



New Jolley Bridge design a first for Florida

By DON MANLEY • marcoislandflorida.com • May 20, 2010

11:01 A.M. — The redesigned guard rail for the new S. S. Judge Jolley Bridge will represent a first in Florida.

It will be the first time the design will be used in the state, John Limbaugh, director of the Florida Department of Transportation's Southwest Area Office, told the Marco City Council.

The redesign embraces the bridge as an important part of the aesthetic entrance to Marco Island, and includes:

- Views over the bridge will be less industrial with a more open-rail design.
- Changes in the construction of the bridge have a more "island-type" character by replacing the concrete retaining wall with a grassy slope similar to the current style of the bridge.
- Access to recreational areas is safer with changes to the median.
- Access on the marina side of the bridge will be modified for the future development of a linear park by the city, through an agreement with FDOT.
- Access for pedestrians will be enhanced under the bridge and provide connections between future parking and the proposed future linear park.

The redesign is to be about \$120,000 less expensive than the original design and meet the same safety standards, Limbaugh said.

Limbaugh also said the construction project is going well.

"Everything is on plan and on schedule, and we're looking forward to continued success," Limbaugh said.

In other business, council:

- Unanimously approved the 2010 landscape irrigation schedule.
- Heard city parks and recreation director Bryan Milk say that mowing will be performed less frequently this year, at a savings of about \$25,000.
- Unanimously approved landscape maintenance contracts.

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