



LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 884

SARASOTA, FL 34230

www.LKRA.org

MISSION STATEMENT: TO FOSTER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AMONG OUR RESIDENTS IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE ON LIDO KEY FOR ALL RESIDENTS AND OUR MANY VISITORS.

Date: March 21, 2016

To: Board of County Commissioners, County Administrator, and Coastal Initiatives Manager

Subject: Lido Beach Long Range Erosion Project

The goal of Save Lido Beach is to renourish the beach, consistent with environmental and legal requirements on a long-term basis, and without irreversibly affecting others.

We wish to bring to the Commissioners attention the following salient points:

1. Lido Beach is currently depleted and urgently requires renourishment

At high water mark, there is currently no access for walking or sitting on beach chairs. The high water mark is, in many cases, at the level of the dunes – for most residents, we cannot remember such depletion of the beach. There are environmental, structural, economic and peaceable use implications for residents and tourists. Even Atkins recognizes that “Nourishment of Lido Key and potential shoreline structural components are required to abate the continual erosion of the Key.” We invite all to visit the beach to see for themselves the state of the sand erosion today.

2. The proposed Lido Beach Renourishment Long-term Plan allows for an initial stage, monitoring and adjustment, if needed

The situation is one of actual loss of Lido Beach versus the theoretical possibility of impacts. The Atkins report asks for further study of impacts while at the same time “should encourage monitoring and evaluate impacts the groins may have ...” This is our position – address the immediate devastation of Lido Beach while monitoring and evaluating impacts.

3. The natural transfer of sand flow is from North to South and comes largely from Lido Beach.

“Save Our Sand” is associated with Siesta, when in fact Siesta Beach has been accreting sand and growing over the years, while Lido is not able to retain sand. Atkins acknowledges this when he states that “Reports indicate that natural sand bypassing occurs from Lido Key, across the Big Sarasota Pass and onto Siesta Key.”



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4. The Atkins Report has no science-based conclusions.

The Atkins report itself concedes that it “cannot provide a professional opinion on the various recommendations provided in the USACE reports.”

For the above reasons, “Save Lido Beach” requests that the County recognize the immediate urgency of renourishing Lido Beach, while at the same time supporting monitoring and evaluation of any potential impacts on adjacent areas.

Given the expected litigation to stop the implementation of the permit and the renourishment of Lido beach, with the consequent delays and loss of funding, we respectfully ask the County Commissioners to support the Army Corps of Engineers report and the permit.

Respectfully submitted,

Save Lido Beach Committee

Lido Key Residents Association