

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: November 17, 2020

☒ Consent
☐ Ordinance

☐ Regular
☐ Public Hearing

Department: Parks and Recreation

Submitted By: Parks and Recreation Department

Submitted For: Parks and Recreation Department

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to:

A) ratify the signature of the Mayor on a Florida Coastal Partnership Initiative (FCPI) grant application submitted to the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), requesting \$25,000 for the Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project;

B) authorize the County Administrator or designee to execute the Grant Agreement and all future time extensions, task assignments, certifications, standard forms, or amendments to the Agreement that do not change the terms and conditions of the Agreement if the grant is approved; and

C) authorize the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department to serve as Liaison Agent with FDEP for this project.

Summary: This grant application requests \$25,000 in FCPI funding for the Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project. Grant project elements include the purchase and installation of an approximately 145 foot long roll-out accessibility mat and the purchase of five floating wheelchairs. These improvements will provide beach and water access to park patrons with mobility issues. The grant request is for \$25,000 and requires a \$25,000 (1:1) match which will be funded from the Park Improvement Fund. If the grant is awarded, project construction is required to be completed between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. District 7 (AH)

Background and Justification: Phil Foster Memorial Park is a 14.65 acre park located on the Intracoastal Waterway in northern Palm Beach County. Recreational amenities include boat trailer parking, four boat ramps, a non-motorized boat launch, day use docks, picnic facilities, playground, underwater snorkeling trail, fishing pier, restrooms, showers and almost 1,000 linear feet of guarded beach.

The park is located near the Palm Beach Inlet and is internationally recognized for its outstanding snorkeling. There is an 800-foot-long man-made reef located just off shore in 6 to 10 feet of water. The reef was constructed with 600 tons of rock and six man-made concrete reef modules, creating an ideal habitat for marine life including octopus, sea horses, eagle rays and other sea creatures. This reef provides opportunities for park patrons who are not strong swimmers to view marine life in the presence of lifeguards.

FCPI provides federal funds from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) available to local governments for the protection and effective management of Florida's coastal resources. FCPI grants are administered by FDEP, and the State's deadline for submitting this application did not allow for prior approval by the Board. In order to meet the grant application deadline, Mayor Kerner signed the application on behalf of the Board as authorized by the Palm Beach County Administrative Code, Section 309.00. This Code requires that the grant be presented to the Board for ratification at the next available Board meeting after signature by the Mayor.

Attachment: Grant Application

Recommended by:


Department Director

10-19-20
Date

Approved by:


Assistant County Administrator

10/5/2020
Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:


Fiscal Years	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Is Item Included in Current Budget:	Yes		_____	No	<u>X</u>
Does this item include use of federal funds?	Yes		_____	No	<u>X</u>

Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____
Object _____ Program _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:


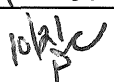
* There is no fiscal impact at this time. Should the grant be awarded, a budget amendment will be brought before the Board for approval and the respective funding sources may be as follows:


Florida Coastal Partnership Initiative Grant	3600-582-TBD	\$25,000
Aquatics Repair & Renovation	3600-581-P869	<u>\$25,000</u>
Total Grant Project Cost		\$50,000

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: 

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

 10/22/2020
OFMB  BR 10/22 LM 10/22

 10/27/2020
Contract Development and Control
10-23-20 TW

B. Legal Sufficiency:

Anne Delmont 11-5-2020
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:7

Department Director

REVISED 10/95
ADM FORM 01


This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment


INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM
PALM BEACH COUNTY

DATE: September 25, 2020

TO: David Kerner, Mayor
Board of County Commissioners

THRU: Verdenia C. Baker, County Administration
Board of County Commissioners

THRU: 
Dorritt M. Miller, Assistant County Administrator
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Eric Call, Director 
Parks and Recreation Department

RE: **Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project - Coastal Partnership Initiative Grant**

Pursuant to Section 309 of the Administrative Code, your signature is needed on the FY 2021 Coastal Partnership Initiative (CPI) grant application to be submitted to the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project.

