Beach Access Guiding Principles

November 7, 2018

Beach Access and Dune Protection Plan Review Ad Hoc Committee

Beach Access Plan Review Workflow

Committee and Stakeholder Input

1. Finish collecting input from committee
2. Town Hall Meeting #1 with Stakeholders
3. Workshop with City Council in December/January
4. Consider and Incorporate Stakeholder and Council Input

Draft Plan Preparation & Review

5. Staff prepare a Draft Plan
   (Ad Hoc Committee beings review of Dune Protection Standards)

6. Staff bring Draft Plan back to committee to review

7. Town Hall Meeting #2 with Stakeholders
   a. Discussion with Subdivisions, Property Owners' Associations, Developers
   b. Consider and Incorporate Stakeholder Input

Final Draft of Plan

8. Revise and Refine, Prepare Final Draft of Plan

9. Review Final Draft with Committee
   a. Committee and Staff to Prepare Implementation Plan, to Prioritize Implementation of Recommendations.

10. Present Final Draft to Planning Commission and City Council

Guiding Principles

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:

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:

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. 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.

Access Point Review

AP-1: Apffel Park

	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	Y	The on-beach parking provides ADA accessibility and there are 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 after heavy rains impedes public access to beach and parking area. Park Board is working on a drainage study is being conducted to address this issue.
Preservation of Natural Resources	Y	Impacts to natural resources are minimized, pervious surface and effective sand management are practiced.

AP-1(A): Beachtown

	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	Portion of this area to be recognized as *Access Point 1-D: Preserve at Grand Beach*, which is a gated subdivision. Access only available through entrance 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	*Free parking area needs conspicuous signage*; 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 areas ensure 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 areas ensure impacts to natural resources are minimized; minimizes use of impervious surfaces; practices effective sand management. (This is an eroding 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. (This is an eroding area).

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 any 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. (This is an eroding 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 an eroding 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	N	Parking area ensures impacts to natural resources are minimized; recommend use of pervious surfaces when reconstructing off-beach parking areas; practices effective sand management. (This is an eroding area).

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

	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	N	Explore opportunities to relocate some on-beach vehicular access to off-beach parking locations. Maintain some vehicular access to the beach in designated areas. Improve existing parking lot to maximize number of parking spaces.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	Add conspicuous “City of Galveston”-branded signage needed to direct beachgoers to public beach parking area and list general beach rules. Signage to identify ADA-designated parking.
Improvement of Access Point	N	Consolidate car impacts to beach by moving bollards (west). Portable bathrooms to be placed in parking area, away from tidal influence. Improve access road to reduce susceptibility of tidal influence.

AP-11: Spanish Grant Subdivision

	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	N	Explore opportunities to use publically-owned assets for off-beach parking and access; locate ADA parking near improved pedestrian access.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	Add signage to direct parking to appropriate locations on street; add signage to designate ADA parking spaces.
Improvement of Access Point	N	Reduce the number of pedestrian pathways, and encourage public access over pervious stabilized surfaces such as walkovers or mobi-mats, to be ADA compliant.
Preservation of Natural Resources	N	Reduce pedestrian pathways to encourage growth of a continuous dune line; restore the vegetation line.

AP-12: Bermuda Beach Subdivision

	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	N	Maximize off-beach parking on streets, provided traffic/safety is maintained. Reduce on-beach parking, when options have been identified for off-beach parking on beach-adjacent land or right-of-way within the subdivision.
Signage and Wayfinding	N	No parking signage is on both sides of street. Add signage to direct where public can park. Dune protection/restoration signs needed.
Improvement of Access Point	N	Eliminate existing pedestrian paths, use fewer compliant pedestrian pathways or walkovers. Ensure ½ mile access is maintained.
Preservation of Natural Resources	N	Eliminate existing pedestrian paths, use fewer compliant pedestrian pathways or walkovers.

AP-13: Pocket Park #3 (Closed)

	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking	**N**	Restore off-beach parking lot (expand, if possible). Redirect vehicular traffic on-beach away from LOV by use of bollards. Reconfigure on-beach road to conform to GLO guidelines. Reduce and redirect on-beach vehicular access for special uses (accessibility, fishing, boat launch, etc.)
Signage and Wayfinding	**N**	Signage to direct off-beach parking to restored off-beach parking lot.
Improvement of Access Point	**N**	Restore amenities (pavilion, restrooms, showers). *** Make This A Model Access Point ***
Preservation of Natural Resources	**N**	Restore dune and LOV at on-beach parking area, using bollards (in AP-14)

AP-14: 11-Mile Road

	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		(Recommendations combined with AP-13)
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		Install signage at FM 3005 (both east & west), and ADA accessible parking signs on beach (on bollards).
Improvement of Access Point		Coordinate improvements with State Park & Village of Jamaica Beach.
Preservation of Natural Resources		Install bollard line lateral to LOV (to deter vehicular traffic/parking on vegetation).

AP-18: 16-Mile Road

	Conforms	Recommendations
Vehicular Access and Parking		Reduce or eliminate on-beach parking by developing the most-efficient off-beach parking along 16-Mile Road ROW. Provide a turn-around drop-off point at end of road. Maintain golf cart ADA access.
Signage and Wayfinding		(If off-beach parking to be provided on 16-Mile Road) modify/remove no parking signage.
Improvement of Access Point		Redirect drainage at adjacent Gulf Palms subdivision to mitigate runoff damage to beach and integrity of dune system.
Preservation of Natural Resources		(If on-beach parking is maintained) Install bollard line lateral to LOV to deter vehicular traffic/parking on vegetation. Restore dune.

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?