

Subject:BoatU.S. Alert: Important Broward County Hearing Sept 26
Date:22 Sep 2006 17:03:50 -0400
From:BoatU.S. Government Affairs <GovtAffairs@BoatUS.com>
Reply-To:GovtAffairs@BoatUS.com

September 22, 2006

Dear BoatU.S. Member,

Earlier this year, we alerted you to the shortcomings in Broward County's Boat Facility Siting Plan. Thanks to an outpouring of support from boaters like yourself, major changes were made favorable to boating. Now the commissioners are prepared to vote on the revised plan. Next Tuesday afternoon, September 26, there is a public hearing where your voice is needed. Please attend and ask the Commissioners to support the marine industry's position and vote "Yes" on the current draft of the Broward County Boat Facility Siting Plan .

What: Broward County Commission Public Hearing on the Boat Facility Siting Plan

When: 2 pm on September 26 (Tuesday)

Where: Broward County Governmental Center (Room 422), 115 South Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale (see directions below)

Important points to know about the Current Plan

- Current draft represents a much better balance between effective manatee protection and the jobs and economic benefits of the marine industry.
- Port Everglades is now identified as its own zone and manatee mortalities here will not unjustly result in restrictions elsewhere.
- Port Everglades mitigation measures will include illuminated "Manatee Present" boater awareness signs and "Cool Season" helicopter/boat manatee surveys, as well as a proposed manatee

detection initiative.

- The number of slips allowed in the plan is reasonable considering the loss of marine facilities, local community boat storage restrictions and the trend to condo slips.
- The areas of special concern (Dania Cut-Off [middle and west] and the New River) will have two additional law enforcement officers and 400 additional Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant (EMLEG) hours focused on manatee protection.
- The areas of special concern will have thresholds to trigger activity to determine and correct any cause of increased manatee mortality.
- Broward's 30-year manatee record is very commendable, averaging less than two mortalities per year due to vessels. Removing Port Everglades mortalities brings the average down to less than one manatee mortality per year.
- The education, public awareness and law enforcement components of the plan will add to current levels of manatee protection.

If you can't get to the hearing, you can still help!

Click here to write an online letter to the Commissioners to ask them to vote “Yes” on the current Boat Facility Siting Plan. – [WRITE MY COMMISSIONER](#) -, or if you want to send a personal letter to the Commissioners, their contact information is below.

View the Plan by visiting:

http://www.broward.org/bio/mpp_bfsp_review_0506.htm

Broward County Commissioners Contact Information:

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Commissioner Kristin Jacobs
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Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin
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Please feel free to forward this email to other area boaters, your boat or fishing club, and neighbors. Thanks!

BoatU.S. Government Affairs
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703-461-2864

Directions to Broward County Governmental Center:

If coming from the north or south on I-95, exit east on Broward Blvd. Continue east to Andrews Avenue and turn right. The Governmental Center will be on the right at the next traffic light, the corner of Andrews and Southwest 2nd Street. There is metered parking in a city parking garage one block east of the Governmental Center (next to the Broward County Main Library) at Southeast 1st Ave. and Southeast 2 nd St.

If you are coming from the east rather than the west on Broward Blvd., you cannot make a left turn onto Andrews Avenue. Go one block further west to Brickell Ave. and turn left. There is a metered parking lot immediately to your left off Brickell and an entrance to

the Governmental Center and Governmental Center
Annex.

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