

**MINUTES
HARBOR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 11, 2025 - 5:30 PM
DESTIN CITY HALL ANNEX CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephens in the Destin City Hall Annex Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m., on June 11, 2025, followed immediately with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL:

<u>Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>Staff Present</u>
John Stephens	Casey Jones	Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Jim Green	Jay Howard	Daniel Butler Principal Planner
Guy Tadlock		Kim Kopp City Attorney
Lance Johnson		

3. AGENDA APPROVAL:

Motion by Committee member Green to approve the agenda with Committee member Johnson providing the second, the motion passed 4-0.

4. CURRENT BUSINESS:

➤ **Development and City Projects Update – Principal Planner Daniel Butler**

- 288 and 302 Harbor Docks: Proposal for reclassification of slip usage (from transient to private).
 - No marine construction is proposed in the current development order.
 - Project will proceed to City Council as a public hearing on Monday, June 16, 2025.
- **City Project Completed:**
 - Library employee parking has been finalized and completed.
- **Underground Utility Update:**
 - Current work is limited to right-of-way on US 98.
 - During "100 Days of Summer," no additional boring or traffic-impacting construction will occur.
 - Only utility undergrounding efforts will continue, GigaPower and other utilities are paused.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:

- **Committee member Tadlock – Marler Bridge Replacement**
- Raised concern over the proposed Marler Bridge replacement

- New bridge specs: 65 ft vertical clearance and 150 ft horizontal clearance (existing is 49 ft / 82 ft).
- Encouragement for the City Council to proactively form a bridge advisory committee was broached.
- Strong sentiment that this bridge should serve as a gateway landmark for Destin.
 - Recommends increased slope (potentially 6%) to reduce land encroachment. Questioning design based on a 45mph speed limit, while the bridge historically operates at 35mph.
 - Suggests design to be based on actual speed to allow steeper grades and reduce land impact.
 - Potential for realigning the navigation channel to reduce bridge footprint on the Destin side.
 - Suggestions for dedicated marine lanes, reconfigured traffic flow, and early planning coordination.
 - Existing clearance is affected by wooden fenderings (Allisons).
 - Wider clearance (150 ft) is welcomed by marine users, especially for larger vessels.
 - Noted safety concerns and marine navigation benefits of increased horizontal span.

➤ **Chairman Stephens**

- **1 Harbor Blvd.**
 - Spoke of the need to get the seawall repaired for safety purposes.
 - Mentioned how Shalimar was able to obtain a grant from the TDC for the construction of their marina.

Motion by Chairman Stephens, seconded by Vice Chairman Green to recommend City Council to direct staff to explore TDC (Tourist Development Council) funding options to repair of the seawall at 1 Harbor Blvd. property.

In discussion, Vice Chairman Green stated that he would also like to explore the use of the property for a paid parking lot. Chairman Stephens stated that at this time, he is only interested in making the necessary improvements to the property and the parking lot feature could come at a later date. **With no further discussion, the motion passed**

Mr. Butler informed the members:

- Staff is coordinating with bond counsel due to restrictions from tax-exempt financing.
- A meeting with bond counsel is scheduled; the outcome will determine allowable uses.

- Potential follow-up presentation from bond counsel at future committee meeting (possibly virtual attendance).

Next meeting is July 9, 2025

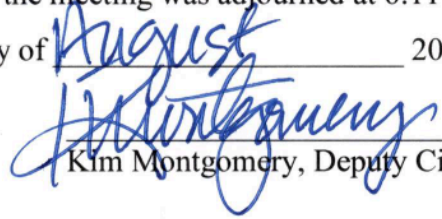
6. ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 PM.

Adopted and approved this 13th day of August 2025.



John Stephens, Chairman



Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk