



CORE IMPROVEMENTS SURVEY: Summary of Responses
 March, 2009

The Santa Rosa Island Authority (SRIA) is sponsoring a public workshop on March 18, 2009 at 6 pm at the Beach Community Church to gather input on possible changes to the Core Area. The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners (BSS) has agreed to consider raising the toll to \$2 with the additional \$1 designated as a funding source for Core Area improvements.

Pensacola Beach Advocates (PBA) developed an on-line Core Improvements Survey to solicit the views of PBA members. Because of the importance of this topic, this survey was also made available to potential members of our organization – residents, leaseholders and those with a business interest on Pensacola Beach.

The compiled responses to the survey are presented here. A report with more detailed analysis of results is also being prepared.

1. What is the nature of your relationship with Pensacola Beach? (Respondents (N= 247) may fit into more than one category so total will not equal 100%.)

Primary Residence:		
Leaseholder or Renter	123	49.8%
Residential Leaseholder:		
Secondary Residence	87	35.2%
Residential Leaseholder:		
Rental, Land or Investment Property	72	29.1%
Commercial Leaseholder	9	3.6%
Business Interest:		
Not a Commercial Leaseholder	10	4.1%

2. Which of the following best describes the amount of time you spend on Pensacola Beach?

Year Round	122	49.4%
6 to 9 Months of the Year	20	8.1%
3 to 6 Months of the Year	21	8.5%
1 to 3 Months of the Year	51	20.6%
Less than 30 Days a Year	33	13.4%
TOTAL	247	100%

3. How often do you use the following facilities, amenities or services on Pensacola Beach?

	Regularly 24 or more	Frequently 12 to 23 times	Occasionally 4 to 11 times	Rarely 3 times or less	Responses
Public beaches for swimming, surfing or sunbathing:	97 (39.8%)	42 (17.2%)	53 (21.7%)	52 (21.3%)	244
Waterways for boating or fishing:	39 (16.1%)	40 (16.5%)	59 (24.4%)	104 (43.0%)	242
Bike or walking paths:	119 (49.8%)	43 (18.0%)	42 (17.6%)	35 (14.6%)	239
Beach trolley service:	10 (4.3%)	15 (6.4%)	51 (21.7%)	159 (67.6%)	235
Casino Beach parking lot:	25 (10.4%)	43 (17.8%)	71 (29.5%)	102 (42.3%)	241
Quietwater Boardwalk parking lot:	47 (18.5%)	77 (30.3%)	78 (30.7%)	52 (20.5%)	254
Other public beach parking lots:	15 (6.3%)	19 (7.9%)	69 (28.7%)	137 (57.1%)	240
Charter fishing or marina services:	4 (1.7%)	6 (2.5%)	27 (11.3%)	202 (84.5%)	239
Retail shops:	36 (14.9%)	71 (29.3%)	100 (41.3%)	35 (14.5%)	242
Convenience stores:	60 (24.5%)	76 (31.0%)	78 (31.8%)	31 (12.7%)	245
Hotels or other rental properties:	6 (2.6%)	4 (1.7%)	28 (12.0%)	195 (83.7%)	233
Restaurants:	108 (44.1%)	81 (33.1%)	52 (21.2%)	4 (1.6%)	245
Bars/Entertainment:	68 (30.5%)	43 (19.3%)	52 (23.3%)	60 (26.9%)	223
Recreation services such as rentals or games:	3 (1.3%)	14 (6.0%)	47 (20.0%)	171 (72.7%)	235

4. Space provided for additional comments regarding use of facilities, amenities or services and question # 6 allowed for additional comments, recommendations or questions concerning Core Area improvements. Written comments for these two questions have been organized into categories and are included on pages 4 through 14 in this summary.

5. The Core Area is defined as the section along Pensacola Beach Blvd. extending westward along Ft. Pickens Rd. ending just past the old Holiday Inn property (site of new hotel construction) and eastward along Via de Luna ending at the Springhill Suites (Avenida 10). The SRIA is seeking input on the need for and the nature of improvements or changes in the Core Area.

Please rate the need for the following improvements or changes in the Core Area.

