



MEMORANDUM

To: Galveston County Commissioners' Court  
From: Betsy Thomas, Grants Administrator  
Court Date: April 28, 2025  
RE: County Engineering  
Texas General Land Office – Coastal Erosion Planning Response Act  
Bolivar Beach and Dune Monitoring and Maintenance Project

BACKGROUND

Each biennium the Texas Legislature appropriates funding for the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CEPRA) that is administered by the Texas General Land Office. With the recent restructuring of the distribution formula for the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) funding, the GLO has increased funding available for coastal erosion projects.

The GLO publishes a Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan to identify important projects. The Bolivar Beach and Dune Restoration Project is considered to be a high priority project as indicated by the Tier One designation in the plan. With the infusion of GOMESA funds, the CEPRA program will forego the 25% mandatory match requirement.

SUMMARY

Going back as far as 2012, Galveston County has laid out a plan to address the erosion on the Bolivar Peninsula. Utilizing Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) grants, the County administered beach profile surveys, sand source identification, modeling and breakwater research, engineering, and construction for a 2,500 LF protection dune and beach nourishment project. Since that time the County nourished the beach multiple times through annual Beneficial Use of Dredged Material grants from the GLO.

The County received a CEPRA grant in Cycle II (2019/2020) to engineer design a substantial beach and nourishment project to address the severe erosion at the 87/124 interchange area. In Cycle III (2023/2024) the County received a \$47 million CEPRA award to continue to invest in the area. Beginning at the eastern county line and going three miles to the west, the grant project will place 2 million CY of beach quality sand at the location to increase the beach and better protect the interchange and realize eventual progression of the sand throughout the beach system as a whole for the Bolivar Peninsula. This \$47 million project is a Tier One project and it has significant support from GLO and we are now seeking \$500,000 to survey, monitor and maintain the project as well as investigate future expansion further down the beach to the west.



### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

CEPRA Grant Request	\$375,000.00
County Discretionary Match	<u>\$125,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$500,000.00

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Professional Services requests the Court to consider approval to submit the Cycle 14 Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CEPRA) application to the Texas General Land Office and authorize the County Judge to sign the supporting resolution to address the discretionary match.

### ATTACHMENTS FOR WET SIGNATURE

- ☐ Cycle 14 CEPRA Program Supporting Resolution