MINUTES OF THE CAUSEWAY AND COASTAL WATERWAY COMMITTEE

Dunedin Community Center
September 8, 2026

Members Present:	Kathleen Sands Martin - Secretary, Jim Hughes, Glen Steinke, Hank Hodde – Chair, Ron Mutaska, Claudia Nable, Kevin Karcher
Unexcused:	John Kramer, Amanda Crescenzo, Christian O" Shea
Excused:	Harry Matthews
City Staff:	Joe McLemore
Guests:	Nan Bennett (running for city commission), Tom Washburn (Pinellas County), David Dranzo (Pinellas County), Sherry Smith (Chamber of Commerce member)

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 8:03AM by Hank Hodde.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Approval of August, meeting minutes. Claudia made a motion to approve, Jim seconded – all in favor.

- REVISIT THIS TOPIC AT SEPTEMBER: Three members were listed as unexcused. Kaye stated that many individuals wanted to be on this committee due to the headlines of no launching motorized watercraft from the causeway. Two of the new members have missed meetings in a row and it raises concern of the commitment these individuals have made. There was a high level of discussion among the members.

1. **New Business**

   Tom Washburn and David Dranzo gave update on the causeway bridge.
   Dave informed us that there are lane closures nightly; east span has been closed, 2 months away from completion. West span will start next and lane closures will continue. The bridge always maintained minor steel repairs, grates repaired. The bridge has been stuck twice due to malfunctions. Duke transformer blew and they are looking for new generator. Mechanical is not what "bridge" repair is.

New Bridge: Two federal grants are in, need to be closer to design before consideration. Have not started on design due to working on obtaining funding. The new bridge is the midlevel span but while discussing the high-level bridge is the better option.

Nancy discussed the south side of causeway and the erosion that is taking place. Dave stated it takes time for the fill to settle/compact. No mangroves in that area and it is not a place for them. Northside is turning into a parking lot. Individuals are parking and walking down to the water where they are launching kayaks. Nancy stated that Pinellas County has installed two new signs. 1-way traffic is still under review on south side where barriers are now. Hold on funding for all major projects in Dunedin,

Weaver Shore Line: Letter was written

Resolution: It will be a while until the resolution is finalized per Joe

2. OLD BUSINESS

a. 3-year continuance: This will take a few minutes to a Commission meeting; it is not budget related looking at end of Sept/Oct timeframe.
b. Resolution Recommendations & Review: No action
c. Motorizes Vessel: Ordnance was passed and will be removing from Agenda
d. Exclusionary Zone at Rotary Park (Update): Joe still reaching out to obtain quotes on signs and buoys. County is not interested in installation. Joe is pursuing deck companies to inquire if they will take the job.
e. Dunedin Causeway Resilience Study (Update) REMOVING FROM AGENDA

a) AREA REPORTS:

a. Causeway report – Kevin volunteered to take over this report. Less people walking the causeway (due to heat); need signage “definition of motorized vehicles” and no trailers launching on the North side.
b. Boating Report – **Nancy Schmidt**: has been busy. Boats stopping for kayaking and paddle board individuals. Hank stated that Pinellas County engineering is to complete an analysis on Hurricane Pass. Dredge bar got stuck.
c. **Stormwater Report** –Ron volunteered to attend this committee’s meeting and report back.
d. **Public Safety** – **Jim Hughes**: Edgewater Committee does not want to join Public Safety. Edgewater committee will be going under Parks and Recs Committee.
e. **Marina Report** – **Harry Mattheus** – Nancy filled in for Harry, Bulkhead to be complete in October behind schedule (August was the target), Looking at other marinas to determine floating or stable. The Pier is tied up with permit approval.
f. **Concession Report** – **Glen Steinke**: –Business has taken a hit due to weather and bridge closures after sunset, Numerous people showing up with inflatable kayaks. Social media is touting the causeway as a place to go.

5. OPEN FLOOR.

Alt 19 project will go on for a few years. Adding to October agenda.

6. Citizens Input

Sherry Smith asked about the benches that were on causeway and honeymoon island. Joe informed us that he has a list of benches that were recovered. The bench program is on hold. Working with County to locate other benches that are missing.

Next Meeting October 13, 2026, at the Dunedin Community Center

a. Topics:
   - Alt 19 work zone project. Modification of roadway
   - 3-year continuance – date?
   - Resolution Recommendations & Review – vote to remove

Meeting Adjourned at 9:07 Ron made motion / Nancy second. All in favor