

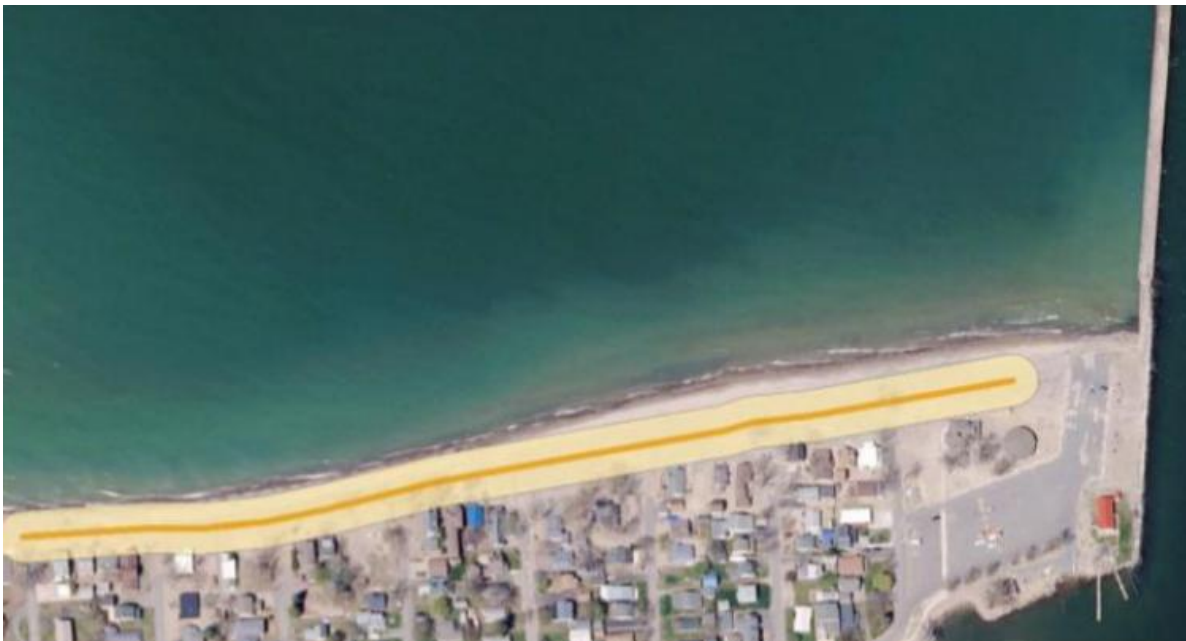
Village of Sodus Point
Permit Application Update
Date: September 8th, 2025

Re: Updated Explanation of Dune Maintenance Activities

On June 29, 2020, the Village of Sodus Point, under permit authorization, constructed a 30-foot-wide berm along the lakeshore, installed sand fencing to encourage sand collection, and planted tens of thousands of beach grass plugs to stabilize the dune system. This project was designed to provide shoreline protection, improve dune resiliency, and enhance long-term environmental stability.

As the Village prepares to enter the long term maintenance phase of this protective system, it has become clear that more robust maintenance is required in areas that have been neglected in order to preserve both the safety and long-term viability of the dune. The following site-specific actions are proposed:

Scope of Project:



Proposed Maintenance Activities Synopsis:

1. **First Street to Second Street (Appendix A)**
 - Grooming of the north side of the dune and south Side
 - Removal of fencing.
2. **Second Street to Third Street (Appendix B)**
 - Grooming of both the north and south sides of the dune.
 - Removal of fencing.
3. **Third Street to Eighth Street (Appendix C)**
 - Grooming of both the north and south sides of the dune.

- Removal of fencing where adjacent private property owners have signed off and authorized access.
4. **Public Right-of-Way Accesses (Appendix D)**
- Grooming of dune areas on both the east and west sides of each access.
 - Installation of new ADA-compliant walkways to provide safe and accessible public access.