	Recommend		Undecided		Oppose	
Pedestrian crossover(s):	139	(56.3%)	57	(23.1%)	51	(20.6%)
Extended pedestrian boardwalks along the Sound and Gulf:	165	(66.8%)	48	(19.4%)	34	(13.8%)
Maximize use of existing parking through trams or trolleys:	183	(74.1%)	44	(17.8%)	20	(8.1%)
Improved lighting for Casino Beach parking lot:	117	(47.4%)	92	(37.2%)	38	(15.4%)
Parking garage:	55	(22.3%)	65	(26.3%)	127	(51.4%)
Multi-use facility to include additional parking:	84	(34.0%)	90	(36.4%)	73	(29.6%)
Convention center:	78	(31.6%)	63	(25.5%)	106	(42.9%)
Move Pensacola Beach Blvd. to create more parking at Boardwalk	25	(10.1%)	82	(33.2%)	140	(56.7%)
Create standards for building styles and colors:	136	(55.1%)	48	(19.4%)	63	(25.5%)
Designate protected area where development is set aside indefinitely:	206	(83.4%)	29	(11.7%)	12	(4.9%)
Implement more consistent sign regulations:	167	(67.6%)	60	(24.3%)`	20	(8.1%)
Remove Wastewater Treatment Plant from Beach:	152	(61.5%)	68	(27.5%)	27	(11.0%)
Move SRIA Maintenance Facility from Soundfront location:	151	(61.1%)	75	(30.4%)	21	(8.5%)
Additional hotels:	43	(17.4%)	69	(27.9%)	135	(54.7%)
Additional retail shops:	132	(53.4%)	65	(26.3%)	50	(20.3%)
Additional restaurants:	163	(66.0%)	49	(19.8%)	35	(14.2%)
Additional bars/entertainment:	90	(36.4%)	79	(32.0%)	78	(31.6%)
Additional recreation services such as rental and games:	93	(37.6%)	97	(39.3%)	57	(23.1%)

(247 Responded to this Question)

Written Comments

Parking and Traffic

Underpass is better than an overpass and studies say they are preferred.

As a resident my family tends to AVOID the public areas and leave them for the day users. We know how to spread out to other less used public areas of the beach (including private beach front areas.) We DO use the shops and restaurants regularly. The more crowded the weekend is expected to be, the more true the above is. This is primarily due to the fact that the day user has so little parking options, they end up driving around trying to find options and the traffic results in a snarl.

There is a parking problem when using facilities at Quietwater Beach.

Effective parking facilities have been needed for years and were requested in meetings years ago. The over run of cars parked in every conceivable spot, curb, and median on Mardi Gras 2/22/09 was a good demonstration. This survey doesn't touch on law enforcement. I suppose Mobile Weekend and the increase in unlawful disturbances that need adequate control or prevention isn't as important as chasing tourist dollars.

If you are a full year resident, improvements mean improving the quality of our lives here. That means better walking/biking facilities, beautification projects, less noise, less congestion, good restaurants, good entertainment, a good school, better access to library and education facilities and maybe a good bus service for access to Pensacola and the surrounding medical facilities. We are not interested in more parking. The Casino beach parking lot is only full about ten times per year.

Seasonality is a bigger issue for the Beach than parking is. Means need to be explored for expanding into the shoulder season. It would be nice if decision makers would think outside the box. Let's do something unique and environmentally friendly to move people around the beach. More cars and more parking are not creative solutions. The natural environment on Pensacola Beach is our biggest asset. Let's work on improvements that compliment that.

Retail merchants have a difficult time because of the limited "season", parking, and high beach taxes. We don't believe that building a large "parking garage" will effectively improve the flow of customers. In the current economic climate it seems foolish to embark on an expensive makeover with no guarantee of a return on the money spent. The beach needs to convince the citizens of Gulf Breeze and Pensacola that there is something unique that merits driving and paying more for.

I am basically undecided on everything until we see a plan and an estimated cost. The things that I recommended are contingent on the plan and if the cost to implement the plan is effective. I would not be in favor of a parking garage in the core area unless it is included on a hotel property where the hotel gets a certain number of parking spaces and the remainder is open to the general public. I would also not be in favor of moving the road. A Pedestrian crossover is needed.

If a convention center or multi function center is built, there is just going to have to be parking garage facilities. Casino Beach parking lot is a good start for a parking garage, but it should be built with a beach theme. Lighting should be kept at a minimum so as not to affect residents or marine life. If there were a couple of pedestrian walkover bridges like from Casino Beach to the boardwalk that would help with the safety issue and keep businesses flourishing. YES on the trolleys!

I do not want massive garages. Hotel/motels need onsite parking. A new garage in the core, in the north end of the Casino Beach lot to include a ground level of retail/restaurant and 3-4 levels of parking (north of the beach ball), leaving the south end of the lot open. A crossover from the Boardwalk area to this new garage would provide safe access. Environmentally friendly lighting in all lots. We need trolley/transit from GB (summer to/from school lots) and beach service all year (Port to Fort).

I highly recommend the construction crossovers and boardwalks extending further. The intersection at the boardwalk linking the main beach is hazardous. In spite of traffic lights and a walkway, it is only a matter of time before a pedestrian is seriously injured. Extending the walkways would address my prior concern about individual loitering in parking lots and near Circle K. I would be in favor of more hotels as long as residential leases are not converted.

