

City of Hampton Beach Access Plan



HAMPTON VA

Executive Summary

The City of Hampton is prepared to open public beaches as soon as official permission is granted by the Governor under the “Forward Virginia” plan as prescribed, and modeling best practices and all public health advice offered by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). Whereas some Cities and Counties in Virginia have closed and plan to open under a variety of parameters, the City of Hampton is unique (and fortunate) to have four distinct beaches available, each with its own character, purpose, and audience to consider. Our beaches are not what one might consider to be “party beaches,” but are generally more residential, passive, scenic, and recreational in nature. The City of Hampton is also fortunate to be able to approach reopening by use of existing staff as “Beach Ambassadors,” and we are able to open as soon as the order is given, without further delay.

Although each of our beaches is unique, this reopening plan was developed with key new protocols in place to help prevent further spread of the Coronavirus COVID-19 for the protection of our citizens and visitors. Major changes include, but are not limited to the following:

- The use of existing staff as “Beach Ambassadors,” deployed to monitor for social distancing and crowd limits;

- New rules which limit the number of persons allowed in any one group to fewer than ten (10) persons, spaced at least six feet (6’) away from others;

- Increased enforcement and parking mitigation strategies to limit designated parking areas to 50% capacity, with defined parameters for limiting overall crowd size and closing beaches when needed for public health and safety reasons;

- Increased cleaning and sanitizing controls based on advice from the CDC and VDH best practices and recommendations, along with a coordinated first aid response plan for COVID-19 related incidents;

- Cancellation of large-scale events such as the popular “Groovin’ by the Bay” Sunday night concert series, and other events typically permitted such as triathlons and festivals;

- A public messaging strategy designed to inform and reach beachgoers before they arrive, to avoid any misunderstandings and on-site conflict; and,

- A plan to “walk back” reopening whenever necessary in order to further help “flatten the curve” as needed and directed.

The City of Hampton appreciates any consideration for permission to open during Phase II or sooner under the “Forward Virginia” plan. We are ready, and our citizens and visitors are also ready.

Access Plan Buckroe Beach and Park Under PHASE II of “Forward Virginia”

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Health & Sanitation

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Risk Management

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HAMPTON VA

Audience Profile and Attractions

Buckroe Beach and Park is an integrated system that lies within a residential neighborhood just north of Fort Monroe on the Chesapeake Bay, making this an attractive location to locals and visitors alike. Primary audiences and typical visitors to Buckroe are families with young children, although there is a distinctly older population during Sunday night's "Groovin' by the Bay" concert series as well. Nature enthusiasts and local residents enjoy the Beach throughout the year beyond the summer months.

One of the oldest recreational areas in Virginia, the Park features a large pavilion for stage performances, an observation pier, children's playground, picnic shelters and amenities available for rent, public restrooms and showers, handicapped accessible beach path, and a boardwalk with seating areas. Adjacent to the Park is the James T. Wilson Fishing Pier, which normally operates April 1 through December 31, 24 hours per day. Due to damage sustained during the winter, the Pier is currently closed until further notice. Watersports rentals return by contract with a private provider, and typically a variety of food trucks and vendors are on-site based on a rotating schedule. Returning for 2020 is a recurring Farmer's Market, operating most Saturdays beginning May 30 through October 31, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Visitors expect a safe, relaxing atmosphere suitable for families to enjoy. Every effort is made by the City of Hampton to assure the area is easily accessible to everyone. Clearly marked, directional signage is provided, and staff and Rangers are available to assist patrons as well as protect overall public health and safety as needed.

Crowd Management, Security and Enforcement

At Buckroe Beach and Park, crowd management, security, and enforcement services will be provided jointly by the Hampton Police Department, Park Rangers, and Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services (PRLS) staff. Trained staff from PRLS will act as "Beach Ambassadors" to assist visitors and maintain order by enforcing social distancing, crowd limits, and Park rules in a respectful, courteous manner. Staff is supervised on-site by City of Hampton Park Rangers and the Buckroe Beach and Park Manager. Rangers will assist with rule enforcement issues, and the Hampton Police Department will assist with law enforcement, traffic, and parking.

CROWD CAPACITIES

To the extent possible, overall Beach capacity at Buckroe will be limited to 750 persons, and overall Park capacity will be limited to 750 persons. Once full capacity has been reached, access by vehicles will be closed at all entrance points to the Park, regardless of time of day. Should both the Beach and Park reach less than half capacity again by 2:00pm, a decision will be made by the Director of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services as to whether to reopen again (and remain open until sunset, or until capacity is reached again, causing a days-end final closure).

DISTANCING PROTOCOLS

Staff “Ambassadors” will monitor for groups of no more than 10 people, separated by at least 6’ of space from others. Shelter reservations will not be accepted for groups of more than 10, and shelters will also be monitored for proper social distancing.

ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONAL HOURS

- Operational hours for “Beach Ambassadors” are 8:00am-8:00pm daily;
- Operational hours for Lifeguards are 10:00am-6:00pm daily;
- Operational hours for Park Rangers are 8:00am-8:00pm daily and as needed;
- Operational hours for Hampton Police Department are 10:00am-10:00pm daily, and 24-hour frequent patrols 365 days per year

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR DISTANCING AND CROWD VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, and asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, they will be asked to comply or to leave the Beach or Park.

If they refuse to leave at that point, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will inform the individual they must comply or leave, or they will be charged with trespassing.

A Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will then issue trespassing summons for failing to leave after being instructed to do so.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR PARK RULES VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, and asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Officer will be called to enforce rules based on the appropriate Ordinance and internal procedures.

ENFORCEMENT FOR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

All incidents involving criminal and illegal activity, including selling of drugs, theft, assault, and other escalated matters should be reported immediately to the Hampton

Police Officers on-site, who will address the complaints based on appropriate laws and Hampton Police Department policies and procedures. Police are also able to provide a variety of available services as needed for overall security, including bicycle patrols, K-9 units, bomb sweeps, marine patrols, and more according to internal, situational review and assessment.

SECURITY RESPONDER COORDINATION

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for overall security, and maintains ultimate authority over law enforcement and issues associated with crowd management. City staff does not have the authority to supersede in matters of law enforcement.

Police serve, along with first-aid providers, as first-responders to accidents and emergencies during events and will call for back-up services and personnel as needed. Police assume command of any emergency situation, superseding authority of other first-responders on-site including that of First Aid/Lifeguards, Park Rangers, and staff.

The ranking, on-site duty Officer will maintain two-way radio communication during shifts with Park Rangers, the Sr. Lifeguard, and Buckroe Beach and Park staff for cross-coordination.

Emergency Response and Incident Management

EMERGENCY PARK AND BEACH SHUT-DOWN

Under specific circumstances, City of Hampton leadership and/or Hampton Police Officers may decide to call an emergency shut-down at the Park. Bomb threats, fire, threatening weather (lightning, hail, tornadoes, etc.), fights/riots, blackouts, and other conditions which may affect public safety qualify as reason for immediate shut-down. Individual medical emergencies, temporary loss of power, scattered rain showers and other isolated, temporary incidents/accidents are not necessarily reason for a complete shut-down, provided the situation is controlled and not affecting the overall safety of other patrons not involved.

Emergency services personnel on hand should respond immediately to the incident/accident, following established Fire/EMS/Police procedures for handling emergencies, while maintaining radio communication with other first-responders and Buckroe Beach and Park staff.

If necessary, ranking City Officials will make a determination to shut down. Hampton Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services leadership should be immediately notified by on-site Buckroe Beach and Park staff if a decision beyond Hampton Police Department is required, and should be notified as soon as possible following any emergency once handled by first responders.

ILLNESS DUE TO COVID-19

Through public education and outreach, citizens will be advised if they are ill, or showing symptoms of illness, to stay "Safer at Home."

In case of sudden on-set illness while at the Beach or in the Park, first responders will separate the individual from others to a pre-designated, quarantine area, where they will be given a mask and further assessed for appropriate action by medical first responders as appropriate.

First responders will complete an incident report form, and determine if the person came in contact with other individuals still at the scene, and what surfaces, if any, the individual came in contact with while at the beach or in the Park. Immediate clearance, cleaning, and sanitizing of any touched surfaces will take place using OSHA standards for possible biohazards, with those areas off-limits to others for at least 24 hours or until further evaluation. Others who came in contact with the individual, if still present or known, will be notified to contact their doctor for further instructions and any quarantine advice.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Decisions on inclement weather or other potential hazards and comfort factors are made by the Hampton Police Department and City leadership, and are based first and primarily on the safety and comfort of all visitors. Typically, the Beach and Park will close in cases of lightning, wind gusts in excess of 50mph and/or flying debris, inaccessible roadways/parking areas, standing rain water more than 18" deep or rising groundwater more than 6" deep within the area, and any official weather warnings announced.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers and rental craft for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder by beach lifeguards.

