



Bubba Peters
Chairman
Brigette Brooks
Vice Chairman
Jeremy Johnson
Secretary Treasurer
Charles D. Thornton
Acting Secretary Treasurer
Jerry Watson
Board Member
Liz Callahan
Board Member

SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA
FUNDING PRIORITIES WORKSHOP MINUTES
MAY 17, 2023

1. A funding priorities workshop was held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, beginning at 3:01pm. Those present were: Chair- Mr. Bubba Peters, Vice-Chair- Ms. Brigette Brooks, Secretary Treasurer- Mr. Jeremy Johnson (arrived at 3:20pm), Board Member- Mr. Charles D. Thornton, Board Member- Ms. Liz Callahan, Attorney- Ms. Mary Jane Bass, Executive Director- Ms. Leigh Davis, Director of Administration- Ms. Robbie Schrock, Director of Development Services- Mr. Juan C. Lemos, and Director of Finance- Ms. Vickie Johnson. Mr. Jerry Watson was absent from the workshop.

2. STAFF PRESENTATION

Ms. Leigh Davis introduced the workshop and explained that staff was seeking Board Direction on establishing a funding priorities platform for capital improvements. The goal is to assist not only in immediate budget preparations but also serve as guidance as funding opportunities arise from other agencies or through grant opportunities.

To facilitate Board discussion, two funding tiers were presented as a starting point. The two tiers were as follows.

Tier 1

Beach Nourishment
Bike Path Reconstruction
Boardwalk Improvements
Dune Restoration
Dune Walkover Construction/Replacement
Seawall Replacement
Trolley Replacement

Tier 2

Crosswalk Improvements
Landscaping Improvements
Park Amenities

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Parking Improvements/Parking Garage
Stormwater Improvements
Toll Booth Renovations/Gateway Improvements
Uniform Signage Plan

Ms. Davis indicated that the intent of the discussion was not to rank projects or to take any vote, but rather to determine consensus on what the Board views as the infrastructure needs for the island.

3. VISITOR'S FORUM

There were no speakers.

4. BOARD DISCUSSION

Ms. Brigitte Brooks stated she wanted to prioritize items that preserve natural resources. She also wanted to see the mobi mats removed and wooden walkovers rebuilt.

Mr. Charles D. Thornton stated he wanted to prioritize beach nourishment, natural resources and stormwater improvements. He also wanted to look at a parking garage, but not anytime soon.

Ms. Liz Callahan stated she wanted to prioritize beach nourishment and dune restoration. She also wanted to see the replacement of the bike path.

Mr. Bubba Peters stated he wanted to prioritize beach nourishment, dune restoration and rebuilding dune walkovers. He also wanted to look into removing or redesigning the toll booth and landscaping at the entrance of the island. It is an eyesore, and the first thing people see when arriving on Pensacola Beach.

Ms. Leigh Davis advised the Board that more money may be necessary for beach nourishment as Perdido Key may be receiving some of the \$500,000 TDT dollars that have been set aside.

Mr. Jeremy Johnson stated he wanted to prioritize beach nourishment, wooden dune walkovers and landscaping.

Ms. Leigh Davis stated her understanding and takeaways from the Board discussion. The Board wants to see the items in tier 1 which are beach nourishment, bike path reconstruction, boardwalk improvements, dune restoration, dune walkover construction/replacement, seawall replacement and trolley replacement. Also adding from tier 2, landscaping improvements.

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Additionally, during the budget process, the Board would like to see options on what to include in the Capital Improvement Program.

Mr. Bubba Peters stated the purpose of the workshop was to discuss what to do with the accumulated resources the SRIA had gained over the past couple years. The need is to find somewhere the funds can go to enhance the experience and preserve the island, which is what they have been tasked to do.

5. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Mr. Bubba Peters declared the Funding Workshop of the SRIA Board adjourned at 3:45pm.



Leigh Davis
Executive Director

LD:kg

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