



HORRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, March 10th, 2020 12:00 pm
Horry County Government & Justice Building, Room B, 2nd Floor
1301 Second Ave, Conway, SC 29526

- 1. Call to Order**
 - 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
 - 3. Invocation**
 - 4. Introduction of Board Members**
 - 5. Minutes**
 - Approval of November 12, 2019 Minutes
 - Approval of January 14, 2020 Workshop Minutes
 - 6. Public Input**
 - 7. New Business**
 - Parks and Open Space Board Subcommittee Appointments
 - 2019 Open Space Network Additions
 - 8. Old Business**
 - South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan
 - 9. Presentations**
 - Rural Civic Arena - Paul McCulloch, Parks and Recreation Director
 - Proposed Recreation Centers - Paul McCulloch, Parks and Recreation Director
 - 10. General Discussion**
 - Parks and Open Space Plan DRAFT
 - Huger Park
 - Planning and Zoning Department Updates
 - Board Member Updates
 - 11. Announcements**
 - Next Keep Horry County Beautiful Litter Coordinators Meeting – March 24, 2020 at 11:30am in Multipurpose Room B of the Government and Justice Center in Conway
 - Baby Animal Day –April 3, 2020 Playcard Environmental Education Center
 - Next Parks and Open Space Board Meeting – May 12, 2020 at 12:00pm in Multipurpose Room B of the Government and Justice Center in Conway
 - 12. Adjourn**
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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF HORRY) **Horry County Parks & Open Space
Parks & Open Space Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2019**

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board met on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 12:00 noon in the Multi-purpose Room of the Government & Justice Center located at 1301 Second Avenue in Conway, SC. The following Parks & Open Space Board members were present: Pamela Dawson, Dr. Sarah Diaz, Eric Westover, William Kevin Gause, Suzanne Pritchard, and Kevin Kiely.

Staff present included: Senior Planner Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner Katie Moore, Parks & Recreation Director Paul McCulloch, Grayson Hardee, and Grayson Gibson.

Board members absent: Lisa Ann Davis, Samuel T. Johnson Jr., and Austin Cooke.

The following visitors were in attendance: Bob Ziegler with the Greater Burgess Community Association, Ian Klein with WMBF News, and Tyler Flemming with The Sun News.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kevin Gause called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 pm, and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman Kevin Gause asked all board members to introduce themselves since there were two new board members.

MINUTES

September 10, 2019 meeting

Kevin Gause entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Eric Westover made a motion and Pamela Dawson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

NEW BUSINESS

Bike and Pedestrian Plan – Holmestown Road Multipurpose Path

Chairman Gause asked staff to review the decision memorandum. Ashley Cowen gave an overview of the Greater Burgess Community Association’s request from the previous meeting for the Holmestown Road portion of the Burgess Bike and Pedestrian Plan. Ms. Cowen showed a map of the remaining approved units to be built in Burgess and then outlined the predicted prices

for the Holmestown Road paths. Ms. Cowen read the proposed resolution which stated that the board supported the funding and implementation of the Holmestown Road Multipurpose Path Project in the Horry County Bike and Pedestrian Plan. Dr. Sarah Diaz asked about the funding for the project and what the Board's next steps would be. Ms. Cowen explained to the Board that they would need to decide what to do with the Resolution. Ms. Cowen went on to explain that the Resolution could be sent with a CIP request, to County Council, to the Infrastructure and Regulation Committee, or to the Grand Strand Area Transportation Study (GSATS) to show the Board's support of the project. Eric Westover inquired about grants to help fund the project. Ms. Cowen stated that final costs for the project would not be determined until engineered designs had been created. Pamela Dawson clarified the funding, implementation, then stated reasons why the Board should support the project, as well as the next steps in the process for the Resolution. She reminded the Board that because there are two schools located on Scipio Lane, there is a lot of pedestrian traffic.

Mrs. Dawson made a motion to approve the Resolution supporting the funding and implementation of the Holmestown Road portion of the Bike and Pedestrian Plan, and to instruct staff to send the Resolution to the appropriate entities, furthermore to direct staff to create a Capital Improvement Plan Request for the Holmestown Road Multipurpose Path. Kevin Kiely seconded. Kevin Kiely asked for clarification about which phases were included in this motion. Ms. Dawson clarified that the motion covers all phases so that exact estimates can be derived and determined for actual implementation. Motion carried unanimously.

South Strand Recreation Center – Recreational Trails Grant Application

Chairman Gause asked staff to review the decision memorandum. Ashley Cowen gave a brief history of the master planning process for the South Strand Recreation Center. She reminded the Board that they voted on August 6th to contribute \$4,000 from the Open Space Fund to go towards paving the sidewalk for the Discovery Trail. Ms. Cowen stated that staff was in the process of applying for a \$100,000 Recreational Trails Program Grant and proposed that if the Board was in favor of the Grant that they submit a letter of support for the project. Chairman Gause entertained a motion to write the letter of support. Pamela Dawson made a motion and Eric Westover seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Keep Horry County Beautiful Committee Appointments

Chairman Gause asked staff to review the decision memorandum. Ashley Cowen gave a brief overview of the Agenda item. Jeremy Monday has completed his first term and was seeking reappointment. Jack Galloway has completed his first term and was seeking reappointment. And Kevin Mishoe is completing an unexpired term and is seeking his first full term. Keep Horry County Beautiful Staff Liaison, Senior Planner Katie Moore, spoke briefly about the member's interest in being reappointed and their previous service to the Committee. Chairman Gause entertained a motion to reappoint Kevin Mishoe, Jeremy Monday, and Jack Galloway. Eric Westover made a motion to reappoint the three members. Sarah Diaz seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Chairman Gause asked staff to review the decision memorandum. Ms. Cowen stated that this item is a Resolution to support the adoption of the IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan and was

placed on the Agenda at the request of the Vice Chairman, Mrs. Pamela Dawson. Ms. Cowen turned the floor over to Mrs. Dawson to review the Agenda item. Pamela Dawson explained that Horry County Council has been looking at the IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan and she thought that it was an excellent Plan and would benefit the County. Mrs. Dawson stated that she feels it is the Board's duty to go on record to support the adoption of the Plan. Mrs. Dawson went on to explain the importance of the Land Use Chapter and the Scenic and Conservation section. Chairman Gause stated that he would entertain a motion to send the Resolution supporting the adoption of IMAGINE 2040 to County Council. Suzzane Pritchard made the motion. Eric Westover seconded the motion. Mr. Gause opened the floor for further discussion. Mr. Westover asked if there are any alternate avenues besides Resolutions. Ms. Cowen stated that support letters were another option. Ms. Cowen went on to state that Board members could also contact their Councilmen directly. Mr. Gause stated that he speaks to his Councilman Hardee often and sees it as part of his duty to discuss these topics with him, as well as show his Councilman his support on these issues. Mr. Westover clarified his question in relation to community interaction. Mr. Gause stated that he is personally very active in his community and that he speaks with his community members often. Seeing no further discussion, Chairman Gause called for a vote. The motion carried unanimously.