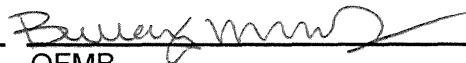
This grant application requests CPI funding for the Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project. Grant project elements include the purchase and installation of a roll-out accessibility mat and the purchase of five floating wheelchairs. These improvements will provide beach and water access to park patrons with mobility issues. The grant request is for \$25,000 and requires a \$25,000 (1:1) match which will be funded from the Department's budget.

CPI provides federal funds from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) available to local governments for the protection and effective management of Florida's coastal resources. CPI grants are administered by FDEP, and the State's deadline for submitting this application did not allow for prior approval by the Board. In order to meet the grant application deadline, the emergency signature process is being utilized as there is not sufficient time to submit the application through the regular BCC agenda process. Staff will submit this item, ratifying the Mayor's signature, at the next available BCC meeting.

Please contact Jean Matthews, Senior Planner at (561) 966-6652 for additional information.

Approved:


Eric Call, Director Parks & Recreation


OFMB


County Administration


Anne Helfant, Assistant County Attorney

Attachments:

FY 2021 Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project Coastal Partnership Initiative Grant

**COASTAL PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE
PROVIDING ACCESS TO COSTAL RESOURCES
AT PHIL FOSTER PARK**



SEPTEMBER 2020



National Gold Medal Award Winner

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
PHIL FOSTER PARK
ADA ACCESSIBILITY
PROJECT**

COASTAL PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE
<https://floridadep.gov/rcp/fcmp/content/grants>

GRANT APPLICATION

Refer to Rule Chapter 62S-4, Florida Administrative Code, available at <https://floridadep.gov/rcp/fcmp/content/grants> for information on funding requirements and evaluation criteria.

Eligible applicants for the Coastal Partnership Initiative are local governments of the 35 coastal counties and all municipalities within their boundaries required to include a coastal element in the local comprehensive plan. Florida colleges, community colleges, state universities, regional planning councils, national estuary programs and non-profit groups may also apply, as long as an eligible local government agrees to participate as a partner.

Submittal Requirements

1. One application per applicant may be submitted per grant cycle (i.e., one application per county, city, or other eligible applicant.)
2. Applicants may request:
 - a) no more than \$30,000 and no less than \$10,000 for planning, design and coordination activities; and
 - b) no more than \$60,000 and no less than \$10,000 for construction projects, habitat restoration, invasive exotic plant removal, and land acquisition. These projects cannot involve planning/coordination tasks or components.
3. Non-profit groups are not eligible to receive funds for construction projects, invasive exotic plant removal, habitat restoration, or land acquisition. Applications submitted by non-profit groups that propose these activities (as listed in 62S-4.004(2)(c)) will be disqualified.
4. Funding is available only for project work initiated and completed during a 12-month period beginning July 1 and ending June 30.
5. One original signed application, electronic or paper must be submitted.
6. All applications must be submitted on the CPI Application Form.
7. Applications must be submitted via email to FCMPMail@FloridaDEP.gov or mailed to the address below by 4:00 p.m. on the date identified in the notice of availability of funds to:

Department of Environmental Protection
Florida Coastal Management Program, MS 235
ATTN: CPI Applications
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Faxed or late applications will not be considered and will be disqualified.

A. TITLE PAGE

Project Title: Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project
CPI Initiative Priority Area(s): Public Access to Coastal Resources
Applicant Name and Name of Partner Entity (if applicable):
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Official Contact Name: Eric Call
Title: Director, Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation
Phone: 561-966-6652
Email Address: jmatthew@pbcgov.org
Postal Address: 2700 6th Avenue South, Lake Worth, FL33461

Applicant DUNS/UEI Number: 078470481
Applicant FEIN: 59-6000785

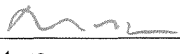
Link to coastal element:
<https://discover.pbcgov.org/pzb/planning/PDF/ComprehensivePlan/CoastalManagement.pdf>

Proposed Project Manager Name: Jean Matthews Email: jmatthew@pbcgov.org

Certification Statement

“By signing this title page, the undersigned certifies that:

