

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Recommend approval of funding for the Cape Romano Shoal Sand Source Development by Coastal Planning and Engineering as outlined in the February 29, 2008 proposal titled “Proposal for the Offshore Design Phase Geotechnical and Geophysical Investigation off Cape Romano, Collier County, Florida” for a time and material not to exceed price of \$295,195.**

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**OBJECTIVE:** To approve funding for the Cape Romano Shoal Sand Source Development by Coastal Planning and Engineering for time and material not to exceed price of \$295,195.

**CONSIDERATIONS:**

Key position points are as follows:

1. Significant high quality sand exists at the T-1 location in federal waters off Sanibel Island in Lee County. However, mobilization costs at \$2,500,000 and unit prices of approximately \$25/CY make this sand very high priced.
2. An investigation by CE&E was undertaken to identify and quantify small sand source within a short distance of Collier County coasts that could be used for emergency renourishment at a significantly reduced price from the previous renourishment mobilization and unit prices.
3. The shoal off Cape Romano based on preliminary testing contain between 500,000 and 1,000,000 CY of beach quality sand course enough without fines, calcium and/or silt to perform effectively on our beaches.
4. The State will require additional design and development of this borrow location to confirm and permit this site. To date, Collier County has spent approximately \$155,000 with the preliminary site investigation. Design and permitting is proposed at \$295,185 for a total development cost of this site expected to be in the \$450,000 to \$500,000 range. Development of the T-1 site in federal water cost Collier County in excess of \$2,000,000.
5. The Cape Romano Shoals are located 10-12 miles from the center of Naples beaches. This location is relatively shallow in approximately 10 to 15 feet of water. Cutter head dredges and barges/scowls will be required to dredge and transport this sand. While this location and method will certainly be less expensive than \$2,500,000 mobilization and \$25/CY unit price, it will not necessarily be inexpensive either.
6. An alternate source of sand will provide contracting options that will undoubtedly improve our contracting position/option/pricing in the future.

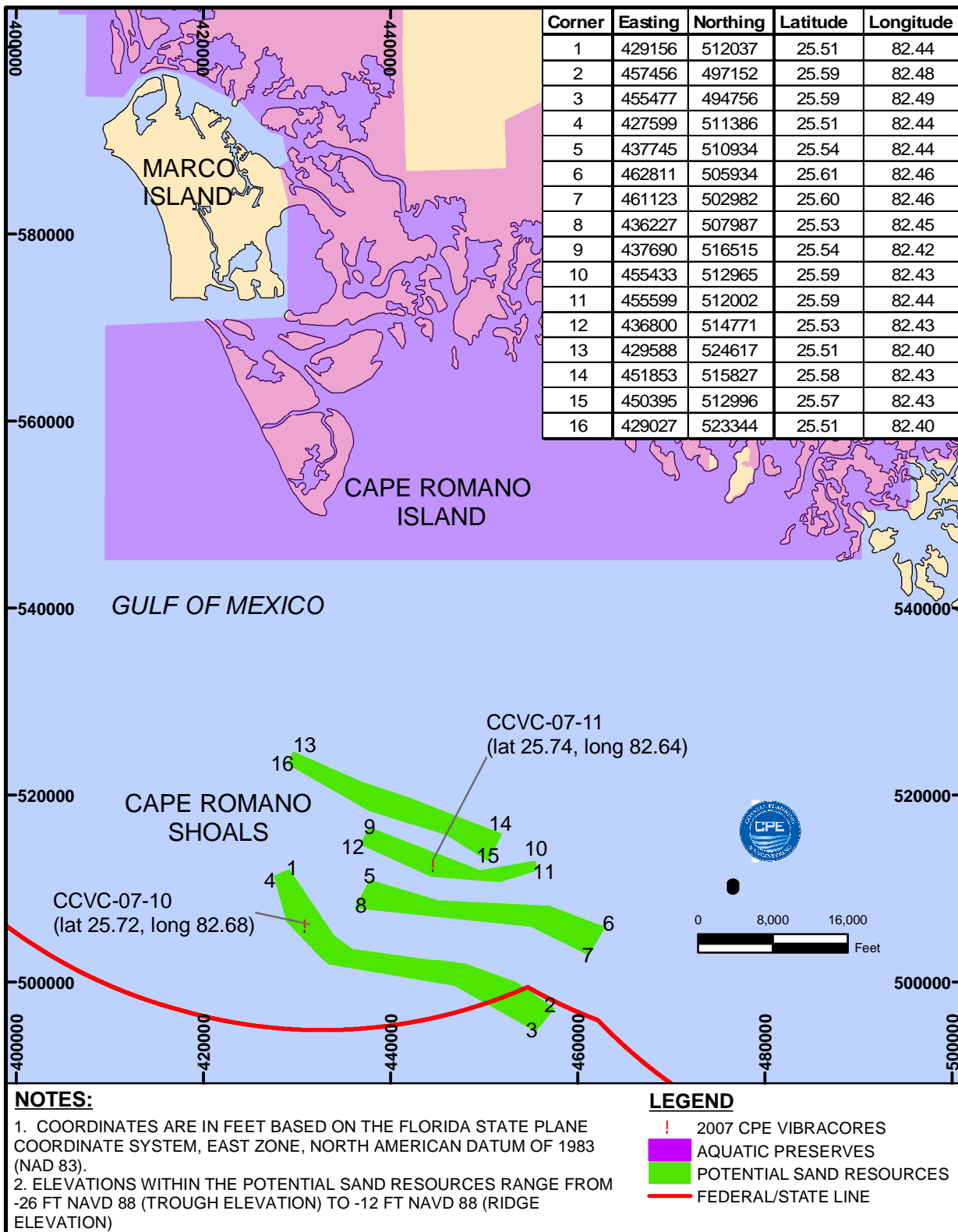
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:** The CAC unanimously (8 to 0) approved this item at their March 13, 2008 meeting.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The Source of funds is from Category “A” Tourist Development Tax.

**GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPACT:** There is no impact to the Growth Management Plan related to this action.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve funding for the Cape Romano Shoal Sand Source Development by Coastal Planning and Engineering for a time and material not to exceed price of \$295,195.

**PREPARED BY:** Gail Hambright, Tourist Tax Coordinator



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**From:** Steve Keehn [mailto:Skeehn@coastalplanning.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2008 9:37 AM  
**To:** McAlpinGary  
**Subject:** FW: Cape Romano Shoals

Gary

Cape Ramona Shoals do not appear to have hard bottom or sea grass, but the data available is not comprehensive. A more detailed description is enclosed below.

*Steve Keehn*, CPE  
561-391-8102

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**From:** Beau Suthard  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 03, 2008 4:15 PM  
**To:** Steve Keehn  
**Cc:** Jeff Andrews  
**Subject:** Cape Romano Shoals

Steve,

I have reviewed the reconnaissance seismic data for the Cape Romano shoals area offshore Collier County. The data indicate no exposed rock or hardbottom for the areas that were surveyed. There is an occasional reflector that occurs approximately three to seven feet beneath the seafloor in the deepest areas between the shoals (>15 feet below the seafloor where shoals are present). This reflector appears to be a lithified limestone unit, however, it does not approach the seafloor for the areas we surveyed and therefore cannot support benthic communities.

In addition, the divers who collected the diver operated vibracores for this area did not see or encounter any potential benthic environmental resources during the vibracore collection. For each of the cores collected in the Cape Romano area, only a sandy bottom was observed.

In summary, based on the data we have collected to date, there is no indication of any benthic environmental resources (hardbottom, seagrass, or otherwise) present within the immediate reconnaissance survey area. Please keep in mind that this survey did not include sidescan sonar and was a localized, reconnaissance-level investigation. This means that the lack of environmental resources is certain for the localized investigation areas, but a full systematic investigation of the Cape Romano Shoals area for environmental resources has not been completed. This widely space reconnaissance data, while sufficient for drawing geologic conclusions, is not detailed enough to draw large-scale environmental conclusions for the entire Cape Romano area.

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Thanks,  
Beau

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**Beau C. Suthard**

Coastal/Marine Geologist

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