

# CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

## FOR INFORMATION

**TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Alvin G. Coby, City Manager  
**DATE:** April 7, 2010  
**SUBJECT:** Communication from Mayor Wiggins – Community Maritime Park

Mayor Wiggins has requested that City Council be made aware of his concerns and those of individuals within the community on the progress of the Community Maritime Park. In the attached letter, the Mayor has requested that this office develop a contingency plan in which the City could assume development of the Maritime Park site and public improvements as a City public works project.

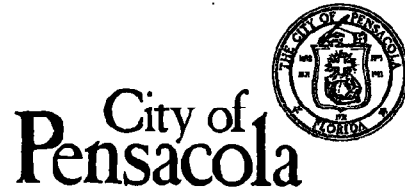
While the City can and, if directed by City Council, will assume the project, in the opinion of this office it would be premature to do so at this time. The Community Maritime Park Associates (CMPA) has recently selected a new Chairman (March 12, 2010) who is making a significant effort to gain control of the project and move it forward expeditiously. The CMPA meeting scheduled for Friday, April 9, 2010 is structured to provide clarification on the project proposed by the Maritime Park Development Partners (MPDP) and costs for both site and public improvements. The meeting is a critical step in making decisions on the improvements to be funded from City bond proceeds and what might be funded with tax credits. Deviation from the proposed course of action at this time will undoubtedly cause further delays in making critical decisions and could jeopardize securing the tax credits.

While the park becoming a City Public Works Project is an alternative, it is not the only course of action available to the City and CMPA and, in some respects, may not be the best alternative in light of the fact that the process for securing tax credits is well underway. While this office is aware of the community's frustration, Chairman Todd and the CMPA should be afforded time to move the project forward.

City of  
Pensacola



**MICHAEL C. WIGGINS**  
*Mayor*



*America's First Settlement  
Established 1559*

April 6, 2010


Mr. Al Coby  
City Manager  
City of Pensacola

Dear Al:

The citizens of Pensacola have voted for a community maritime park and we owe it to them to deliver. I am requesting that you develop for the City Council a plan whereby we can move forward with this project as a city public works project while continuing to preserve the integrity of the tax credits. I have heard from many of our citizens who are frustrated and confused as to the organization and implementation of this project and are ready to let the city build this park as we know we can do.

Thank you for your cooperation regarding this important issue.

Sincerely:

  
Mike Wiggins  
Mayor