

FRIPP INLET REVETMENT REPAIRS

McSweeney Engineers continues to work on the design and plans for revetment repairs that consist of adding armor stone to bring the crest elevation back to its average pre-storm elevation of 8'. There has been some confusion as to what this means for Porpoise Drive and the surrounding area in the case of a very high spring tide. The 8' elevation is measured using North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88), which is the current accepted fixed reference point for measuring elevations. Tides are typically measured from a point known as Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW), which is approximately 3.6 feet **lower** than NAVD88. The PSD, as part of the information provided to the engineers working on the revetment project, completed a survey of the road shoulder and crest along Porpoise Drive. The data from this survey indicates that the northern section of Porpoise Drive from High Dunes to the curve has an average road crest elevation of 5' above NAVD88. Since NAVD88 is approximately 3.6 feet above MLLW, this means that an 8 foot tide would not reach the road, but a 9 foot tide would cause some coastal flooding of the roadway. Repairs to bring the revetment crest back to an elevation of 8' would mean that the crest of the revetment would be approximately 11.6 feet above the point used to measure tides. As a result, the revetment would continue to protect the road and the PSD infrastructure by breaking the wave action and preventing erosion.

The Commission held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2017, and discussed the increase in the projected cost and the timing of the project. The Commission agreed to explore other options that would allow the work to be completed in a more timely fashion and could save the Fripp Island taxpayers some money. Very preliminary estimates of the cost of the project range from \$4,200,000 to \$6,000,000 and could be much higher if it is necessary to use an ocean-going barge for placement of the armor stone blanket, which covers the section of the revetment between the toe and the built-up crest. The District is exploring various options for financing the project and has begun the process of borrowing funds. Thank you for your continued patience as we work toward the permanent repair of the revetment that protects our infrastructure.

During the meeting on February 9th, discussion of the subject of transparency resulted in a renewed desire to ensure that property owners are fully aware of the actions taken by the Commission and the progress on the revetment repair project. As part of its effort to keep the community aware of the Commission's actions, the District is taking the following measures:

- Compile and maintain a database of contact emails, which will be used in the implementation of a mass email notification system, similar to the FIPOA's e-blast system.
- Until the PSD's mass email system is in place, the District will request that the POA assist in reminding property owners of regular and special Commission meetings using their e-blast system.
- Updates regarding District projects and activities will continue to be posted to the News page of the District's website. The District will ask the POA to send notifications of these updates using their e-blast system until the PSD's mass email system is functional.
- The District's annual audited financial statements will be published on the News page of the District website, beginning with the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2016.
- Beginning with the December 2016 Meeting Minutes, the posting of the Meeting Minutes to the District's website will include all attachments to the minutes. A full year of Meeting Minutes will be posted to the website, and Minutes that do not appear on the website are always available for review in the District office.

Please feel free to contact our office at (843) 838-2400 Monday – Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with any questions or concerns.

February 13, 2017