2020 Meeting Schedule

Chairman Gause asked staff to review the decision memorandum. Ms. Cowen asked the Board to adopt a 2020 meeting schedule. She asked them if they would prefer six (6) or 12 meetings. She mentioned that staff's recommendation would be to have 12 meetings at a 12:00 noon meeting time. Ms. Cowen presented the Board with two sample calendars of dates. Chairman Gause entertained a motion for a 12 meeting calendar. Pamela Dawson made a motion to meet monthly for a 12 meeting calendar, and Kevin Kiely seconded. Mr. Westover asked for clarification on workshops. Ms. Cowen stated that some of the 12 meetings could be turned into workshops, but that according to the Bylaws the Board had to have at least one (1) meeting per quarter. Ms. Cowen reminded the Board that missing a meeting here or there is fine, but not to miss three (3) consecutive meetings. Dr. Sarah Diaz and Suzanne Pritchard expressed concerns about meeting 12 times a year due to work and drive time. Mrs. Dawson made a note about an increase in meetings would allow the Board to become more proactive. Mrs. Dawson went on to note that revisiting the Bylaws in relation to absences. Ms. Cowen reminded them that if quorum isn't met, they cannot make decisions. Chairman Gause called for a vote. The motion failed 5-1 with Kevin Kiely voting in favor of the motion. Pamela Dawson made a motion for an 8 meeting schedule, using the six (6) Tuesdays proposed by staff and adding June 9th and August 11th. Eric Westover seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Board Budget FY21

Chairman Kevin Gause introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to staff. Ashley Cowen gave an overview of the current and proposed budget for the Board. Ms. Cowen asked for input from the Board on the proposed FY21 Budget. Mrs. Dawson stated that she would like to see \$900 added to outreach materials, making it \$5,000 instead of \$4,100. Kevin Kiely stated that he thought the budget should increase for conference travel. He said the Board should ask

for \$7,500 total. Eric Westover said he agreed and would like to see increases for projects and events. The Board decided to add \$1,250 and add it to Statewide Travel, and \$1,250 and add it to Projects and Events, and \$900 for Outreach Materials. The budget will go through the Planning Department, then go through the Infrastructure and Regulation Division, and finally on to the County for final approval.

Huger Park

Chairman Kevin Gause introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to staff. Ms. Cowen gave an overview of the recent history of Huger Park in Carolina Forest and the Parks and Open Space Board's involvement in the Park's future design. She stated that Parks and Recreation, Planning & Zoning, Parks and Open Space Board, Board of Architectural Review, the Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, and D.R. Horton are working together create a master plan for the park. Ms. Cowen asked for a Board member to volunteer as a representative of the Board to work as part of this group. Dr. Diaz asked for clarification on the acreage size around the historic ten (10) Live Oak trees. Kevin Kiely volunteered.

Board Member Updates

Chairman Gause stated that in future meetings Board members will be asked to give individual updates about what is going on in their districts and potential ways that other Board members could be interactive within other Board member's communities. Mrs. Dawson suggested that Board members utilize their district Parks and Recreation locations to meet and talk with their district residents about their needs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Infrastructure & Regulation Subcommittee on Rural Civic Center – November 14, 2019 at 9:00 am in the Council Conference Room, Government & Justice Center, Conway. Mrs. Dawson noted that this particular project is in the DRAFT Parks and Open Space Plan. She also noted the multipurpose benefits of such a project for equestrians, recreation, and as a potential staging area for natural disaster emergencies.

Keep Horry County Beautiful Meeting - November 26, 2019 at 11:30 am in Multi-Purpose Room B, Government & Justice Center, Conway.

IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan Workshop – November 21, 2019 at 2:00 pm in Council Chambers, Government & Justice Center, Conway. Mrs. Dawson noted that attendance by Board members at this meeting would be beneficial.

Infrastructure & Regulation Subcommittee on Recreation Privatization – November 14, 2019 at 2:00 pm in the Council Conference Room, Government & Justice Center, Conway. Mr. Kiely inquired if the Parks and Open Space Board has expressed an opinion on Privatization and if individual Board members could speak on behalf of the Board on such topics. Ms. Cowen stated that Board members may speak on behalf of themselves as individual Board members or as appointed representatives of their district, but that they should not speak on behalf of the entirety of the Board unless the Board votes to express an opinion on a topic. Mr. Gause asked

Paul McCulloch for an update on the Privatization process. Mr. McCulloch stated that the Infrastructure and Regulation Committee is looking for additional information at the next meeting, after-which it will go to full County Council. Ms. Cowen advised the Board that in the event that the Board wanted to act on the issue, the Chairman has the authority to call a Special Meeting as long as there is enough time for public notice. Mr. Westover inquired if the Board had examined the Privatization issue before. Ms. Cowen stated that the topic had been on the Agenda multiple times for discussion. Mr. Kiely thanked the local media in attendance for helping to share information about upcoming meetings and topics that are relevant to residents in our County.

ADJOURN

With no further business, Chairman Kevin Gause entertained a motion to adjourn. Eric Westover made a motion and Pamela Dawson seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:30 pm.

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF HORRY)

**Horry County Parks & Open Space
Parks & Open Space Board Workshop
Tuesday, January 14, 2020**

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board met on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 12:00 noon in the Multi-purpose Room of the Government & Justice Center located at 1301 Second Avenue in Conway, SC. The following Parks & Open Space Board members were present: William Kevin Gause, Pamela Dawson, Suzanne Pritchard, Austin Cooke, Kevin Kiely, Lisa Davis, Eric Westover, and Thomas Mezzapelle.

Staff present included: Senior Planner, Ashley Cowen; Parks & Recreation Operations Manager, Tim Van Pelt; and Administrative Assistant Grayson Hardee.

Board members absent: Dr. Sarah Diaz and Samuel T. Johnson Jr.

