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Horry County Planning Dept. to Host

SCAPA CONFERENCE



Horry County Planning & Zoning is hosting the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (SCAPA) Fall Conference, scheduled for October 15 - 18, 2014. The conference will be held at Kingston Plantation, attracting professional planners from across the State. A team of local planners from the County, City of Myrtle Beach, the City of North Myrtle Beach, and the Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments is acting as Local Host Committee, coordinating the scheduling of events and speakers.

The Fall SCAPA Conference is the largest gathering of professional planners in the State. Many members of the organization are certified planners and carry the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) credential. AICP accreditation requires 30-hours of Certification Maintenance (CM) during a two-year reporting period. AICP requires that members also receive 1.5-hours each of Law and Ethics training during a reporting period. The annual Fall conference is an opportunity for these planners to earn their CM credits, but it is also a time of networking and, for the local host, an opportunity to showcase their community.

There are some exciting activities and speakers in the mix this year. The Local Host Committee is working on scheduling several mobile workshops including a bike tour of the East Coast Greenway and a kayak tour of the Waccamaw River. Conference sessions will highlight the growing local food movement, public waterfront areas, stormwater projects, and various plans that have been written over the past few years. Broad topics such as recreation, hazard mitigation, tourism, and technology will also be discussed.

The Prince's Foundation for Building Community has accepted our invitation to attend the Conference, potentially offering a ½ day workshop and opening keynote address. The Prince of Wales will not be in attendance, but the Foundation's Ambassadors are well known and respected professionals in the planning community.

Planners tend to have fun when they get together, and evenings offer a chance for attendees to relax. Cornhole tournaments are becoming a conference staple, and this year a post-conference sand volleyball tournament is in the mix. The SCAPA President has a reception planned, and the Local Host Committee is looking for a beach music band to liven things up and give attendees a chance to learn how to Shag.

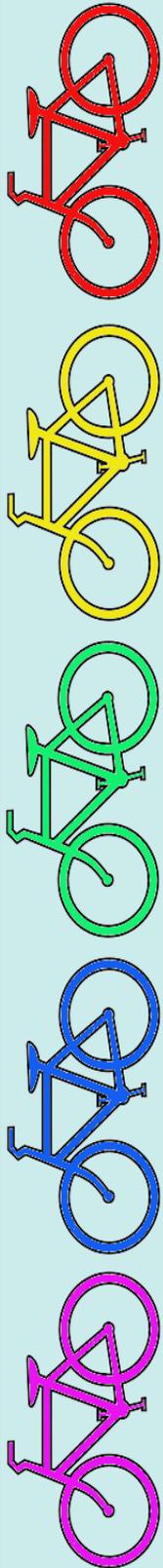
This is a great opportunity to showcase what makes Horry County a great place to live, work and play. Our community is well known throughout the State not just for the beaches and blackwater, but also for the unique planning that occurs within our jurisdiction. We look forward to welcoming the planning community to the beach and sharing our stories!

The Broad Topics;

- Recreation
- Hazard Mitigation
- Tourism
- Technology

Conference Sessions to include ;

- The growing local food movement
- Public waterfront areas
- Stormwater projects
- Plans recently written



Highways and Bikeways...

East Coast Greenway and Bike Park Trailhead

Horry County has obtained funding to complete a 1/4 mile trail to connect the existing six-mile span of the East Coast Greenway (ECG) in Myrtle Beach to the Horry County Bike Run Park in the unincorporated community of Carolina Forest. The Bike Run Park hosts ten-miles of intermediate, mountain-biking trails, which were developed and are maintained by local running and cycling clubs. Providing a safe pedestrian and cycling connection between the ECG and the Bike Run Park is a key objective of this project, as it will increase access between these two recreational facilities. This project will also increase user-ship by providing wayfinding signage to the trailhead and signage on both recreational trails. This project is part of a regional planning effort to create one continuous trail from North Myrtle Beach to Murrells Inlet, as defined within the East Coast Greenway Master Plan for Horry & Georgetown Counties (2003) and the Horry County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (2013).

