



MEMORANDUM

TO: Tourist Development Council

FROM: Nancy MacPhee, Program Manager

DATE: December 5, 2018

RE: New Business: REQUEST FOR BEACH & SHORELINE FUNDS

The Barrier Island Parks Society (BIPS) is requesting Tourist Development Tax (TDT) funding totaling \$30,960 for visitor tram replacement at Cayo Costa State Park.

- Attached are the BIPS Request, budget backup and letters of support.
- Deputy County Attorney Andrea Fraser reviewed and advises in order to provide funding, the Tourist Development Council (TDC) must determine that this project directly and primarily promotes tourism.
- Attached are past allocations of TDT Funds to BIPS & DEP/Cayo Costa State Park.
- **Background:** Visitors arriving to Cayo Costa State Park arrive via the bayside public dock. To access the beach and campground, they are transported over a mile via one of two open-air trams. The older tram is out of service and beyond repair, due to structural deterioration from exposure to the coastal environment.
- In preparation for season and to maintain normal levels of service and visitor satisfaction, staff suggests TDC consider recommending the Board of County Commissioners approve this out of cycle request.

Thank you for consideration.

Barrier Island Parks Society, Inc.

*Gasparilla Island State Park (GISP)

FY 2016/17	GISP Lighthouse Pathways & Signage	\$ 48,463
FY2 2017/18	GISP Lighthouse Visitor Transportation	\$ 44,000
FY 2017/18	GISP Emergency Beach Cleanup	<u>\$ 3,220</u>
TOTAL TDT Funding		\$ 95,683

DEP/ Cayo Costa State Park

FY 2002-03	Bayside Facility Improvements	\$ 100,000
FY 2007-08	Dock Modification	\$ 123,000
FY 2007/08	Campground Replanting	\$ 30,000
FY 2009/10	Electric Transport Vehicles	\$ 27,196
FY 2014/15	Truck & Tram	\$ 60,000
FY 2015/16	Restroom Project Design	\$ 50,000
FY 2017/18	Beach Maintenance ATV	\$ 15,000
FY 2017/18	Restroom Construction	<u>\$ 620,000</u>
TOTAL TDT FUNDING		\$ 1,025,196



BIPS

BARRIER ISLAND PARKS SOCIETY

Directors

Krista Potthast-Haynes
President

Robert Sommerville
Treasurer

Nancy Whitney
Secretary

Gary Ballman
Lynda Grant
Mary Anne Hooker
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Staff

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Executive Director

Christina Venarsky
Executive Assistant

Shelly Thompson
*Communications
Coordinator*

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Jennifer Summers
Shop Managers

Cathy Deans
Deb Eisbrener
Karen Smith
Sales Associates

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau
2201 Second Street, Suite 600
Fort Myers, FL 33901

November 29, 2018

Dear Executive Director Pigott,

The Barrier Island Park Society is requesting out of cycle Tourist Development Tax (TDT) funding in the amount of (\$30,960) to purchase a replacement tram for Cayo Costa Island State Park. This amount will also cover the cost of barging (\$3,000) the tram to the island park. The tram is a critical piece of equipment needed to get visitors from the dockside boat arrival area to the beach in a timely and convenient fashion. Trams have been funded successfully because of the access they provide to the beach.

During the upcoming peak season, if we have only one operational tram, it will be impossible to move campers with their equipment, along with day visitors from dock to beach (approx. 1 mile across the island) without making some wait for a long time. The urgency of this request cannot be exaggerated. (See support letter from the parks concessionaire – Captiva Cruises).

Last year over 65,000 visitors accessed this barrier island park and as you know, they must all arrive by ferry service or private boat. While this park is smaller than some of our others in the system, it is one that continually generates significant positive publicity for Lee County tourism. The positive publicity is aided by our ability to comfortably move passengers within the park by meeting the demands of the ferry service arrival and departure times

We at Friends of Cayo Costa and the Barrier Island Parks Society are grateful for the past TDT contributions to the park. While the Tourist Development Council (TDC) funded a new tram and truck in 2014, it is critical that we have two trams operational at all times. The old tram is now 17 years old. Although parks staff have been able to repair it multiple times over the years, the damage is now beyond the reasonable cost of repair. (See photos). If TDC funds the new tram, the Park Service has agreed to ongoing maintenance and repair. (See Attached letter of commitment from the Florida Park Service.)

