

# Memorandum



**Date:** January 10, 2022

**To:** Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava  
Mayor 

**Subject:** Periodic Report on Beach Renourishment – Directive No. 160503

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On March 8, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) adopted Resolution No. R-174-16, directing the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to prepare periodic reports on beach renourishment projects. Resolution No. R-174-16 specifically directed that such periodic reports shall be provided to the Board in advance of each major beach renourishment project, and include, in coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps), information related to sand quality, permanent structures proposed by the Army Corps, and the anticipated timeframes to start and finish the work.

The previous periodic report to the Board was on the March 1, 2021, Board agenda. That report described Beach Renourishment activities that were completed through June 2020 and described other projects that were underway. Updates to these projects are described below.

**The Dade Supplemental Track C, or the Bal Harbour Nourishment via Baker’s Inlet Complex,** plans to place approximately 175,000 cubic yards of sand to address critical beach erosion along the Bal Harbour beachfront from Baker’s Haulover Inlet to 96<sup>th</sup> Street. The beachfront will be renourished with sand dredged from shoals near Haulover Inlet in Biscayne Bay and with sand trucked from upland mines. The contract was awarded in July 2021 with field construction activities expected to begin at the end of November 2021. A public meeting was held on October 12, 2021.

**The Dade Supplemental Track D, or the Sunny Isles Truck Haul,** placed 269,944 cubic yards of sand trucked from upland mines to address beach erosion along Sunny Isle Beach. The Army Corps evaluated the rehabilitation of the submerged breakwaters in Sunny Isles Beach and decided not to include it under this contract or as a stand-alone contract at this time. The contract was awarded in January 2021 and construction was completed in March 2021.

**The Dade Supplemental Track E, or the Miami Beach Renourishment,** plans to place approximately 830,000 cubic yards of sand from upland mines to address beach erosion along Miami Beach. The contract was awarded in July 2021 with construction activities expected to begin at the end of November 2021. A public meeting was held on October 7, 2021.

These projects did not include plans for any permanent structures related to beach renourishment.

The Army Corps is currently performing a Miami-Dade County Feasibility Study to re-evaluate the beach segment from Government Cut to Baker’s Haulover Inlet for reauthorization and updated cost share between the federal government and the local sponsor for the Project through another 50-year period. Additionally, approval was received in November 2020 for the inclusion of the Village of Key Biscayne beaches in the study to consider including this segment in the federally authorized Project. A draft report with the Tentative Selected Plan is scheduled to be published on November 4, 2021, for a 30-day public comment period. Two informational virtual meetings will be hosted by the Army Corps on November 17, 2021. County communications is coordinating with the Army Corps and municipal communications staff to provide information regarding the upcoming meetings and the public comment period. The Feasibility Study is projected to be completed by October of 2022.

Further evaluation of the use and implementation of submerged or emergent coastal structures will be an increasingly important strategy as we work to protect the County’s beaches from erosional forces and protect our public investment in beach renourishment projects. Miami-Dade County’s Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) has retained a coastal engineering firm to consider alternative means to retain sand along all of the County-managed beaches, as well as re-evaluate the performance of existing structures such as the breakwaters at 29<sup>th</sup>-32<sup>nd</sup> Street and make recommendations on sand retention in that area.

In accordance with Ordinance No. 14-65, this report will be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Lee N. Hefty, Assistant Director, Division of Environmental Resources Management in the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, at [Lee.Hefty@miamidade.gov](mailto:Lee.Hefty@miamidade.gov).

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