

From: [BCC Agenda](#)
To: [BCC Agenda](#); [Amanda Ballard](#); [Cindy Nelson](#); [Dana Summers](#); [George Kruse](#); [Jason Bearden](#); [Kelli OMalley](#); [Maria Zuleta](#); [Marianne Bejster](#); [Mike Rahn](#); [Robert McCann](#); [Selena Cunningham](#); [Tal Siddique](#); [Bobbi Roy](#); [Corey Stutte](#); [Stephanie Garrison](#); [Bryan Parnell](#); [Vicki Tessmer](#); [Robin Toth](#); [Pamela DAgostino](#)
Subject: Additional Public Comments for June 2, 2026
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 8:26:47 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Additional Generic Comments.pdf](#)
[Item 12. Adoption of Resolutions.pdf](#)

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Hello All. The attached comments and changes to Item 12, Adoption of Resolutions, were received after the publishing of the last update.

Sincerely,

Quantana Acevedo | Planning & Zoning Tech III
Manatee County Government
Development Services Department – Agenda Division
Mailing Address: P.O.Box 1000, Bradenton, FL 34205
Office Location: 9000 Town Center Parkway, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
941-748-4501 ext. 3724
Website: mymanatee.org

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June 2, 2026 - Regular Meeting

Subject

Adoption of Resolutions R-26-061, R-26-062, R-26-063, R-26-064, R-26-065, R-26-066, R-26-067, R-26-068, R-26-069, R-26-070, approving and authorizing submission of FY 2026-2027 West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) Grant Applications; and Execution of Agreements and Extensions upon approval of applications

Category

CONSENT AGENDA

Briefings

None

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Charlie Hunsicker, Director, Natural Resources, ext. 6001

Action Requested

1. Adoption of Resolutions R-26-061, R-26-062, R-26-063, R-26-064, R-26-065, R-26-066, R-26-067, R-26-068, R-26-069, R-26-070, approving FY 2026-2027 WCIND grant applications and authorizing the submission of said applications.
2. Authorization for the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners to sign any and all agreements with WCIND upon approval of said applications.
3. Authorization for the County Administrator or designee to sign extensions and subrecipient agreements with those agencies that are not County departments.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

Chapter 374 Florida Statutes, West Coast Inland Navigation District
Rule 66A-2 Florida Administrative Code

Applicable Advisory Board

N/A

Background Discussion

Manatee County is authorized to approve and administer waterway projects. WCIND project categories include Marine Law Enforcement, Public Navigation, Environmental Education, Boating Safety and Education, Boater Recreation, and Disaster Relief.

Manatee County CNIF balance is currently \$9,135,643.06. These funds are designated portion of the WCIND reserves, and are currently not held by Manatee County, which are allocated to be used by the respective Counties for navigation improvements. The Board can request these funds throughout the year as needed.

The following projects are recommended for funding:

****Updated cover sheet and generic comments received after the publishing of the last Agenda, per comments by the County Administrator.**

1. R-26-061 – Town of Longboat Key Fire Boat – Boating Safety & Education (\$22,727.14)
2. R-26-062 – Town of Longboat Key Channel Markers – Public Navigation (\$10,000)
3. R-26-063 – Town of Longboat Key Police T-Top Replacement – Marine Law Enforcement (\$15,000)
4. R-26-064 – Bradenton Beach Derelict Vessel Removal – Public Navigation (\$25,000)
5. R-26-065 – Holmes Beach Marine Law Enforcement – Marine Law Enforcement (\$250,432)
6. R-26-066 – Bradenton Police Department Boat Operations – Marine Law Enforcement (\$41,600)
7. R-26-067 – City of Palmetto Boat Ramp – Boater Recreation (\$20,000)
8. R-26-068 – City of Palmetto Derelict Boat Removal – Public Navigation (\$10,000)
9. R-26-09 – Manatee Sail and Power Squadron Boating Education – Boating Safety & Education (\$900)
10. R-26-070 – USCG Auxiliary District 7 Flotilla Boater Education and Community Outreach – Boating Safety & Education (\$1,257)

The total request for these WCIND grants totals \$396,916.14. Once the Grants are approved and received, they will be appropriated within the corresponding grant fund to allow funds to be used for projects. A budget amendment will follow upon receipt to allocate funding.

Natural Resources is requesting that the Board adopt Resolutions R-26-061, R-26-062, R-26-063, R-26-064, R-26-065, R-26-066, R-26-067, R-26-068, R-26-069, R-26-070, approving the applications and authorizing staff to transmit to WCIND. Upon receipt, WCIND will review and approve them during their September 2026 meeting and formal agreements will be executed. At this same meeting, WCIND will approve and sign all amendments/extensions for those grantees that request a one-year extension, which is allowed under Rule 66A-2 F.A.C. There are also sub-agreements and amendments between the County and those grantees not associated with any County function.

Natural Resources staff is also requesting:

1. The Board of County Commissioners Chairman be authorized to sign all grant agreements between WCIND and Manatee County for those approved applications, and
2. The County Administrator or designee be authorized to execute all sub-recipient agreements and extension amendments between Manatee County and those approved agencies.

Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Instructions to Board Records

Please provide copies of executed Resolutions to lauren.franklin@mymanatee.org and Michael.solum@mymanatee.org for transmittal to WCIND.

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

Fund 117 – WCIND Grant Funding

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

\$396,916.14 – Grant Funded.

From: Concerned Citizen <concernedcitizenbocc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 6:14 PM
To: Jennifer R. Cowan <jcowan@bmlaw.com>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>; Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal@mymanatee.org>; Charlie Bishop <charlie.bishop@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Re: FW: Port authority

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Thank you for your response and for extending the invitation to meet.

I will admit that some of my frustration has come from trying to understand complex issues that I believe are important to the public. If my previous message came across more strongly than intended, I would like to refocus on having a productive conversation.

I appreciate the Port's willingness to meet and answer questions. My goal is simply to better understand the issues and hear directly from those involved.

If the invitation remains open, please let me know what the next step is from here, along with a few dates and times that may work for your team. I would be happy to coordinate a meeting.

Thank you again for your time, and I look forward to speaking with you.

Respectfully,

On Wed, May 27, 2026 at 4:18 PM Concerned Citizen <concernedcitizenbocc@gmail.com> wrote:

We really would not need to go back and forth in emails if you were a competent person capable of simply answering a straightforward public question directly and transparently.

The question remains very simple: Is Seaport currently seeking, discussing, pursuing, or attempting to obtain full or expanded Port Authority control or authority from Manatee County citizens — yes or no?

I also do not understand why this apparently requires a private meeting instead of a direct written answer to the public. If a meeting is truly necessary, would the meeting be permitted to be recorded as part of a news interview for transparency and public accountability purposes?

Additionally, for clarification purposes, are you responding in your capacity as counsel for Seaport/Port Manatee, Manatee County, an individual commissioner, or another entity?

I originally directed my question to a commissioner, so I am attempting to understand why third-party legal counsel is responding on the commissioner's behalf instead of the commissioner directly answering the question themselves. Commissioners need to resign if not competent enough to handle their own businesses affairs.

Lastly, is this representation publicly funded, county-funded, port-funded, or privately retained?

On Wed, May 27, 2026 at 3:54 PM Jennifer R. Cowan <jcowan@bmolaw.com> wrote:
Concerned Citizen –

Thank you for your interest in Port Manatee. In your below emails you have asked numerous questions. I believe the Chairman previously offered to meet with you and you rejected the meeting invitation. It appears that you desire to email back and forth with your questions rather than have a meeting where everything can be asked and answered at one time. As you know, Port Manatee is one of Florida's largest and fastest growing deepwater seaports, and therefore, in an interest of time, full transparency, and efficiency, the Port once again offers to meet with you to discuss your questions, but it will not engage in back-and-forth emails.

