

**From:** Julie Madison <[julie.madison@toptierk9.com](mailto:julie.madison@toptierk9.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2026 12:58 PM  
**Subject:** Permanent shade/A solution to stabilizing the facility

Dear Commissioner,

At the last meeting, permanent shade was discussed. There seems to be a general misunderstanding about what permanent shade is actually intended to accomplish, both within the community and among decision-makers, so I want to clarify that.

First, permanent shade does not solve the heat problem.

Shade can provide protection from direct sunlight, but it does not change the environment for a facility that is built 95% outside. While the dogs may be cool when they are inside spaces that volunteers don't have access to, this facility is brutal on the staff who have to perform most of their standard tasks outside.

Second, heat is not the only environmental factor we have to deal with in Florida.

We have heavy rain, strong winds, and lightning.

At Palmetto, those conditions were still a challenge, but they were easier to manage because the dogs could be accessed from inside the building and the distance to the yards was relatively short.

Here, because of the design, weather becomes a much bigger operational issue.

This is not a soccer field that can simply be closed when it rains. This is an animal shelter. The dogs still have to be fed, cleaned, exercised, treated, moved, and cared for safely in all forms of weather.

And that brings me to another concern.

I am not sure how a shade proposal made it onto the agenda without simultaneously having a clear drainage proposal.

It is unwise to address one piece of an outdoor environment while ignoring another.

And when the permanent shade was proposed, there weren't even renderings provided so the public could see what was actually being proposed.

How are members of the community supposed to meaningfully evaluate a proposal when we aren't shown what it will look like, how it will function, how it will interact with the existing facility, or how it will address the other environmental problems we already know exist?

If we are going to invest public money into changes to this facility, the public deserves enough information to understand what is being proposed. Because if we get behind it and support it, and it still doesn't meet our needs, we will get blamed for that too.

I also want to address something that I think has been lost in this conversation.

Because the dogs and staff were moved into this facility before these issues were adequately resolved, we are now going to have to swallow some band-aids just to get through this period and safely operate until we reach a permanent solution; unless the BoCC wants to look at alternatives.

At this point we should be weighing the benefits of looking into options to run a paid K9 Foster workforce program. Each foster could work with 4-6 dogs in their homes, coordinate with volunteers and the Bishop Medical center as its hub, train the dogs in their care, and then train adopters. Quite frankly, at this point this may very well be the wiser program, add living wage jobs to the community and allow that facility to be properly evaluated while we wait for the UF report to come back. Top Tier K9 could train and maintain that program through our school and our app, and could be launched by December.

Funding and capacity:

Approximately 120 dogs- 20 foster homes

Each foster home would be full time 24/7 care cost: \$95,000 per home annually - \$1.9 million

Training and maintenance through Top Tier K9 would be \$120,000 to get the program launched. If the board decided to go with Top Tier K9, access to our app to all adopters of MCAS dogs would be provided, as well as training for every single dog. If the county wanted to consider an annual contract for maintenance would be \$40,000, or the county could do an annual contract for maintenance and training services which would also include space at my facility to work with dogs that newer handlers may not be able to manage.

There may be in home set up costs, which could be done for under \$5,000 per home.

This network could be maintained or transitioned after a new facility is budgeted for. Currently, Manatee County has the facilities to process approximately 4,000 per year, but based on our population we need the infrastructure for closer to 13,000.

The benefits of running the program include more positive local economic impact, higher quality interactions, less behavioral returns, care for the dogs, and not trying to staff the current prefabs.

I look forward to seeing the results of the feasibility study. Let me know if you would like to discuss a K9 Workforce.

Julie Madison Top Tier K9 - Bradenton 203-733-7183



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:  
Aug 25, 2026, 10:01AM EDT

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | First Name: Sari<br>Last Name: Lindroos-Valimaki                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Email                                                                     | sari4manatee@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | August 25, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | New Business                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>New Business Public Comment — Bishop Animal Shelter</p> <p>Commissioners, I want to bring Bishop Animal Shelter back before you today, but from a public-safety perspective.</p> <p>Yesterday, in my own neighborhood, a resident reported that his wife and dogs were attacked by a loose dog. In the discussion that followed, another neighbor said he no longer walks his dogs because there are so many loose dogs, and another said our neighborhood is becoming a dumping ground for unwanted dogs.</p> <p>I have seen loose dogs in our area myself.</p> <p>I cannot tell you why every one of those dogs ended up on the street. But I think we need to seriously consider whether shelter capacity—or even the public perception that Bishop is full, overcrowded, or unable to accept animals—is contributing to people making the terrible decision to abandon dogs in residential neighborhoods.</p> <p>At that point, this is no longer just an animal-welfare issue.</p> <p>It becomes a public-safety issue.</p> |

A loose dog can attack another animal, a child, an elderly resident, a bicyclist, or someone simply walking through their neighborhood. We should not wait until someone is seriously injured before we treat this with the urgency it deserves.

As you continue working through the future of Bishop and its capacity, I am asking this Board to direct staff to look at every legally available funding source, including any eligible Public Safety funding, that could help us resolve the capacity problem and prevent this from becoming a larger loose-dog problem across Manatee County.

We already have the Bishop property. We have an opportunity right now to think beyond today's shelter needs and build enough capacity for the county we are becoming.

Please use that opportunity.

Let's make sure people have a safe, realistic place to take an animal they cannot keep—and let's keep those animals out of our neighborhoods and off our streets.

