

AUGUST 12, 2014 - SPECIAL MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Special Meeting on August 12, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Walton County Courthouse Annex in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida to discuss the South Walton parking Needs Assessment.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner W. N. (Bill) Chapman, Chairman; Commissioner Cindy Meadows, Vice Chairman; Commissioner Sara Comander; Commissioner Bill Imfeld; and Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen. Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator; and Attorney Mark Davis, County Attorney; were also present.

Chairman Chapman called to order the special meeting.

Ms. Tonia Nation, AVCON, stated that there had been confusion regarding the advertising for the July 8, 2104 Special Meeting and that she would be representing Focus Area 9: Seagrove Beach parking assessment prior to discussing Focus Area 10: Seacrest Beach and Focus Area 11: Inlet Beach. She stated that these presentations are recommendations for the Board to consider and that each area must go through a formal design process and Board approval before being implemented. She briefly reviewed the recommendations which were presented for Focus Area 9: Seagrove during the July 8, 2014 Special Meeting.

Ms. Nation presented the recommendations for Focus Area 10: Seacrest. She reported that there are two Neighborhood Beach Accesses (NBA) in Seacrest. The county does not own any parcels that will facilitate a Regional Beach Access (RBA) in the Seacrest area. Ms. Nation said that there is ample right-of-way (ROW) areas for additional parking and recommended additional bike racks be installed. She said 20 parking spaces could be added to the Seacrest area.

Ms. Nation discussed Focus Area 11: Inlet Beach. She reported that there are several NBAs in the area and one large RBA. The NBAs are served by very small ROW. The NBA's are

located on bends or dead ends and it would not be safe to provide ROW parking at these accesses. The RBA has approximately 50% capacity on a typical summer day. She recommended that no new parking be added to this area and adding additional signage to guide the public to the RBA.

Ms. Nation presented an Overall Parking Summary. She reported that there are approximately 952 spaces with 477 proposed spaces. Additional recommendations on the ROW Parking Policy, enforcement, and park and ride options will be provided at the next Board meeting.

Several citizens spoke during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Many voiced concern regarding the increase of traffic safety issues with the placement of additional parking at NBAs. Some voiced concern with storm water drainage and flooding problems that may be caused by the additional parking areas. Some encouraged the Board and TDC to purchase land to construct more RBAs and to visit the NBAs before making a final decision.

The Special Meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Approved: _____


W. N. (Bill) Chapman, Chairman

Attest: _____


Alex Alford, Clerk of Court and County Comptroller