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Jennifer R. Cowan | Bryant Miller Olive P.A.
[400 N Tampa Street, Suite 1600 | Tampa, FL 33602](#)
(813) 273-6677 (O) | 813-222-1726 (D)
jcowan@bmolaw.com | www.bmolaw.com

B



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From: Concerned Citizen <concernedcitizenbocc@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2026 7:51:24 PM

To: Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Re: Port authority

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Commissioner Rahn,

Thank you for the response.

I am assuming that before extending this invitation, discussions have already occurred with Carlos Buqueras and Port counsel regarding these matters and the proposed meeting itself, which indicates communication is already taking place on the subject.

That is why I am struggling to understand why an in-person meeting is necessary for what appears to be a fairly straightforward public transparency question.

Respectfully, unless this is about offering me employment or presenting contracts requiring signatures, I do not understand why a direct written clarification cannot simply be provided through email.

The central question is still essentially yes or no:

Are County or Port officials currently engaged in discussions with private operators, management groups, developers, or outside entities regarding operational control, management authority, long-term decision-making authority, privatization-related interests, or public-private arrangements involving the Port of Manatee?

If the answer is no, then a written clarification should be simple and would help alleviate public concern.

If the answer is yes, then the public deserves transparency regarding the nature and scope of those discussions involving a major public asset Respectfully.

On Sat, May 23, 2026 at 7:57 AM Concerned Citizen
<concernedcitizenbocc@gmail.com> wrote:
Commissioner Rahn,

As the Commissioner involved with Port Authority matters, I wanted to ask directly:

Does Manatee County intend to transfer operational control, management authority, ownership interests, or long-term decision-making power related to the Port Authority to any private company or developer interests?

If discussions involving privatization, public-private partnerships, long-term leasing arrangements, or development control are being considered, the public deserves transparency regarding those discussions before decisions are finalized.

Many residents are concerned about whether public infrastructure and authority are gradually being shifted away from public control and accountability.

Have you or other County officials spoken with any private port operator, seaport management company, development group, or outside entity seeking authority, operational control, management influence, or financial interests involving the Port of Manatee?

If so, the public deserves transparency regarding who those discussions are occurring with and what is being proposed.

Is this part of the concern surrounding the recent Port Authority discussions at County meetings — discussions that a citizen was attempting to address before being physically removed from public comment?

The public has a right to ask questions about major public assets and decisions affecting the future of Manatee County.

I would appreciate clarification regarding the County's intentions and position on this matter.

Respectfully,
A concerned citizen

From: [dadamm@aol.com](mailto:dadammm@aol.com)

To: amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org, drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org,
george.kruse@mymanatee.org, jason.bearden@mymanatee.org,
mike.rahn@mymanatee.org, Tal@mymanatee.org

Sent: 6/15/2026 6:02:08 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Short Term Rental Neutral Office examples in Florida

“Neutral Office” Examples in Florida

Plantation

The city uses a 24-hour vacation rental complaint hotline operated by Host Compliance (now part of Granicus). Neighbors report issues such as noise or parking problems, and the compliance service contacts the responsible party. The program is specifically designed as an alternative to direct neighbor-to-owner confrontation.

Fort Pierce

The city contracts with Host Compliance/Granicus and provides both a 24-hour hotline and an online complaint portal for short-term rental issues. Complaints are routed through the compliance provider rather than directly between neighbors and owners.

Pinellas County

Unincorporated Pinellas County maintains a dedicated 24/7 STR hotline and complaint process. Complaints are handled through the county's STR program rather than requiring direct contact with the property owner.

Many municipalities can keep your identity from the property owner during the initial handling of the complaint, but your information may still become subject to public-records requirements.

Third-party intermediary model:

- Municipalities using Host Compliance/Granicus as a complaint clearinghouse.
- Private services that file complaints on behalf of residents and act as the complainant of record, specifically because Florida's public-records laws can expose complainant information.

Our goal is:

- anonymous neighbor reporting,
- notification to the owner,
- tracking and follow-up,
- and shielding both parties from direct conflict,

The Host Compliance/Granicus programs used by several Florida cities are probably the closest real-world example of the model you're envisioning.

Manatee County citizens are looking for anonymity for both reporting and short-term rental owner with the county or third party having full access

If your goal is:

- The reporter stays anonymous to the STR owner.
- The STR owner stays anonymous to the reporter.
- A trusted third party or county office knows both identities.
- Complaints are investigated and tracked.
- There is a documented resolution process.

This is essentially a **confidential ombudsman/compliance office model**, not traditional Florida code enforcement.

Manatee County citizens are looking for

A system like:

Neighbor



Community Compliance Office



STR Owner / Property Manager

Where:

- Neighbor identity = confidential.
- Owner identity/contact information = confidential.
- Office has full access to both.
- Office logs complaints.
- Office issues warnings.
- Office tracks repeat violations.
- Escalation to county enforcement only when necessary.

That model is common in:

- Universities.
- Corporate ethics hotlines.
- HOA management companies.
- Some municipal mediation programs.

A model that would best address our concerns

A true "Community STR Ombudsman Office" would operate differently from code enforcement:

Function	County Code Enforcement	Ombudsman / Compliance Office
Knows complainant identity	Yes	Yes
Knows owner identity	Yes	Yes
Complainant sees owner identity	Often yes through records research	No
Owner sees complainant identity	Potentially through records requests	No
Tracks complaints	Yes	Yes
Attempts informal resolution	Limited	Primary mission
Escalates repeat violations	Yes	Yes
Public records exposure	Significant	Much lower if privately operated

The key difference is that the ombudsman would act as the reporting party and intermediary. Residents would never directly contact owners. Owners would never know which resident complained. The office would verify complaints, communicate with the owner or local responsible party, maintain a case file, and only escalate verified repeat violations.

Why a private or nonprofit model may be stronger than a county model

In Florida, a county-operated office would likely still face public-records obligations. A private nonprofit, HOA consortium, neighborhood coalition, or contracted compliance company may have greater ability to maintain confidentiality because it is not necessarily subject to the same public-records requirements as a governmental agency. (The exact legal structure would need review by Florida counsel.)

This is one reason some private services have emerged that act as the complainant of record rather than exposing individual residents.

If residents are already receiving attorney letters

That suggests the issue has moved beyond simple complaint processing and into a **resident-protection and conflict-management** problem.

A well-designed ombudsman system would:

- Receive confidential reports.
- Require evidence (photos, dates, noise logs, parking records, etc.).
- Verify complaints before contacting the owner.
- Use a case number instead of resident names.
- Notify only the designated responsible party for the STR.
- Maintain a repeat-offender database.
- Escalate only when a pattern is established.
- Provide aggregate reporting to the community without identifying either side.

That protects:

- Residents from retaliation.
- Owners from false or malicious accusations.
- Local government from becoming involved in every minor dispute.

Manatee County citizens want to create a trusted intermediary so neighbors can report legitimate problems without fear of retaliation.

Respectfully,
Diana Adams

From: Donna Cahill <digibella@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 6:03 PM

To: Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal@mymanatee.org>; CarolAnn Felts <carolann.felts@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Re: Bishop Animal Shelter

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I am emailing in support of Dr. McCann's motion to get a kennel cost estimate. Our community expected a brick and mortar shelter for the dogs and we still need it.

Donna L. Cahill

From: Beatriz M. Tremols <beatriztremols@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 7:23 AM
To: Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>
Cc: George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal.siddique@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Bishop Animal Shelter

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Dear Commissioners,

I am emailing today as a resident, taxpayer, animal advocate, and someone who believes that how we treat our most vulnerable animals reflects who we are as a community.

The dogs housed at Bishop Animal Shelter are not statistics. They are abused, neglected, abandoned, frightened, surrendered, and homeless animals who depend entirely on us to provide safety, comfort, and humane care.