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**From:** Andrea Nordstrom <[andrea@nhsgllc.com](mailto:andrea@nhsgllc.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2026 12:11 PM  
**To:** Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>  
**Subject:** Shelter

Dear Mr Bearden,

I am writing to urge you to take immediate action regarding the conditions at the rescue dog shelter. The structure appears poorly constructed, temporary, and completely inadequate for the animals housed there.

The shelter is small, damp, wet, and cramped, with large dogs being confined to spaces that simply do not provide adequate room or appropriate living conditions. This is not a matter of aesthetics—it is a matter of basic animal welfare and responsible use of public resources.

Our rescue dogs deserve a clean, dry, safe, properly designed facility where they have sufficient space to move, rest, and live with dignity. What is currently being provided falls far short of that standard.

I ask the Commission to inspect this facility immediately, address the conditions, and require a proper, permanent solution for these animals. They cannot speak for themselves, so we must speak up for them.  
Sincerely,

Andrea Nordstrom  
973-650-7527  
4442 Eleuthera Ct, Sarasota, FL 34233

Andrea Nordstrom



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 25, 2026, 01:20PM EDT

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | First Name: PATRICIA<br>Last Name: GRADY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Email                                                                     | pgrady404@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | August 25, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | Future Agenda Itema                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>Please put some money in the budget for a temporary fix for Bishop Shelter.</p> <p>Please also promote taking a dog out for an hour or two from Bishop kennels . I am going to do my first one next week.</p> <p>Please read this<br/><a href="https://www.facebook.com/100064826229327/posts/1523062693197924/?app=fbl">https://www.facebook.com/100064826229327/posts/1523062693197924/?app=fbl</a></p> <p>We can do better. We have to admit that the portables are a mistake.</p> <p>Please put something in next years budget for a temporary solution.. a place holder for the line item where something needs to be done.</p> |



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 25, 2026, 03:14PM EDT

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | <b>First Name:</b> Mark<br><b>Last Name:</b> Schumacher                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Email                                                                     | achumacm1@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | August 25, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | Change Speed Limit on 44th and Rangland                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>Why are we changing this? Was there a traffic study? 44th was built as and alternative to SR64 and SR70. I moves great from SR301 to Lakewood Ranch Blvd. Then it slows because of all the lights. Now we want to make it worse???</p> <p>Rangeland Parkway was 35mph, 18 months ago and it was raised. Now we want to change it back why??? How about we just start to enforce the current speed limit of 40 MPH. Enforce the laws we have before changing them or making more laws!</p> |

From: Kathy Kalitta hindman <[kkalitta@icloud.com](mailto:kkalitta@icloud.com)>  
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2026 3:26 PM  
To: Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>  
Subject: Just a "thank you"...

Dear Jason,

I was at the meeting today and heard your dissent on a couple of issues. You are a rare gem to have on this counties board. Because of you our non-profit foundation, **Rocket Phonics**, received some grant money it desperately needed. I have worked with our counties K - 3rd grade children for 3 years now. These children were failing their assessments that they need to pass as 3rd graders. They are incredible kids who just needed a little one-on-one phonics training. Unfortunately our schools use a "whole language" method that leaves some kids behind. I have seen these children absolutely flourish in their reading when they come to Rocket Phonics so I know this program works!

I love that you did not have fear to stand-up for what was right on several issues. I am sorry that your term is done in November. Wherever you go from here I pray that your warrior spirit goes with you!

Ephesians 6:13 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Sincerely,  
Kathy Kalitta-Hindman  
Sent from my iPad

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2026 6:37 PM

**To:** Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>

**Subject:** This a.m. you were 100% right geesh

Is it any wonder I can't get heard?

I get why you're leaving but you will be missed.

We may not have always agreed, that said: my dad was a ww2?vet in the army aircorp, before they split. He was an airplane mechanic, cause he was only 1petite enough fit in engines to fox them. Originally wanted him to be a pilot!

**The disability issues** i bring to you are real, scary and parents are freaking out right now!

This a.m. even after the break & obvious consultation w/ attorney he still didn't get it!

I am not right wing or conservative but i admire your chutzpah!

Pat simmons

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** DD <[davidd4300@gmail.com](mailto:davidd4300@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2026 9:14 PM

**To:** George Kruse <[george.kruse@mymanatee.org](mailto:george.kruse@mymanatee.org)>; Tal Siddique <[Tal@mymanatee.org](mailto:Tal@mymanatee.org)>; Robert McCann <[drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org](mailto:drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org)>; Amanda Ballard <[amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org](mailto:amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org)>; Mike Rahn <[mike.rahn@mymanatee.org](mailto:mike.rahn@mymanatee.org)>; Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>

**Subject:** Brick and Mortar kennel study

Commissioners,

Before summer recess the board unanimously approved Dr. McCann's motion to conduct a cost study regarding replacing the prefab kennels with a concrete block kennel building.

The board should provide a reasonable deadline for returning this information, or at the very least, schedule regular status updates.

Thank you

David Daniels



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 26, 2026, 06:07AM EDT

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | First Name: Mary<br>Last Name: Hough                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Email                                                                     | maryhough1966@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | September 01, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | Kratom ban                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>I am writing to you as a grieving parent to urge immediate action on the dangers of kratom.</p> <p>Six months ago, my son passed away, and kratom was the cause of his death per his toxicology report. Before this tragedy, I had no idea how widely available and unregulated this substance is, despite its serious risks, including addiction, harmful side effects, and even death.</p> <p>It is often marketed as a safe and natural product, which can dangerously mislead individuals and families. No parent should have to experience the pain of losing a child to a substance like this.</p> <p>I respectfully urge you to take decisive action to support a ban on kratom and help protect other families from experiencing similar tragedies.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Mary Hough</p> |

From: hunter jensen <[hunterj1030@gmail.com](mailto:hunterj1030@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2026 8:18 AM  
To: Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>  
Subject: Protecting Manatee County Residents' Access to Anna Maria Island

Dear Commissioner Bearden,

I am writing as a Manatee County resident regarding the parking changes being proposed by the City of Anna Maria and the effect these policies could have on the quality of life and beach access of residents throughout our county.

