L

VIRGINIA RECREATIONAL FISHING DEVELOPMENT FUND
SUMMARY PROJECT APPLICATION*

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:	**PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, e-mail):**
City of Hampton Engineering Services 22 Lincoln Street Hampton, VA 23669	Fred Whitley, P.E., City Engineer 757-727-6209 fwhitley@hampton.gov
PRIORITY AREA OF CONCERN: General public access to recreational saltwater fishing pier	**PROJECT LOCATION:** Buckroe Park/Buckroe Beach Hampton, VA

DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF PROJECT:

Buckroe Beach Saltwater Fishing Pier

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Due to Hurricane Isabel, all fishing piers in Hampton were destroyed. The City of Hampton is preparing to replace the pier at Buckroe Beach at a total estimated cost of $2.8 million, for recreational saltwater fishing. Amenities for anglers include 24-hour access, covered fishing areas, handicap fishing stations, and educational components. The City is seeking $500,000 of grant funds to provide site improvements (parking lot, lights, landscaping) and support facilities (restrooms, bait shops, snack bar) for the pier.

EXPECTED BENEFITS:

Expected benefits include restoring access to saltwater angling for residents and tourists and providing new programs to create awareness and education about the fish and other marine life in the area waters.

COSTS:

VMRC Funding:	$500,000
Recipient Funding:	$2,300,000
Total Costs:	$2,800,000

Detailed budget must be included with proposal.

Updated 6/1/05

***This form alone does not constitute a complete application, see application instructions or contact Sonya Davis at 757-247-8155 or sonya.davis@mrc.virginia.gov : Due dates are June 15 (Jul. – Nov. Cycle) and December 15 (Jan. – May Cycle)**

City Manager

December 14, 2007

Members of the Recreational Fishing Advisory Board
Attn: Sonya Davis
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
2600 Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor
Newport News, Virginia 23607

Subject: City of Hampton Buckroe Beach Fishing Pier-Grant Application

Dear Board Members,

Attached herewith for your consideration is the City of Hampton's application for $500,000 of grant funding for the Buckroe Fishing Pier from the Virginia Recreational Fishing Development Fund.

As you may be aware, the former Buckroe fishing pier, which was privately owned, was destroyed in 2003, during Hurricane Isabel (as was the fishing pier at Grandview). Since then, there has been a growing public demand to replace those lost salt water fishing opportunities along Hampton's Chesapeake Bay Shoreline. In 2005, Hampton City Council appropriated capital improvement funds for a fishing pier, in response to the public needs, to be constructed at the site of the former Buckroe Pier. Subsequently, the City acquired the property for the pier and entered into an agreement with a developer to construct the pier, and some initial site work was begun. However, for various reasons, this development agreement was terminated, and the City has decided to move forward with the Buckroe Fishing pier project, as a capital improvement project.

The City is currently seeking a permit from VMRC for the pier, utilizing the same general concrete piling plan as proposed by the previous developer, and design plans are now being prepared for the pier deck and railings, as well as for the site work and the facilities on the pier.

In the interest of time, subject to VMRC permitting of the pier, the City plans to implement the project in four stages-beginning with the pilings (which are in the process of being awarded to Pre Con Marine Inc.). Other phases for the deck/railings, the site work, and the support facilities on the pier will be bid and awarded as soon as the designs are completed.

CITY OF HAMPTON (757) 727-6392 FAX (757) 728-3037
22 LINCOLN STREET, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23669

The City is requesting grant funding for construction of the pier site work (parking lot) and the support facilities on the pier, including restrooms, bait shop and snack bar, which are estimated to cost $500,000 as detailed in the grant application.

Thank you for your consideration of the City of Hampton's grant request and if additional information is desired, please contact Mr. Fred Whitley, City Engineer, at 727-6390.

Sincerely,

Jesse T. Wallace, Jr.
City Manager

Attachments

Grant Application for Site Work and Support Facilities For the Proposed Buckroe Beach Fishing Pier in Hampton

Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund

Submitted by the City of Hampton, Virginia, December 14, 2007

Jesse Wallace, City Manager

Need:

Seven piers in Hampton were destroyed by Hurricane Isabel, including the piers at Mill Point Park, Buckroe, and Grandview, and four piers at Fort Monroe: 1) the finger pier at the lighthouse, 2) the pier at the officer's club, 3) Harrison's Pier, and 4) Engineer's Pier. Other Peninsula piers lost include York-Gloucester Point and Hilton Village.