For the following purposes, grooming is shown in depth of sand not width of grooming. Where specifically mentioned width and length are rough estimates to be verified during work. Width will vary based on the depth proposed. The dune structure is not straight and thus the line to groom will change.

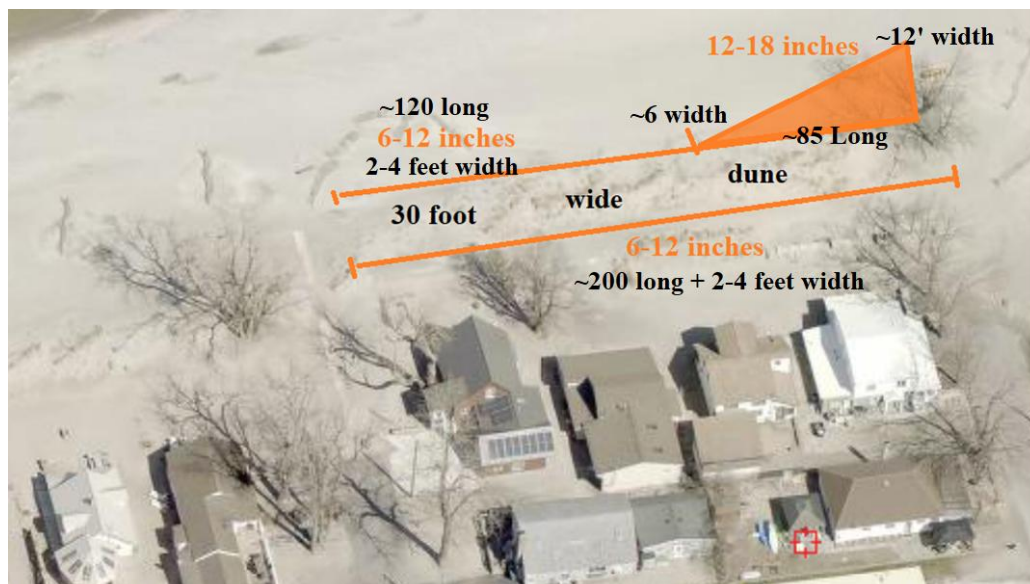
Appendix A – First Street to Second Street

- **Existing Condition:**

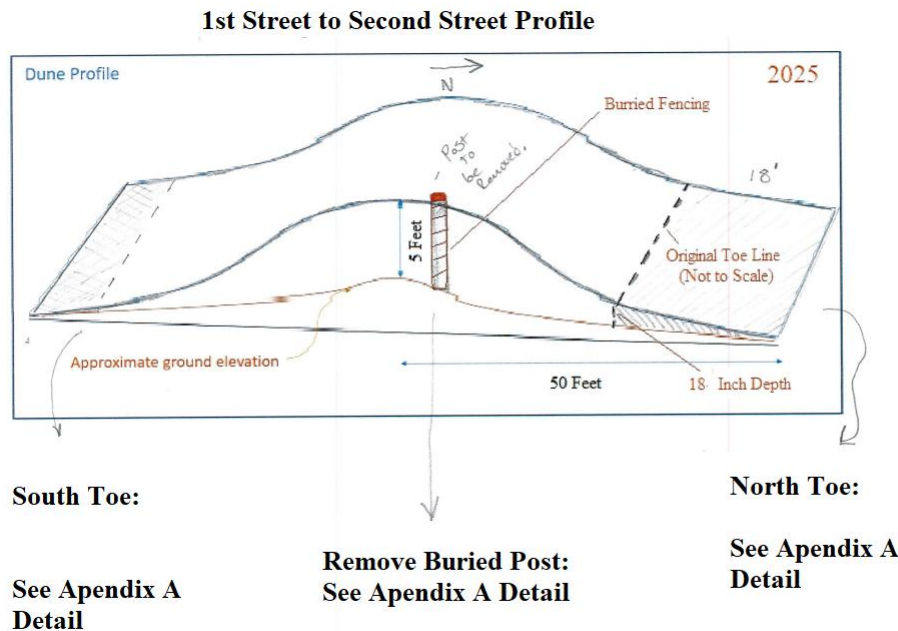
The north side of the dune between First and Second Street has become overgrown due to snow fencing, sand fencing and natural barricades. Overgrown sand continues to increase the height and width of the dune and drastically shrink the beach area.

