

February 22, 2021

Dear Property Owner;

Over the past several years, the Town of Oak Island has considered and worked toward the possibility of implementing a beach nourishment project along a portion of the Town's Atlantic Ocean beach. The Town is currently working on two FEMA projects to repair damage done to the beach following Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and Hurricane Florence in 2018. After careful and thorough study and consideration, the Town of Oak Island proposes to proceed with a project to build up the oceanfront dune and nourish the beach.

Historically, the Oak Island beach strand has suffered damage and significant accelerated erosion by a series of storms over last several years. Along the Town's nine miles of beach, there are many privately owned oceanfront and non-oceanfront properties. Additionally, there is a significant amount of infrastructure improvements, such as roads and utility lines, located adjacent to the beach that serve property owners both within and outside of this geographical area. The Oak Island Town Council is committed to beach nourishment to maintain a recreational beach, to protect structures, to maintain a tax and economic base, and to protect infrastructure improvements, including facilities for public recreational access and the aforementioned homes, roads, and utilities.

In order to maintain the aesthetic, environmental, protective, and physical value of the beach, the Oak Island Town Council has determined that the creation of a municipal service district for erosion control and flood and hurricane protection works would benefit both public and private property owners. Municipal service districts are special revenue districts with specific boundaries that raise money for specified purposes. Once established, this District will enable the Town to acquire Special Obligation Bonds to fund beach nourishment projects, which is the Town's purpose for wanting to establish this district. At this time, the Town is not proposing a special tax within the proposed District.

As proposed, the Town of Oak Island's beach nourishment municipal service district is approximately 9 miles long consisting of the oceanfront. The main fill length stretches from the Town of Caswell Beach/Town of Oak Island corporate limits west to the west end of the Town of Oak Island.

The total project length for the 2020/2021 renourishment project is approximately 3.4 miles and includes fill from SE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street to approximately Middleton Avenue. It is anticipated that the project area will receive approximately 756,000 cubic yards or approximately 43 cy/ft of nourishing sand. The project is designed to provide a dune engineered to withstand a 25-year return period storm event and the project is designed to advance the shoreline seaward up to 80 feet depending on the area to be nourished. The sand will be dredged from an approved borrow area about 1 mile offshore of Caswell Beach from Jay Bird Shoals.

The total project length planned for the 2021/2022 renourishment project is approximately 5.4 miles and includes fill from Middleton Avenue to The Point and a second area of the project from the Town's eastern boundary to SE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street. It is anticipated the project will receive approximately 886,000 cubic yards or approximately 32 cy/ft of nourishing sand (depending on bids received). The project is designed to provide a dune engineered to withstand a 25-year return period storm event and the project is designed to advance the shoreline seaward up to 93 feet, depending on the area to be nourished. The sand will be dredged from a combination of Jay Bird Shoals and another approved borrow area about 2 miles offshore of the west end of Oak Island known as Central Reach.

The Town's staff and contracted engineers have determined that the proposed district (i.e. the oceanfront) is in need of projects and programs of this nature to a demonstrably greater extent than the remainder of

the Town in order to meet the needs and goals set forth above.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 23 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes, **please take note that you are encouraged to attend and participate in a Public Hearing that will be held on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at Town Hall, 4601 E. Oak Island Drive.** At that time and place, the Oak Island Town Council will hear public comment on the establishment of this proposed Municipal Service District for the Town of Oak Island beach erosion control and flood and hurricane protection works project(s), including the:

- Map of the proposed Beach Nourishment Municipal Service District;
- Statement that the proposed criteria meets the standards identified in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-537 (a),
- Statement regarding the service proposed to be provided within the Municipal Service District; and,
- Plan for providing the proposed service.

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-537(c), please be advised that the Town staff has prepared a report as required by to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-537(b) that contains the following:

- (1) A map of the proposed district, showing its proposed boundaries;
- (2) A statement showing that the proposed district meets the standards set out in subsection N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-537 (a); and
- (3) A plan for providing in the district one or more of the services listed in [G.S. 160A-536](#).

Please note that this report is available for public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk for at least four weeks prior to March 23, 2021, the date of the public hearing described above.

On behalf of the Oak Island Town Council, we hope to hear from you on this important matter. The meeting will be open to the public. Please note that due to restrictions required by the COVID-19 pandemic, seating in the meeting room is limited, however, accommodations will be made for speakers who want to be heard. Written comments may also be emailed to the Town Clerk by noon on March 23, by sending them to the Town Clerk's email address which is [lstites@ci.oak-island.nc.us](mailto:lstites@ci.oak-island.nc.us). The meeting will be broadcast live on OKI-TV (Spectrum Cable channel 8) and will also be livestreamed on [www.OakIslandNC.com/MEETINGS](http://www.OakIslandNC.com/MEETINGS).

Sincerely,

Ken Thomas,  
Mayor  
Town of Oak Island