BROAD BEACH MONITORING PROGRAM – 2017 ANNUAL REPORT JUST RECEIVED

The BBGHAD just received our annual report summarizing the beach conditions that have been measured since we started the project in 2009. The document provides an in-depth analysis of shoreline changes in the vicinity of Broad Beach during the past year and longer-term periods. A key finding is that the entire study region (Broad Beach to Westward Beach) continues to be dominated by long-term shoreline retreat and loss of beach material from the shorezone. On a more positive note, beach widths in Fall 2017 at Broad Beach were among the widest on record, averaging 100 feet. "Beach width" for reporting purposes is measured from the landward edge of the sandy beach to the mid-tide, or mean sea level (MSL) location. Within the western portion of the beach, sand volume gains were also measured from the back of the beach out to depths of approximately -10 feet (MLLW).

An assessment of the area-wide Broad Beach shorezone volume changes since 2002 (including measurements taken prior to the project beach measurement program) shows a loss of -13,000 cubic yards per year. However, during a more recent period from Spring 2014 to Fall 2017, there was a net gain in shorezone sand volume along Broad Beach of +27,000 cubic yards per year. This is important information since it demonstrates the beach does not lose sand continuously, with some periods of significant sand volume gain, therein supporting the positive outlook for a successful sand nourishment project.