We need a vision (10 year), and then plan to achieve that is consistent. The engine driving the beach economy is tourism. That means full service resort hotels with conference space, and we need more things to do on the beach. However, we need to first solve problems we have today - beautify the island, connect the beach and sound sides with pedestrian walkover, and solve parking ALLOCATION problem (casino has too much, boardwalk not enough) - moving road and adding ped walkover solves that.

The most important issue by far is parking! Don't dilute the issue with all the other ideas shown above. Build at least three parking garages with restaurants on top to capture the views and landscaping to soften them. One at each end of the core area, and one in the middle. Require every new hotel and other structure to provide 100% of its parking on its own site. The most important place to immediately build is toward the WEST END. Don't build the Casino parking garage first! Build parking now

Parking is an issue. However, I am opposed to putting a garage in an area that would block view of the water or create a "wall". A garage where the visitor's center is currently located would be fine. A garage where Tiffany's is located is definitely a problem.

Parking is the biggest issue. Adding additional amenities without available parking would only congest the area more. A multilevel parking garage on casino beach parking lot with a walk over incorporated into it would help with the parking problems. More consistent trolley service from Portofino to the core would cover the east end of the island and would be used during the summer by a lot of the renters. An annual pass and/or a small user fee would be acceptable and help off set the expense.

Items with which I marked undecided are concerned with expense. I like to LIVE WITHIN BUDGETS. I suggest building an event room on top of the proposed parking garage that could be rented out instead of building a convention center. The civic center does this on their second floor.

Move PB Blvd??? Where to??? It is already right next to the buildings on the Sabine/Gulf side & does not make sense to lessen those business' parking area just to make parking at the core. Limited space laterally so only option is to go up...parking garage spaces on Casino Beach and the Boardwalk.

Give the community a nice, clean and safe beach to come to. Leave the building set aside until the economy improves. The beach does not need anything done to it right now, just make a long term plan and do a little at a time when the money is available. Public parking is a problem.

We have been on the Beach at Mardi Gras, Memorial Day, Blue Angel, and Labor Day weekend. Yes the Beach is crowded at that time but for the remainder of the year the Beach parking is sufficient. Bus service between the Beach, Pensacola & Gulf Breeze is a possible solution to the parking problem. Crowding the Beach with more cars even with a parking garage will not eliminate the traffic congestion and can increase assaults & vandalism.

Can't help but wonder why we need parking garage for one or two days per year. Seems like there could be a better solution!

We have been on the beach during Mardi Gras, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Blue Angels, and Labor Day Weekends and yes, the beach is crowded then. The rest of the year the beach handles the crowd very well. A parking garage presents its own problems of security. If there has to be a parking garage it should be at the Visitors Center which could also be located in it. Use trams to ferry people to and from the core area. This would keep heavy traffic congestion out of the core area.

I feel like they are trying to spend too much time/money on the few weekends a year when the beach has parking problems. We need to focus on raising the quality of what is offered at the beach for those that are paying to stay out there. For day goers we need to expand trolley or create a ferry service from Gulf Breeze. We should limit the # of vehicles allowed on the island. Once that limit is reached, they should go by boat or trolley. Cars should pay \$2.00.

A parking garage is a ridiculous waste of money. and will add zero tourist draw to the beach. There only 2 times a year that the garage is needed...Blue Angel weekend and Mardi Gras parade weekend. To erect a concrete eyesore for 2 weekends worth of usefulness out of 52 makes no sense. I feel the same way about a crossover. SRIA needs to weigh use-vs-cost.

Moving Pensacola Beach Blvd would be a grave mistake and is not necessary. Why should the public pay for additional parking for a few PRIVATE businesses?

The only need for additional parking is 5 weekends a year and you could not build enough for those weekends. Use the money for more recreation and for advertizing for more vacationers.

The natural beauty of the beach is our greatest attraction and should not be diminished by more development, shops, and parking garages. The SRIA should figure out a way to acquire property along the beach and put in smaller parking lots instead of trying to cram everyone into the core area. The core should NOT be increased or developed further. We do not need to look like Sandestin.

The Island Authority should consider the tens of thousands of local visitors first instead of a few beach business owners. Locals should not have to pay more for things that will not benefit them. For very little money the capacity of the parking areas on Ft. Pickens Road could be doubled, simply by putting rock base in so vehicles could pull in vertically instead of parking parallel. The fences were installed for this. Why hasn't it been done and why has it not even been mentioned?

I feel that there is adequate parking provided for the above mentioned facilities and shops. We dine on the beach a min. of once per week. We attend PBES, shop freq. and go to the beach often. Parking is never a problem for us. The trolley is vital to the beach. The bike and walking paths are very important to the residents and guests.

