

# NORTH BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Priorities for Improvement on North Beach - 2024

- 1. Drainage Improvements** – NBCA supports the North Beach Drainage Improvement Project approved by City Council in Nov 2022, which calls for digging a central linear parkway canal on the north half of North Beach and elevating streets and properties to allow stormwater to drain into the canal. Sidewalks and landscaping will create a park component along the sides of the canal, which will drain into the wetlands at the north end. At-grade road bridges crossing the canal at Gulf Spray Ave and Beach Ave will ensure a continuous route for kayaking in the canal. NBCA asks that the city continue to engage with our organization throughout the project to mitigate impacts that the drainage project may have on North Beach property owners.
- 2. Community TIRZ Member** – NBCA asks that the city include an NBCA Board member who is both a North Beach property owner and resident to serve on the TIRZ #4 Committee. The TIRZ Board would benefit from the insight of an elected representative of our community. NBCA's membership includes all five North Beach HOAs, North Beach business owners, North Beach property owners and residents.
- 3. North Beach Eco Park** – Following the success of the Bond 2020 Surfside Park project, in which the city has remained engaged with our organization and with adjacent property owners, NBCA requests that the city similarly allow us to provide input for the North Beach Eco Park Bond 2022 improvements being planned. NBCA has formed an Eco Park Committee to gather input from stakeholders and provide suggestions based on that input. Beyond the initial design phase, we encourage the city to identify funding for construction of the park to ensure that this underutilized natural area becomes a valuable public educational and recreational amenity that provides important habitat to birds and creates a new venue where members of the public can come to recreate and learn.
- 4. North Beach History Plaza** – NBCA congratulates the city for installing 16 outdoor educational panels and benches in the new History Plaza. As Phase 2, we recommend adding a Breakwater Walk archway and an Entryway Sign to help attract visitors to the plaza and create a sense of place.
- 5. Reduce Beach Erosion** – NBCA thanks the city for protecting our beach through repetitive beach nourishment projects. To reduce the need for these costly nourishments, NBCA supports construction of the proposed offshore breakwaters to lessen beach erosion, to create habitat for wildlife, and to make the bay safer for swimmers, boaters and recreational watercraft. Breakwaters would both protect shoreline properties and enhance tourism, which is the main economic driver for North Beach.
- 6. North Beach Fire Station** - As North Beach continues to grow and develop and the new Harbor Bridge increases emergency response times, NBCA encourages the city to dedicate a police officer to North Beach to ensure public safety. In the future, building a police/fire substation on North Beach could shorten response times for first responders and provide volunteer opportunities for residents.