quesada: They do.

Commissioner Lago: The canal. They get a lot of garbage where the mangroves is.

Vice Mayor Quesada: But not -- I mean, nothing like those pictures.

Commissioner Lago: No. I know, but I'm saying -- I'm asking because are we providing...

Vice Mayor Quesada: I've never seen -- I think your question's going to be, does the boat go back there. I've never seen it go back there.

Commissioner Lago: Because, again...

Vice Mayor Quesada: But, again, the last time I lived there was 20 years ago, so...

Commissioner Lago: Well, but we have gone there to go fishing.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: And I have...

Vice Mayor Quesada: I've never seen it back there.

Commissioner Keon: Well, I know I live along the waterway, too, and I can -- where all the mangroves are.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: And there is debris there, but the landscapers clean out the debris that is in the mangroves adjacent to the property. And, I see that on the other side of the waterway also.

Commissioner Lago: Well, maybe, you know...

Commissioner Keon: There are people that clean out the, you know, debris, like cups and...

Vice Mayor Quesada: No, but now that you...

Commissioner Keon: That kind of stuff.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Now that you mention it, I'm just thinking about other locations. So, Gables by the Sea, that's -- you know, my parents live -- I know that waterway well. There are pockets in there that you do see debris, absolutely do...

Commissioner Mena: That was...

Vice Mayor Quesada: At the edge of certain canals.

Commissioner Mena: Yeah, leucadendra, they told me is pretty bad at the end. This is on Arvida Lane, which is, I think, probably the worst spot. Just, again...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: Just the way the waterways are set up.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Designed, yeah.

Commissioner Mena: That's where the seaweed flows.

Public Works Director Santamaria: We did respond to a call on Lugo earlier this week or, I'm sorry, last week. We did respond to a call.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I am rarely on the waterway, but I'm just speaking from...

Commissioner Mena: Is there...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Past experience.

Commissioner Mena: Is there a sense to -- and I'm -- just to piggyback on what Commissioner Lago said -- is there a sense to, again, certain times of year, privately contracting somebody to be out there once a week, you know, in addition to whatever response that you're doing? I'm just trying to brainstorm about how we...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Commissioner Mena: Deal with this.

Commissioner Keon: You know...

Commissioner Lago: And, I'm trying to understand because if this individual, it's his responsibility to do this and that's his, you know, that's his job code, for example, this is what he's handling, this task, during these three months it should be priority number one. You should go there first thing in the morning, and obviously, we see that, you know, for the last 50 years, for sure, May, June and July -- or April, May, June, this is standard operating procedure, why not just attack it head-on every single day...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: But let's us attack it...

Commissioner Lago: I'm asking -- no, no...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: As opposed to subcontracting it, let's tell this person to be there every...

Commissioner Lago: Okay, no, I agree.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Two days...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We're going to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Or...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And I'm glad you brought it up, because when we saw the pictures, we understand why we need to come up with a good solution, and we've already talked about a couple of different options that we can incorporate to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It's a problem we need to face.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Help resolve it. I did confirm with budget that the monies are in there. It's \$287,000 that has been budgeted as a placeholder for the purchase of a Water Witch. I know you've looked at the equipment and you're close to that. But, the other piece that Director Fernandez has done is asked -- Marine Patrol now will establish a waypoint so that they're looking every day as a part of their review, and then we'll, obviously -- the March through June is going to be a very intense period, but we'll come up with a solution that addresses it. It is the dead-end canals that don't have the water flowing through that, obviously, warrant some solution.

Commissioner Lago: So, why don't we do this -- and I don't want to hijack the Commissioner's discussion item. Why don't we -- since I've already called for my appointment to the Waterway Advisory...

Unidentified Speaker: The Waterway...

Commissioner Lago: Board on the 24th to come and speak very briefly, five minutes. Can staff maybe at that point present a five-minute presentation...?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: On what the plan is...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Perfect.

Commissioner Lago: Of attack to deal with this issue.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Perfect.

Commissioner Mena: Yeah. We need to start dealing with this issue -- I know you're dealing with it responsively, but on a more affirmative level immediately. You know, I think that's what the expectation here is. I've spoken to multiple residents there who...

Commissioner Lago: You want to make a motion?

Commissioner Mena: This has been going on for some time. Well...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, what...

Commissioner Mena: I don't know if it's a motion. It's just a direction to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It's a direction to staff.

Commissioner Mena: You know.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We've highlighted this and...

Commissioner Mena: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: They've very responsive.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We understand. There are times when three or four times a week we are there, but we understand that it should be a regular basis proactively, and we'll come --Commissioner Lago, excellent suggestion that we'll have a brief report following the Waterway Chair's presentation on how we're resolving it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright. Thank you.

Commissioner Keon: I think maybe we need to give some explanation also to residents that call, because when it's particularly windy, you can't use that Sea Witch, you know. Have you seen it?

Commissioner Mena: Yeah, it's horrible.

Commissioner Keon: The Sea Witch itself.

Commissioner Mena: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah. I mean, it's not a real easily navigable piece of equipment. So, when it's really windy, it's -- they can't operate it, so they have to wait until the winds die down and then go out and collect all of the stuff. But, I think that's -- is that the case with any of them or is that one more unstable than...

Public Works Director Santamaria: Well...

Commissioner Keon: The current -- what could be currently available.

Public Works Director Santamaria: This kind of looks like an amphibious landing craft that, you know, landed on the shores of...

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Public Works Director Santamaria: Normandy. Unfortunately, it's not as functional as those crafts are because it's just not very seaworthy.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Public Works Director Santamaria: It's intended to navigate in channels, not necessarily in the open sea. And when we have to get out to other areas -- because it is stationed there at Gables Estates, when we...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Public Works Director Santamaria: Have to get out to Lugo or to do any other communities, then we do have to navigate in open waters and that's...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Public Works Director Santamaria: Where it gets complicated.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, can...

