

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Water, Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety

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Atlantic Coast of NY, East Rockaway Inlet to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay Public Access Plan

Purpose:

The Purpose of this public access plan is to describe how the public will access areas where sand will be placed, or future renourishment will take place, as a result of the implementation of the final recommended plan proposed in the Atlantic Coast of NY, East Rockaway Inlet to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay Hurricane Sandy General Reevaluation Report (HSGRR) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). In order for the project to be consistent with the State of New York Coastal Management Program policies, public access is required.

Scope:

The primary geographical scope of this public access plan extends for approximately six miles of municipally-owned Rockaway Beach; from the eastern boundary at Beach 19th Street, to the western boundary at Beach 149th Street. Dependent on the selected tie-in measures for the final recommended plan as proposed in the HSGRR, the scope may also extend west along the beach from Beach 149th Street to Beach 193rd Street and from Beach 193rd Street to the tip of the Rockaway Peninsula (Rockaway Point) just south of Breezy Point.

The geographical scope may also extend to Coney Island Beach (Ocean Parkway to West 37th Street), Brighton Beach (Ocean Parkway to Corbin Place), Manhattan Beach (Oriental Boulevard between Ocean Avenue and Mackenzie Street), and Plumb Beach (Belt Parkway between Brigham Street and the Gerritsen Inlet Bridge). This geographical scope is also dependent on the selected tie-in measures for the final recommended plan as proposed in the HSGRR.

Property Ownership:

Areas of sand placement or renourishment under the HSGRR that are included in the public access plans discussed above include Rockaway Beach and Coney Island Beach, which are owned in their entirety by the City of New York under their Department of Parks & Recreation.

Other areas of sand placement and renourishment may also include Brighton Beach and Manhattan Beach which are also owned in their entirety by the City of New York under their Department of Parks & Recreation. The shoreline area of Plumb Beach is owned by the National Park Service, with the parking lot and portions of the bicycle and



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pedestrian pathway are owned by the City of New York through their Department of Parks & Recreation.

Public Use:

As a result of an agreement between the Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) of the State of New York and the City of New York (City) entitled, "The Atlantic Coast of New York City, East Rockaway Inlet to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay, New York Shoreline Protection Project," Agreement #C003373 dated May 25, 1995, the City "shall maintain for the duration of the economic life of the Project, continued public ownership of the publicly owned shores and their administration for public use." This agreement indicates the Rockaway Beach property is available for use by the general public. There are no residency restrictions.

As a result of an agreement between the Department and the City entitled, "The Atlantic Coast of New York City, Rockaway Inlet to Norton Point (Coney Island Area), Shoreline Protection Project," Agreement #C003120 dated September 29, 1993, the City "shall maintain for the duration of the economic life of the Project, continued public ownership of the publicly owned shores and their administration for public use." This agreement indicates the Coney Island Beach property is available for use by the general public. There are no residency restrictions.

Currently, there are no agreements between the Department and the City for Brighton Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Plumb Beach.

Access ways and Dune Walkover Structures:

Rockaway Beach

At Beach 19th Street, an existing at-grade vehicle access point from the boardwalk will be maintained to facilitate both vehicular and pedestrian access. Between Beach 20th Street and Beach 126th Street, there are approximately 125 access points to the boardwalk that generally correspond to each street intersection along this stretch. When construction of the boardwalk is completed in 2017, there will be approximately 56 ramps and 40 stairs from the street to the boardwalk and 39 ramps and 26 stairs from the boardwalk to the beach in this stretch.

Currently between Beach 126th Street and Beach 149th Street, there are 24 dune walkover beach mats (mobi-mats) that begin at each street end that provide access to the beach. When construction of the final recommended plan under the HSGRR is completed in this area, these mobi-mats will be removed and elevated dune walkover structures will be constructed to provide access over the dune to the beach. Beach mats for wheelchair access are located at Beach 67th, Beach 86th, Beach 97th, Beach 106th, Beach 131st, and Beach 133rd Streets. Beach wheelchairs are located at Beach 86th Street and the Shorefront Parkway (Beach Operations Office). Six (6) beach wheelchairs are available for use at Beach 86th Street.

