

**PUBLIC WORKS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
HOUSING AND URBAN PLANNING DIVISION**

**STAFF REPORT**

**26-NM1 – FACILITY RENAMING  
HOLLYWOOD NORTH BEACH PARK**

**I. Staff Findings**

The Housing and Urban Planning Division (HUPD) determined that the proposal to rename Hollywood North Beach Park in honor of Suzanne Gunzburger complies with the following established criteria:

1. Historical significance.
2. Geographical identifiers.
3. Flora and fauna.
4. Individuals who have made significant, nonfinancial, humanitarian contributions at the local, state, and national level.

While Broward County does not have the authority to rename the park, the park is managed by Broward County under a lease with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Staff request directions to initiate the formal application process with the State to rename the park.

**II. Summary**

The HUPD received a request from Senator Nan H. Rich to rename Hollywood North Beach Park to Suzanne Gunzburger Hollywood North Beach Park, in honor of the late former Broward County Commissioner Suzanne Gunzburger. See Exhibit 2.

*Figure 1: General Location Map*

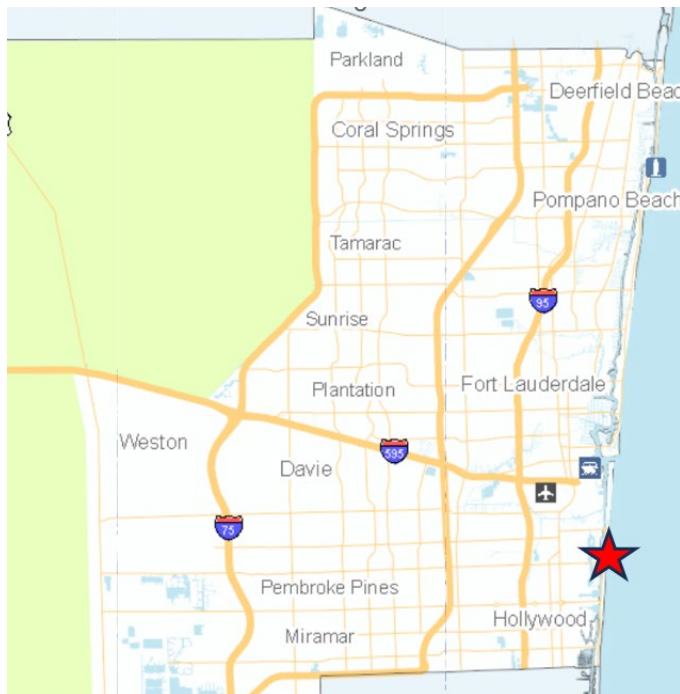
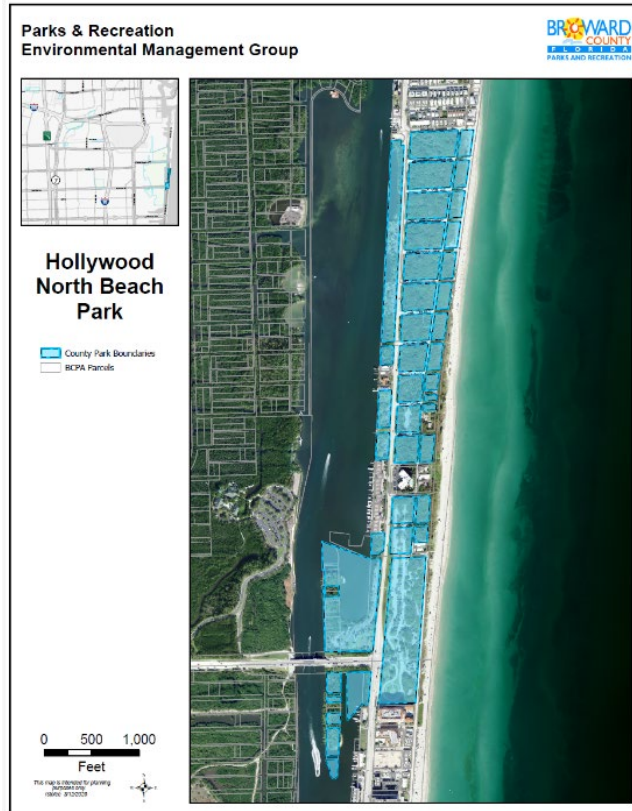


Figure 2: Hollywood North Beach Park Boundaries

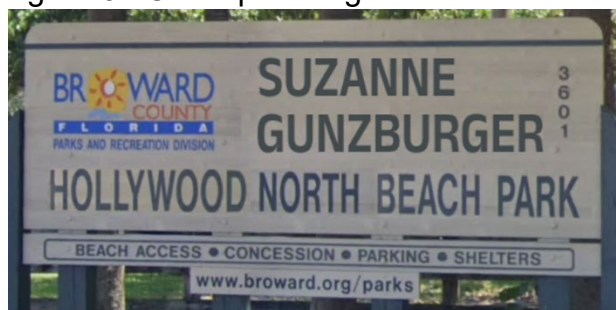


### III. Application Details.

**A. Current Name:** Hollywood North Beach Park

**B. Proposed Name:** Suzanne Gunzburger Hollywood North Beach Park

Figure 3: Conceptual Sign



**C. Location:** 3601 N. Ocean Drive, Hollywood, FL 33319

**D. Facility Use:** Regional Park

- Beach Access/Boardwalk
- Biking/Jogging/Walking Path
- Fishing
- Picnic Area
- Shelter and Room Rentals
- Concessions/Café