I understand the City's desire to address congestion and protect the quality of life of Anna Maria residents. However, I am increasingly concerned that the solution being pursued comes at the expense of Manatee County residents who live outside the city limits. The combination of eliminating public parking spaces, converting areas to permit-only parking, and implementing paid parking could substantially reduce the number of practical beach access points available to the broader public.

For those of us who live on the mainland, Anna Maria Island is not simply a tourist destination. It is our local beach and has been enjoyed by generations of Manatee County families. Restricting parking does not eliminate the demand for beach access; it simply makes that access more difficult and more expensive, particularly for working families and residents who cannot justify paying significant hourly parking fees every time they visit.

I also believe there is a larger countywide issue at stake. Manatee County residents have repeatedly supported the island communities, particularly following the devastating hurricanes. Residents, volunteers, nonprofits, businesses, first responders, and county resources all contributed to the recovery of Anna Maria Island. It is difficult to reconcile that shared sense of community with policies that could now make it increasingly difficult for those same county residents to access the beaches they helped support and restore.

I respectfully ask that you and the Board of County Commissioners take a close look at the cumulative impact of these changes and determine what role the County can play in preserving reasonable public beach access. I would especially appreciate the County engaging directly with the City of Anna Maria to advocate for solutions that address legitimate congestion concerns without effectively pushing mainland Manatee County residents off the island.

I believe we can protect the quality of life of island residents without sacrificing the quality of life of the rest of Manatee County. Our beaches are one of our county's greatest assets, and reasonable access to them should remain available to all Manatee County residents.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community. I would greatly appreciate hearing your thoughts on this issue and whether the County Commission plans to address the potential loss of public beach access resulting from these changes.

Sincerely,

Hunter Jensen  
Manatee County Resident

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** ROBERT OR GINNY THOMAS <[bqjet@aol.com](mailto:bqjet@aol.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2026 1:38 PM

**To:** Robert McCann <[drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org](mailto:drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org)>; George Kruse <[george.kruse@mymanatee.org](mailto:george.kruse@mymanatee.org)>; Tal Siddique <[tal@mymanatee.org](mailto:tal@mymanatee.org)>; Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>; [amada.ballard@mymanatee.org](mailto:amada.ballard@mymanatee.org); Mike Rahn <[mike.rahn@mymanatee.org](mailto:mike.rahn@mymanatee.org)>

**Subject:** BISHOP SHELTER

Dear Commissioners: What happened to the brick and mortar shelter that was supposed to be built? Why would a metal roof be constructed to create more stress for the dogs when it rains? This facility will be blown over and destroyed during our first hurricane. The dog's comfort should have been your first priority. Your actions in this facility is an indication that you are not fit to serve the needs of the Manatee County residents.

The Manatee County Animal Welfare at Bishop is an embarrassment for the citizens of the county. This facility is inhumane not only for the animals but the employees and volunteers as well. **This should be corrected immediately.** It is horrible and deplorable and it's unbelievable that you commissioners approved this and are treating the poor animals in this way.

What happened to the money that was supposed to be used for the sturdy facility for the poor animals? This smells like a rat to me. What you did construct fails in all aspects. Minimum room for the dogs, not easily accessible by volunteers or adoptees, no machines for washing and drying, no bathroom facilities for workers and volunteers, too narrow hallways etc. Some of the conditions there are safety issues as well. **What were you thinking????**

These dogs deserve more than the conditions you provided. Spending tax payer dollars on sub standard trashy trailers is an insult to the residents of manatee county. The pictures of the facility posted on social media are deplorable. You should be ashamed and embarrassed. The excessive barking of the dogs indicate they are becoming neurotic and are not happy. You wouldn't be either. **Now go and do the right thing and provide them a suitable kennel environment that they deserve.**

Virginia Thomas  
concerned citizen

**From:** Peter Mills <[pj\\_mills15@yahoo.com](mailto:pj_mills15@yahoo.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2026 6:33 PM

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

**Subject:** Please Remove Flock Cameras from Unincorporated Manatee County

Commissioners,

I'm a resident of Parrish, in unincorporated Manatee County. Thank you for Tuesday's unanimous vote keeping Flock cameras off county parks, facilities, and buildings, and for requiring future applications to come before you. I believe it was absolutely the correct decision. I do believe there is more that can and should be done to protect the privacy of citizens in this county though.

Your county attorney advised you on the record that the Commission's authority extends to unincorporated Manatee County. The Sheriff's Office operates 79 Flock cameras and 134 license plate readers countywide, several of them in Parrish. I am asking the Commission to exercise the authority you were told you have and direct the removal of automated license plate readers from unincorporated Manatee County, and also to decline any renewal of the county's arrangement with Flock Safety.

