

To: The Captiva Erosion Prevention District (CEPD) Board of Commissioners

From: Concerned Residents and Property Owners of Captiva Island

Date: November 9, 2025

We, the residents, property owners, and stakeholders of Captiva Island respectfully request a review and revision of the recently constructed beach dune.

While intended for erosion control and resiliency, from our perspective the southern section of the dune that is 12 feet high (the northern 8000 foot section at South Seas is 10 feet high) presents several unintended negative impacts on our community and local ecosystem:

Impeded Gulf Views, Aesthetics and Community Character: The excessive height significantly obstructs scenic views of the Gulf of Mexico for many property owners and visitors, negatively impacting property values and the overall visitor experience that is vital to our local economy. The imposing height changes the natural aesthetic and perception of our shoreline, deviating from the low-profile, natural beach environment that residents and visitors cherish.

Adverse Impacts to Stormwater Runoff: The altered topography of the dune disrupts natural drainage patterns and shifts more stormwater runoff to the bay side of the island. This leads to increased localized flooding and drainage issues on private properties, as water flow is diverted inland.

Increased Sand Over Wash Potential: While higher dunes are intended to prevent overtopping in extreme events, during major storms, when wave energy exceeds the dune height, the resulting over wash can deposit large amounts of sand onto landward properties, roads, and infrastructure. This creates significant post-storm cleanup burdens and can bury the first floors of homes, creating a greater long-term cost for property owners and the community.

We call on the CEPD Board of Commissioners to take the following steps:

Conduct a formal review and provide a public rationale as to why a 10-foot height is considered adequate for one part of the island but not another, and engage independent coastal engineering experts to confirm that a uniform 10-foot dune can still provide adequate storm protection.

Develop a plan and pass a resolution to lower the 12-foot-high portion of the newly constructed dune to 10 feet.

These actions would demonstrate the CEPD's commitment to balancing essential erosion prevention with the preservation of the unique quality of life and natural beauty of Captiva Island. We urge the Board of Commissioners to prioritize this review and act by the end of the year to address these pressing concerns. We look forward to working with the Board to find a solution that benefits all Captiva stakeholders.

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Ann Baillargeon, 16778 Captiva Drive

Jay and Cindy Brown, 16141 Captiva Drive

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(More to come)