Figure 4: Park Photographs



Source: <https://www.broward.org/Parks/Pages/park.aspx?park=19>

#### IV. Background.

Hollywood North Beach Park was established after citizens lobbied for State acquisition of the last significant acreage of undeveloped coastal land in Broward County. Established in 1983, the various parcels that make up Hollywood North Beach Park were purchased with

funding from Florida's Save Our Coast program. In 1988, Broward County entered into an agreement with the State to take over park management responsibilities.

**V. Criteria.** The Broward County Administrative Code, Chapter 18 – Operational Policy, Board of County Commissioners, Part II.-Board Policies, General, Section 18.43.-Naming Broward County-owned Property, Buildings, Structures, Roads, and Facilities provides criteria and considerations for naming any property, buildings, structure, road, or facility owned by Broward County, or which Broward County otherwise has the right to name.

**A. Currently Holds Public Office:**

No.

**B. Name Uses Title of Particular Organization:**

No

**C. Names Road:**

No.

**D. Person Honored by Name is Convicted Felon:**

No.

**VI. Considerations.** Staff considered the site's historical significance, geographical identifiers, natural characteristics of flora and fauna, significant contributions of the individual, and significant financial contributions of that benefit the mission of Broward County government.

**A. Historical Significance.** The County's historic preservation officer found that renaming the park to include the name Suzanne Gunzburger will have no adverse effects to historic and archaeological resources identified within the park. See Exhibit 3.

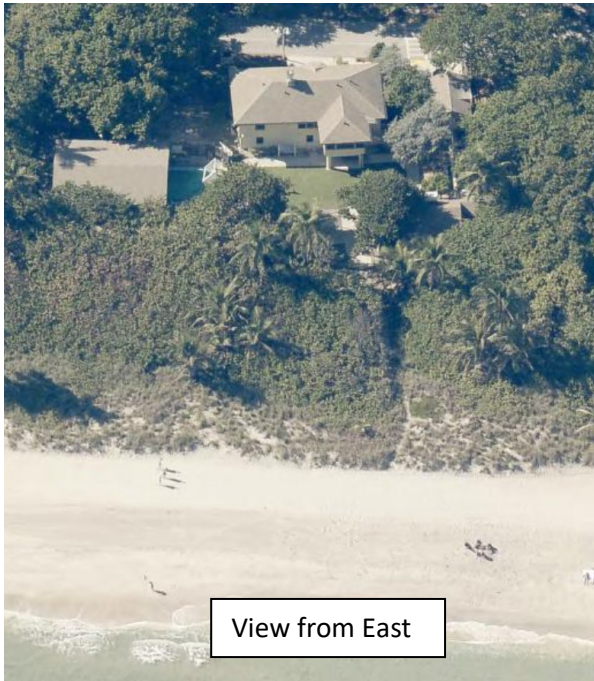
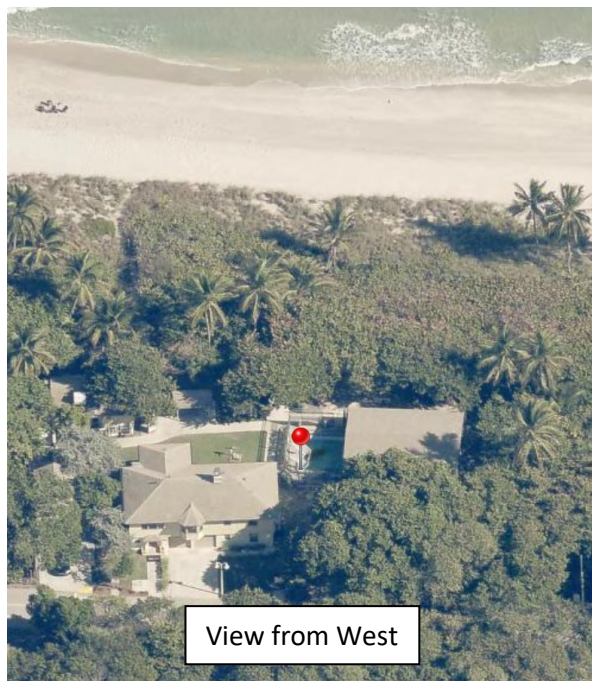
**1. Studies.** Historical and archaeological resources have been assessed in portions of the park through the following studies:

- 1981 – Broward County Comprehensive Survey, Phase I.
- 1995 – An Archaeological Survey of Southeast Broward County, Florida, Phase III.
- 2009 – A Phase One Cultural Resource Assessment of the Carpenter House Parcel, Broward County, Florida.

