



Beach Access Guiding Principles

September 11, 2018

Beach Access and Dune Protection Plan Review Ad Hoc Committee

Recap

- Composed of Galveston residents appointed by City Council.



Purpose of committee:

- review the City of Galveston's Beach Access and Dune Protection Plan and provide recommendations to applicable Boards, Commissions or Committees, including the Planning Commission and City Council.

Drivers

State law requires local governments along the Texas Coast to adopt a plan that addresses the following:

- the management and use of the public beach,
- the care and protection of sand dunes, and
- to reduce public expenditures for erosion and storm damage losses

References:

- [Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapter 61: Use and Maintenance of Public Beaches](#)
- [Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapter 63: Dunes](#)
- [Texas Administrative Code, Title 31, Part 1, Chapter 15: Coastal Area Planning](#)
 - Includes [Rule 15 § 17](#) that requires local governments to adopt an Erosion Response Plan



Beach Access Guiding Principles in accordance with the Open Beaches Act



- Free and unrestricted beach access should be available to the citizens of Texas, meeting or exceeding the Open Beaches Act standards.
- Promote diversity of uses in a safe and sustainable manner.
- Ensure the integrity and sustainability of the natural system and resources.
- Respect and recognize the rights of adjacent private property.
- Meet the GLO's accessibility (ADA) guidelines.
- Encourage beach patrons to utilize beach access points with amenities.
- Provide consistent, clear, and adequate signage.

Action Items:



1. Vehicular Access and Parking
2. Signage and Wayfinding
3. Improvement of Access Points
4. Preservation of Natural Resources

1. Vehicular Access and Parking:



- Explore opportunities, where feasible, to relocate on-beach vehicular access to off-beach parking locations.
- When locating off-beach parking on neighborhood streets, locate parking in areas that minimize traffic and safety hazards.
- Meet or exceed the GLO's accessibility (ADA) guidelines.
- Where off-beach vehicular parking is provided, meet or exceed the minimum required.
- Identify specific locations where developing off-beach paid parking access points are appropriate for the purpose of funding operation & maintenance of amenities.

2. Signage and Wayfinding:

Consistent location, design, and message on signage at each access point, to notify the public:

- Consistent location and identification of the access points.
- Parking capacity.
- Where parking is allowed (and, in some cases, where it is not).
- Pedestrian path/walkover locations.
- Accessible/ADA access locations.
- General beach rules (what is allowed, what is prohibited, reference ordinances, who to call for wildlife, public safety).



3. Improvement of Access Points:



- Identify locations where access point amenities are appropriate (such as bathrooms, showers, off-beach parking areas).
- Identify parking control measures, such as, bollards and/or sand fences.
- Consolidate and enhance off-beach parking and access point locations.
- Preserve and enhance access for the diversity of beach access users: recreational, fishing, surfing, kayaking, and ADA.
- Minimize on-beach vehicular access on eroding beaches.

4. Preservation of Natural Resources:



- Impacts to natural resources must be minimized where on-beach vehicular access/parking is provided.
- Utilize pervious surfaces where off-beach parking and amenities are provided.
- Minimize wind-blown sand from leaving the beach area with effective sand management.
- Encourage beach access roads and pathways to comply with GLO guidelines, such as the width, angle and elevation of pathway(s).
- Preference for dune walkovers and stabilized mats for pedestrian beach access pathways.
- Monitor the beach access points and amenities for conformance.

Ap-1: Apffel Park



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	Y	The on-beach parking provides ADA accessibility and ample parking spaces.
Signage and Wayfinding	Y	There is conspicuous signage directing the public to the access point and parking area; on-beach parking provides ADA accessibility; general beach rules and contacts are displayed at entrance.
Improvement of Access Point	N	Flooding impedes public access to beach and parking area. A drainage study is being conducted to address flooding issue.
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Impacts to natural resources are minimized, pervious surface and effective sand management are practiced.

AP-1(A): Beachtown Development



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	N	Additional off-beach public parking spaces are needed. Conspicuous signage needed to direct beachgoers to public beach access point, parking area(s) and general beach rules. Current signs are not easily observed and undersized.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	Conspicuous signage needed to direct beachgoers to public beach access point, parking area(s) and general beach rules. Current signs are not easily observed and undersized.
Improvement of Access Point	Y	Accreting beach with two dedicated ADA dune walkovers. Dune walkovers need to be monitored as this is an accreting beach and the walkovers may need to be extended to meet growing LOV.
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management.

AP-1(B): Palisade Palms



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	Y	Parking spaces exceed amount required by the GLO and provides ADA access.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	Conspicuous “City of Galveston”-branded signage needed to direct beachgoers to public beach access point and parking area. Current signs are not easily observed and undersized.
Improvement of Access Point	Y	Accreting beach with a dedicated ADA dune walkover. Dune walkover needs to be observed as this is an accreting beach and the walkovers may need to be extended to meet growing LOV.
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management.