*RE: Multi-use facility. Would like to know definition of multi-use before recommending or opposing.

Trolleys, Tolls and Transportation

Might use trolley service more if it were available and more predictable. Would like more bike racks in core area and more enforcement of no parking on bike path so biking or walking could be a safe option for beach residents for busy events in the Core.

The Trolley service was great before Ivan, but since then it appears there is no service for the Portofino Area?

We would use the trolley more often if it actually ran. It used to make it to Portofino, but not longer.

I would use the trolley more if it were more convenient and consistent.

I think the public transportation is good, but should be something smaller and more unique. Example: Jeepney- There use in the Philippines and are very fun and cost effective. Charge people 25 to 50 cents to ride one way. Have 2 or 3 Jeepney's with dedicated routes extending into Gulf Breeze and maybe Pensacola. I think people would like it and would come to the beach just for the experience and fun of the transportation

I think more bike and/or walking paths would be great to get all over the island. We rarely drive our car when on the island.

Would like to see more bike racks around island facilities.

I would like to see well defined bike and rollerblade/pedestrian paths along the beach road on both ends of the island.

1. Go Green: Make pedestrian and bike traffic the featured mode of transportation. In other words, make it very easy and safe for people to ride their bikes to the beach all the way from downtown. In the core area, the design should favor bikes, skateboards, and pedestrians. 2. Would like to see some wind turbines out there

Put bike lanes along Ft. Pickens road like on Via De Luna. Put signage up to identify Quietwater Beach and Casino Beach, as only locals know these locations. Parking lots are rarely "full" we do not need more or eyesore garages. Bars and restaurants should keep the music and live entertainment inside and off the patios. \$2.00 toll is wrong, eliminate toll to bring more people, and more business.

The road both to Navarre and Fort Pickens has been put on the back burner for much too long for whatever reasons. This was a mistake that I am glad is finally being remedied

I think the speed limit through the core area should be 20 and be ENFORCED. I do not like the idea of building a "walk over" just so CARS can have convenience. Pedestrians should be given first consideration. This includes Via de Luna further east. I have seen families WAITING and WAITING to cross the street east of the core area. RAISE THE TOLL TO \$2.00. It's been the same for the last 25 years. Make sure to put some of that money aside for future bridge maintenance or replacement.

I have asked snow birds if they would prefer the other beaches if the toll is increased on Pensacola Beach. The answer was unanimous in choosing the other beaches. Please consider Navarre and the dramatic changes that has occurred since they did away with their beach toll. DO NOT INCREASE THE TOLL TO 2 DOLLARS; INSTEAD REMOVE IT ENTIRELY. Please look into the future. Where there is no vision, there is no progress.

The SRIA should have used the bond money for a parking garage instead of widening the road. Now they have to get more in debt to pay for a garage. People want to come and PARK at the beach, not just drive down the road. They need to make a definite plan for development instead of piece milling this beach around. Also, People can't afford a \$2 toll bridge fee. There are lots of people with kids that would come to the beach but won't if the fee goes up. Keep the beach the way it is.

Although the additional charge of the toll is not mentioned; the following should be considered: We have very limited grocery facilities, no post office, no drug store, beauty shops, etc. A family renting a condo would probably make several trips into Gulf Breeze for those commodities. All of this will have an impact on what that family spends while on Pensacola Beach. Consider the other recreational beaches in our area who do not have a toll and how do they measure with our attendance?

I'm in favor of stabilizing shoulders on the gulf side toward Navarre. The beach should be and is enjoyed by the public. I'm in favor of making it easily accessible. I'm also strongly opposed to the \$2.00 bridge fee.

Raising the bridge toll to \$2 might cause people to come in through Navarre. This could have an effect on the people shopping in Pensacola. I saw an article in today's PNJ that the bridge to Orange Beach has less traffic since they raised the fee from \$1 to \$1.50.

Totally opposed to parking garages and pedestrian walk over. Desperately opposed to raising the gate toll. It should be removed like Navarre did, it has paid for the bridge over and over. We could certainly used another gas station, one on the beach is inadequate. We really miss the Tom Thumb gas pumps but we understand why they removed them.

Beach Appearance

I question implementing standards for building styles and colors as the current recommendations are all ready out of date. I feel "things to do" and interconnectivity is very important.

Definite need to improve the appearance of our beach - to include trash removal, appearance of structures w/ new paint/scheme, removal of chain link fencing in core areas, care of median landscaping.

I strongly support the idea of standards for beach signs and buildings. I strongly oppose a parking garage on the beach.

Some standards for buildings and colors would be good, but not too stringent. Don't want cookie cutters, but don't want anything too wild either. I think more boardwalk on the sound is good, but not on the gulf.

It is most important that strict design and construction standards, including exterior color schemes, are adopted and followed throughout the construction period.

