

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND
SPECIAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BRIDGE WORKSHOP
March 19, 2004
10:00 a.m.**

I. SILENT ROLL CALL:

Mayor Mary Maloof		Present
Commissioner Phil Collins		Present
Commissioner Ed Gayton		Present
Commissioner Richard Kraus	Vice-Mayor	Present
Commissioner Alan Bildz		Present

II. DISCUSSION:

1. Mayor Maloof called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. Public Works Director Don Hambidge reviewed for the City Commission the status of the current construction on the two (2) Causeway fixed bridges. He offered tours of the construction sites to the Commissioners and explained that work is about 70% complete. The Public Works Director stated that the two fixed bridges should be completed by October, 2004.
3. The Public Works Director explained the steps that City staff is taking to usher the funds from the \$50 million federal grant from Washington, D.C. to Treasure Island. He also set forth the proposed timeline to ensure that construction can start on the bascule bridge in January 2005.
4. City Manager Chuck Coward outlined the financial impacts to the City budget from the \$50 million federal grant for the construction of the bascule bridge. He pointed out that the City Commission has two options: a) accept the grant or b) decline the grant. He then discussed the pros and cons of each option.
5. The City Manager and Mr. Louis Rotundo, the City's state lobbyist, discussed with the Commission their current efforts to convince the State that it should assume the operations and maintenance responsibilities of the bascule bridge once the construction is complete. Mr. Rotundo addressed legislative theories and obstacles that the City faces.
6. The Public Works Director addressed the current physical state of the old bascule bridge and efforts that are being made to extend its life until the new bridge can be built.

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7. The City Manager closed the meeting by outlining the specific actions and responsibilities that the Commissioners will be addressing in the coming months as follows:
- Adoption of certain rules and regulations required as part of the LAP certification process (if necessary).
 - Adoption (or rejection) of the FDOT project agreement.
 - Contractor selection and award of a construction contract for the bascule bridge.
 - Political negotiations with the City of St. Petersburg to assume control of the eastern one-third of the Causeway and the Park Street fixed bridge.
 - Political negotiations with the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation and the State Legislature for the state to assume the responsibility for the long term operations and maintenance costs of the new bascule bridge (with special attention to delegation members Leslie Waters, Dennis Jones, Jim Sebesta and Donald Sullivan).
 - The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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III. ADJOURNMENT:

Mary Maloof, Mayor

Phil Collins - District 1

Ed Gayton - District 2

Richard Kraus - District 3

Alan Bildz - District 4

ATTEST:

Charles S. Coward, City Clerk