FIMI PROJECT Q&A

THE FIMI PROJECT STARTED IN THE PINES ON SEPTEMBER 23RD WITH THE REMOVAL OF BEACH WALKOVERS. SEE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT SUFFOLKCOUNTYNY.GOV/FIMI.

What the FIMI project?

The Fire Island Inlet to Moriches Inlet Stabilization Project (FIMI) is a $270 million project authorized by Congress to restore the dunes on Fire Island that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy and subsequent storms. The US Army Corps of Engineers is rebuilding the dune to a higher standard than previous beach restoration efforts, which took place between 1996 and 2007.

How big is the project?

The entire project spans the length of Fire Island. We are now in the last phase of the project which spans the eastern Fire Island communities from Davis Park to Ocean Bay Park. This phase will add 2.3 million cubic yards to the beach in these communities. Of this, the Pines will get 1 million cubic yards of sand.

How will it help the beach?

The new dune will help the Fire Island communities, including the Pines, to better withstand storms. It will create a wider beach with a wider slope in front of the dune. The dune will taper into wilderness areas at the east and west ends of each community.

How does the project work?

The contractor is using two dredges to remove sand from the bottom of the ocean (since July, these dredges have been moving from east to west off the southern coast of Fire Island). The dredges pump sand to Fire Island through long metal pipes. The sand is then distributed across the length of the beach using plows.

When will the project start?

The walkovers to the beach at Sail and Fisherman have been demolished, and other walkovers will be demolished at the rate of 1-2 walks per day. Most (but not all) will be replaced with temporary walkways, and then reconstructed. The dredging in the Pines is scheduled to start on or near October 1st.

What else will I expect to see?

By end of the week of September 23rd, the contractor will be starting to place equipment and install a pipe on the beach at the East End of the Pines. The sand fencing along the beach will be removed. During dredging and sand placement, parts of the beach will be shut down with no access, this includes any non-emergency vehicles. A security guard will be stationed at both ends of the project site.

What do I need to do?

Owners must keep the beach areas clear of debris and other objects. Contractors must remove any construction debris, materials, etc. from the easement area.

How long will it take?

The sand placement, with two dredges, is progressing at a rate of 25,000–30,000 cubic yards of sand per day. It is estimated that the work in the Pines will last approximately 35 days. The project runs 24/7.

What will happen when it's finished?

The Pines will have a much larger beautiful beach and dune, as well as new beach grass and dune fencing. The new public walkways will be wider and more substantial. Two of the walkovers will include ramps.