The following visitors were in attendance: Bob Ziegler with the Greater Burgess Community Association and Tom Cocke with the City of Loris Parks & Recreation.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kevin Gause called the workshop to order at approximately 12:04 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman Kevin Gause asked all board members to introduce themselves since there was a new board member.

MINUTES - November 12, 2019 meeting

Chairman Kevin Gause asked the board members to review the minutes for approval at the next meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Kevin Gause opened the floor for public comment. ***Tom Cocke, City of Loris Parks & Recreation Director***, discussed how sports tourism helps to boost The City of Loris' economy. Right now, any sporting events in Loris have to be held at schools. The City of Loris would like to partner with the County to help bring a facility to Loris. Mr. Cocke said they have applied for grants to help with parks they currently have. They are in full throttle mode to revitalize Heniford field. He said funding from hurricane damage helped tremendously. They are attempting to bring Loris into the light, but Loris cannot obtain a facility without assistance. Mr. Cocke stated that the City of Loris had received three (3) grants to revitalize playgrounds, afterschool programs, health and wellness programs, field lighting, and sports tourism. The primary purpose of Mr. Cocke's visit to the Parks and Open Space Board meeting was that the

City of Loris Council had tasked him with starting conversations with Horry County to bring a facility to Loris and let the County know that the City is willing to assist with funding. The City may be able to utilize tournament money to put towards bond payments. Holding open tournaments would help boost the economy for the County and the City. Mr. Cocke also stated that there has been great community response through sponsorships and that any money made goes back into the Parks & Recreation Department. Pamela Dawson said that she thought it would be a great economic investment, and she would like to see numbers showing the economic impacts from tournaments. Mr. Cocke stated that the City has a partnership with Top Gun Sports and that they would be providing an Economic Impact Study after each tournament. Chairman Gause thanked Mr. Cocke for coming.

PRESENTATIONS

Parks and Recreation Impact Fee and CIP Projects – Tim Van Pelt

Chairman Kevin Gause turned the floor over to Tim Van Pelt from the Parks and Recreation Department. Tim Van Pelt began his presentation by explaining the Parks & Recreation Department's process for completing the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and determining which projects to request funding for. He explained that the projects must be over \$100,000 and that they are placed on a list which prioritizes projects that the Department feels funds would be most needed for and most likely to be funded. That document is then submitted to the Finance Department and eventually County Council, whom ultimately decides which projects are funded in the County CIP. Mr. Van Pelt explained that the Parks and Recreation Department receives approximately \$1.25 million each year for CIP projects, with approximately \$500,000 from Sunday Alcohol Permits and the rest from the Recreation Fund.

Pam Dawson clarified that Parks and Recreation receives \$1.25 million each year in CIP money from Sunday Alcohol Permits and the Recreation Fund millage, but that a recreation center could cost up to \$12 million. Mrs. Dawson wanted to make clear the deficit between needs and funding sources.

Mr. Van Pelt explained that County Council was exploring the implementation of impact fees for all new construction, when permits are issued. He explained impact fee revenues cannot be used for operations, hiring staff, maintenance, replacement, or other existing deficiencies, however, impact fee revenues can be used for Parks & Recreation, Fire/EMS, Police, Emergency Operations, transportation and road construction, and stormwater. He also discussed the project list for Impact Fees, which were taken from the DRAFT Parks and Open Space Plan, including Recreation Centers in Loris and Aynor, Carolina Forest Recreation Center fields, South Strand Recreation Center Auxiliary Gym, and lighting projects. Mr. Van Pelt explained there were many lighting projects, because the ability to play at night would help sports tourism. He went on to note that many of the project were worked on in coordination with the Planning and Zoning Department, including the Lewis Ocean Bay Trailhead for the East Coast Greenway, a River Oaks Park, a Forestbrook Park, a Little River Waterfront park, Garden City beachfront parking, Greenwood Park off of 701 South, and boat landing upgrades in District 7. Mr. Van Pelt said the projects were projected be started over the next 10 years and fit into the current State law revenue confines. Mr. Kiely inquired about the status of the changes to State legislature about Impact Fees. Mr. Van Pelt clarified that the consultants are working within the confines of the

current legislation, but that nothing has been passed by County Council yet. Ms. Cowen further clarified that County Council has asked that the Impact Fees proposal be sent back to Staff and the Consultants to add a Stormwater component. The list will then be represented at the Spring Budget Retreat in April to County Council. Mr. Westover inquired if the list may change. Ms. Cowen stated that the list could change and that the final decision would be up to County Council. Pam Dawson said she attended the budget retreat and was really enlightened on impact fees. She asked the board to watch the video recordings about impact fees.

Mr. Van Pelt stated that the CIP project list included many of the Impact Fee projects, but also included additional projects such as the Rural Civic Arena, boardwalk renovations at Vereen Memorial Gardens, boat landing paving, and renovations at the Cochran building. The Rural Civic Arena is currently a top CIP item. It is a \$15-\$30 million project. Mr. Van Pelt said Parks & Recreation was seeking the Board's guidance to decide which projects are most needed by the community for use in future CIPs. County Council will have the final say on which projects are included in the final list of projects for both the CIP and the Impact Fees Chairman. Gause reminded the board members that it was very important that they talk to community members and Councilmen.

Board Member Training

Chairman Kevin Gause turned the floor over to Ashley Cowen to present the Board Member Training. Ashley Cowen reviewed the ordinance that established the Parks & Open Space Board: Horry County Code Chapter 15: Article VII. Ms. Cowen explained that the purpose of the Board as explained by their establishing ordinance is to promote preservation and connectivity of open space, scenic areas and vistas, promoting protection and conservation of environmental and natural resources, promoting expansion of quality open space for a wide range of recreational opportunities, promoting tourism emphasizing open space, recreational trails, and natural resources. The ordinance goes on to state that the Board's purpose is to promote education, awareness, and research as it relates to the environmental and natural resources of Horry County, assisting and coordinating activities with other local and regional organizations, businesses, and governmental agencies that are active in preservation of open space, recreational sites, and natural resources. The Board is also supposed to prepare and submit to Horry County Council the Parks and Open Space Plan. She also read the Board's powers as established by Ordinance. The ordinance states that the Board is supposed to update the Parks and Open Space Inventory, submit the Inventory to County Council, along with a list of assets which can be acquired, leased, protected, maintained, or developed through various resources. Make recommendations to Horry County Council relating to the Open Space Fund, and make recommendations to County Council on properties which should be acquired, leased, preserved, protected, maintained or developed. Coordinate activities of volunteers, organizations, businesses, and government agencies for the identification, conservation, preservation, or development of all categories of open space. Undertake studies, projects, and plans as assigned by Horry County Council. Ms. Cowen went on to state that the ordinance includes the Board's power to encourage planning activities and development as may be necessary or advisable to identify, promote, acquire, protect, maintain, develop open space, recreational sites, or natural resources. Ms. Cowen went on to clarify that the Board also has the power to create subcommittees.

