

**MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**
Town Hall Chambers
6231 Estero Blvd.
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
Tuesday, October 21, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Thomas.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Members present: Ron Benak, Todd Capela, Keran Farrell and Dawn Thomas.

Council Liaison: Dan Allers

Staff: Deputy Clerk Jason Freeman and Neighborhood Services Coordinator Rileigh Baker.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 20, 2025

MOTION: PSC Member Farrell moved to approve the minutes; seconded by PSC Member Benak.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

VI. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

MOTION: PSC Member Thomas moved that she serve as chair.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Chair Thomas moved that PSC Member Farrell serve as vice chair.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Deputy Fire Chief Chris Armiger introduced himself and reviewed his experience. He will provide data to the PSC monthly and will always be available to answer questions. He summarized the report he distributed and noted the data remained consistent. He offered to provide specific reports in the future. Liaison Allers requested data on e-bikes. Deputy Chief Armiger reported there were two recent incidents involving a moped and an e-bike and what made them significant was the lack of helmets.

PSC Member Capela noted that the sidewalks he identified as missing huge chunks were still not repaired and posed a danger to the public. He added that whoever cut chunks out of the sidewalk filled the hole with asphalt and it has sunk. Liaison Allers will follow up with the county and last he heard, the project was out for bid. He noted that the crosswalks would be enhanced and the

details were on the town’s website. He suggested that members visit the corner of Crescent and Estero Blvd. to see what the lighting on the island will look like when completed in November or early December.

PSC Farrell asked about the status of adding a yellow line on Old San Carlos because people were driving down the middle of the road. Chair Thomas suggested checking with Emergency Services Director Tom Yozzo.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS – Committee Objectives for the Upcoming Year – M&P Discussion

Chair Thomas asked how to educate drivers about the new crosswalk at the base of the bridge, as drivers were stopping for pedestrians on the sidewalk when they did not need to. She also asked whether FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) was going to adjust the timing for the lights at each end of the bridge. She noted that she had to sit at the light at 5:00 a.m. when no one was on the road. Liaison Allers was told that the lights would eventually be synced.

Liaison Freeman reported that the town council was setting up informal discussions with advisory committees during the M&P meetings. The PSC was scheduled for the November 6, 2025, meeting at 9:00 a.m. He noted there were three vacancies on the committee and encouraged the public to apply on the town’s website. Liaison Freeman reminded members that the Sunshine Laws and Public Records training would be held on October 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the town hall.

PSC Member Benak stated that Sterling Ave. was torn up and a safety hazard. He asked whether there was a plan to repair the side streets. Liaison Allers responded affirmatively and indicated that it was tied to the stormwater tier project. He encouraged them to report hazardous areas.

PSC Member Capela brought up the two turn arrows at the traffic circle heading down the island on Estero. He noticed that when the arrows turn red, vehicles do not turn, even though there are no signs prohibiting right turns on red. He suggested that they blink red so people stop, look and go. Liaison Allers will pass on the information.

Deputy Clerk Freeman introduced Coordinator Rileigh Baker.

IX. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS – no items.

X. SET AGENDA AND DATE – December 16, 2025 (tentatively)

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: PSC Member Benak moved to adjourn, seconded by PSC Member Farrell.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

Adopted _____ with/without changes. Motion by _____
(DATE)

Vote: _____ Signature: _____

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