

**TABLE 7-1. MIDNIGHT PASS REOPENING PROJECT
CHRONOLOGY OF ACTIONS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
August 9, 1983:	The Board enacts Ordinance No. 83-62 declaring that an emergency exists in the Pass area and authorizes owners of nearby residences to take measures to reduce damages caused by the Pass shifting to the north.
September 15, 1983:	Steven Sauers, on behalf of the County, requests that Dr. Albert C. Hines, University of South Florida, help in analyzing the factors that are involved in any proposed work in the Pass, focusing on biological, geological, and hydrological factors. The report was issued and was received on October 4, 1983.
September 27, 1983:	The Board approves a purchase order for \$4,950 to Camp Dresser and McKee for computer modeling of the effects of closing the Pass and realigning the channel. The report was received on October 4, 1983.
October 5, 1983:	By Ordinance No. 83-78, the Board recognizes that the Pass is migrating and is in danger of closing which will have an adverse impact on Little Sarasota Bay due to cessation of flushing. The Board authorizes relocation of the channel by Carter and Solomon to maintain and improve the environmental functions of the Pass.
November 1, 1983:	By Resolution No. 83-384, the Board establishes a Blue Ribbon Committee for Midnight Pass. The Committee's main objective is to create a long-term policy for preserving the environmental benefits of the Pass area. The report was completed and submitted on April 24, 1984.
January 23, 1984:	The Board receives a memo with Ordinance No. 83-78 from Richard Smith, Esq., advising the Board that the closing of the Pass creates economic hardship, impairs recreational value of the public land and water and results in an adverse environmental impact.
March 19, 1985:	The Board signs a contract with Coastal Planning and Engineering authorizing performance of engineering services for channel improvements, including surveys, analysis, design, cost estimates and permit applications.

- June 27, 1989: By Resolution No. 89-365, the Board declares that the reopening of the Pass is consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan. This resolution was requested by the Florida Department of Natural Resources.
- May 9, 1990: DER preliminary decision recommends denial of the permit to reopen Midnight Pass.
- February 19, 1991: Division of Administrative Hearings issues their final order recommending the DER deny Sarasota County's application to reopen Midnight Pass on the basis that: (1) it was not demonstrated that the project was clearly in the public interest and that (2) water quality improvements as a justification for reopening the pass were not proven.
- February 1998: Sarasota County contracts with Camp Dresser & McKee (CDM) to conduct a study to determine if it is feasible to construct a reasonably stable channel in the general site of the former Midnight Pass.
- February 21, 2000: Sarasota County receives CDM report titled "Feasibility Study to Reopen Midnight Pass" and submits this study to the State and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for review and comment.
- April 2002: Sarasota County Commissioner Nora Patterson meets with DEP to discuss the CDM report and the fundamental issues that must be addressed to meet statutory and rule requirements to reopen Midnight Pass.
- May 28, 2003: Sarasota County contracts with Erickson Consulting Engineers, Inc. to evaluate the feasibility of reopening Midnight Pass without shoreline hardening and to identify the key environmental issues, and information needed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State DEP to meet their respective laws, and statutory and rule requirements.
- July 8, 2003: Sarasota County meeting with DEP to discuss the framework and permitting requirements needed to plan and design a project to reopen Midnight Pass.
- January 25, 2004: Sarasota County contracts with Erickson Consulting Engineers, Inc. to conduct engineering and environmental services to plan, design, permit and engineer a project to reopen Midnight Pass.
- March 16, 2004: Sarasota County meets with DEP to discuss permitting, planning and the field and engineering investigation plan.

October 4, 2004: Sarasota County meets with DEP to discuss the forthcoming JCP application to reopen Midnight Pass.

November 26, 2004: Sarasota County submits a JCP application to DEP for the Midnight Pass Reopening Project.