



Beach Preservation Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
Friday, September 20, 2024, 9:00am
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC and
broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

Present: Andrew Vega, Cindi Solomon, Tim Ahmuty, Dan Slotchiver, Council Member Pierce (via Zoom), Mayor Pounds, Administrator Fragoso, Director Kerr

Absent: Council Member Miars

1. **Call to order**
2. **Discussion of economic impact of beach nourishment to the city and discussion of funding mechanisms to consider**

Administrator Fragoso and Director Kerr reviewed the financial levers available to the City to generate revenue for beach nourishment funding including beach franchise fees, an increase in parking fees, charging for parking in the beach parking district, a property tax increase, an increase in building permit and business license fees, and issuing debt for large nourishment projects.

Council Member Pierce would like to see an increase to fees associated with short-term rental licenses including an increase to the base rate and an increase to the charge per \$1000.

A list of possible State and Federal funding options were also discussed. Council Member Pierce would also like to see dollar amounts included on this list. As these items are considered only funding possibilities with many requiring legislative changes, Administrator Fragoso will present averages based on what the City has received in the past. Ms. Solomon believes it is important to educate the public on what is and could be available for funding beach nourishment.

The Committee then reviewed the assumptions as input into the capital planning model for beach nourishment projects. Administrator Fragoso offered various adjustments to those assumptions to show their impact on the funding available for beach nourishment. She said the City looks to be in good shape for a nourishment project in FY26 or FY27, but significant financial deficits are projected for the second, third, and fourth anticipated projects.

Committee members discussed the timeline of presenting this information to City Council. Currently, the City Council calendar has the group sharing an introduction to the material in November with a final deliverable and recommendations in December or January ahead of the FY26 budgeting process.

3. Next Steps

Moving forward the Committee would like all schedules and documentation from CS&E to be included in meeting packets. Schedules will be updated as discussed in each meeting. The finalized document from Mr. deSassure about tax district funding was also requested for the next meeting.

Representatives from Folly Beach will attend the October 4 meeting and representatives from Edisto Beach will attend the October 11 meeting to discuss their views on being a federally managed beach.

5. Adjournment

The next meeting of the Beach Preservation Ad Hoc Committee will be Friday, October 4, 2024 at 9:00am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk