

Beach Replenishment Information Session

Saturday, July 26, 2008 Frank Little – township engineer – met with Holgate property owners to provide information and answer questions about the beach replenishment.

Mayor Mancini attended along with 43 Holgate property owners.

Harvey Cedars is next for replenishment this November. The 15 of 86 oceanfront property owners who have not signed the easement are subject to eminent domain. Property east of the bulkhead line is taken by the town and up to 2 years later the value is determined. Mayor stated that LBT will not pursue eminent domain due to threat of class action lawsuit and attendant expenses.

Brant Beach (approximately 25 blocks; 31st to 56th St.) will be replenished after Harvey Cedars. Holgate is the next likely beach to be filled.

Easement was amended in 2006 to clarify that no other construction can be performed. This rules out possibility of boardwalk or other structures can be built.

Decisions where to place restrooms is left to the municipality. Several attendees stated they would not sign the easement until the restroom locations were determined. The Mayor stated that he will direct Frank Little to produce a map with suggested locations for review by the HTA in September.

A double dune was not possible for Surf City because it would require too much sand to build outside of the properties that did not sign easements.

Will township maintain dune fencing? Not determined, yet.

Liability – property subject to easement will be under a new dune where there is no public access.

Piping plovers – as a condition of beach replenishment, the DEP requires the new beach to be closed if a piping plover is nesting there. Surf City mayor has not signed the final agreement nor paid the municipal share of replenishment cost because he objects to piping plover requirement. Surf City will argue this in court.

Cost of beach replenishment to township: 25% of the state's cost. State's cost is 35% of total.