- **Proposed Action:**

- **Removal of sand fencing** to reduce debris collection, prevent interference with dune grass spread, restore a more natural dune face and sand fencing. This will be accomplished with little to no hand tool work. Poles will be removed by a 200 series tract excavator from the Lake side of the dune with Wayne County Highway Department Help. Poles will be removed straight up and out and displaced sand will fall back into holes. **No equipment will enter onto the dune.**
- **Grooming of the North and South side** to allow dune to grow and shrink naturally and to restore the natural sand mobility, while leaving intact the established vegetation. Grooming will be done with the assistance of Wayne County Highway after receiving written permanent permission where required. Any vegetation within scope will be supplanted to bare areas of the dune with the project area. Grooming plan shown below (GROOMING NOT TO EXCEED ORIGINAL 30' DUNE STRUCTURE:



- **Cross Section:**



- **Sand Placement:**

Sand will be dispersed around the North County beach area between 1st and 3rd street to allow for natural movement and rejuvenation of the beach.

- **Ecological Rationale:**

This section is main collector of sand due to the natural contour of the land. Adding in the manmade structures has created drastic uncontrolled dune growth. Removing fencing and selective grooming will promote healthier dune growth.

Appendix B – Second Street to Third Street

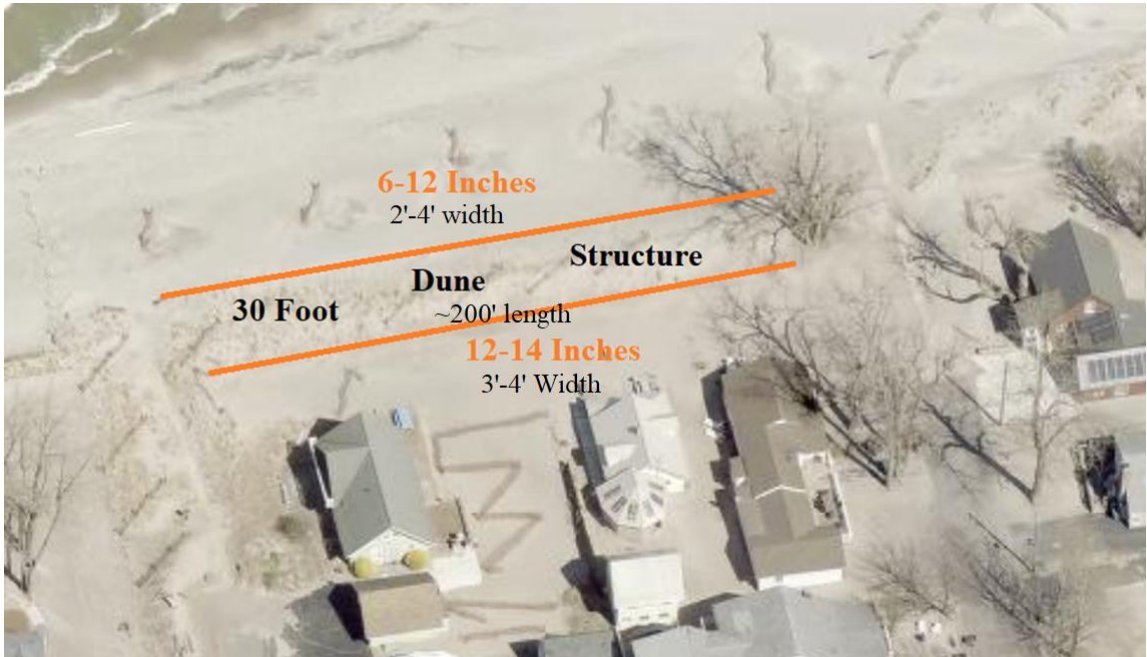
- **Existing Condition:**

This area has fencing on the dune and ungroomed toe on the south dune face. Sand accumulation has occurred in irregular patterns, creating sharp slopes in some locations that hinder grass growth and irregular growth patterns.

