Community Services Department
121 S.W. Flagler Avenue • Stuart • Florida • 34994

M E M O R A N D U M

To: David Dyess, City Manager

From: Jim Chrulski, Community Services Director

Date: June 12, 2020

Re: Stuart Boat Show 2020 Analysis and Recommendation

Mr. Dyess:

As the Stuart Boat Show comes to an end, I'm submitting this summary report highlighting a few of the issues we face each year and concluding with a recommendation for consideration for future shows.

Overview: *This is the 47th anniversary of the Stuart Boat Show.* It is the largest boat show on Florida's Treasure Coast featuring over 175 local, national and international exhibitors displaying hundreds of boats in-water and on land. It was voted one of the top 20 events by the Southeast Tourism Society. The Martin County TDC sponsored the event with a $5,000 grant for marketing reimbursement. Partial proceeds benefit the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast.

Although the this may create traffic to the City of Stuart, the traffic impacts have been problematic. We get zero dollars from the bed-tax and is an inconvenience to residents and motorists.

Issues:

1. *Traffic & Parking: Over the past five years, staff has tried to mitigate the traffic in the following ways:*
    - *Worked with the producers to create additional parking sites. Result: Successful - Around the Downtown and Witham Field*
    - *Allowed for 40 signs to be permitted in the downtown area to direct parking to Witham Field. Result: Successful*
    - *In the past - provided tram service. Result: Boat Show elected to not use the trams due to new cost - adopted in Appendix A. They then reconsidered and ordered (2) – total cost was $980.*
    - *Tried to get the Florida Department of Transportation to time the lights on US1 for better traffic flow. Result: unsuccessful*
    - *Stuart PD working signal traffic. Result: successful at Wright Boulevard & US1.*

Traffic Summary: The boat show is growing, the City has become more popular with visitors each season, and our foot print is shrinking. I don't see this issue getting any easier in the future.

We considered limiting the boat show set up days from Wednesday & Thursday only and they expressed safety concerns for their set up as they would need to work through the night. Knowing how labor-intensive event production can be – I did not want to rush the set-up procedures in case there were an accident involving large boats and machinery. In 2012 the City Manager at that time allowed the boat show to be set up in Monday-Thursday. As a point of clarity, the road closures have been taking place on the Tuesday prior to the boat show for 7 years new. (PDF attached).

2. *Sanitation: Each year the Stuart Boat show has expressed concern for charges on the amount of sanitation (trash receptacles) they require. The Public Works staff has worked with the Boat show on this issue every year*

Financial Summary of Sanitation Costs.

2020 Costs
4 – 8 yd dumpsters =$ 720.00 (we recommended 6-8 yd dumpsters)
1 extra dump @ 82.43 each= $ 329.72
Admin fee= $ 5.00
Total fees paid=$ 1054.72
Outstanding balance due to the emergency dumps on Sunday $329.72
NOTE: *Recommended 8 yds dumpsters would of cost – $1,579. 58.*

Tram Rider Summary (2) Trams – cost $ 980.00

Friday	848
Saturday	1181
Sunday	870
Total	**2899**
Regular Route Drivers	
Friday	224
Saturday	307
Sunday	59
Total	**590**
Total	**3,489**

2021 Show Recommendations:

Grant the Boat Show a permit for 2021 with the following conditions:

- Limit Boat Show to set up Wednesday & Thursday - or have Tuesday approved by City Commission.
- Require Full Sanitation Services (no negotiations)
- Require Producer to pay for Police Traffic Assistance on US1
- Require (2) Tram Service to alleviate downtown traffic