

From: [Ronald Courtney](#)
To: [Mercedes Barcia](#)
Subject: October 28th Environmental Agenda
Date: Monday, October 5, 2020 12:13:54 PM

Mercedes

Desire to place on agenda and to be immediately forward to board members for information basis only: Please contact me if there are any questions and concerns over any procedural process.

Ronald Courtney

Environmental Advisory Board

Discussion for council on Holmes Beach and Sarasota City opposition to EPA's preliminary approval of waste discharge for a Finfish marine aquaculture in the Gulf and a resolution by city council to be sent to the EPA.

A 'resolution to express the Venice City Council and citizens of Venice opposition and rejection to a marine Finfish Aquaculture Farm in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico

Whereas, the federal government has expressed approval of waste water for a marine finfish aquaculture development approximately 65 miles southwest of Sarasota, and

Whereas, such an aquaculture facility may pose significant violations of the Clean Water Act through a substantial discharge of high levels of nitrogen wastewater into increasing warming gulf waters thus, deteriorating water quality and marine ecosystem increasing the potential harm to human and marine life and endangered sea life,

Whereas, the impact of increased number and intensity of tropical storms may allow discharge of waste and pollutants violating the costal management plan thus having a severe environmental impact on the coast shore exacerbating harmful algal blooms.

Whereas, such increased alga blooms would have a dangerous heath effect on local residents along the coast and have a detrimental financial impact on local business relying on tourism and commercial and recreational fishing.

Whereas, any previous public hearings have not provided the public and elected officials' the ability to attend and to fully participate by making a formal presentation. Thus limiting the City of Venice to act as a dully authorized steward of the local and regional environment.

Therefore: Be it resolved by the city council of the City of Venice, Florida that

Section 1: that the city of Venice recommends that the process pursue a more beneficial and responsible aquaculture method in the Gulf of Mexico which poses less risk to the coastal environment, economy and overall health of the effected communities

Section 2: that the city of Venice due to the lack of information concerning the public hearings have not been able to adequately address the imposing negative threats that an offshore aquaculture will put on the marine resources, local economy, general health and overall environment expresses its official opposition to such activities as proposed and urges the federal government to reject such application.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be effective upon adoption by the city council and approval by the Mayor in accordance with the Charter of the City of Venice.

Passed and duly adopted, with a quorum present and voting this

_____ day of _____ 202 by the City Council of the City of Venice