

From: Doug Billings <billingsd62@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 1, 2025 1:52 PM
To: Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>
Cc: Jenny Billings <jennyelb@yahoo.com>
Subject: Additional Input - Wulfert channel assessment questions

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Vicki

Also, some specific input to the council

1. The first that we were aware of the proposal for the dredging and special assessment district was May 29th when we received the letter from the town dated May 21st. We only became aware of prior discussions at the town council after reading the minutes of the May council meeting after receiving the letter dated the 21st. Prior to that time no one had contacted us about our opinions on the need to dredge or on the appropriateness of a special assessment district.
2. In the letter dated on the 21st it stated that the reason for the dredging was for the safety of boating due to hurricane impacts. We regularly boat out of our canal and do not issues with traveling though the bayou and Wulfert channel. There are low tide conditions where transit could be problematic but that was true prior to Ian, Milton and Helene and if we take them appropriately into account we have no transit issues.
3. There is a public boat access at the end Henderson Road that is commonly used by other residents in the area that do not have water front access and also even non-residents to access these waters. However these residents and others are not included the special assessment district.
4. As a result of items above at this time we do not support the creation of the special assessment district as we believe insufficient input and consideration has been given to all residents and factors in the discussion.

Doug and Jenny Billings
6101 Starling Way
Sanibel Florida

From: Doug Billings <billingsd62@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 1, 2025 12:32 PM
To: Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>
Cc: Jenny Billings <jennyelb@yahoo.com>
Subject: Wulfert channel assessment questions

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Vicki

I hope this note finds you doing well. I am a resident that would be affected by the proposed special assessment district for dredging of the Wulfert Channel, Sunset Bay and Dinkins Bayou. In advance of the town council meeting on Tuesday which I plan on attending, I have a couple of background questions I would appreciate the answers regarding. Specifically:

1. what are the prior and/or existing special assessment districts that have been established by Sanibel, what were their purposes and durations?
2. the letter we received says that the ongoing \$1,200 a year assessment would be collected as part of the Lee County annual tax assessment. Will those funds then be transferred to Sanibel from the County or held by the County?
3. what will done with the materials dredged? Will it be removed entirely from the area or deposited to other parts of these areas?

Thank you for any information you can provide as soon as you can on these questions.

Doug Billings
6101 Starling Way
Sanibel Florida
508 878 9067.

From: Dan Hinckley <dbh@suiattle.org>

Sent: Sunday, June 1, 2025 11:11 AM

To: Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>

Cc: Laura J. DeBruce <laura.debruce@mysanibel.com>; Mike Miller <Mike.Miller@mysanibel.com>; Holly Smith <Holly.Smith@mysanibel.com>; John Henshaw <John.Henshaw@mysanibel.com>; Richard Johnson <richard.johnson@mysanibel.com>

Subject: Dredging and SAD for Dinkins Bayou and Wulfert Channel

Importance: High

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Please find attached our input to the debate on this question at the June 3rd Council meeting.