Commissioner Mena: And I -- and I'm being a little facetious, but like, the problem is people whose property tax bill in one year...

Commissioner Keon: I know, but you know what...

Commissioner Mena: Would pay for the new vessel...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, but you know...

Commissioner Mena: They don't want to hear that excuse.

Commissioner Keon: But, you know what -- and I think it's sometimes necessary that we all remember that taxes are the shared cost of government.

Commissioner Mena: Of course.

Commissioner Keon: So, you know, there is -- because you're paying more taxes doesn't give you any more right than someone who pays less taxes.

Commissioner Mena: No, but it makes you...

Commissioner Keon: It is the shared cost of government...

Commissioner Mena: Less patient to hear that...

Commissioner Keon: That makes it...

Commissioner Lago: No, I know, but...

Commissioner Mena: But, you don't like to hear that the City of Coral Gables...

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: Has a vessel that is incredibly old, that is barely seaworthy, that can't navigate the canal.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, but then...

Commissioner Mena: They don't want to hear it, and I understand why.

Commissioner Keon: No, but then you -- then you, you know, you replace the vessel because the vessel -- it's time for it to be replaced.

Commissioner Mena: Absolutely.

Commissioner Keon: So, I mean, I think that's the issue...

Commissioner Mena: I'm just saying...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And we're in the process.

Commissioner Mena: To a point about explaining to them...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Commissioner Mena: It's not a great dialogue on that front.

Commissioner Keon: Well...

Commissioner Lago: It's a tough argument to have...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: With somebody.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Appreciate the comments.

Commissioner Keon: We'll deal with it.

Commissioner Lago: I agree with both sides of the argument.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, wait, but hold on.

Commissioner Lago: Discussion, excuse me, not argument.

Vice Mayor Quesada: One thing -- maybe I missed it. For the existing residents that are having trouble in Gables Estates now -- I don't -- maybe I missed it. Is there going to be a proactive plan once a week, once every few days?

Commissioner Lago: Well, I called -- I didn't...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We're coming back to you on...

Commissioner Lago: Want to hijack the Commissioner's item.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: The 24th.

Commissioner Lago: I said if we're already having the discussion on the 24th, can we have staff come back...

Unidentified Speaker: Absolutely.

Commissioner Lago: Give us a discussion, and I said...

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, here -- but how about we do this?

Commissioner Lago: And I asked -- you're asking -- and then I told...

Commissioner Keon: Well, he said that...

Commissioner Lago: The Commissioner -- I said, Commissioner, do you want to make a motion so we memorialize this?

Commissioner Mena: I'm fine with making a motion.

Commissioner Lago: Because I'm in the mood to make motions today.

Commissioner Mena: Alright. Let's do it then.

Commissioner Lago: And I think that making motions, you ensure that things happen.

Commissioner Mena: Do you?

Commissioner Keon: Well, I think...

(LAUGHTER)

Commissioner Lago: No, no, you. It's your item. I'm here to support you.

Commissioner Keon: I think you make it part of...

Commissioner Lago: Because you know why -- let me tell you why. Let me tell you why, okay. Because we've dealt with this issue before and I know you don't want to hear this, but we have had this discussion before two years ago. We've had the discussion about the Water Witch. I've gone out there to see the Water Witch. I've gone out there with Peter. Where are we going to put the Water Witch? Is this the proper -- is this the appropriate location? The resident doesn't want it there. It's an eyesore. Can we put some -- that's the next discussion you're going to have.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But we're not proposing to change the location...

Commissioner Lago: I know we're not.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Of the...

Commissioner Lago: I'm just -- I'm giving my fellow colleague a little bit of -- I'm saving him the heartache, okay.

Commissioner Mena: Thanks.

Commissioner Lago: Ok, because he's going to go through this now. It's the next thing.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Isn't he...

Commissioner Lago: Because he's been so proactive that he's gotten actually something done for those residents that we haven't been able to do right now. So, this is going to come back and I know that it is. Now, I'm moving to do this -- I think it's great and I agree with you. I think

this is critical, especially with what they have to deal with. And they have the right to be able to enjoy their yard and not have that horrific stench...

Commissioner Mena: Yeah. It's horrible.

Commissioner Lago: You know, it's terrible.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay, whatever we do, let's do it. You want to make a motion?

Commissioner Lago: Whatever we do.

Commissioner Mena: We'll make a motion to have staff come back...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay.

Commissioner Mena: At the next meeting with a...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: With a report.

Commissioner Mena: Formalized plan of how we're going to deal with this more affirmatively than responsive.

Commissioner Keon: I think what -- you've already started having...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: Second the motion.

Commissioner Keon: The Marine Patrol do it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll, please?

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I'm not sure -- we're going to be establishing waypoint checks...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: With Marine Patrol...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But that idea came yesterday, so I can't necessarily say it's...

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Already in place.

Commissioner Lago: And, maybe our staff can work together with Waterway Advisory Board, you know, and really solidify a plan and use their expertise and their, you know, their knowhow.

Commissioner Mena: Yeah. We really do have a very good Waterway Board. There's a lot of - they're very knowledgeable people on there.

Commissioner Lago: They know the ins...

Commissioner Mena: They know these canals better than any of us.

Commissioner Lago: And outs.

Commissioner Mena: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: The ins and outs of the canals.

Public Works Director Santamaria: I met with them last week, and this was one of the topics we touched on.

Commissioner Mena: Great.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. The motion has been made. All those in favor?

The Commission (Collectively): Aye.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Opposed? Alright.