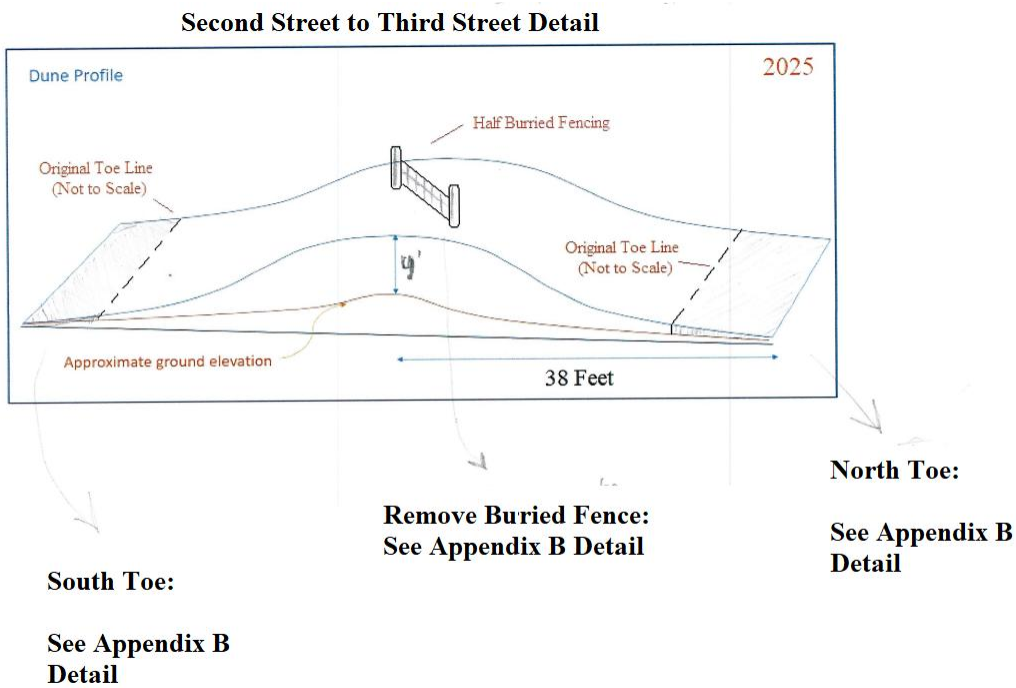
- **Proposed Action:**

- **Removal of fencing** to reduce sand blockages and allow vegetation to spread across both sides of the berm along with natural sand mobility and distribution.
- Grooming of **both north and south dune faces** to restore sand mobility and allow for natural sand redistribution. An area on the west portion of this project

area leading into the ROW access will be groomed to properly allow for equipment to loop from South to North. Grooming will be done with the assistance of Wayne County Highway after receiving written permanent permission. Grooming plan shown below (GROOMING NOT TO EXCEED ORIGINAL 30' DUNE STRUCTURE:



• **Cross Section:**



- **Sand Placement:**

Sand will be dispersed around the North County beach area between 1st and 3rd street to allow for natural movement and rejuvenation of the beach.

- **Ecological Rationale:**

Grooming both sides will strengthen dune integrity while discouraging dune blowouts. Removal of fencing will reduce unnecessary maintenance needs and return the dune to a more natural form.

Appendix C – Third Street to Eighth Street

- **Existing Condition:**

The largest continuous healthy stretch of dune, spanning five blocks. Here, fencing has remained along the top of the dune line, and inconsistent maintenance has caused some sections to become steep while others remain eroded. Most of this section of dune is healthy and several dune grass patches are thriving but are limited by fencing barriers.