Sincerely,

~~~~~

Dan and Katherine Hinckley

2498 Harbour Lane

Sanibel, FL 33957

[kph\\_dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:kph_dbh@suiattle.org)

The Sanibel City Council  
800 Dunlop Road  
Sanibel, Florida 33957

Sunday, June 1, 2025

RE: The Wulfert and Dinkins Bayou Dredging Project and Special Assessment District

Dear Council Members,

While the navigation issue may be real, we do not feel this SAD is the appropriate solution.

**We are writing to oppose the Special Assessment District as currently proposed.**

- The notice period for this meeting agenda on June 3<sup>rd</sup> was way too short. Many affected residents did not receive this notice in time to prepare to comment in an informed or timely manner.
- If you make an approximate count of the affected abutters (i.e., those with boats large enough to encounter problems navigating the Dinkins Bayou entrance or Wulfert Channel) we feel that it will be a small percentage of the affected abutters. Suppose it might be 40 users, then another 160 abutters are being asked to pay to solve this issue. We have personally navigated all the canals off Dinkins Bayou often, and while we have never counted the number of large draft boats, it is not enormous.
- One resident abutting Dinkins Bayou asserts that he has had no issues using a 28 ft. Dauntless in the waters.
- We have not received a copy of the legal reasoning whereby Sanibel decides that this is its problem.
- Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou are Navigable Waters within the meaning of the act, and as such are the responsibility of the USACE (US Army Corps of Engineers); please see sections of the US CFR attached.
- Abutters are being asked/told to pay for work which will not benefit most of them; however, this dredging project will benefit many non-Sanibel residents, who will not be required to pay for any of this work. This project is at a minimum one which should be funded by Lee County and the State, not by local residents of Sanibel.
- Mention is made of protecting property values of abutters. Is protection of property value actually one of the responsibilities of the City of Sanibel?
- If a future claim is made by a boater alleging that the dredging is improperly done, will abutters in the SAD be liable?
- Sanibel has experienced three hurricanes in three years. The waters of the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico are warming so fast that hurricanes now develop independently in those seas, without having begun off the west coast of Africa. Two of those storms (Ian and Milton) had enormous effects on the profiles of the Wulfert and Dinkins Bayou channels. The proposed 10 year planning horizon is meaningless when we contemplate

that more such hurricanes are highly likely to occur within that horizon. What happens then? Will dredging be done sooner than 2035? Who will then pay for it?

- The last dredge of Blind Pass and part of the Wulfert Channel was in 2017. Following that there was a comprehensive, and very public, process to review the dredging template for future work. Those of us who participated provided input to the planning firm about the historic pattern of flows through Sunset Bay. When the firm ran their model with that modification, they found that adding to the dredging template to include Sunset Bay would significantly improve flows through Blind Pass.
- For those interested in the dredging history of Blind Pass, please visit [this page](#).
- The last dredging was done for environmental reasons, not to improve navigation.
- The 2019 management plan in which many of us participated, is reported [here](#). If you scroll down to page 10 of that report, you will see the final preferred option, Figure 5. **That option would resolve whatever issues boaters may feel they now face.**
- The current proposed dredging and funding is a short-sighted effort, with no apparent responses planned in the event of a re-occurrence in a period less than the 10 year planning horizon. Meanwhile, abutters are expected to pay an annual tax which will not suffice to respond to re-occurring storm changes. When this navigation problem happens again in 5 years, will the SAD feel obliged, or be allowed to make additional assessments?

We urge the Council to at a minimum table this project until answers to these points are more carefully researched. Fundamentally, this dredging should not be undertaken by the City of Sanibel when it so clearly benefits many users from many other communities, and so few of the abutters.

If the Council decides to proceed with this effort, then at a very bare minimum the affected abutters should have the opportunity to vote on this proposal; to do otherwise amounts to taxation without representation.

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US CFR:

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-33/chapter-II/part-329>

<https://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Portals/39/docs/regulatory/regs/33cfr329.pdf>

#### **§ 329.4 General definition.**

Navigable waters of the United States are those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide and/or are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce. A determination of navigability, once made, applies laterally over the entire surface of the waterbody, and is not extinguished by later actions or events which impede or destroy navigable capacity.

### **§ 329.7 Intrastate or interstate nature of waterway.**

A waterbody may be entirely within a state, yet still be capable of carrying interstate commerce. This is especially clear when it physically connects with a generally acknowledged avenue of interstate commerce, such as the ocean or one of the Great Lakes, and is yet wholly within one state. Nor is it necessary that there be a physically navigable connection across a state boundary. Where a waterbody extends through one or more states, but substantial portions, which are capable of bearing interstate commerce, are located in only one of the states, the entirety of the waterway up to the head (upper limit) of navigation is subject to Federal jurisdiction.

### **329.12 Geographic and jurisdictional limits of oceanic and tidal waters.**

(a) ***Ocean and coastal waters.*** The navigable waters of the United States over which Corps of Engineers regulatory jurisdiction extends include all ocean and coastal waters within a zone three geographic (nautical) miles seaward from the baseline (The Territorial Seas). Wider zones are recognized for special regulatory powers exercised over the outer continental shelf. (See [33 CFR 322.3\(b\)](#)).

Sincerely,

Katherine and Dan Hinckley  
2498 Harbour Lane  
Sanibel, Florida 33957

**From:** Jennifer Shaver <jldrenik19@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 11:09 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>

**Subject:** Strong Opposition to Unfair Assessment Proposal for Public Waterway Dredging

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Dear Sanibel City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed dredging assessment that would require 202 property owners to pay over \$10,600, with an additional \$1,200 annually starting in 2026. This proposal places a disproportionate financial burden on a small number of residents for the maintenance of **public waterways**—resources that benefit and are accessed by the wider community, not just those being asked to fund them.

These are not private canals tucked away for exclusive neighborhood use. Wulfert Channel, Sunset Bay, and Dinkins Bayou are **publicly navigable waters**, often traversed by people from all over the island and beyond. On any given day, we see charter boats, kayakers, and recreational boaters using these channels, many of whom have no ties to the properties now being asked to carry the cost of dredging and long-term maintenance.

We received our letter from the City by regular mail on **May 28th**, providing **less than a week's notice** before the scheduled June 3rd meeting. Several of our neighbors—who are also included in the proposed assessment district—still have **not received any notification**. This inconsistent communication, combined with the compressed timeline, undermines the ability of residents to fairly review and respond to the proposal.

If these waterways are indeed public—as their daily use clearly reflects—then their care and upkeep should be treated as a **public responsibility**, funded through appropriate city, county, or even state mechanisms. Targeting a narrow group of property owners to subsidize the upkeep of a community-wide resource is inequitable and, frankly, short-sighted.

We are all invested in preserving Sanibel's natural beauty, environmental health, and access to its cherished waterways. But that preservation must come through **collaborative, fair, and transparent processes**, not by quietly shifting the financial responsibility onto a select few.

I urge you to halt this proposal as currently structured and take time to reconsider how our public resources are funded—ensuring equity, transparency, and proper notice for all island residents.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Shaver

2510 Coconut Dr

**From:** Mark Calkin <mtcalkin@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2025 11:10 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Subject:** Dinkins dredging taxation

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Sanibel City Council

We live at 2449 Harbour Lane and received a letter stating we will be paying a fee of approximately 10,000\$ for dredging the bayou. This is the first time we've ever heard about this issue.

We have never had a boat so we really don't have any interest in dredging. The number of homes assessed seems somewhat arbitrary. Numerous boaters use the bayou and it seems that fees from some other source (e.g. boat licenses, guided fishing permit fees etc) would be more fair. Many people use Dinkins- so why do only a few residents have to pay this extraordinary fee. Can the residents who pay for maintenance of Dinkins then rightfully charge an entrance fee to the bayou?

Mark and Melissa Calkin  
2449 Harbour Lane  
Sanibel

Sent from my g

**From:** THE BORSCHKE FAMILY <[borschkes@gmail.com](mailto:borschkes@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2025 3:48:02 PM

**To:** Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Kelly, Christopher M.

<[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>; [thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net) <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfuncion@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfuncion@pennbeer.com)>; Andy Vollmer <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>; [karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com) <[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com)>; Tadanori Tomita <[ttomita@luriechildrens.org](mailto:ttomita@luriechildrens.org)>

**Subject:** Re: Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Dear Chris, Our property (6494) which is referenced in the Tomikas's email and John DiLorenzo's email is one that would not be on the dredging plan yet we'd be expected to pay for the dredging assessment. We are in agreement with our neighbors  
Dear Chris,

Our property (6494) which is referenced in the Tomikas's email and John DiLorenzo's email is one that would not be on the dredging plan yet we'd be expected to pay for the dredging assessment. We are in agreement with our neighbors that we need to be included. Our home has a boat dock and a boat lift that are essentially useless based on the low level of water that is there now. On weekends and holidays we have seen countless boating tourists get stuck in front of our homes because of low water. The number of dolphin and manatees have drastically reduced in number and we fear the stagnation of the water in that area without currents to freshen it could cause health concerns as well as affect our mangroves. We are willing to help in this cause and we hope our concerns will be looked at seriously.