Many license holders in the Hampton / Newport News area need shoreline access to fish. These people purchased individual saltwater licenses, but do not hold licenses for a boat. Therefore, without a fishing pier, these people will fish from land, bridges or other shoreline areas.

Parks and Recreation Department initially analyzed several options: 1) rebuild at the private fishing pier site in Grandview, 2) repair and extend the existing "Pier 1" in Buckroe, 3) rebuild at the private fishing pier site in Buckroe, and 4) build a new pier on public property in Buckroe.

Due to its centralized location, coupled with the available amenities, the decision was made to replace the fishing pier in Buckroe.

Hampton's remaining pier in Buckroe, called "Pier 1" for purposes of this report, survived the hurricane and was initially thought to be the best location for a new pier. However, Pier 1 had never been used for fishing. Our research regarding underwater topography revealed that a large expanse of sand flats exists near Pier 1 and, therefore, it would not be the best location for a fishing pier.

A finger of deeper water extends toward shore near the location of the private Buckroe fishing pier that was destroyed by the hurricane. More fish species are prevalent in deeper water and on a slope at a change in water depth. A proven fishing ground, about 18 fish species are commonly caught in this location at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. City-owned beachfront property lies adjacent to the old pier site, so with the goal of locating the new pier at the best fishing site, the decision was made to build a new pier on

public property in the area of the deeper water. The City of Hampton will insure the pier against future loss, so it may be rebuilt should damage be sustained from another storm.

Objective:

The proposed pier will be located approximately 500 feet south of Point Comfort Avenue, lying in the same alignment as the old fishing pier that was destroyed by Hurricane Isabel. The pier will measure 709 feet in length and 16 feet wide and be constructed of wood, with a concrete substructure. The "T" at the end of the pier will measure 29 feet by 70 feet and include at least two ADA compliant fishing stations. The pier will be lighted for night-time use and feature covered fishing areas for shade and a 1500 square foot building for handicap accessible rest rooms and a bait shop and snack bar. There will not be a restaurant on the site, nor will alcoholic beverages be sold. The pier will operate 24 hours a day during fishing season, managed by city staff.

The nearby Buckroe Park provides picnic shelters and grills for gatherings, a playground, and ample open, green space. A large stage pavilion for community events and festivals is busy all during the summer season. Lifeguards are on duty from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day. There is no fee to enter the park. While existing parking lots are available, plans include expanding the lot within the closest proximity to the pier to accommodate the increased use. The nearby casual park setting will create an aesthetic, enjoyable fishing experience.

Expected Results or Benefits:

The result is boatless fishing access in Hampton where none currently exists. Saltwater anglers will have safe, non-boating access to a quality fishing habitat in an area where saltwater fishing licenses are required.

The City of Hampton will require purchase of an individual saltwater fishing license by patrons in lieu of purchasing a license for the entire pier, thereby increasing fishing license revenue to the state.

The City of Hampton will insure the pier against future loss so it may be rebuilt should damage be sustained from another storm.

Because of its central location near a park setting, educational activities on and near the fishing pier will create awareness and education about saltwater angling and our natural resources to the general public.

The proposed development is a positive step in responding to the recreational saltwater fishing demand and improves the quality of life for residents and visitors in the region.

Approach:

Completion of this project will take the following steps:

Application for Grant Funding	December 2007
Consideration by VMRC of Pier permit	January 2008
Begin Piling Installation	February 2008
Begin Detailed Design of site work/support facilities	March 2008
Begin Decking/Railing Installation	April 2008
Consideration by VMRC of Grant application for site work, support facilities	May 2008
Begin construction of site work/support facilities	June 2008
Open pier to public with temporary facilities	August 2008
Complete site work/support facilities	October 2008

The proposed location does not impact Submerged Aquatic Vegetation or oyster ground leases. There is a bathing ground lease in front of the Sans Souci Motel, but according to Traycie West, formerly of VMRC, the construction site will not impact the bathing ground. There are no unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the area of proposed construction.

Future plans include passive educational activities such as a fish viewing area. Spectators view various species as they swim over a special area with a white sand bottom and identify the fish using pictures and text on permanent signage. The fish are enticed into the special area because spectators can access appropriate fish food from a nearby dispenser.

Other educational programs may include “Identify Your Fish” signage further out on the pier and special programs including seining, kayak fishing, water safety, and beginners learn to fish classes may be offered. A “beach explorer” program will be offered that helps youth and adults identify sea animals, plants and other wildlife found in the area.