Ms. Cowen reviewed South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 8: Public Officers and Employees, Chapter 13: Ethics, Government Accountability, Campaign Reform, and Rules of Conduct as appointed board members. Ms. Cowen read section 700 to the Board which states that Board members are not allowed to use their position to knowingly obtain an economic interest. She went on to read the portion of the section which clarifies that Board members who do have an economic interest in any decision to be made by the Board are required by this state law to prepare a written statement clarifying the nature of the potential conflict of economic interest with respect to the decision being reviewed by the Board, and furnish a copy of the statement to the presiding officer of the Board to be printed in the minutes and require that the member be excused from any votes, deliberations, and any other actions to be taken on the matter in which the conflict exists. Ms. Cowen clarified that this is something that each Board member should decide individually which items they may or may not have a financial interest in.

Chairman Gause inquired about potential conflicts of interests which may exist with Board members signing Advisory Letters to Planning Commission, whom later do contract work with development companies working on projects associated with said letters. Ms. Cowen responded that the answer to Mr. Gause's question would need to be reviewed with a County Attorney on a case-by-case basis, but that those members could always abstain or recuse themselves from voting. During discussion, Samuel T. Johnson Jr. and Austin Cooke were specifically mentioned as having potential conflicts of interest. Mr. Austin Cooke owns a lawn mowing business and Mr. Samuel T. Johnson Jr. owns a seeding business. Mr. Gause inquired if the Board would need to meet and vote for each Advisory Letter in order for members to abstain or recuse. Ms. Cowen clarified that the Board could choose to alter the way that the letters are written and take specific Board member's names off the Letters, or could clarify with a specific statement within the letter that specific Board members had recused themselves from voting on the letters. Mr. Westover stated that he felt that the biggest issue was confusion over when people were supposed to recuse themselves. Ms. Cowen reiterated that it is a personal decision when to recuse or abstain due to a financial conflict of interest. Mr. Westover agreed. Ms. Cowen clarified the difference between bias and conflict of interests. She also clarified the differences between recusal and abstention. Abstention allows you to continue to count towards quorum and you can continue to stay in the room and discuss the topic, whereas recusal does not allow you to discuss nor vote.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Advisory Letters to Planning Commission

Chairman Kevin Gause introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to staff to give an overview of the briefing memorandum. Ashley Cowen explained the history of the Board's discussion of advisory letters dating back to July 2018. Ms. Cowen also explained the Board's initial intent in sending the advisory letters, which advisory letters had previously been sent, and each of their current status. Ms. Cowen stated that the Board voted on March 12, 2019 to approve the current advisory letter template and policy. Ms. Cowen went on to remind the Board that they had asked in September 2019 to reevaluate the advisory letters in a Workshop.

Chairman Gause expressed concern for potential conflicts for board members and his concern for the timeliness of the letters. Mr. Gause also reiterated the importance of reminding Council

about the importance of these long term plans which have previously been adopted. Mr. Westover inquired if the board needs to develop a whole new process for these letters. Pam Dawson stated that the timing of the letters is the real difficulty that needs to be addressed and is the original purpose behind the vote on March 12, 2019 to preapprove the policy to have the Board chairman sign the letters on behalf of the entire Board. Mrs. Dawson stated that she felt that the Board had spent enough time on discussing these letters. Mrs. Dawson felt board members should talk to council members on behalf of their districts, send letters as representatives of their districts on the Parks and Open Space Board, and create a subcommittee to make recommendations about letters, instead of sending letters as a whole Board. Mrs. Dawson also stated that if necessary, the Board could redraft the advisory letters to include a section which states that certain members are excluded.

Suzanne Pritchard questioned whether the advisory letters were actually specific enough to financially affect any Board. Austin Cooke stated that while the individual Board member names are not on the letters, each of their names are on the Board, so everyone will assume they are behind a letter that the Board's name is on. Mr. Cooke reiterated that it would only be an issue if a Board member has a conflict with a specific request. Mrs. Dawson clarified that often a Board member may not know that they have a conflict at the time of a rezoning, but they may have a potential in the future because of the type of business they are in. Mrs. Dawson stated that if that potential existed for her, that she would want to be excluded from the letters. Thomas Mezzapelle asked if the solution could be as simple as stating in the first sentence of the Letters "The *eligible* members of the Parks and Open Space Board". Ms. Cowen reiterated that the Letters are the Board's and it can say what they want it to say, but that no vote can be taken today in workshop as this is just a discussion item. If the Board would like to vote on this item, it can be added to the March 10, 2020 meeting.

Mrs. Dawson stated that she believed that Mr. Johnson's concern was that he wanted to vote on each letter individually. Mrs. Pritchard, Mrs. Dawson, and Mr. Westover agreed that Board members with economic interests should recuse themselves from the letters. Lisa Davis suggested that in the future, the Letters be sent to the Board members who may potentially have a conflict of interest. Mr. Gause reiterated that the Board had already voted and passed the letter template and policy. Ms. Cowen stated that technically Mr. Cooke had not been involved in the vote on March 12, 2019 because he was not a Board member at the time. Mr. Cooke stated that the actions taken by the Board are months before his company bids on projects on the same site.

Mr. Gause inquired if Mr. Kevin Kiely had anything to add to the discussion. Mr. Kiely stated that the Board could request they be given the opportunity to review all rezoning and planning decisions prior to Planning Commission making their final decision so that the Board could use their own check list to confirm that our own concerns had been addressed. Mr. Gause reiterated that staff is already doing a thorough review and that the checklist already exists for Planning Commission and staff. Mrs. Dawson stated that such a request may go beyond the responsibilities of the Parks and Open Space Board.

Parks and Open Space Board Subcommittee(s)

Chairman Kevin Gause introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to staff to give an overview of the topic. Ashley Cowen stated that this item was on the agenda because it had been

requested from a previous meeting to be discussed during a workshop. Ms. Cowen reiterated that the Board could form subcommittees to advise the Board on any number of topics. Mrs. Dawson stated that a subcommittee on Open Space would be ideal to assist entities with their future endeavors to conserve, protect, acquire, and enhance open space. Ms. Cowen stated that in the past, much of that work had been accomplished by staff through the Upper Waccamaw Task Force.

