



Beach Action Plan 2013-2014

Background

As part of the ongoing push to move deliberately towards established goals, the Beach Maintenance Committee (BMAC) of the Galveston Island Park Board of Trustees conducted a business planning session at a Specially Called meeting on Friday, June 7, 2013 to determine short and long-term priority actions which would ultimately improve the quality and management of Island beaches under the jurisdiction of the Park Board.

The Beach Action Plan originally developed in 2012 as part of an organizational strategic planning process was reviewed together with the 2012-2013 Business Plan. Consideration was given to those existing projects which time and resources should continue to be allocated, as well as new initiatives.

The following discussion and resulting strategy is a product of the above mentioned review, which was enriched by the identification of opportunities to leverage existing relations or initiatives on a local or state level.

Top Priorities

Beach Nourishment & Enhancement Projects

1. Engage and actively coordinate activities related to approved beach nourishment projects,
 - End of Seawall-Dellanera project
 - Seawall Nourishment project
2. Explore strategies to take advantage of beneficial use dredge material
 - Continue to advocate for a position on the BUG (Beneficial User Group), or a means by which to influence the BUG
3. Monitor and report on Seawall Sand Retention and Beautification project
 - Conduct "in-fill" of dune plantings
 - Evaluate sand erosion/ accretion in growth areas
 - Document process and findings
4. Progress the Sand Budget/ Virtual Model project
 - Advocate for US ACE funding
 - Develop funding proposals for alternate funding organizations

Operations

5. *Operations* Institutionalize the collection and reporting of Key Performance Indicators for beach management utilizing report card format,
 - Focus on data collection and dissemination
6. Monitor, report and follow up on Stewart Beach Recycling Project
 - Extend program to additional parks
7. Vegetate dunes in beach nourishment and Parks,
 - Fortify and continue nursery production internally at Mardi Gras warehouse, achieve the production and planting of *(To Be Determined)* plants.
 - Vegetate and care for *(To Be Determined)* linear feet of windows at Stewart Beach (Artist Boat, volunteer collaboration)
 - Vegetate and care for *(To Be Determined)* linear feet of End of Seawall-Dellanera project (Surfrider, Seascape HOA, Texas A&M, GLO)
8. Keep Galveston beaches clean and free of litter
 - Plan for and implement enforcement signage along the entire Seawall
 - Create and deliver an educational outreach program to *(To Be Determined)* children through collaborations with GISD, Junior Life Guards, Master Naturalists, Camp Wild, Friends of Galveston State Park and the Public Arts Commission

Advocacy and Outreach

9. Continue to actively advocate for the coastal zone through the dissemination relative to Park Board activities; beach nourishment, beach maintenance, beach safety, dune and habitat restoration, environmentally responsible practices,
10. Serve as a point of reference for information relating to Galveston Beaches,
 - Launch beach website
 - Develop and implement strategy to drive website traffic
11. Actively fundraise for beaches and coastal zone areas
 - Monitor and pursue funding opportunities available through RESTORE
 - Develop and submit project funding proposals
12. Formalize beach tours
 - Script tours
 - Tour 100 invitees, including volunteers, leadership, city staff, committee members and council

Research

13. Conduct Seaweed Core Dune pilot project
 - Collaboration with Texas A&M (CEPRA grant application)
14. Conduct beach user and resident surveys to determine desired amenities, value of environmental practices and perception of Galveston beaches,
 - Summer 2014 surveys with University of Houston (CEPRA grant application)

Prospective Project Proposals for Funding

1. Sand sourcing study
2. Greening of Parks