

Heather Finnell

From: Grier [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2026 9:24 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Cc: alan@alanholdenrealty.com; Commisioner Dyer; tmyers56@gmail.com; Sylvia Pate; Keith Smith
Subject: Beach Trash Can Removal

****Please add my letter to the public comments and minutes for the meeting on 5/21/26.****

As a homeowner on the island for over 14 years, I am well aware that trash on our beach is often an issue. Keeping our beach strand clean and safe for all to enjoy is a key need for the health of our community and the greater ocean. I am very concerned the new strategy to remove trash cans from the beach strand will result in additional trash issues across the island. As the town manager notes, trash cans at public accesses were moved to the street side for "better management". However, it was not noted at the last meeting that trash cans at ALL beach side accesses were completely removed and many were NOT moved to the street side and are now just gone. In total, if one counts all neighborhood accesses, deeded beach accesses about 27 trash cans were completely removed. All the private access points that used to have trash cans have NONE at all for depositing trash.

This is greatly concerning as people on the beach will often pick up trash and debris while on a walk; depositing found fishing lines, hooks, glass, rusty cans, dog poop and even dead animals that wash up on shore. With no close by trash can to deposit these items when found, they will just leave them on the beach. People are already leaving trash in piles where there used to be the trash cans.

While there may be some logic, for trying to have street side trash cans at the public accesses on busy days in order to "keep an eye on them". We still greatly need beach side trash cans throughout the strand that can be gathered on trash day as was previously done for all the beach accesses across the island. We need our trash cans back! Renters, full time residents and day trippers all have a right to a healthy, safe, and clean beach.

Please revisit the removal of almost half the trash cans and return the other beach accesses trash cans. This is a health and safety issue!

Thank you,
Grier Hock
1222 OBW