That is why so many residents are deeply disappointed by the decisions that led to the design and construction of this new shelter.

Manatee County spent approximately \$12 million on this project, yet community members, volunteers, trainers, and advocates have repeatedly raised concerns about kennel size, excessive noise levels, inadequate shade, hurricane resilience, safety hazards, and the overall welfare of the dogs living there. These concerns have been documented in public meetings and reported by local media. Advocates have described kennel spaces as too small, noise levels as overwhelming, and the facility as falling far short of the "state-of-the-art" shelter the public believed was being built. (Bradenton Herald)

The most troubling part is that many of these concerns were raised before dogs were moved into the facility. Residents were not asking for luxury. They were asking for a shelter designed around animal welfare, safety, and long-term functionality. Instead, it appears that budget constraints and expediency were prioritized over creating the best possible environment for animals who have already experienced enough trauma in their lives.

A shelter should not be something we merely tolerate because it is better than the old one. A new shelter should represent progress. It should reflect thoughtful planning, transparency, and a commitment to best practices. "Better than before" should never be the standard when we are spending millions of taxpayer dollars and caring for living beings who cannot speak for themselves.

We are asking this Commission to acknowledge that the concerns being raised are not attacks. They are acts of advocacy. They come from people who volunteer, foster, rescue, train, adopt, and care deeply about these animals. Their voices deserve respect and meaningful consideration.

I urge you to continue independent reviews, implement every reasonable recommendation from animal welfare experts, increase transparency with the public, and make whatever improvements are necessary to ensure this facility truly serves the animals it was built to protect. The goal should not be defending past decisions. The goal should be getting it right.

The dogs in that shelter did not choose to be there. We chose for them. That means we also carry the responsibility to give them the safest, healthiest, and most humane environment possible.

They deserve better than "good enough."

Wishing better than enough,

Beatriz Tremols
A Manatee Resident

From: Bob R <bregu56@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 9:55 PM

To: Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; eorge.kruse@mymanatee.org; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal.siddique@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Bishop Animal Shelter

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Dear Manatee County Commissioners, as a long-time resident, homeowner, voter and volunteer at MCAW, I want you to know how I feel about this horrible facility our money has been wasted on. This whole project is a fiasco, except for the nice new concrete administration building under construction. This facility is going to cost the taxpayers of Manatee County a lot of money overall due to the type of construction of the "cabins" the dogs are housed in. I think most of us know what happens when water (and other waste fluid) starts to infiltrate the structure of fabricated buildings. The current decision makers will be long gone before structural problems manifest themselves, leaving the taxpayers to foot the bills and the animals to suffer.

Then there are the possibilities of injuries and excess stress to the staff, volunteers and dogs, because of the restrictions placed on the volunteers and extra duties being placed on the staff.

This facility should never have been built with the prefabricated buildings and occupied before completion of the entire facility. I am not going to repeat all of the reasons already presented since you all are aware of the issues.

In today's political climate where politicians such as some of you on the BOCC are emulating our current leadership and being rude, condescending, insulting, and threatening those of us who have called you out on your mistakes, you should be ashamed of yourselves. It is time to own up and correct these mistakes because this atrocity you have created is going to cost us eventually after you are all gone!

I dare you all spend a day at the current facility as it is being used and see the conditions there while the staff and volunteers do their jobs. Leave the suits home and wear work clothes and shoes that can manage uneven terrain, hats and sunscreen. Take that trip in the afternoon to get a good feel for what is happening there and never mind the photo op with the cheesy smile and poking a finger through the kennel where even the volunteers are not allowed into.

Regards,
Bob Reguzzoni

From: Sobrien0507 <sobrien0507@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 9:15 PM

To: Tal Siddique <tal.siddique@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>; Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Bishop Animal Shelter

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Dear Commissioners,

I am commenting as a resident, taxpayer, animal advocate, and someone who believes that how we treat our most vulnerable animals reflects who we are as a community. And as someone concerned about the conditions at the “new” shelter.

The dogs housed at Bishop Animal Shelter are not statistics. They are abused, neglected, abandoned, frightened, surrendered, and homeless animals who depend entirely on us to provide safety, comfort, and humane care.

That is why so many residents are deeply disappointed by the decisions that led to the design and construction of this new shelter.

Manatee County spent approximately \$12 million on this project, yet community members, volunteers, trainers, and advocates have repeatedly raised concerns about kennel size, excessive noise levels, inadequate shade, hurricane resilience, safety hazards, and the overall welfare of the dogs living there. These concerns have been documented in public meetings and reported by local media. Advocates have described kennel spaces as too small, noise levels as overwhelming, and the facility as falling far short of the “state-of-the-art” shelter the public believed was being built. (Bradenton Herald)

The most troubling part is that many of these concerns were raised before dogs were moved into the facility. Residents were not asking for luxury. They were asking for a shelter designed around animal welfare, safety, and long-term functionality. Instead, it appears that budget constraints and expediency were prioritized over creating the best possible environment for animals who have already experienced enough trauma in their lives.

A shelter should not be something we merely tolerate because it is better than the old one. A new shelter should represent progress. It should reflect thoughtful planning, transparency, and a commitment to best practices. "Better than before" should never be the standard when we are spending millions of taxpayer dollars and caring for living beings who cannot speak for themselves.

I am asking this Commission to acknowledge that the concerns being raised are not attacks. They are acts of advocacy. They come from people who volunteer, foster, rescue, train, adopt, and care deeply about these animals. Their voices deserve respect and meaningful consideration.

I urge you to continue independent reviews, implement every reasonable recommendation from animal welfare experts, increase transparency with the public, and make whatever improvements are necessary to ensure this facility truly serves the animals it was built to protect. The goal should not be defending past decisions. The goal should be getting it right.

The dogs in that shelter did not choose to be there. We chose for them. That means we also carry the responsibility to give them the safest, healthiest, and most humane environment possible.

They deserve better than "good enough."

Some statistics are cited from the Bradenton Herald.

Thank you
Shirley O'Brien
Concerned Bradenton Resident

From: Jill DiGioia <JillDiGioia@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 8:53 PM

To: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Follow Through on the Animal Welfare Facility Promised to Manatee County

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Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to ask the Board of County Commissioners to follow through on the state-of-the-art, brick-and-mortar animal welfare facility that Manatee County residents were promised years ago.

Our community was led to believe that a modern, permanent facility would be built to properly serve the needs of a rapidly growing county. Instead, many residents feel that the county has accepted temporary solutions that do not reflect what was promised to taxpayers or what is needed for a county of more than 450,000 residents.

We are asking the county to fully commit to funding, planning, and building the permanent animal welfare facility our community was told we would receive.

This matters because municipal animal shelters impact:

- Public safety
- Emergency response
- Disaster preparedness
- Animal control
- Humane standards
- Long-term sustainability
- Quality of life in Manatee County

Manatee County deserves infrastructure that is safe, sustainable, properly designed, and built for the future of this community.

Residents are paying attention, and many of us are asking county leadership to do the right thing by following through on the commitment made to this community. Vote "yes" on Commissioner McCann's motion to budget and plan for what our community needs.

Sincerely,
Jill DiGioia
Palmetto, FL

From: Marybeth Morris <mbm2264@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 8:11 PM

To: Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden

<jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard

<amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>;

Tal Siddique <tal.siddique@mymanatee.org>; Robert McCann

<drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Follow Through on the Animal Welfare Facility Promised to Manatee County

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Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to respectfully urge the Board of County Commissioners to follow through on the long-promised state-of-the-art, permanent animal welfare facility for Manatee County.

For years, residents were led to believe that a modern brick-and-mortar facility would be built to meet the needs of our growing community. Today, many citizens are disappointed that the county appears to be relying on temporary solutions rather than moving forward with the permanent infrastructure that was promised and that our county requires.

