

COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
PUERTO RICO PLANNING BOARD
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ABOUT

PROPOSED BOUNDARIES AND DESIGNATION FOR PLAYA GRANDE EL
PARAISO NATURAL RESERVE, DORADO

Pursuant to the authority conferred by Article 27 of Act No. 75 of June 24, 1975, known as "The Puerto Rico Planning Board Organic Act"; Act 170 of August 12, 1988, known as the "Uniform Administrative Procedure Act"; the Puerto Rico Planning Board and Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, announce the celebration of a public hearing to be held as follows:

DATE: May 3, 2016
HOUR: 1:00 pm
PLACE: Pabellón Comercial Rafael Hernández Colón, street Méndez Vigo, Dorado

Subjects to be considered:

The Puerto Rico Planning Board and the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, announce the celebration of the public hearing for the designation of the Playa Grande El Paraíso Natural Reserve in Dorado, in order to protect the environmentally sensitive area which hosts an habitat for nesting sea turtles, (*Dermochelys coriacea*) showing one of the highest annual rates of reproduction for this species in Puerto Rico.

The proposed natural reserve, is a beach strip in Dorado, located north of the PR-165, between the mouths of the Cocal river to the east and La Plata river, to the west, between kilometers 20.3 & 24.3. South of the road that round parallel to the beach, is Finca Julia owned by the Land Authority. The proposed natural reserve has a surface area estimated at 53.1 cuerdas and 3.93 km of beach.

Among the issues to be discussed at the public hearing are: the conditions of limited presence of urban coastal development nearby have been favorable to the quality of habitat for nesting sea turtles and reef systems. In addition, the Planning Board has recognized this sensitive area of special interest and classified it as Especially Protected Rustic Land with zoning district of Resource Preservation District (PR) in the following documents:

1. Zone Vega Alta, Dorado and Toa Alta tourism interest zone, approved on December 21, 2000 and amended on April 28, 2010.
2. Dorado Municipal (Territorial) Plan, approved on June 8, 2011.
3. Karst Special Planning Area Regulation (PRAPEC), approved on July 4, 2014.
4. Puerto Rico Land Use Plan (PUTPR), approved on November 30, 2015.

Availability of Documents:

Copy of documents will be available during business hours on April 17, 2016 at the City Hall ("Casa Alcaldía") of Dorado and Toa Baja Municipalities, and at the Puerto Rico Planning Board Land Use Planning Subprogram, located on the 11th floor and at the Permits Management Office (OGPe) located on the 13th floor, both located in North Building of Roberto Sánchez Vilella Government Center, at Diego Avenue corner of Baldorioty Castro Avenue in Santurce.

These documents will also be available at the Central Office of Department of Natural & Environmental Resources (DRNA), located on fourth floor in the Environmental Agencies Building Dr. Cruz A. Matos, El Cinco Sector, Road 8838 Km. 6.3, Río Piedras.

Also will be available at the Puerto Rico Planning Board website: www.jp.pr.gov and DRNA website: www.drna.gobierno.pr

Invitation to the General Public:

The Puerto Rico Planning Board invites all government agencies, private entities, municipalities and the general public to participate in this public hearing or submit written comments to the following address: **Puerto Rico Planning Board**, PO Box 41119, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00940-1119. According to section 2.1 of Act 170 of August 12, 1988, as amended, a period of thirty (30) days from the publication date of this notice is granted to the general public to submit written comments to the following web address: **comentariosjp@jp.pr.gov**. The Puerto Rico Planning Board will acknowledge receipt of the comments in writing within two (2) days, in conformity with section 2.1 of Act 170, supra.


Myrna Martínez Hernández
Interim Secretary

President
Puerto Rico Planning Board