



CITY COMMISSION

2010 JUN 14 AM 9: 23

cc: Commissioners
Roberts
Albert FYI

BERTHA W. HENRY, County Administrator
115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 409 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-7362 • FAX 954-357-7360

May 27, 2010

Mr. George Gretsas
City of Fort Lauderdale
100 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

2010 JUN -7 PM 1: 29
CITY MANAGER

Re: Beach Nourishment Activities Quarterly Report

Dear Mr. Gretsas:

The attached quarterly report will provide you with an update on the status of Broward County's Shore Protection projects.

The County has received the erosion control structure study and staff is finalizing its review. We are awaiting a response from the Bahamian government to the request to purchase and import 200,000 cubic yards of Bahamian sand for a pilot project.

Additionally, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Jacksonville District has allocated \$4.5 million (as opposed to the previously reported \$3.8 million) to initiate the planning, engineering and design of the approved Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) project for Segment II which the County has requested the Corps implement. The FCCE project is intended to restore to pre-storm conditions the previously constructed Segment II nourishment project. Finally, the report provides an update of the County's activities with respect to Segments I, II and III beach nourishment projects, Segment II project funding, and the Port Everglades Inlet Sand Bypassing Project.

Please feel free to contact Steve Higgins at (954) 519-1265 or Gretchen Harkins at (954) 357-7575, if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Bertha Henry
County Administrator

BH/GH/EGL:cmt
Attachment

- C: Broward County Board of County Commissioners
- The Honorable Jack Seiler, Mayor, City of Fort Lauderdale
- Pamela L. Madison, Interim Deputy County Administrator
- Cynthia S. Chambers, Director, Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department
- Gretchen M. Harkins, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Professional Standards
- Eric Myers, Deputy Director, Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department
- Steve Higgins, Beach Erosion Admin., Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department

Broward County Beach Erosion Control Program
Status as of May 12, 2010

Beach Erosion Control, General

- **Structure Study:** Staff is finalizing review of the draft study. Following revision by the consultants, copies of the final report will be coordinated with shorefront municipalities.
- **Sand Search:** The investigation located approximately 2.8 million cubic yards of sand offshore of the northern portion of the County, of which approximately 1.4 million cubic yards could be of adequate quality for use on our beaches, pending more detailed evaluations of sand quality and the potential for impacts to coral reef resources from use of the material.
- **Bahamian Sand:** County staff is awaiting a response from the Bahamian Government to a request to purchase and import 200,000 cubic yards of Bahamian sand for a pilot project.
- **Funding Advocacy:** Staff continues to work with state and national beach preservation associations, elected officials, and agencies to advocate for continuation of state and federal funding for beach erosion control projects.

Segment I Beach Nourishment, North County Line to Hillsboro Inlet

- **Federal Project for Segment I:** The US Army Corps of Engineers continues a study of the feasibility of implementing a Federal Shore Protection Project for Segment I. This multi-year study is in its second year, with the 25% non-federal share of costs provided by the County and the City of Deerfield Beach.
- **Municipal Beach Fill in Segment I:** Broward County is reviewing permit requests for a municipal-sponsored beach nourishment project for extreme southern Deerfield Beach and the northernmost mile of the Town of Hillsboro Beach. County participation is limited by the private nature of most of the project beaches (i.e. Hillsboro Beach). The Town anticipates construction of the project in November of this year.

Segment II Beach Nourishment, Hillsboro Inlet to Port Everglades

- **Project Reformulation:** The County is reevaluating the design of the Segment II beach nourishment project in the context of current physical, economic, and environmental conditions. The not-yet-formulated beach fill project could include material from one or more sand sources, and may involve sand brought in by truck. An agenda item for a consultant contract amendment to continue engineering/design and permitting will be coming before the Board of County Commissioners before summer break. The project could potentially result in sand placement on portions of beach in Fort Lauderdale, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, and Pompano Beach.
- **Primary issues:**
 - Increased regulation due to federal listing of two coral species found offshore of Broward County and the designation as critical of all hardbottom habitat;
 - Limited opportunity for dramatic widening of the beaches due to the proximity of nearshore hardbottoms;
 - Increased regulatory emphasis on sand quality;
 - Costs for beach nourishment have increased while potential local, state, and federal funds have diminished.
- **Permitting:** DEP has extended the formerly issued permit for nourishment of Segment II for five years while project reformulation is conducted. There is no equivalent draft federal permit, which means a new Corps of Engineers permit will be required for a nourishment of Segment II beaches.
- **Federal Hurricane Beach Rehabilitation:** The County has requested that the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) implement the approved Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) project for

Segment II. The Jacksonville District Corps has allocated about \$4.5 million to initiate planning, engineering, and design of a project restore to pre-storm conditions the previously constructed (Hillsboro Inlet to the Fort Lauderdale/Lauderdale-By-The-Sea border) Segment II nourishment project. The Corps calculated that approximately 330,000 cubic yards of material would be placed on those beaches. The schedule for construction and exact placement areas are to be determined.

- **Schedule:** Broward County-conducted beach construction in Segment II is targeted for November of 2011, pending completion of the engineering/design and permitting processes in a timely fashion.

Segment III Beach Nourishment, Port Everglades to South County Line

- **Segment III Project Monitoring:** Broward County and our consultants continue to monitor the evolution of the recent Segment III Beach Nourishment project, completed in 2006. The constructed beach continues to perform well. As expected, there are variations in beach width within each portion of the project, because erosion rates vary along the beach.
- **Municipal Beach Fill for Segment II:** Broward County staff is helping the Cities of Hollywood and Hallandale Beach facilitate a limited beach fill in which the sand will be delivered by truck to the beaches. The project targets the beach areas of south Hollywood and all of Hallandale Beach, and is currently in permitting. The sponsors of the project are the municipalities. The project could be implemented as soon as November, 2010.

Project Funding

- **State Funding:** State funding for preliminary work for related to Segment II and other future beach erosion control projects in the County (sand search and structure study), is under contract and is being reimbursed to the County incrementally.
- **Federal Funding:** Federal funding previously appropriated for Segment II will be utilized by the US Army Corps of Engineers to coordinate with the County in the preparation of updated economic, engineering, environmental, and real estate documents which will justify federal financial participation in the project.
- **Municipal Funding:** Broward County invoices the cities for municipal shares of project costs at the time project construction begins in a respective city. Since project construction is not imminent the County will not be requesting municipal shares of project costs in the near future.

Port Everglades Inlet Sand Bypassing Project

- **Permitting:** Staff is continuing to respond to agency questions regarding state and federal permit applications for implementation of the proposed project. The County recognizes that further studies and more detailed investigations remain to be completed prior to issuance of project permits.
- **Further Engineering/Design:** Staff is working with the coastal engineering consultant for the project to develop a scope of services for the continuing engineering/design and formulation of the various physical and environmental testing and monitoring plans. An agenda item for a consultant contract amendment to continue engineering/design and permitting will be coming before the Board of County Commissioners this summer.
- **Cost-sharing:** Engineering/design and permitting work on the project is being funded by the State of Florida and the County. There are currently no plans to request cost-sharing by any municipalities for the Port Everglades Sand Bypassing Project.