- a. This application is in all respects fair and submitted in good faith without collusion or fraud;
- b. If selected through this application process, the recipient will work in good faith and in partnership with the Florida Coastal Management Program to manage its subgrant in a timely and accurate manner;
- c. Any funds awarded as a result of this application process will not be used to supplant or replace any state or local funds;
- d. Any funds awarded as a result of this application process will not be used as matching funds to apply for or receive other federal funds;
- e. No federal funds will be used as match for funds awarded as a result of this application process;
- f. The applicant local government’s adopted comprehensive plan has been found to be in compliance with Chapter 163, Part II, F.S.;
- g. **[If construction is proposed] The applicant submitted a completed NOAA 306A questionnaire, supplied the required attachments, conducted preliminary consultation with appropriate federal, state, regional and local regulatory agencies and has permits and approvals regarding any construction proposed in the application and has documented the results of the consultation in the Project Description section of the Work Plan;**
- h. **[If construction projects, habitat restoration or invasive species removal are proposed] The property on which these activities will take place is owned or leased by the applicant or the applicant holds a sufficient easement; detailed means methods and best management practices to be used for the project and;**
- i. The undersigned has full authority to bind the applicant.”



Signature

Mayor David Kerner
Palm Beach County Board
of County Commissioners

09/24/20

Date

AND

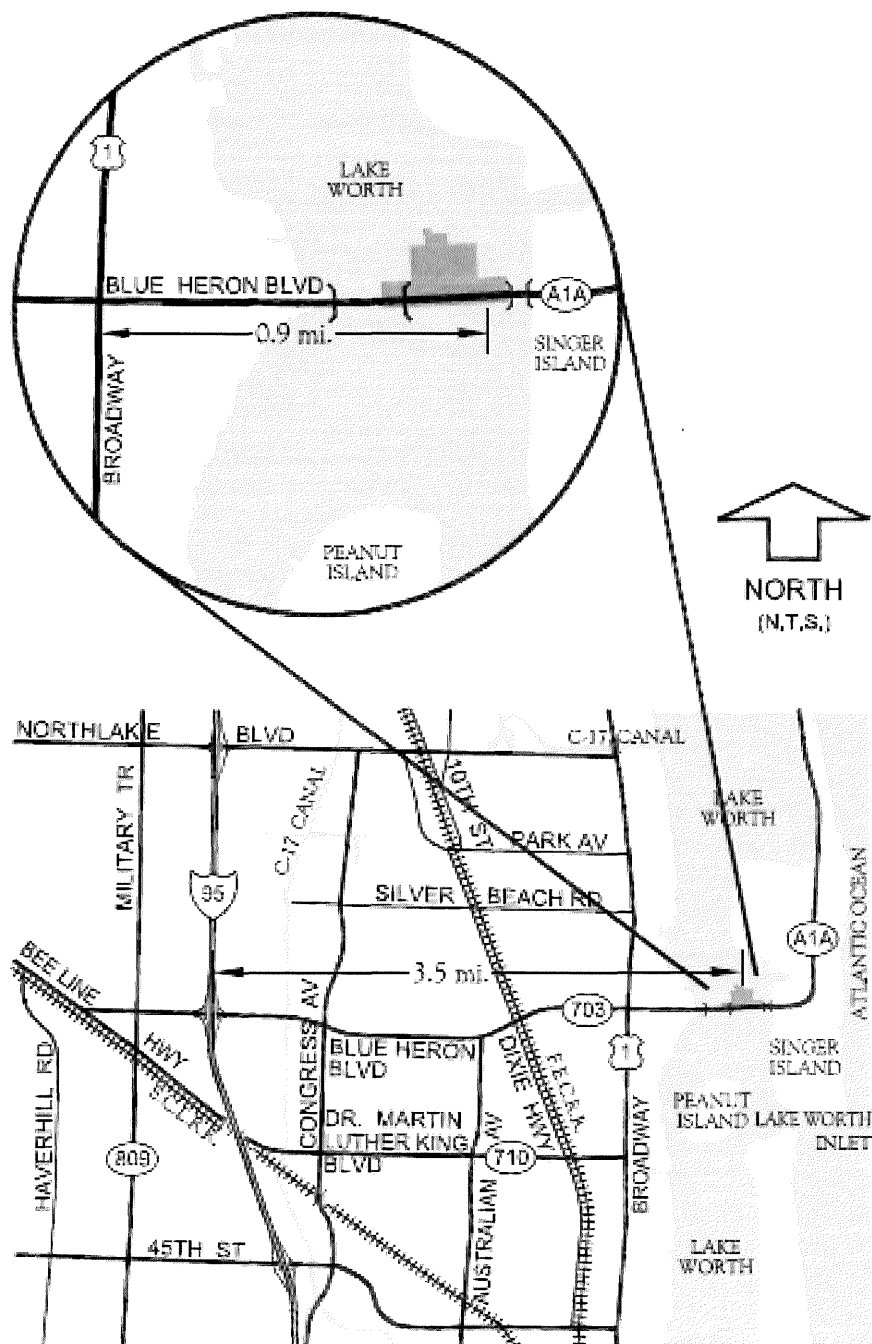


B. PROJECT LOCATION MAP

Include a project location map no larger than 8½” x 11”.

(10 pts.)*

900 E. Blue Heron Boulevard, Riviera Beach, Florida 33404



* NOTE: The maximum number of points for scored application components is indicated in each section.

C. **WORK PLAN** (Expand text boxes as needed, keeping within the 10-page Work Plan limit)

This section describes the project and cannot exceed 10 single sided pages or 5 double sided pages. If letters of support or other materials are submitted to address the Work Plan components below, these items will count toward the maximum 10 pages of the application Work Plan; any additional pages or Appendices will be discarded and not considered in the evaluation of the application. The Title Page, Location Map, Budget and Budget Narrative do not count toward the 10-page limit of the Work Plan.

1. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION.**

- a. Describe in detail the activity or work to be conducted; include project location information. **(15 pts.)**

PROJECT SITE

