



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **LIDO BEACH RESTORATION BEGINS JAN. 15**

Sarasota, FL: The much anticipated and needed Lido Beach restoration project to replenish sand lost during Tropical Storm Debby is scheduled to begin Thursday, January 15, 2015. Dredging will be ongoing 24 hours a day 7 days a week until the project is scheduled to be completed in mid-March.

“This is a significant restoration project that the residents, business owners and visitors to Lido Key have needed for years,” said City Manager Tom Barwin. “City staff worked diligently with federal, state and local agencies to obtain the necessary documentation so environmental permits could be issued and, ultimately, funding secured. Lido Beach attracts visitors from around the world, and we look forward to seeing it restored to a healthy condition for everyone to enjoy while remaining sensitive to the natural habitat,” said Mr. Barwin.

It is important to note this is **not** the long range shoreline stabilization and beach restoration project planned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Beginning tomorrow, up to 197,000 cubic yards of sand from the New Pass shoal will be placed on Lido Beach over the next two months to restore the area to the good condition it was in prior to Tropical Storm Debby in 2012. Although site surveying is still underway, it is believed as much as 100 feet of sand has eroded, threatening property and infrastructure. Currently, some areas, including popular tourist hotels, have minimal – if any -- beachfront.

The project will bolster approximately 1.8 miles of shoreline. Crews will begin near Lido Pool and work south toward Ted Sperling Park. While a portion of beach is being restored, it will be cordoned off. As soon as a section is completed, it will be reopened to the public.

A small construction staging area will be established at the Lido Pool parking lot as well as the Ken Thompson Park boat ramp.

Depending upon the amount of sand recycled, projected costs are expected to be approximately \$3.6 million with those dollars funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Tourist Development Tax.

For more information contact [Alex Davis Shaw](#) 941-365-2200 ext. 4181.