Tempe, AZ, Austin, TX, Plugerville, TX, Flagstaff, AZ, Kendall County, (just to name a few cities and counties) have all terminated their Flock contracts. Manatee can do the same. A current list of counties and cities across the country who are completely canceling Flock cameras can be found here for your reference --> <https://ij.org/institute-for-justice-unveils-new-database-tracking-cancelations-of-license-plate-reader-contracts/>

My case for removal, briefly:

The abuse of these cameras is documented, not speculative. A Washington Post investigation identified dozens of officers nationwide accused of using ALPR systems to stalk women:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2026/08/19/we-found-cops-who-misused-flock-their-police-departments-didnt-know/>

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/08/26/us/flock-kentucky-police-officer-arrest>

Officers in Haines City (<https://people.com/fla-cop-allegedly-tracked-estranged-wife-using-flock-cameras-on-over-700-occasions-12059224>) and Sarasota (<https://www.mysuncoast.com/2026/08/24/former-sarasota-officer-charged-after-flock-license-plate-data-investigation/>) (both in this region) have been arrested for querying Flock data outside official cases. One Florida officer allegedly tracked his ex-wife for two years. Sheriff Wells points to a two-week audit cycle and 30-day deletion. But here's the issue: audits catch misuse after it happens, and a policy that can be changed by the next administration is not a protection. Federal agencies have also accessed locally

collected ALPR data outside the terms local departments agreed to. Whatever Manatee's own policy says, once a plate enters a national network of roughly 80,000 cameras across 49 states, the county has surrendered control of who reads it. Errors propagate across a shared hot list faster than anyone can retract them and this should alarm anyone who is concerned about upholding and protecting the 4th ammendment. The technology is also not reliable enough to justify the exposure. Plate misreads are routine and in one instance, an Ohio driver was mistakenly stopped at gunpoint due to a license plate misread. These misreads are frequent; more on that here --> <https://ij.org/dozens-of-innocent-motorists-have-been-pulled-over-detained-at-gunpoint-or-jailed-due-to-ai-license-plate-camera-errors/>

The case for keeping these cameras keeps shrinking day by day. Governor DeSantis said Wednesday that ALPR use in Florida is "out of control" and that he does not want this to become a surveillance state. Flock's own CEO just this week went on Fox News and said Americans must prioritize "compromise" between privacy and safety. I don't think residents of this county owe a private surveillance vendor a compromise on the Fourth Amendment. I do think our commissioners owe us the duty of protecting this right through all lawful means though. Your lawyers advised you that you have this right and I am requesting you follow the example of the hundreds of cities and counties across this country that have terminated and restricted Flock contracts in order to protect their citizens.

I recognize the Sheriff's Office has used this technology in real cases, and I don't dismiss that. But every surveillance system in history has been justified by its successful cases and best possible uses. The question isn't whether the tool ever works. It's whether a permanent record of every resident's movements, held in a national database we don't control, is a price this county is willing to pay for it. I adamantly argue that it is NOT and history time and again proves this to be true.

Keeping cameras off county parks protects residents at the park. It does nothing for the resident driving to work down 301, or to church on Fort Hamer Road, or to a doctor's appointment in Ellenton. That's where the cameras are, and that's where the record is being built. I am grateful for the vote banning cameras at the county locations but with all due respect, I believe we need to go further.

Specifically, I am asking you all for two things:

- 1) Place ALPR removal in unincorporated Manatee County on an agenda this fall.
- 3) Direct that the county not renew or expand any arrangement with Flock Safety in the meantime.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Sincerely,

P.J. Mills  
(941) 713-2155

*I serve as VP of Business Development and Marketing at Hi-Lite Airfield Services, a national airfield pavement maintenance firm of roughly 500 employees located in Manatee County. I write as a resident of Manatee County; not on behalf of my employer.*

*Success is not final; failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts. – Winston Churchill*

**From:** Cynthia Rodgers <[crodgers164@gmail.com](mailto:crodgers164@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2026 8:33 AM

**To:** Robert McCann <[Drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org](mailto:Drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org)>; Tal Siddique <[tal@mymanatee.org](mailto:tal@mymanatee.org)>; George Kruse <[george.kruse@mymanatee.org](mailto:george.kruse@mymanatee.org)>; Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>; Mike Rahn <[mike.rahn@mymanatee.org](mailto:mike.rahn@mymanatee.org)>; Amanda Ballard <[amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org](mailto:amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org)>; FMD <[fmd@mymanatee.org](mailto:fmd@mymanatee.org)>; Cary Knight <[cary.knight@mymanatee.org](mailto:cary.knight@mymanatee.org)>; Info <[info@bacvb.com](mailto:info@bacvb.com)>; Cortez Village Historical Society <[cvhs2016@aol.com](mailto:cvhs2016@aol.com)>

**Subject:** Support for Florida Maritime Museum Rehabilitation Funding

Dear Manatee County Commissioners, Directors, and Administrators:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Cortez Village Historical Society (CVHS), we write to express our strong support for including the necessary funding in Manatee County's FY 2027 budget for the rehabilitation and reopening of the Florida Maritime Museum in Cortez.

The Florida Maritime Museum is an invaluable cultural and educational resource for Manatee County and for the historic fishing village of Cortez. Housed in the historic 1912 Cortez schoolhouse, the museum preserves and interprets the maritime traditions, commercial fishing heritage, artifacts, photographs, and personal stories that help tell the story of one of Florida's oldest continuously active fishing communities.

Since the museum's closure in January 2024, our community and the public have lost access to an important place where this history is preserved, shared, and brought to life. The museum is also an integral part of the historic and cultural landscape of Cortez, complementing the work of CVHS and other community organizations dedicated to preserving the unique heritage of our village.

The rehabilitation of the historic schoolhouse and reopening of the Florida Maritime Museum are critical to ensuring that this irreplaceable piece of Manatee County's history remains available to residents, students, researchers, and visitors for generations to come.

