

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BOARD MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

**THROUGH:** Richard B. Szpyrka, P.E., Public Works Director

**FROM:** Eric Charest, Natural Resources Manager

**SUBJECT:** Timothy Rose Contracting Proposed Donation of Concrete Material to Support the County's Artificial Reef Program

**DATE:** September 13, 2021

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**BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION**

Timothy Rose Contracting, a local Vero Beach based contractor, recently approached the County Public Work's Department offering, as a donation, a stockpile of old concrete culvert pipes for use as Artificial Reef building material in support of the County's Artificial Reef program. The culvert pipes were removed from a drainage project being performed by Timothy Rose Contracting on 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Indian River County.

The County's Artificial Reef program functions to create man-made habitats for the sole purpose of mimicking natural structures on the ocean floor to support ecological functions associated with reefs. Many different materials have been used to create Artificial Reefs, with common building blocks being repurposed/secondary use concrete products such as concrete railroad ties, concrete bridge decks, light poles as well as the culvert pipes that are being offered by Timothy Rose Contracting. Indian River County's longstanding Artificial Reef program routinely uses these secondary use concrete products as deployment materials when creating or adding to existing artificial reefs.

The County has two approved artificial reef areas, an off-shore site approximately 10 to 12 miles east/northeast of the Sebastian Inlet and a second site closer to land at approximately 3 miles east/southeast of the Sebastian Inlet. These sites have been used by the County over the years for reef deployment projects, with adequate room remaining within our permitted area for additional materials.

As the price of building materials has increased over the years and the repurposing of used concrete products has become more routine, being offered a donation of material acceptable for reef building, such as the concrete culvert pipes offered by Timothy Rose Contracting, is uncommon. The County should consider accepting this proposed donation of material.

## **FUNDING**

Funding is not required at this point as the material is being offered as a donation to the County. The material will be hauled from its present location off of 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue by the Contractor, off loaded by the County, and stored on County property while staff pursues grant funding assistance for future Artificial Reef deployment activities.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners accept the donation of the proposed material from Timothy Rose Contracting.

## **ATTACHEMENT**

Artificial Reef building material donation agreement

**APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR: September 21, 2021**