Phil Foster Memorial Park is a 14.65 acre park located on the Intracoastal Waterway in northern Palm Beach County near the Palm Beach Inlet. Recreational amenities include boat trailer parking, four boat ramps, a non-motorized boat launch, day use docks, picnic facilities, playground, underwater snorkeling trail, fishing pier, restrooms and showers and almost 1,000 linear feet of guarded beach.

The park is located in proximity to the Palm Beach Inlet and is internationally recognized for its outstanding snorkeling. There is an 800-foot-long man-made reef located just off shore in 6 to 10 feet of water. The reef was constructed with 600 tons of rock and six man-made concrete reef modules, creating an ideal habitat for marine life including octopus, sea horses, eagle rays and other sea creatures. This reef provides opportunities for park patrons who are not strong swimmers to view marine life in a calm environment with life guards on duty.

The Park is located at the base of Blue Heron Bridge. The bridge provides shade to park patrons making this one of the most popular swimming areas in Palm Beach County.

PURPOSE

The Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department is committed to providing ADA access for all park visitors. The County continues to upgrade its parks as budget permits to meet current ADA accessibility standards and has devoted both staff and financial resources to work towards meeting this goal.

Phil Foster’s guarded swimming area and artificial reef are accessible via a sandy beach and are not currently ADA compliant. The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting funding for the purchase and installation of a roll-out accessibility mat to accommodate disabled visitors. This mat would provide a continuous unobstructed path from the Phil Foster parking lot to the water’s edge, creating a stable surface for people of all abilities. In addition, the Department is requesting funding to purchase five floating beach wheelchairs. These wheelchairs are specially constructed with oversized tires and aluminum marine-grade frames to handle all types of terrain including soft sand beaches and shallow water. The wheelchairs will be available to the public at Phil Foster Park and other County beaches.

Phil Foster Park is an ideal location for a roll-out accessibility mat as the park is located on an inland waterway and is not subject to ocean waves, currents or beach erosion. In addition, the accessibility mat will be installed under the Blue Heron Bridge and will be sheltered from the weather. Because of these favorable conditions, the mat can extend into the water without issues. .

This project will improve public access to coastal resources by providing wheelchair access to the water for park patrons of all abilities.

- b. Describe specific project objectives, tasks, and deliverables and related timelines for each. Objectives and tasks should clearly relate to the project description. **(20 pts.)**

This project will be completed by Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department staff. The final design and specifications will be completed prior to execution of the grant contract if grant funds are awarded.