Manatee County is one of the fastest-growing counties in Florida, with a population exceeding 450,000 residents. Our animal welfare system should reflect that growth and be equipped to handle the demands of the future. A permanent facility is not simply an animal shelter—it is critical public infrastructure that supports:

- Public safety • Animal control operations • Emergency and disaster response • Humane animal care standards • Community health and welfare • Long-term operational efficiency and sustainability • Quality of life for residents and animals alike

The citizens of Manatee County deserve a facility that is safe, modern, professionally designed, and capable of serving our community for decades to come. Temporary measures are not a substitute for a long-term solution.

I respectfully ask you to support Commissioner McCann's motion to budget, plan, and move forward with the permanent animal welfare facility that residents were promised.

This is an investment in public safety, responsible governance, and the future of Manatee County.

Residents are paying attention, and many of us are asking our elected leaders to honor the commitment that was made to this community.

I also want to be clear that this issue will be a significant factor in how I evaluate candidates in future elections. Support for the permanent animal welfare facility demonstrates a commitment to honoring promises, planning responsibly for growth, and addressing the needs of our community. I strongly encourage you to vote in favor of this

project and show residents that the commitments made to Manatee County will be upheld.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service.

Sincerely,

Marybeth Singer Palmetto Florida

Sent from my iPhone

From: Adrienne Fuston <adrienne.fuston@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 8:09 PM
To: Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal.siddique@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Animal Welfare Facility Promised to Manatee County

[You don't often get email from adrienne.fuston@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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> Dear Commissioners,
>
> I am writing to urge the Board of County Commissioners to follow through on the commitment to build a permanent animal welfare facility for Manatee County.
>
> Residents were led to believe that a modern, state-of-the-art facility would be constructed to serve our growing community. Instead, temporary solutions have seemingly replaced the long-term vision that was originally promised.
>
> As Manatee County continues to grow to nearly 500k, we need an animal welfare facility that is designed to meet current and future needs. This is about more than animal sheltering. It impacts public safety, animal control, emergency response, humane care standards, and overall quality of life in our community.
>
> I respectfully ask the County Commission to fully commit fulfilling their promise and to the planning, funding, and construction of the permanent facility that residents were told would be built.
>
> Thank you.
> Adrienne Fuston
> Palmetto, FL
>
> Sent from my iPhone

From: JARY SEE-GILBREATH <jarys@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 4:28 PM
To: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Corrective Action

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As a Manatee County full time resident, I firmly believe taking corrective action to FIX Bishop Animal Shelter is long overdue. You don't have to admit all your mistakes, just FIX them. I've been there and the conditions you've subjected to these dogs is almost criminal.

I have expectations of your support of Dr. McCanns motion to get an accurate estimate of the kennel costs. Please be on the side of our Manatee County residents and animals to get this done in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Jary See Gilbreath
3915 Plumosa Ter W
Bradenton 34210
Registered Voter

From: Susannah Taylor <staylor1629@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2026 3:51 PM
To: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Park at 75th and 9th. TREES 🌳

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REPORT MESSAGE Button in Outlook if you feel this is a Phishing email.

STOP CUTTING ALL THE TREES DOWN. County workers were out there today saying
all trees being cut down even beautiful banyon. STOP THE INSANITY!!!!
Sent from my iPhone

From: talonthedog@mail.com <talonthedog@mail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 7:58 AM
To: Stephanie Garrison <stephanie.garrison@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; Bryan Parnell <bryan.parnell@mymanatee.org>; Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Corey Stutte <corey.stutte@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>; Charlie Bishop <charlie.bishop@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Concerns Regarding Bishop Shelter Kennel Reconstruction

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To the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners,

As a longtime resident, taxpayer, and community supporter, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to rebuild or significantly expand the Bishop Animal Shelter kennels at a time when our county is facing difficult budget realities and competing community needs.

Across Manatee County, we are hearing discussions about budget reductions, staffing challenges, program limitations, and increasing pressure on essential public services. Libraries, parks, community programs, public infrastructure, public safety initiatives, and numerous other services that directly impact residents are all competing for limited taxpayer dollars. In that environment, it is difficult to justify spending millions of dollars rebuilding kennel facilities simply to satisfy a small but vocal group of activists whose priorities do not necessarily reflect those of the broader community.

Let me be clear: I support animal welfare. Every animal in our care deserves humane treatment, proper shelter, veterinary care, food, water, and protection from the elements. However, the argument that existing kennel facilities are somehow placing dogs in intolerable conditions simply does not withstand scrutiny.

The shelter buildings are air-conditioned AND built to the latest building codes protecting from winds up to 150 MPH. Animals are monitored by trained staff. Dogs, by their very nature, are biologically equipped to tolerate a wide range of temperatures and weather conditions. For generations, dogs lived outdoors, worked alongside humans in fields and farms, and thrived without climate-controlled luxury accommodations.

One has to ask: What did shelters do twenty years ago? Thirty years ago? Did the dogs suddenly become incapable of tolerating conditions that animals have adapted to for thousands of years? Of course not.

Meanwhile, many residents throughout our community struggle to pay utility bills, live in older homes without modern HVAC systems, or face far more pressing challenges involving housing, transportation, healthcare, and economic security. Should taxpayer dollars be directed toward addressing those needs, or toward constructing premium kennel facilities because a handful of activists believe current accommodations are insufficient?

Government has an obligation to prioritize limited resources where they will provide the greatest public benefit. Every dollar spent on a kennel project is a dollar unavailable for parks, libraries, road improvements, storm preparedness, public safety, senior services, youth programs, and other initiatives that affect tens of thousands of residents.

Commissioner McCann and members of the Board should carefully consider whether this proposal reflects the priorities of the entire community or simply the demands of a small group that has consistently sought to influence shelter operations regardless of cost.

At a time when fiscal discipline is more important than ever, Manatee County should focus on maintaining essential services, supporting residents, and ensuring taxpayer dollars are used wisely. Compassion for animals and responsible stewardship of public funds are not mutually exclusive. We can provide humane care without embarking on costly projects that fail the test of necessity.

I respectfully urge the Board to reject unnecessary expenditures on kennel reconstruction and instead direct available resources toward the many critical needs facing our community.