Thank you.

Sue and Gus Borschke  
6494 Sanibel Captiva Road  
336-782-1994 (Gus) 336-918-2408 (Sue)  
[Borschkes@gmail.com](mailto:Borschkes@gmail.com)

Sent from Sue Borschke's iPhone 📱

On May 31, 2025, at 2:44 PM, Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Chris,

I see you have done lots of work on this project and I thank you. However, **I'm very shocked and upset that our property isn't included in the dredging.** The Dinkins Bayou / Sunset Bay dredging portion stops at Castaways. Our property at **6498 Sanibel Captiva Road** and the 3 other properties past Castaways (**6496, 9494 and 6492 Sanibel Captiva**) are **NOT INCLUDED to dredge**. We have been the most impacted by the shifting sands and silting caused by beach renourishment and storms. When we bought our home in 1995 we were able to keep a boat at our dock. Now we're only able to take a kayak out at high tide.

**We need to be included in the dredging plan.** The equipment is right there. It doesn't make any sense to leave us out. I can't be at the meeting Tuesday but have left a message with Dana Souza. I have not yet heard back from him. I've also sent an email to Vicki Smith. We've been writing letters for years expressing our concern.

Please, what do we need to do to get our properties included in the dredging plan?

Thank you for your help with this!

Tad and Kathy Tomita  
6498 Sanibel Captiva Road  
847-602-1651

On May 29, 2025, at 5:46 AM, Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)> wrote:

Thanks Tim and Weazie, your neighbors are grateful for the support.

**Christopher M. Kelly** ([bio](#))  
Partner  
**JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide<sup>SM</sup>**  
901 Lakeside Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
Office +1.216.586.1238  
Cell +1.216.496.6212  
[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)

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**From:** [thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net) <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 6:42:06 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>  
**Cc:** Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; Andy Vollmer <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey

Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>; Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>; [karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com) <[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Thanks for your work on this Chris. We are also in support of this project for all the same reasons as Ed. Additionally, losing boating access would be far more costly in terms of reduced market value of our properties than any assessment(s) we will pay. Most importantly, we bought our property in 2016 precisely because we could have a boat in our backyard and use it whenever we wanted. Our ability to do that has been reduced by the changes in Dinkins and Wulfert, and if this is the only way to make access less tide dependent, we support it.

We both sent emails to Vicki yesterday afternoon.

Thanks again,  
Tim and Weezie Huyck  
Tropical Way Ct

On May 29, 2025, at 6:10 AM, Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)> wrote:

Thanks Ed, your Dinkins Bayou neighbors are grateful for you and your efforts.

**Christopher M. Kelly** ([bio](#))

Partner

**JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide<sup>SM</sup>**

901 Lakeside Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44114

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[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)

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**From:** Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 10:33:59 PM

**To:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Tim Huyck

<[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers

<[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>; Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** [karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com) <[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Thank you, Chris.

I will be supporting this project and sending emails to Vicki.

I have forwarded this to family and other neighbors (on Bluecrab Ct) impacted who were not on your list.

I suspect I have gathered 10 people willing to send emails of support.

In speaking to one neighbor, I heard a fair point.

He believes that the last time this was done, it was 50%/50% city vs assessment.

No reason not to put pressure on Dana and the city to cover more of the costs.

It's a reasonable ask.

Regardless, I will be supporting the program.

The house I built on Bluecrab is valuable, more so than most Sanctuary homes.

The reason is its on water and boating accessible.

I have trouble all the time hitting bottom with my 25" Dauntless.

There are tides that most of us will avoid taking the boat out. We need to fix this....

Thanks again,

Ed Siciliano

Blue Crab Ct

Girls! Girls! Girls! -25" Boston Whaler

<image001.jpg> <image002.jpg> **Ed Siciliano**

Chief Executive Officer

**O:** [856-745-3359](tel:856-745-3359)

[CANCapital.com](http://CANCapital.com)

<image003.png> <image004.png> <image005.png>

**Celebrating Over 20 Years in Small Business Finance**

<image006.jpg>

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**From:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 4:54 PM

**To:** John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Tim Huyck <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenthfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenthfishing.com)>; jenni@flipsidecharter.com; Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Good afternoon. By now, you should have received the letter from the City outlining the plan for dredging of Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou which is great news for those that have boats or have properties whose values are enhanced by having deep water access through safe, navigable waterways. The dredging is planned for this summer assuming we stay on course. Hence my reason for reaching out; there is a City Council Meeting next Tuesday to finalize the overall plan and funding, and the City needs to hear from those that support this proposal. If you are in town and can attend the meeting in person that would be the best; if that is not possible then an email indicating your support would be extremely helpful. The email need not be anything more than identifying yourself as someone who is affected (I am going to simply use my address) and saying you support the dredging plan/assessment zone. Emails should be sent by the end of this week and should be directed to:

[Vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:Vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)

I don't have all emails of everyone in the neighborhoods so please forward this to people you know to be supportive and ask them to email the City. Also, please ask your spouses, children, and the like to write emails as well. Please please write these emails. The plan is the culmination of a lot of effort and I believe really does represent the best possible solution. The permits from the Army Corp were a challenge to obtain and all possible sources of funding were explored. The assessment zone is modeled from a very similar assessment zone at the east end of the island which has worked well. The alternative here is continued fill in of our navigable waterways which means loss of boating and fishing opportunities and declines in property values; it is a binary choice at this point. On behalf of everyone who loves our water and wants to be able to use it thank you for writing to the City and supporting this.

Chris Kelly

---

**From:** John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:28:07 AM

**To:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com)>; Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Tim Huyck <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; jenni@flipsidecharter.com <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Status

Good morning, Chris... Thank you so much for taking up this cause!! Your efforts are sincerely appreciated! For the 3 of us here at 6494, 6496 and 6498 SanCap (last 2 driveways) the water is so shallow, we have to be mindful of the tides just  
Good morning, Chris...

Thank you so much for taking up this cause!! Your efforts are sincerely appreciated!

For the 3 of us here at 6494, 6496 and 6498 SanCap (last 2 driveways) the water is so shallow, we have to be mindful of the tides just to get a kayak back to the house. It is our understanding that improving the water flow in our area is also very beneficial to the fish and wildlife. Hopefully, we can benefit from any dredging efforts that may occur. I am happy to help in any way I can! Including these 3 households in the dock count would certainly help!

**John F DiLorenzo**  
**CEO**

T: (800) 674-9235

M: (586) 263-9000

F: (586) 263-0690

59259 Van Dyke AVE

Washington, MI 48094

[www.miplanners.com](http://www.miplanners.com)

---

**From:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:15:18 AM

**To:** AICP James H. McNeil <[Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com)>; Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunchion@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunchion@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; Tim Huyck <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>

**Subject:** Status

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning. Brief status update on our interactions with the City regarding the need for dredging Wulfert Channel. On Saturday I showed newly appointed councilwoman Laura DeBruce Dinkins Bayou, Sunset Bay and Wulfert Channel, focusing on the major problem in Wulfert. Being a boater herself she understood the treacherous situation. I think it's fair to say she was somewhat surprised by the number of households and boats that need to utilize that stretch of water to get to the bay and the Gulf. She has asked for information about the number of boats that are on Dinkins, Sunset Bay, and all of the canals. Short of just doing a manual count I don't know, but if anyone has ideas please let me know. Tomorrow we are meeting with Dana Souza-Sanibel City Manager-and several department heads, to show them by boat the issue and to sit down to hopefully come up with some sort of plan which is likely to involve approaching the County again as well. They City has the various emails where the County has said "not my problem", but there are numbers of people that believe that is not necessarily the case. I'll report back after the meeting tomorrow, thanks.

Chris

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([www.blackberry.com](http://www.blackberry.com))

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\*\*\*This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is private, confidential, or protected by attorney-client or other privilege. If you received this e-mail in error, please delete it from your system without copying it and notify sender by reply e-mail, so that our records can be corrected.\*\*\*

**From:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2025 2:46 PM  
**To:** [jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com); Dana A. Souza <[Dana.Souza@mysanibel.com](mailto:Dana.Souza@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

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**Christopher M. Kelly** ([bio](#))

