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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Varn Park to reopen in time for the Fourth of July holiday, next segment of emergency dune restoration to stage out of Old Salt Park

**June 19, 2023** – Varn Park will reopen on July 1 – in time for the Fourth of July holiday. The park has been closed for three months as Flagler County is in the midst of emergency sand operations.

"The contractor will have completed the two projects that staged in that area by June 30 and all of the equipment will be removed from the parking lot," said County Engineer Faith Alkhatib. "We appreciate how patient everyone has been during this work. We know people love to come to this park for beach access."

Work will shift north and will be staged out of Old Salt Park, 16<sup>th</sup> Road in The Hammock, but that park will not close until July 5. The first segment of the FEMA emergency dune project will take about six weeks and cover an area from the south end of MalaCompra Park to an area about halfway between Old Salt Park and Jungle Hut Park.

Officials urge beachgoers to be aware in that area as there will be a steady stream of dump trucks and other heavy equipment operating out of Old Salt Park.

"Please be careful. We apologize for any inconvenience to our residents and visitors who love to visit our beaches," said County Administrator Heidi Petito. "We are fortunate that the contractor was able to work in a nice little respite for the holiday. This work is critical for all of Flagler County, and we appreciate everyone's continued patience."

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