Respectfully,
J. Bender



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 06:42PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Terri Last Name: Davis
Email	terridavis17@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Item #65 - Short Term Vacation Rentals
Comment	My family are residents of District Three and we have lived on 22nd Ave West between 43rd Street and 51st Street since 2012. District Three must be considered in the wording of this ordinance. Over the past two and a half years properties have been sold and turned into short term vacation rentals. Several of the properties list on VRBO and Air B&B advertise that up to twenty-two people can stay in these one family residences. Because of this there are often 6 or more cars parked in the driveways, on the lawns and in the roadway. This at times has resulted in rowdy weekend parties, cars parked up and down our street, people hanging outside (looking like a fraternity house) Residents of our neighborhood have attempted to contact the owners of the properties, to no avail. The Sheriff's Office has been called numerous times, but are often unable to do anything regarding the excessive people, cars, and the noise. Reports have been filed with the Sheriff's office and one concerns found drugs in one of the homes after this past Memorial Day Weekend. Over the past several months the wildlife has been affected by the excessive traffic, one mallard duck, a possum, and a raccoon, were hit by cars. The number of cars speeding through the neighborhood has increased. Our neighborhood has always been a family neighborhood, unfortunately, these vacation rentals are destroying our way of life, increased and excessive traffic, speeding, people, and loud parties. Drive down our street on Tuesday (trash day)and the rentals will have 5 or more trash bins placed in the roadway, creating a traffic hazard. There needs to be limits on the number of people who can stay at single family vacation rental, repercussions for renting to people who use the homes for loud all night parties, would be a great start, as these vacation rentals are destroying our neighborhoods and our way of life. The year round residents of our neighborhood need to be given the tools (ordinance) which will help to keep our neighborhoods safe, peaceful, and one where we love to live. Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 07:24PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Laurie Last Name: Webber
Email	Lauriew315@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Bishop Animal Shelter
Comment	So here we are again. Another month has gone by and we are no closer to having a shelter that does not look like a refugee camp in a third world country. Tents have gone up, tents have come down, tents have gone up again. There are still poles and sandbags that must be navigated while trying to control a dog that is reactive and is being barked at from both sides. Leashes get tangled while trying to weave your way out of the kennel area. The outside kennel spaces are so hot the dogs do nothing but lay there and pant. Fans were installed at each end of the catch pens but they do nothing for the actual kennel spaces. Yes, the dog can go inside to the AC if it wants to and if it knows how to use the door. Once inside they are in a small area with little room to move around and 4 solid walls to look at. And yes, there are dogs that are unable to open the doors on their own. If a volunteer wants to walk a dog that is stuck on the inside they must hunt down a staff member to let the dog out. Or, the dog doesn't get walked. The floors of the kennels are slippery, especially if wet. I'm guessing this is why volunteers are not allowed inside the kennels. I have seen dogs slip while jumping up and down. Only a matter of time until one is injured. There is still a lot of digging going on in the play yards. Band-aids keep getting added but as long as there is dirt and grass the dogs are going to dig. Turf would have been the correct way to go but the yards would have required more shade to be able to be used to prevent burning the dogs. There have also been instances recently of volunteers getting stuck in a yard because the locks were stuck. Luckily a staff member was able to get them out and they were not stuck in a yard with an overstimulated dog that was starting to act out. The close quarters, excessive heat and noise have caused more dogs to become reactive towards other dogs- making them more difficult to handle. Dogs will lunge at each other while passing the kennels, passing on the walkway, or walking around a play yard with a dog inside. With the shortened summer walk times the only place to walk the dogs is around the play yards. During first outs there will usually be a dog in every yard while kennels are cleaned. So you are passing a dog that will run along the fence barking and the dog you are walking is trying to get to that dog. It can be a battle to get by. Lastly hurricane and summer storm season is here. Is there a written plan for what to do in the event of a severe storm? What happens with the dogs? You've said the shelters are hurricane rated. Great. But how is staff supposed to get to the various trailers during a storm? Even a lightening storm requires a 30 minute wait period after the last strike before being able to move outside. What happens if power goes out? Are there generators for each trailer? Or do the dogs just suffer in the heat? While some dogs may be fostered for the storm it won't be all of them, and any dogs that are in isolation cannot be fostered out. This shelter is not working. All of the band-aids to "fix" the issues are just costing more money. Dogs are stressed, staff is stressed, volunteers are stressed. But we all keep showing up for the dogs. They deserve better. Their lives are hard enough already. They deserve a cinder block shelter where everything is under one roof. Where they can be accessed easily by everyone. All spaces are climate controlled. Do the right thing and budget for this shelter to be built the way it should have been from the start.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 07:59AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Stacey Last Name: Ozanguc
Email	stacey.ozanguc@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Prefab Shelter
Comment	I am submitting this written comment in connection with today's discussion regarding the replacement of the current prefabricated kennel structures with permanent construction. The decision to remove the prefabricated trailers and replace them with proper, permanent structures is the correct one and it should have been made years ago. A municipal animal shelter requires facilities designed and built for that purpose by people with relevant expertise, not temporary trailers selected without that expertise. The comparison to other Florida counties that built modern, appropriately sized facilities in a fraction of the time this county has spent maintaining inadequate trailers should be instructive to this Board. I also want to address a pattern that goes beyond the physical facilities and speaks directly to how this Board engages with the public it represents. At the November 4, 2025 meeting, a shelter volunteer informed Commissioner Kruse that she had sent him 88 emails regarding ongoing issues at the shelter, including concerns about management and volunteer treatment that have persisted for years. Commissioner Kruse's response to a subsequent speaker raising related concerns was to direct him to email instead, despite having just been told that 88 emails on these long-standing issues had already gone unanswered. I raise this because I have lived a parallel version of that exact pattern for the past fourteen months. Formal written communications sent to commissioners, the county attorney's office, and department leadership regarding serious documented concerns have received zero substantive responses. Not one. When residents are told repeatedly to submit their concerns through written channels, and those channels produce no response regardless of volume or persistence, the instruction to "email us" stops functioning as good faith guidance and starts functioning as a way to redirect attention away from the meeting and into a process with no accountability attached. I would also ask this Board to consider a direct question: if shelter leadership has overseen years of documented operational and management concerns raised repeatedly by volunteers and staff, why has that leadership remained unchanged? When the same individuals continue in positions of authority despite a sustained pattern of unresolved issues, residents are left to draw their own conclusions about whether decisions in this county are being made based on performance and accountability, or based on other considerations entirely. This Board is elected to represent the people of this county. Representation requires listening, and listening requires actually reading and responding to what residents send. The physical replacement of the prefab structures is necessary and overdue. So is a genuine examination of why long-standing management concerns have gone unaddressed for years, and a genuine change in how this Board engages with the people raising concerns about this county's operations more broadly. Respectfully submitted, Stacey Ozanguc



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 06:18AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Jamie Last Name: Marino
Email	jamiemarino@hotmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Agenda item # 66
Comment	I am writing to express my grave concerns regarding the new shelter at Bishop. It is clear that this facility was poorly planned and ill suited to the needs and well being of the dogs in Manatee County's care. I have adopted dogs all my life and have never seen such a poorly planned, cramped, and restrictive facility. The indoor spaces in the pre-fab kennels are far too small and close to one another to provide a comfortable space for the dogs, especially the multitude of larger dogs that the shelter has in residence. This is a prime environment to cause elevated anxiety and fear in dogs who are already in a stressful situation. This endangers the dogs and those handling them. Having large outdoor runs does not help the situation when the temperatures are dangerously hot, as they are regularly in the summer months in Florida, not to mention during rainy season with frequent storms. It is a crime to keep dogs outdoors in dangerous, unsafe, hot conditions, yet this is exactly the condition these kennels are forcing the dogs into. This isn't rescue or shelter, it is torture. I am appalled that the commission twisted the proposal that the county residents voted on and approved and turned it into this shoddy excuse for a shelter that keeps requiring more and more band-aid patches to even remotely function. This is a betrayal of our trust and must be rectified. We are watching and see those commissioners who are putting their pride above the well being of the poor dogs in this county, and above the needs and preferences of their constituents. Government is by the people and for the people. If the current commissioners refuse to work for the people and do what is right for these poor creatures who cannot advocate for themselves, the. Rest assured that the people will vote you out and find representatives who listen and care. I implore you all to do the right thing and fix this egregious error before it is too late. Build a concrete fixed building shelter with kennels large enough for the dogs to be comfortable, with A/C, with room for handlers to safely maneuver, and with calm, reassuring setups to actually help these poor dogs, rather than causing further trauma.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 05:11PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Cindy Last Name: McClure
Email	jamsue1@verizon.net
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Agenda item 58. Agreement for Sema construction for the bridge replacement.
Comment	Commissioners, Having lived on 126th St. at the corner condominium unit for the last 30 years I'm very invested in what's going to happen. I'm in total agreement with the CCCC and hope that you would take their suggestions. And also please consider closing 127th for the entire time of bridge construction to avoid having all that major cut through traffic! This winter was absolutely brutal....It was closed for a short time and was absolutely wonderful for the residents living on 126 in the neighborhood! I can't imagine the bridge builders having to deal with thousands of cars wanting to cut through the zones during tourist season! Thank you, Cindy McClure



