

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SPECIAL REPORT OF THE METROPOLITAN
DISTRICT COMMISSION RELATIVE TO
THE SANDING OF REVERE BEACH IN
THE CITY OF REVERE.

[Metropolitan Affairs.]

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION,
20 SOMERSET STREET, BOSTON, November 26, 1945.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of Massachusetts in General Court assembled.

Chapter 28 of the Resolves of the current year directs the Commission to investigate the feasibility of re-sanding Revere Beach in the city of Revere, as follows:

Resolved, That the metropolitan district commission is hereby authorized and directed to investigate the subject matter of current house document numbered fourteen hundred and forty, relative to the sanding of Revere beach in the city of Revere. Said commission shall report to the general court the results of its investigation hereunder and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry said recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives on or before the first Wednesday of December in the current year.

The beach at Revere Beach Reservation has been seriously eroded by tidal current flow in the area from Beach Street to the Northern Circle, a distance of two and one half miles, with an average loss of elevation of 3 feet. This has decreased the amount of dry beach area about 40 feet or more in places, and high tides now come close to the sea wall along the roadway. Since the construc-

tion of the sea wall and breakwater at Roughan's Point, Beachmont, current action has carried considerable quantities of stones from that section to the beach area between Eliot Circle and Beach Street, covering what was at one time white sand with shingle stone to a depth of 7 or 8 feet. This stone has to be leveled every season by a bulldozer.

The Commission estimates that 200,000 yards of sand or more will be needed to re-sand Revere Beach at a cost running to \$250,000 or \$300,000.

The Commission recommends that further consideration of this legislation be deferred until a survey of all beaches under the jurisdiction of the Commission by the Federal Beach Erosion Board and the United States Army Engineers in the Boston District is completed.

This survey was originally authorized in November, 1941, but the onset of the war made it impossible to carry on the work, and the agreement had to be canceled. A new agreement was recently executed by the Commission, the work is now under way and the findings of the engineers and other specialists should be reported some time during the later months of 1946.

The survey should provide valuable information as to the possibility of building up the beach through control of current action, or at least show how stability of a re-sanded beach may be accomplished if new material has to be placed.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T. MORRISSEY,
Commissioner.

WILLIAM F. ROGERS,
Associate Commissioner.

JOSEPH McKENNEY,
Associate Commissioner.

PHILIP G. BOWKER,
Associate Commissioner.

MAX ULIN,
Associate Commissioner.