



For Immediate Release

**POC: Joe E. Vega, Parks Director
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**Construction to begin on Park Entry Lane Improvements at
Isla Blanca Park**

Cameron County is pleased to announce that construction improvements to the entry lanes at Isla Blanca Park are scheduled to begin this month. Improvements include the construction of two new toll booths, an automated re-entry lane and implementation of a new and more modernized toll collection system. These improvements are part of the continued effort to create a more enjoyable experience for guests visiting our coastal parks. Funding for these improvements were made possible through certificate of obligation funds (Cos). The total toll booths construction cost is approximately \$386,000.

Construction activities for this project are scheduled to begin on January 17, 2022, and end on or before April 30, 2022, weather permitting. Throughout the time of construction, patrons can expect to encounter traffic delays while entering and exiting the park. Traffic entering the park will be redirected to make a right-turn on Wallace L. Reed Road, then a quick left into a parking lot leading towards a service entry gate. This area will be the temporary location of our toll booths and entry lanes during construction (see attached map). We ask visitors to please be patient during construction and to be mindful of all traffic control devices and warning signs posted. The Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA) is providing oversight and management on this project. A&I Custom Manufacturing, LLC has been selected as the contractor to perform the construction and Gomez Mendez Saenz is the Architect of record.

Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino, Jr. stated, "These new improvements will increase accessibility and safety for the visitors at Isla Blanca Park. This park offers one mile of pristine beach with large family size beachfront pavilions, a beachfront boardwalk with an array of recreational opportunities, such as fishing, camping, and boating. As I said before and say it again, Isla Blanca Park is not only the Crown Jewel of the Texas Gulf Coast but the Crown Jewel of the entire coast of the Gulf of Mexico. We thank you in advance for your patience as we move forward with these enhancements."

Cameron County Commissioner Pct.1 Sofia Benavides stated, "I am excited to say that the new improvements will enhance the total experience at Isla Blanca Park and improve the quality of life for our park visitors. We kindly ask for the public's patience and cooperation during construction, as we strive to make the necessary improvements for the benefit of our end users."

Cameron County Parks Director Joe E. Vega stated, "Cameron County Parks & Recreation Department goal is to continue making the necessary improvements to Isla Blanca Park in order to make the park a safer and enjoyable place for the residents and visitors of Cameron County."