



Agenda Item: Discuss and Consider Approval of the 2023 Federal Legislative Agenda

Background: At the January 24, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting Greg Burns presented an update on the 2022 federal legislative activities and gave an overview of the proposed 2023 Legislative agenda items.

The proposed agenda is being presented for approval and includes the following items:

Federal Engagement in Beach Management

- Continued regular placement of Beneficial Use of Dredged Material (BUDM) along Galveston’s beaches.
- Funding for the Coastal Texas project in the fiscal year 2024 appropriations.
- Adequate funding for the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) in support of the City of Galveston.
- Support a change in the FEMA reimbursement policy for beneficial use beach nourishment projects.

Coastal Restoration

- Monitoring federal implementation of the RESTORE act and other projects and programs that will benefit Galveston.
- Increased funding to states and political subdivisions via adjustments to the GOMESA.
- Support the RISEE act for implementation of a revenue cost share for funds created by offshore wind energy and raising cap for how much states and localities can collect from oil and gas production.
- Continued support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund for opportunities for acquisition or land preservation improvement opportunities.

Tourism Promotion

- Creation of National Recreation Areas or Emancipation Historic Trails in and around Galveston.

General Issues

- Improvement of the National Flood Insurance Program.
- Monitoring FEMA’s implementation of the Risk Rating 2.0 program.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the approval of the legislative agenda as presented.