

SEBASTIAN INLET DISTRICT

A multi county, independent special taxing district created by the Florida State Legislature

2019-2020 COMMISSIONERS

JENNY LAWTON SEAL Chair Seat 1 - Brevard County

MICHAEL ROWLAND Vice Chair Seat 3 - Brevard County

CHRIS HENDRICKS Secretary/Treasurer Seat 4 – Indian River County

BETH MITCHELL Seat 2 - Indian River County

LISA FRAZIER Seat 5 - Brevard County

JAMES D. GRAY, JR. Executive Director July 16, 2020

Indian River County (LOC 4100 #5239) 1801 27th St Vero Beach, Fl 32960

Dear Indian River County:

By special act of the Florida Legislature in 1919, the Sebastian Inlet District (District) was created to construct, improve, widen, deepen and maintain the Inlet between the Indian River and the Atlantic Ocean. The District also has the duty and power to conduct such programs and projects for sand bypassing (beach re-nourishment), erosion control, environmental protection, navigation, boating, recreation, and public safety for the operation and maintenance of the Inlet and the waters of the Atlantic Ocean and Indian River Lagoon adjacent thereto.

In compliance with our Charter and following receipt of all regulatory permits, the District bypasses beach compatible sand onto the beaches south of the Inlet and within northern Indian River County. On average, bypassing projects occur every 4-5 years and coincide with maintenance dredging of the Sebastian Inlet sand trap and navigational channel. On occasion, the District may also truck haul additional beach compatible sand onto the beaches to achieve its bypassing objective.

Sebastian Inlet District professional staff have been actively monitoring the condition of beaches fronting your property, as impacted by several strong Nor'easters in January and early February of this year. In response to observed conditions and a formal request for consideration submitted by the North Beach Civic Association on January 13, 2020, the District Commission has authorized a sand bypassing project, via truck haul, to restore sand along the dunes in northern Indian River County. The dune repair project is currently planned for November/December 2020 and will be conducted outside sea turtle nesting season.

The District has engaged Applied Technology Management (ATM) to draft design specifications and manage construction of the project.

The project will add approximately 50,000 cubic yards of beach-quality sand currently stored in the District's Dredged Material Management Area (DMMA) to complete beach and dune repairs along a 1½-mile stretch of beach to the South of Sebastian Inlet starting at McLarty Treasure Museum and ending just South of Ambersand beach access, as denoted by Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) R-monuments, R-10 to R-17. Adding sand to the beach and dune system provides coastal resiliency benefits to your property by making the dune system less vulnerable to impacts from coastal storms.

As with most beach projects, sand is placed landward and seaward of the Mean High Water Line (MHWL). The sandy beach seaward of the MHWL is public property. However, the portions of the beach landward of the MHWL and seaward of the vegetative dune line is your private property.

In order to proceed with sand fill projects, the District will require a beach management and sand by-passing easement (Easement) from all property owners within the project areas. Granting of an Easement is a standard requirement whenever a public agency places sand onto private portions of the beach as part of a beach restoration project. The Easement will permit the District to professionally construct a modest dune and beach feature thereby enhancing a FDEP designated critically eroded beach and provide increased storm protection benefits to your property. The District is not requesting access on or across any other part of your property. All construction activities will be taking place seaward of the vegetative dune line.

Granting of Easement

The person(s) who hold the title to the property must sign the Easement in the presence of a Notary Public and two (2) subscribing witnesses who do not have an interest in the property. If there are multiple persons who hold title to the property, each must sign the Easement, with each of the signatures similarly witnessed.

To avoid project construction delays, please return the signed original easement, no later than September 1, 2020, to the District in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope. If you own more than one property in the project area, you will receive a separate easement package for each property you own.

Should you have any questions about the project or the Easement, I would be happy to discuss them personally with you. I can be reached at (321) 724-5175 or via email at jgray@sitd.us. You can also find additional information regarding our charter and State mandates, ongoing programs and projects and the Sebastian Inlet District Commission at <u>www.sitd.us</u>.

Respectfully,

James D. Gray, Jr. Executive Director

Enclosures



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James D. Gray, Jr. Executive Director

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114 Sixth Avenue, Indialantic, Florida 32903 | Phone: (321) 724-5175 | Fax: (321) 951-8182