



City of Galveston

Beach Access and Dune Protection Plan Review Ad Hoc Committee

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:**

- a. Explore opportunities, where feasible, to relocate on-beach vehicular access to off-beach parking locations.
- b. Locate parking in areas that minimize traffic and safety hazards when locating off-beach parking on neighborhood streets.
- c. Meet or exceed the GLO's accessibility (ADA) guidelines.
- d. Meet or exceed the minimum required parking standard for off-beach vehicular parking.
- e. Identify specific locations where off-beach paid parking access points are appropriate to fund operation & maintenance of amenities.

2. **Signage and Wayfinding:** Consistent location, design, and message on signage at each access point to notify the public of the following:

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

3. **Improvement of Access Points:**

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

4. **Restoration & Preservation of Natural Resources:**

- a. Minimize impacts to natural resources where on-beach vehicular access/parking is provided.
- b. Utilize pervious surfaces where off-beach parking and amenities are provided.
- c. Minimize wind-blown sand from leaving the beach area with effective sand management.
- d. Encourage beach access roads and pathways to comply with GLO guidelines (width, angle and elevation).
- e. Promote dune walkovers and stabilized mats for pedestrian beach access pathways.
- f. Monitor beach access points and amenities to ensure compliance.

Revision History:

9/11/2018 - Drafted and Voted on by the Committee
10/17/2018 - added "Restoration &" to title of Action Item #4