At the first sight of lightning, the water and Beach will be cleared, to the boardwalk, of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning by beach lifeguards.

LOST & FOUND

A lost & found area is located at the Parks Office, adjacent to the comfort station. Articles are marked as received with the date/time/place found, and will be sanitized immediately. Patrons who have lost articles should check with the attendant, and must successfully describe the article in order to reclaim. Articles not claimed are boxed and kept at the Park Office through Labor Day of each year. Articles not claimed within this time are discarded or donated to a reputable charity at the discretion of the City of Hampton. All incidents involving accusations of theft should be reported immediately to Hampton Police Officers on-site.

LOST PARENTS/CHILDREN AND MISSING PERSONS

Visitors losing track of members of their parties, lost children, and lost parents should report to the nearest City official or Buckroe Beach and Park staff member to make the

report, where a detailed description will be taken to include name, height, weight, race, clothing, etc. This information will be communicated via radio to all on-site staff and officials, who will search for the missing person as the reporting party remains in place where original report was made with the reporting official. Descriptions of lost children or names are not announced for safety and privacy reasons. However, general announcements directing those who have lost children/family members where to report may be made by Buckroe Beach and Park staff or officials as needed. In all cases, the ranking Hampton Police Officer in charge on-site will take the lead for coordinating further search, including for any extended grid search or closing of boundaries. Once the missing person is reunited with their party, an announcement will be made via two-way radio to all responders.

SHUTTING-DOWN OF BEACHES BY HAMPTON AQUATICS AND LIFEGUARDS

Under City of Hampton Aquatics leadership, periodic shut-down and/or restriction of Beach and water access may become necessary due to storms/lightning, high surf, rip tides, strong currents, water quality issues, and other dangers. On-site lifeguard staff is responsible for determining and communicating these limitations with all affected, including with coordinating officials. The local and state Health Departments also have the authority to shut-down beaches due to water quality issues as needed.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers and rental craft for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder.

At the first sight of lightning, the water and Beach will be cleared, to the boardwalk, of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning.

In the event of unsafe surf conditions, at the discretion of the Department Director or designee, the water will be cleared of all swimmers and rental craft. All lifeguard stands will display the red 'NO SWIMMING' flags. Once the decision has been made to close the water, the Aquatics Administrator will notify the City's 311 call center and the Department Marketing Coordinator.

Health & Sanitation

Buckroe Beach and Park houses permanent restroom facilities and showers for use by the Public during operational hours, as well as a limited number of portable restrooms. For the 2020 summer season, an outside Contractor, Rock Solid, will be responsible for maintaining cleanliness of the comfort station, and Spivey Rentals will service the portable restrooms; Buckroe Beach staff keeps a check on the restrooms numerous times throughout the day as well. There are a number of waste receptacles throughout the Park, which are monitored and emptied by the Buckroe Park staff.

The Hampton Health Department is also responsible for maintaining Public Health standards at Buckroe, including routine monitoring of environmental water quality levels, and conducting food vendor inspections and issuing permits as needed. The City's Risk

Management Department also helps monitor for safe work practices for restroom cleaning, trash removal, and many other functions in the Park.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

For the 2020 summer season, a number of enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols are in place, including the following:

- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing of restrooms and other public areas;
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing of playground surfaces and amenities (picnic tables, benches, swings, etc.);
- Outdoor showers and restrooms monitored for footwear as required;
- Concessions to follow enhanced Virginia Department of Health Guidelines; and,
- All CDC and VDH recommended guidelines are being followed with regard to sanitizing, cleaning, supplies, and signage.

PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

The playground located near public restrooms between First Street and the Beach at Buckroe is maintained by the Parks Maintenance division of the City of Hampton throughout the year, including professional sanitizing of surfaces. Monthly inspections are conducted by qualified, certified personnel to assure safety and compliance. For emergency repairs or to report hazards, on-site PRLS staff should be notified immediately.

SAND SWEEPING/RAKING

The beach sand and shoreline is maintained routinely by the City of Hampton using machinery designed to filter trash and debris, leaving clean, swept sand for use by visitors. For emergency repairs or to report hazards, on-site Buckroe Beach staff should be notified immediately. From May 1 – October 1, the beach cleaning schedule occurs as needed, but at a minimum is as follows:

Sunday – 5:30am-9:30am

Monday – on-call

Tuesday – on-call

Wednesday – 5:30am-9:30am

Thursday – 5:30am-9:30am

Friday – 5:30am-9:30am

Saturday – 5:30am-9:30am

Park & Beach Rules and Standards

NEW 2020 SUMMER RULES

- Group sports (volleyball, football, frisbee, etc.) are prohibited
- No grouping of tents or umbrellas

- No speakers
- Gathering in groups of 10 or more persons is prohibited, and groups must maintain at least six feet (6') of distance between others
- No more than 10 persons in picnic shelters, inside comfort station, or on playground at one time
- Footwear required in restrooms and outdoor showers at comfort station

PARK RULES

Existing, posted park rules include the following, and are subject to change without notice:

- Lifeguards on duty from Beach Opening Date 2020 through Labor Day 10am-6pm
- Beach closed during inclement weather
- No alcoholic beverages permitted
- Swimming beyond swim buoys prohibited
- No Styrofoam coolers allowed
- No tents or portable gazebos allowed in the Park; sun canopies without sidewalls and beach umbrellas are allowed on beach, but no grouping of tents or umbrellas
- Animals (except service animals) prohibited in all areas of Park and Beach to include the greenspace, facilities, boardwalk, and Beach (any area east of First Street) from May 15-September 15. Animals (except service animals) prohibited on playground year-round.
- All dogs must be on a leash during allowable dates and must be picked-up after
- No personal watercraft, fishing, or scuba diving gear permitted
- No open fires, this includes portable grills and fire pits, no frying with oil
- No streamers, confetti, bouncy equipment, horseshoes, or balloons of any kind
- Skateboards and bicycles allowed on bike path only
- No person shall ride or lead any horse or similar animal
- No littering
- No radio or remote controlled vehicles
- Feeding wildlife is prohibited
- No person shall in any way alter, damage, remove, or deface any Park property to include plant vegetation, equipment, and Park structures

Parking and Traffic Management

FREE PARKING – REDUCED BY 50%

Free, public surface parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis at Buckroe Beach and Park. For the 2020 summer season, parking will be allowed in self-parking

spaces only, located in the designated beach parking areas (no grass or overflow parking areas). Parking spaces for the 2020 summer season will be reduced to 50% capacity, in an effort to reduce overall crowd sizes per day under an abundance of caution for public health reasons.

MORE ACCESS OPTIONS

Drop-Off Area – Designated parking spaces on Buckroe Avenue near the North Parking Lot are marked as a “drop-off zone” for those who wish to unload gear and guests.

Motorcycle Parking- A number of spaces along First Street between Buckroe Avenue and Pembroke Avenue are designated specifically for Motorcycle Parking.

PRIVATE PARKING - ILLEGAL

In many of the privately-owned lots nearby Buckroe, towing is enforced; and, vehicles parked illegally in private lots, as well as public spaces, are subject to tickets, fines, and towing at vehicle owner’s expense. Visitors with towing or enforcement complaints should be directed to owners of the private lots, or to the Hampton Police Department as appropriate based on location. The City is not responsible for illegally parked vehicles, and will not reimburse for parking or towing fees.

SHUTTLE BUS - CANCELLED

The City of Hampton typically provides a free, continuous shuttle to Buckroe Beach and Park from Jones Magnet Middle School. For the 2020 summer season, this shuttle will not be provided due to overall parking reduction scenario and social-distancing concerns.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for traffic management and enforcement on streets in and around Buckroe Beach and Park. Any traffic jams in the area will be addressed by the Hampton Police Department according to regular HPD traffic control procedures and strategies.

Type III barricades are available to close all vehicle access points leading to the Beach and Park areas as needed for public safety and traffic control.

Permitted Events and Vendor Coordination

FOOD VENDORS AND FOOD TRUCKS - CANCELLED

Typically, a “Rolling Request for Proposals (RFP)” is issued each year whereby interested food vendors and food trucks may apply to sell food on a recurring schedule within the Park. This is a different process than typically used during Special Events or as required for a Peddler’s License. For the 2020 summer season at Buckroe, this

“Rolling RFP” has been cancelled. Any questions related to food vending should be directed to the Special Events Supervisor for Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services.

