

RESOLUTION NO. 4092

A RESOLUTION OF THE BAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, BAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, REQUESTING A CONTINUATION OF THE BEACH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM GRANT FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BEACH MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 FOR THE PANAMA CITY BEACHES EROSION CONTROL PROJECT.

WHEREAS, prior to the initial beach restoration project in 1998/99, the Panama City Beaches were severely eroded, providing diminished storm protection and reduced recreation area, impacting the tourism-based-economy; and

WHEREAS, Bay County has identified beach preservation, and beach renourishment as a priority to the County; and

WHEREAS, Bay County has developed a Long Range Beach Management and Erosion Control Plan for the Panama City Beaches to address the issues of beach preservation, and beach renourishment; and will serve as the local sponsor; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is the beach and shore preservation authority for the State and supervises the Beach Management and Funding Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, the third renourishment project of the Panama City Beach project area was constructed locally by Bay County in May 2017 and Bay County planned to continue monitoring the project and maintaining the project with periodic renourishment; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Michael made landfall as a Category 5 storm just east of Panama City Beach on Mexico Beach on October 10th, 2018, causing storm erosion to the beach; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers preliminary Project Information Report regarding Hurricane Michael produced a positive project construction benefit-to-cost ratio, which was approved by the Division Engineer on July 6th, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Sally made landfall as a Category 2 storm just west of Panama City Beach near Gulf Shores, Alabama on September 16th, 2020, causing additional storm erosion to the beach; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers analysis supported adjusting the planned Hurricane Michael construction volume to account for the additional Hurricane Sally volume loss; and

WHEREAS, the fourth renourishment project of the Panama City Beach project area was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 2021-2022, which replaced the losses associated with Hurricane Michael and Hurricane Sally, as well as brought the project back to full project design;

WHEREAS, by 2020, the erosion at St. Andrews State Park, immediately adjacent to the federal Panama City Beaches renourishment project area, was at a critical level with limited beach berm width and severe scarping at the dune resulting in dangerous cliffs; and

WHEREAS, a full restoration of the St. Andrews State Park became critically necessary and Bay County was willing to serve as the local sponsor through its representative, the Bay County Tourist Development Council; and

WHEREAS, construction of the first beach restoration at St. Andrews State Park was completed in October 2023 and took advantage of the 2021-2022 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers led renourishment of the adjacent Panama City Beach project area contracting process; and

WHEREAS, Bay County has determined that funds provided through the Beach Management and Funding Assistance Program would greatly assist and expedite the continued maintenance of and subsequent monitoring of the Panama City Beaches to include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers federal Panama City Beaches renourishment and St. Andrews State Park restoration projects.

WHEREAS, Bay County requests continued support of its existing Grant Agreements, and new State funding assistance via an amended or new grant agreement, whichever is necessary, with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; and supports the Department's beach and coastal management programs; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Bay County, Florida as follows:

Section 1. The County Commission hereby determines that it is in the best interest of Bay County to request continued support of its existing Grant Agreements and new State funding assistance via amended or new grant agreement(s) pursuant to Florida Statute 161.091, for the Panama City Beaches Erosion Control Project through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Said funding to be used to plan for, permit, design, construct, and monitor future renourishment for the Panama City Beaches Erosion Control Project and St. Andrews State Park.

Section 2. The Board of County Commissioners hereby determines that it is in the best interest of Bay County to renew its support for all funds previously approved for the Panama City Beaches Erosion Control Project, said funding was used for design, permitting, construction, monitoring and maintaining the Panama City Beaches Erosion Control Project and St. Andrews State Park per permit requirements.

Section 3. The Board of County Commissioners hereby determines that the local funding share to implement the project has been and will be provided through the Bay County Tourist Development Council representing the County as the local taxing authority.

Section 4. The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute the funding application, enter into such agreements as are required to secure available funding and to otherwise act on behalf of Bay County in all matters related to the securing of available grant funding from the Beach Management and Funding Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2025/2026.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Done and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Bay County, Florida this
16 day of July 2024.

Tommy Hamm, Chairman

ATTEST:

Bill Kinsaul, Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Office of County Attorney

Brian D. Leebrick





**Bay County Board of County Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary**

State Funding Request for Beach Management Resolutions

DEPARTMENT MAKING REQUEST/NAME:

Tourist Development Council
Dan Rowe, President - CEO

MEETING DATE:

July 16, 2024

REQUESTED MOTION/ACTION:

Board adopt and execute the Panama City Beaches and the Mexico Beach, beach management program and state FDEP grant resolutions for FY 2025/2026.

AGENDA

Consent Agenda

BUDGETED ITEM? Yes

BUDGET ACTION:

NONE

FINANCIAL IMPACT SUMMARY STATEMENT:

NONE

BACKGROUND:

Panama City Beach resolution:

The Bay County TDC Board of Directors voted to recommend that the Board of County Commissioners adopt and execute the Panama City Beaches beach management program state FDEP grant resolution for FY 2025/2026. **(Exhibit 1)** The resolution is executed annually and is an update of Resolution 3994, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners for FY 2024/2025. The resolution is an annual required component of the state grant request for funding assistance for costs associated with eligible beach management activities and demonstrates support for the program and our existing grants.

Mexico Beach resolution:

The Bay County TDC Board of Directors voted to recommend that the Board of County Commissioners adopt and execute the Mexico Beach beach management program state FDEP grant resolution for FY 2025/2026 **(Exhibit 1)** The resolution is executed annually and is an update of Resolution 3995, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners for FY 2024/2025. The resolution is an annual required component of the state grant request for funding assistance for costs associated with eligible beach management activities and demonstrates support for the program and our existing grants.

ATTACHMENTS: