

The Margate Waterfront Foundation

A federal 501(c)3 dedicated to healthy living on Margate Florida waterways

RE: Added security at Waterfront Carnival January 26 - February 5, 2017

Dear Elected Officials, Police Chief, Command Staff, City Manager and CRA:

As approved by the City/CRA (Community Redevelopment Agency), the Margate Waterfront Foundation will be sponsoring a carnival at 1000 State Road 7 on January 26 - February 5.

While over the course of 10 days, thousands of children and adults will enjoy amusements, delicious carnival treats and assorted fun and games, the events historically can attract a troublesome element, in particular on Saturday nights. This, despite the obvious visibility of police stationed roadside.

As Executive Director of the Margate Waterfront Foundation, I would like to request the City/CRA consider placing a police tower at the Carnival for the duration of the 10-day event, along with the presence of the City's Special Response Team (SRT) on Saturday nights January 28th and February 4th.

We recently learned from Police Chief, Dana Watson, that the police tower is an asset deployed by police when deemed appropriate by command staff, utilizing all data and intelligence available. Given the heightened awareness and common knowledge of radicals at public events across the country and around the globe, we feel that it is in the public's best interest to deploy not only the police tower, but also the SRT on aforementioned Saturdays.

While fulfilling this request undoubtedly will result in a cost to the City/CRA, we believe that children and families in Margate will appreciate the added security, as will countless visitors coming from outside city limits. Additionally, providing added security falls in line with the mission of the City/CRA to promote Margate as a safe place to live, work and play. With a police tower in place and SRT presence on Saturdays, radicals will think twice about targeting the event.

Should the SRT set up inside the carnival (during any of the 10 days and on Saturdays) for public outreach and demonstration purposes, we will gladly amend the site plan to reflect this.

To this end, we believe that future downtown events aimed at attracting large crowds should also be considered for same.

Note to Mayor/CRA Chair: Please consider adding this to a January agenda for discussion and approval.

To learn more about the Margate Waterfront Foundation visit <http://margatewaterfront.com/>

Sincerely,

Mitchell Pellecchia

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