



Segment 3 Progress Continues

- The City’s contractor continues work on Segment 3, which runs from the intersection of State Road 79 (Arnold Road) and Panama City Beach Parkway south to Front Beach Road, also including Front Beach Road from Cabana Cay Boulevard east to Lullwater Drive.
- Work on this segment is near 69% complete.
- Service transfers from the old water line to the new one along South Arnold Road have been completed.
- The Crew continues to install storm sewer and underground utilities on the east side of Arnold Road, between Front Beach Road and Panama City Beach Parkway.



Crew setting a valve for the new water main on South Arnold Road.

Alf Coleman Road Project off to a Great Start

- Earlier in October, Crews began working to improve Alf Coleman Road for all who use it. These improvements over the duration of the project include installing more adequate stormwater drainage systems, sidewalks and lighting along the roadway. Crews are currently installing a new storm water system and are relocating utilities.
- Alf Coleman Road, from the south side of the north Lowe’s Home Improvement stores’ entrance to the north side of Cabana Boulevard, is temporarily closed for all traffic, including vehicle, pedestrian, and cyclist. This closure area is posted with no trespassing signs to ensure everyone’s safety as this is an active work zone. Construction progress is on-schedule, with this closure remaining for three months. The entire project is anticipated to complete in summer 2024.
- The official detour route is on US 98, Richard Jackson Boulevard, and Clara Avenue. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your cooperation and patience.



Crews installed a new fire hydrant which will be connected to the updated water main.



Thank you for understanding that this area is closed to all traffic.



Glimpse of work on the road closure area so far.

Moving Forward on Segments 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3

- Segment 4.1 includes the section of Front Beach Road from Lullwater Drive, where Segment 3 ends, to east of Hills Road and includes Powell Adams Road. Plans are 100% complete.
- Segment 4.2 includes the section of Front Beach Road from east of Hills Road, where Segment 4.1 ends, to west of Lantana Street. The City utility design is underway, and 90% plans are being finalized. There will be a public meeting to review these plans once complete.
- Segment 4.3 includes the section of Front Beach Road from State Road 392A (Hutchison Boulevard) to west of Richard Jackson Boulevard. The City utility design is underway, and 90% plans are being finalized. Due to the extensive right of way acquisition process, the project is projected to go to bid in late 2024.
- All of these projects will consist of roadway improvements such as updated stormwater retention and medians, along with improving pedestrian safety with new lighting and sidewalks.

Next Page: Frequently Asked Questions About Retaining Walls

We appreciate the public interest in the Front Beach Road CRA projects and hope to answer many questions the City has recently received about the proposed retaining walls within the Front Beach Road Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). Retaining walls have been used for decades along roadways located on coastlines to help prevent encroachment onto beaches and private property and are used to minimize a project’s environmental impacts. Any proposed retaining walls within the CRA will be constructed below the roadway and sidewalk elevation and will not obstruct views of the beach from the roadway. They are constructed to contain stormwater runoff within the limits of the roadway, and to minimize the impact of the project on sand dunes, wetlands, and Federally and State listed animals and plant species.



Retaining Walls: Questions & Answers

1. What is a retaining wall?

a. A retaining wall is a structure that retains soil material and prevents it from sliding or eroding. Depending on the location and soil conditions, there are several types of retaining walls that can be used, including gravity walls, sheet pile walls, and reinforced earth walls. The difference in these includes the depth of material into the ground, type of soil being retained (clay, sand, etc.), cost, and resilience against events such as excess rainfall, hurricanes, and floods.

2. What are the environmental impacts of a retaining wall?

a. Since retaining walls help to prevent materials from sliding or eroding, they minimize the impact upon natural features on the other side of the wall, such as sand dunes and animal nesting sites. Retaining walls also help to direct stormwater runoff to the roadway drainage system, which minimizes erosion and runoff onto adjacent properties.

3. Where have retaining walls been used in similar areas of Northwest Florida?

a. Both Walton County (County Road 30A) and Mexico Beach (U.S. 98) have used these walls to successfully minimize environmental impact and project footprint along the Gulf of Mexico.

4. Why are there proposed retaining walls along Front Beach Road?

a. Retaining walls along FBR would avoid slope and fill impacts to sand dunes, animal nesting/plant sites, and help to contain/manage stormwater runoff. Additionally, without the proposed retaining walls, anticipated CRA construction would require acquisition of private property for slope and drainage easements; this would create a greater impact on adjacent businesses and residents.

5. What are the specific plans for the retaining walls along Front Beach Road?

a. Proposed retaining walls along FBR will be either sheet piling or gravity walls, depending on their exact location and the height of the wall required by the difference between the roadway elevation and the ground elevation. At its tallest, the wall could be up to 6 feet of exposed face of wall, but because of its placement in-between the higher road and the lower beach, it will not impede beach view. All CRA construction, including retaining walls, requires an extensive environmental permitting process with agencies including, but not limited to, the:

- i. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) for wetlands impacts and Federally protected/listed plant and animal species impacts.
- ii. Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for wetlands impacts, coastal high surf hazard mitigation, and State protected/listed plant and animal species.
- iii. Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWMD) for stormwater management.



Typical retaining walls



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