

Subject: URGENT: Rose Marina Expansion to Allow 4 Cruise Ships—Grand Bay Community Notice & Action Needed

Dear Neighbors and Fellow Grand Bay Residents,

We want to bring an urgent local matter to your attention that directly threatens our community, our property values, and the environment right here in our backyard.

Rose Marina (951 Bald Eagle Drive) is seeking major expansion approvals from the city. While initial neighborhood meetings downplayed the project, the full scope recently revealed to the city involves an aggressive escalation in commercial intensity: **the proposal explicitly allows up to four large, 250-foot commercial cruise vessels to be docked at the marina at a single time.**

As immediate neighbors who share the local roadway grid and face Factory Bay, the impact on Grand Bay will be severe. The Marco Island City Council is holding its final public hearing and vote on this project, and it is vital that we unite to voice our opposition.

Major Concerns for Grand Bay Residents

- **Four Cruise Ships and Hundreds of Tourists:** Allowing four 250-foot commercial cruise ships simultaneously means hundreds of passengers will be discharged onto our quiet residential boundary at once. This will result in an influx of commercial tour buses idling in a newly proposed bus-loading lane, turning Bald Eagle Drive into a heavy transit hub.
- **Environmental Destruction:** To accommodate these massive 250-foot commercial cruise vessels, aggressive water-deepening measures and dredging are being tied to the project area. This disruptive underwater activity—combined with the massive wake, fuel emissions, and heavy traffic from multiple cruise ships—threatens the fragile marine ecosystem of Factory Bay, disrupting local manatee habitats, dolphin feeding grounds, and water quality.
- **Overwhelming Grid Traffic:** A 2026 city study confirmed that Bald Eagle Drive already exceeds its roadway capacity during peak winter seasons. Adding a 200-seat waterfront restaurant, cruise ship crowds, and tour buses will cause complete gridlock right outside our community gates.

Public Hearing Details

- **When:** Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Community Room, Marco Island City Hall (51 Bald Eagle Drive)

How You Can Voice Your Opinion (Action Required)

If you are away from the island or unable to attend the hearing in person, please take 5 minutes to submit a formal email of opposition. These are printed out and added to the official public record.

- **To:** Joan Taylor, City Clerk (jtaylor@cityofmarcoisland.com)
- **Cc:** City Council General Inbox (city_council@cityofmarcoisland.com)
- **Deadline:** Please email your comment at least 24 to 48 hours before the September 10 meeting.

- **What to State:** Clearly identify yourself as a resident of **Grand Bay Condominium**. State your strong opposition to the Rose Marina amendments. Explicitly mention your concerns regarding the **environmental impact on Factory Bay**, the infrastructure strain of hosting **four cruise ships at once**, and the traffic crisis on **Bald Eagle Drive**. Urge the council to vote **NO**.

Please share this with your neighbors. The Planning Board pushed this through in a tight 5-2 vote, meaning the City Council needs to hear a strong, unified objection from the residential communities most affected by it.

Sincerely,

[Your Name/The Grand Bay Concerns Committee]
Grand Bay Condominium Resident