FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Flagler County takes measures towards long-term dunes, beach repair

December 12, 2016 – Flagler County officials are working with a contractor in addition to representatives at the state and federal level as they move toward long-term measures to repair the dunes and restore the beaches damaged by Hurricane Matthew.

A workshop meeting will be held at 1 p.m. December 19 for the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners at the Emergency Operations Center, 1769 E. Moody Blvd., Bunnell, directly behind the Government Services Building.

“We want to make sure everyone is up to speed with the process as we move forward,” County Administrator Craig Coffey said.

Taylor Engineering is under contract with the county to create a Recovery Master Plan for Flagler County’s portion of the beach, which has been divided sections based on the specific needs of each. The plan will document the damage that resulted from the storms, identify strategies and recommend a preferred approach for individual segments of the beach.

“It is important to find a solution so that we can have something in place as soon as we possibly can,” said County Engineer Faith Alkhatib. “Flagler County lost a lot of its dunes during Hurricane Matthew.”

Hurricane Matthew hit the Flagler coastline on October 7. Initial estimates to restore the dunes alone topped $500,000,000. Many of Flagler’s beaches are “significantly eroded.”

The Recovery Master Plan will prioritize segments based on the risk to infrastructure from future storms.

As part of its scope of work, Taylor Engineering will prepare a short white paper to define the agency jurisdiction based on right-of-way, mean high tide, and platted parcel positions. The engineering firm has also met with individual homeowners and homeowners associations.

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