Not only will this project connect two recreational trails, it will support the development of a shared trailhead for the ECG and the Bike Run Park, both of which currently lack parking, directional signage, and a staging location for special events. The trailhead location is at the entrance to the Horry County Bike Run Park, which previously served as a logging truck entrance. When finished this will be the first ECG trailhead in Horry County.

This project will also create parking and trail access to the mountain-biking trails at the Bike Run Park. Parking facilities will include marked parking spots, fencing to keep users within the designated parking area and gates to keep vehicular traffic off of existing trails.

In addition, this shared trailhead will support the needs of all users by providing a shaded picnic area, a kiosk showcasing maps of the ECG and the Bike Run Park, a repair station with an air pump, and outdoor animal resistant waste and recycling receptacles.

This project will also include beautification efforts to make the trailhead inviting. Landscaping will be added to the entrance of the Bike Run Park to give it a more pleasing entranceway. Landscaping and site design will be done in accordance with the East Coast Greenway Master Plan for Horry and Georgetown Counties (2003).

Funding for this project has come from a grant obtained through South Carolina Recreational Trails Program and by Horry County. Cost for the project is estimated at \$77,000.00.



Artist rendition of amenities to be added at the Bike Run Park

Historic Preservation

HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN HORRY COUNTY began with the creation of the Horry County Board of Architectural Review (BAR) in 1987. The BAR is a certified Local Government with the authority to preserve and review historic sites and structures throughout the unincorporated areas of Horry County. Horry County is the only County in the State of South Carolina with this ability. Within Horry County, only the City of Conway has the same ability.

Since 2011, the BAR has received multiple awards at the local, state and national level for several preservation related projects that have helped establish Horry County as a leader in historic preservation activities.

Horry County adopted its first Historic Preservation Plan in 2013 as a guide for all preservation related activities in the County for the next two decades. This plan was made a part of the Comprehensive Plan by Horry County Council and will serve as the framework to drive high quality, innovative historic preservation activities that will benefit all of the citizens of Horry County. The Preservation Plan was awarded the 2014 Preservation Service Award by the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation.

The Horry County Cemetery Project began in 2007 as a means to catalogue and preserve sensitive historic sites throughout the County. In 2008, the BAR received a grant from Preserve America which allowed the County to purchase ground penetrating radar to locate unmarked graves and Trimble handheld GPS mapping units which allowed for precision mapping and data recording of the gravesites. The combination of comprehensiveness of the project and the technology introduced into recording and locating the graves,



Horry County Senior Planner, Adam Emrick, accepts the 2014 Preservation Service Award from Governor Nikki Haley and Mike Bedenbaugh, Director of the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation



First Patriot Tree Dedication at Upper Mill Plantation in Bucksville

made the Cemetery Project an overwhelming success. It was awarded the 2011 J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award for the best County project in South Carolina, the 2011 Archaeology Stewardship Award from the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, and the 2012 Achievement Award Winner from the National Association of Counties. The project continues today and is driven largely by a great and dedicated staff of volunteers.

The Patriot Tree Project pairs the symbol of Horry County, the live oak tree, with an often overlooked aspect of Horry County's history, the Civil War. The BAR has partnered with the Horry County Historical Society and the Garden Clubs of Horry County to thoroughly research and pair Civil War Veterans from Horry County with majestic live oak trees. Close to fifty trees and soldiers have been honored in just the first year of this program, with many more scheduled to come.

The BAR has many outstanding programs and projects underway, in addition to the continuous efforts to locate and preserve the built environment of Horry County.



The Horry County Board of Architectural Review

For more information, please visit the Horry County Board of Architectural Review's Facebook Page.



The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board will be meeting on July 8th at 1 pm at the Horry County Government and Justice Building in Conway. During this meeting, the board will review the draft of the Natural Resources Element of the Horry County Comprehensive Plan, which addresses natural resource protection and management, open space conservation, and recreation. The Parks and Open Space Board has three openings in County Council Districts 3, 6, and 10. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on this board, please contact Leigh W. Kane for more information at 915-7034 or woodL@HorryCounty.org. For more information on this board, visit <http://www.horrycounty.org/Boards/ParksandOpenSpace.aspx>



