

CASPERSEN BEACH PARK PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS RAMPS

Client: Sarasota County Parks and Recreation Department



Caspersen Beach Park on north Manasota Key, adjacent to the City of Venice is owned by Sarasota County. There are existing parking areas that serve the beach-side facilities and bay-side picnicking. The beach-side public access consists of an existing shore-parallel elevated wooden walkway, approximately 1000' long with 5

intermediate perpendicular stairs and/or ADA-compliant walkovers. The County desires to upgrade the public access at the Park to include replacing sections of the existing deteriorated walkway and evaluating design alternatives for relocating and/or expanding certain portions of the access.

Pre-application consultation with regulatory agencies led to a refinement of alternatives and both County GBSL and FDEP CCCL permit applications for the "recommended plan" for the restoration of the *Project Area*. Following regulatory approvals we completed the structural design of the new Park-wide beach access plan. This included a range of specific approaches appropriate for various Park sections such as the design of new ADA-compliant ramps, new shade structures and overlook platforms and new upland ADA parking; it also involved design of replacement superstructure, decking and handrails while utilizing existing boardwalk foundation piles both for sake of economy as well as to reduce construction impacts to the dune and facilitate regulatory review. Lastly, we recommended complete abandonment and removal of a section of walkway that was in the worst condition and at the most erosion-vulnerable location at the site - this corridor will be used for new mitigation planting; old concrete debris from abandoned relict structures was removed from the recreational beach.

The construction of specific elements of the project nearest the active beach was accelerated in order to complete the work prior to the current marine turtle nesting season. Final Certification for the project was completed in early April.



Key Elements

- Site Characterization
- Public Outreach
- Design
- Environmental Resource Mapping
- Permitting
- Construction Administration

Date: 2009-2011

Cost: \$2,756,002.

Fees: \$99,525.

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