We need to enforce strict building covenants around design, color, and upkeep to continually attract more responsible patrons to our island and beaches...patrons that will take care of the island, spend money on the island, and attract others like themselves to the island. It needs to be an island that is pedestrian and family friendly...day or night...weekday or weekend...year round.

Please use every tool (zoning and planning) to preserve the essence of the beach as it now exists. At every decision please choose to upgrade quality, elegance, nature preserve and cost of the beach area. This is a beautiful nature area and one of a very few that remain in Florida. Choose to be different than other cities that have rows of condos, bars and fast food places. Be elegant. Be upscale.

Additional concern is for vacant land and properties that have prolonged rehabilitation time frames. Would like to find a way to ensure that these properties are cleaned of all debris and possibly landscape (minimally) until work begins for reconstruction. For the foreseeable future we will have many empty lots next to new construction, creating a look of constant "transition." I am not talking about a great expense, just keeping a uniform clean look to the beach.

I would recommend improved lighting for Casino Beach if turtle-friendly light fixtures/placement was used.

Pensacola Beach is unique in Florida beach developments in still being relatively undeveloped compared to Perdido, Destin, and others where masses of high rise rentals, condos, apartments, and intensive business development predominate. I think this is its major appeal and what makes beach living on PB much better than elsewhere. I will only support moderate development that will improve the quality of the beach ambience and not change its unique character and appeal.

Keeping open spaces so people can see and access the beaches should be our number one concern. This sets us apart from most beaches of the world. There are so few times that restaurants and shops are full that I don't see the need for more. I understand the new Grand Marlin and Indigo will have restaurants. PLEASE no more hotels or condos!

PB needs to cultivate a more sophisticated identity. The beach is catering to the lowest common denominator. SRIA should be focused on shaping the beach into a more upscale resort destination. Smaller cafes, wine bars and less trashy retail would be a welcome change for the boardwalk. PB can be affordable and accessible to families, but much nicer. With the blaring music and gaudy merchandise, the boardwalk attracts a drunken, ugly crowd. There is a reason property values are higher in Seaside.

We need to project a better image when one approaches the toll booth. Currently everything looks drab. Need a toll tag only lane at the toll booth - every other major toll area has one. More landscaping between toll booth and casino beach. Clean up vacant lots. Have current tenants in core area paint, clean etc

Pbeach has an identity crisis. How in the bloody hell do we end up w/ tuscan color condo, a semi-modern board walk and a bloody fishing trawler in the core- good god that just screams desperate. Much like the wharf in Alabama, we could really benefit from a larger ampitheatre.

Would like to see better improvement of the west end of the Boardwalk - remove circle K and extend boardwalk to Flounders with more shops and restaurants. Clean up riffraff at Boardwalk with more police showing. More bike rental availability on beach for visitors. Could a boardwalk like in Hollywood Beach,FL be implemented in the core area?

I support bringing additional quality shops and restaurants to the core that target an older demographic than the college age party crowd. We don't need another Alvin's island, Cap't Fun or Burger joint. On the parking issue, there are certainly times that it is tough to find a spot and it has kept me from stopping at the Boardwalk shops. I would love to see some solution that doesn't end up with a parking garage as the first thing you see as you come over the bridge to the beach.

Keep some visual space so it isn't a wall of buildings.

I would like to see a welcoming, 'village' theme, rather than a garish, crowded space. We have limited physical space, so can't be Destin, but we can be a high quality village for residents, destination visitors, and locals.

Every community that I seem to really respect is one that has good landscaping. I would love to see a bit more done with our existing areas that currently have half grass and the other half sandspurs or weeds. How about free bicycle rental on the beach. Have you ever been to the gulf breeze dump? hundreds of bikes that could be refurbished for real cheap. more restaurants!!! absolutely no parking garage raise the toll to increase revenue for beautification

Please offer additional garbage cans at the public beaches. After holidays and weekends the garbage cans are overflowing with trash.

Tiffany's at Casino Beach looks horrible and blends with nothing. The core needs a theme for it's look.....even if it's Portofino'esque (and that's not where I own by the way)....stick with Mediterranean style and colors. The Casino beach parking lot looks very unattractive pulling onto the island. I know we're trying to maximize parking spaces, but more islands with trees would be appropriate if we are not going to do the parking garage. The parking lot looks like a huge blob of concrete.

I enjoy the eco friendly, somewhat under-developed nature of Pensacola Beach. This along with the Gulf Islands area east of Portofino are the essence of the Beach for me.

I think the only pelican roost, pilings at Grand Marlin, will probably be lost with this new construction. As a result we will loose roosting for almost 100 of our signature birds. I think a permanent roosting place should be built in the beach waters to keep these wonderful birds flying in our local skies. Damage to the native bushes has just about eliminated the monarch butterfly from coming to our beach for migration to Mexico every fall. Lets restore these bushes.

