
Warren Judge, SMC Chairman, BOC Member

Protection of our beaches, infrastructure and economy is the right thing to do. I support a Beach & Shoreline Management program. In addition to the Federal Beach Nourishment project designed and permitted by the Army Corps of Engineers, it is incumbent on all our Local & State Governments to hold the Beaches and Shoreline in the same regard as any other government owned infrastructure. With the building and widening of our Beaches, we can reduce destruction of our road beds, power, telephone and water lines. We can minimize the storm effects that cost millions of dollars to clean up and millions of dollars lost from our economy. Dare County's Economy in singular, the economy is Tourism. Let us work together to achieve great management of the resource of our Beaches. Let us find those methods which bring us together and not reject ideas because because they are not our own.

Richard Johnson, SMC Member, BOC Member

I think of beach nourishment much the way I feel about our entire infrastructure, we must protect and maintain the beaches FOR EVERYONE.

The question is HOW, and WHO PAYS.

1. Address the HOT SPOTS NOW.
2. I do not feel the entire COE Project is necessary. Condemnation of property will be costly and the berm could trap water in as well as keeping it out in a major storm. A wide and sloping beach will serve the Outer Banks better, in my opinion.
3. The Project should be paid for with tax overlay districts (by Referendum). The closer to the ocean the more you pay.

Neil Morrison, SMC Member, Mayor Town of Duck

Mayor Morrison's statement is being revised. It will be re-posted when available.

Don Smith, SMC Member, Mayor Town of Southern Shores

I am an opponent of beach nourishment. The current program is estimated to cost over 1.8 billion dollars over the next 50 years, which would mean that each beachfront property would be subsidized at \$30,000 per year each year for the next 50 years. How many of us taxpayers could use an additional \$30,000 per year? The Corps of Engineers' own figures show that beachfront property would be cheaper to purchase than nourish. Scientists are continuing to ask tough questions regarding what long-term ecological damage to our coast may result from pumping tons and tons of sand onto our beaches. New research now hints that fish, birds, turtles, etc may suffer irreversible harm with sand being removed from offshore and pumping onto our beaches. There continues to be many unanswered questions and this writer would hope this commission would fairly look at both sides.
