

Simmons Island beach becomes more accessible with new mobility mats

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KENOSHA – Simmons Island beach recently became more accessible to people with disabilities, with the addition of portable mobility mats on the sand. The mats are designed to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers.

Parks department staff will install the mats daily after the beach is groomed in the morning and roll them up each evening for storage. The mats, constructed from recycled plastics, are five feet wide. A 150-foot section of mats extends from the north end of the boardwalk, and a 100-foot section of mats extends from the sidewalk on the north side of the beach house.

City Council President Alderman David Bogdala, who brought the proposal forward during last year's budget process said, "the beaches will now be accessible to everyone. During this pandemic when there are fewer public events it's great that all of our citizens will be able to enjoy our wonderful beaches safely."

PHOTO CAPTION: Lynne and Tyler Hastings (front row) are joined by City of Kenosha elected officials at Simmons Island beach as new portable mobility mats were installed for the first time on July 21, 2020. In the back row: Alderperson Jack Rose, Alderperson Bill Siel, City Council President Alderperson David Bogdala, Mayor John Antaramian, and Alderperson Dominic Ruffalo.