Keep Horry County Beautiful is making great progress in 2014. So far, KHCB and their Community Cleanup Partners have hosted over 15 cleanup events with the assistance of over 200 volunteers, resulting in over 5,000 lbs of trash being cleaned up on our roadways, waterways, and parks. On June 24th, KHCB completed its 4th Annual Litter Index, which is an assessment of litter conditions throughout the county. The results will be discussed at the July 22 Litter Coordinators Meeting, which will be held at 2:30 pm in the Horry County Government and Justice Building in Conway. The public is welcome to attend. Contact Nancy Tindall to learn more about KHCB or to set up a roadway or park adoption: 843-915-7893 or tindalln@HorryCounty.org. To learn about upcoming litter cleanups, visit our facebook page at: www.facebook.com/KeepHorryCountyBeautiful



The Horry County Board of Architectural Review

The Horry County Board of Architectural Review (BAR) & Historic Preservation is having a public hearing on August 19th. On the agenda will be adding new properties to the historic property register, a Certificate of Appropriateness Application will be reviewed and a new Special Tax Assessment Case will be discussed. For more information contact Adam Emrick at 843-915-7897 or email at EmrickA@HorryCounty.org (See page 3 for an update on what the BAR and Historic Preservation Boards have been doing recently)



Horry County Affordable and Workforce Housing Commission

The Horry County Affordable and Workforce Housing Commission The next meeting of the Horry County Affordable and Workforce Housing Commission is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at the Horry County Government and Justice Center in Conway. The Commission will review progress to date on the Bennett Loop Neighborhood Revitalization Plan, as well as elect Commissioners to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair. Commissioners are needed for several vacancies. If you are interested in serving, please contact John Danford at 843-915-7909 or email at danfordj@HorryCounty.org for more information on qualifications.

2014 Meeting Calendar

<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  </div> <p>4 Independence Day (Office Closed)</p> <p>8 County Council; 6:00PM</p> <p>8 Parks and Open Space Board; 1:00PM</p> <p>14 Zoning Board of Appeals; 5:30 PM</p> <p>16 Affordable Workforce Housing Commission; 1:00 PM</p> <p>22 Keep Horry County Beautiful; Litter Coordinators Meeting 2:30 PM</p> <p>31 Planning Commission Workshop; 3:00 PM</p>	<p>7 Planning Commission; 5:30 PM</p> <p>11 Zoning Board of Appeals; 5:30PM</p> <p>12 County Council; 6:00PM</p> <p>19 Board of Architectural Review; 2:30PM</p> <p>20 Affordable Workforce Housing Commission; 1:00PM</p> <p>26 Keep Horry County Beautiful; 2:30PM</p> <p>28 Planning Commission Workshop; 3:00PM</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>	<p>2 County Council; 6:00 PM</p> <p>4 Planning Commission; 5:30PM</p> <p>8 Zoning Board of Appeals; 5:30PM</p> <p>16 County Council; 6:00PM</p> <p>16 Board of Architectural Review; 2:30PM</p> <p>17 Affordable Workforce Housing Commission; 1:00PM</p> <p>23 Keep Horry County Beautiful; 2:30 PM</p> <p>25 Planning Commission Workshop; 3:00 PM</p>

One last note:

Don't Forget the Zoning Compliance

It takes more than finding your location , setting up, and then displaying the Grand Opening sign to have a business in Horry County. Any business, even a home-based business, needs a business license before opening your doors in the County. The first part of the process in obtaining a business license is to get a zoning compliance. (This is verification that the type of business you are opening is permitted at the location on the application.) A zoning compliance is obtained through the Planning Department. There is no fee for this and the form can either be down loaded off the internet or picked up at the Planning Office on 2nd Avenue in Conway. Once filled out this form can be faxed to 843-915-6340, emailed to sirattj@horrycounty.org, or dropped off at the Planning Department. If you are dropping it off in person, normally the zoning compliance for home occupations can be typed up while you wait unless there is some type of issue. The most common issues include not being able to verify the address on the application or the applicant not bringing a letter from the property owner stating they will allow the business. If there is a management company involved a letter on their letterhead will suffice. When renting from an individual, that individual needs to give the applicant a certified letter; this includes a husband or wife situation when the property is in the applicants spouses name only. After a zoning compliance is obtained the applicant can go to the Business License and Hospitality Department to apply for the business license itself.