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 08:57PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Jill Last Name: DiGioia
Email	JILLDIGIOIA@YAHOO.COM
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	#66 prefab dog kennels
Comment	I am writing as a Manatee County resident and animal lover who is deeply concerned about the shelter dogs currently being housed in temporary kennel facilities during Florida's summer heat. These dogs are already experiencing one of the most stressful times of their lives. They should not also have to endure conditions that may put their health and safety at risk. Florida temperatures regularly exceed 100° heat index levels, and our shelter infrastructure should be designed accordingly. The dogs in our county shelter cannot advocate for themselves, so I am asking you to be their voice. Please support a permanent, properly designed kennel facility that prioritizes animal welfare and provides safe, climate-appropriate housing for the dogs in Manatee County's care. We will be judged by how we care for the most vulnerable among us. I hope Manatee County chooses to invest in a solution that protects these animals now and for years to come.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 09:24PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Veronica Last Name: DeMaggio
Email	gaflygirl7@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	66. Manatee Animal Shelter
Comment	I am writing in support of building a solid cement structure for the dog kennels and getting rid of the tent city structure they are in now. These dogs are suffering and it is being known by the people who work with them daily. If you can build a solid structure for the adoption center then you can do it for the dogs. You have money for items not nearly as important like fruit farms, new offices and baseball fields. But living beings that depend on you to be their voice you have no money left for. You should have consulted with U of Florida prior to this structure and gotten bids from people that were known on building a quality shelter. Kit base it off of a temporary rescue facility like Nate's, do better for these dogs before it is too late and many are hurt and injured in this facility,



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 09:46PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Linda Last Name: Erwin
Email	lin92462@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	#66
Comment	PLEASE think of these poor dogs in the mini ovens that were constructed instead of the safe air conditioned homes they were promised. These poor babies have been through so much & deserve s safe place until they find their forever homes



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 07:46AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Ozgur Last Name: Ozanguc
Email	ozgur.ozanguc@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Public Records
Comment	Today is June 16, 2026. Fourteen months after the April 16, 2025 incident involving our cats, we are still seeking records that should help explain what happened. We have submitted public records requests, clarifications, follow-ups, complaints, and administrative appeals. Despite these efforts, key questions remain unanswered and certain requested records remain unavailable or redacted. Regardless of how anyone views the underlying incident, public records laws exist so citizens can understand government actions and evaluate them for themselves. The longer records remain unavailable, the longer affected citizens are denied the ability to understand, process, and move forward from government actions that profoundly affected their lives. This process has taken a significant emotional toll on our family. More than a year later, we are still trying to obtain a complete record of events. Transparency should not require this level of persistence. Respectfully, Ozgur Ozanguc



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 10:01PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Stacy Last Name: Bliszc
Email	stacyinsilverleaf@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Bishop
Comment	As a deeply concerned Manatee County resident, I strongly support Commissioner Dr. Bob McCann's motion to evaluate replacing the temporary kennel trailers at Bishop Animal Shelter with a permanent kennel facility. This is not simply a question of buildings; it is a question of responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars, animal welfare, and providing safe working conditions for the staff and volunteers who serve our community. The current trailer-based kennel system was intended as a temporary solution, yet it continues to create operational inefficiencies, higher maintenance costs, and challenges for staff, volunteers, visitors, and most importantly, the animals. Continuing to invest in temporary structures rather than evaluating a permanent solution is not a sustainable long-term strategy. I am particularly concerned about the extreme Florida heat and severe weather conditions. Housing animals and requiring staff and volunteers to work in and around temporary trailers during periods of intense heat, humidity, heavy rain, hurricanes, and other severe weather events is unacceptable. Our shelter animals deserve safe, climate-controlled facilities designed for their health and well-being. Likewise, shelter employees and volunteers deserve a safe working environment that minimizes unnecessary exposure to dangerous weather conditions. A permanent masonry kennel facility would provide improved durability, lower long-term maintenance costs, greater operational efficiency, enhanced public access for adoptions, and significantly better protection for animals, staff, and volunteers during severe weather events. I appreciate Dr. McCann's leadership in requesting a thorough cost analysis and return-on-investment comparison. This motion does not commit the County to construction—it simply allows staff to evaluate the facts and determine whether a permanent kennel facility is the most fiscally responsible and humane path forward. Our shelter animals deserve better than aging temporary trailers. Our staff and volunteers deserve safe and efficient working conditions. And taxpayers deserve a long-term solution that prioritizes value, accountability, and common sense. I respectfully urge the Board of County Commissioners to support Dr. McCann's motion and move forward with a comprehensive evaluation of a permanent kennel facility at Bishop.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 07:42AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Stacey Last Name: Ozanguc
Email	stacey.ozanguc@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Shelter
Comment	I am submitting this written comment to address a pattern that warrants this Board's attention. On April 16, 2025, Manatee County Animal Welfare seized 23 cats from our family's vessel at Kingfish Boat Ramp, citing extreme heat and inadequate conditions as justification for emergency action. What this county did not account for is that our family had been actively documenting our situation in detail in the period leading up to that date. When a family already navigating hardship is thorough in their own documentation, and an agency arrives and characterizes the situation differently than the documented reality, that creates a direct and irreconcilable conflict between what actually occurred and what was officially reported. That conflict exists in this case. And it will not remain unaddressed. Beyond the justification itself, the agents' written reports from that day contain no reference whatsoever to anything our family communicated to them, not our explanations, not our circumstances, not our responses to their questions. Nothing we said is reflected anywhere in those reports. When official documentation omits one side of an encounter entirely, that is not an oversight. That is a choice about what story gets told. That pattern, a predetermined narrative, due process bypassed, and a one-sided official record, became the foundation for actions that have cost our family everything over the past fourteen months. Formal complaints filed with commissioners, the county attorney's office, and department leadership have received either silence or a single deflecting response with no follow-up. I raise this now because it connects directly to what is currently happening with this county's own shelter operations. If extreme conditions are sufficient justification for this county to remove animals from private citizens without due process, the same standard must apply to how this county manages its own facilities and its own conduct. The pattern of disregard is the same. Only the target has changed. This county has spent years accumulating decisions that prioritize narrative control over due process and accountability. My family is not the only example, and we will not be the last unless this changes. I am asking this Board directly: when will the formal complaints submitted by residents, mine included, receive a substantive response rather than continued silence? And when will this county hold itself to the same standard it applies to the people it polices? Respectfully submitted, Stacey Ozanguc



