



**Candidate Questionnaire – Marco Island City Council
November 2024 Election**

1. Your name: Becky Irwin (Maiden name Urbany)
2. Your email address: becky@beckyirwin.com
3. Your phone number: 954-249-0374
4. Your campaign website: www.beckyformarco.com
5. Your age: 54
6. Today's date: 8-19-24
7. What year did you move to Marco Island and where did you live previously?

I originally moved to Marco Island with my parents and sister August 16, 1981. My dad worked at the Marriott when it first became the “Marriott” after the Mackles sold it. We lived in a “new” house on Bluebird Ave, and there were many empty lots. I attended East Naples Middle and Golden Gate Middle with the other island kids. My younger sister attended Tommy Barfield. We moved to Ft. Lauderdale in 1983. I moved back to Marco in 2013 from Ft. Lauderdale. I was born in SW Pennsylvania, but I’ve been a full time Florida resident since 1980.

8. Where did you go to high school, and if you received any post-secondary education, where did you go, what degree(s) did you receive, and when?

I attended St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, graduating with honors and 18 college credits in 1988. I attended Florida State University 1988 to 1992 graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Classics (Ancient Roman, Greek, and Near Eastern history) and minors in Archaeology and Art History.

In 2015 I achieved Certified Florida Master Naturalist Coastal Systems accreditation from the University of Florida IFAS after completing extensive classwork, fieldwork and exams.

9. Please summarize your work experience, including employers and dates.

Licensed Real Estate Sales Associate and Broker Associate 2009 - present
Keller Williams Marco Island Franchise Investor 2014 - present
830 Bald Eagle Dr. Marco Island, FL 34145 Lic.# 3228074 www.Beckylrwin.com

Executive Director, Take Stock in Children of Broward County 2011
– 2013
600 SE 3 Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Director of Development, (Fundraising / Sponsorships) HANDY Inc. (Helping Abused Neglected Disadvantaged Youth) 2009 – 2011
501 NE 8th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Director of Development (Fundraising / Sponsorships), Habitat for Humanity of Broward 2008 – 2009
3564 N. Ocean Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Manager of Volunteer and Intern Programs, Broward Center for the Performing Arts 1996 – 2008
201 SW 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & DESIGNATIONS

Florida Master Naturalist, Coastal Systems
Florida Stormwater Erosion and Sedimentation Control State Certified Inspector
Licensed Florida Real Estate Broker Associate
National Association of Realtors | *Resort and Second Property Specialist*
Florida Association of Realtors
Marco Island Area Association of Realtors | *Marco Island Specialist* Designation
Naples Area Board of Realtors
Realtor Association of Greater Fort Lauderdale | Beaches

10. Describe your Marco Island community activities, either in elective office or as a volunteer, in the last five years.

- **Elected Marco Island City Council Member** 2020 - 2024
- **City of Marco Island Beautification Committee Member** 2017 – 2020
- **Championed 10,000 Trees initiative** 2020 - present
- **Leadership Marco Class of 2024** 2024-2025
- **Leadership Collier, Class of 2022** 2022 - present
- **Florida League of Cities Leadership Class** 1 2024
- **Florida League of Cities “Institute for Elected Municipal Officers 1 & 2” representing Marco Island, certificate** 2021
- **Appointed to serve on the City of Marco Island Citizen Summit for the Strategic Plan** to provide input into Marco Island’s 20-year plan 2019

- **Marco Island Historical Society & Museum**, Volunteer 2016 - 2019
- **For the Love of Cats** Volunteer 2014 - 2020
- **The League Club** 2013 – present
2014 - 2016 Board of Directors, VP Development, Community Liaison
- **Marco Island Woman's Club Member** 2016 – present
- **Marco Island Newcomer's Club** 2016 - 2023
- **Marco Island Center for the Arts**
- **Guest Reader at Tommie Barfield Elementary** 2022
- **Broadcast Marco Island information live** on Facebook and social media before, during and after Hurricanes Irma (2017) and Ian (2021), and other tropical storms and weather events. Provide local Marco Island information for residents and visitors. 2017 - present www.facebook.com/becky.u.irwin

11. What is THE most important issue facing the Marco Island City Council today and how will you address it?

Managing growth and all its attendant issues so that the Island retains its small town charm while serving the needs as a full service, living, growing city as it was originally planned to be, is a critical issue that needs a council with accurate historical perspective and forward thinking. The Mackle Brothers envisioned a city serving 50,000 residents (*Marco Island Historical Society*). Currently our population is estimated around 17,000 growing to about 40,000 in season. At this population level, according to the Florida League of Cities, Marco is in the top 1/3 of Florida municipalities by population, making it actually a medium to large city. It is an incredible achievement and responsibility then, to have, and to keep a small town feeling in a city of that size. Another fun fact is that Marco Island is approximately 24 square miles in total area. Compare that to Manhattan, NY at 22 square miles. Keeping density low while accommodating growth is a challenge that we can address. Having lived in Florida most of my life, I've seen the exponential growth of South Florida over the last 45 years. It's our challenge, our duty and our privilege to ensure that Marco Island is as beautiful, healthy, safe, economically vibrant and welcoming for my grandchildren as it was for me when I was a child here.

12. Name one past policy decision of the Marco Island City Council that you disagree with that you would like to change if elected. Why?

13. What are your views about the role of government as they relate to the policies and actions of the Marco Island City Council? How would these views influence your actions and decisions as a City Councilor?

I firmly believe the Jeffersonian maxim, "That government is best which governs least, because its people discipline themselves."

14. Why should voters vote for you? What is the most important thing that differentiates you as a City Council candidate?

- I have a proven track record on the Marco Island city council as an unflinching conservative and proponent of private property rights, limited government regulations and economic prosperity
- I have never voted for a tax increase.
- My voting record shows my commitment to protect our waterways, natural habitats and increasing green spaces.
- I have a proven record of fighting bloated and redundant government regulations that waste citizens' hard earned tax dollars.
- I have a proven track record of ensuring Marco Island is a safe, beautiful place to live for our residents and that their individual liberties are protected