Ms. Cowen went into detail about the drawbacks and positives of subcommittees, including the ability to meet without quorum, the ability to meet at any time, the ability to meet informally, the inability to make decisions on behalf of the entire Board – everything would have to come back to the Board for final decision, could take more time, and the Board would need to trust the subcommittees advice and guidance on topics they are making recommendations on.

Mr. Gause stated that he is passionate about recreation and that Mrs Dawson may be interested in a different subcommittee. Mr. Mezzapelle stated that he would be available to be on a subcommittee after March. Mr. Westover stated that he has some time to devote to a subcommittee. Lisa Davis stated that her time is limited. Kevin Kiely stated he has time to be on a subcommittee. Mrs. Pritchard stated that she would like to see the goals for each subcommittee before committing. Mr. Cooke stated that he has flexible time and would be more interested in the recreation subcommittee. Mrs. Dawson stated that she is most interested in preserving Scenic and Conservation areas, the flood plain areas, and wetlands. Mrs. Dawson stated that creating a subcommittee is similar to taking the establishing ordinance and breaking it down into sections, each section being a subcommittee. After some discussion, the Board decided to think about the scope of potential subcommittees and assign them at the next meeting.

IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan – Update

Chairman Kevin Gause introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to staff to give the update. Ms. Cowen stated that the IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan passed on December 10th, 2019 as Ordinance 54-19 with one minor amendment in the Land Use Chapter. The amendment states that County Council is the final authority, and that current land uses and zoning must be taken into consideration.

Parks and Open Space Plan DRAFT

Chairman Kevin Gause introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to staff. Ashley Cowen discussed the current Parks and Open Space Plan Draft from 2009. A new plan was drafted between 2015 and 2017. The Planning Commission recommended approval in January, 2018. Ms. Cowen stated the Parks and Open Space Plan would be an amendment to the IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan. She asked the Board if they wanted to send the draft to County Council as it was recommended by the Board and Planning Commission or go through an updating, reformatting, reordering, and adding process to bring it up to date. Eric Westover felt updating the draft plan and adding the Inventory and Capital Improvements sections into the Plan would be an excellent opportunity. Mrs. Pritchard inquired if the Plan would need to go back through the workshops and public input process. Ms. Cowen stated that the workshop process has already been completed and that much of the input gathered during the IMAGINE 2040 process could be utilized in the update to the Parks and Open Space Plan. Mrs. Pritchard asked what kind of timeline would be needed for an update. Ms. Cowen stated that some of the

material would be ready by the March meeting, but that a completed draft could be ready in six months. At that point the Board would need to go back through the approval process from both the Board and the Planning Commission. The board instructed staff to re-draft the Plan with the following revisions: the Open Space and Recreation sections be separated, the projects and amounts be updated, the plan be reformatted to match IMAGINE 2040, updating the inventory, growth trends, maintenance costs, adding a section about Impact Fees, threatened and endangered species, floodplain and wetland information including background mapping, priority recreation maps, neighborhood open space maps, bicycle parks, and make sure the goals are aligned with the IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Project Updates

Chairman Kevin Gause introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to staff. Ms. Cowen gave an update on the Recreational Trails Program Grant application, due on January 30, 2020 for the South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan. Ms. Cowen announced that the Board will be holding the Huger Park Conceptual Master Planning Workshop during the week of February 10-14, 2020. The exact date is to-be-announced.

Ms. Cowen announced that the Conway Perimeter Road, a Ride 3 project, will cut off approximately .73 acres of Sandridge Park. SCDOT and the Ride 3 Coordinator Jason Thompson have asked the Parks and Open Space Board to provide input on the eight different alternatives that they have developed with Mead and Hunt for the park renovation proposals. The project is months from having a final design, but there is potential for having public input on the park design. Ms. Cowen will set up a park visit date via doodle poll.

Board Member Updates

Chairman Gause asked for updates from Board Members' districts.

Pam Dawson said the South Strand Recreation Center fields had lights now, but the fields were in rough shape from the installation, and Enterprise Boat Landing is being improved.

Chairman Gause congratulated Green Sea Floyds football team on their winning season, and stated the Loris fields had new lights on the baseball fields and in the process of redoing the concessions stands also.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Keep Horry County Beautiful Meeting – January 28, 2020 at 11:30am in Multipurpose Room B, Government & Justice Center, Conway.

Annual Litter Index - February 25, 2020 at 8:30 am – 12:00pm and 1:00pm – 4:30pm.

Next Parks and Open Space Board Meeting – March 10, 2020 at 12:00pm in Multipurpose Room B, Government & Justice Center, Conway.

Burgess Community Heritage Night – January 23, 2020 5:30-6:30pm at Burgess Elementary

I&R Committee Meeting – January 28, 2020 9:00am

Rural Civic Center Subcommittee Meeting – January 29, 2020 – 9:00am

2020 Waccamaw Conference – February 1, 2020 - 12:00- 4:00pm at the Horry County Museum, topic is Fecal Matters

Grand Strand Stormwater Pond Conference – February 25, 2020 - conference fee can be covered by the Parks and Open Space Board budget. Mrs. Dawson stated that she is already registered to attend the conference.

Greater Burgess Community Association Clean-Up – March 7, 2020

ADJOURN

With no further business, Chairman Kevin Gause entertained a motion to adjourn. Pamela Dawson made a motion and Eric Westover seconded. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15pm.



Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Briefing Memorandum
Horry County, South Carolina

Date: March 10, 2020
From: Planning
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner
Cleared By: Leigh Kane, Principal Planner
Regarding: Parks and Open Space Board Subcommittee Appointments

ISSUE:

What action should the Parks and Open Space Board take on the appointment of subcommittees?

PROPOSED ACTION:

Form subcommittees by appointment of the Chairman, as desired by the Board body.

RECOMENDATION:

Staff recommends forming Ad Hoc subcommittee(s).

BACKGROUND:

The Parks and Open Space Board Chairman has the authority to create subcommittees, as indicated in the Horry County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 15- Planning, Article VII- Horry County Parks and Open Space Board (Ord. No. 159-00, § 1, 2-6-01; Ord. No. 115-04, §§ 1—3, 12-7-04; Ord. No. 67-08, § 1(Att. A), 6-17-08).

