## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Lee County closes Boardwalk at Hammond Stadium

Fort Myers, FL, Dec. 7, 2021 – The county routinely conducts structural reviews of both Hammond Stadium and its other Major League Baseball facility, JetBlue Park.

Recently – on Sept. 21 2021 – Commissioners approved an agreement with Manhattan Construction Inc. for an engineering study and repairs of Hammond Stadium.

Although the county does not yet have the study, internal assessments indicated a closure of the Boardwalk section of Hammond Stadium would be in the best interest of public safety. Lee County announced Tuesday that the Boardwalk is closed while the continuing structural review is conducted.

"The public's safety is our top priority. Lee County is committed to complete transparency as we investigate the issue," Lee County Manager Roger Desjarlais said.

The county anticipates an engineering report in the near future. Lee County – in partnership with the Minnesota Twins – has decided to halt spring training ticket sales for the Boardwalk portion of Hammond Stadium at the Lee County Sports Complex. Ticket sales for the remainder of the stadium are ongoing. The Boardwalk can accommodate about 1,700 ticketed individuals; the stadium's capacity is 8,730.

The closure of the Boardwalk does not impact current activities at the stadium.

The county will post information and updates about the review at <u>www.leegov.com/HammondStadium</u>. The stadium, which opened in south Fort Myers in 1991, underwent a renovation that added the Boardwalk in 2014-15.

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