

City of LaBelle Board of Commissioners Agenda Request

To: Honorable Mayor and City Commission

Prepared By: Zane Mungillo

Date of Meeting: October 9, 2025

Date Submitted: October 1, 2025

Title of Agenda Item: Dockage rates

Agenda Location: Consent

Report in brief:

The City's current dockage rates remain well below those of surrounding areas. However, ongoing maintenance and necessary repairs to the dock facilities have increased operational costs. To ensure the dock remains self-sustaining and to prevent these expenses from falling on taxpayers, an increase in dockage rates is both reasonable and necessary. Because of the unique nature of docking at the City's facility where vessels may tie up bow-in or stern-in depending on river conditions and vessel type it is recommended that the City continue using a flat-rate fee structure rather than charging by the foot. However, to better align with regional rates and account for rising maintenance costs, a revised tiered flat rate is proposed: \$65 per night for slips with 50-amp electrical service, \$55 per night for slips with 30-amp service, and \$35 per night for slips without water and power. These adjusted rates would still remain competitive compared to neighboring marinas while ensuring the facility remains financially sustainable and less reliant on taxpayer funding.

Staff Comments:

The City of LaBelle currently charges a flat \$30/day dockage rate, which for the average 32-foot boat works out to under \$1.00 per foot. By contrast, Port LaBelle Marina charges \$2.00 per foot per night, meaning a 32-foot vessel would incur \$64 per night there. At Moore Haven City Docks, rates are also \$2.00 per foot per night (some sources noting an increase to \$3.00). In Clewiston, Roland & Mary Ann Martins Marina lists a daily dockage rate of \$3.00 per foot, which for a 32-foot boat would be \$96/day. Closer to LaBelle, in the Fort Myers area, Pink Shell Beach Resort & Marina charges \$5.00 per foot per night in peak season and \$4.25 off-season for

transient dockage, while Moss Marina lists \$5.00 per foot per night with a 35' minimum. These comparisons highlight how far below regional norms LaBelle's rate falls, reinforcing the rationale for a rate increase to better match operating costs and regional standards.

Fiscal Impact: Increased revenue

Recommended Actions: We recommend the City Commission of the City of LaBelle approve the dockage rates.