Number of Access ways: There are a total of approximately 150 access ways between Beach 19th Street and Beach 149th Street.

Ownership and Use: Ownership of all access ways and elevated dune walkover structures will rest with the City of New York through their Department of Parks & Recreation. The use of the access ways shall be in accordance with the City of New York ordinance code.

Dune Walkover Structures: Elevated dune walkover structures will be located at public access ways and oriented over the dune to protect and maintain the integrity and stability of the dune. The design of the elevated walkover structures will take into account the anticipated pedestrian traffic of the area.

Coney Island Beach

Between Ocean Parkway and West 37th Street, there are approximately 23 access points to the boardwalk, with corresponding stairs and/or at-grade access ways leading from the boardwalk to the beach. Beach mats for wheelchair access are located at West 33 Street, Stillwell Avenue, and West 5th Street. Beach wheelchairs are available at West 22nd Street at the boardwalk adjacent to the comfort station.

Number of Access ways: There are a total of approximately 23 access ways between Ocean Parkway and West 37th Street.

Ownership and Use: Ownership of all access ways and applicable elevated dune walkover structures will rest with the City of New York through their Department of Parks & Recreation. The use of the access ways shall be in accordance with the City of New York ordinance code.

Dune Walkover Structures: If the proposed tie-in measures for the final recommended plan as indicated in the HSGRR are constructed, the appropriate number of elevated dune walkover structures will be located at public access ways and oriented over the dune to protect and maintain the integrity and stability of the dune. The design of the elevated walkover structures will take into account the anticipated pedestrian traffic of the area.

Brighton Beach

Between Ocean Parkway and Corbin Place, there are eight (8) access points to the boardwalk (including Riegelmann Boardwalk) with corresponding stairs and at-grade access ways leading from the boardwalk to the beach. Beach mats for wheelchair access are located at Brighton 2nd Street and Brighton 6th Street. Beach wheelchairs are available at Coney Island Avenue and the boardwalk adjacent to the comfort station.

Number of Access ways: There are a total of approximately eight (8) access ways between Ocean Parkway and Corbin Place.

Ownership and Use: Ownership of all access ways and applicable elevated dune walkover structures will rest with the City of New York through their Department of Parks & Recreation. The use of the access ways shall be in accordance with the City of New York ordinance code.

Dune Walkover Structures: If the proposed tie-in measures for the final recommended plan as indicated in the HSGRR are constructed, the appropriate number of elevated dune walkover structures will be located at public access ways and oriented over the dune to protect and maintain the integrity and stability of the dune. The design of the elevated walkover structures will take into account the anticipated pedestrian traffic of the area.

Manhattan Beach

Between Ocean Avenue and Mac Kenzie Street, there are approximately seven (7) access ways to the beach with the primary access point being Manhattan Beach Park. At-grade walking paths from Ocean Avenue, Oriental Boulevard and Mac Kenzie Street Loop lead to the beach. Primary access from Manhattan Beach Park pavilion and parking area is via at-grade access ways leading to the beach. Beach mats for wheelchair access are located on the East side of the beach near the picnic tables at Bay 1st Street, Brooklyn.

Number of Access ways: There are approximately seven (7) access ways to the beach with the primary access point being Manhattan Beach Park.

Ownership and Use: Ownership of the access ways via Manhattan Beach Park and any applicable elevated dune walkover structures within the Park will rest with the City of New York through their Department of Parks & Recreation. The use of all the access ways shall be in accordance with the City of New York ordinance code.

Dune Walkover Structures: If the proposed tie-in measures for the final recommended plan as indicated in the HSGRR are constructed, the appropriate number of elevated dune walkover structures will be located at public access ways and oriented over the dune to protect and maintain the integrity and stability of the dune. The design of the elevated walkover structures will take into account the anticipated pedestrian traffic of the area.