- **Proposed Action:**

- **Fencing removal** in areas where private property owners have provided signed consent, ensuring proper coordination with adjacent landowners.
- Grooming of **both north and south dune faces** across the length of the section to restore balance to the berm and remove sharp transitions. Grooming will be done with the assistance of private citizens, contractors and volunteers after receiving written permission. Grooming plan shown below (GROOMING NOT TO EXCEED ORIGINAL 30' DUNE STRUCTURE):



3rd to 4th



4th to 5th



5th to 6th



6th to 7th

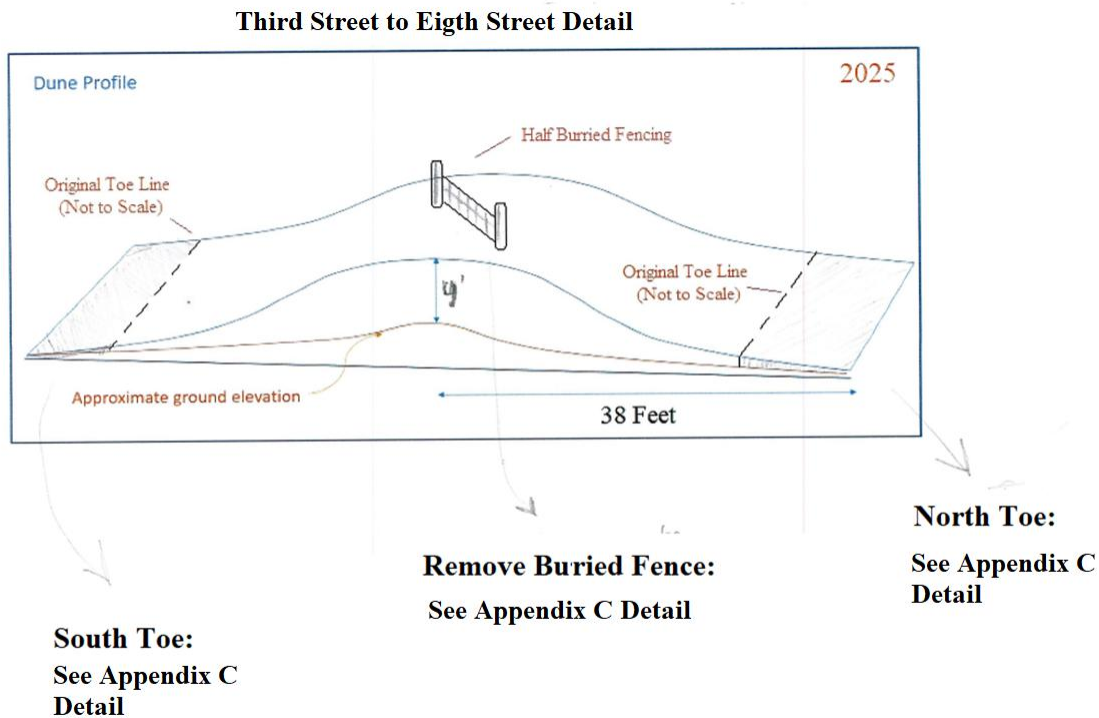


7th to 8th



8th to Lakestones

- **Cross Section:**



- **Sand Placement:**

Sand will be trucked and placed at Lakestones Drive per DEC maintenance permit.

- **Ecological Rationale:**

This stretch is critical for maintaining dune continuity along the shoreline. Consistent grooming across both faces will protect against erosion, while fencing removal will allow dune grasses to spread naturally and connect fragmented habitats. The natural mobilization of sand will allow the dune to migrate and form as it was originally intended.