Concession items are still available for sale at the Hampton Watersports trailer, following enhanced Virginia Department of Health guidelines.

All other peddler-type vendors (e.g., ice cream trucks) who drive through the area are permitted to stop for a 15-minute period only, and only once within an 8-hour period on the same street.

FARMER’S MARKET

Through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, Village Events, LLC was awarded a contract to provide a recurring Farmer’s Market and Specialty Markets in the greenspace located near Buckroe Beach. Dates are as follows:

May 30 – October 31, 2020, Saturday Farmer’s Market from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., with the exception of certain dates (July 4, July 18, August 22, September 12). The most up-to-date schedule may be found at www.villageevents.org.

The Farmer’s Market is considered an essential service under the Commonwealth of Virginia’s guidelines, and a necessary part of keeping supply chains for fresh food available to the public. Village Events, LLC has coordinated with the Virginia Department of Health as well as the local health department for strict compliance with new regulations and social-distancing protocols as they relate to COVID-19. Any questions related to the Farmer’s Market should be directed to Village Events, LLC, and any questions related to Village Events should be directed to the City’s Parks Planner.

WATERSPORTS VENDOR

A contract exists with Hampton Watersports to provide on-site rentals for a variety of watersports equipment for use by the public, as well as limited concession sales. Guests inquire at the trailer located near the playground, receive a brief safety training from Hampton Watersports, and then board the crafts further up the beach near Buckroe Avenue.

For summer, 2020, additional health guidelines are in place for cleaning and sanitizing surfaces as well as other enhanced regulations for concessions. Any questions related to Hampton Watersports should be directed to the Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services Director.

“GROOVIN’ BY THE BAY” BEACH CONCERT SERIES - CANCELLED

The City’s Special Events section typically produces the “Groovin’ by the Bay” concert series from 6:00p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on Sundays, featuring local and regional live entertainment. The summer 2020 concert series has been cancelled due to an abundance of caution with regard to large crowds.

CITY-SCALE PERMITTED EVENTS – POSTPONED OR CANCELLED PENDING PHASING

The City typically encourages the use of park space for privately-organized events by way of the City-Scale permitting process. Persons wishing to hold events for over 250 people, and/or for those that require alcohol permits, the selling of food, admissions, amusement devices, amplified sound, and other resource-based items as listed are required to complete this process and obtain a permit. For the 2020 summer season, many events are being postponed and/or being rescheduled pending phasing announcements. For information, the public is asked to check with individual, private event organizers on any updates to their schedules.

NON-PERMITTED EVENTS, GATHERINGS, AND SHELTER RENTALS

Throughout the season, a variety of gatherings typically occur at Buckroe Beach and Park, including picnics, reunions, birthday parties, etc., where permits are not required (less than 249 people, with no alcohol, selling of food, admissions, amusement devices, amplified sound, weddings, observances, etc.). For the 2020 summer season, during Phase II under an abundance of caution, shelter rentals are limited to no more than ten (10) persons at one time. During Phase III, a decision will be made as to whether to allow for greater capacity at that time. Citizens may call the Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services office at (757) 727-6348 for more information, or visit www.hampton.gov/parks for more information on renting a shelter or holding larger gatherings.

Public Relations and Communication

COORDINATED MESSAGING

Ongoing communication, transparency and engagement with Buckroe residents and the visiting public will be imperative to a successful summer at Buckroe Beach and Park. To promote a positive City image and minimize negative feedback, a public information, awareness, and image strategy has been implemented, to include input and recommendations from the City's Marketing, Inc. Department, Hampton Convention and Visitor Bureau, the Hampton Police Department, Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services, City-wide 311 services, and others.

ENTRANCE MESSAGING

At vehicle entrance points to Buckroe Beach and Park, staff will be positioned on weekends and holidays to stop each vehicle and distribute a one page, half-sheet flyer explaining the "Dos" and "Don'ts" under the current phase and Park rules.

Staff who monitor on the sand and at pedestrian access points will also be distributing the half-sheet "Do & Don't" flyers daily, which will also be posted on the City's website in advance.

Strategically placed signs will be added to all ingress and egress points.

HAMPTON'S 311 SYSTEM

A system for coordination among 311 operators, the Hampton Police Department, and other responders to immediately reach areas of concern and address issues and complaints is in place. Individuals are being asked to call the City of Hampton's 311 Citizen Contact Center with any questions or complaints.

POLICE AND SECURITY VISIBILITY

There is a system in place for swift and controlled enforcement of current health recommendations, Park rules, City ordinances, and all local, state, and federal laws to maintain a sense of order and safety. Messaging for this will be balanced with what we know to be a desire for a relaxed, beach environment for residents and visitors to enjoy.

SIGNS AND POSTING

For the 2020 summer season, updated sign packages are designed to inform visitors of beach rules as well as health & safety guidelines related to COVID-19 to include social distancing, hand-washing and sanitizing, and required use of footwear, among others. Signs are coordinated among Park staff, with respect to Marketing, Inc. and ongoing placemaking efforts and imaging.

No private advertising of any kind is allowed in the parks. Only City banners and signs may be posted, and/or partner organizations with permission from the Director Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services. All signs must be approved by the Department of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services, Marketing Section in advance.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ENGAGEMENT

Social media will be monitored for any concerns, which will be addressed with timely responses. The goal is to state facts and steer any negative comments toward a more positive outcome whenever possible, while monitoring and reporting potential threats and concerns for follow-up.

Coordination and cross-response control among multiple City social media sites and traditional media outlets will continue, to assure consistent messaging and engagement with similar responses and promotion, all balanced with "fun-messaging" like photo contests, etc.

Risk Management

ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT REPORTING

A City Incident Report must be completed on-site at the time of occurrence, and the City's Office of Risk Management must receive a copy of the report the following business day. In certain instances, a representative from Risk Management should be contacted immediately. Risk Management will make the necessary contacts and investigate/process the claim according to the procedure as written in the affected policy or policies, and forward copies of all related documents to the reporting City Department as needed. Reports on the Beach are handled by a member of the lifeguard staff or

other first responder, and reports in the park are handled by the Buckroe Beach and Park Manager or Officer with the Hampton Police Department.

Medical attention, including that from emergency services, should be offered and made available immediately regardless of potential claims.

INSURANCE REPORTING

Copies of all required insurance paperwork related to incidents or accidents are forwarded to and approved by the City's Risk Management Department. The City's Risk Management staff is notified immediately of any incidents via proper channels by Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff or handling agency (HPD, Fire, etc.).

Staffing and Administration

Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services maintains a full- and part-time staff to manage Buckroe Beach and Park throughout the year. Additional seasonal help is hired to assist during the summer months as needed. Full-time staff are (2) Park Managers, (1) Aquatics Administrator, and (1) Sr. Park Technician. Park staff covers the Beach and Park daily 7:00 a.m. to sunset. Buckroe Beach and Park staff reports to the Director of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services. For summer 2020, one (1) full-time Park Ranger will be stationed at Buckroe Beach and Park. ■

Access Plan Grandview Beach & Nature Preserve Under PHASE II of “Forward Virginia”

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Audience Profile and Attractions

Grandview Beach, Factory Point, and the Grandview Nature Preserve are natural areas designed to remain resilient and provide habitat space for migratory fowl and other wildlife species. Visitors to this beach are primarily nearby residents who walk to the beach from their homes nearby, as well as local nature enthusiasts, bird watchers, and seashell-collectors, etc.

Grandview Beach is a “Swim at Your Own Risk” Beach, with no lifeguards on duty.

Visitors expect a safe, clean, relaxing atmosphere suitable for nature-lovers to enjoy. Every effort is made by the City of Hampton to assure the area is easily accessible to everyone, and staff and Rangers are available to assist patrons as well as protect overall public health and safety as needed.

Crowd Management, Security and Enforcement

Although large crowds are not common to Grandview Beach, management, security, and enforcement services are provided jointly by Hampton Park Rangers and Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff. Trained staff from Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services will act as “Beach Ambassadors,” to assist visitors and maintain order by enforcing social distancing, crowd limits, and Park rules in a respectful, courteous manner. Staff is supervised on-site by City of Hampton Park Rangers. Rangers will assist with rule enforcement issues, and the Hampton Police Department will be on-call nearby to assist with any law enforcement, traffic, and/or parking issues as needed.

