



Town of Pawleys Island

Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Project

March 2019 Project Update

Please find below an update on the progress of the Town's Beach Renourishment Project and an idea of what to expect over the next few months.

Project History: In 2000 the Town began working with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to develop the town's Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Project, which received Congressional approval in 2004. Even though the project was authorized, it never received funding by Congress and as the years went by it became increasingly less likely it ever would. In late 2015 the Town decided to move ahead with its own project, and Coastal Science and Engineering was brought aboard to handle the design and assist with obtaining the necessary state and federal permits. The project area extended from the county beach access on the south end to just north of the pier, with a total sand volume somewhere between 700k and 1.1m total cubic yards of sand. The project was released for public bid in May 2018 and Marinex Construction produced the low bid at \$10,865,000 for 700k cubic yard project, with the option of additional sand at \$10.33 per cy.

After 14 years of waiting on the federal government to fund a project, the Town was in a position to take control of its own destiny and take action to renourish its beaches. Then, just a matter of weeks before signing a contract with the low bidder on our project we were notified that USACE has obligated funds through a supplemental appropriation that included \$9.23m allocated for the Pawleys Island Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project. This was excellent news, but the Town's project was ready to go with a fall 2018 scheduled start date. Forgoing the Town project and moving forward with the Army Corp would certainly delay construction of a renourishment project for at least a year. After careful consideration, Town Council believed the cost share benefit of the federal government was too attractive to pass up and the decision was made to abandon the Town project to take advantage of the USACE opportunity.

Current Project: The project has evolved into a hybrid of the Army Corp design and the Coastal Science and Engineering design, creating an overall project area spanning from the south end county lot up north to third street. The result is one large project that's broken out into 2 separate reaches, the "Federal Project" area and the "Betterment" area.

The Federal Project Area is exactly what it sounds like. It's the original USACE project covering the southern reach of the island between groin #1 (766 Springs) and groin #12 (530 Myrtle). USACE is responsible for engineering, design, management and construction of the work done in this area. The project is part of USACE's 50-year period of analysis which includes the initial project construction and periodic renourishments, accomplished via four 9-year renourishment intervals and one 5-year renourishment interval. The initial project is cost shared at 65% Federal / 35% Town, and periodic renourishments will be cost shared at 50% Federal / 50% Town. The estimated volume of sand for initial project construction in the federal project area is 840,000 cubic yards.

The Betterment Area of the project starts where the Federal Project ends around groin #12 and continues north to Third Street. Coastal Science and Engineering is responsible for the design of the project in this reach of the project. USACE will handle project management and construction of the project using the same contractors hired for construction of the Federal area. The Town is responsible for 100% of the total costs in the Betterment Area of the project. The estimated volume of sand for initial project construction in the Betterment Area is 350,000 cubic yards. CSE's design ranges between 250k to 475k total cubic yards, and the ultimate total cubic yardage in the betterment area will heavily depend on the per cubic yard pricing we end up getting on the project.

Easements: Easements will be required from 113 oceanfront properties located in the Federal portion of the renourishment project. The easement is required solely for activities related to the construction and maintenance of the project including sand placement and associated earthwork, installation of sand fencing, and planting of beach grass associated with the project. The easement provides the town and its contractors with the ability to work in the area of the beach.

Mailing of the easement packages to beachfront property owners in the Federal project area began in late February, and we expect them all to be sent out before the end of March. The easement packages generally included a cover letter from the Town Administrator, easement document, and a plan-view exhibit of the subject property. Our current construction schedule is contingent upon receiving all 113 signed easements before the end of April, and a failure to do so will likely delay construction past fall 2019. It is imperative that property owners review, authorize and return the easement packages to Town Hall before 4/30/2019 to avoid pushing back the project.

The Army Corp project is a 50-year project with periodic renourishments taking place every 9 years following the initial project. The federal government requires easements for the entire project area and it's not negotiable if we want their participation.

Rights-of Entry: Right-of-Entry Agreements will be required from 118 oceanfront properties located in the betterment portion of the renourishment project. These are temporary easements required to perform work necessary and incident to the construction of the project. The easement provides the town and its contractors with the ability to work 323 Myrtle Ave, Pawleys Island, SC 29585 (843) 237-1698 www.townofpawleysisland.com

in the area of the beach. The temporary work area easements will go out in early April and we'll need them signed and returned to Town Hall before 5/31/2019 to avoid pushing back the project.

Current Project Schedule

This is a tentative project schedule and it's based on the Town successfully acquiring all 113 easements in the Federal area of the project by 4/31/2019. This can't be stressed enough, the Town must acquire all 113 easements prior to the end of April for fall 2019 start date. We will also need all Rights-of-Entry Agreements from the 118 oceanfront properties in the Betterment area by 5/31/2019.

4/30/2019 - Complete Easement Acquisition
5/31/2019 – USACE Certification of Easements
7/23/2019 – Advertise for Bid
10/15/2019 – Contract Award
Fall 2019 – Construction

Project Updates

You can keep up with the latest information related to the Beach Renourishment Project by visiting this link on the Town's website:

<https://www.townofpawleysisland.com/beach-renourishment/>

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me at rfabbri@townofpi.com if you have questions or want additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Fabbri', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ryan Fabbri
Town Administrator