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 09:32PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Lindsay Last Name: Till
Email	
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	
Topic/Agenda Item	Agenda Item #66 – Pre-Fab Dog Kennels / Animal Welfare Services
Comment	I am a Manatee County resident and animal lover who is deeply concerned about the welfare of dogs housed in the current prefabricated kennel facilities during Florida’s extreme summer heat. When heat indexes regularly exceed 100°F, it is essential that shelter animals have safe, comfortable, and effective access to climate-controlled housing. While temporary solutions may provide some relief, I am concerned that the current setup may not adequately meet the long-term needs of the dogs in the shelter, particularly those who may choose to remain outdoors where they can see people and activity rather than retreat to enclosed indoor spaces. These animals are entirely dependent on us to provide an environment that prioritizes their health, safety, and well-being. I urge the Commission to make the development of a permanent, properly designed kennel facility a priority and to ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to address this issue as quickly as possible. Investing in modern shelter facilities is not only an investment in animal welfare but also a reflection of our community’s values and commitment to responsible stewardship. Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to Manatee County. I respectfully ask that you support a long-term solution that provides safe, humane housing for the dogs in our county’s care.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 10:13PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Christine Last Name: Tollette
Email	christinetollette.50@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	EBikes
Comment	We live in Cresswind..my husband and I were almost killed by a kid losing control of his motorbike...he came within 10 feet before he regained control. I'm 75 and my husband is 88...we have endured this harassment for almost two years now. Please find the right solution to keep them out of our neighborhoods and restrict what they can ride without being licensed. The police also need trespassing powers. Thank you for keeping us safe in our own communities.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 07:45AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Brandan Last Name: Kools
Email	bhardie@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Budget: Bishop Shelter
Comment	Our community, our county, our animals, our employees, and our volunteers deserve better. The prefabricated bandaid of a shelter at the Bishop site should not be the final answer. Not only have I been onsite several times as a foster mom and doggie day out volunteer, I also have adopted from the county. The noise is horrible. I visited Nate's Honor Animal Rescue last weekend for comparison. It was like night and day from a noise perspective. The Nate's campus was peaceful and serene. The Bishop Shelter is overbearing. The Nate's campus was more than happy to take my husband and me on a tour and to explain their process and operations. The public is prevented from entering the "new" Bishop kennels due to noise, narrow walkways, and I assume the general conditions. Thankfully there are pictures and descriptions of these new pre-fab kennels at Bishop online. It appears to be a disgrace for our animals and our community. Noise, size of kennels, accessibility, actual build/materials/fencing and over capacity expectations of each building. I have been a part of rescue for 20 years. I have seen shelters in different states and different communities. I have been a volunteer to a board member. I urge this community to build a shelter we can be proud of.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 11:19PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Diane Last Name: McGinns
Email	dmcginnis34208@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	#66 Pre-Fab Dog Kennels at Bishop
Comment	The situation at Bishop for the dogs is dangerous and unacceptable. 66% of Manatee County residents are pet owners. Most are unaware of the deplorable and dangerous conditions the dogs are living in. I have just become aware. We are ready to get the word out. It is also dangerous for the volunteers. I am a pet owner and have volunteered at Cat Town and have fostered and adopted. Manatee County Animal Services and Cat Town have done a wonderful job through the years. The employees are wonderful. Whoever in the administration made the decisions for and approved the pre-fab buildings for these dogs should be fired. It is unacceptable. I am retired and am ready, willing and able to help get the word out for these dogs. I live at Woodpark at Desoto Towers. We are a 55+ retirement community with 50% pet ownership. This problem is not going to go away until it is fixed. There are too many of us who love all animals and are ready to fight for them and will not give up. It time for all of you to do the right thing or step aside.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 10:22PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Erica Last Name: Derreberry
Email	ederreberry@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Fiscal and Feasible Analysis Regarding Kennel Structure at Bishop Campus
Comment	I support Dr. McCann' notion to put Bishop Animal Shelter back on the table to evaluate for budgeting to construct a brick-and-mortar building for the safety and well-being of the dogs and staff members. The trailers will not withstand Florida weather, especially during hurricane season. They are not built to properly and safely house the large dogs that Manatee County houses at the shelter. It is owed to the dogs, staff, and the residents/taxpayers of Manatee County to build what was promised to begin with. There is space available, and there is money in the budget to move forward with the project. We are not starting from scratch, we are adding to what is already being built. There is intake facility, and an adoption building that is almost complete. Something needs to get started because what will happen when a hurricane hits Bradenton and demolishes the trailers? Then what? What is your plan then? Where will the dogs go? It is time to move forward with what was promised years ago.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 09:02PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Kimberly Last Name: Castaneda
Email	kjt0170@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Item #66 Prefab Dog Kennels
Comment	Hello Commissioners, I would like to express concerns about the use of prefabricated dog kennels at the Manatee County Animal Welfare shelter. These structures can reach dangerously high temperatures in our intense heat and humidity, creating serious health risks for animals, including heat stress, heatstroke and possibly death. They also may not provide adequate protection during our frequent summer thunderstorms, where lightning, high winds, and heavy rain can threaten animal safety. During tropical storms and hurricanes, these kennels can become especially hazardous if they are not built to withstand extreme weather conditions. I urge each of you to consider these risks and to reconsider the use of these prefabricated kennels. Animal housing in our county should be required to meet appropriate standards for temperature control, storm protection, and hurricane resilience. These animals cannot speak for themselves. I ask that their safety and security become a top priority for our Commissioners and for plans to build a more appropriate shelter be expedited. Please have mercy on their souls. They didn't choose their circumstances. The least we can do is to ensure their comfort, safety and security while they are in the care of Manatee County Animal Welfare. Thank you for your time and consideration.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 10:53PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Laura Last Name: Liddell
Email	thx4jesus@live.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Item 66, Bishop Animal Shelter
Comment	My name is Laura Liddell, a long time Manatee County citizen, resident, upset animal advocate, tax payer and voter. I have a few requests today: 1. Please move dogs from Bishop prefab shelter somewhere safer for the remainder of the summer. The current shelter environment is way too hot, way too noisy, the indoor kennels are too small and the layout is extremely non productive. Moving these poor dogs to a better cooler and less stressful environment will be more humane and is in their best interest. 2. I fully support Dr.McCann's upcoming motion to budget and plan for the shelter our community needs. As our elected officials I am asking you to please vote in favor of this. This is honestly the most sensible solution to move forward at this point, to make this a priority and a win-win for all involved. For the dogs who have to live there 24 /7, your staff and volunteers, and the public. With more and more growth in this county that you have allowed, there will also be more pets. The public should also be able to safely walk through the inside of the kennels to see the dogs!! 3. We need a functional, safe and strong brick and mortar facility that we can be proud of, with adequate input from your advisory board. I do not feel this is too much to ask or expect especially after 10 years of waiting. This was promised back in 2019, and as you well know all the other projects that were promised then, have been completed. Promises made need to be promises kept for the Animal shelter too! Please, vote in favor of this. Thank you Laura Liddell Ellenton, FL



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 06:41PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Debra Last Name: Coleman
Email	Debradsmith22@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Tallevast Community Center
Comment	with the recent dissolution of the 501(c) Centers for Success, the building and property still remain locked from the community and the children it was intended to serve, 9 years ago I spoke at the county Commissioner meeting and the county funding was cut after the investigation, Yet the center remains closed 9 years later , the board chairwoman refuses to speak with the community, we are deeply concerned about the conditions of the building with it been vacant for 9 years , We believe Fraud has come into play because the property taxes have been paid as if it is a operating entity. Please help the community of tallevast regain control of the community center who land was donated to tallevast not one specific person.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 11:24PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Jeanne Last Name: Manganello
Email	jeanne.mango@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	eBike proposal
Comment	Hello, We residents in Cresswind have experienced an alarming increase in rude and, frankly, dangerous behavior by kids on motorized vehicles (e-bikes, scooters, motorbikes). They have been coming into the neighborhood (ducking under barriers if they're down) in groups of 6 or more riding recklessly in the middle of the roads and sidewalks, popping wheelies, harassing walkers and bikers, swerving close to them, yelling obscenities, swearing at residents and flipping rude gestures. Some ride double on one bike which makes them unsteady. They ride so fast they sometimes lose control. In fact, this nearly caused them to crash into a couple of residents who were riding their bikes. These folks were truly shaken up by thst experience. And believe it or not, I suspect that some of these kids' bikes exceed our 25 mph speed limit! All of this is very dangerous behavior. And things are escalating. The grouos are getting larger, which is even more intimidating. I understand they're now riding through back yards and along the grass in common areas, on berms that run alongside Rangeland inside our neighborhood. And some of their behavior is crossing over into more serious property damage. For example, I saw a video on our neighborhood social media that showed a couple of kids throwing objects (allegedly eggs) at that neighbor's house very late at night. One of the kids was wearing a mask presumably to hide his identity. That's scary! I'm concerned on many levels - for my safety and that of my neighbors, for our property and for these kids' safety. I understand that because it's private property, the police have been unable to do anything but ask them to leave. In order to "trespass" them a member of the HOA board must be present as a witness. This is an impossible situation. I fully support Bob McCann's proposal for the sheriff's department to be given authority to enforce trespassing and harassment laws in our neighborhood. I also support the proposal for all such vehicles to require stickers/decals that contain parental information and for parents to be held accountable financially and if necessary, criminally, for their children's unlawful behavior. I would also argue that an age limit needs be set and enforced for use of ebikes, eg, 16 years old. Just like for driving a car. From recent experience, it's clear these kids have been given too much power for them to handle. And we need a curfew for kids. And more police presence. There should also be a campaign to make LWR patents more aware of what their kids are doing and the legal and safety consequences. Advertise that certain behaviors will not be tolerated. I've seen nothing highlighting this problem which is upsetting. This should not be kept under the table! Believe me, I know similar problems are rampant in other towns and cities. It's time for our county and state officials to take action. Please do so without delay, for everyone's safety. Thank you.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 07:47PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Lawrence Last Name: Luh
Email	mcems1986@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	#59 Multi Task Force
Comment	Commissioners, In a review of the agenda for June 16th item #59 which was written back in May for a BOCC meeting (dated May 19th). That item showed a significant amount of tax dollars being shifted for the task force. As for your recall, Specifically to approve and fund the Manatee County Task Force for a period of five years. Adoption of Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-000. The agenda item for June 16th now only indicates this newly formed task force would only be housed under the Department of Public Safety (see current agenda item description). If Public Safety is only being used as the parent for this task force, there would be no questions. If county tax dollars are being used or consider as was written back in May, you all should have questions too. Again there are divisions under Public Safety that could use funding, if there are extra dollars to be distributed outside of MCG, we should look internally first. If this item is simply to gain support and an endorsement as stated earlier by MCG, not a concern. If tax dollars are considered to be used to fund any part of this, I hope you may question that too. Consider using any funds for MCEMS. Thank you Larry Luh, Retired MCEMS Manatee County Resident



