

Synopsis of Mims Community Group Meeting on March 19, 2019

Our speaker for this meeting was Mark Crosley, Executive Director of Florida Inland Navigation District. He brought engineering support staff from Taylor Engineering and from Brevard County to answer detailed technical questions. He provided an update on the planned dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway. His previous presentation to us was in January, 2017.

First, he discussed the Dredged Material Management Areas (DMMA): the BV-2C site on Aurantia Road and the BV-4B site on Cuyler Street. The BV-2C site is complete and has been used before. The BV-4C site is currently being used by Brevard County for dredging the Lagoon at the Mims Boat Launch. Brevard County expects to finish their use of this site in May/June of 2019. Mark said that because they still have design work, permitting, and construction work to do at this site, it could be as long as 5 years before construction is complete. It might be another two years after that before this site is used to store dredged material from the Intracoastal Waterway.

Mark said that there are monitoring wells in place now and they will remain there during the foreseeable future to check for salt water migrating off the DMMA site. These wells are checked quarterly and will continue to be checked quarterly for the foreseeable future. During the actual dredging of the Waterway, these wells are checked monthly. The water from the dredging activity is returned to the river. The dredged material will stay on this site permanently, unless the county or some other public entity requests to use it for a public project, such as beach re-nourishment.

When asked about concerns about possible toxic substances that may be dredged and put in the DMMA. His reply was that the material to be dredged is tested and analyzed. They have yet to experience any contaminated material in the IWW, but they still test for it and test the material when it enters and leaves the site

Mark said that the primary purpose of this dredging will be to keep the Intracoastal Waterway channel deep enough for boat traffic. While muck removal is not their primary job, if there is muck in the channel, that muck will be removed to maintain the proper channel depth.

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Regards,
Ron Bartcher
President, Mims Community Group