Habitat improvements are part of the future plans for the pier. Hampton hopes to work with the VMRC Artificial Reef Program to create new artificial reefs that will attract and sustain fish and other marine creatures.

The pier will be fully handicap accessible, using a series of walkways and elevated boardwalks. ADA compliant fishing stations will feature reduced railing height and be marked with the handicap symbol designating locations for wheelchair patrons. A minimum of two handicapped fishing stations will be available. The Hampton Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities and the local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans will be invited to review plans for the pier.

The City of Hampton hopes that the RFAB and VMRC will agree to be partners in this project. Additional signage installed on the pier will identify the RFAB and VMRC and other sponsors as partners in the project.

Location:

Exhibit 1 shows the location of this project, which is encompassed by a ¾ mile public beach in Hampton, known as Buckroe Beach.

Exhibit 2 is an aerial photograph of the nearby Buckroe Park.

Exhibit 3 is an aerial photograph of the former pier.

Exhibit 4 is a conceptual drawing that depicts a plan view of the completed pier. This drawing is subject to change resulting from the final design of the support facilities (restrooms, bait shop, snack bar).

Exhibit 5 is a conceptual drawing that depicts a side view of the completed pier. This drawing is subject to change resulting from the final design of the support facilities.

Exhibit 6 details the ADA compliant handicap fishing stations.

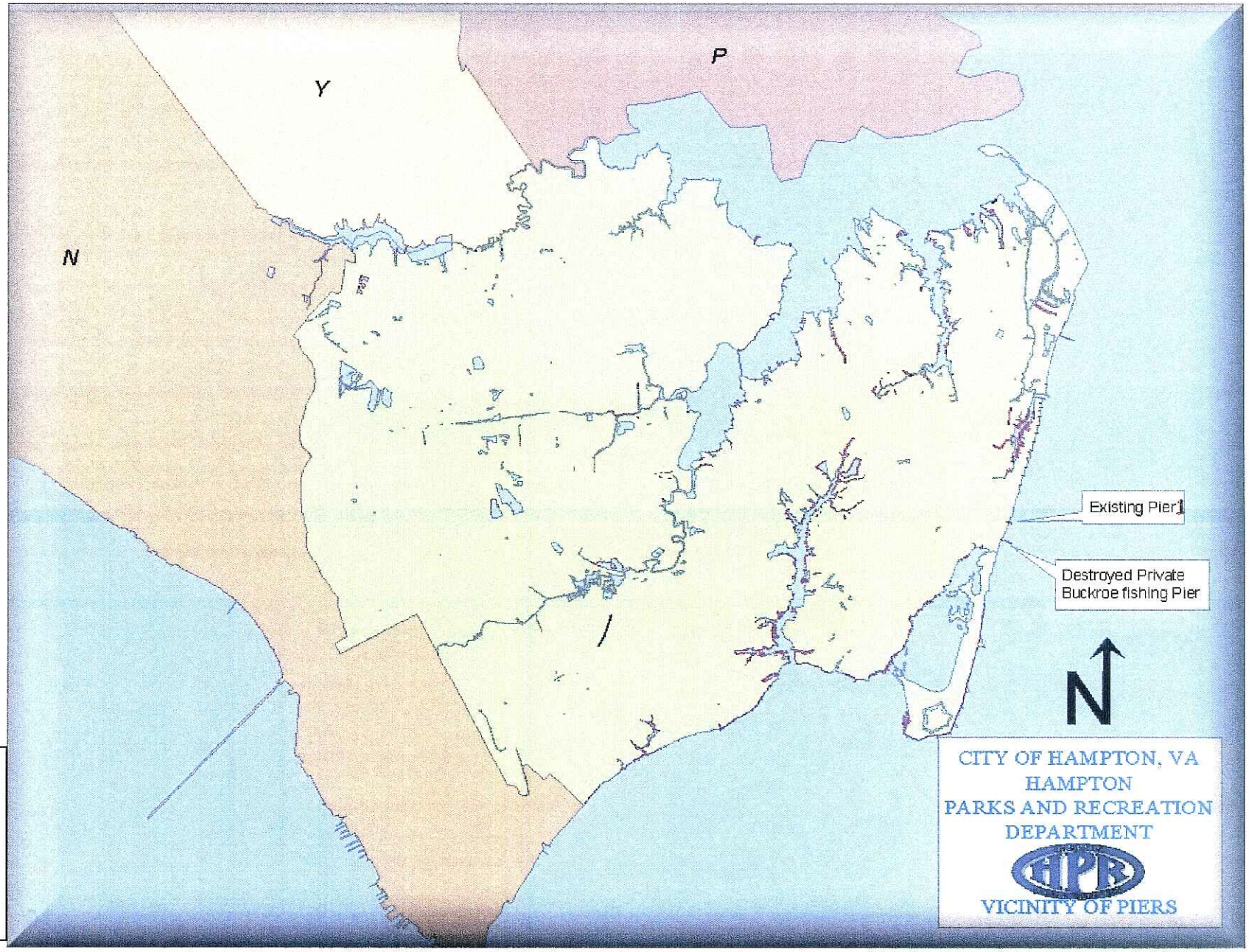
Estimated Cost:

The funds provided through the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund will be used to construct the site work (parking lot, lights and landscaping) and the support facilities on the pier (restrooms, snack bar and bait shop).

Project Budget

Design costs	175,000
Pier pilings/substructure	1,400,000
Pier deck/railings	675,000
Utility connections/FF & E	50,000
Site Work	250,000
Structures on pier	
(restrooms, snack bar, bait shop)	250,000
Total	**2,800,000**
City funding	2,300,000
Requested grant funding	500,000

Notes: Budget does not include $1.3 million that the City has already appropriated for property acquisition.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P
N
Existing Pier1
Destroyed Private
Buckroe fishing Pier
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CITY OF HAMPTON, VA
HAMPTON
PARKS AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT
HPR
VICINITY OF PIERS

Exhibit 1

Buckroe Beach Park

Graphic Scale: 1" = 250'

250 125 0 250 Feet

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Prepared by: CITY of HAMPTON - ENGINEERING SERVICES

Exhibit 2

Map printed: 14 December, 2007

Former Buckroe Beach Fishing Pier
(2002 - Aerial Photography)

Prepared by:
CITY of HAMPTON - ENGINEERING SERVICES

Graphic Scale: 1" = 200'

200 100 0 200 Feet

Map printed: 26 November, 2007

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Exhibit 3

PROPOSED BUCKROE FISHING PIER

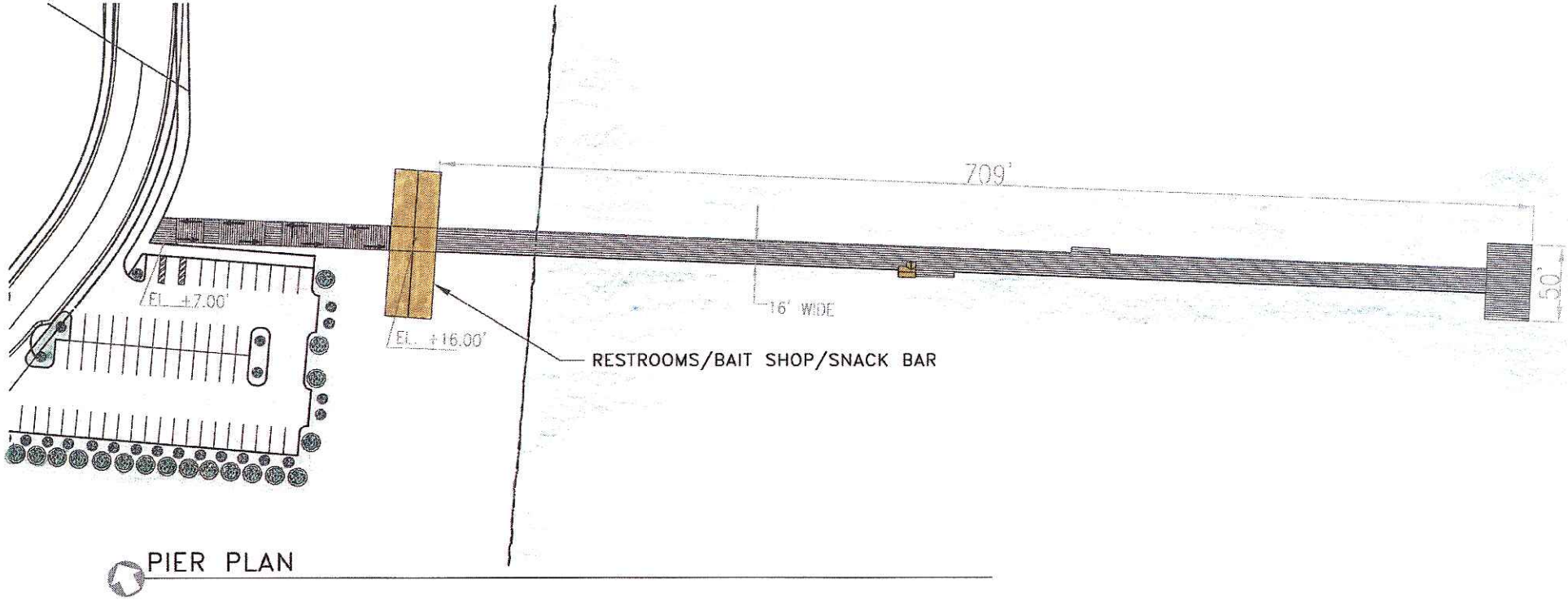

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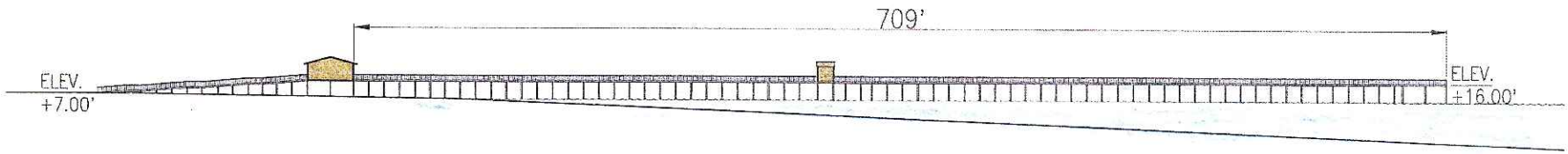
Exhibit 4



PIER ELEVATION

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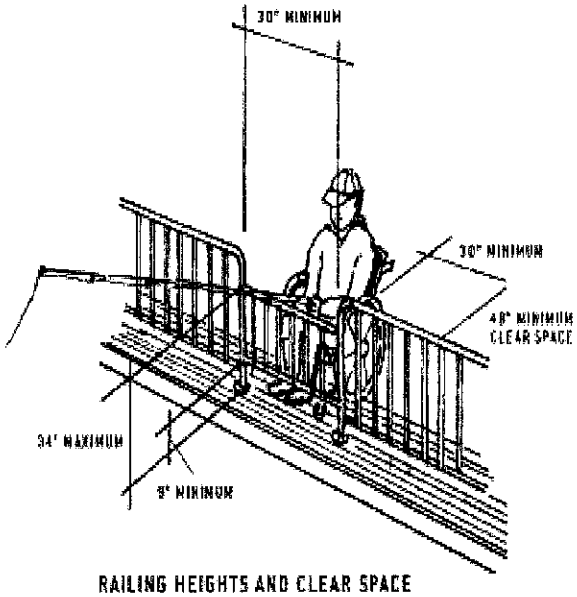
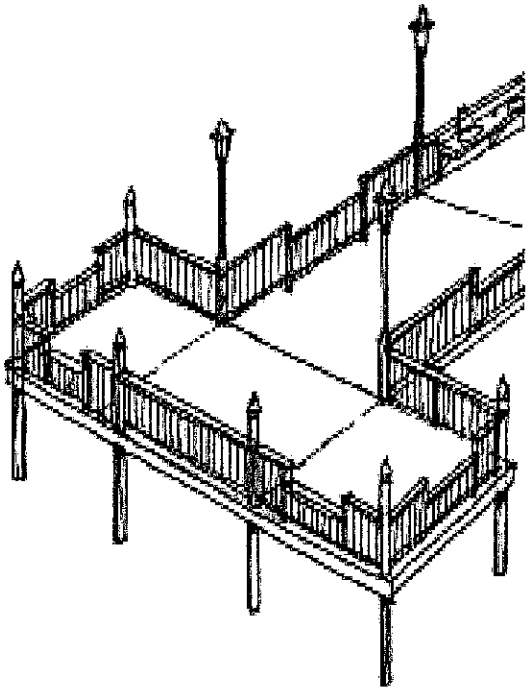
Exhibit 5

ADA Compliant and Handicap Accessible

City of Hampton Public Fishing Pier at Buckroe Beach



RAILING HEIGHTS AND CLEAR SPACE



DISPERSION

Exhibit 6