

Date: March 25, 2014

To: Mayor Walter B. Duke, III
Vice Mayor Chickie Brandimarte
Commissioner Bobbie H. Grace
Commissioner Albert C. Jones

From: Robert Baldwin, City Manager 

Re: Ocean Park Revitalization Plan

Tonight we are formally presenting the Ocean Park Revitalization Plan for your consideration. I appreciate all the time and effort the City Commission, staff, our consultant (EDSA) and residents have put into the preparation of this plan.

Undoubtedly, the Beach is our most treasured natural asset, and everyone acknowledges our need to protect it. However, over the years, along with the threat to our beach from erosion, the quality of the beach environment has declined. We need to improve the beach park, protect our shoreline, and provide for a long-range plan that will give the City a roadmap to the future.

The plan before you is a measured approach to accomplishing our goals in a cost-effective way. It complements the previous actions of the City Commission to improve and protect our beach. Previous actions include implementing a plan to remove the dense seagrape tree canopy, replacing it with natural landscaping; building new City marina facilities; reconfiguring and upgrading parking, lighting and other improvements; and leasing the pier restaurant to the Quarterdeck. The Beach Revitalization Plan, within our budget constraints, provides:

Phase I upgrades the existing beach to improve beautification and the Beach environment beginning this fiscal year.

Phase II improvements provide a plan for beach protection and beach renourishment in conjunction with other funding opportunities from Federal/State/County sources in upcoming years.

Phase III provides a roadmap to future improvements for future consideration and funding decisions.

The specifics to the plan have been discussed with you in detail, are incorporated in the attached exhibits, and will be presented in tonight's presentation of the plan.

The Administration is recommending the City Commission accept the plan as submitted; approve Phase I and appropriate \$1.6 million from General Fund-Unassigned Fund Balance to begin work in the current Fiscal Year; approve Phase II for incorporation into the City's multi-year Capital Improvement Program for annual budget consideration; and accept Phase III for future consideration.