**2. Determinations.**

- No archaeological sites nor zones are recorded.
- One historic structure resource is recorded in the Florida Master Site File. The Carpenter House (FMSF No. 8BD03050), located at 4414 Surf Road, was constructed in 1941. The resource includes three structures, including a main house and ancillary buildings, as well as features such as walls, a swimming pool, a shuffleboard court, and garden areas. The site was evaluated as 'eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.'
- One linear historic resource is recorded in the Florida Master Site File (FMSF No. 8BD04776). The resource includes right-of-way for SR-A1A, which dates to 1925. The linear resourced site was evaluated as 'ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.'

Figure 5: Historic Carpenter House



Source: [Broward County Property Appraiser's Network - Pictometry](#)

- A. Geographical Identifiers.** Geographical features can be natural or human-made. There are no nearby landmarks such as piers, lighthouses, or clock towers to serve as identifiers. However, the park is uniquely situated, with the Intracoastal Waterway on west side and the Atlantic Ocean on the east side.
- B. Natural Characteristics (flora and fauna).** Staff notes, the site is designated on the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Site (Map label 36) as Protected Lands and is subject to the requirements of Broward County Land Use Plan Policies 2.23.1 through 2.23.3.

The Natural Resources Division reviewed the site for natural characteristics as they relate to flora and fauna. See Exhibit 4. The site contains sensitive coastal elements, including dunes, sea turtles nesting habitats, and native vegetation.

- 1. Dunes.** The site supports one of the most intact beach and dune systems in Broward County, extending across the 56-acre coastal park. It includes approximately 1.1 miles of shoreline. The dune system contains a representative South Florida coastal strand plant assemblage dominated by native sand-stabilizing vegetation that helps trap and retain sediment, reduce erosion, and maintain dune structure.

Common dune plant species include:

- a. Sea oats (*Uniola paniculata*),
- b. Railroad vine (*Ipomoea pes-caprae*),
- c. Beach morning glory (*Ipomoea imperati*),
- d. Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*),

- e. Bay cedar (*Suriana maritima*),
- f. Bay lavender (*Heliotropium gnaphalodes*),
- g. Dune sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*),
- h. Sea purslane (*Sesuvium portulacastrum*), and,
- i. Other salt-tolerant grasses and coastal shrubs typical of Broward County's foredune and backdune communities.

**2. Sea Turtles.** The five-year sea turtle nesting average at Hollywood North Beach Park (State Monument R Zones 105 – 107) is 21 sea turtle nests per year. The nests are predominately loggerheads, but the zones are utilized by leatherbacks and green sea turtles as well. Of the nests laid, approximately 25% are at or fully in the dunes.

**3. Native Plants.**

- a. Tree Canopy (dominate species):
  - i. Sea Grape,
  - ii. Silver Buttonwood,
  - iii. Green Buttonwood,
  - iv. Sable Palms,
  - v. Gumbo Limbo,
  - vi. Orange Geiger,
  - vii. Bay Cedar, and,
  - viii. Live Oak.
  
- b. Shrubs or under growth (dominate species)
  - i. Wild Coffee,
  - ii. Dwarf Palmetto,
  - iii. Coco Plum.

**C. Significant Contributions of Individual.** There are four levels of priority that may be assigned to the contributions of an individual. Staff find the application meets three levels of priority, including Local, State, and National.

First priority: Local level.

- a. Applicable: Yes.
- b. Description: Suzanne Gunzburger (1939-2026) served as a Broward County Commissioners from 1992 and 2014. Her 22 years of service, which tied the record for the longest serving County Commissioner in Broward County history a spot she is likely to sustain since commissioners are now limited to no more than three consecutive four-year terms.

Second priority: State level.

- a. Applicable: Yes.
- b. Description: Although operated by Broward County, through the work of Commissioner Gunzburger, the park was purchased by the State of Florida through the Save Our Coast Program. Undeveloped coastlines serve myriad human, environmental, and economic benefits. A few include the support of

recreation and tourism, sustenance of fisheries, protection of inland development, and sequestration of carbon.

Third priority: National level.

- a. Applicable: Yes
- b. Description: Protection of our coastline's natural infrastructure, such as marshes, mangroves, and barrier islands, is one of the nation's primary defenses from sea level rise.

Fourth priority: Global level.

- a. Applicable: No.
- b. Description: Not applicable.

**D. Significant Financial Contributions to the Mission of Broward County Government.**

No.

**VII. Community Input.** In accordance with the Broward County Administrative Code, Section 18.43 f., the public input was requested from (i) municipalities within one-half mile of the building, facility, structure, or any portion thereof; and (ii) all known neighborhood, community, homeowner, and condominium associations within one-half mile of the building, facility, structure, or any portion thereof. Exhibit 5 includes community comments received by April 17, 2026, due date, including a summary of comments and a compilation of e-mails and letters received.

**VIII. Attachments.**

- Exhibit 2: Renaming Request Form
- Exhibit 3: Historic Preservation Comments
- Exhibit 4: Flora and Fauna Comments
- Exhibit 5: Community Comments