



Marine Unit Cost/Benefit Analysis



Overview

Jupiter Inlet Colony is surrounded on three sides by the Atlantic Ocean, the Jupiter Inlet and the Intra-Coastal Waterway. There are 237 single family homes in Jupiter Inlet Colony. Twenty five are situated along the beach side of town and 33 homes are located along the inlet and ICW. Most of the homes along the south and west side of the island have boat docks. The Jupiter Inlet is busy with lots of boat traffic daily and that traffic and activity greatly increases on weekends and holidays. There is a big potential for smuggling activity through the Jupiter Inlet due to limited law enforcement presence. Palm Beach Sheriff's Office, Jupiter Police Department and the Village of Tequesta Police Department have marine units but all three agencies have many waterways to cover and are spread thin.

Each year there are boating fatalities and injuries in our waterways. Greatly increased boating traffic has occurred in recent years. Boats continuously beach along the JILONA shoreline and have seriously added to the erosion that has taken place along the shoreline over the years. Enforcement of the BLM's laws and rules has been difficult by land due to there being difficult and dangerous access issues to reaching the shore below the 30' to 40' high dune on foot. Enforcement of the mischievous and unlawful boating activity along the JILONA shoreline is most efficiently and safely done by police marine unit.

Beneficiaries of Investment

The Town of Jupiter Inlet Colony's residents would benefit from the added safety factor of having their own police presence during peak boating times in the waters surrounding the town where residents recreate. Waterfront residents would have the benefit of a police marine unit patrolling their docks and boats which would help prevent potential thefts and vandalism from person(s) accessing docks and boats via the water. The boating public would benefit from added safety checks and enforcement of no-wake zones and boating laws in local waters. Marine life would be better protected due to increased enforcement in the area. JIC's marine unit would be able to respond quickly to marine accidents, sinking vessels, and injuries due to its close proximity to the inlet. The BLM would benefit from JIC's marine unit enforcing regulations along the JILONA shoreline.

Goals and Objectives

There are several goals and objectives to JICPD adding a marine unit. The following list of goals and objectives are not all inclusive:

- More consistent police presence in the Jupiter Inlet and waterways
- Increased enforcement and protection of the JILONA shoreline
- Enforcement of boating regulations
- Protection of marine animals and fish through enforcement of laws and regulations
- Reduce the number of alcohol related accidents through targeted enforcement of B.U.I. laws
- Increased boating safety equipment checks
- Deterrence of smuggling operations through increased law enforcement presence
- Rapid response to marine accidents and injuries
- Increased security of docks and boats owned by JIC residents
- To reduce potential of boats washing up on JIC beach which damage the environment by leaking diesel fuel/gasoline/black water

Costs of Acquisition and Annual Maintenance of Program

A group of concerned Jupiter Inlet Colony residents have proposed that a police boat can be purchased through generous donations from town residents. There is a strong possibility that a boat can be purchased through these generous donations and the town would be responsible for on-going annual operation and maintenance costs. Three written quotes have been obtained from U.S. Coast Guard/law enforcement boat dealers. The quotes are for similar sized/powered/equipped law enforcement boats widely used across the country for law enforcement. They are summarized below.

Purchase Quotes

| Manufacturer | Boat Description | Purchase Price |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Metal Shark | 23'9" Alum Ctr Console 300hp OB | \$155,165 |
| Ribcraft | 22'5" Alum Ctr Console 225hp OB | \$131,700 |
| Coastal Boatworks | 24' Alum Ctr Console 440 Jet Drive | \$126,980 |

Initial training and certification is \$1,000 per officer (24 hour certification training that will reduce insurance costs)

Annual Costs & Explanation

The following estimated costs are derived from speaking to Chiefs of neighboring agencies with marine units, U.S. Coast Guard representatives and Florida Fish and Wildlife officers. Staffing costs are based upon two officers being onboard during operations unless a second officer is not immediately available under exigent circumstances. Double staffing is used by all agencies during peak boat traffic times for safety reasons. A single officer could patrol during off peak times such as weekdays, however, I intend for this detail to take place mostly during peak weekend and holiday times. All agencies require a minimum of two officers onboard when operating at night due to the increased dangers associated with operating in darkness. Double staffing addresses major safety issues regarding a single officer attempting to stop/board a vessel, make an arrest, attempt a rescue or deal with multiple, possibly intoxicated, people at once. A single officer on patrol in a boat is a serious safety and liability issue while trying to conduct stops/boardings or while attempting a rescue. As an example, in a rescue operation in the inlet, one officer would be tasked with the dangerous issue of operating the boat safely and keeping it on station while a second officer attempts a rescue and potentially has to enter the water to rescue an unconscious person. The officer on the boat would help pull the officer and victim back into the boat.

All officers would be trained to operate the boat which would allow any officer to go out in an emergency, if necessary. Staffing could be done on a special detail pay rate to avoid paying overtime. Special detail rates at local agencies are \$35 to \$55 per hour. We worked out a special rate for the Beach Club detail of \$30 per hour and that is the rate I would recommend for the marine detail. I have calculated an annual staffing budget of operating the boat an average of 20 hours per week on weekend days, holidays and certain evenings when boats might be present at JILONA. Two officers manning patrols would be 40 (20 X 2) hours per week average. Staffing and operating costs will be reduced by eliminating the patrol during inclement weather, cold weather and any time when boat traffic is minimal. Discretion will be used to determine when marine patrol is not necessary.

I met with Paul Lawler, President of the Board of Directors of the JIB Club Marina, and he said that he believes his Board would allow the JICPD free dockage at the west end of the main dock,

which would accommodate rapid launch to response to emergencies. Mr. Lawler also said that the Marina would work with us on a fuel arrangement. Free dockage and discounted fuel will help to greatly reduce annual costs. Fuel cost was calculated at 7 gals per hour times 20 hours per week times 52 weeks.

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| Personnel Staffing | \$62,400 (\$30 x 2 x 20 hrs week x 52 weeks) |
| Payroll Taxes (7.8%) | \$4,868 |
| Fuel (current rates) | \$28,000 (3.79 x 7 gals per hr x 20 hrs wk x 52 weeks) |
| Maintenance/Repairs | \$7,500 |
| Misc. Equip/Supplies | \$5,000 |
| Insurance | \$5,782 |
| Training | \$5,000 |
| Total | \$118,550 Proposed Annual Budget |

Potential Sources of Future Funding

When the police department owns a boat, the department becomes eligible for certain environmental and other marine enforcement grants such as Manatee Protection Grants and Homeland Security Grants. The police department will actively pursue any available grant funding to help offset operation costs on an annual basis. PBSO, Jupiter P.D. and Village of Tequesta P.D. have secured funding for the protection of JILONA through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). JICPD is currently entering into a mutual aid agreement with BLM to gain authority to enforce Federal Regulations at JILONA. Funding similar to what other agencies has in place (\$40 per hour) will actively be pursued with BLM if we procure a boat.

Agreements

We are entering into a mutual aid agreement with BLM for authority to enforce Federal Regulations at JILONA at this time. It will be in place within the next month or so. We are a party to the Palm Beach County Multi-Agency Mutual Aid Agreement with all PBC agencies. We also have an active Mutual Aid Agreement with Jupiter Island P.D. to our north.

Summary

It is our belief that having a marine unit at our department will be advantageous to JIC residents, JILONA, the boating public, and the environment.