CROWD CAPACITIES

To the extent possible, overall Beach capacity at Grandview Beach will be limited to 250 persons. Once full capacity has been reached, pedestrian access via entrance pathway will be closed, regardless of time of day. Should the Beach reach less than half capacity again by 2:00pm, a decision will be made by the Director of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services as to whether to reopen again that day (and remain open until sunset, or until capacity is reached again, causing a days-end final closure).

DISTANCING PROTOCOLS

Staff “Ambassadors” will monitor for groups of no more than 10 people, separated by at least 6’ of space from others. There are no shelters, playgrounds, or other “gathering spots” at this natural beach.

ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONAL HOURS

- Operational hours for “Beach Ambassadors” are 10:00am-Sunset daily;
- Operational hours for Park Rangers are 10:00am-Sunset daily and as needed;
- The Hampton Police Department is on-call for Grandview Beach to respond as needed, with area patrols 365 days per year.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR DISTANCING AND CROWD VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, they will be asked to comply or to leave the beach or park.

If they refuse to leave at that point, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will inform the individual they must comply or leave, or they will be charged with trespassing.

A Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will then issue trespassing summons for failing to leave after being instructed to do so.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR PARK RULES VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Officer will be called to enforce rules based on the appropriate Ordinance and internal procedures.

ENFORCEMENT FOR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

All incidents involving criminal and illegal activity, including selling of drugs, theft, assault, and other escalated matters should be reported immediately to the Hampton Police Officers on-site, who will address the complaints based on appropriate laws and Hampton Police Department policies and procedures. Police are also able to provide a variety of available services as needed for overall security, including bicycle patrols, K-9 units, bomb sweeps, marine patrols, and more according to internal, situational review and assessment.

SECURITY RESPONDER COORDINATION

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for overall security, and maintains ultimate authority over law enforcement and issues associated with crowd management. City staff does not have the authority to supersede in matters of law enforcement.

Police serve, along with first-aid providers, as first-responders to accidents and emergencies during events and will call for back-up services and personnel as needed. Police assume command of any emergency situation, superseding authority of other first-responders on-site including that of Park Rangers and staff.

Emergency Response and Incident Management

EMERGENCY PARK AND BEACH SHUT-DOWN

Under specific circumstances, City of Hampton leadership and/or Hampton Police Officers may decide to call an emergency shut-down at the Beach. Bomb threats, fire, threatening weather (lightning, hail, tornadoes, etc.), fights/riots, blackouts, and other conditions which may affect public safety qualify as reason for immediate shut-down. Individual medical emergencies, scattered rain showers and other isolated, temporary incidents/accidents are not necessarily reason for a complete shut-down, provided the situation is controlled and not affecting the overall safety of other patrons not involved.

Emergency services personnel on hand should respond immediately to the incident/accident, following established Fire/EMS/Police procedures for handling emergencies, while maintaining radio communication between first-responders.

If necessary, ranking City Officials will make a determination to shut down. Hampton Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services leadership should be immediately notified by on-site Beach staff if a decision beyond Hampton Police Department is required, and should be notified as soon as possible following any emergency once handled by first responders.

ILLNESS DUE TO COVID-19

Through public education and outreach, citizens will be advised if they are ill, or showing symptoms of illness, to stay “Safer at Home.”

In case of sudden on-set illness while at the Beach, first responders will separate the individual from others to a pre-designated, quarantine area, where they will be given a mask and further assessed for appropriate action by medical first responders as appropriate.

First responders will complete an incident report form, and determine if the person came in contact with other individuals still at the scene, and what surfaces, if any, the individual came in contact with while at the Beach. Immediate clearance, cleaning, and sanitizing of any touched surfaces will take place using OSHA standards for possible biohazards, with those areas off limits to others for at least 24 hours or until further evaluation. Others who came in contact with the individual, if still present or known, will be notified to contact their doctor for further instructions and any quarantine advice.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Decisions on inclement weather or other potential hazards and comfort factors are

made by the Hampton Police Department and City leadership, and are based first and primarily on the safety and comfort of all visitors. Typically, the Beach will close in cases of lightning, wind gusts in excess of 50mph and/or flying debris, inaccessible roadways, standing rain water more than 18" deep or rising groundwater more than 6" deep within the area, and any official weather warnings announced.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder.

At the first sight of lightning, the water will be cleared of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning.

LOST & FOUND

There is no office or ranger station at Grandview, but any items found may be turned in at the Parks Office adjacent to the comfort station at Buckroe Beach. Any articles turned in at the Buckroe Office are marked as received with the date/time/place found, and will be sanitized immediately. Patrons who have lost articles should check with the attendant, and must successfully describe the article in order to reclaim. Articles not claimed are boxed and kept at the Park Office through Labor Day of each year. Articles not claimed within this time are discarded or donated to a reputable charity at the discretion of the City of Hampton. All incidents involving accusations of theft should be reported immediately to the Hampton Police Department.

LOST PARENTS/CHILDREN AND MISSING PERSONS

Visitors losing track of members of their parties, lost children, and lost parents should report to the nearest City official or staff member to make the report, where a detailed description will be taken to include name, height, weight, race, clothing, etc. This information will be communicated via radio to all on-site staff and officials, who will search for the missing person as the reporting party remains in place where original report was made, with reporting official. Descriptions of lost children or names are not announced for safety and privacy reasons. However, general announcements via megaphone directing those who have lost children/family members where to report may be made by staff or officials as needed. In all cases, the ranking Hampton Police Officer in charge on-site will take the lead for coordinating further search, including for any extended grid search or closing of boundaries. Once the missing person is reunited with their party, an announcement will be made via two-way radio to all responders.

SHUTTING-DOWN OF BEACHES BY HAMPTON AQUATICS AND LIFEGUARDS

Under City of Hampton Aquatics leadership, periodic shut-down and/or restriction of Beach and water access may become necessary due to storms/lightning, high surf, rip tides, strong currents, water quality issues, and other dangers. Park Rangers or staff are responsible for determining and communicating these limitations with all affected, including with coordinating officials. The local and state Health Departments also have the authority to shut-down beaches due to water quality issues as needed.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers and rental craft for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder.

At the first sight of lightning, the water and Beach will be cleared, to the boardwalk, of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning.

In the event of unsafe surf conditions, at the discretion of the Department Director or designee, the water will be cleared of all swimmers.

Health & Sanitation

Grandview Beach and Nature Preserve does not house amenities such as picnic tables, showers, etc.; however, there are portable restrooms on-site which are routinely serviced by the rental contractor.

The Hampton Health Department is also responsible for maintaining Public Health standards at Grandview, including routine monitoring of environmental water quality levels.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

For the 2020 summer season, a number of enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols are in place, including the following:

- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing of restrooms and other public areas; and,
- All CDC and VDH recommended guidelines are being followed with regard to sanitizing, cleaning, supplies, and signage.

Park & Beach Rules and Standards

NEW 2020 SUMMER RULES

- Group sports (volleyball, football, Frisbee, etc.) are prohibited
- No grouping of tents or umbrellas
- No speakers
- Gathering in groups of 10 or more persons is prohibited, and groups must maintain at least six feet (6') of distance between others

PARK RULES

Existing, posted park rules include the following, and are subject to change without notice:

- Beach closed during inclement weather

- No alcoholic beverages permitted
- Swimming beyond swim buoys prohibited
- No Styrofoam coolers allowed
- Sun canopies without sidewalls and beach umbrellas are allowed on beach, but no grouping of tents or umbrellas
- Animals (except service animals) prohibited in all areas of beach from May 15-September 15.
- No personal watercraft, fishing, or scuba diving gear permitted
- No open fires, this includes portable grills and fire pits, no frying with oil
- No streamers, confetti, bouncy equipment, horseshoes, or balloons of any kind
- No person shall ride or lead any horse or similar animal
- No littering
- No radio or remote controlled vehicles
- Feeding wildlife is prohibited
- No person shall in any way alter, damage, remove, or deface any park property to include plant vegetation, equipment, and park structures

Parking and Traffic Management

PUBLIC PARKING

There is no designated parking or nearby lot for Grandview Beach, but on-street parking in the neighborhoods is legal when parked properly. Parking in this area is not being reduced, as only limited space exists on a small residential street.

PRIVATE PARKING - ILLEGAL

Any vehicles parked illegally in private lots or blocking driveways are subject to tickets, fines, and towing at vehicle owner's expense. The City is not responsible for illegally parked vehicles, and will not reimburse for parking or towing fees.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for traffic management and enforcement on streets in and around the Grandview neighborhood. Any traffic jams in the area will be addressed by the Hampton Police Department according to regular HPD traffic control procedures and strategies.