We hope you are able to help us with this request and we are available to answer any questions you might have. 239-292-0218

Yours truly,

Elaine McLaughlin, Chair/Board Member

Sharon McKenzie

INSPIRE ▪ EDUCATE ▪ PRESERVE

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Project Name:

Cayo Costa Tram replacement

	TDC Request	Agency Match	Total
Personnel			
In-house Labor			\$0.00
Contract Labor	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Contracted Services			
Janitorial Services			\$0.00
Landscape Maintenance			\$0.00
Travel			
Bridge Tickets & Passes (Transponders)			\$0.00
Communications			
Cellular Phones/Pagers			\$0.00
Radios			\$0.00
Repairs & Maintenance			
Building Maintenance			\$0.00
Maintenance Materials			\$0.00
Vehicle Maintenance			\$0.00
Equipment Maintenance			\$0.00
Equipment Repair Parts			\$0.00
Other Charges & Obligations			
Indirect Cost			\$0.00
Operating Supplies			
Fuel & Lubricants			\$0.00
Uniforms			\$0.00
Janitorial Supplies			\$0.00
Maintenance Supplies			\$0.00
Signage			\$0.00
Utilities			
Electric			\$0.00
Water & Sewer			\$0.00
Solid Waste Removal			\$0.00
Insurance			
Insurance Premiums			\$0.00
Equipment			
Equipment	\$27,960.00		\$27,960.00
Vehicles			\$0.00
Construction - Capitol Projects Only			
Architect & Engineering Services			\$0.00
Permits			\$0.00
Site Preparation			\$0.00
Construction			\$0.00
Contingency			\$0.00
TOTAL	\$30,960.00	\$0.00	\$30,960.00

Notes: 1. Buildings must be open to the public in order to be eligible for funding.

2. Personnel/Equipment must be 100% assigned to the project in order to be 100% eligible for funding.



TDC Funded truck pulls tram car.



Two tram cars are required to service the volume of visitors in season.

One of the tram cars is beyond repair, photos showing cracks in floor.



Undercarriage and axle corrosion





Steve Covey Enterprises, Inc.

Quote: 78
Printed: 11/15/2018

Quote Prepared For

Rick Argo (2)
880 Belcher Road
Boca Grande, FL 33921
USA

Bus. (941)964-0375

Email rick.argo@dep.state.fl.us

Featherlite Customer Service

Featherlite, Inc.
P.O. Box 320
Hwy. 63 & 9
Cresco IA 52136

Bus. 563-547-6000
800 800-800-1230
Fax 563-547-6100

Internet Web www.fthr.com

Bill To Dealer

021314
Steve Covey Enterprises, Inc.
711 Hwy 301 N
Palmetto, FL 34221

Bus. (941)721-8050
800 (877)422-7461
Fax (941)721-3345

Email cargotrailerstore@verizon.net

Ship To Dealer

021314
Steve Covey Enterprises, Inc.
711 Hwy 301 N
Palmetto, FL 34221

Bus. (941)721-8050
800 (877)422-7461
Fax (941)721-3345

Email cargotrailerstore@verizon.net

Sales Person Jordan Guianen

Thank-you for your business.

Bus. (941)721-8050
Fax (941)721-3345

Entered 11/15/2018 Ship VIA
Revised 11/15/2018 FOB
Est.Comp Terms
Quote Valid for 30 Days

Email: cargotrailerstore@verizon.net

Qty	Trailer No.	Description	Price Each	ItemTotal
1	3115-0017	3115 17' Tram Trailer	27,146.00	27,146.00

Part No.	Description	Qty	U/M	Price Per	Extended	Action Cde
31150017B	3115 17' Tram Trailer	1	EA			
P3107	Tram 8' wide X 17' long	1	EA			
F1307	Tandem axle 4.8K rubber torsion. Includes (4) GY tire/rim ST225/75R15 LRE 6 hole silver MOD wheel & hub cover. (To add a spare use code 91155)	1	EA			
F1860	Axle lube type - easy lube	1	EA			
F7964	Coupler 2 5/16" 21K drag	1	EA			
F7858	Jack crank down with sand foot	1	EA			
F1700	Electric brake	1	EA			
F7402	Dome light LED	8	EA			* Removed
F7451	Switch 12V	1	EA			* Removed
F7530	Light package for tram trailers with colored LED lenses (Includes (11) 3/4" round clearance lights & 2 stop/turn lights)	1	EA			
F7935	Flooring .125 treadplate	1	EA			



Steve Covey Enterprises, Inc.