We respectfully urge the Board of County Commissioners to retain and approve the necessary funding for the Florida Maritime Museum rehabilitation project in the FY 2027 budget. CVHS strongly supports this investment in the preservation of our shared history and in the future of the Florida Maritime Museum.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to preserving Manatee County's historic and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Rodgers for  
Board of Directors  
Cortez Village Historical Society



**From:** JenDam Parker <[jendamparker@gmail.com](mailto:jendamparker@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2026 9:20 AM  
**To:** Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>  
**Subject:** Moccasin Wallow Road

My name is Jennie Parker, I am a Manatee County native born and raised in Moccasin Wallow Road Palmetto. 46 years later and I still travel Moccasin Wallow Road daily as my husband is building the new BayCare Hospital. This road has become a danger with rain nearly everyday, water stands in the road covering both lanes and if I had to guess at any given time I'd say approximately 4" or better causing it to be unsafe for travelers that have to travel this road. The entrance to the new subdivision as well as it being used as the entrance to Wendy's, Circle K etc...I have seen just yesterday for example a car have to back up in that entrance due to the water being above the bottom for the door. I am very concerned that someone not understanding the condition of the road when it rains is going to hydroplane killing himself or someone else due to the negligence of the company working on this road GATOR, I have had a dump truck come by me in the opposite direction blowing water all over my car, where even my windshield wipers being on high could not get it all fast enough for me to see in front of me there is not enough drains on that road the pumps that are lined up down through that road are not enough to keep the water out of the road what's going to happen when somebody does calls an accident killing themselves or someone else something has got to be done with this road and gator needs to step up their game. This is not a game to play with somebody's life like this to make it unsafe for people to travel nine times out of 10 when I drive that road the gator workers are congregated around talking instead of being on the equipment doing their jobs, I am going to start taking pictures daily and sending them in, but I am also attaching pictures of yesterday of the road of the entrance to Sierra because something has got to be done. I understand we do not have a district one commissioner in house right now because unfortunate death but we gotta get somebody in there. That knows what they're doing and I can handle situations like this because obviously the job's not being done. From today, on out every time I travel this road I will take pictures of the workers standing outside the equipment, the equipment sitting in empty, not running every time it rains. I will flood all with pictures until something is done. The pumps are not running the employers are not working. The contractors are not doing their job and this is not acceptable. Somebody is going to end up getting hurt or killed or kill somebody else due to the negligence of the county and this construction company gator.

Jennie Parker











Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [talonthedog@mail.com](mailto:talonthedog@mail.com) <[talonthedog@mail.com](mailto:talonthedog@mail.com)>

Sent: Friday, August 28, 2026 11:20 AM

To: Amanda Ballard <[amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org](mailto:amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org)>; Tal Siddique <[tal@mymanatee.org](mailto:tal@mymanatee.org)>; Stephanie Garrison <[stephanie.garrison@mymanatee.org](mailto:stephanie.garrison@mymanatee.org)>; Bryan Parnell <[bryan.parnell@mymanatee.org](mailto:bryan.parnell@mymanatee.org)>; Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>; Mike Rahn <[mike.rahn@mymanatee.org](mailto:mike.rahn@mymanatee.org)>; Robert McCann <[drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org](mailto:drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org)>; Charlie Bishop <[charlie.bishop@mymanatee.org](mailto:charlie.bishop@mymanatee.org)>; [citizenservices@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:citizenservices@myfloridalegal.com); George Kruse <[george.kruse@mymanatee.org](mailto:george.kruse@mymanatee.org)>

Subject: **Expectations for Conduct and Accountability**

Commissioners McCann and Bearden,

We, the citizens and taxpayers of Manatee County, are growing increasingly frustrated with the aggressive and, at times, blatantly inappropriate tactics being displayed from the dais.

Your political agenda has become increasingly apparent. While your preferred candidates and political allies may not have prevailed at the ballot box, subsequent efforts that appear designed to consolidate influence or circumvent the will of the electorate have not gone unnoticed. The citizens of this County expect better from their elected officials.

At the next Board meeting, we expect professionalism, civility, and respect for the roles and responsibilities of the entire Board, County Administration, and County staff. Attempts to step outside the appropriate authority of an individual commissioner, exert undue influence, intimidate others, or otherwise use public office to advance personal or political objectives should not be tolerated.

Of even greater concern are allegations regarding possible side agreements, discussions, or promises of future County employment or appointed positions involving an outgoing commissioner in connection with that commissioner's voting support. These are serious allegations, and we are forwarding the information available to the appropriate state authorities so that they—not political opponents, County staff, or the public—can determine whether further review or investigation is warranted.

To be clear, we are not presenting these allegations as established fact. We are asking the appropriate authorities to independently determine whether the reported conduct occurred and, if so, whether it violated Florida ethics requirements or other applicable law.

Public office is a position of trust, not a vehicle for political leverage or personal power. Manatee County deserves commissioners who can disagree without hostility, respect the boundaries of their office, and conduct the people's business with professionalism and integrity.

The message is simple: do better. Conduct yourselves accordingly. Respect the office you hold, respect your fellow commissioners and County employees, and most importantly, respect the citizens and taxpayers you were elected to serve.

We will be watching the next meeting closely.