Public Relations and Communication

COORDINATED MESSAGING

Ongoing communication, transparency and engagement with citizens and the visiting public will be imperative to a successful summer at Grandview Beach. To promote a positive City image and minimize negative feedback, a public information, awareness,

and image strategy has been implemented, to include input and recommendations from the City's Marketing, Inc. Department, Hampton Convention and Visitor Bureau, the Hampton Police Department, Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services, City-wide 311 services, and others.

ENTRANCE MESSAGING

At the entrance to Grandview Beach, staff will be positioned on weekends and holidays to stop each person and distribute a one page, half-sheet flyer explaining the "Dos" and "Don'ts" under the current phase and Beach rules. Strategically placed signs will be added to all ingress and egress points.

HAMPTON'S 311 SYSTEM

A system for coordination among 311 operators, the Hampton Police Department, and other responders to immediately reach areas of concern and address issues and complaints is in place. Individuals are being asked to call the City of Hampton's 311 Citizen Contact Center with any questions or complaints.

POLICE AND SECURITY VISIBILITY

There is a system in place for swift and controlled enforcement of current health recommendations, Park rules, City ordinances, and all local, state, and federal laws to maintain a sense of order and safety. Messaging for this will be balanced with what we know to be a desire for a relaxed, beach environment for residents and visitors to enjoy.

SIGNS AND POSTING

For the 2020 summer season, updated sign packages are designed to inform visitors of beach rules as well as health & safety guidelines related to COVID-19 to include social distancing, hand-washing and sanitizing, etc. Signs are coordinated among Park staff, with respect to Marketing, Inc. and ongoing placemaking efforts and imaging.

No private advertising of any kind is allowed at Grandview Beach.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ENGAGEMENT

Social media will be monitored for any concerns, which will be addressed with timely responses. The goal is to state facts and steer any negative comments toward a more positive outcome whenever possible, while monitoring and reporting potential threats and concerns for follow-up.

Coordination and cross-response control among multiple City social media sites and traditional media outlets will continue, to assure consistent messaging and engagement with similar responses and promotion, all balanced with "fun-messaging" like photo contests, etc.

Risk Management

ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT REPORTING

A City Incident Report must be completed on-site at the time of occurrence, and the City's Office of Risk Management must receive a copy of the report the following business day. In certain instances, a representative from Risk Management should be contacted immediately. Risk Management will make the necessary contacts and investigate/process the claim according to the procedure as written in the affected policy or policies, and forward copies of all related documents to the reporting City Department as needed. Reports on the Beach are handled by staff and/or first responders as needed. Medical attention, including that from emergency services, should be offered and made available immediately regardless of potential claims.

INSURANCE REPORTING

Copies of all required insurance paperwork related to incidents or accidents are forwarded to and approved by the City's Risk Management Department. The City's Risk Management staff is notified immediately of any incidents via proper channels by Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff or handling agency (HPD, Fire, etc.).

Staffing and Administration

Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services does not typically maintain a permanent, scheduled Ranger presence at Grandview Beach, but it is monitored with frequent patrols. "Staff Ambassadors" are now monitoring Grandview Beach for social distancing and Beach rules. ■

Access Plan Outlook Beach and Coves Under PHASE II of “Forward Virginia”

Audience Profile and Attractions

Crowd Management, Security and Enforcement

Emergency Response and Incident Management

Health & Sanitation

Park & Beach Rules and Standards

Parking and Traffic Management

Public Relations and Communication

Risk Management

Staffing and Administration



HAMPTON VA

Audience Profile and Attractions

Outlook Beach and Coves on Fort Monroe is a scenic, narrow area with a series of low-entry beach spots great for families with younger children (and for those who wish to avoid the hustle-and-bustle of the larger, traditional beaches). Established as a vital part of the former military installation, visitors to this beach are primarily locals who know the beach by its place in Hampton's history (and the history of the Nation), who like to sunbathe and cool off in the water without necessarily riding waves and surfing. Fort Monroe is now a public-private, mixed-use developing area, with residential and commercial assets jointly governed by the Fort Monroe Authority, the National Park Service, and the City of Hampton.

Visitors expect a safe, clean, relaxing atmosphere suitable for families and small children to enjoy. Every effort is made by the City of Hampton to assure the area is easily accessible to everyone, and lifeguards, staff, and Rangers are available to assist patrons as well as protect overall public health and safety as needed.

Crowd Management, Security and Enforcement

Beach management, security, and enforcement services are provided jointly by Hampton Park Rangers, Lifeguards, and Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff. Trained staff from Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services will act as "Beach Ambassadors," to assist visitors and maintain order by enforcing social distancing, crowd limits, and Beach rules in a respectful, courteous manner. Rangers will assist with rule enforcement issues, and the Hampton Police Department will be on-call nearby to assist with any law enforcement, traffic, and/or parking issues as needed.

CROWD CAPACITIES

To the extent possible, overall Beach capacity at Outlook Beach and Coves will be limited to 500 persons. Once full capacity has been reached, pedestrian access will be limited via public announcements, signs, and in-person enforcement, regardless of time of day. Should the Beach reach less than half capacity again by 2:00pm, a decision will be made by the Director of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services to whether to reopen again that day (and remain open until sunset, or until capacity is reached again, causing a days-end final closure).

DISTANCING PROTOCOLS

Staff "Ambassadors" will monitor for groups of no more than 10 people, separated by at least 6' of space from others. There are no shelters, playgrounds, or other "gathering spots" at this Beach.

ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONAL HOURS

- Operational hours for "Beach Ambassadors" are 10:00am-6:00pm daily;
- Operational hours for Lifeguards are 10:00am-6:00pm daily;

- Operational hours for Park Rangers are 10:00am-6:00pm daily and as needed;
- The Hampton Police Department is on-call for Outlook Beach to respond as needed, with area patrols 365 days per year.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR DISTANCING AND CROWD VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, they will be asked to comply or to leave the beach or park.

If they refuse to leave at that point, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will inform the individual they must comply or leave, or they will be charged with trespassing.

A Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will then issue trespassing summons for failing to leave after being instructed to do so.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR PARK RULES VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Officer will be called to enforce rules based on the appropriate Ordinance and internal procedures.

ENFORCEMENT FOR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

All incidents involving criminal and illegal activity, including selling of drugs, theft, assault, and other escalated matters should be reported immediately to the Hampton Police Officers on-site, who will address the complaints based on appropriate laws and Hampton Police Department policies and procedures. Police are also able to provide a variety of available services as needed for overall security, including bicycle patrols, K-9 units, bomb sweeps, marine patrols, and more according to internal, situational review and assessment.

SECURITY RESPONDER COORDINATION

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for overall security, and maintains ultimate authority over law enforcement and issues associated with crowd management. City staff does not have the authority to supersede in matters of law enforcement.

For certain areas adjacent to, and part of, Outlook Beach, jurisdiction falls under either the National Park Service or the Fort Monroe Authority for governance. The City of Hampton works closely with these agencies for coordinated management, messaging, and enforcement.

Police serve, along with first-aid providers, as first-responders to accidents and emergencies during events and will call for back-up services and personnel as needed. Police assume command of any emergency situation, superseding authority of other first-responders on-site including that of Park Rangers and staff.

Emergency Response and Incident Management

EMERGENCY PARK AND BEACH SHUT-DOWN

Under specific circumstances, City of Hampton leadership and/or Hampton Police Officers may decide to call an emergency shut-down at the Beach. Bomb threats, fire, threatening weather (lightning, hail, tornadoes, etc.), fights/riots, blackouts, and other conditions which may affect public safety qualify as reason for immediate shut-down. Individual medical emergencies, scattered rain showers and other isolated, temporary incidents/accidents are not necessarily reason for a complete shut-down, provided the situation is controlled and not affecting the overall safety of other patrons not involved.

Emergency services personnel on hand should respond immediately to the incident/accident, following established Fire/EMS/Police procedures for handling emergencies, while maintaining radio communication between first-responders.

If necessary, ranking City Officials will make a determination to shut down. Hampton Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services leadership should be immediately notified by on-site Beach staff if a decision beyond Hampton Police Department is required, and should be notified as soon as possible following any emergency once handled by first responders.

ILLNESS DUE TO COVID-19

Through public education and outreach, citizens will be advised if they are ill, or showing symptoms of illness, to stay “Safer at Home.”

In case of sudden on-set illness while at the Beach, first responders will separate the individual from others to a pre-designated, quarantine area, where they will be given a mask and further assessed for appropriate action by medical first responders as appropriate.