Partner

**[JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide<sup>SM</sup>](#)**

901 Lakeside Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44114

Office [+1.216.586.1238](tel:+12165861238)

Cell [+1.216.496.6212](tel:+12164966212)

[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)

---

**From:** Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2025 2:43:47 PM

**To:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>

**Cc:** [thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net) <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Ed Siciliano

<[ESiciliano@canccapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@canccapital.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James

H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan

Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley

<[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion

<[mfuncion@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfuncion@pennbeer.com)>; Andy Vollmer <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey

<[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen

<[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy

<[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Nick Weyers

<[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>;

[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com) <[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com)>; Tadanori Tomita

<[ttomita@luriechildrens.org](mailto:ttomita@luriechildrens.org)>; Sue Borschke <[suebsfo@gmail.com](mailto:suebsfo@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Chris, I see you have done lots of work on this project and I thank you. However, I'm very shocked and upset that our property isn't included in the dredging. The Dinkins Bayou / Sunset Bay dredging portion stops at Castaways. Our property at  
Chris,

I see you have done lots of work on this project and I thank you. However, **I'm very shocked and upset that our property isn't included in the dredging.** The Dinkins Bayou / Sunset Bay dredging portion stops at Castaways. Our property at **6498 Sanibel Captiva Road** and the 3 other properties past Castaways (**6496, 9494 and 6492 Sanibel Captiva**) are **NOT INCLUDED to dredge**. We have been the most impacted by the shifting sands and silting caused by beach renourishment and storms. When we bought our home in 1995 we were able to keep a boat at our dock. Now we're only able to take a kayak out at high tide.

**We need to be included in the dredging plan.** The equipment is right there. It doesn't make any sense to leave us out. I can't be at the meeting Tuesday but have left a message with Dana Souza. I have not yet heard back from him. I've also sent an email to Vicki Smith. We've been writing letters for years expressing our concern.

Please, what do we need to do to get our properties included in the dredging plan?

Thank you for your help with this!

Tad and Kathy Tomita  
6498 Sanibel Captiva Road  
847-602-1651

On May 29, 2025, at 5:46 AM, Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)> wrote:

Thanks Tim and Weazie, your neighbors are grateful for the support.

**Christopher M. Kelly** ([bio](#))  
Partner  
**JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide<sup>SM</sup>**  
901 Lakeside Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
Office +1.216.586.1238  
Cell +1.216.496.6212  
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---

**From:** [thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net) <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 6:42:06 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>  
**Cc:** Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; Andy Vollmer <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey

Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>; Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>; [karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com) <[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Thanks for your work on this Chris. We are also in support of this project for all the same reasons as Ed. Additionally, losing boating access would be far more costly in terms of reduced market value of our properties than any assessment(s) we will pay. Most importantly, we bought our property in 2016 precisely because we could have a boat in our backyard and use it whenever we wanted. Our ability to do that has been reduced by the changes in Dinkins and Wulfert, and if this is the only way to make access less tide dependent, we support it.

We both sent emails to Vicki yesterday afternoon.

Thanks again,  
Tim and Weezie Huyck  
Tropical Way Ct

On May 29, 2025, at 6:10 AM, Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)> wrote:

Thanks Ed, your Dinkins Bayou neighbors are grateful for you and your efforts.

**Christopher M. Kelly** ([bio](#))

Partner

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901 Lakeside Avenue

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[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)

---

**From:** Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 10:33:59 PM

**To:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Tim Huyck

<[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers

<[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>; Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** [karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com) <[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Thank you, Chris.

I will be supporting this project and sending emails to Vicki.

I have forwarded this to family and other neighbors (on Bluecrab Ct) impacted who were not on your list.

I suspect I have gathered 10 people willing to send emails of support.

In speaking to one neighbor, I heard a fair point.

He believes that the last time this was done, it was 50%/50% city vs assessment.

No reason not to put pressure on Dana and the city to cover more of the costs.

It's a reasonable ask.

Regardless, I will be supporting the program.

The house I built on Bluecrab is valuable, more so than most Sanctuary homes.

The reason is its on water and boating accessible.

I have trouble all the time hitting bottom with my 25" Dauntless.

There are tides that most of us will avoid taking the boat out. We need to fix this....

Thanks again,

Ed Siciliano

Blue Crab Ct

Girls! Girls! Girls! -25" Boston Whaler

<image001.jpg> <image002.jpg> **Ed Siciliano**

Chief Executive Officer

**O:** [856-745-3359](tel:856-745-3359)

[CANCapital.com](http://CANCapital.com)

<image003.png> <image004.png> <image005.png>

**Celebrating Over 20 Years in Small Business Finance**

<image006.jpg>

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**From:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 4:54 PM

**To:** John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[jim.mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:jim.mcneil@akerman.com)>; Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Tim Huyck <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellentsfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellentsfishing.com)>; jenni@flipsidecharter.com; Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

Good afternoon. By now, you should have received the letter from the City outlining the plan for dredging of Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou which is great news for those that have boats or have properties whose values are enhanced by having deep water access through safe, navigable waterways. The dredging is planned for this summer assuming we stay on course. Hence my reason for reaching out; there is a City Council Meeting next Tuesday to finalize the overall plan and funding, and the City needs to hear from those that support this proposal. If you are in town and can attend the meeting in person that would be the best; if that is not possible then an email indicating your support would be extremely helpful. The email need not be anything more than identifying yourself as someone who is affected (I am going to simply use my address) and saying you support the dredging plan/assessment zone. Emails should be sent by the end of this week and should be directed to:

[Vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:Vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)

I don't have all emails of everyone in the neighborhoods so please forward this to people you know to be supportive and ask them to email the City. Also, please ask your spouses, children, and the like to write emails as well. Please please write these emails. The plan is the culmination of a lot of effort and I believe really does represent the best possible solution. The permits from the Army Corp were a challenge to obtain and all possible sources of funding were explored. The assessment zone is modeled from a very similar assessment zone at the east end of the island which has worked well. The alternative here is continued fill in of our navigable waterways which means loss of boating and fishing opportunities and declines in property values; it is a binary choice at this point. On behalf of everyone who loves our water and wants to be able to use it thank you for writing to the City and supporting this.

Chris Kelly

---

**From:** John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:28:07 AM

**To:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>; AICP James H. McNeil <[Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com)>; Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunction@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunction@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; Tim Huyck <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; jenni@flipsidecharter.com <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Status

Good morning, Chris... Thank you so much for taking up this cause!! Your efforts are sincerely appreciated! For the 3 of us here at 6494, 6496 and 6498 SanCap (last 2 driveways) the water is so shallow, we have to be mindful of the tides just  
Good morning, Chris...

Thank you so much for taking up this cause!! Your efforts are sincerely appreciated!

For the 3 of us here at 6494, 6496 and 6498 SanCap (last 2 driveways) the water is so shallow, we have to be mindful of the tides just to get a kayak back to the house. It is our understanding that improving the water flow in our area is also very beneficial to the fish and wildlife. Hopefully, we can benefit from any dredging efforts that may occur. I am happy to help in any way I can! Including these 3 households in the dock count would certainly help!

**John F DiLorenzo**  
**CEO**

T: (800) 674-9235

M: (586) 263-9000

F: (586) 263-0690

59259 Van Dyke AVE

Washington, MI 48094

[www.miplanners.com](http://www.miplanners.com)

---