ANALYSIS:

There are two types of subcommittees: Standing and Ad Hoc. Standing Subcommittees are constituted every year or frequently and they work on a continuous basis. Ad Hoc subcommittees are temporary and created for specific purposes. Ad Hoc subcommittees can be formed with no changes to the Parks and Open Space Board's bylaws. Standing Committees will need amendments to the bylaws, advertisements to the public, and staff presence.

The Parks and Open Space Board has previously discussed appointing subcommittees on two occasions. During the August 6, 2019 meeting Pamela Dawson suggested forming a subcommittee to review cases before the Planning Commission and draft letters from the Parks and Open Space Board and during workshop on January 14, 2020. Both Pamela Dawson and Vicki Walker volunteered to serve on such a subcommittee. The Board decided to revisit the issue at a later meeting because multiple Board members were absent. At the January 14, 2020 workshop the topic was readdressed. Board members expressed interest in forming two

subcommittees, one to address recreation topics and another to address open space and natural resource topics. After some discussion, the Board decided to think about the scope of potential subcommittees and assign them at the March 10, 2020 meeting.



Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Briefing Memorandum
Horry County, South Carolina

Date: March 10, 2020
From: Planning
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner
Cleared By: Leigh Kane, Principal Planner
Regarding: 2019 Open Space Network Additions

ISSUE:

What properties were added to the County's Open Space Network in 2019?

CONCLUSION:

740.5 acres were added to the County's Parks and Open Space network in 2019, totaling roughly 65,188 acres of preserved open space, not including recreation lands in Horry County's jurisdiction. There are approximately 67,817 acres of preserved open space in the County, including municipal preserved areas, but not including recreation lands.

BACKGROUND:

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board is responsible for maintaining an inventory of parks and open space properties in the County. This list is updated annually to ensure that the Parks and Open Space Inventory remains up to date and so the Board can identify opportunities for partnerships.

ANALYSIS:

City of Conway – Westmoreland Holding Company Inc (PIN 382-00-00-0001) – 152.11 acres adjacent to the Historic Rice Fields INC in the Savannah Bluff community along Waccamaw Drive. This tract was purchased in July 2019 through a Duke Energy Grant which makes it Deed restricted.

ASL INC – (PIN 340-00-00-0017) – Total 36.69 acre wetland bank on a 143.28 acre parcel off of Lees Landing Road. 20.0 acres for Chanticleer Square Project; 5.36 acres for Queens Park Project; 10.03 acres for an un-named project; 1.3 acres for another un-named project; 113.80 acres remaining area. This wetland bank was recorded in April 2019.

Open Space Institute Land Trust Inc –

- (PIN 456-00-00-0007) – 50 acres of wetlands purchased in August 2019. Previously Epps Properties LLC. Purchased with grant funds in August 2019, which makes it Deed restricted.
- (PIN 456-00-00-0033) – 38.61 acres of wetlands purchased in August 2019. Previously Epps Properties LLC. Purchased with grant funds in December 2019, which makes it Deed restricted.

Holiday Associates, LLC –

- (PIN 197-00-00-0013) – 353 acres in Conservation Easement with Pee Dee Land Trust. Placed into conservation in December 2019.
- (PIN 166-00-00-0026) – 110.09 acres in Conservation Easement with Pee Dee Land Trust. Placed into conservation in December 2019.

SC Department of Natural Resources – Waccamaw Heritage Preserve (PIN 303-00-00-0008 and 333-00-00-0007) – 300.4 acres were previously owned by Waccamaw Farm and Timber and 222 acres were owned by The Mossy Oak Preserve, Inc totaling 522.4 acres. These parcels do not count towards total added in 2019 because they were already in conservation when transferred to DNR. While both parcels were previously in conservation, they are now owned by SC DNR and will be operated as part of the WHP. Both parcels closed in October 2019.



Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Decision Memorandum
Horry County, South Carolina

Date: November 12, 2019
From: Planning
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner
Cleared By: Leigh Kane, Principal Planner
Regarding: South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan

ISSUE:

Does the Parks and Open Space Board support the South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan?

PROPOSED ACTION:

Support the South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan through a Resolution.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND:

In summer 2019, the Parks and Open Space Board, Keep Horry County Beautiful, and staff from multiple departments began coordinating with the Greater Burgess Community Association and the children's programs to develop a Master Plan for the South Strand Recreation Center. The Master Plan includes multiple new trails including the History Trail, a perimeter trail, the first Horry County Discovery Trail, connector trails between existing trails, expansion of the existing Swamp Trail, and a Blue Bird Trail. In addition, the Master Plan proposes a potential building expansion, a double auxiliary gym, batting cages, a children's bicycle skills park, outdoor basketball court, tennis courts, a bark park, dock gazebos, concession and restroom facilities, a Veterans Memorial, and additional picnic shelters.

ANALYSIS:

The role of a Master Plan is to inform the County's Capital Improvements Plan and help secure funding to support implementation. Horry County has applied for approximately \$82,000 from the 2020 South Carolina Recreational Trails Program Grant. If awarded, the grant will partially fund the trails identified in the Master Plan. Additional funding for the trails will be provided by the Horry County Parks and Open Space Board through the use of the Open Space Fund, Keep Horry County Beautiful, PalmettoPride through a Grant, and Horry County Government through match funds if awarded the Recreational Trails Program Grant. More funding will be needed to accomplish the full build-out of the Master Plan.

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South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan

Horry County, South Carolina



PARKS & RECREATION Department



This Project is supported by the following entities:

*Horry County Government
Horry County Parks and Recreation Department
Horry County Planning and Zoning Department
Horry County Community Development Office
Horry County Engineering Department
Horry County Public Works Department
Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Keep Horry County Beautiful
PalmettoPride
Greater Burgess Community Association*

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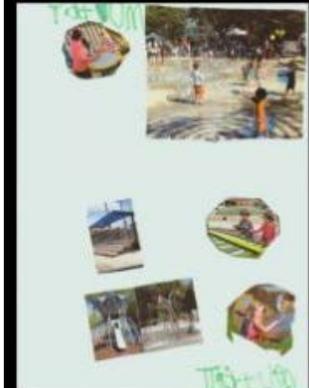
Community Input : Summer Camp Children

"What are your DREAM additions to your Rec Center?"