Objective	Task	Deliverables	Timeline
Provide universal access at Phil Foster Park.	Purchase and install roll-out accessibility mat at Phil Foster Park to provide access to the water.	Photos of the installation and finished project.	Late summer – fall of 2021
Provide access for park patrons with limited mobility to the County’s beaches.	Purchase all-terrain wheelchairs with umbrellas and marine grade drink holders	Photos of purchased wheelchairs.	Late summer – fall of 2021

2. PROJECT NEED AND BENEFIT

- a. Explain the demonstrated need, which the project addresses. **(25 pts.)**

The proposed project’s main objective is enhancing public waterfront access and enjoyment of park patrons by constructing ADA compliant access to the water, including the use of floating wheelchairs.

Phil Foster Park was renovated in 2006 at a cost of \$5.5 million. Renovation work included reconfigured car trailer parking, new docks, restrooms, waterfront promenade, marine building, playground, renovated boat ramps and associated infrastructure. All of the improvements completed in 2006 were ADA compliant, however, access to the water and snorkeling trail is difficult for people with mobility issues. While handicap parking spaces are located proximate to the water, the sand is soft and uneven. The purchase and installation of a roll-out accessibility mat, will help address this issue, helping the County reach its goal of universal access for the entire Park.

Phil Foster Park is heavily used by snorkelers and divers as well as nearby residents. Many of the nearby residents live in underserved communities, have health and mobility issues and are not strong swimmers. The guarded beach, crystal clear ocean water and shade provided by the Blue Heron Bridge make this facility one of the most popular parks in Palm Beach County. The snorkeling areas surrounding Phil Foster are so unique and pristine that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission passed regulations in 2019 that prohibit the collection and possession of marine life fishery species within the park’s boundary

- b. Explain how the proposed project meets the purpose of at least one CPI priority area. **(10 pts.)**

The proposed project meets CPI priority - *Access to Coastal Resources*. The Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility project will improve public access to the water. This project meets the objectives outlined in the CPI priority of creating waterfront park improvements.

- c. Discuss the extent to which the project will improve the management and protection of coastal resources and identify any potential negative impacts. (25 pts.)

The National Coastal Zone Management Program is a voluntary partnership between the federal government and U.S. coastal and Great Lake states and territories authorized the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). Coastal Zone Management Act – Section 309 Enhancement Objective – recognizes the need for increased opportunities for Public access to coastal areas of recreational, historical, aesthetic, ecological or cultural value. 309(a)(3)

This project also satisfies the goals and objectives of Florida’s Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), and Palm Beach County’s Comprehensive Plan by improving access to coastal resources.

Phil Foster’s snorkeling area is unique to Palm Beach County and is one of only a few locations statewide with a snorkeling reef located within an inland waterway. The reef area benefits from limited wave action, is close to the shoreline and is located in a shallow area with consistent tidal flushing. This reef has much of the same marine life found in deep offshore reefs and provides a unique opportunity for individuals with disabilities or limited swimming capability the ability to view marine life in a protected setting. This ADA accessibility project will also help promote the protection of natural resources by providing an easily accessible snorkeling location that reduces the need to visit other reef locations.

- d. Discuss how project is feasible and can be completed within 12 months. (10 Pts.)

If grant funding is awarded, the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department’s Aquatic Division will purchase the roll-out accessibility mat and the Parks Maintenance Division will be responsible for installation. The Ocean Rescue Lifeguards will be responsible to manage and monitor use of the floating wheel chairs. Once funding is in place the project can be completed in three to six months depending on shipping times.

If permitting is required the application process will begin well in advance of the grant award and will be overseen by County’s Senior Environmental Analyst, Dave Farmer. Final permit fees will be paid for in part using grant funding.

BUDGET and BUDGET NARRATIVE (15 Pts.)

Type dollar amounts only in applicable categories (round to nearest dollar; no cents) and leave other categories blank. A recipient will be required to provide 100% (1:1) matching funds, cash or in-kind. No more than one-half (50%) of match can be provided by a third party.

