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**NEWS ABOUT THE MARINE INDUSTRY IN
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PORT SANIBEL MARINA NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

**This Wednesday - February 19th
County Commission Meeting @ 9:30 AM
2120 Main Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901**

*Please let John or Kyle know if you can attend in
support of this project (info@swfmia.com)*



Port Sanibel Marina is planning a new dry storage building that has successfully gone through an extensive design and permitting process. It has received the full support of the Community Development Department Staff and the Hearing Examiner.

The design has been through major revisions along the way to accommodate concerns of local residents. Yet, a few affluent residents continue to oppose the project for no reason other than they do not want more boat traffic passing by their Connie Mack Island waterfront homes.

Loss of public access to the water is one of the biggest long-term threats facing the boating public and our industry. Waterfront development continues to take away our marinas, boatyards, boat ramps and boat storage facilities. This is a classic example of a marina, in existence long before any development was even considered, being

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The Lee County Comprehensive Plan Policy supports boat storage as it provides that water-dependent land uses will have priority over water-related (land uses that might be enhanced by proximity to the water but for which water is not essential) uses and that water related uses that provide water access to the public will be encouraged, particularly when the site has previously provided water access to the public.

The project goes before the Board of County Commissioners for approval on February 19th at 9:30 am. It is essential that Marine Business Owners attend this hearing and express support for the project. This may very well become a test case for future projects and while SWFMIA will be there to speak, as will Joe Mazurkeiwicz, our Government Consultant, we cannot be nearly as impactful before the Commission as you, the business owner.

This is one of those times when you simply cannot say, "I don't have time". We must rally together with every threat to loss of water access to the general public. Each speaker will have three minutes and even if you are not comfortable speaking, you can simply state that you are here in support. It begins at 9:30 (be there a few minutes early to fill out a speaker form) and we are told it should not last beyond noon.

Please contact John or Kyle with questions and to let us know you can attend. (John@swfmia.com, Kyle @swfmia.com)

Meeting Location: 2120 Main Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901



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