First responders will complete an incident report form, and determine if the person came in contact with other individuals still at the scene, and what surfaces, if any, the individual came in contact with while at the beach. Immediate clearance, cleaning, and sanitizing of any touched surfaces will take place using OSHA standards for possible biohazards, with those areas off limits to others for at least 24 hours or until further evaluation. Others who came in contact with the individual, if still present or known, will be notified to contact their doctor for further instructions and any quarantine advice.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Decisions on inclement weather or other potential hazards and comfort factors are made by the Hampton Police Department and City leadership, and are based first and primarily on the safety and comfort of all visitors. Typically, the Beach will close in cases of lightning, wind gusts in excess of 50mph and/or flying debris, inaccessible roadways, standing rain water more than 18" deep or rising groundwater more than 6" deep within the area, and any official weather warnings announced.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder.

At the first sight of lightning, the water will be cleared of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning.

LOST & FOUND

There is no office or ranger station at Outlook Beach, but any items found may be turned in at the Parks Office adjacent to the comfort station at Buckroe Beach. Any articles turned in at the Buckroe Office are marked as received with the date/time/place found, and will be sanitized immediately. Patrons who have lost articles should check with the attendant, and must successfully describe the article in order to reclaim. Articles not claimed are boxed and kept at the Park Office through Labor Day of each year. Articles not claimed within this time are discarded or donated to a reputable charity at the discretion of the City of Hampton. All incidents involving accusations of theft should be reported immediately to the Hampton Police Department.

LOST PARENTS/CHILDREN AND MISSING PERSONS

Visitors losing track of members of their parties, lost children, and lost parents should report to the nearest City official or staff member to make the report, where a detailed description will be taken to include name, height, weight, race, clothing, etc. This information will be communicated via radio to all on-site staff and officials, who will search for the missing person as the reporting party remains in place where original report was made, with reporting official. Descriptions of lost children or names are not announced for safety and privacy reasons. However, general announcements via megaphone directing those who have lost children/family members where to report may be made by staff or officials as needed. In all cases, the ranking Hampton Police Officer in charge on-site will take the lead for coordinating further search, including for any extended grid search or closing of boundaries. Once the missing person is reunited with their party, an announcement will be made via two-way radio to all responders.

SHUTTING-DOWN OF BEACHES BY HAMPTON AQUATICS AND LIFEGUARDS

Under City of Hampton Aquatics leadership, periodic shut-down and/or restriction of beach and water access may become necessary due to storms/lightning, high surf, rip tides, strong currents, water quality issues, and other dangers. Park Rangers or staff are responsible for determining and communicating these limitations with all affected, including with coordinating officials. The local and state Health Departments also have the authority to shut-down beaches due to water quality issues as needed.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers and rental craft for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder.

At the first sight of lightning, the water and Beach will be cleared, to the boardwalk, of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning.

In the event of unsafe surf conditions, at the discretion of the Department Director or designee, the water will be cleared of all swimmers.

Health & Sanitation

Outlook Beach and Coves does not house amenities such as picnic tables, showers, etc.; however, there are portable restrooms on-site which are routinely serviced by the rental contractor.

The Hampton Health Department is also responsible for maintaining Public Health standards at Outlook Beach, including routine monitoring of environmental water quality levels.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

For the 2020 summer season, a number of enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols are in place, including the following:

- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing of public areas including guard rails; and,
- All CDC and VDH recommended guidelines are being followed with regard to sanitizing, cleaning, supplies, and signage.

Park & Beach Rules and Standards

NEW 2020 SUMMER RULES

- Group sports (volleyball, football, Frisbee, etc.) are prohibited
- No grouping of tents or umbrellas
- No speakers

- Gathering in groups of 10 or more persons is prohibited, and groups must maintain at least six feet (6') of distance between others

PARK RULES

Existing, posted park rules include the following, and are subject to change without notice:

- Beach closed during inclement weather
- No alcoholic beverages permitted
- Swimming beyond swim buoys prohibited
- No Styrofoam coolers allowed
- Sun canopies without sidewalls and beach umbrellas are allowed on beach, but no grouping of tents or umbrellas
- Animals (except service animals) prohibited in all areas of beach from May 15-September 15.
- No personal watercraft, fishing, or scuba diving gear permitted
- No open fires, this includes portable grills and fire pits, no frying with oil
- No streamers, confetti, bouncy equipment, horseshoes, or balloons of any kind
- No person shall ride or lead any horse or similar animal
- No littering
- No radio or remote controlled vehicles
- Feeding wildlife is prohibited
- No person shall in any way alter, damage, remove, or deface any park property to include plant vegetation, equipment, and park structures

Parking and Traffic Management

PUBLIC PARKING

There is no City-owned parking near Outlook Beach, but there are several Fort Monroe Authority-owned parking lots nearby that are available for public use. Parking in this area is not being reduced as the City does not own the lots, but signs and “Beach Ambassadors” will be posted in strategic places in order to greet (or turn away) beachgoers prior to arrival and set-up on the beach.

PRIVATE PARKING - ILLEGAL

Any vehicles parked illegally in private lots or blocking driveways are subject to tickets, fines, and towing at vehicle owner’s expense. The City is not responsible for illegally parked vehicles, and will not reimburse for parking or towing fees.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for traffic management and enforcement on streets in and around Fort Monroe, in conjunction with the Fort Monroe

Authority. Any traffic jams in the area will be addressed by the Hampton Police Department according to regular HPD traffic control procedures and strategies.

Public Relations and Communication

COORDINATED MESSAGING

Ongoing communication, transparency and engagement with citizens and the visiting public will be imperative to a successful summer at Outlook Beach. To promote a positive City image and minimize negative feedback, a public information, awareness, and image strategy has been implemented, to include input and recommendations from the City's Marketing, Inc. Department, Hampton Convention and Visitor Bureau, the Hampton Police Department, Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services, City-wide 311 services, and others.

ENTRANCE MESSAGING

At strategic entrance points to Outlook Beach, staff will be positioned on weekends and holidays to stop each person and distribute a one page, half-sheet flyer explaining the "Dos" and "Don'ts" under the current phase and beach rules. Strategically placed signs will be added as well.

HAMPTON'S 311 SYSTEM

A system for coordination among 311 operators, the Hampton Police Department, and other responders to immediately reach areas of concern and address issues and complaints is in place. Individuals are being asked to call the City of Hampton's 311 Citizen Contact Center with any questions or complaints.

POLICE AND SECURITY VISIBILITY

There is a system in place for swift and controlled enforcement of current health recommendations, Park rules, City ordinances, and all local, state, and federal laws to maintain a sense of order and safety. Messaging for this will be balanced with what we know to be a desire for a relaxed, beach environment for residents and visitors to enjoy.

SIGNS AND POSTING

For the 2020 summer season, updated sign packages are designed to inform visitors of beach rules as well as health & safety guidelines related to COVID-19 to include social distancing, hand-washing and sanitizing, etc. Signs are coordinated among Park staff, with respect to Marketing, Inc. and ongoing placemaking efforts and imaging.

No private advertising of any kind is allowed at Outlook Beach.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ENGAGEMENT

Social media will be monitored for any concerns, which will be addressed with timely responses. The goal is to state facts and steer any negative comments toward a more positive outcome whenever possible, while monitoring and reporting potential threats and concerns for follow-up.

Coordination and cross-response control among multiple City social media sites and traditional media outlets will continue, to assure consistent messaging and engagement with similar responses and promotion, all balanced with “fun-messaging” like photo contests, etc.

Risk Management

ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT REPORTING

A City Incident Report must be completed on-site at the time of occurrence, and the City’s Office of Risk Management must receive a copy of the report the following business day. In certain instances, a representative from Risk Management should be contacted immediately. Risk Management will make the necessary contacts and investigate/process the claim according to the procedure as written in the affected policy or policies, and forward copies of all related documents to the reporting City Department as needed. Reports on the Beach are handled by staff and/or first responders as needed. Medical attention, including that from emergency services, should be offered and made available immediately regardless of potential claims.

INSURANCE REPORTING

Copies of all required insurance paperwork related to incidents or accidents are forwarded to and approved by the City’s Risk Management Department. The City’s Risk Management staff is notified immediately of any incidents via proper channels by Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff or handling agency (HPD, Fire, etc.).

