

Costs of Replenishment

The beach replenishment the Delaware Coast received in 2023 was much needed and appreciated, but unusual in that there was little to no restoration of the dune. The USACE had a certain number of dollars allocated in their budget for Delaware and they did the best anyone could to allocate that fairly and give needed nourishment to all of our beaches.

\$23.5 Million dollars was spent to place 1,234,000 cubic yards of sand on Delaware's coast with 245,000 cubic yards coming to Bethany Beach. Sand for this project cost \$19.3 dollars a cubic yard.

That 23.5-million-dollar figure has created a false impression regarding the real cost of beach nourishment. A better barometer would be our 2019 project, which restored dunes as needed and placed 1,437,000 cubic yards of sand on Bethany Beach (659,000), South Bethany Beach, (500,000) and Fenwick Island, (278,000) alone.

At today's cost for replenishment the cost for that project would be **\$27,700,000!!!**

The cost for Bethany alone with these updated figures would be \$12,718,700.

As you know the US Govt picks up 65% of those replenishment costs and the state is responsible for the remaining 35%

That would be a cost to the state \$4,451,545 the State's 35% portion of that amount.

Here is a breakdown of what percentages of that 35% could mean to Bethany Beach.

If the town needs to contribute 5% of the 35% it would cost \$222,577 (5% of \$4,451,545). Increasing that by 5% increments is:

5%	222,577
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10%	445,155
15%	667,732
20%	890,309
25%	1,112,886
30%	1,335,464
35%	1,558,041
40%	1,780,618
45%	2,003,195
50%	2,225,773
55%	2,448,350
60%	2,670,927
65%	2,893,504
70%	3,116,082
75%	3,338,659
80%	3,561,236
85%	3,783,813
90%	4,006,391
95%	4,228,968
100%	4,451,545