Quote: 78
Printed: 11/15/2018

F6377	Bench alum w/blue back rest (Model 3115 only)	7	EA	
F6380	Removable alum canopy roof (Model 3115 only)	1	EA	* Removed
Subtotal of Standard Options				27,146.00

Items Sub Total	27,146.00
Alum SurChg	814.38
	27,960.38

Accepted this ____ Day of _____, _____

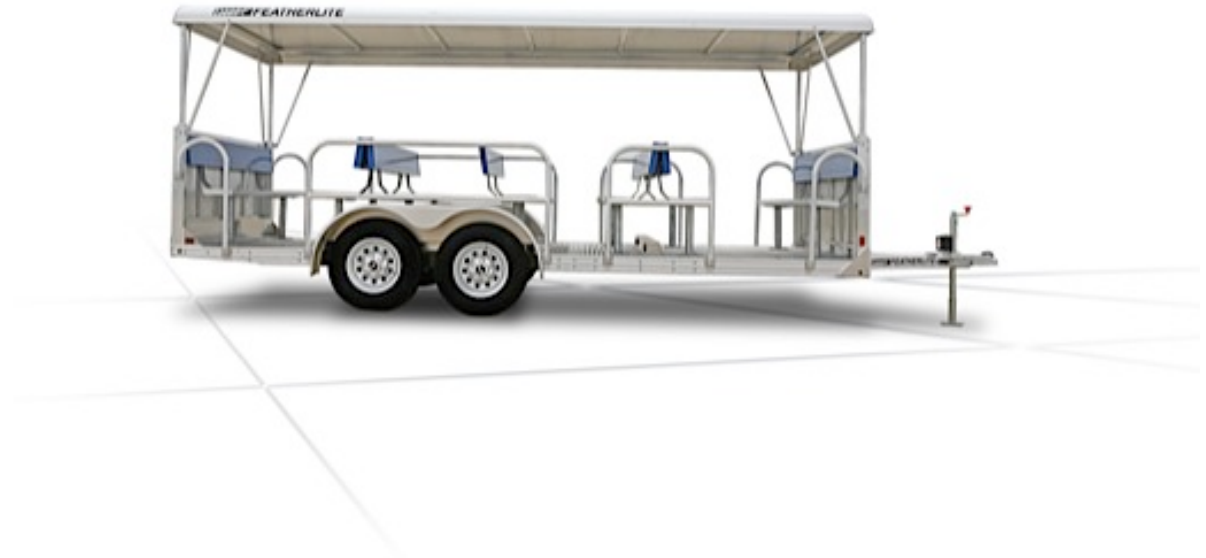
Signature _____ Date _____

Above prices subject to change without notice.

Quoted with Software Version: 3.39

Price Book Date: 5/29/2018

Quote Total	27,960.38
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Attached are pictures and information is of Featherlight 3115 Tram Trailer from Featherlight.

This quote is for a new one from the factory.

The quote was for No Roof/Canopy, No Handicap accessibility package, and No Loading light package.

Hitch Type Bumper pull

Length 17' Width 8' 0" Inside Height 67" Axles Two 4800# rubber torsion axles with electric brakes; E-Z Lube axles standard Tire/Rim 15" 6-hole silver modular wheels w/ ST225/75R15 Load Range D tires (Qty: 4); Goodyear tires standard Floor Treadplate Side Door NA Ramp NA Weight For the weight of this particular model, please download and reference [Trailer Weight Index](#) for utility trailers. Warranty

10-year limited structural warranty; 1-year bumper-to-bumper warranty. Transferable warranty** available on qualified trailers. See [warranty page](#) or dealer for more info.

The 3115 passenger tram is a 17' long, 8' wide bumper pull aluminum trailer.



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Recreation and Parks
District 4 Administration
1843 South Tamiami Trail
Osprey, FL 34229

Rick Scott
Governor

Carlos Lopez-Cantera
Lt. Governor

Noah Valenstein
Secretary

November 30, 2018

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau
2201 Second Street, Suite 600
Fort Myers, FL 33901

Dear Ms Pigott:

The Barrier Island Parks Society (BIPS) has requested TDC funding to purchase a tram for Cayo Costa State Park. The tram is critical for transporting visitors from the park dock to the camping area, cabins and beaches.

