

County kills Singer Island breakwater project, siding with environmentalists

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Palm Beach County commissioners killed a controversial proposal Tuesday to build a series of breakwaters off of Singer Island intended to buffer its beach from eroding.

A motion by Commissioner Steven Abrams to move forward on the project failed 5-2. The proposal was sharply opposed by environmentalists, led by the Surfrider Foundation, who worried that it would disrupt sea turtles' nesting grounds.

But it was portrayed as crucial by residents of Singer Island's beachfront condos, who have watched their once-wide beach wash away. Many will now have to build seawalls to prevent the erosion from reaching their buildings, county staffers say.

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