**From:** Kelly, Christopher M. <[ckelly@jonesday.com](mailto:ckelly@jonesday.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:15:18 AM

**To:** AICP James H. McNeil <[Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com)>; Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>; Mike Kluth <[mkluth1963@hotmail.com](mailto:mkluth1963@hotmail.com)>; Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>; Donna Bishop <[don.db5151@gmail.com](mailto:don.db5151@gmail.com)>; Dan Hinckley <[dbh@suiattle.org](mailto:dbh@suiattle.org)>; Mark Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>; Matt Funchion <[mfunchion@pennbeer.com](mailto:mfunchion@pennbeer.com)>; 'Andy Vollmer' <[Andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:Andy@bellmarkpartners.com)>; Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>; Harvey Padewer <[padewer@gmail.com](mailto:padewer@gmail.com)>; Jason Cohen <[jason@cohensalesllc.com](mailto:jason@cohensalesllc.com)>; Herb Lord <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>; Brian Murphy <[murph719@gmail.com](mailto:murph719@gmail.com)>; John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>; Tim Huyck <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>; Nick Weyers <[captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com](mailto:captnick@mostexcellenfishing.com)>; [jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com) <[jenni@flipsidecharter.com](mailto:jenni@flipsidecharter.com)>

**Subject:** Status

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Good morning. Brief status update on our interactions with the City regarding the need for dredging Wulfert Channel. On Saturday I showed newly appointed councilwoman Laura DeBruce Dinkins Bayou, Sunset Bay and Wulfert Channel, focusing on the major problem in Wulfert. Being a boater herself she understood the treacherous situation. I think it's fair to say she was somewhat surprised by the number of households and boats that need to utilize that stretch of water to get to the bay and the Gulf. She has asked for information about the number of boats that are on Dinkins, Sunset Bay, and all of the canals. Short of just doing a manual count I don't know, but if anyone has ideas please let me know. Tomorrow we are meeting with Dana Souza-Sanibel City Manager-and several department heads, to show them by boat the issue and to sit down to hopefully come up with some sort of plan which is likely to involve approaching the County again as well. They City has the various emails where the County has said "not my problem", but there are numbers of people that believe that is not necessarily the case. I'll report back after the meeting tomorrow, thanks.

Chris

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**From:** Stafford, Arthur <artstaf@staffordmfg.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2025 8:09 AM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Cc:** dianestafford2020@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Assessment District

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Hello Vicki,

As regards the proposed dredging, how was it funded when last done in 2014? Was there a \$10,000 assessment then or is this a new twist?

We agree that the dredging necessary, to maintain the property values on the affected parcels, but those property values already pay additional taxes based upon the assumption that they have access to navigable water. Should this change, there would be a cry for tax decreases --- so, in effect we're being asked to pay twice.

Also, the annual add-on to our Lee-County tax of \$1200 to prepay for a cost that may or may not be necessary and may or may not cost the estimated amount again seems like the wrong approach. We strongly object to this.

Arthur and Diane Stafford  
2423 Blue Crab Court  
Sanibel, FL

**From:** rsbcsb <rsbcsb@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2025 8:31 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Subject:** Dredging assessment

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Dear Ms. Smith/ City manager Souza:

I have received your 21 May 2025 dredging assessment notice. I find it unfathomable that a project of this scope and cost to all property owners was initiated by "requests from residents", rather than a survey of all residents. So, some residents have started a process that will impose a large and continuing cost to all residents without any say from all of us. Talk about lack of due process. After major damage from 3 hurricanes, I am fairly certain that few of us have that kind of funding to spare, especially for a project that will not benefit any who do not have a boat. I do not support this assessment and if able to vote, vote no.

A few questions:

Can the state or federal government provide support in any capacity.

Why are private citizens funding repair of areas owned by the state.

If citizens fund repairs are they then liable should an injury occur from those repairs ( I assume the city and/or county are liable now).

The costs of recovery from 3 major storms have affected all involved and driven some away. This added cost will surely do more of the same, last straw type of mentality. I am not sure why private homeowners are asked to fund a project involving property not owned by them, especially since the benefits of said repairs will benefit more than the 202 property owners.

The cost should be born by the municipalities involved not the property owners who do not own the waterways.

Again, I vote no.

Robert Berger  
2470 Harbour lane

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** Andy Vollmer <Andy@bellmarkpartners.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2025 9:59 AM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Subject:** Dredging Project

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Hi Vicki,

Karen and I have a 2<sup>nd</sup> home at 2514 Blind Pass Ct in Sanibel. We purchased this home in 2015 as it offered two elements that were very important to us – proximity to the beach and canal/dock/lift water access. The home needed investment as significant deferred maintenance had accumulated from the prior owner.

Since that time, we have spent ~150% of the original purchase price in home improvements, and less than 40% of that spend was related to Hurricane Ian. Long way of saying we have been good stewards, and we are invested in Sanibel and this home.

Water access is critical to us, so we are highly supportive of the proposed dredging project in Wulfurt and Dinkins. We also feel the beach areas which have been decimated near us need to be renourished but with a focus on replacing vegetation to hold the sand more effectively during storm surge events.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andy Vollmer  
Managing Director  
BellMark Partners, LLC  
25101 Chagrin Blvd., Suite 210  
Beachwood, OH 44122  
Office | (216) 575-1000 x115  
Mobile | (216) 496-2333  
[andy@bellmarkpartners.com](mailto:andy@bellmarkpartners.com)

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**From:** Rignal Baldwin <rignal1946@icloud.com>

**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2025 9:33 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>

**Cc:** Allan Antley <aantley22@gmail.com>; larryschopp@aol.com;  
throughthelens@bellsouth.net; Heidi Gross <grosstacular@gmail.com>; Harvey Padewer  
<padewer@gmail.com>; Muriel Primm <murielpimco@hotmail.com>;  
rignal1946@icloud.com

**Subject:** Dredging Wulfert Channel And Dinkins Bayou

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Dear Ms. Smith,

I write in support of the dredging of Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou.

The cause for the Bayou shoaling was the City's decision to connect Dinkins and Clam Bayous via a culvert under San Cap Road. The consequences have been disastrous for the residents and for the environment.

Before the culvert was installed the waterway and shoreline were stable. Afterwards, and continuing each day, the dramatic increase in current has torn out over a mile of shoreline mangroves, taken private property away with unchecked erosion and created the large sandbar deposits that now clog Dinkins Bayou. Those man-made sandbars are our former property. If a private property owner had made these Corps of Engineers type changes to the Sanibel environment, the City would have them in court, and paying for the costs of remediation. As for Wulfert Channel, that problem was created by the previous decision to reopen Blind Pass, done without regard for the foreseeable impact of shoreline erosion on the Sanibel side of the Pass.

All of this, including the increased vulnerability to storms and degradation of the island, is contrary to the supposed mission and purpose of the Sanibel Plan for the island's long term resiliency.

The bottom line is that fixing these problems, including restoration of the land barrier that separated Dinkins and Clam, is the City's responsibility.

Kindly forward this email to each member of the City Council.

Thank you.

Rignal W. Baldwin, Sr.

[Rignal1946@icloud.com](mailto:Rignal1946@icloud.com)

410-404-3082

**From:** Jason Cohen <jason@cohensalesllc.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2025 9:19 AM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Subject:** Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Plan

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Hi Vicki, I just wanted to drop you a quick note to let you know I support the cities plan to create the tax district and dredge both Wulfert and Dinkins,. I will attend the CC meeting on 6/3

Thanks

Jason Cohen

5847 Pine Tree Drive

2144350884

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**From:** Megan Whalen <whalenmegan0@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 8:50 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Subject:** Sanibel Bayou

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Hello,

I do support the bayou becoming deeper.

Thanks!

Megan

**From:** Jordan Robinson <robinson.jordan.555@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:49 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>

**Subject:** Channel Dredging

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Hello Ms. Smith,

We would like to request that the dredging of Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou continues. It is imperative for the boats in our area to safely navigate, many of whom, like myself often have small children onboard. We have a family home on White Heron Lane and appreciate this work moving forward.

Thanks,

Jordan

My wife's family home is at 6012 White Heron

**From:** Meghan Robinson <mchristine147@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:39 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Subject:** In Favor

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Hi Vicki,

My name is Meghan Robinson, and my parents, Chris and Chris Kelly have had a home on sanibel since 2008. We have been coming down for weeks a year since then and have been so impressed with the work that the city has done to repair what the recent hurricanes have destroyed. I wanted to also send an email supporting the dredging plan for Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou and related assessment zone. This will only continue to repair Sanibel to the beacon of beauty that it used to be. Thank you for your time!

Meghan Robinson.

**From:** Harvey Padewer <padewer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:19 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Cc:** ckelly@jonesday.com  
**Subject:** Dredging Wilford channel, Dinkins Bayou , and environs

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We reside at 5744 Pine Tree Drive adjacent to Dinkins Bayou. We strongly support the Dredging project and urge the Sanibel City Council to proceed with establishing the special taxing district as soon as possible to have the work completed in time to avoid lapsing of permits.

This project is of utmost importance from and both an environmental point of view to assure continued water flow for the aquatic environment as well as to continue to allow recreational boat access in order to maintain property values.

Sincerely

Nancy and Harvey Padewer

**From:** ptd@seloquis.com <ptd@seloquis.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 4:35:40 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Subject:** 5745 Pine Tree Dr | Approval for Dredging Plan

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Hi Vicky,  
since I am not able to attend the City Council meeting on June 3rd, I am kindly asking you to register my consent for the proposed dredging plan.

With best regards  
Michael Seidlitz

