



AGENDA REPORT
February 26, 2019

**Resolution re: Supporting Brevard County's Preference of Maintenance and
Operation Policy of Mathers Bridge**

DEPT/OFFICE:

District 4

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available



Tammy Rowe, Clerk to the Board, 400 South Street • P.O. Box 999, Titusville, Florida 32781-0999

Telephone: (321) 637-2001

Fax: (321) 264-6972

Tammy.Rowe@brevardclerk.us

February 27, 2019

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Curt Smith, Commissioner District 4

RE: Item J.5., Resolution Supporting Brevard County's Preference of Maintenance and Operation Policy of Mathers Bridge

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on February 26, 2019, adopted Resolution No. 19-028, supporting and encouraging the United States Coast Guard to approve the permanent opening schedule of every 30 minutes on the hour and half hour, providing a more predictive and cost effective operation, reducing traffic backup, and providing a more predictable and safer transportation environment. Enclosed is a certified copy of the Resolution for your action.

Your continued cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Tammy Rowe

Tammy Rowe, Deputy Clerk

/ds

Encl. (1)

cc: Assistant County Manager Denninghoff
Commissioner Districts 1, 2, 3, & 5
County Manager

RESOLUTION 19- 028

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING BREVARD COUNTY'S PREFERENCE OF MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION POLICY OF MATHERS BRIDGE.

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2017, the Brevard County Public Works Department, requested the United States Coast Guard to consider allowing Mathers Bridge to not open for vessels except every 30 minutes on the hour and half hour; and

WHEREAS, the county requested this action in order to reduce traffic delays caused by the numerous openings of the bridge and to reduce "wear and tear" on the bridge operating mechanism; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Brevard County taxpayers to reduce the high cost associated with the proper maintenance of this critical piece of infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2017, the Coast Guard published a notice of proposed rule-making (NPRM) entitled Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Banana River, Indian Harbour Beach, FL in the Federal Register (82 FR 18877) and received minimal comments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Indian Harbour Beach, FL requested to have the comment period re-opened as they believed their constituency did not have awareness of the initial notice and comment period; and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 2017, a notice of proposed rule-making was published; reopening comment period entitled Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Banana River, Indian Harbour Beach, FL in the Federal Register (82 FR 48939); and

WHEREAS, due to the numerous comments received both for and against the proposed rule, the Coast Guard published a temporary deviation to test the proposed schedule change to determine whether a permanent change is appropriate to better balance the needs of maritime and vehicle traffic; and

WHEREAS, the Coast Guard conducted a test deviation, from 6 a.m. on February 5, 2018 to 6 a.m. on August 4, 2018, the bridge was open for vessels requesting passage on the hour and half hour, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday. On Friday, Saturday and all Federal holidays, 24 hours a day, the bridge was open for vessels on the hour and half hour. At all other times, the bridge was open on signal if at least two hours notice was given. The bridge was able to open for emergencies; and

WHEREAS, this body of water is not tidal, is relatively shelter, is not adversely affected by wind, and is not shallow or shoaled, therefore a maritime safety is not an issue; and

WHEREAS, the Coast Guard will soon make a determination on the permanent opening schedule of Mathers bridge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY FLORIDA, that the board supports and encourages the Coast Guard to approve the permanent opening schedule of every 30 minutes on the hour and half hour. This schedule will provide a more predictive and cost effective operation, reducing traffic backup, provide a more predictable, and a safer transportation environment.

DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED, in regular session, this 26th Day of February, 2019.

ATTEST:

SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

KRISTINE ISNARDI, CHAIR
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FL

As approved by Board 2/26/19

Deborah Thomas

From: Roig, Janette <Janette.Roig@brevardfl.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 1:28 PM
To: Deborah Thomas
Subject: Signed resolution
Attachments: 20190227141557.pdf

Hi Deborah,

The resolution is attached and Dan came by to pick it up already!

Have a wonderful week.

Janette Roig
Legislative Aide
Brevard County Commissioner Kristine Isnardi District Five
490 Centre Lake Drive NE Suite 175
Palm Bay, FL 32907
Phone: (321)253-6611
Fax: (321) 253-6620
Janette.Roig@brevardfl.gov

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