



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Rick Scott
Governor

Jennifer Carroll
Lt. Governor

Herschel T. Vinyard Jr.
Secretary

February 15, 2011

Ms. Trish Smith, AICP
Monroe County Planning Department
2798 Overseas Highway, Suite 410
Marathon, FL 33050

RE: Higgs Beach Master Plan

Dear Ms. Smith:

The Office of Greenways and Trails is pleased that the Higgs Beach Master Plan was approved by the Monroe Board of County Commissioners last month at their regular January meeting. We believe that the upgraded facility will provide a great benefit for visitors and locals alike.

Higgs Beach is listed in the Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail (FKOHT) Master Plan as a rest area and a trailhead. Its location adjacent to the beach, as well as its restroom and park amenities, provides a draw for trail users at the southern end of the FKOHT. We applaud the community on forming a 501(c)3 organization to oversee the long term maintenance and management of Higgs Beach, and we support Monroe County on its efforts to seek grant funding for the capital improvements associated with the Higgs Beach Master Plan.

Sincerely,

James M. Wood, Assistant Director
Office of Greenways and Trails

JMW/sf