June 13th 2013

Hillsboro Canal Bank Project Updates Meeting

Meeting scheduled for 5:30-7:00

Arrived @ 5:25, introduction and conversation had already began

Two representatives from SFWM were involved in a question answer theme with about 12-15 attendees. Charles DeBrusco was present representing the city to answer any questions or concerns.

SFWM owns the "Right of way" of canal. That right of way distance is 160 ft. from the middle point of canal, to the south and to the north. That distance is variable depending on a specific property address.

SFWM sent 775 mailings out to a distance ½ mile north and south of the canal. It was stated they went door knocking at property addresses that were going to be impacted with removal of any encroachments on the SFWM right away (i.e. docks, shrubs, trees, greenery, structures) There were residences who stated they didn't receive mailings or SFWM representatives at the door.

All evasive plants will be removed.

A mesh type matting will be laid down on the new bank slope which will have grass growing thru it. It is a way of stabilizing the bank along with deterring burrow holes made by lizards, snakes and of the like.

A common normal width of slope could not be determined as it depends on the space (right of way verses properties lot lines.

Irrigation sleeves will be installed as to allow hook up for existing, however, it is the property owners responsibility for that hook-up and depths of soil may be different than existing. There will be a period of time that irrigation water can not be retrieved thru sleeves, so manual sprinkling will be the property owners responsibility with own determination. Estimated time given that irrigation lines are non-functioning is 3 weeks

Dredging will happen east of Powerline Road.

Sediment that is pulled out while stabilization occurs will be placed on the north side (Palm Beach County) of canal, 25 homes north of the lock, in a empty lot. It will need to sit and dry to be able to transport it. Time element of drying is 1 to 2 weeks. It was stated by SFWM, tests they have done of sediment to be removed is not as organic as first thought. It has more sand, ergo the odor anticipated may not be as great an issue, however, if it is found odor vapors are bothersome, they have a technique which they will apply.

A resident asked about the test results of any arsenic, due to run-off from the Deer Creek Golf Course, SFWM did not have those results.

A resident had concerns about gate removal and crime at the sites where trucks will be entering and exiting (@ military and @ Powerline Road.

Resident asked about work times. SFWM stated a normal work day, not sure about Saturdays. It was asked about any security or background checks that might be done on the workers that contractors hire as they will be in close proximity to houses. SFWM said they don't ask or require that of the contractor, and doesn't know about the contractors but there will be a privacy fence installed approx. 6 ft. high. There was nothing to show what that fence would look like.

Docks and boats along the project section All boats should be removed for the project duration

SFWM states they will remove docks, if a homeowner wants to keep the structure material to rebuild after project completion at homeowners own expense responsibility, SFWM will pile material for them, otherwise they will haul it away.

Permits for Docks erected after Project

SFWM is writing criteria guidelines for docks to be put on their right of way. If you meet that criteria and want to build a dock again SFWM is waving the fee to acquire permit needed.

SFWM has shrunk the width of the initial drawn canal maintenance road along the canal in their right of way.

There will be no trees planted in/on the new slope banks

During the meeting a few residents left

Commissioner Ganz Arrived mid way thru the meeting, he reiterated concerns of the residences.

SFWM had picture boards showing different areas of great concern of canal banks and them collapsing.

Project start time and first section is October 2014 and will start @ Military Trail and go west to Powerline Road

Meeting ended about 6:45

Notes taken and submitted by Kathy Maggi