**From:** Kathryn Tomita <tomitakathy@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 3:20 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>

**Subject:** Wulfert Channel & Dinkins Bayou Dredging 6498 San-Cap Road

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Vicki,

Thank you for walking me through accessing the documents for the Dinkins Bayou / Sunset Bay dredging project.

I'm extremely disappointed that the dredging plan stops at Castaways and doesn't dredge out our property. There are four properties past Castaways that must be included in this project. Our property at 6498 Sanibel Captiva Road is one of them. We bought in 1995 and had a boat at our dock. All the renourishment of Captiva and Turner Beach, plus the storms have slowly silted in our property cutting off access to Blind Pass and the ability to navigate a boat from our dock to Castaways and out through Dinkins Bayou. Our 4 properties' have been the most severely impacted yet we have not been included in the dredging plan although we are being asked to pay. It doesn't make sense to not include our properties. The equipment is right there!

The Blind Pass Inlet Management Plan Adopted in 2019, which was based on extensive study, shows dredging past our home into blind pass is essential to keeping the area open. This current project at least needs to include the dredging of 6492, 6494, 6496 and 6498 Sanibel Captiva Road. As I see it, if we aren't included, we'll end up with more silt being deposited when the bay floor is disturbed by the dredging.

What do we need to do to get our properties added to the dredging plan? We've been writing letters for years trying to get our water access back.

Thank you for your help with this matter! Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kathy

**From:** Chris Prestigiacomo <chrisprestigiacomo@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 2:55 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>

**Subject:** Dredging of Wulfert and Dinken

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Hi Vicki,

Hope you are doing well. My wife and I live at 5749 Pine Tree Drive on Sanibel. I just wanted to email you our support on the project and the assessment being proposed. While I am hopeful that the city can fin additional residents/users of the water channels to help offset more of the cost, we support the project as outlined in the notice we received in the mail. Thanks again for all of your hard work on keeping Sanibel such a special place. You and all of your colleagues are appreciated. Please let me know if you need anything else from me. My direct number is 608.345.8820.

**From:** Tomita, Tadanori <[TTomita@luriechildrens.org](mailto:TTomita@luriechildrens.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 2:11 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Cc:** Kathryn Tomita <[tomitakathy@gmail.com](mailto:tomitakathy@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Sunset Bay dredging

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Dear Vicki,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Wulfert and Dinkins Bayou project. Our house, located 6498 SanCap Road, Sanibel, is situated on the northwest end of Sunset Bay. When we purchased our house in 1995, the bay water directly connected with the Blind Pass, and we enjoyed clear Gulf water and boating. However, due to repeated sand re-nourishments of Turner and Blind Pass beaches, sediment has accumulated under our dock, rendering the water too shallow for our boat, and we had to give up our boating.

I could not understand why the proposed dredging ends at the Castways Marina, not extending to four properties further North including ours. I strongly urge the city to consider dredging our front water as part of this project.

Also, we wonder what happened with “the Blind Pass Inlet Management Plan, Division of Water Resource Management, Florida Department of Environmental Protection” approved in August 2019.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. I look forward to the city’s favorable response.

Sincerely,  
Tad

Tadanori Tomita, MD  
Professor Emeritus of Neurological Surgery,  
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine,  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois USA

**From:** Ed Siciliano <[ESiciliano@cancapital.com](mailto:ESiciliano@cancapital.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 12:56 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>; Karin Siciliano <[karin3102@gmail.com](mailto:karin3102@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Dredging Project

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Hi Vicki

This is Ed Siciliano, 2403 Bluecrab Ct Sanibel. I'm in the zone for assessment and Support the project. Boating can be impossible at times in the areas defined in this project.

I do ask that you consider lowering the costs of this project. Suggestions-

1. Reduce scope to those areas causing the biggest issues. This project can definitely be reduced in scope and cost and still achieve the goal of open and safe navigation.

2. Sanibel should cover 50%, and homeowners 50%. A more equitable division given Sanibel property taxes Mine are \$22,000.

3. Include others in the assessment who benefit from the project.

Again, this must be rectified so I fully support moving ahead.

Thank you.

Ed Siciliano

Sent from Ed's iPhone

**From:** August Borschke <[ajborschke@gmail.com](mailto:ajborschke@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 12:47 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Dredging - 6494 San-Cap

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Hi Vicki. Thank you for your letter regarding dredging in Sunset Bay. We hope you can dredge most of the whole bay, as it is very shallow. Also, we live on the bay just north of Castaways; so I expect you will be dredging in front of our house too. Our address is 6494 San-Cap Road. Let us know. Thanks for your efforts. Gus Borschke. 336 782 1994.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 12:31 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** New development

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Hey Vicki,

I was just very disappointingly informed by my neighbors at 6498 SanCap that the dredging plan stops at the old Castaways Marina and does not pass our houses. If we are being assessed, we need to be included in the dredging path! I speak for 6494, 6496 and 6498 SanCap.

Please let me know how we go about amending the plan so we are included. The machinery will be right there at Castaways; it's simply illogical not to include us!

I look forward to your response!

Thank you!

John DiLorenzo

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**From:** Wood, Michael B., M.D. <[wood.michael@mayo.edu](mailto:wood.michael@mayo.edu)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 11:53 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Cc:** Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** dredging Wulfert Channel

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Hello Vicki, I am unable to attend the June 3 City Council meeting , but wanted to voice my support for dredging Wulfert Channel to Dinkins Bayou , and would be willing to contribute to an assessment if necessary. I own a home at 5869 Pine Tree Dr.

**From:** Joan and Steve Szynal <[szynals@hotmail.com](mailto:szynals@hotmail.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 11:52 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Dredging in Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou

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Dear Sanibel City Council:

Access to Dinkins Bayou and Wulfert Channel are extremely important to Sanibel and the neighborhoods that surround them. Not only does it play a huge part in our home values, but it also provides an open habitat for the many dolphins, birds and manatees that populate these waters. We need the dredging project if we intend to keep the access open.

.

We are writing to let you know that we fully support the proposal, and hope that the City Council can come through for us in this important endeavor. Thank you for all you do to keep Sanibel a special place.

Sincerely,

Stephen and Joan Szynal

5743 Pine Tree Drive

Sanibel, FL. 33957

**From:** [tjsikon@comcast.net](mailto:tjsikon@comcast.net) <[tjsikon@comcast.net](mailto:tjsikon@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 11:23 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou Area Dredging Assessment District Project

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Sanibel City Manager and City Council:

I am writing about a number of concerns we have about the proposed project. First and foremost, while it appears the City may be able to legally assess a small number of residents for the project, this is a public waterway that a large number of both residential and non-residential boaters will use and benefit from. This seems highly unfair to lay the burden of this cost on such a small number of residents. Unfortunately, your letter dated May 21, 2025 was the first time we and all of our neighbors became aware of the project even though it appears the project has been in progress for some time now. I would have expected that the impacted residents would have been contacted directly by the city for comment/concerns instead of it being buried in a city council meeting agenda and only being directly informed once the project has been approved. Since this is our first direct notice about the project and the fact that our property is included in the Assessment District we have a number of questions:

1. Florida Statue 170 provides special assessments against the specific properties **benefiting** from the improvements. We would like to know exactly how you determined which properties will benefit from the project and please define the term "benefit" as used in the project. My wife and I do not own a boat and do not use the waterways in any way shape or form. So why are we being assessed for something we do not use nor benefit from - and it appears clear from your letter that the dredging is necessary to "provide safe navigation for boaters". We do not fall into this class of beneficiaries.
2. Your letter states that the request was initiated by certain residents. We believe that there is a small number of very vocal residents who made the request. So we would like to know the approximate number of residents who made the request.

3. We also want to know approximate number of residents that the City reached out to who reside in the Assessment District for their feed back on the project. Was there a poll, vote, survey, etc or was this project pushed through for the benefit of a very small number of people who can't get their large boats through the waterway? This project has the appearance of some type of a favor for a very few people at others expense.
4. We don't understand why this project is not being funded by the county, state or federal government given the fact that it is public waterway and due to natural disasters. Currently there is a project in progress to clean storm debris from these same waterways which we believe is being funded by Lee County. How is it that the county will pay to remove debris from the hurricanes but not the sand deposited in these public waterways.
5. It appears that the Assessment District only included properties located on the waterways and excludes those without direct access ("land locked") to the water. As you know, there are a number of boat ramps in these waterways that provide access to all boaters – So why would you exclude anyone who boats.
6. Did council investigate any other means of funding this project such as grants, loans, assessments to all residents of Sanibel, etc.- if so, please provide responses received.