The Florida Park Service extends our appreciation for the continued support of the Lee County Tourist Development Council. We agree to accept the donation of the tram from BIPS and commit to provide ongoing preventative maintenance and repairs to the trams.

Cayo Costa State Park hosted over 65,000 visitors during the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year. The park had a total direct economic impact of \$ 5,881,902 and generated 82 jobs for the local area. The park is proud to be a partner with the Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau and provide our visitors with a one of a kind tourism destination here in Lee County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Valinda Subic".

Valinda Subic
Chief Bureau of Parks District 4

C: Rick Argo, Park Manager
Sharon McKenzie, Executive Director BIPS
Elaine McLaughlin, Chair, Friends of Cayo Costa State Park Committee



TO: Lee County Tourist Development Council

FROM: Brad Junghans-Captiva Cruises Inc.

DATE: November 28. 2018

RE: Grant for Additional Passenger Trailer at Cayo Costa State Park

Please accept this letter as support from Captiva Cruises, Inc. to provide a grant for the replacement of the broken passenger trailer at Cayo Costa State Park.

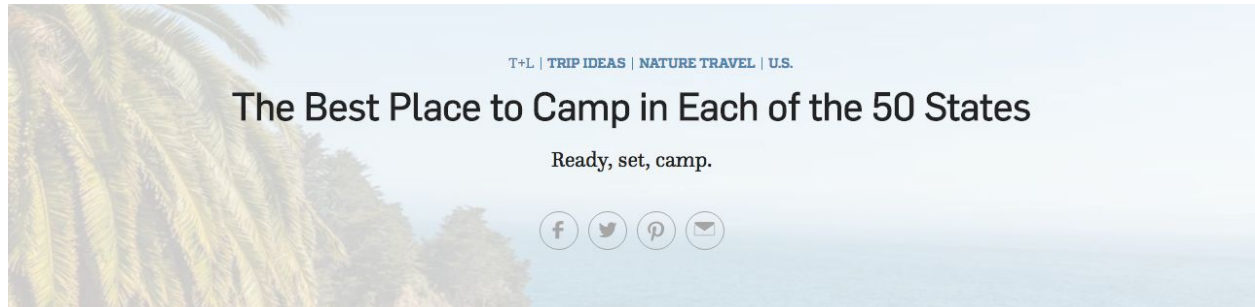
As the State of Florida's official concessionaire for the Cayo Costa State Park, Captiva Cruises along with our partners, Tropic Star from Pine Island and King Fisher from Punta Gorda, coordinate the visits of thousands of visitors to the Cayo Costa State Park.

The loss of the passenger trailer has put a major strain on the reasonable transportation of guests from the bayside docks to the gulf side beaches. As we move into the busy season the problem is only going to become worse. Captiva Cruises, Inc. and our partners aim to provide first class customer service to our guests and are always striving for our guests to come back year after year, not only on our cruises, but to Lee County as a whole.

Your assistance with this grant would be most appreciated. If I can answer any questions or help to provide additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at 239-472-5300 or by email at bradjunghans@captivacruises.com

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

http://www.travelandleisure.com/trip-ideas/nature-travel/best-campsite-in-states?xid=NL_JustIn031517#intro



by Sarah Feldberg

Numerous studies have found benefits to spending time in the outdoors: better concentration, elevated mood, even faster healing and [improved sleep patterns](#).

But camping isn't just a prescription for dealing with urban angst and anxiety. It's also a joy in its own right—an excuse to go to bed early, stare at the stars and get your hands dirty eating gooey s'mores roasted over an open flame.

If you're looking for a reason to dust off your headlamp or fire up the RV, every single state in the U.S. boasts remarkable landscapes where you can bunk for the night.

From remote beaches accessible only by boat to rugged canyons best explored by canoe, these are the best places to camp in every single state.



Florida — Cayo Costa State Park

This barrier island is a true escape, a car-less outpost accessible only by boat with more than nine miles of pristine beach. Spend your days kayaking along the coast, biking inland trails, or scanning for manatees and dolphins, then wave the day trippers goodbye and [crash in one of 30 primitive campsites](#) where the rhythm of the surf will lull you to sleep.