

Tilton Street: Dune Walkway Profile

Site Assessments: March 26, 2024 and August 27, 2024

Structure Conditions and Observations	
Road to beach	163 ft
Boardwalk Length	83 ft
End of boardwalk to beach	80 ft
Walkway Width	8 ft
Walkway Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asphalt apron Pressure treated plywood connected by cable
Attached pathways*	None
Benches	3
Additional Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seasonal Mobi Mat installed to extend wooden walkway over sand to beach Large planter between walkway benches
*Human-made pathways connected to the municipal walkway	



Ecological Conditions and Observations			
Community Types Present	Rare Species	Other Native Species of interest	Species of Concern
Not applicable	None observed on assessment dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beachgrass (<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>) Seaside goldenrod (<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>) Beach pea (<i>Lathyrus japonicus</i>) Common Milkweed (<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>) 	None observed on assessment dates.



Walkway Entrance



Walkway Entrance



End of walkway looking east

Observations

- The surface of the walkway is flat and stable. The planks are oriented east/west unlike most which run north/south (Figure 1).
- There are two benches along the north side of the walkway, positioned parallel to it. One bench is located where the sand portion of the walkway meets the beach.
- Mobi Mat was observed during the summer months.
- Beachgrass along the southern side of the walkway is dense and healthy.
- Vegetated dunes are present adjacent to the walkway; the beachgrass along the southern side of the walkway is dense.
- Planters with Canna lilies are present along the north side of the walkway (Figure 1).
- The seaward end of the walkway is quite wide, creating a potential path for storm waves to travel (Figure 2).
- Upon observation in March, the end portion of the walkway was covered with sand.



Figure 1: Landward side of walkway



Figure 2: The wide opening at the seaward end of the walkway

Potential Action Items

- Periodically remove excess sand from the boardwalk surface to improve accessibility.
- Restore sand dune to create a narrower path on the seaward end of the walkway.
- Consider orienting the seaward end of the walkway away from the dominant wind and wave directions.

Resources

- GoBotany – Native Plant Trust <https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org>
- MA Office of Coastal Zone Management [Tips Basics of Building Beach Access Structures that Protect Dunes and Banks](#)
- Planting Guide for Tidal Shoreline Erosion Management in New Hampshire (beach and dune sections) <https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/tidal-erosion-planting-guide.pdf>