AP-1(C): West of the Islander East (Grand Beach Area)



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	Y	ADA access is provided from parking area to the beach.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	Conspicuous signage needed to direct beachgoers to public beach access point, parking area(s) and general beach rules. Current signs are not easily observed and undersized.
Improvement of Access Point	N	Islander East to be recognized as <i>Access Point 1-D: Preserve at Grand Beach</i> ; this is a gated subdivision; access only available by paid parking at Stewart Beach (ADA access is free).
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management.

AP-2: Stewart Beach



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	Y	The on-beach parking provides ADA accessibility and ample parking spaces.
Signage and Wayfinding	Y	<i>Free parking area needs conspicuous signage</i> ; location of access point, public parking and beach rules are visibly marked; on-beach parking provides ADA access.
Improvement of Access Point	Y	Access Point amenities are provided; ADA accessible; preserves and enhances access for the diversity of beach access users.
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management.

AP-3: Seawall Beach Urban Park



	Conforms	Recommendations
Signage and Wayfinding		
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-4: End of Seawall



	Conforms	Recommendations
Signage and Wayfinding		
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-5: Dellanera RV Park



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking Signage and Wayfinding	Y	ADA access is provided from parking area to the beach. There is conspicuous signage directing the public to the access point and parking area; dune walkover provides ADA accessibility.
Signage and Wayfinding	Y	There is conspicuous signage directing the public to the access point and parking area; dune walkover provides ADA accessibility.
Improvement of Access Point	Y	Access Point amenities are provided; ADA accessible; preserves and enhances access for diversity of beach access users.
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management. (This is a high erosion area.)

AP-6: Pocket Park #1



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	N	Explore off-beach parking areas to accommodate beachgoers and help slow the process of erosion.
Signage and Wayfinding	Y	There is conspicuous signage directing the public to the access point and parking area; on-beach parking provides ADA accessibility.
Improvement of Access Point	N	Parking off- beach is recommended as this is an eroding beach.
Preservation of Natural Resources	N	This is an eroding beach and off-beach parking is recommended; an effective sand management plan is not in place to capture wind blown sand and to preserve the eroding beachfront.

AP-7: Sunny Beach Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	N	Explore off-beach parking areas to accommodate beachgoers and help slow the process of erosion.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	Conspicuous “City of Galveston”-branded signage needed to direct beachgoers to public beach parking area.
Improvement of Access Point	N	Encourage amenities at this access point to be off-beach because it is an eroding beach.
Preservation of Natural Resources	N	Ensure beach access road minimizes wind-blown sand from leaving the beach area.

AP-8: Beachside Village Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	N	Explore off-beach parking areas to accommodate beachgoers during the day and after subdivision gates close at 9pm.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	Conspicuous “City of Galveston”-branded signage needed to direct beachgoers to public beach parking area and list general beach rules, including signage for after hours parking.
Improvement of Access Point	Y	
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management. (This is a high erosion area.)

AP-9: Pocket Park #2, Escapes! Condominiums



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	Y	ADA access is provided from parking area to the beach.
Signage and Wayfinding	Y	There is conspicuous signage directing the public to the access point and parking area; on-beach parking provides ADA accessibility.
Improvement of Access Point	Y	Access Point amenities are provided; ADA accessible; preserves and enhances access for diversity of beach access users.
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management. (This is a high erosion area.)

AP-10: 10-Mile Road / Hershey Beach Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-11: Spanish Grant Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-12: Bermuda Beach Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-13: Pocket Park #3 (Closed)



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-14: 11-Mile Road



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-15(A): Pirates Beach Subdivision



	Conforms	Comments
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-15(B): Palm Beach Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-15(C): Pirates Beach West Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-16: 13-Mile Road



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-17: 15-Mile Road



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-18: 16-Mile Road



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-19: Karankawa Beach



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-20: Indian Beach



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-21: Kahala Beach Estates, Addition #1



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-22: Silverleaf Resorts



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-23: The Dunes of West Beach



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-24: Sandhill Shores



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-25: Gateway Blvd-Sea Isle



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-26: San Jacinto Street – Sea Isle



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-27: Sea Isle Parking Area



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-28: Sea Isle Subdivision & Terramar Beach



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-29: Isla Del Sol Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-30: Gulf Blvd / Isla Del Sol



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-31: Terramar Drive



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-32: Pocket Park #4



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-33: Second Street – Bay Harbor



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-34: Miramar Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-35: Half Moon Beach & Stavanger Beach



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-36: Salt Cedar Avenue



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-37: Playa San Luis Subdivision



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-38: Pointe San Luis #1



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-39: Pointe San Luis #2



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-40: Pointe San Luis #3



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

AP-41: Pointe San Luis #4

(Toll Bridge Area)



	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		
Signage and Wayfinding		
Improvement of Access Point		
Preservation of Natural Resources		

Questions?

