

# **TOWN OF PALM BEACH**

Information for Town Council Meeting on: May 11, 2021

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TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: H. Paul Brazil, P. E., Director of Public Works

RE: Endorse Palm Beach County's Bonefish Cove and Palm Beach Resilient Islands Restoration Projects and Approve Waivers to Town Code for Construction Dates, Hours, and Noise in Lake Worth Lagoon

DATE: April 21, 2021

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## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Town staff recommends that Town Council endorse Palm Beach County's Bonefish Cove and Palm Beach Resilient Islands Restoration Projects, and Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management request for waivers to Town Code of Ordinances for construction dates, hours, and noise in Lake Worth Lagoon.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management (ERM) has been performing environmental enhancement projects in the Lake Worth lagoon for many years with several projects, including Grassy Flats and Ibis Isle, completed within Town limits. Currently, the Town is working with Palm Beach County to place fill from the marina rehabilitation into an old dredge hole in Tarpon Cove to construct resilient islands near the El Cid neighborhood of West Palm Beach.

Palm Beach County ERM staff have been coordinating with Town staff for many years regarding future environmental enhancement projects in the Town of Palm Beach. ERM is now planning to construct resilient islands, called Bonefish Cove, near the south end of the Town approximately 1,000 feet from shore in the lagoon between 3120 and 3390 South Ocean Boulevard Condominiums. In addition, ERM has been coordinating with Town staff with their plans to construct resilient islands south of Everglades Island. These projects, like the previously constructed projects, will serve as environmental habitat, improve water quality in the lagoon, and provide wavebreaks to help shoreline stabilization. Neither of these projects are expected to negatively impact the three (3) recently completed channel dredging project areas. Drawings for these projects have been attached to this memorandum.

In order to construct these projects, Palm Beach County ERM provided a letter to the Town, dated April 16, 2021, requesting waivers of the following sections of the Town Code of Ordinances:

Section 42-198 – prohibits operation of equipment or machinery during winter, Sundays, and legal holidays (commencing on December 1 and ending May 1).

Section 42-199 – prohibits work between 5:00pm and 8:00am.

Sections 42-226 through 229 – regulates noise, equipment operation, and work hours and the standard Town requirement to “stand down for the season”.

Specifically, Palm Beach County ERM is requesting approval for construction hours of 7:00am to 6:00pm, Monday through Saturday, for Bonefish Cove, and 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Saturday, for the Palm Beach Resilient Islands. No work on Sundays. The work could start as early as October 2021, but ERM has indicated that the more likely start date for both projects is early 2022. The duration of construction for both projects is approximately 12 months.

Approval of these projects would be contingent upon a construction easement to be approved by the Town Attorney’s Office.

### **FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no funding/fiscal impact related to these Palm Beach County projects.

### **Attachments**

cc: Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager  
Skip Randolph, Town Attorney  
Patricia Strayer, Town Engineer  
Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager  
Deborah Drum, Palm Beach County ERM  
David Carson, Palm Beach County ERM