Respectfully,

J. Bender

And The Concerned Citizens and Taxpayers of Manatee County



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 30, 2026, 10:27AM EDT

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | <b>First Name:</b> David<br><b>Last Name:</b> Daniels                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Email                                                                     | davidd4300@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | September 01, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | Future Agenda Items                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>Before summer recess the board unanimously approved Dr. McCann's motion to conduct a cost study regarding replacing the <b>prefab kennels</b> with a concrete block kennel building.</p> <p>The board should provide a reasonable deadline for returning this information, or at the very least, schedule regular status updates.</p> <p>Without deadlines, we know this process will drag on. The board should also demand transparency - what exactly is the study considering building? And where? It should be for a basic concrete block kennel building, with friendly public access and proper storage. It should be at the Bishop property to reduce costs. The study should be encouraged to think of ways to minimize impact to the dogs - perhaps by phasing construction so that some of the prefabs can stay in use. The BoCC should task the advisory board with recommendations and include the advisory board - not to make decisions, but to insure transparency and make sure the public is represented.</p> |



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 31, 2026, 12:53AM EDT

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | <b>First Name:</b> Martha<br><b>Last Name:</b> Jacobs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Email                                                                     | mjorders@verizon.net                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | September 01, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | D General Public Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>At the July 28,2026 Regular BOCC meeting Consent Agenda Item #19 Execution of Change Order No. 1 regarding Changes to the Bishop Animal Shelter Expansion was pulled. I agree with that decision and express my gratitude to Dr. McCann for doing so. Due to the ongoing debacle, to put it politely, at the <b>Bishop Trailer Kennels</b>, the county has clearly demonstrated its inability to spend our tax dollars thoughtfully, let alone wisely. \$1,422,516.55 is a significant enough amount to prohibit it slipping through as a Consent Agenda Item with no discussion.</p> <p>I am aware a new concrete block kennel building will not magically appear overnight and in the meantime the county will need to waste more tax dollars on band-aids. Even for band-aids of a significant dollar amount there must be some oversight, thought given and please, some common sense!</p> <p>Where the necessary shade structures are concerned, wouldn't it be a good idea to look at the faulty grading first? Has the drainage been proven adequate now that we have finally had a little rain? I would imagine not. Don't you think it might be wise to look at those things before installing shade structures that might only be in the way when changes to the grading and drainage will most likely be required? No, I am not a building contractor but I have learned that water always runs downhill and if a drain is insufficient it will back up. Please people, common sense! I do understand that supervising these types of things are not necessarily a part of your job description. However, it should your job to babysit this crew and not the public's. Sadly, babysitting is where we all are now where the trailer kennels are concerned. The shade structures are absolutely necessary please but make it make sense.</p> <p>Similarly, with the spending of \$118,710,67 for acoustic panels from Troy Acoustics at the exterior dog runs are concerned, are you aware that at the August 12 Animal Services Advisory Board meeting MCAW staff had a varying understanding of where and why these panels are to be installed. When the subject came up, staff attending the ASAB</p> |

meeting were baffled. Has an acoustical engineer been consulted as Troy recommends or is the county just tossing good money after bad so you can say, "Well, you asked and we took care of it." Even if it isn't a solution. Will you also be following the advice of Troy regarding employee use of "...personal protective equipment such as hearing protectors..." Are you aware that Troy is not only located in GA but they are not licensed in the State of Florida?

Given the history of this debacle but going forward, I respectfully request you assist taxpayers in babysitting this project. A few suggestions include:

- Directing staff to submit all changes over a designated larger dollar amount to the ASAB for a common sense and animal safe review.
- No longer allow any major purchases or changes to just slide through as Consent Agenda Items.
- I do hope that small dollar / immaterial items have, and will continue to be allowed without any impediment as requested by MCAW staff.

Please, let's all work together to ensure common sense is used until the taxpayers have what was requested and agreed to by the 2023 Board, a concrete block kennel building.

Thank you

**From:** Julie Madison <[julie.madison@toptierk9.com](mailto:julie.madison@toptierk9.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2026 12:58 PM  
**Subject:** Permanent shade/A solution to stabilizing the facility

Dear Commissioner,

At the last meeting, permanent shade was discussed. There seems to be a general misunderstanding about what permanent shade is actually intended to accomplish, both within the community and among decision-makers, so I want to clarify that.

First, permanent shade does not solve the heat problem.

Shade can provide protection from direct sunlight, but it does not change the environment for a facility that is built 95% outside. While the dogs may be cool when they are inside spaces that volunteers don't have access to, this facility is brutal on the staff who have to perform most of their standard tasks outside.

Second, heat is not the only environmental factor we have to deal with in Florida.

We have heavy rain, strong winds, and lightning.

At Palmetto, those conditions were still a challenge, but they were easier to manage because the dogs could be accessed from inside the building and the distance to the yards was relatively short.

Here, because of the design, weather becomes a much bigger operational issue.

This is not a soccer field that can simply be closed when it rains. This is an animal shelter. The dogs still have to be fed, cleaned, exercised, treated, moved, and cared for safely in all forms of weather.

And that brings me to another concern.

I am not sure how a shade proposal made it onto the agenda without simultaneously having a clear drainage proposal.

It is unwise to address one piece of an outdoor environment while ignoring another.

And when the permanent shade was proposed, there weren't even renderings provided so the public could see what was actually being proposed.

How are members of the community supposed to meaningfully evaluate a proposal when we aren't shown what it will look like, how it will function, how it will interact with the existing facility, or how it will address the other environmental problems we already know exist?

If we are going to invest public money into changes to this facility, the public deserves enough information to understand what is being proposed. Because if we get behind it and support it, and it still doesn't meet our needs, we will get blamed for that too.

I also want to address something that I think has been lost in this conversation.

Because the dogs and staff were moved into this facility before these issues were adequately resolved, we are now going to have to swallow some band-aids just to get through this period and safely operate until we reach a permanent solution; unless the BoCC wants to look at alternatives.

At this point we should be weighing the benefits of looking into options to run a paid K9 Foster workforce program. Each foster could work with 4-6 dogs in their homes, coordinate with volunteers and the Bishop Medical center as its hub, train the dogs in their care, and then train adopters. Quite frankly, at this point this may very well be the wiser program, add living wage jobs to the community and allow that facility to be properly evaluated while we wait for the UF report to come back. Top Tier K9 could train and maintain that program through our school and our app, and could be launched by December.