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 01:35AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Cynthia Last Name: Cabrera
Email	cpc779@tampabay.rr.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Bishop Animal Welfare Facility
Comment	Commissioners I am a Manatee County resident (born & raised here) I'm requesting that all our Manatee County commissioners support & approve the funds needed to quickly remedy the debacle of the current prefab dog kennels & tents for shade. A permanent properly designed kennel facility is urgently needed NOW. The prefabs are a joke & not safe for the animals, volunteers or staff. They're too small for most of the larger dogs & they'll never hold up & protect the dogs during a hurricane. The dogs are suffering horribly in the extreme summer heat. THIS IS ANIMAL ABUSE!!! Please do the right thing & approve the funds now. The conditions these poor dogs are living in currently is a disgrace & an embarrassment to Manatee County & it's ALL on YOU!! Not a good look at all...



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 15, 2026, 09:28PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Jackelyn Last Name: Vario
Email	varioj@mail.gvsu.edu
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Item 66
Comment	Dear Commissioners, I am writing to ask the Board of County Commissioners to follow through on the state-of-the-art, brick-and-mortar animal welfare facility that Manatee County residents were promised years ago. Our community was led to believe that a modern, permanent facility would be built to properly serve the needs of a rapidly growing county. Instead, many residents feel that the county has accepted temporary solutions that do not reflect what was promised to taxpayers or what is needed for a county of more than 450,000 residents. We are asking the county to fully commit to funding, planning, and building the permanent animal welfare facility our community was told we would receive. This matters because municipal animal shelters impact: • Public safety • Emergency response • Disaster preparedness • Animal control • Humane standards • Long-term sustainability • Quality of life in Manatee County Manatee County deserves infrastructure that is safe, sustainable, properly designed, and built for the future of this community. Residents are paying attention, and many of us are asking county leadership to do the right thing by following through on the commitment made to this community. Vote “yes” on Commissioner McCann’s motion to budget and plan for what our community needs.



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 03:45AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Amy Last Name: Taylor
Email	alt4020@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	MCAW Shelter
Comment	I am a citizen of manatee county. I am writing to request a proper brick shelter to be built as promised to the citizens of manatee county for the last 7 years. The sheds that have been placed are neither functional nor sustainable. They are dangerous in the unforgiving heat and during storms the dogs will not even be able to be accessed to be taken care of. They need central access to be taken care of properly! The unhoused dogs if this community deserve more as was promised. They didn't ask to be there! But it is our responsibility to take care of them properly!



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 16, 2026, 05:03AM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Susan Last Name: Solz
Email	shainachaps@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 16, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	E bikes
Comment	I feel that the best way to stop the harassment of the elderly is 2 fold. The kids must be apprehended, so the PARENTS hopefully will wake up. I feel they are the core of the problem and the core of fixing this disgusting thing that is happening in our neighborhood. So how can the parents get involved? Why doesnt the sheriff's offices start using Drones. Then these kids could be followed home and besides arresting the kids since elder abuse, is a felony the parents should have to pay a fine and the family should be court mandated to go to counseling like a person who has a DWI has to in some states. We shouldn't have to feel threatened in our community. Thank you for listening.

From: Ronald Blunden <blundenrk@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, June 1, 2026 9:39 PM
To: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Air BNB

Jason,

I live in west Bradenton. I am concerned about all the AirBNB's that are circling my neighborhood. There is one 5 houses to my west, 3 houses to my south, and 5 houses to my north. Where will it end? My son lives one block to my south and has 7 children. One of my daughters live in Pine Lakes, (6 blocks east) and there are at least 5-7 AirBNB's on the street behind her, including the one directly behind her.

Who wants to live next to a AirBNB? No ONE!

Shouldn't existing property owners rights be higher than investors new purchases?

Different people coming and going every few days. Parties going on after normal family quiet times.

Also these AirBNB's are taking away the opportunity for my children and grandchildren to live in west Bradenton. These investment buyers are buying up available inventory for local working families. They are elevating prices which also is hurting families that want to live in west Bradenton, and not out in Parrish. It is also elevating our Tax Assessment with these artificially higher prices. Local buyers also cannot compete against the "cash" offers paid by these investors.

I am all for business, as I own two businesses in Manatee County.

However turning all of West Bradenton in to a motel is not in the best interest of the existing or future residents of Manatee County. When I sell and prepare to down size I absolutely will not buy a home near an AirBNB! (Which may eliminate my staying in Manatee County).

Please help save long time residents like me from this AirBNB invasion.

Restrictions need to be placed on these AirBNB Motels in our neighborhoods. Such AS:

- Ban all AirBNB's or:

- Registration of units as a short term rental.

- Restrict new AirBNB's from registering/operating if located within 10 properties of an existing registered AirBNB.

- Restrict number of occupants to 2 per bedroom.

- Restrict number of overnight vehicle's to available driveway spaces.

- Restrict height of lights, and curfew to turn off by 11:00 PM.

- Restrict/enforce noise volume to county code.

- Restrict minimum stay to 5 nights.

We want people to enjoy our beautiful area, but not in our front and backyards!

Maybe create zoning for AirBNB, only with 1 block of a major road like Cortez. Don't motels and hotels need zoning other than residential? And not in residential neighborhoods.

Manatee County is one of the few Counties on the west coast that has no regulations on AirBNB's.

I hope you and other Manatee County commissioners will consider ways to stop this invasion in to our neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to share my concerns with other commissioners.

Ronald Blunden
2416 45th Ct W
Bradenton, FL 34209

941-792-5140

Resident since 1969



Public Comment

Submitted On: Jun 1, 2026, 06:39PM EDT

Manatee County Government

Full Name	First Name: Richard Last Name: Hicks
Email	richlor1987@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	June 02, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Nuisance Airbnb's
Comment	What can be done to assure the peace and security of Our neighborhoods, besides calling MCSO 2-3 times per week. Personally the peace has disappeared for 2 years as anxiety keeps growing. Thank You Richard