<u>Budget Category</u>	<u>FCMP Funds</u>	<u>MATCH Funds</u>
1. Salaries	_____	_____
2. Fringe Benefits	_____	_____
3. Travel	_____	_____
4. Equipment	<u>\$21,000</u>	<u>\$21,000</u>
5. Supplies	_____	_____
6. Contractual Services	_____	_____
7. Other Expenses	<u>\$4,000</u>	<u>\$4,000</u>

8. Indirect Charges

FCMP Total

Match Total

Total FCMP & Match Funds

\$25,000

\$25,000

\$50,000

If budget exceeds the amount shown on the “Total” line above, indicate the total project cost: \$

BUDGET NARRATIVE: Describe line items for each applicable budget category shown above. Provide sufficient detail to show cost relationship to project activities for both FCMP and match items. **Indirect costs are not allowed as match.**

Total FCMP Funds Requested \$25,000

Survey: \$2,000
Permitting: \$2,000
Equipment: \$21,000

Total Match Funds: \$25,000

Survey: \$2,000
Permitting: \$2,000
Equipment: \$21,000

NOTE: Project costs will be evaluated for reasonability, and the application is eligible for up to 10 points based on the evaluation of costs.

Tasks	Budget	
	CPI Funds	Matching Funds
Site survey	\$2,000	\$2,000
Environmental permitting	2,000	2,000
Purchase and installation of a roll out assessable mat	8,000	8,000
Purchase and shipping of floating wheel chairs 5 @ \$5,200 each	13,000	13,000
TOTALS	\$25,000	\$25,000

Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project Palm Beach County



Aerial of Phil Foster Park



Phil Foster Snorkeling Reef is International Recongized

CHANNEL BRIDGE

SHARK TRAIL WAPPING SIGN PLUMS

SHARK TRAIL

NARRATION CHANNEL

SHARK SCULPTURES WARNING: STRONG CURRENTS IN AREA USE CAUTION

BLUE HERON BOULEVARD

OLD BLUE HERON BRIDGE

PHIL POSTER MEMORIAL PARK

LITTLE BLUE HERON BRIDGE

SUBMERGED STRUCTURES

VEGETAL EXCLUSION ZONE

WATER BLOT

SHARK BAIT AREA FOR MONITORING THE STATUS OF SHARK POPULATION

SHARKED HAZARDOUS AREA

SHARK BAIT AREA FOR CHANGING THE STATUS OF SHARK POPULATION

IMMEDIATELY DANGER TO LIFE AND LIMB

NORTH

You don't have to venture far to discover fabulous snorkeling in Palm Beach County. Please review these tips/rules for a safe snorkeling adventure:

- Learn about fish, coral reefs and the Lake Worth Lagoon ecosystem. Knowing what you're looking at will make your snorkeling more enjoyable.

- If unfamiliar with the area, ask a lifeguard or a local patron about the diving conditions.

- The best time to snorkel is within 2 hours before and up to the slack tide. You will need a diver's flag which can be purchased at any dive shop. The flag is red with a white stripe from the upper left corner to the lower right corner. Attach the flag to a float.

- Put sunscreen on at least 1/2 hour before entering the water so it soaks into your skin instead of being washed away by the water and adhering to sea life.

- Always snorkel with a buddy! It is more fun to share awesome experiences and if something unpredictable happens, you have somebody to help you.

- Know your personal swimming limitations and snorkeling abilities and remain alert to them.

- Be in control of your fins at all times in order to avoid kicking the coral or kicking up sand and sediment. Underwater, a frog kick is preferable to a flutter kick for this purpose.

- Observe animals exhibiting their natural behaviors rather than stimulating them to entertain yourself

Do Not Step

- Do not step on coral or any hard bottom surfaces.
- Always make sure that if you step down, you are stepping on sand.
- Be aware of the sand as well. Lots of little creatures use the sandy bottom as their home.

- If SCUBA diving, practice proper weight and buoyancy control to avoid disturbing the bottom.

Enjoy the Snorkel Trail and help us preserve this beautiful marine environment.

Thank You!