Staffing and Administration

Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services does not typically maintain a permanent, scheduled Ranger presence at Outlook Beach, but it is monitored with frequent patrols and during lifeguard operational hours. “Staff Ambassadors” are now monitoring Outlook Beach for social distancing and Beach rules. ■

Access Plan Salt Ponds Inlet and Beach Under PHASE II of “Forward Virginia”

Audience Profile and Attractions

Crowd Management, Security and Enforcement

Emergency Response and Incident Management

Health & Sanitation

Park & Beach Rules and Standards

Parking and Traffic Management

Public Relations and Communication

Risk Management

Staffing and Administration



HAMPTON VA

Audience Profile and Attractions

Salt Ponds Beach and Inlet is primarily a residential beach, fronted by a variety of waterfront homes and rental cottages, condominiums, and privately-owned property. This is a scenic, narrow area lined with sidewalks (and a length of a bike path), and is adjacent to Buckroe Beach and Park. Public access is from along the Buckroe Beach shore, as well as a limited parking area and public access pathway.

Salt Ponds beaches are in a “Swim at Your Own Risk” area, although lifeguards are positioned at the adjacent Buckroe Beach, and Rangers and the Hampton Police Department patrol the area frequently.

Visitors expect a safe, clean, relaxing atmosphere suitable for families to enjoy. Every effort is made by the City of Hampton to assure the area is easily accessible to everyone, and Rangers and staff are available to assist patrons as well as protect overall public health and safety as needed.

Crowd Management, Security and Enforcement

Beach management, security, and enforcement services are provided jointly by Hampton Park Rangers, Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff, and the Hampton Police Department. Trained staff from Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services will act as “Beach Ambassadors,” to assist visitors and maintain order by enforcing social distancing, crowd limits, and Beach rules in a respectful, courteous manner. Rangers will assist with rule enforcement issues, and the Hampton Police Department will be on-call nearby to assist with any law enforcement, traffic, and/or parking issues as needed.

CROWD CAPACITIES

To the extent possible, overall beach capacity at Outlook Beach and Coves will be limited to 250 persons. Once full capacity has been reached, pedestrian access will be limited via public announcements, signs, and in-person enforcement, regardless of time of day. Should the beach reach less than half capacity again by 2:00pm, a decision will be made by the Director of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services as to whether to reopen again that day (and remain open until sunset, or until capacity is reached again, causing a days-end final closure).

DISTANCING PROTOCOLS

Staff “Ambassadors” will monitor for groups of no more than 10 people, separated by at least 6’ of space from others. There are no shelters, playgrounds, or other “gathering spots” at this strip of Beach.

ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONAL HOURS

- Operational hours for “Beach Ambassadors” are 10:00am-6:00pm daily;
- Operational hours for Park Rangers are 10:00am-6:00pm daily and as needed;

- The Hampton Police Department is on-call for Salt Ponds Beaches to respond as needed, with area patrols 365 days per year.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR DISTANCING AND CROWD VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, they will be asked to comply or to leave the beach or park.

If they refuse to leave at that point, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will inform the individual they must comply or leave, or they will be charged with trespassing.

A Park Ranger or Hampton Police Department Officer will then issue trespassing summons for failing to leave after being instructed to do so.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE FOR PARK RULES VIOLATIONS

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff will continue to monitor beaches and surrounding areas for compliance and distancing requirements as “Beach Ambassadors.”

PRLS staff will be the “first responder” for infractions, acting as ambassadors to further educate individuals on what is allowed and not allowed under current phasing, asking for compliance.

If an individual refuses to comply, a Park Ranger or Hampton Police Officer will be called to enforce rules based on the appropriate Ordinance and internal procedures.

ENFORCEMENT FOR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

All incidents involving criminal and illegal activity, including selling of drugs, theft, assault, and other escalated matters should be reported immediately to the Hampton Police Officers on-site, who will address the complaints based on appropriate laws and Hampton Police Department policies and procedures. Police are also able to provide a variety of available services as needed for overall security, including bicycle patrols, K-9 units, bomb sweeps, marine patrols, and more according to internal, situational review and assessment.

SECURITY RESPONDER COORDINATION

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for overall security, and maintains ultimate authority over law enforcement and issues associated with crowd management. City staff does not have the authority to supersede in matters of law enforcement.

Police and Park Rangers serve along with first-aid providers as first-responders to accidents and emergencies during incidents and will call for back-up services and personnel as needed. Police assume command of any emergency situation, superseding authority of other first-responders on-site including that of Park Rangers and staff.

Emergency Response and Incident Management

EMERGENCY PARK AND BEACH SHUT-DOWN

Under specific circumstances, City of Hampton leadership and/or Hampton Police Officers may decide to call an emergency shut-down at the Beach. Bomb threats, fire, threatening weather (lightning, hail, tornadoes, etc.), fights/riots, blackouts, and other conditions which may affect public safety qualify as reason for immediate shut-down. Individual medical emergencies, scattered rain showers and other isolated, temporary incidents/accidents are not necessarily reason for a complete shut-down, provided the situation is controlled and not affecting the overall safety of other patrons not involved.

Emergency services personnel on hand should respond immediately to the incident/accident, following established Fire/EMS/Police procedures for handling emergencies, while maintaining radio communication between first-responders.

If necessary, ranking City Officials will make a determination to shut down. Hampton Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services leadership should be immediately notified by on-site Beach staff if a decision beyond Hampton Police Department is required, and should be notified as soon as possible following any emergency once handled by first responders.

ILLNESS DUE TO COVID-19

Through public education and outreach, citizens will be advised if they are ill, or showing symptoms of illness, to stay “Safer at Home.”

In case of sudden on-set illness while at the Beach, first responders will separate the individual from others to a pre-designated, quarantine area, where they will be given a mask and further assessed for appropriate action by medical first responders as appropriate.

First responders will complete an incident report form, and determine if the person came in contact with other individuals still at the scene, and what surfaces, if any, the individual came in contact with while at the Beach. Immediate clearance, cleaning, and sanitizing of any touched surfaces will take place using OSHA standards for possible

biohazards, with those areas off limits to others for at least 24 hours or until further evaluation. Others who came in contact with the individual, if still present or known, will be notified to contact their doctor for further instructions and any quarantine advice.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Decisions on inclement weather or other potential hazards and comfort factors are made by the Hampton Police Department and City leadership, and are based first and primarily on the safety and comfort of all visitors. Typically, the Beach will close in cases of lightning, wind gusts in excess of 50mph and/or flying debris, inaccessible roadways, standing rain water more than 18" deep or rising groundwater more than 6" deep within the area, and any official weather warnings announced.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder.

At the first sight of lightning, the water will be cleared of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning.

LOST & FOUND

There is no office or ranger station at Salt Ponds Beach, but any items found may be turned in at the Parks Office adjacent to the comfort station at Buckroe Beach. Any articles turned in at the Buckroe Office are marked as received with the date/time/place found, and will be sanitized immediately. Patrons who have lost articles should check with the attendant, and must successfully describe the article in order to reclaim. Articles not claimed are boxed and kept at the Park Office through Labor Day of each year. Articles not claimed within this time are discarded or donated to a reputable charity at the discretion of the City of Hampton. All incidents involving accusations of theft should be reported immediately to the Hampton Police Department.

LOST PARENTS/CHILDREN AND MISSING PERSONS

Visitors losing track of members of their parties, lost children, and lost parents should report to the nearest City official or staff member to make the report, where a detailed description will be taken to include name, height, weight, race, clothing, etc. This information will be communicated via radio to all on-site staff and officials, who will search for the missing person as the reporting party remains in place where original report was made, with reporting official. Descriptions of lost children or names are not announced for safety and privacy reasons. However, general announcements via megaphone directing those who have lost children/family members where to report may be made by staff or officials as needed. In all cases, the ranking Hampton Police Officer in charge on-site will take the lead for coordinating further search, including for any extended grid search or closing of boundaries. Once the missing person is reunited with their party, an announcement will be made via two-way radio to all responders.

SHUTTING-DOWN OF BEACHES BY HAMPTON AQUATICS AND LIFEGUARDS

Under City of Hampton Aquatics leadership, periodic shut-down and/or restriction of beach and water access may become necessary due to storms/lightning, high surf, rip

tides, strong currents, water quality issues, and other dangers. Park Rangers or staff are responsible for determining and communicating these limitations with all affected, including with coordinating officials. The local and state Health Departments also have the authority to shut-down beaches due to water quality issues as needed.

In the event of thunder, the water will be cleared of all swimmers and rental craft for 30 minutes from the last sounds of thunder.

At the first sight of lightning, the water and Beach will be cleared, to the boardwalk, of all persons for 30 minutes from the last sight of lightning.

In the event of unsafe surf conditions, at the discretion of the Department Director or designee, the water will be cleared of all swimmers.

Health & Sanitation

Salt Ponds Beaches do not house amenities such as picnic tables, showers, etc.; however, there are a series of benches and trashcans on-site which are routinely maintained by the City's Parks Maintenance section of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services.

