



**Northwest Cape Coral Neighborhood
Association, Inc.**

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Bulletin 125-10

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December 18th Community Meeting Draws over 200!

Despite the cool temperature and rain, NWNA members and concerned residents stood in line to enter the Northwest Regional Library at 9am.

David Scott, our technical lead on the NSEMA (North Spreader Ecosystem Management Agreement), and Oliver Clarke, City Engineer and technical consultant, detailed the events that led up to the DEP's (Department of Environmental Protection) Notice of Application to replace the Ceitus Boat Lift Stormwater Barrier published on December 11, 2010.

After a question and answer period, Mayor Sullivan, Councilman Peter Brandt, the city's representative on the NSEMA, and Councilman Kevin McGrail, whose district is home to the proposed barrier reinstallation, shared their views. Councilman Brandt encouraged the participants who were opposed to the barrier's reinstallation to not only sign the petition, but also write personal letters directly to the Department of Environmental Protection voicing their opposition.

The petition is now posted on the Nwana website at: <http://www.nwcape.com/nwspreader.htm>. If you have not yet signed this petition and returned it to us, please do so as soon as possible. We would appreciate receiving signed petitions before January 28, 2011.

In addition to signing the petition, we are encouraging any property owner or resident in the State of Florida who opposes the barrier reinstallation to write a letter to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection with a subject line indicating: Request the denial of permit application #36-0295854-002, Ceitus Boat Lift Stormwater Barrier.

Although we are providing the below talking points, personalized letters may garner more attention.

- The barrier has been shown by scientific and engineering evidence to be detrimental to the North Spreader System's environment.
- The cost to replace the barrier is a colossal waste of money since it has been shown that the barrier will inevitably fail again, and will be ineffective in protecting the environment.
- There is a major concern in replacing the barrier as it dramatically increases daily tidal forces between the spreader canal system and Matlacha Pass. The end result is severe erosion in the adjacent mangrove creeks resulting in mass loss of trees and critical mangrove ecosystem habitats.
- It makes more sense to reduce potential environmental contaminants, rather than try to contain them once they are in our waters.

Your personalized letter can be e-mailed to Jon.iglehart@dep.state.fl.us or by mail to: Jon Iglehart, Department of Environmental Protection, South District Office, 2295 Victoria Ave., Suite 364, Ft. Myers, FL 33901.

We would also appreciate receiving a copy of your letter so that we can keep track of the responses. Just include nwna@nwcape.com for e-mail responses, or mail a copy of your letter to Nwana, P.O. Box 442, Cape Coral, FL 33993.

If you have any questions, e-mail nwna@nwcape.com. We appreciate your ongoing support and your participation in this effort.

For updates, access <http://www.nwcape.com/nwspreader.htm>.