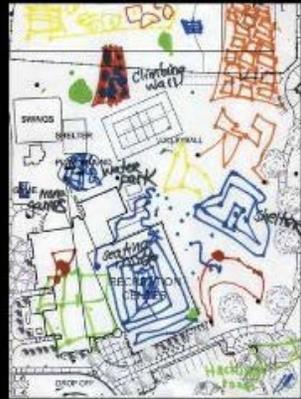
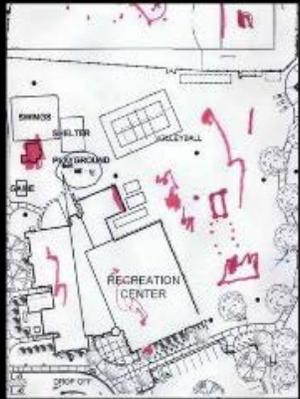
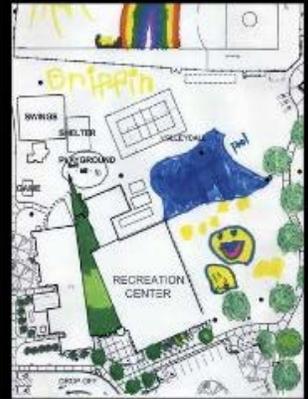
Visioning Workshop



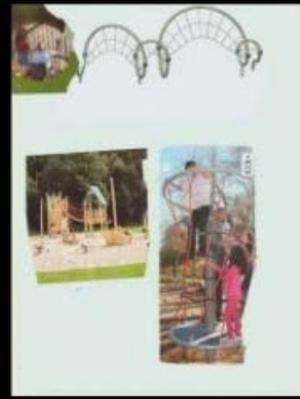
Community Input : Summer Camp Children "What are your DREAM additions to your Rec Center?" Visioning Workshop



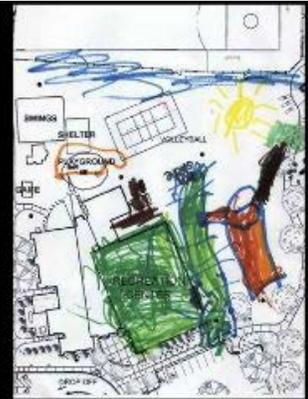
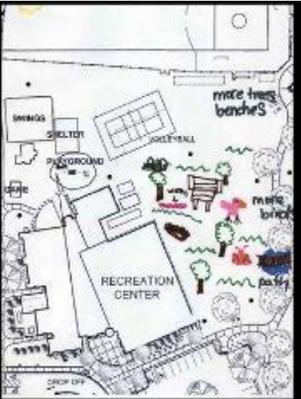
Children participating in the South Strand Recreation Center's Summer Camp Program were asked



what their DREAM additions would be to *their* Recreation Center. They were given blank paper,



markers, blank maps of the site, magazines of playground equipment, scissors, and glue



then given time to freely craft their unique and individual responses...

Community Input : Conceptual Master Planning Workshop

Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Greater Burgess Community Association



The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board and the Greater Burgess Community Association Board held an interactive Conceptual Master Planning Workshop in the Summer of 2019. Participants were divided and five (5) unique conceptual plans were created for the South Strand Recreational Center, each containing needed future amenities, trails, and ideas to be incorporated into a future Master Plan. Members from each group presented their Conceptual Plan to the larger group. These Conceptual Plans were then combined with other public input to create the final Master Plan.



Community Input : Conceptual Planning Workshop

Horry County Parks and Open Space Board

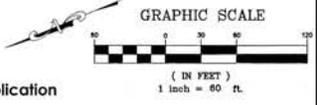
Greater Burgess Community Association

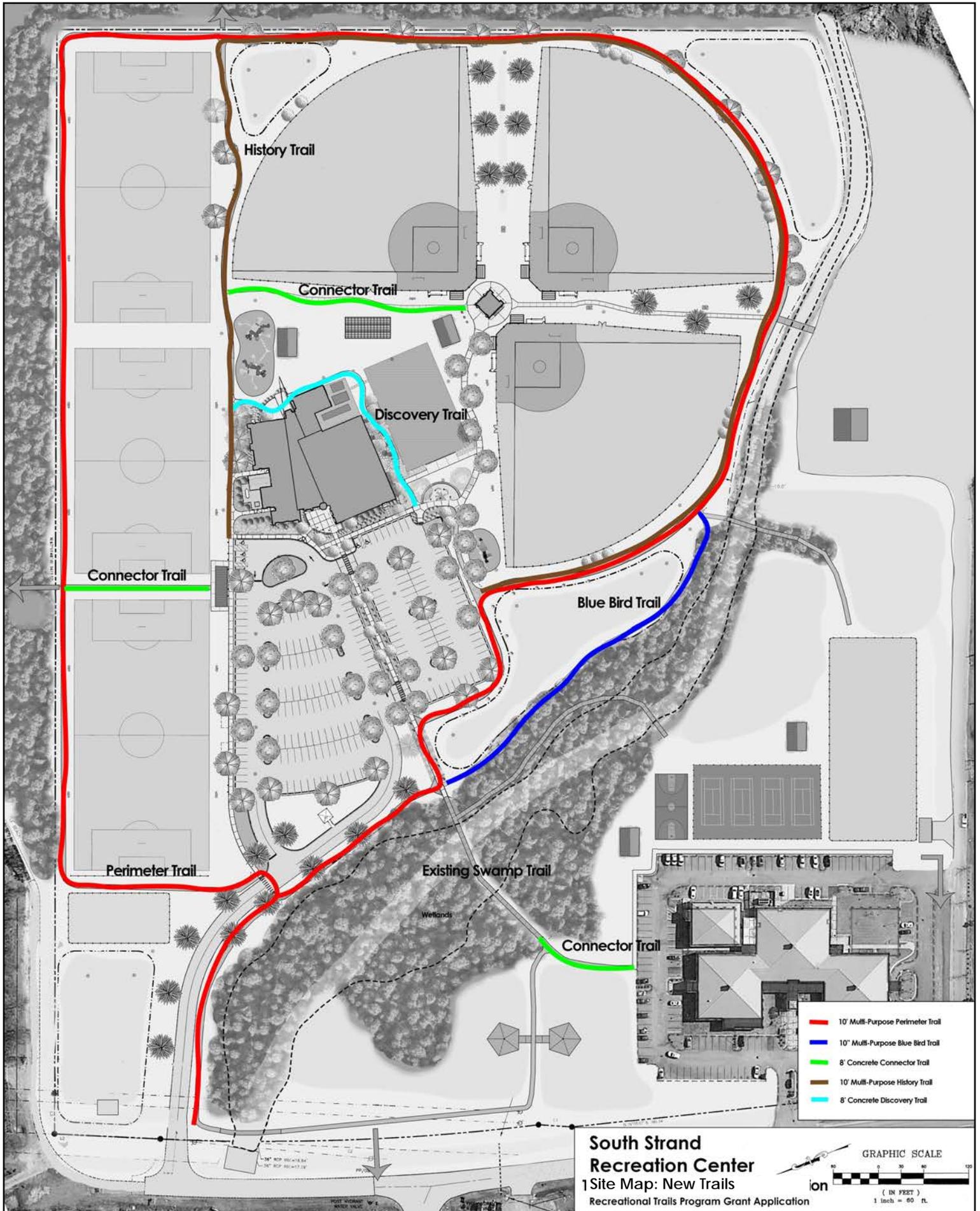


South Strand Recreation Center Workshop Concept Plan
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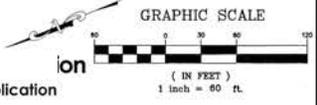


