

STAFF REPORT REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: September 16, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

TITLE:

Resolution No. 51-2025 – sunseting the Waterways Advisory Board

SUMMARY:

The City Commission is considering sunseting the Waterways Board (formerly the C-51 Canal Advisory Committee) before the next round of board appointments.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

At the May 6, 2023 regular Commission meeting, the City Commission approved Resolution 14-2023, revising the C-51 Canal Advisory Committee to the Waterways Board. Since that time, staff has evaluated the purpose and scope of the Board relative to existing regional and state oversight of the C-51 Canal and the Lake Worth Lagoon.

The C-51 Canal discharges into the Lake Worth Lagoon, which is managed through a coordinated, multi-agency structure. Palm Beach County's Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) leads the Lake Worth Lagoon Management Plan, with support from the Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative (LWLI), a partnership including Palm Beach County, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and other stakeholders. The SFWMD specifically manages the canal discharges, while FDEP and ERM provide regulatory oversight, restoration leadership, and funding support.

Because the Lagoon and its contributing canals already fall under robust interagency management, the Waterways Board has limited scope for effective action at the municipal level. In addition, the Board has not convened since March 2024 due to a lack of quorum, further limiting its effectiveness and ability to fulfill its intended advisory role.

Dissolving the Board eliminates duplication of effort while ensuring the City of Lake Worth Beach continues to coordinate directly with partner agencies through the LWLI and other regional frameworks. This approach will streamline resources, reduce administrative burden, and maintain strong advocacy for local interests in Lagoon and canal management.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove Resolution No. 51-2025 sunseting the Waterways Advisory Board.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Resolution 51-2025