

WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Board of County Commissioners

William Chapman, District 1, *Chair*

Kenneth Pridgen, District 2

Bill Imfeld, District 3

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County Administrator
Larry Jones

Assistant Administrator
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September 18, 2014

Donald Forgione
Director, Division of Recreation and Parks
3900 Commonwealth Blvd. MS 500
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Director Forgione:

The Walton County Board of County Commissioners (WCBCC) would like to work with you and your staff to assess a couple of alternatives for increasing the public's access to our local beaches. The two routes we would like to discuss with you are the route previously reviewed by your team as the preferred route of the alternatives previously provided and another route along the park's eastern boundary fire break. Your team historically has been more than helpful in outlining responsible avenues for us to protect our beautiful natural resources and simultaneously provide public access. We in Walton County appreciate these efforts to help all of us achieve and maintain this delicate balance and would like to expand on our previous collaboration.

WCBCC understands this request is a formality required by your department and does not represent approval of any additional access. It is our understanding that the process for approval of any additional access on state lands includes but is not limited to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) making a recommendation to the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) and the ARC making the final decision. We further understand that the DEP and your department will have public hearing(s) on this proposal in addition to the ones Walton County will hold.

WCBCC understands and acknowledges that should any additional beach access on state land eventually be approved that the county will bear full responsibility for all construction and maintenance costs of the access. We further acknowledge that all permitting, design and construction must be approved by your organization.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you and the Division of Recreation and Parks team on this matter. Please let me know if you require any additional information for us to proceed with a partnership in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

William Chapman, Chairman
Walton County Board of Commissioners