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SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY

FY 2023/2024 Funding Priorities



To establish its funding priorities, Santa Rosa Island Authority (SRIA) received and evaluated input from visitor's forums, public meetings, communications with commercial and residential leaseholders, staff observations, the Pensacola Beach Visitor's Information Center, and the Pensacola Beach Advocates.

All suggestions were evaluated with these questions in mind:

- Does it provide value for residents and/or tourists?
- Does it increase safety?
- Does it preserve natural resources?
- Does it contribute to economic vitality?

BASED ON THE ABOVE CRITERIA, THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS HAVE BEEN DIVIDED INTO TWO TIERS. THERE IS NO PARTICULAR RANKING WITHIN EACH TIER.



TIER 1

- Beach Renourishment
- Bike Path Reconstruction
- Boardwalk Improvements
- Dune Restoration
- Dune Walkover Construction/Replacement
- Landscaping Improvements
- Seawall Replacement
- Trolley Replacement



TIER 2

- Crosswalk Improvements
- Park Amenities
- Parking Improvements/Parking Garage
- Stormwater Improvements
- Toll Booth Renovations/Gateway Improvements
- Uniform Signage Plan



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Although SRIA's responsibility of funding infrastructure projects was significantly reduced through the 2015 Interlocal Agreement with the County, the SRIA has, at times and when funding was available, determined it to be in the best interest of the Island to advance projects that might otherwise not be addressed. Recent examples include: Morgan Park renovations, four new crosswalk installations on Via de Luna, trolley stop bench refurbishment, and dredging of Lafitte Cove. This approach has benefited commercial and residential leaseholders and the Island community as a whole. It is anticipated that this approach and/or a cost sharing approach with the County, the Tourism Development Council (TDC), or grant dollars will still be utilized for future projects in order to best leverage resources and expedite projects.

The SRIA board may add or subtract projects as deemed appropriate and/or may wish to revise this funding priorities platform.



ABOUT THE SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY

Pensacola Beach is owned by Escambia County, Fla., and is under the direction of the Santa Rosa Island Authority (SRIA). The SRIA was created by the Florida legislature in 1947 under Chapter 24500. The SRIA does not receive tax support from the taxpayers of the county. It is fully funded from lease fees collected from business and residences on the beach. The SRIA board is made up of six members; five are named by members of the Escambia County Board of Commissioners whose term is the same as the commissioner who appointed them. Registered voters on Pensacola Beach elect the sixth member. The elected member's term is two years.



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