



City of South Haven

PRESS RELEASE

City of South Haven

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Local Media

DATE: January 22, 2019

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES NEWCOME BEACH WALKWAY EXTENSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – (South Haven, Michigan) At their January 21, 2019 regular meeting, City Council approved a contract with Compton, Inc. for the Newcome Beach Walkway Extension in the amount of \$31,500.

The City's Newcome Beach was improved in the spring of 2017 with new sidewalk and stairs to the bottom of the lake bluff. In addition, the storm system was improved along North Shore Dr and a new outlet system was installed to Lake Michigan at Newcome Beach. This storm system replaced the existing storm system and utilized the same ditch from the outlet to Lake Michigan. The storm outlet and ditch are to the south of the stairs and pathway within the Newcome Beach right-of-way.

As an improvement to the storm system, a dissipating structure was placed at the outlet to help slow the storm water before it enters the ditch and then goes to Lake Michigan. The dissipating structure has 1-inch holes in the structure to allow water to slowly leach into the ground during small storm events and a large opening at the top to allow stormwater to spill out during larger storm events. During the spring of 2018, the leaching portion of the dissipater was no longer functioning as well as it had the previous summer. As a result, during large storm events when the stormwater released out the top of the structure, it would wash out the sand for the walkway. At that time, staff had the sand replaced and had a one foot outlet opening placed in the dissipating structure to direct the water toward the existing ditch and Lake Michigan. This measure has helped in keeping the sand in place for the walk to the beach.

As an additional measure to ensure the pathway will stay in place in the future, a wood walkway has been proposed to be extended from the bottom of the bluff/stairs and extended past the storm dissipating structure. The proposed walk will be constructed with the same materials as the existing stairs that were constructed in 2017. The approximate length of the walk will be 64 feet and 7 feet wide. The walk will have hand rails on each side and be elevated above the existing ground by 2 foot to 4 foot.

Compton, Inc. proposes to complete the work in the winter/spring of 2019. The schedule will be weather dependent.

An aerial map of the project is attached.

For more information, contact: For more information, contact: Bill Hunter, Director of Public Works, 269-637-0737 or bhunter@south-haven.com

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