Beach Businesses

There are enough bar/entertainment facilities. We could benefit from more upscale restaurants. No more hotels or condos! No parking garage!

I think that after the Holiday Inn, Island Empress, Palace Boutique Hotel, Indigo, Best Western etc.....that we have MORE than enough hotels. In terms of rentals, maybe yes to bicycles but not junky beach rental stuff.

I would not increase the amount of units available to build more hotels.

Unless present condos and hotels are at full capacity, why bother allowing further construction...diluting cash flow to present owners further lowers already depressed property values.

There are plenty of condo rentals to offset the need for additional hotels. More hotels would only make it more difficult for those existing hotel chains and independent condo owners to survive these economic times. Supply and demand...it appears the demand isn't quite there yet. Having a convention center on the beach, more restaurants and retail shops would definitely increase revenue for all. Removal of water treatment areas would significantly improve overall look of beach.

I don't feel the island can support all the new hotels, etc which are planned. I don't wish the area the look like Destin-wall to wall condos and hotels. It had a charm of its own which is one reason we bought our condo 10 years ago.

I don't have a problem with current hotel sites being replaced. I think there needs to be a limit set on hotel rooms based on some reasonable criteria. I hope it is financially feasible to build hotels that have some character and aren't just big sterile high rises.

I am not sure that the Gulf front needs a boardwalk because of the hotel issues of the public access to their properties. The core area does not need more restaurants, bars and shops. What is needed is a healthy environment that will create more sales to the businesses that have invested in the Island for years but have not been profitable. Review all the businesses that had the American dream and came to this Island only to exhaust all their resources to survive because of natural disasters,

We need a water park on the island. with the projects currently on development, we do not need anymore hotel/condo development. We certainly do not want a Destin/ Gulf Shores nighttime crowd & traffic situation. a water park would draw more family daytime crowds from Pensacola & Navarre.

Pensacola beach needs an attraction. A state of the art water park or a nice charter fishing marina with several restaurants.

Need more entertainment for the baby boomer generation, not the folks that wear their pants funny. We own a Portofino unit, which we realize isn't universally popular; but nonetheless this is where we are stuck right now because of the market. We have been long time Pensacola Beach visitors since the 1970's. We'd really like to retire to the PB area, but only if it isn't going to lose its character and feeling of safety....an issue which we feel has deteriorated in the last few years.

Do not add any more motorized rental recreational street vehicles.

It would be great if we had more options for food on the beach whether a store or more restaurants.

We try to support the island every time we use our condo. We shop on the island as much as possible. It is a shame that more businesses are closing. Could the added tax burden be a factor?

As a father of 3 young daughters we have found that the core area does not have a family friendly atmosphere. During the summer months we do not go to the boardwalk and do not walk in the area surrounding the Circle K. We use the convenience store by JME.

We would shop more if the taxes weren't so high.

If the SRIA cared about the core or the island at all it would have helped fight the tax issue, this issue has made island rental a losing proposition for many rental/owners. There will be less people visiting to the core because it will be harder to compete with Destin.

We always eat out on our visits to Emerald Isle and do our shopping on the island.

I wish that the Blue Angles would make it a regular procedure to make a pass down the beach front when they return to Sherman Field after each one of their airshows. It would be a Pensacola Beach Signature Routine and it would be wonderful for the tourist appeal and popularity of the beach. This would not be hard for the flight team to do and it would reaffirm their traditional turf.

We always shop at the Market.

We need an operational, and well stocked, grocery store year round!

Bring more entertainment to Casino beach pavilion. Bands on the beach are great. Additional acts will bring people, revenue etc. How about a water park for kids?

We stay on the beach for most of our nightlife. We have visitors that use every amenity listed.

General Comments

1. Need to maintain view of Gulf from Bob Sikes Bridge thru Pensacola Blvd to Via de Luna. This includes crossovers and parking garage/multi-use facility. 2. The last five questions cannot be answered until the area is designated to build such facilities. 3. Hotels will have sufficient convention space to handle SRIA needs. Study on this subject, when SRIA attempted to build a convention, indicated the size of the center. Now the hotels have collectively supplied sufficient space.

Make names of streets more visible for visitors. Remove bumps at the end of sidewalks that jut out onto Ariola. Provide parking where there are crossovers to the Gulf. Instil or police loud noise at rentals after midnight - or provide a number we can call when boomboxes are blaring at 2 or 4 a.m. when a wedding reception is going on at a rental. Use this number also to report dangerous activities at rentals (such as kids climbing out on roofs or balance-walking on balcony railings).

