



July 8, 2026

U.S. Board on Geographic Names
12201 Sunrise Valley Dr. MS 523
Reston, VA 20192-0523

Dear Domestic Names Committee Members,

Save RGV opposes the change of Boca Chica Beach (FID 1330976) to Cyber Beach, Texas Review List 462.

Save RGV is a non-profit corporation organized for educational and environmental advocacy to promote environmental justice and sustainability through addressing the causes and consequences of climate change that affect the health and well-being of the entire Rio Grande Valley community. Save RGV membership predominantly resides in the Rio Grande Valley.

For the following reasons, Save RGV urges the Committee to vote NO to a name change of Boca Chica to Cyber Beach:

This proposal is opposed by local government and elected officials (this list may be, and is likely, incomplete):

- Jared Hockema, Port Isabel City Manager
- Cameron County Commissioners
- Erin Gamez, Texas State Representative District 38
- City of Starbase
- Janie Lopez, Texas State Representative District 37
- Adam Hinojosa, Texas State Senator District 27

Renaming Boca Chica Beach to Cyber Beach introduces ambiguities to constitutional rights regarding beach access. In 1959, the Legislature declared by statute that Texans enjoy the "free and unrestricted right of ingress and egress to and from the state-owned beaches" (Open Beaches Act, 56th Leg., 2d C.S., ch. 19, § 1, 1959 Tex. Gen. Laws 108, 108). Fifty years after the statute's passage, in 2009, Texas voters enshrined the right of public beach access in the Constitution. The constitutional amendment granted the public a right, described as a permanent easement, to ingress, egress, and use of Texas beaches (TEX. CONST. art. I, § 33(b)). The name Cyber Beach insinuates private ownership and control of the beach, an action inconsistent with the public's interest and Texas law.

Boca Chica Beach has geographical significance referencing the "little mouth" of the Rio Grande River that empties into the Gulf.

Boca Chica Beach has historical significance from indigenous inhabitants, Spanish settlers, the Civil War, and regional development honoring the legacy and history of Boca Chica.

Boca Chica has cultural significance in the region. The region has a majority Hispanic population and Spanish speakers. For many generations, people of the Rio Grande Valley have used Boca Chica as the beach of choice for recreation, fishing, and observing wildlife.

Changing the name of Boca Chica Beach places undue burden on regional human and financial resources to change road signs, historical markers, maps, and publications.

Save RGV takes issue with the process. Boca Chica Beach is a state park managed by Texas Park and Wildlife. These are public lands with historic, cultural, and geographic significance. At minimum, any such proposal of name changes to Boca Chica Beach should originate in Texas and go through a formalized process by the Texas Park and Wildlife, area municipal governments (e.g., South Padre Island, Port Isabel, Laguna Vista, Los Fresnos, Brownsville) and be presented to the public with a commenting period.

Renaming Boca Chica Beach to Cyber Beach is an environmental justice issue. To the knowledge of Save RGV, the proposal to rename the beach originated by an individual in Mississippi. To our knowledge, the indigenous inhabitants of the Corrido/Comerio Tribe have not been consulted regarding the name change. Furthermore, the proposed name change reflects a corporate branding of public lands that erases history and prioritizes corporate interests.

For the reasons aforementioned, Save RGV recommends the Domestic Names Committee vote NO to the change of Boca Chica Beach (FID 1330976) to Cyber Beach, Texas Review List 462.

Sincerely,

Save RGV Board

Patrick Anderson
Bill Berg
Mary Angela Branch
Jim Chapman
Vanessa Delgado
Maria Galasso
Sam Garcia
Vicky Guerra
Joyce Hamilton
Ken Saxon
Molly Smith