Appendix D – Public Right-of-Way Accesses

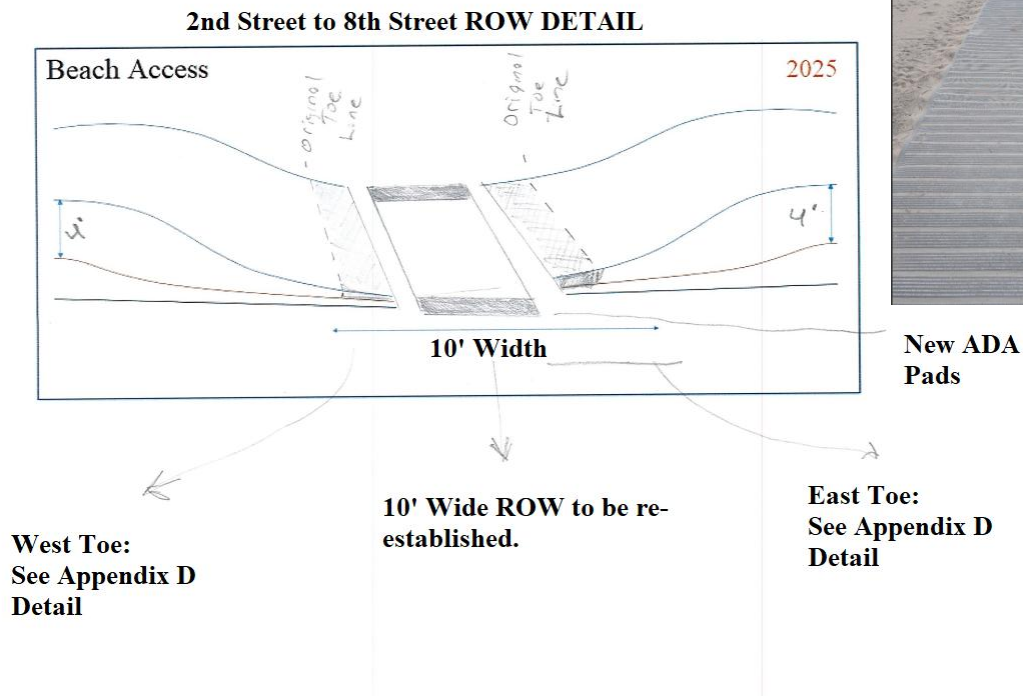
- **Existing Condition:**

At the ends of numbered streets, dune access points are often degraded due to concentrated foot traffic. Existing fencing is deteriorated, and informal pathways have caused localized erosion. Lack of maintenance has left some entry ways narrow or even impassible. Current access does not meet ADA accessibility standards, limiting safe use by all residents and visitors.

- **Proposed Action:**

- **Fencing removal** in areas along the right of way access utilizing an M-Series Bobcat track rental machine to allow for tight areas to minimize any disturbance to the dune. Fencing will be lifted straight out to ensure sand will fall back into holes and supplant any disturbance.
- **Installation of ADA-compliant walkways** that provide safe, durable, and accessible access over or through the dune. Walkways will be constructed with materials approved for coastal environments, designed to withstand seasonal conditions without impeding dune growth or migration.
- Grooming of dune areas on **both east and west sides** of each public access point to restore stable dune slopes. Grooming will be done by the Village of Sodus Point with the aforementioned M-series machine. (GROOMING NOT TO EXCEED ORIGINAL DUNE STRUCTURE TO A POINT OF 10' ACCESS):

- Cross Section:



- **Ecological Rationale:**
Concentrating public access on ADA-compliant walkways will reduce dune trampling, extend the life of planted dune grasses, and ensure equitable shoreline access for all residents and visitors.

Construction Start Date: November 2025- Completion: November 2025

Future Planning

The Village is developing a comprehensive **Dune Maintenance Plan** to guide ongoing stewardship of the dune system with input from stake holders on the dune and the NY State Sea Grant. This plan will include best practices for vegetation management, sand fencing placement/removal, grooming protocols, and accessibility improvements. The plan will be finalized and submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation by **November 2025**, accompanied by a formal application for a dune maintenance permit. The Beach Advisory Committee will be moving towards a maintenance board in the hopes that the management of the dune structure will be brought closer to the original intent of the project.

Through these efforts, the Village of Sodus Point seeks to ensure that the dune system continues to function as a resilient shoreline barrier while balancing ecological stability, public access, and long-term sustainability.

Respectfully submitted,

Village of Sodus Point