# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TO:** Jim Scholl, City Manager

**FROM:** Janet Muccino, Project Manager

**CC:** David Fernandez, Asst. City Manager

Mark Finigan, Asst. City Manager

Doug Bradshaw, Senior Project Manager

**DATE:** April 28, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Adopt the attached Resolution approving the establishment of an Erosion Control Line on Rest Beach as required by FDEP Office of Beaches & Coastal Systems pursuant to Sections 161.141 - 161.211, F.S. for Rest Beach Renourishment.

## **ACTION STATEMENT:**

The City of Key West applied for a FDEP permit in 2008 and received a Request for Additional Information (RAI) which included establishing an Erosion Control Line (ECL) Adopting the attached resolution and the establishment of an ECL will allow the City to move forward with the permitting needed to renourish Rest Beach. A public workshop and an ECL hearing is also required.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Rest Beach was rebuilt in 1995 with a protective berm, dune plantings and dune walkovers. Funding for the renourishment came from the FDEP, TDC and the City of Key West. The City has rebuilt the protective berms above mean high water (MHW) after most hurricane events; however, the beach has continued to erode and the area below MHW has not been renourished since 1995. Securing permits from the FDEP & USACE would allow the City to renourish Rest Beach. The City leases Rest Beach from the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida

### **PURPOSE & JUSTIFICATION:**

Prior to construction of such a beach restoration project, the board of trustees must establish the line of mean high water for the area to be restored; and any additions to the upland property landward of the established line of mean high water which result from the restoration project remain the property of the upland owner subject to all governmental regulations and are not to be used to justify increased density or the relocation of the coastal construction control line as may be in effect for such upland

Key to the Caribbean - Average yearly temperature 77° F.

property.

### **OPTIONS:**

Option # 1 Approve the establishment of an ECL for Rest Beach Renourishment

The advantage of establishing an ECL is that the City can move forward with the permitting of Rest Beach renourishment.

**Option #2** The City Commission can choose not to move forward with the renourishment is not recommended by staff. The beach is an important component of our tourism industry, home to not only swimmers, but weddings, water sports and sunbathers. The Key West beaches are promoted by the TDC and having a rocky beach and small beach is less than optimal. Smaller hotels, motels, guest house and inns all rely on beaches for guest recreation as they do not have their own beaches.

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no additional funds needed to adopt this resolution.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the attached resolution for the establishment of an Erosion Control Line at Rest Beach as required by Florida Statute Sections 161.141 - 161.211