

MIAMIBEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC# 502-2021

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Honorable Mayor Dan Gelber and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Alina T. Hudak, City Manager

DATE: November 23, 2021

SUBJECT: Miami-Dade County Coastal Storm Risk Management Study

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has released the publication of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for the Miami-Dade County, Florida, Coastal Storm Risk Management Study. The four-year, \$3 million federally-funded study considers the feasibility of implementing engineering alternatives to manage coastal storm risks along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline in Miami-Dade County, Florida over a 50-year period. Federal participation in the existing federal beach nourishment project, initially constructed between 1975 and 1982, will expire in 2025.

Miami-Dade County is the local sponsor for this project and serves as the liaison between the City and the USACE. The study addresses beaches in Miami Beach, Bal Harbor, Surfside, and Key Biscayne. The new study assesses the feasibility of extending the project to 2075, providing periodic nourishment in selected areas of Miami Beach roughly every 4 years.

The study's tentatively selected plan (**Figure 1**) proposes periodic beach nourishment in certain locations of Miami Beach between approximately 38th and 81st Street. The segments of beach between South Pointe to 38th Street and 81st Street to 87th Terrace are not selected to receive any beach renourishment projects as part of this study; South Pointe to 20th Street is considered an "accretional" area which accumulates sand to create a wider beach. Proposed sand for beach nourishments in Miami Beach would come from accretional beach and nearshore areas in South Beach and offshore sand sources. Upland sand mine sources may be utilized as needed.

On November 17, 2021, the USACE hosted two public meetings to present details of the study. The recording of these meetings will be available on the City's website. The City is carefully reviewing and compiling feedback for the USACE regarding concerns related to the omission of certain segments of the Miami Beach coastline, among others. The City will be providing comments during the public comment period. Public comments are being accepted through December 12, 2021, and may be submitted via email to Kristen.I.donofrio@usace.army.mil, or by U.S. Postal Service to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District
ATTN: Kristen Donofrio
701 San Marco Boulevard
Jacksonville, Florida 32207-8175

The City can be copied on public comments via email at sustainability@miamibeachfl.gov.

Next Steps (Figure 2):

- The USACE will receive public comments until December 12, 2021.
- The USACE decision to determine whether it will proceed to a finalized plan is anticipated in February 2022.
- Final Report and State of Florida review is anticipated in August 2022.
- USACE Chief of Engineer's Report is anticipated in October 2022.
- Project Engineering and Design is anticipated to occur between 2024 and 2026.

The City will utilize communication channels to build awareness with potentially affected property owners and to encourage support of renourishment within all areas of the study. Please visit the project website for more information: <https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/miamidadeCSRM/>

A copy of the draft report can be found here, under "Dade":

<https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/About/DivisionsOffices/Planning/Environmental-Branch/Environmental-Documents/>

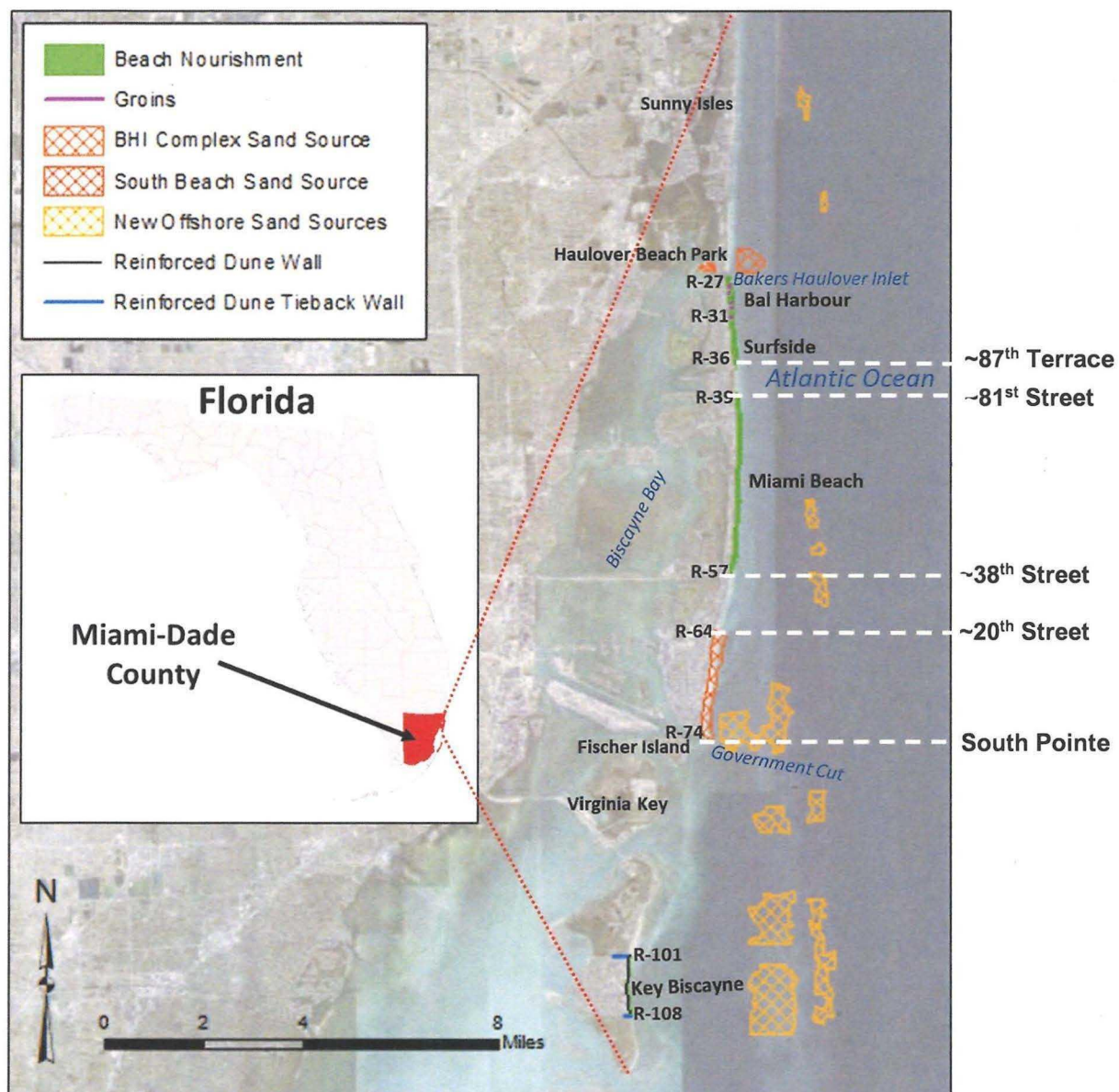


Figure 1: Tentatively Selected Plan Overview



STUDY TIMELINE & NEXT STEPS



ESTIMATED STUDY SCHEDULE



* Contingent on authorization and appropriations

How Can You Help?

- EMAIL your official comments on the draft integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment by **December 12, 2021**, to: kristen.l.donofrio@usace.army.mil
- Review the Draft Report document at the USACE, Jacksonville District website. On this page, click on the "+" next to "Dade." Scroll down to row 36 (the project name):
<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/About/DivisionsOffices/Planning/Environmental-Branch/Environmental-Documents/>
- Provide any questions in the Chat Box for informal response today.
- Refer to the project website for additional information and updates:
<https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/MiamiDadeCSRM/>

Figure 2: Study Timeline and Next Steps (as presented during November 17th public meeting)

Attachment A – Draft Integrated Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment for the Miami-Dade County Coastal Storm Risk Management Study

ATH/LS/AK/LP/MR