

PALM BEACH SHORES/LAKE PARK SINGER ISLAND CHANNEL DREDGING PROJECT

The Singer Island Channel is a naturally occurring channel When the Lake Worth Inlet was cut in the early 1900s, the natural Lake Worth currents were disrupted and the Channel began a shoaling process; the shoaling has now increased to the point that it impedes navigation and creates a safety hazard, and causes localized flooding within Palm Beach Shores. On weekends and holidays, boats breach the sandbar, impeding the navigation channel and creating unsafe conditions. The sand is also blocking Palm Beach Shores' stormwater outfall pipes.

This project is designed to provide a mutual benefit for Palm Beach Shores and the Town of Lake Park, as Palm Beach Shores does not have the staff to undertake the scope of this project. Lake Park will provide the project management and oversight, and will benefit from the receipt of the majority of the dredged material. In order to complete this vital project, the Lake Park and Palm Beach Shores will enter into an inter-municipal agreement, the result of which will permit Lake Park to store and use the material for necessary sea level mitigation measures (outlined below).

The completion of this project will:

- Protect the general public from harm through the resulting decrease in boating accidents
- Improve transportation conditions by creating demonstrably safer and more enjoyable boating conditions in the Channel
- Reduce the stress and workload on police, security and first responder organizations
- Improve economic activity through the direct, positive impact on the business of local marinas
- Increase tourism by improving the experience accessing Peanut Island, a tourist destination located immediately adjacent to the Channel and shoal
- Create dredging-related job opportunities and will indirectly solidify existing marine industry jobs; additional marine industry jobs may also be created (this project is supported by the marine industry)
- Improve wastewater management by reducing the opportunity for passengers of boats beached on the shoal to deposit human excrement in the water
- Improve stormwater management for Palm Beach Shores by removing the sand currently impeding the outflow pipe
- Enable Lake Park to raise its sea wall, marina and park lands (as indicated in its <u>Vulnerability Assessment</u>), which would otherwise remain a financially unattainable goal