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**Agenda Item: Discuss and Consider Approval of the Park Board’s Submissions to the Coastal Erosion Planning & Response Act (CEPRA) Cycle 12 Grant Program (Sheryl Rozier, 15 minutes)**

**Background:** The purpose of the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CEPRA) program is to implement coastal erosion response projects and preferred erosion response solutions, demonstration projects, and related studies to reduce the effects of and understand the processes associated with coastal erosion as it continues to threaten public beaches, coastal natural resource areas, coastal development, public infrastructure, and public and private property. Under CEPRA, the General Land Office (GLO) expends funds to support these projects. The GLO implements projects and studies through collaboration and cost sharing partnerships with federal, state, and local governments, non-profit organizations, other entities and individuals.

CEPRA funding can be used for many different projects. Beach nourishment typically has a 25% local match, while all the other categories have a 40% local match. Funding categories are as follows:

- beach nourishment and associated enhancements on both Gulf-facing and bay shorelines
- shoreline stabilization
- habitat restoration and protection
- dune restoration
- beneficial uses of dredged material for beach nourishment or habitat restoration
- coastal erosion related studies and investigations
- demonstration projects
- relocation of structures from the public beach
- storm damage mitigation, post-storm damage assessments, and debris removal
- acquisition of real property necessary to facilitate the construction, repair,
- maintenance, or expansion of an erosion response project

CEPRA funds, if appropriated, are on a two-year cycle that coincides with the Texas Legislative biennium. The upcoming cycle is Cycle 12, matching the state FY 2022 – 2023 biennium beginning September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023. Applications are due June 1st.

The Park Board has plans to submit three grant requests for Cycle 12. The first would be for engineering work to supplement the 8 Mile Road Beach Project. This request would be a phased request to fund one mile segmented additions to the existing CEPRA Cycle 11 award. The existing Cycle 11 award funds the engineering from the western terminus of Dellanera RV Park to 8 Mile Road. The second CEPRA request would be for the matching funds for the FEMA Harvey repair project at Babe’s Beach. The third CEPRA request would be for the renewal of the two U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Beach Nourishment and Dune Restoration Permits which will expire in December 2024. While the expiration of these permits is several years away, we must begin the process of renewal before the start of the CEPRA Cycle 13.

These applications were presented at the May 21, 2021 BMAC meeting. Due to paperwork timing, an update on the outcome from BMAC will be given at the Trustees meeting.

At a special called Industrial Development Corporation meeting on May 13, 2021 a request was made that the Park Board submit a Cycle 12 application for the engineering & design for the 8 to 13 Mile Road project. This was unanimously supported.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the execution of the attached resolution, submitting the three applications and budgeting the necessary funds in the FY 21-22 budget cycle for the local match requirements.

**Funding Source (if applicable):**

FEMA/CEPRA/IDC -- Hurricane Harvey FEMA Repairs at Babe's Beach in Galveston- Setting a Precedent While Protecting Access and Public Investment

CEPRA/IDC -- Engineering & Design to Sustain an Eroding Beach on West Galveston Island through the Extension of the 8-Mile Road Project

CEPRA/Nourished Beach/Possible IDC -- Preserving and Enhancing Galveston's Beachfront Through Amendment and Updating of the Park Board's Federal Beach and Dune Restoration Permits

Funds will be held in the Nourished Beach budget.

**Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston Cycle 12  
2021 CEPRA Coastal Natural Resource Funding Grant Applications**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Potential Partners</b>	<b>FEMA Repair Total Estimate</b>	<b>Cost Share Breakdown</b>	<b>Total Project</b>
<b>CEPRA; Coastal Natural Resource Funding</b>	<b>Hurricane Harvey FEMA Repairs at Babe’s Beach in Galveston- Setting a Precedent While Protecting Access and Public Investment</b>	FEMA (90% of Total)	\$2,961,909.22	\$2,665,718.30	<b>\$2,961,909.22</b>
		Texas GLO CEPRA (10% of Total)		\$296,190.92	
<b>Summary</b>	The Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston (Park Board), in coordination with the GLO, the City of Galveston IDC and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had previously completed a beneficial use of dredged material (BUDM) project to nourish the beach frontage west of 61 <sup>st</sup> street that created the Babe’s Beach area. Following construction, this approximate 15 city block beach area was among the City’s most popular beachfronts when it was impacted by Hurricane Harvey in 2017 causing almost \$3,000,000.00 in damage to the newly created beach area. This repair project is significant because FEMA recognized the importance of Babe’s Beach and specifically the methodology of its creation. FEMA is hesitant to authorize storm related repair projects for BUDM projects. Implementation of this BUDM beach nourishment repair project sets a precedent for its future repairs, serves to protect the original financial contribution of the Park Board, helps to maintain access and recreational opportunities to this portion of the Island City’s beaches. There is no local match anticipated for this project as it is a Hurricane Harvey FEMA repair and the GLO is funding the required 10% local match.				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Potential Partners</b>	<b>Amount (If 60%/40%)</b>	<b>Amount (If 75%/25%)</b>	<b>Total Project</b>
<b>CEPRA; Coastal Natural Resource Funding</b>	<b>Engineering &amp; Design to Sustain an Eroding Beach on West Galveston Island through the Extension of the 8 Mile Road Project</b>	Galveston Local	\$200,000.00	\$125,000.00	<b>\$500,000.00</b>
		Texas GLO (CEPRA)	\$300,000.00	\$375,000.00	
<b>Summary</b>	The Park Board received an engineering and design project grant award in Cycle 11 supporting a future beach nourishment construction project for the 8-Mile Road area on west Galveston Island as identified in the Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan (#R1-22). It is anticipated the Cycle 11 award would provide shoreline stabilization and with a feeder beach created to passively nourish the shoreline from the western edge of Dellanera RV Park and extending to the 8 Mile Road area through natural transport. This proposed Cycle 12 project is seeking to build upon the Cycle 11 award and extend the engineering and design footprint ~4.83 miles west from 8-Mile Road to the eastern boundary of the Galveston Island State Park. This extension is a prudent action due to the record setting 2020 hurricane season and the number of beachfront subdivisions that will benefit from this project. Vitally important, and resilient beach nourishment projects cannot occur without first having been formulated using the most recent information based on the best available science. This Cycle 12 application makes future beach nourishment projects possible. Additionally, updating the engineering and design documents for this reach of beachfront that upon completion instantly makes these beach nourishment projects shovel ready.				

**Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston Cycle 12  
2021 CEPRA Coastal Natural Resource Funding Grant Applications**

Program	Project Title	Potential Partners	Total Estimate of Project Cost	Cost Share Breakdown	Total Project
CEPRA; Coastal Natural Resource Funding	Preserving and Enhancing Galveston’s Beachfront Through Amendment and Updating of The Park Board’s Federal Beach and Dune Restoration Permits	GLO (60% of Total)	\$300,000.00	\$180,000.00	<b>\$300,000.00</b>
		Park Board / Galveston IDC (Share 40% of Total 50/50)		\$120,000.00 50% IDC- \$60,000.00 50% PB- \$60,000.00	
<b>Summary</b>	The Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston (Park Board) owns two (2) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permits (USACE); one permit (#SWG-2000-02888) authorizes activities along the seawall and the second permit (#SWG-2007-01025) authorizes activities from the western terminus of the Galveston seawall to the western tip of Galveston Island at San Luis Pass excluding the City of Jamaica Beach and the Galveston Island State Park. Both permits have been utilized by the General land Office, the Park Board and the City of Galveston to successfully implement nationally recognized beach and dune restoration projects. This proposed project is seeking to amend and extend the lifespan of both permits for an additional five (5) year period beyond the mutual expiration date of December 31, 2024. Without these two permits in place beach and dune restoration activities along the seawall and westward to the western end of the island are not possible. This request may see untimely, but with the amendment process for individual USACE permits a minimum of 18-24 months there simply isn’t time to amend both permits following the Cycle 13 application period.				

<u>Project</u>	<u>Project Total</u>	<u>Local Match (PB/IDC)</u>	<u>Match (GLO)</u>
Hurricane Harvey FEMA Repairs	\$2,961,909.22	\$ 0 40% Or 25%	\$296,190.92 60% Or 75%
Extension 8-Mile Road Eng/Design to 13-Mile Road	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 200,000.00 / \$125,000.00	\$300,000.00 / \$375,000.00
Amendment and Renewal of Two USACE Permits	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 120,000.00 (40% of Total)	\$ 180,000.00 (60% of total)
<b>Combined Totals</b>	<b>\$3,761,909.22</b>	<b>\$320,000.00 / \$245,000.00</b>	<b>\$776,190.92 / 851,190.92</b>