Plumb Beach

Location: Between Brigham Street and the Gerritsen Inlet Bridge, there are no elevated dune walkover structures to Plumb Beach. There are several unmaintained at-grade access ways to the beach from the pedestrian and bicycle pathway running parallel to Emmons Avenue and the Belt Parkway. The primary access point is a parking/rest area along the Belt Parkway (eastbound) which can accommodate approximately 92 vehicles and has handicapped parking available. There are two (2) at-grade access ways to the beach and the comfort stations from this parking area that are wheelchair accessible. There are approximately two (2) other unmaintained at-grade access ways to the beach from the parking lot but are not wheelchair accessible.

Number of Access ways: There are several unmaintained at-grade access ways to the beach from the pedestrian and bicycle pathway running parallel to Emmons Avenue and the Belt Parkway between Brigham Street and the Gerritsen Inlet Bridge. The primary access point is the rest/parking area along the Belt Parkway (eastbound) which provides approximately four (4) access ways to the beach.

Ownership and Use: The City of New York through their Department of Parks & Recreation has ownership of the area north of the Belt Parkway, Belt Parkway right-of-way, 200 feet south of the Belt Parkway, the parking lot, and portions of the bicycle and pedestrian pathway. Ownership of all access ways will rest with the City of New York through their Department of Parks and Recreation. Ownership of any elevated dune walkover structures will rest with the National Park Service, who maintains ownership of the beach and shoreline.

Dune Walkover Structures: If the proposed tie-in measures for the final recommended plan as indicated in the HSGRR are constructed, the appropriate number of elevated dune walkover structures will be located at public access ways and oriented over the dune to protect and maintain the integrity and stability of the dune. The design of the elevated walkover structures will take into account the anticipated pedestrian traffic of the area.

Parking Accommodations:

Rockaway Beach

Vehicle parking is available in various parking areas and side streets off of Seagirt Boulevard, Edgemere Avenue, Rockaway Beach Boulevard, Beach Front Road and Shore Front Parkway from Beach 19th Street to Beach 116th Street, including but not limited to; Beach 19th, Crest Road, Beach 24th (east side), Beach 26th (east side), Beach 29th, Beach 32nd Street, Beach 40th, Beach 50th, Beach 56th Place, Beach 59th Street Playground, Beach 73rd, Beach 77th, Beach 81st, Beach 84th, Beach 90th, Beach 94th and 95th, Beach 102nd, Beach 105th, and Beach 108th Street. Parking is first-come, first-serve and some side streets and parking areas in this stretch are metered and/or have parking restrictions during certain days and times due to sanitation schedules, school days, etc. Parking is permitted along the north side of Shore Front Parkway only. Parking along Beach Front Road is restricted to the south side between Beach 62nd and Beach 60th Streets. There are no residency restrictions. The current hourly rate for metered parking is \$1.00 per hour from Monday through Saturday; Sundays are free. Free street parking is available at Beach 94th and 95th Street.

Public municipal parking is also available at the Rockaway Park Municipal Parking Field located at 248 Beach 116th Street (between Beach Channel Drive and Rockaway Beach Blvd, at Rockaway Park A Train Terminal). There are 148 parking spaces, (including 6 spaces for people with disabilities) and is open year round Monday to Saturday, 8 am to 10 pm. The parking field is a pay and display facility and accepts quarters, dollar coins, NYC Parking Cards and credit cards. Rates are 25 cents per 15 minutes, 4 hour limit (44 spaces, including 6 spaces for people with disabilities) and 25

cents per 15 minutes, \$8 max, 14 hour limit (104 spaces). The municipal parking area is within one-quarter mile of the street end at Beach 116th street and access to the boardwalk and the beach. This complies with the Department of the Army, Engineer Regulation (ER) 1165-2-130, paragraph 6h.2 and paragraph 6h.3. There are no residency restrictions.

There is limited public vehicle parking along Rockaway Beach Boulevard and the side streets from Beach 116th Street to Beach 149th Street. However, there are several public transportation (bus route) stops along this stretch that complies with the Department of the Army, Engineer Regulation (ER) 1165-2-130, paragraph 6h.2 and paragraph 6h.3. The public transportation access points are within one-half mile of each other (approximately every 2-3 streets) and within one-quarter mile of the street end and the elevated dune walkover structure or access to the boardwalk and the beach. The bus schedule (Route Q22) is available via www.mta.info. The local bus fare using a MetroCard® is currently \$2.75 for a local trip.

