

# Islander Solution Still Debated

## T-Groin, From Page 1

the water down, which allows the water to drop the sand it contains in both directions for about 2,000 feet. So whether the littoral flow is coming from the north or the south, it drops the sand down under our groin and then down the beach for another 2,000 feet."

The concern for adjacent beaches surrounding solid groins was brought up again at last Monday's meeting when another resident and retired engineer, Weldon Frost, voiced his objection to the solid groins. "I would suggest that if the engineer cannot say 100% for certain that he has built one of these things (T-groin) before and it has worked, then I would say we go with something that has a 30 year history at The Colony." Frost also pointed out that in the event of a large storm or hurricane, the wave action against the solid groins causes scouring of the beaches, and will also degrade the groins.

"We've authorized five or six groins at the Islander which will cost \$2.2 million, and two at the north end of the island which will cost \$1.2 million. CPE have been charged with obtaining the permits, planning the groins, and installing the groins," said Whatmough. "We have to get some understanding of what this \$3.4 million is going to do. We have no assurance from CPE that nothing will happen to the adjacent shorelines."

Town Manager Bruce St. Denis explained that "the kind of information that Whatmough and Dawson are speaking about is looked at in the permitting process."

The beach at the Islander has always been a highly erosive area, because it protrudes into the Gulf of Mexico, according to Public Works Director Juan Florensa. Since the beach renourishment project has laid new sand along the Islander's beach, the Town needs to take steps to maintain the beach and keep it from eroding. Placing T-groins was CPE's proposed solution to the high erosion that occurs in this area.

Douglas Mann, CPE Project Manager for the Town of

Longboat Key said: "We had actually considered a semi-permeable groin for the Town, but there was already a design guidance, or methodology, in place for what the Town was to design."

Mann also said: "How an engineer decides (what to recommend) can be based on several factors. One is a functional consideration: how much sand is desired to bypass the structure (groin), and how much sand is needed to be captured to add to the beach. Another factor is the cost. Yet another factor that goes into the decision is what the owner wants (in this case The Islander and Town of Longboat Key)."

This last statement is a point of contention for the Islander President David Brennar. He maintains that "the Beach is Town property, CPE answers to them. We have been supportive of the Town's efforts. We've got all this beach sitting out here, and the longer it sits without protection, the greater the chance of losing it. We want something to be done to protect it."

According to Florensa, the Town does not own any portion of the beach in front of the Islander, but that "the property line is divided between the Islander, which owns the beach to approximately 10-20 feet past the seawall. The beach from that point to the water is owned by the state of Florida." The best way of describing it according to Florensa is that the Town of Longboat Key is the customer to Coastal Planning and Engineering.

Mann said it is possible to place permeable groins at the Islander. "To install permeable groins at the Islander, the groins would have to be longer in length than the solid groins, which does add time and money to construction. The Islander is an area where there is limestone rock which would make driving pilings in harder and therefore take longer, again adding construction cost. A permeable groin can be designed out of many different materials, such as wood piles, cement piles, even loosely spaced rock. But closely spaced piles are the most common."

# Longboat Key News

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## Top 10 Highest Water Users for September: (Single-family residences)

Customer	Service Address	Per Unit Consumption (in thousands of gallons)
Jay Sir Enterprises	3501 Bayou Sound	147
Gloria Kovnot	3661 Bayou Circle	139
Robert & Mary Kinstle	580 Putting Green Lane	114
Vernon Sobieski	3531 Bayou Point Road	103
Zentra Castle Inc.	521 Birdie Lane	103
Gerald & Marilyn Pasternak	3441 Bayou Court	102
Fred Niedrich	3131 Bayou Sound	98
Charles & Linda Spry	524 Ketch Lane	94
Louis Sanandres	3241 Bayou Way	94
Mike & Michele McKee	845 Longboat Club Road	93

## Top 10 Highest Water Users for October: (Single-family residences)

Customer	Service Address	Per Unit Consumption (in thousands of gallons)
Gary Roberts	596 Outrigger Lane	102
Mike & Michele McKee	845 Longboat Club Road	96
Vernon Sobieski	3531 Bayou Point Road	95
Ivey Iverson	537 Sloop Lane	94
Jay Sir Enterprises	3501 Bayou Sound	93
Richard Dolan	3272 Bayou Road	93
Cantoy's International	600 Putter Lane	90
Gerald & Marilyn Pasternak	3441 Bayou Court	86
Gary Golub	641 Kingfisher Drive	86
Bart Basi	525 Gunwale Lane	81

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