Funding and capacity:

Approximately 120 dogs- 20 foster homes

Each foster home would be full time 24/7 care cost: \$95,000 per home annually - \$1.9 million

Training and maintenance through Top Tier K9 would be \$120,000 to get the program launched. If the board decided to go with Top Tier K9, access to our app to all adopters of MCAS dogs would be provided, as well as training for every single dog. If the county wanted to consider an annual contract for maintenance would be \$40,000, or the county could do an annual contract for maintenance and training services which would also include space at my facility to work with dogs that newer handlers may not be able to manage.

There may be in home set up costs, which could be done for under \$5,000 per home.

This network could be maintained or transitioned after a new facility is budgeted for. Currently, Manatee County has the facilities to process approximately 4,000 per year, but based on our population we need the infrastructure for closer to 13,000.

The benefits of running the program include more positive local economic impact, higher quality interactions, less behavioral returns, care for the dogs, and not trying to staff the current prefabs.

I look forward to seeing the results of the feasibility study. Let me know if you would like to discuss a K9 Workforce.

Julie Madison Top Tier K9 - Bradenton 203-733-7183



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:  
Aug 25, 2026, 10:01AM EDT

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | First Name: Sari<br>Last Name: Lindroos-Valimaki                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Email                                                                     | sari4manatee@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | August 25, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | New Business                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>New Business Public Comment — Bishop Animal Shelter</p> <p>Commissioners, I want to bring Bishop Animal Shelter back before you today, but from a public-safety perspective.</p> <p>Yesterday, in my own neighborhood, a resident reported that his wife and dogs were attacked by a loose dog. In the discussion that followed, another neighbor said he no longer walks his dogs because there are so many loose dogs, and another said our neighborhood is becoming a dumping ground for unwanted dogs.</p> <p>I have seen loose dogs in our area myself.</p> <p>I cannot tell you why every one of those dogs ended up on the street. But I think we need to seriously consider whether shelter capacity—or even the public perception that Bishop is full, overcrowded, or unable to accept animals—is contributing to people making the terrible decision to abandon dogs in residential neighborhoods.</p> <p>At that point, this is no longer just an animal-welfare issue.</p> <p>It becomes a public-safety issue.</p> |

A loose dog can attack another animal, a child, an elderly resident, a bicyclist, or someone simply walking through their neighborhood. We should not wait until someone is seriously injured before we treat this with the urgency it deserves.

As you continue working through the future of Bishop and its capacity, I am asking this Board to direct staff to look at every legally available funding source, including any eligible Public Safety funding, that could help us resolve the capacity problem and prevent this from becoming a larger loose-dog problem across Manatee County.

We already have the Bishop property. We have an opportunity right now to think beyond today's shelter needs and build enough capacity for the county we are becoming.

Please use that opportunity.

Let's make sure people have a safe, realistic place to take an animal they cannot keep—and let's keep those animals out of our neighborhoods and off our streets.

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**From:** Andrea Nordstrom <[andrea@nhsgllc.com](mailto:andrea@nhsgllc.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2026 12:11 PM  
**To:** Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>  
**Subject:** Shelter

Dear Mr Bearden,

I am writing to urge you to take immediate action regarding the conditions at the rescue dog shelter. The structure appears poorly constructed, temporary, and completely inadequate for the animals housed there.

The shelter is small, damp, wet, and cramped, with large dogs being confined to spaces that simply do not provide adequate room or appropriate living conditions. This is not a matter of aesthetics—it is a matter of basic animal welfare and responsible use of public resources.

Our rescue dogs deserve a clean, dry, safe, properly designed facility where they have sufficient space to move, rest, and live with dignity. What is currently being provided falls far short of that standard.

I ask the Commission to inspect this facility immediately, address the conditions, and require a proper, permanent solution for these animals. They cannot speak for themselves, so we must speak up for them.

Sincerely,

Andrea Nordstrom  
973-650-7527  
4442 Eleuthera Ct, Sarasota, FL 34233

Andrea Nordstrom



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 25, 2026, 01:20PM EDT

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | First Name: PATRICIA<br>Last Name: GRADY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Email                                                                     | pgrady404@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | August 25, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | Future Agenda Itema                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>Please put some money in the budget for a temporary fix for Bishop Shelter.</p> <p>Please also promote taking a dog out for an hour or two from Bishop kennels . I am going to do my first one next week.</p> <p>Please read this<br/><a href="https://www.facebook.com/100064826229327/posts/1523062693197924/?app=fbl">https://www.facebook.com/100064826229327/posts/1523062693197924/?app=fbl</a></p> <p>We can do better. We have to admit that the portables are a mistake.</p> <p>Please put something in next years budget for a temporary solution.. a place holder for the line item where something needs to be done.</p> |



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 25, 2026, 03:14PM EDT

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | First Name: Mark<br>Last Name: Schumacher                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Email                                                                     | achumacm1@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | August 25, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | Change Speed Limit on 44th and Rangland                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>Why are we changing this? Was there a traffic study? 44th was built as and alternative to SR64 and SR70. I moves great from SR301 to Lakewood Ranch Blvd. Then it slows because of all the lights. Now we want to make it worse???</p> <p>Rangeland Parkway was 35mph, 18 months ago and it was raised. Now we want to change it back why??? How about we just start to enforce the current speed limit of 40 MPH. Enforce the laws we have before changing them or making more laws!</p> |

From: Kathy Kalitta hindman <[kkalitta@icloud.com](mailto:kkalitta@icloud.com)>  
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2026 3:26 PM  
To: Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>  
Subject: Just a "thank you"...