7. We do not understand how the City can establish a reserve against future work with in this small area – does the city have reserves established for any other parts of the Island? This is not an HOA.
8. We cannot determine exactly what parts of the waterways will actually be dredged – please provide a better map showing the project area and scope.

We look forward to your response.

**Timothy J Sikon**

**2460 Harbour Lane**

**Sanibel, FL 33957**

**440-821-3465**

**[tjsikon@comcast.net](mailto:tjsikon@comcast.net)**

**From:** Kathy Knoblauch <[kathyjknob@gmail.com](mailto:kathyjknob@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 10:25 AM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Cc:** Allan Antley <[aantley22@gmail.com](mailto:aantley22@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Dinkin's Bayou dredging

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Thank you for all the work that has been accomplished to get the dredging project for Dinkin's Bayou to the point it is today. We appreciate the city paying for part of the project and encourage you to continue to look for additional grants to offset the bill.

Kathy Knoblauch

Terry Ische

5820 Pine Tree Drive

Sanibel FL 33957

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Jonathan Tongyai <[jonathan@islandhomesllc.com](mailto:jonathan@islandhomesllc.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 10:01 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Dredging of Dinkins Bayou and Wilber Channel

Hello Vicki,

I live at 2418 Blue Crab Court. I am happy to hear about the dredging and support it 1000%. We have not been able to utilize the boat ramp with our boat since the channel is very hard if not impossible to navigate due to the silting in.

Thank you,

Jonathan Tongyai  
Island Homes LLC, MMBR

239-472-2008

239-464-8734 Cell

2418 Blue Crab Ct

Sanibel, FL 33957

<http://www.islandhomesllc.com>

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**From:** Bill P <[cmwy10a@msn.com](mailto:cmwy10a@msn.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 8:54 AM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** william primm supports this project

.

ZjQcmQRYFpfptBannerStart

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ZjQcmQRYFpfptBannerEnd

**From:** [beardyw@comcast.net](mailto:beardyw@comcast.net) <[beardyw@comcast.net](mailto:beardyw@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 8:31 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Dredging Assessment District

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Sanibel Council Members:

Our house is on Castaways lane and we have a dock on Dinkins Bayou. We do NOT have a boat (other than kayaks), and have no intention of ever getting one. Many of our Del Saga neighbors (that have property on the canals or bayou) do not have boats (or if they do, small ones). The proposed Assessment District (and the huge financial cost to each homeowner) is outrageous!! It may be an easy way for Sanibel to find the money for this project, but it is completely unfair.

In addition, many of the people who will benefit from this dredging do not even live on Sanibel. They come from Ft Myers, etc. We will be facing more sightseers, charter fishing boats and private fishing boats. The fishermen/women, will now feel comfortable entering our waterways and fishing at our docks. They will pay nothing, but will reap the benefits of traveling into our areas. We will bear the financial burden and face additional boat traffic and annoyances.

This proposal is extremely unfair, incredibly expensive, and will probably benefit less than 50% of the assessed homeowners (i.e., those that have larger power boats).

The letter from Dana Souza states that, "The remainder of the cost (66.67%) will need to be paid by **property owners who will benefit from this improvement....**" As I stated above, that is totally untrue!!! Many of us will not benefit at all, and in addition, we will have some additional negatives!!

Please reevaluate this proposal. We do not need this dredging and don't want it, and the cost to us is enormous!!

Thank you,  
Steve (and Penny) Weinstein  
Castaways Lane

**From:** Carolyn Tongyai <[carolyn@ctongyai.com](mailto:carolyn@ctongyai.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 8:27 AM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** I support dredging plan Wilbert Channel and Dinkins Bayou

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Hi Vicki,

I live at 2418 Blue Crab Ct. Although we don't live on the Bayou, we do own a boat and love to boat and fish in this area, and believe the dredging plan for Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou will be beneficial to everyone who lives here. We support the plan.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Tongyai

2418 Blue Crab Ct.

**From:** Robert Paddor <[rpaddor@aol.com](mailto:rpaddor@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 9:42 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** Robert Paddor/2411 Blue Crab Ct

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Vicki,

I support the dredging of both Dinkins Bayou and the Wulfert Channel. If you remember, I also had to get dredging permit to make my side of the Bayou manageable for boating. With low tides we need this service, I ask for your support.

Robert Paddor

2411 Blue Crab Ct

[Rpaddor@aol.com](mailto:Rpaddor@aol.com)

I'm currently out of town and will not be able to attend your scheduled hearing.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Matt Kelly <[mattckelly45@gmail.com](mailto:mattckelly45@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 9:21 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** Support Dredging Wulfert Channel

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Vicki,

My name is Matt Kelly. I support the dredging plan and assessment zone. This will be crucial for us to navigate the waterway from the property I'm at consistently- 6012 White Heron Lane.

Kind regards,

Matt

**From:** Thomas Kelly <[tj22kelly@gmail.com](mailto:tj22kelly@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 9:01 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** Sanibel dredging plan and assessment zone

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Hello,

My name is TJ Kelly, and my family lives at 6012 white heron lane, on Dinken Bayou. I wanted to send this email as the dredging plan and assessment zone are both important to me. I strongly support the plan.

Thank you,

TJ

**From:** Christine <[hopefulcmk@gmail.com](mailto:hopefulcmk@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 8:45 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** Wolfort Channel and Dinkins Bayou

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Dear Vicki and City Council Members,

I reside at 6012 White Heron Lane in Sanibel. I am in favor of the dredging project! This is so important to me as a homeowner that we have good water navigation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christine Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Markland Headley <[marklandheadley@gmail.com](mailto:marklandheadley@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 7:35:33 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** Wulfert Channel/Dinkins Bayou Dredging Proposal

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I support this proposed project.

Thanks,

Mark Headley

2552 Harbour Lane

Sanibel

**From:** Rhonda Lord <[rhondalord13@gmail.com](mailto:rhondalord13@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 7:04:22 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Dinkins/ Sunset Bayou/Wulfert Channel dredging

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Hi Vicki, I strongly support the proposed dredging project. Since lan our waterways have filled in making it difficult to get thru to the bay. Not only will this help boaters, but also allow wildlife to return to our bayou. This will also be a great boost for property values also.

Thank you for you attention to this desperately needed solution.

Rhonda Lord

Harbour Ln.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Louise Huyck <[weezieh@comcast.net](mailto:weezieh@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 5:26:47 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Assessment/Dredging of Dinkins Bayou and Wulfert Channel

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Hi Vicki,

I am writing in support of the City's plans to assess affected homeowners in our neighborhood to open up the waterways in Dinkins and Wulfert Channel.

Thanks,

Louise Huyck

2518 Tropical Way Ct

603-566-1105

**From:** [thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net) <[thuyck@comcast.net](mailto:thuyck@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 5:22:38 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Assessment zone/dredging plans

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Good afternoon Vicki,

I am a homeowner and boater that lives in Del Sega, and I just wanted to send a note in support of the assessment zone and dredging plans. Although I believe Lee County should be helping financially with the dredging in Wulfert Channel, I support the city's approach to solving our access problems to our waterways.

Thanks,  
Tim Huyck  
2518 Tropical Way Ct  
603-566-1032

**From:** John DiLorenzo <[jdilorenzo@miplanners.com](mailto:jdilorenzo@miplanners.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 5:02:23 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Dredging project

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Good afternoon, Vicki...

My Sanibel home is located at 6496 SanCap Road. Yesterday, I received the communication from Dana about the proposed dredging project and I COULD NOT BE HAPPIER!! This is the best news I have heard from the City of Sanibel in ages! This will DRAMATICALLY improve our waterfront property in so many ways, including a significantly improved wildlife environment!!

I am 1000% in favor of this project and can't wait to see it come to fruition!

Thank you!!

John DiLorenzo

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**From:** Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 5:02:02 PM

**To:** John Henshaw <[John.Henshaw@mysanibel.com](mailto:John.Henshaw@mysanibel.com)>; Mike Miller <[Mike.Miller@mysanibel.com](mailto:Mike.Miller@mysanibel.com)>; Holly Smith <[Holly.Smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:Holly.Smith@mysanibel.com)>; Richard Johnson <[richard.johnson@mysanibel.com](mailto:richard.johnson@mysanibel.com)>; Laura J. DeBruce <[laura.debruce@mysanibel.com](mailto:laura.debruce@mysanibel.com)>; Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Support for Wulfert Channel & Dinkins Bayou Dredging Project

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Resending with correct email for Vicki

On Wed, May 28, 2025 at 4:57 PM Jeff Harvey <[jdharvey11@gmail.com](mailto:jdharvey11@gmail.com)> wrote:

**Dear Members of the City Council,**

We own two homes on Sanibel that are within the "Wulfert Channel and Dinkins Bayou Area Dredging Assessment District" and I am writing to express our **100% support** for this critical project.

We appreciate the hard work that has gone into securing permits to complete the dredging this summer. We also appreciate the pragmatic approach you are taking to plan for the future by establishing a fund to support dredging again in 2035 (based on historical experience with the last dredging being in 2014).

