



CHERRY GROVE DREDGING PROJECT

DREDGING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

North Myrtle Beach, SC – March 29, 2017 – The city has received calls from property owners along the canals in Cherry Grove that have been dredged, asking if the dredges will return to remove additional mud from underneath their docks and/or to establish a connection between their docks and the 24-foot wide channel created for the dredging project as permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The answer is no. If additional dredging on private property is desired, it is the property owner's responsibility to hire a private dredging contractor to accomplish the work.

The permitted 24-foot wide dredged channel is essentially centered between the private property lines on both sides of a given channel, which is where the state right-of-way lies. It is within that right-of-way that the city is permitted to dredge.

At the request of property owners, the city initially sought to arrange for the dredging company it hired to be able to subcontract with private property owners as its dredges passed by those properties, however, it was determined this would be illegal, since city (public) funds are invested in the actual dredging of the canals.

Under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Nationwide Permit, property owners can dredge up to 25 cubic yards of material without having to apply for a dredging permit. The city can provide via email information on the Nationwide Permit requirements.

The city can also provide via email a list of dredging contractors provided to it by its dredging consultants. Property owners are by no means limited to using the contractors included on the list.

For a copy of the Nationwide Permit document and/or the dredging contractor list, please email Pat Dowling at pcdowling@nmb.us.

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