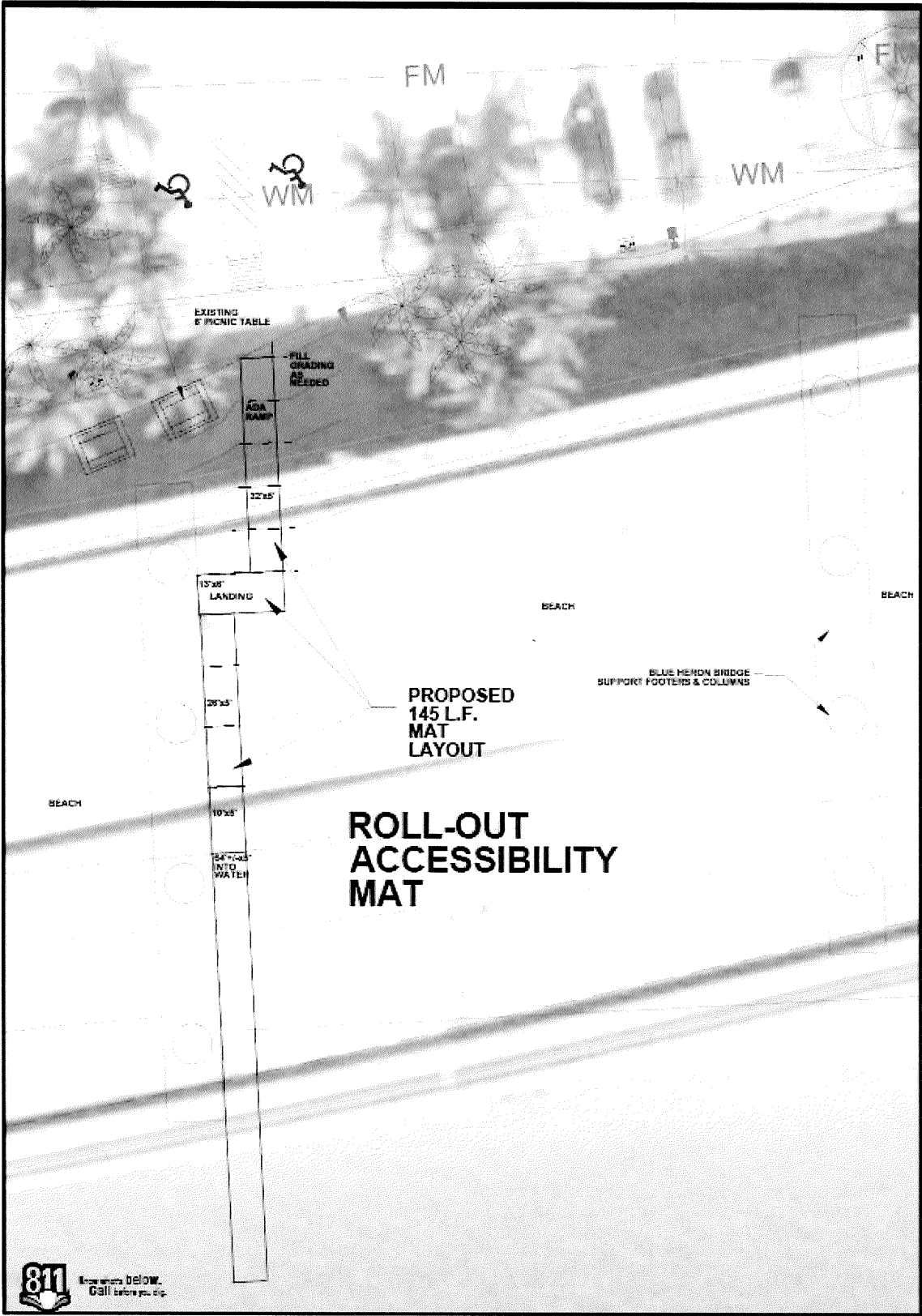


London School of Economics and Political Science
© 1999 LSE 22873



Department of Environmental Resources, 1000 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland

Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project
Palm Beach County



Phil Foster Park ADA Accessibility Project Palm Beach County



Floating Wheelchairs



Example of roll-out accessibility mat