**While 202 Sanibel properties have been identified for assessment for most of this cost, it's important to acknowledge that these waterways are also heavily used by Captiva and Lee County residents. Additional funding from Captiva property owners (especially those on Roosevelt Channel), would help more fairly distribute costs and reduce the impact on Sanibel homeowners alone for this effort. Has this also been considered?**

Thank you again for your dedication and leadership. We recognize and appreciate your support in helping to maintain our beautiful island and our critical infrastructure.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 847-208-0392. I am happy to help in any way I can.

Sincerely,

**Jeff & Tracey Harvey**

5690 Pine Tree Drive, Sanibel, FL 33947

5880 Sanibel Captiva Rd, Sanibel, FL 33957

**From:** Nannette Lehr <[nsflorida@gmail.com](mailto:nsflorida@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 4:57:30 PM

**To:** Michael Lehr <[v808691@gmail.com](mailto:v808691@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Special Assessment-Wulfert/Dinkins

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I have a question and wanted to add to my husband's (Mike Lehr's) comments. First our house fronts San Cap Road and Mitchell Canal is in our backyard separating us from Pine Tree Drive. Will this assessment include cleaning the Mitchell Canal? In case of another storm does this assessment include trimming mangroves and/or taking fallen trees out of our canal? Since our boat like so many others was destroyed during Hurricane Ian what do nonboaters get out of dredging Dinkens Bayou? At a time when 3 hurricanes have hit our properties hard and many of us are struggling with cleaning up and repairing the mess they made we are also facing higher insurance costs and higher inflation making repairs more costly. And please don't say that in an environment where Sanibel is experiencing an oversupply of houses for sale that access to the Bay adds to our real estate values. Worst we are living in a political environment where FEMA is at risk. Besides politics FEMA has been hit in recent years with an unduly number of massive hurricanes, fires, tornadoes, flooding throughout the country. If FEMA doesn't have the funds to provide support as they did during past storms is the State going to step in? The same state that plans on cutting property taxes for non homesteaders, that also allegedly dug into the state's medicaid funds to help defeat ballot measures? And does Sanibel have the funds to make up for disaster expenditures no longer covered by federal and state government? I think this assessment is a tone deaf answer to a non serious problem and i hope Sanibel continues to prepare our community for another hurricane season and the destruction that may follow.

Respectfully,

Nannette Lehr

On Wed, May 28, 2025 at 10:47 AM Michael Lehr <[v808691@gmail.com](mailto:v808691@gmail.com)> wrote:

Received a letter dated 5/21/25 regarding the city's proposed intention to establish a special tax assessment for dredging in Wulfert, Sunset and Dinkins waterways.

Quote from said letter:

"This project was initiated by requests from residents ..."

I noted lacking from the letter is the number of residents requesting this dredging and their names and addresses. Is this information confidential? If so, why?

It seems to me that if a resident(s) is/are willing to approach the city regarding such a project, especially one like this that places an extreme financial burden on all residents involved, they should also be willing to publicly stand up for their support of it. I would like to know the number of residents requesting this project along with their names and addresses/phone numbers.

Additional, the navigational/boating issues seem to have been addressed by a city hired "engineering firm", but what of the environmental issues created by this project? These waterways are home to many protected species of wild life. Sanibel goes to great lengths to protect sea turtles and sea birds on the Gulf of Mexico side of the island, but has little regard, it seems, for the north-east side of the island. This seems hypocritical to me. What has the city done to assess the impacts of heavy machinery digging in these waterways? Manatees, dolphins, alligators, sea birds (just to name a few) are all at risk due to this project.

Lastly, after three years of devastating storms, putting a financial burden like this on top of the already financial ruination that has occurred due to these storms seems callous, uncaring and to echo our current federal government, cruel. Not everyone on Sanibel is a millionaire/billionaire or pleasure cruises in large \$200,000+ watercrafts. Many are older retirees, barely scraping by and have no ability to earn more income other than their social security and what is left of their savings after these previous hurricanes.

I will be attending the 6/3/25 and 7/15/25 city counsel meeting to express my views publicly on this proposed project.

I await your reply.

Respectfully,

Michael J Lehr  
5884 Sanibel Captiva Rd, Sanibel, FL 33957  
239 395 3327

**From:** Richard Burnham <[rmburnham@mac.com](mailto:rmburnham@mac.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 4:56:32 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Dredging Dinkins Bayou, Wulfert Channel

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Will we soon be provided with a map of exactly what is going to be dredged?

Richard M. Burnham  
806 Butternut Road  
Madison, WI 53704  
[rmburnham@mac.com](mailto:rmburnham@mac.com)  
608-215-6302

Winter - 6176 Henderson Road  
Sanibel, FL 33957

**From:** Keith Hoover <[angelcresttn@gmail.com](mailto:angelcresttn@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 4:26:13 PM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>  
**Subject:** Dredging

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I fully support Wuffert Channel and Dinkins Bayou dredging.

Thanks

Erica

**From:** [lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com) <[lordh@realtracs.com](mailto:lordh@realtracs.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 4:14:09 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** dinkins bayou dredging

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Dear Vicki,

I own two properties on Dinking bayou.

I fully support the Dickins Bayou dredging project. Not only will it allow boaters more opportunities

to use the bayou without worry of prop damage or being stranded I believe it will allow the bayou to come back to life. As the water flow has become more restricted the wildlife has become more scarce. We see fewer schools of minnows, almost no mullet, and few pelicans diving for their dinner.

Im excited to see it all come back to life.

Herb Lord

2520 and 2544 Harbour ln

**From:** Brian Murphy <[brianmurphyemail@yahoo.com](mailto:brianmurphyemail@yahoo.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 1:25:59 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <[vicki.smith@mysanibel.com](mailto:vicki.smith@mysanibel.com)>

**Subject:** Wulfert/Dinkins Dredging

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Hi Vicki,

First let me thank you and Council for listening to residents and drawing up the plan to dredge Wulfert and Dinkins. The sand buildup prevents boating at lower tide periods and has become a safety issue as boats unfamiliar (and even familiar) with the issue get stuck during periods of dropping tide. This investment will make the island better for fishermen and property owners. We fully support this effort.

I have a couple of comments / questions.

- 1) I disagree with the Assessment District map as it does not include the houses with boat access on the East side of Dinkins. There are about 20-25 homes with docks, and they too utilize Dinkins and Wulfert waterways. They shouldn't benefit without contributing. Hopefully, these "Sanctuary" homes can be included and the cost shared with them. Please let me know the justification and if the District can be amended to include these homes.
- 2) I'm assuming that the markers and slow speed signage will be adjusted once the channel has been re-established. People are currently ignoring the markers as they are inaccurate and the speed postings.
- 3) The letter doesn't communicate the timing of the work or the timing for the assessment—can you share?

Thank you,  
Brian Murphy  
2510 Harbour Lane  
Sanibel, FL

**From:** jim.mcneil@akerman.com <jim.mcneil@akerman.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:54 PM

**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>

**Subject:** 2507 Blind Pass Court, Sanibel

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Vicki, good afternoon. I live at 2507 Blind Pass Court. I received Dana's letter on the dredging. I am in favor of the dredging.

Could you please send me the dredging survey, the staff report and any map showing the limits of the dredging? It is unclear to me what areas are being dredged.

Thanks

Jim

**James H. McNeil, Jr.**

Chair, Residential Development Practice

Akerman LLP | 420 South Orange Avenue | Suite 1200 | Orlando, FL 32801-4904

Dir: 407.419.8543 | Main: 407.423.4000 | Cell: 321.217.1738

[Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com](mailto:Jim.Mcneil@akerman.com)

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**From:** Michael Lehr <v808691@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025 10:48 AM  
**To:** Vicki L. Smith <vicki.smith@mysanibel.com>  
**Cc:** Michael Lehr <v808691@gmail.com>; nslflorida <nslflorida@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Special Assessment-Wulfert/Dinkins

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Received a letter dated 5/21/25 regarding the city's proposed intention to establish a special tax assessment for dredging in Wulfert, Sunset and Dinkins waterways.

Quote from said letter:

"This project was initiated by requests from residents ..."

I noted lacking from the letter is the number of residents requesting this dredging and their names and addresses. Is this information confidential? If so, why?

It seems to me that if a resident(s) is/are willing to approach the city regarding such a project, especially one like this that places an extreme financial burden on all residents involved, they should also be willing to publicly stand up for their support of it. I would like to know the number of residents requesting this project along with their names and addresses/phone numbers.

Additional, the navigational/boating issues seem to have been addressed by a city hired "engineering firm", but what of the environmental issues created by this project? These waterways are home to many protected species of wild life. Sanibel goes to great lengths to protect sea turtles and sea birds on the Gulf of Mexico side of the island, but has little regard, it seems, for the north-east side of the island. This seems hypocritical to me. What has the city done to assess the impacts of heavy machinery digging in these waterways? Manatees, dolphins, alligators, sea birds (just to name a few) are all at risk due to this project.

Lastly, after three years of devastating storms, putting a financial burden like this on top of the already financial ruination that has occurred due to these storms seems callous, uncaring and to echo our current federal government, cruel. Not everyone on Sanibel is a millionaire/billionaire or pleasure cruises in large \$200,000+ watercrafts. Many are older retirees, barely scraping by and have no ability to earn more income other than their social security and what is left of their savings after these previous hurricanes.

I will be attending the 6/3/25 and 7/15/25 city counsel meeting to express my views publicly on this proposed project.

I await your reply.

Respectfully,

Michael J Lehr  
5884 Sanibel Captiva Rd, Sanibel, FL 33957  
239 395 3327