



Friends of A1A Scenic & Historic Coastal Byway, Inc.



April 14, 2025

Leslee Keyes, Chair
Cultural Review Resource Board
St. Augustine, Florida 32085

Re: Magic Beach Demolition

Fleet Admiral

In Memory of Joseph W Bradley, Sr.

Admiral

Jane Culpepper
Hammock Beach Resort
Town of Beverly Beach
In Memory of Doris Westervelt
Helm Financial Services
Tara Hill Specialties, LLC
St. Johns Cultural Council

Captain

St Augustine Lighthouse & Museum
Marineland Dolphin Adventure
FL Representative Paul Renner
FL Senator Travis Hutson
AlertToday Florida
National Travel Center
Kenneth Belshe

Ensign

Barbara Jenness
St Augustine Beach Civic Association
Carole McCleery
Anne Wilson
St Augustine Alligator Farm
Zoological Park
Celena Chalkley
Rotary Club of Coastal St Johns County
In Memory of E M O'Hara
St Augustine Art Association
James Netherton III
Mr. & Mrs. William McClure
Ken & Linda Hirsh
Gail Wadsworth
TravelStorys GPS
Flagler County Commissioner Greg Hansen &
Linda Hansen
Marge Rooyakkers & Bruce Aiello

www.ScenicA1A.org

Friends of A1A
2175 Mizell Rd

St Augustine, FL 32080

Phone: 904.425.8055

Danielle.Anderson@scenica1a.org



Dear Ms. Keyes,

The Board of the Friends of A1A would like to express their concern for the planned demolition of Magic Beach in the Vilano Town Center. This community is a designated Florida Main Street, a Waterfronts Florida Community, a Florida Trail Town, a Community Redevelopment area and has gained multiple accolades for its redevelopment efforts with the latest historic inventory recommending several contributing properties as eligible to become an NRHP district. Excerpts from the GAI Historic Survey are below.

GAI architectural historians documented a total of 321 resources. Of these resources, 168 were newly recorded and 153 were previously recorded. Of the surveyed resources, five are recommended individually eligible under Criterion A, Criterion B, or Criterion C (SJ03092, SJ03811, SJ03901, SJ03939, and SJ04962).

Additionally, 43 resources are recommended as contributing to a potential NRHP-eligible historic district located in Vilano Beach. SJ03939 is both recommended contributing to the historic district and individually NRHP eligible. Of the previously-recorded surveyed resources, 57 are demolished. The remaining 217 resources are recommended not eligible for the NRHP due to a lack of significance or integrity.

We strongly urge you to consider the historical value of Vilano Beach as a whole comprised of the sum of its parts, which includes the Magic Beach Motel. As we watch history demolished across the state of Florida, St. Johns County has an opportunity to remain a national leader for historic preservation.

Best regards,

Danielle Anderson

Danielle Anderson
Byway Program Administrator, Friends of A1A

Mission: To promote, protect, preserve and enhance the
A1A Scenic & Historic Coastal Byway



Friends of A1A Board of Directors

President – Flagler Beach City Commissioner Rick Belhumeur; Vice President – Micheal Cumpston;
Treasurer – Robert Samuels; Secretary – Elayne Byrd; St. Johns County Commissioner Sarah Arnold; Dennis Clark;
Flagler County Commissioner Greg Hansen; Richard Hamilton; Flagler Beach Mayor Patti King; Maureen Long; Anne Streater;
Byway Administrator- Danielle Anderson; A1A Consultant: Sallie O'Hara