

CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BRIDGE WORKSHOP NO. 1

MAY 8, 2003

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

A ROLL CALL:

Mayor Mary Maloof	Present
Commissioner Phil Collins	Present
Commissioner Irving S. Ellsworth	Present
Commissioner Richard Kraus	Present
Commissioner Barbara Blush Vice-Mayor	Absent

B. DISCUSSION:

1. Mayor Maloof called the bridge workshop to order at 6:01 PM and asked City Manager Chuck Coward to begin the program.
2. The City Manager gave an overview of the program and introduced the staff and consultants who would be making presentations. He then proceeded with a discussion of the initial feasibility study conducted by the Miller Consulting Group. He pointed out that the State of Florida and Pinellas County had indicated that they had no interest in obtaining ownership of this facility. He also addressed initial funding proposals and the financial climate that existed in 1998-99.
3. Jim Phillips of E. C. Driver, Inc. discussed past inspections of the bridge dating back to 1978 and rehabilitation/maintenance activities which have taken place in the last 20 years.
4. Public Works Director Don Hambidge presented the elements of the PD&E Scoping Study where the following was decided; to focus the project on the three bridges and not the roadway, the City would do the formal PD&E study rather than FDOT and the U. S. Coast Guard would be the lead federal review agency.
5. Ray Richard of Wilbur Smith Associates outlined the funding options and focused on the State TOP's program which served as the City's initial success in its efforts to obtain outside funding.
6. Jim Phillips explained the elements of the formal PD&E study. He discussed the environmental studies, public involvement aspects and decisions that were made regarding the height of the bridges, their alignment and their aesthetic qualities. He then showed a video program which was produced for this phase of the project.


5/08/03

7. Susan KlausSmith of Woodroffe Corporation Architects discussed the early stages of the planning studies designed to preserve the history of the original Treasure Island Causeway bridges. She presented ideas for the Community Center Park, for lineal displays along the Causeway itself and for use of some of the monument elements in the downtown area. She further advised that her firm will return with more specific options at the upcoming June meeting.
8. Jim Phillips discussed the construction techniques and steps which are currently underway on the two fixed bridges. The City Manager then pointed out that the source of funds for the current construction includes a \$5.2 million State TOP's grant and \$2.5 million in City cash from the Causeway Enterprise Fund. The current construction contract for the two fixed bridges is \$7.7 million and is with Johnson Brothers Construction of Orlando, Florida.
9. It being 7:55 PM, the Mayor declared a 15 minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 8:07 PM.
10. The City Manager discussed the current negotiations taking place with the City of St. Petersburg regarding the physical makeup of the toll plaza. He explained that most pass holders desire an exclusive pass lane which means that the new facility should have six lanes rather than the current four lanes. While the City of St. Petersburg appears to be reluctant to approve an increase in the number of lanes, they have submitted a list of performance criteria and negotiations are taking place around those criteria. He assured the Commission of the efforts to obtain approval for six lanes and said that he hopes to be successful within the next four months.
11. Finance Director Darren LaFrance presented the Commission with 20 years of financial and user data of the Treasure Island Causeway. He also presented a complete 64 year history of the cost for an annual pass.
12. The City Manager discussed twelve funding options that the City has, is or will pursue. He then identified two applications which are currently pending for \$10 million before the State legislature and \$15 million before the federal government.
13. John Smolley and Ray Richard of Wilbur Smith Associates presented a toll optimization study conducted in 2002 for the Treasure Island Causeway. They explained the critical elements of raising toll and pass fees to raise revenue without discouraging potential toll payers or pass purchasers.
14. John White and Ed Stultz of First Southwest, financial advisors for this project, explained the bonding capacity of the Causeway and City given the information from the Wilbur Smith toll optimization study. They indicated a bonding capacity of approximately \$24 million if tolls are raised to \$1.00 and annual passes to \$60. by the time a new draw bridge opens.

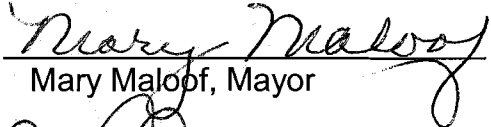
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15. The City Manager closed the presentation by explaining the time line for the several elements of this project and he pointed out the critical path for the project which centers on the toll facility's physical design, the final closing of the draw bridge and the U. S. Coast Guard construction and environmental permits.
16. After a short question and answer period, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.

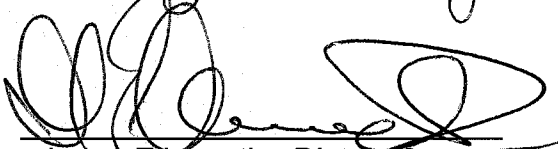
C. ADJOURNMENT:



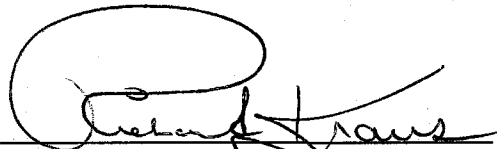
Phil Collins - District 1



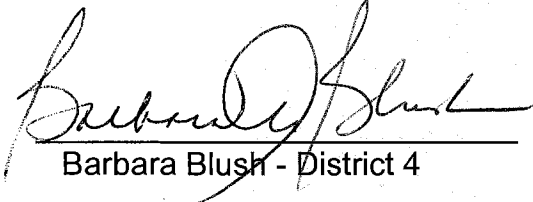
Mary Maloof, Mayor



Irving Ellsworth - District 2

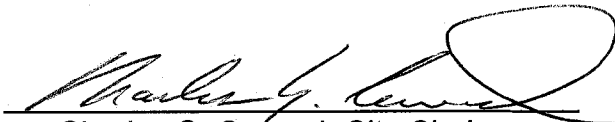


Richard Kraus - District 3



Barbara Blush - District 4

ATTEST:



Charles S. Coward, City Clerk