We would like a dedicated lane for drivers with bridge passes. Have a cap on height of new buildings...3 or 4 story. Use natural flora. Palm trees are not indigenous. Replace the boat ramp near Ft. Pickens' entrance destroyed by Ivan or Dennis. Have a small post office and a fish market on the island. Improve Morgan Park. Thank you!

I am a resident so do not wish to see us become another Destin, Perdido Key or Ft. Walden. We have an unique place to live, and it's already getting too commercial.

The powers that be seem determined to ruin the sleepy little island cherished by most of us. After Portofino, I thought they couldn't do much more damage. But you have to give them credit for trying. At some point we'll probably leave to find that sleepy little island somewhere else.

I would like to find out more, possibly at the meeting, about the removal of the wastewater treatment plant, possible convention center and moving of the road.

There are currently very efficient high rise parking structures that could be used on the beach. Development on the island should be left to private investment, not through county funding. The Waste Water Plant just needs to be better monitored for smell. It is quite easy to keep the air clear of the noxious smells from the plant if it were properly monitored. We don't need more lighting on the beach, we need less.

Quit building those damn condo's!!!!!!

Let's try to keep the lay-back beach atmosphere with some commercial to keep the feel of a fishing / beachy environment. If people want Vegas let them go to Vegas.

Extended Boardwalks on the Sound make sense. Along the Gulf they are a waste of money and will be destroyed by Hurricanes and probably by smaller storms as well. Where do you propose "putting" PB Blvd to create more parking? Where is our waste to be treated if the Waste Water plant is removed? How do you propose paying for this?

I would like to see a controlled improvement movement...not hodge podge without a theme of tastefulness.

I think the first decision should be to commit to keeping this a family beach. Then judge all other decisions/plans as to whether that goal is met. Please also stop the use of halogen bright white lighting on all buildings. Keep all outside lighting soft pink, like Savannah, Ga

Number one issue is funding; lack thereof. Nationwide economic instability, loss of jobs and increasing tax burdens put on citizens means tough times ahead for the "tourist" industry, which depends on the population's use of disposable income. Not a time to be expanding the perimeter, but a time to tighten the existing programs: more efficiency with less resources. Enforcement of current laws/ codes/ community regulations would be a good start.

Any future development should be approached in a sustainable manner

We are getting too much.....makes me want to sell.

The SRIA offices should also be moved from the Soundfront location. (At one time the area designated for it was by the fire station). Additional bars should be separated from additional entertainment in this survey. We have a good sign ordinance on the beach- it should simply be enforced.

Keep it from being "junky". We need better signage so tourists will be aware of the importance of the dunes. We as owners have to run people off the dunes all the time. I think they really don't understand. Maybe realtors need to do a better job explaining that also as well as the signage.

We need family-friendly recreation. Family movies at Casino Bch was a good idea. If we need a parking garage, why can't the Island Authority Bldg be incorporated into that facility to maximize use and minimize footprint of building.

Prohibit any more high rise buildings

I believe that the year-round resident owners should have priority status in voting on these issues, which would preclude my own votes on these matters.

I would need additional/details information to make an opinion to remove wastewater treatment plant and SRIA maintenance facility. A convention center would/should bring yearly visitors, however, where would it be located?

I have not seen any renderings of a proposed parking deck and pedestrian walk-overs, however, I believe this may take away from the "island" perception. I feel a parking deck would block views and make the island look too "commercialized" especially being at the entrance.

Keep Pensacola Beach beautiful and peaceful! Don't make it another Destin or Gulf Shores! The hurricane may have been a blessing. I had feared we'd seen the best of Pensacola a few years ago. Now that development has slowed, let's keep it that way.

Pensacola Beach is a sleeper recreational area mostly known by the residents of adjacent states and communities. The Beach is gaining appeal and popularity as southern Florida get more crowded the congestion of Pensacola Beach will continue. I appreciate this effort as a real effort to stay ahead of this trend. Pensacola Beach must hold onto its unique element of being open and unique. Everyone that visits or lives here loves that ongoing element. No big buildings and keep it clean!

No more development!!!! Wish beach was more user friendly!!! Miss Baby Beach where the Boardwalk is now. Need to dredge on the Sound!!! Too much erosion!!

We need more concerts, festivals, etc.

I would hate to see Pensacola beach become a Destin type look where you have to look between hotels and condos to see the water!

The condo-concierge style hotels are killing our property values and reducing sales and rentals of units. This area should not be the next Destin or Orange Beach...this isle cannot support the influx of high rises. Let's decide which way we're going and soon. I will pay property tax, but end the leases with SRIA. It's double taxation to do both.

Signage needs to be put up to identify CASINO BEACH, the tourists do not have a clue where Casino beach is but it is referred to a lot and only locals can relate same as for Quiet Water Beach.