The Hampton Health Department is also responsible for maintaining Public Health standards at Salt Ponds Beaches, including routine monitoring of environmental water quality levels.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

For the 2020 summer season, a number of enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols are in place, including the following:

- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing of public areas including benches and trashcans; and,
- All CDC and VDH recommended guidelines are being followed with regard to sanitizing, cleaning, supplies, and signage.

Park & Beach Rules and Standards

NEW 2020 SUMMER RULES

- Group sports (volleyball, football, Frisbee, etc.) are prohibited
- No grouping of tents or umbrellas
- No speakers
- Gathering in groups of 10 or more persons is prohibited, and groups must maintain at least six feet (6') of distance between others

PARK RULES

Existing, posted park rules include the following, and are subject to change without notice:

- Beach closed during inclement weather
- No alcoholic beverages permitted
- Swimming beyond swim buoys prohibited
- No Styrofoam coolers allowed
- Sun canopies without sidewalls and beach umbrellas are allowed on beach, but no grouping of tents or umbrellas
- Animals (except service animals) prohibited in all areas of beach from May 15-September 15.
- No personal watercraft, fishing, or scuba diving gear permitted
- No open fires, this includes portable grills and fire pits, no frying with oil
- No streamers, confetti, bouncy equipment, horseshoes, or balloons of any kind
- No person shall ride or lead any horse or similar animal
- No littering
- No radio or remote controlled vehicles
- Feeding wildlife is prohibited
- No person shall in any way alter, damage, remove, or deface any Park property to include plant vegetation, equipment, and Park structures

Parking and Traffic Management

PUBLIC PARKING

There is very limited City-owned parking near Salt Ponds Beaches (12 spaces), but there is parking available at the adjacent Buckroe Beach and Park available for public use. Parking in the small, 12-space area is not being reduced.

PRIVATE PARKING - ILLEGAL

Any vehicles parked illegally in private lots or blocking driveways are subject to tickets, fines, and towing at vehicle owner's expense. The City is not responsible for illegally parked vehicles, and will not reimburse for parking or towing fees.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Hampton Police Department is responsible for traffic management and enforcement on streets in and around Salt Ponds and the residential area. Any traffic congestion in the area will be addressed by the Hampton Police Department according to regular HPD traffic control procedures and strategies.

Public Relations and Communication

COORDINATED MESSAGING

Ongoing communication, transparency and engagement with citizens and the visiting public will be imperative to a successful summer at Salt Ponds Beaches. To promote a positive City image and minimize negative feedback, a public information, awareness, and image strategy has been implemented, to include input and recommendations from the City's Marketing, Inc. Department, Hampton Convention and Visitor Bureau, the Hampton Police Department, Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services, City-wide 311 services, and others.

ENTRANCE MESSAGING

At strategic entrance points to Salt Ponds Beaches, staff will be positioned on weekends and holidays to stop each person and distribute a one page, half-sheet flyer explaining the "Dos" and "Don'ts" under the current phase and beach rules. Strategically placed signs will be added as well.

HAMPTON'S 311 SYSTEM

A system for coordination among 311 operators, the Hampton Police Department, and other responders to immediately reach areas of concern and address issues and complaints is in place. Individuals are being asked to call the City of Hampton's 311 Citizen Contact Center with any questions or complaints.

POLICE AND SECURITY VISIBILITY

There is a system in place for swift and controlled enforcement of current health recommendations, Park rules, City ordinances, and all local, state, and federal laws to maintain a sense of order and safety. Messaging for this will be balanced with what we know to be a desire for a relaxed, beach environment for residents and visitors to enjoy.

SIGNS AND POSTING

For the 2020 summer season, updated sign packages are designed to inform visitors of beach rules as well as health & safety guidelines related to COVID-19 to include social distancing, hand-washing and sanitizing, etc. Signs are coordinated among Park staff, with respect to Marketing, Inc. and ongoing placemaking efforts and imaging.

No private advertising of any kind is allowed at Salt Ponds Beaches.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ENGAGEMENT

Social media will be monitored for any concerns, which will be addressed with timely responses. The goal is to state facts and steer any negative comments toward a more positive outcome whenever possible, while monitoring and reporting potential threats and concerns for follow-up.

Coordination and cross-response control among multiple City social media sites and traditional media outlets will continue, to assure consistent messaging and engagement

with similar responses and promotion, all balanced with “fun-messaging” like photo contests, etc.

Risk Management

ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT REPORTING

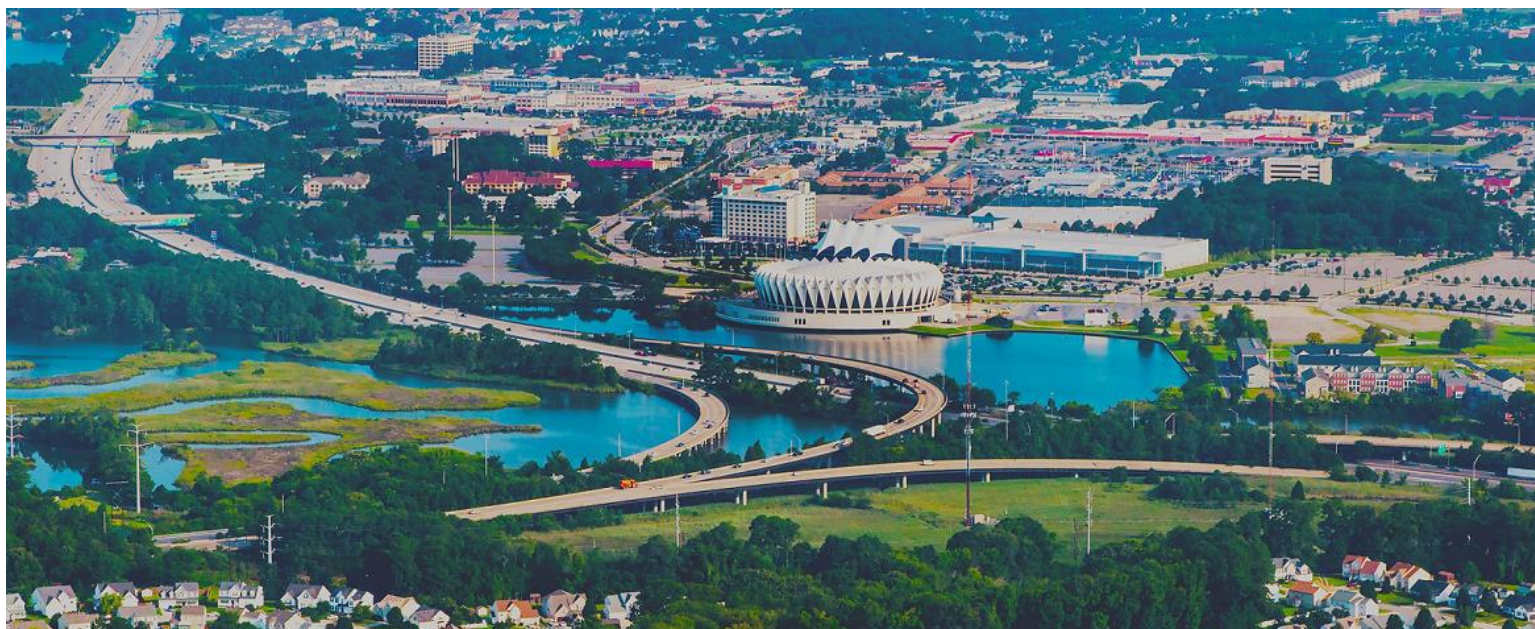
A City Incident Report must be completed on-site at the time of occurrence, and the City’s Office of Risk Management must receive a copy of the report the following business day. In certain instances, a representative from Risk Management should be contacted immediately. Risk Management will make the necessary contacts and investigate/process the claim according to the procedure as written in the affected policy or policies, and forward copies of all related documents to the reporting City Department as needed. Reports on the Beach are handled by staff and/or first responders as needed. Medical attention, including that from emergency services, should be offered and made available immediately regardless of potential claims.

INSURANCE REPORTING

Copies of all required insurance paperwork related to incidents or accidents are forwarded to and approved by the City’s Risk Management Department. The City’s Risk Management staff is notified immediately of any incidents via proper channels by Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services staff or handling agency (HPD, Fire, etc.).

Staffing and Administration

Hampton Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services does not typically maintain a permanent, scheduled Ranger presence at Salt Ponds Beaches, but it is monitored with frequent patrols. “Staff Ambassadors” are now monitoring Salt Ponds Beaches for social distancing and Beach rules. ■



Respectfully Submitted:
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