Coney Island Beach

Vehicle parking is available via many parking areas, such as the New York Aquarium or the MCU Park (formerly Keyspan Park) baseball stadium. Parking at the Aquarium is \$13 per day during the off season and \$24.95 per day from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The Aquarium lot is open from 9:45 am to 8:00 pm. Parking is also available at the Brooklyn Cyclone lot, adjacent to MCU Park. Parking in this lot is available from 8 am to 11 pm and is \$12 per day Monday through Friday, \$18 per day Saturday and Sunday, and \$25 per day during special events. There are no residency restrictions.

There is also metered street parking available along Surf Avenue and side streets off Surf Avenue between Ocean Parkway and West 37th Street. The current hourly rate for metered parking is \$1.00 per hour from Monday through Saturday. Meters are free on Sunday. There are no residency restrictions.

In addition, there are several public transportation (bus route) stops along Surf Avenue between Ocean Parkway and West 37th Street that complies with ER 1165-2-130, paragraph 6h.2 and paragraph 6h.3. The public transportation access points are within one-half mile of each other (approximately every 3-4 streets) and within one-quarter mile of the street end and access to the boardwalk. The bus schedule (Route B36) is available via www.mta.info. The local bus fare using a MetroCard® is currently \$2.75 for a local trip.

Brighton Beach

Vehicle parking is available via the Brighton Beach Municipal Parking Field adjacent to the Brighton Playground off of Brightwater Court. There are a total of 312 parking spaces, (including 8 spaces for people with disabilities) and is open year round Monday to Saturday, 8 am to midnight. The parking field is a pay and display facility and accepts quarters, dollar coins, NYC Parking Cards and credit cards. Rates are 25 cents per 10 minutes, 5 hour limit (123 spaces, including 8 spaces for people with disabilities).

A quarterly permit can also be purchased for \$330 per quarter (189 spaces). There are no residency restrictions.

There is also metered street parking available along Brightwater Court between Ocean Parkway and Corbin Place. The current hourly rate for metered parking is \$1.00 per hour from Monday through Saturday. Meters are free on Sunday.

In addition, there are several public transportation (bus route) stops along Brighton Beach Avenue between Ocean Parkway and Corbin Place that complies with ER 1165-2-130, paragraph 6h.2 and paragraph 6h.3. The public transportation access points are within one-half mile of each other (approximately every 2-3 streets) and within one-quarter mile of the street end and access to the boardwalk and the beach. The bus schedule (Route B1 or B68) is available via www.mta.info. The local bus fare using a MetroCard® is currently \$2.75 for a local trip.

Manhattan Beach

Vehicle parking is available via the Manhattan Beach Park parking area off of Oriental Boulevard. There are approximately 1300 parking spots available in this parking area. Parking fees are \$6.00 per vehicle Monday through Friday and \$20 per vehicle on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day weekend through the Sunday after Labor Day. Parking during the remainder of the year does not require a fee. No residency restrictions exist.

In addition, there are four (4) public transportation (bus route) stops along Oriental Boulevard between Ocean Avenue and Mackenzie Street in this one-half mile stretch that complies with ER 1165-2-130, paragraph 6h.2 and paragraph 6h.3. The public transportation access points are within one-half mile of each other and within one-quarter mile to Manhattan Beach Park and access to the beach. The bus schedule (Route B1 or B49) is available via www.mta.info. The local bus fare using a MetroCard® is currently \$2.75 for a local trip.

Plumb Beach

Vehicle parking is available via the Plumb Beach rest/parking area along the Belt Parkway (eastbound). There are approximately 92 parking spots in this parking area and has handicapped parking available. Parking in this lot and the comfort stations are available from 6 am to 9 pm seven (7) days a week and is open year-round. No residency restrictions or parking fees exist.