

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: November 12, 2024

TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

RE: Approval of Beach Renourishment Public Awareness Signs and Coastal Program Update

DATE: October 28, 2024

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Town staff recommends that Town Council approve the proposed signs to alert the public of the beach renourishment projects to take place between November and April 2025 from Sloan's Curve south to the southern limit of the Town of Palm Beach.

GENERAL INFORMATION

During the Shore Protection Board's January 2024 meeting, the Board identified communication to the Town residents as its primary goal. In preparation for the Beach Nourishment Projects this winter, staff has worked with the our consultant and their subconsultant to develop a communication action plan. That plan has included developing an information handout that can be distributed to the condominiums and private property owners, signs that could be installed at public beach access, website updates, and direct communications with condominium presidents. Attached is the flyer that will be used to convey the information. Also attached is a mockup of the sign that can be installed. The signs are developed for the Town's Phipps Ocean Park Beach Nourishment Project which includes sand trucking to reach out and possibly to the Town of South Palm Beach based on the following Town Code:

Sec. 134-2411. - Governmental Signs.

Signs for a public purpose for governmental entities such as federal, state, county, or town shall be permitted on public or private property provided that the number, size, location, appearance and content of said signs are approved by the town council at a town council meeting.

Therefore, staff is requesting approval of the proposed sign. The signs will be located at beach access locations outside of the project limits. Signs will be offered to the condominiums for installation as well.

Phipps Ocean Park Beach Nourishment Project was awarded at the October Town Council meeting. The associated truck hauling contract is on the November Town Council meeting for approval. The present schedule from the contractor is to begin mobilization in November. Therefore, deployment of the signs and communications will occur as soon as approved.

The second project occurring this winter is the Corps of Engineers Palm Beach Inlet Dredging Project. Since this dredging will exceed 100,000 cubic yards, the sand will be placed on the beach. As part of the truck hauling contract that is on the November Town Council agenda for approval, the Town has included trucking sand from Reach 1 to Reach 2. The Corps will award this project in December and the dredging is expected to begin in January. The Town does not have a schedule for this work at this time. Once we have a schedule, the Town will work with the truck hauling contractor to implement the trucking of sand from Reach 1 to Reach 2 just prior to the Corps placing sand in Reach 1.

Originally, staff had anticipated the Mid-Town Beach Nourishment Project to occur this winter as well. The Corps is actively working on this project for advertising in July of 2025. This project is in response to damages that occurred during Hurricane Ian, therefore, it is 100% funded by the Corps. For the Corps to proceed with this project, the Town must have secured all of the easements within the project boundary. The Corps has provided specific guidance for the easement, which includes specific language and requires the easement to be perpetual. At this time, all but 10 easements have been executed. Staff will provide an update of the status of this project at the November Town Council.

FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT

There is no funding/fiscal impact related to this item.

Attachments