Your trams and trolleys do not use the turnoffs and still block the road traffic. Multi-use facility is to provide more lease fee money not alleviate any parking problem. Moving the road to create more parking for the bars and restaurants is totally silly. If the bars and restaurants need more parking, let them pay for it, not the public. Bars are the biggest complaint of excess noise and drunk behavior, do not allow more!! Do not allow trucks with signs on the side to remain in place long term.

Living near Atlantic City, ocean front boardwalk carnival like game areas, these areas can be a diversion but not beneficial to the core attraction of this small unique island. When you lose it you can't go back. Be very careful what you wish for and look hard into the future. Nature should have an important roll also and be protected. Use low maintenance environmentally friendly landscaping, pleasing building styles. Balance commercial areas with sound planning not unsightly structures.

I would like to see the speed limit on Via De Luna increased IF plenty of protection is provided for children where they have to cross over - especially in the summer. I would definitely like to see Ariola get some street lights. I feel very uncomfortable coming home after dark with few or no lights. I would like to see some provision for owners with dogs to be able to let them romp or just be walked with a leash on the beach. Maybe certain hours and definitely with pooper scoopers.

Would love to see some fast food service or more food delivery services. Would love to see speed limit on Via De Luna increased slightly. Would love the road to be completed from Hurricane damage years ago!

Underground utilities along Via de Luna would be a plus and it would speed the recovery process in case of another hurricane.

As a resident since September 2004, I have limited knowledge of prior core area. Since Ivan, I see an increase in the quality and variety of our core area. If the core is safe (lighting, appropriate patrols), colorful, and friendly, I will increase my use of the core.

Beach Restoration & Maintenance ? landscaping and keeping the beach road open should be the main focus. The Gulf road to Navarre Beach, o.p.g and construction time to do so is an embarrassment and has impacted all of us,; Contractor and authorities should be fired. What a JOKE ! As soon as we can we will move on elsewhere

When I use our condo 2 wks/year, I take advantage of everything that is available for a great relaxing vacation. I love the small town beach atmosphere and would like to keep it that way.

I love our beach...to me, and I've been all over the world and seen the beaches...our P'Beach is the best. Do not get any more commercialized than it already is or I believe it will loose some of it's charm....taxes for the residents are just to HIGH!

We need to continue increasing vigilance around keeping the beaches and parking lots free of trash, beer cans, and cigarette disposal from day trippers in the core area...as well as loitering or hanging out in parking lots and outside shops and restaurants. Shops and restaurants need to adhere to tighter dress codes and behavior...day and night. We also need to police against drivers that are refusing to stop at legal crosswalks when pedestrians are attempting to cross the street.

We come to the beach to look after our property interests and to relax, we enjoy the quiet attitude of the beach and purposely moved our investments from the Destin area to get away form the congestion and carnival atmosphere.

We do not want Pensacola Beach to end up looking like Perdido and the Gulf Shores area. While we have a unit at Portofino and realize some people feel we are part of this type of problem, we'd really like the development to be controlled. Pensacola Beach is still very unique, but we sense this is going to be lost within the next few years. We like Portofino because it is an upscale development, unlike many of the condos elsewhere on the Gulf Coast

We invested financially in Pensacola Beach almost 20 years ago. We feel the openness and mix of individual private homes, condos and hotels makes the area very family friendly which sets it apart from other crowded Gulf Coast Beaches. Many of our friends have visited us and returned many times. Some also chose to also invest in Pensacola Beach for this very reason. Please don't make the beach wall-to-wall condos & hotels like Destin & Panama Beach. Keep the beach open!!

We chose to invest on Pensacola Beach because of the beautiful uncluttered beaches and it is not wall-to-wall with high rise Condo's &/or Hotels. Also the abundance of private homes gives it a family friendly atmosphere. We have had many guests over the nearly 20 years we have owned property on the Beach and with out exception they all continue to return and some have even invested in the Beach because it is not crowded like Destin, Panama Beach, Gulf Shores etc.

Additional non alcohol recreational activities needs to be the focus in the core area redevelopment.

We have a single family in Villa Sabine. We have terrific views from our wrap around deck. Ala beach area, Gulf Shores, Orange Bch, etc. and what a disaster, unsold, unrented high rise junk built everywhere, the pols sold out to ghastly budget draining development We think Pens Bch is paradise and want thoughtful controlled "improvements" and open beach areas. The walking, biking paths are great, good restaurants & neat boardwalk, open space. Say NO to gambling. Cut down on pesticide lawns.

Rumors of Casino/Hotel...bad idea....small beach area & most people do not want to look like Destin & other cities where residents cannot even go to the beach. There can always be a balance between nature, economics and local enjoyment of the beach!!