



Agenda Item: Update On The Washed Ashore Island Wide Art Exhibition

Background: In January 2021, the Park Board reached out to The Washed Ashore Project, a non-profit traveling art exhibit made entirely of marine debris collected from beaches, with the intent of bringing a handful of their sculptures to the island as part of our Trash Education Initiatives. The initial conversation led to greater opportunities for collaboration among the institutions. In July 2022, the Board of Trustees approved the first phase of several proposed for Galveston Island.

The exhibit was officially launched on Saturday, December 10th and will run through Friday, March 3rd.

Visit Galveston has also gamified the experience, making the Washed Ashore experience at Galveston an island-wide scavenger hunt. You can search for the art pieces and find unique items within each sculpture. You can also participate in the #WashedAshoreGTX Social Media Sweepstakes and the Washed Ashore Challenge to win special prizes. Washed Ashore Sculpture Locations:

- Artist Boat Heritage Preserve – Sylvia the Silvertip Reef Shark
- Bryan Museum – Stanley the Sturgeon
- Dellanera RV Park – Seamore the Seahorse and Flip Flop Fish
- Galveston Art Center – Jelly Blooms
- Galveston Children’s Museum – Pinky the Fish Wall Art
- Galveston Visitor Information Center – Annie the Anemone
- Hotel Galvez – Gum Drop Jelly
- Moody Gardens – Aquarium – Greta the Great White
- Moody Gardens – Visitor Center – Giacometti the River Otter
- Pier 21 – Rosa the Bald Eagle
- Pleasure Pier – Edward the Leatherback Sea Turtle
- Railroad Museum – Brody the Adelie Penguin
- Rainforest Café – Flash the Marlin
- Rosenberg Library – Sea of Debris
- Royal Caribbean Cruise Terminal – Priscilla the Parrot Fish
- Sangerfest Park – Octavia the Octopus
- Seawolf Park – Grace the Whale Tale
- The Grand 1894 Opera House – Noah & Sunny Fish Wall Art
- The Tremont House – Finn the Mako Shark

In the first three weeks, there were over 10,000 check-ins through the app and over 12,000 page views. On our website, page views exceeded 7 minutes, with averages being below 2 minutes for other content. Feedback from our residents, partners and visitors has been overwhelmingly positive. A full up-to-date overview of the numbers will be provided as part of this presentation.

Staff Recommendation: update only

Funding Source (if applicable): update only