



Date: March 8, 2022

Re Application for Approval of Coastal Setback Variance No. 79-03-21-543

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

The Siesta Key Association of Sarasota (SKA) supports property rights on Siesta Key, a barrier island of Florida. Please find our comments regarding a Variance Request before you today. We note the property is within a State of Florida defined area of *Critical Beach Erosion*. The seawall, defined as an enclosure for an accessory Pool structure, could become a high impact point of wave energy, resulting in 'wash out' as well as overwash of property, with accompanying changes in beach profile and sand loss. Photos (within your packet), show this beach area **to be prone to severe erosion**. Since 2016, accretion is noted. However, with gulf front wave action and wind, surrounding streets continue to be flood prone with westerly storm approach.

We do not find that strict enforcement of the Code would impose unreasonable or unjust hardship upon the land itself. In fact, enforcement supports *benefit to the land, beach accessibility and property security*.

The original GBSL/Coastal Setback Variance, granted in 1999, established the 'minimum reasonable use of the existing property and redevelopment of the site was permitted. We have learned from the documents provided, the County Commission at that time, *exceeded the* criteria by expanding the footprint, allowing the current beautiful structure to be built.

Therefore, minimum reasonable and 'just use' criteria of this property is attained, and presently occupied by the same owners (2005) under that 1999 Coastal Setback Variance.

- Approval of this Variance would create a singular property of its kind within this section of beach front along Beach Road. Based upon the fluctuating beach profile, open to Gulf storms, the history of erosion and overwash vulnerability, wisdom and guidance of Environmental regulation suggests denial of this accessory structure on the beach front.

We recommend denial of Coastal Variance Petition 79-03-21-543.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Luckner, President
President Siesta Key Association of Sarasota, Inc.

Cc Board of Directors, SKA