Dear Jason,

I was at the meeting today and heard your dissent on a couple of issues. You are a rare gem to have on this counties board. Because of you our non-profit foundation, **Rocket Phonics**, received some grant money it desperately needed. I have worked with our counties K - 3rd grade children for 3 years now. These children were failing their assessments that they need to pass as 3rd graders. They are incredible kids who just needed a little one-on-one phonics training. Unfortunately our schools use a "whole language" method that leaves some kids behind. I have seen these children absolutely flourish in their reading when they come to Rocket Phonics so I know this program works!

I love that you did not have fear to stand-up for what was right on several issues. I am sorry that your term is done in November. Wherever you go from here I pray that your warrior spirit goes with you!

Ephesians 6:13 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Sincerely,  
Kathy Kalitta-Hindman  
Sent from my iPad

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2026 6:37 PM

**To:** Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>

**Subject:** This a.m. you were 100% right geesh

Is it any wonder I can't get heard?

I get why you're leaving but you will be missed.

We may not have always agreed, that said: my dad was a ww2?vet in the army aircorp, before they split. He was an airplane mechanic, cause he was only 1petite enough fit in engines to fox them. Originally wanted him to be a pilot!

**The disability issues** i bring to you are real, scary and parents are freaking out right now!

This a.m. even after the break & obvious consultation w/ attorney he still didn't get it!

I am not right wing or conservative but i admire your chutzpah!

Pat simmons

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** DD <[davidd4300@gmail.com](mailto:davidd4300@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2026 9:14 PM

**To:** George Kruse <[george.kruse@mymanatee.org](mailto:george.kruse@mymanatee.org)>; Tal Siddique <[Tal@mymanatee.org](mailto:Tal@mymanatee.org)>; Robert McCann <[drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org](mailto:drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org)>; Amanda Ballard <[amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org](mailto:amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org)>; Mike Rahn <[mike.rahn@mymanatee.org](mailto:mike.rahn@mymanatee.org)>; Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>

**Subject:** Brick and Mortar kennel study

Commissioners,

Before summer recess the board unanimously approved Dr. McCann's motion to conduct a cost study regarding replacing the prefab kennels with a concrete block kennel building.

The board should provide a reasonable deadline for returning this information, or at the very least, schedule regular status updates.

Thank you

David Daniels



# Public Comment

## Manatee County Government

Submitted On:

Aug 26, 2026, 06:07AM EDT

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Name                                                                 | First Name: Mary<br>Last Name: Hough                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Email                                                                     | maryhough1966@gmail.com                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting) | September 01, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Topic/Agenda Item                                                         | Kratom ban                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Comment                                                                   | <p>I am writing to you as a grieving parent to urge immediate action on the dangers of kratom.</p> <p>Six months ago, my son passed away, and kratom was the cause of his death per his toxicology report. Before this tragedy, I had no idea how widely available and unregulated this substance is, despite its serious risks, including addiction, harmful side effects, and even death.</p> <p>It is often marketed as a safe and natural product, which can dangerously mislead individuals and families. No parent should have to experience the pain of losing a child to a substance like this.</p> <p>I respectfully urge you to take decisive action to support a ban on kratom and help protect other families from experiencing similar tragedies.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Mary Hough</p> |

From: hunter jensen <[hunterj1030@gmail.com](mailto:hunterj1030@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2026 8:18 AM  
To: Jason Bearden <[jason.bearden@mymanatee.org](mailto:jason.bearden@mymanatee.org)>  
Subject: Protecting Manatee County Residents' Access to Anna Maria Island

Dear Commissioner Bearden,

I am writing as a Manatee County resident regarding the parking changes being proposed by the City of Anna Maria and the effect these policies could have on the quality of life and beach access of residents throughout our county.

I understand the City's desire to address congestion and protect the quality of life of Anna Maria residents. However, I am increasingly concerned that the solution being pursued comes at the expense of Manatee County residents who live outside the city limits. The combination of eliminating public parking spaces, converting areas to permit-only parking, and implementing paid parking could substantially reduce the number of practical beach access points available to the broader public.

For those of us who live on the mainland, Anna Maria Island is not simply a tourist destination. It is our local beach and has been enjoyed by generations of Manatee County families. Restricting parking does not eliminate the demand for beach access; it simply makes that access more difficult and more expensive, particularly for working families and residents who cannot justify paying significant hourly parking fees every time they visit.

I also believe there is a larger countywide issue at stake. Manatee County residents have repeatedly supported the island communities, particularly following the devastating hurricanes. Residents, volunteers, nonprofits, businesses, first responders, and county resources all contributed to the recovery of Anna Maria Island. It is difficult to reconcile that shared sense of community with policies that could now make it increasingly difficult for those same county residents to access the beaches they helped support and restore.

I respectfully ask that you and the Board of County Commissioners take a close look at the cumulative impact of these changes and determine what role the County can play in preserving reasonable public beach access. I would especially appreciate the County engaging directly with the City of Anna Maria to advocate for solutions that address legitimate congestion concerns without effectively pushing mainland Manatee County residents off the island.

I believe we can protect the quality of life of island residents without sacrificing the quality of life of the rest of Manatee County. Our beaches are one of our county's greatest assets, and reasonable access to them should remain available to all Manatee County residents.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community. I would greatly appreciate hearing your thoughts on this issue and whether the County Commission plans to address the potential loss of public beach access resulting from these changes.

Sincerely,

Hunter Jensen  
Manatee County Resident

Sent from my iPhone