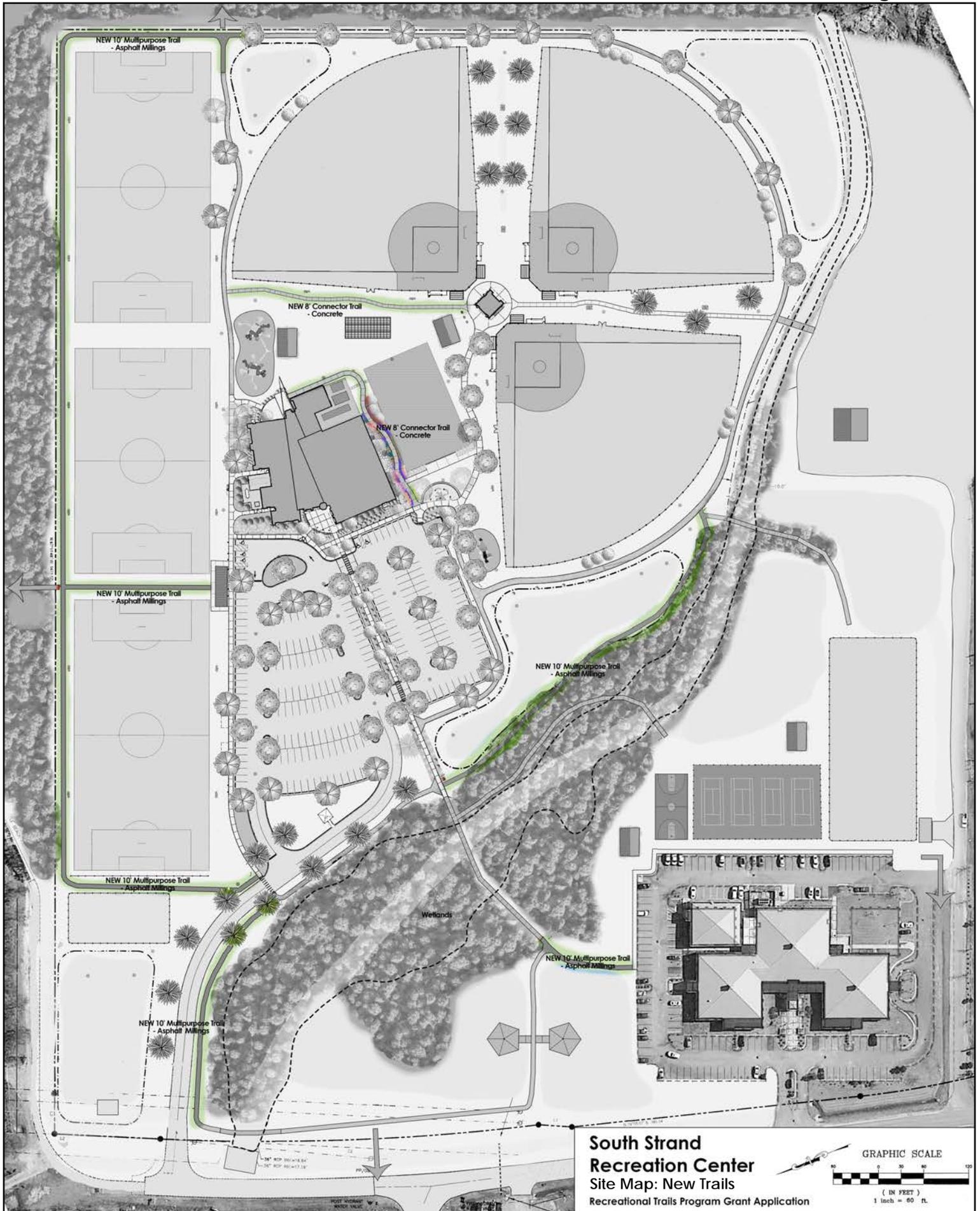
South Strand Recreation Center
 2020 Master Plan
 Recreational Trails Program Grant Application



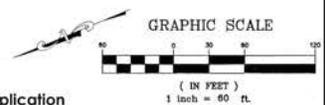


South Strand Recreation Center
Site Map: New Trails
Recreational Trails Program Grant Application





**South Strand
Recreation Center**
Site Map: New Trails
Recreational Trails Program Grant Application





Site Map: New Trail Construction, Horry County Discovery Trail South Strand Recreation Center Recreational Trails Program Grant

Discovery Garden sign: Width: 36"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail

The Horry County Discovery Trail is an interactive trail designed for people of all ages. Follow the path, read the signs, and do the activities to discover all of the fun and exciting experiences along the way. Learn and observe the lifecycle of a butterfly in the **Butterfly Garden**. Experience the kindness of those around you in the **Painted Rock Garden**. Learn about the wildlife of Horry County along the **Creature Path**. And don't forget to **look** and **listen** as you follow the footsteps along the trail while you use your imagination to discover the world around you!



Discovery Garden sign: Width: 18"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail Butterfly Garden

This butterfly garden is providing habitat for butterflies and other pollinators. The plants provide for the entire lifecycle of the butterfly, from egg to adult!

ACTIVITY: Look for butterfly eggs, caterpillars, chrysalis, and adult butterflies using these plants. Also look for other pollinators among the plants and flowers. What do you see in the garden? Be careful not to touch. We don't want to disturb this habitat! Use your nose to smell the flowers and the plants. What other things can you smell in the garden?

Discovery Garden sign: Width: 18"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail LOOK UP!

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a rainbow, it's SUPERMAN! The truth is it's a cloud that's forming different shapes due to air currents mixed with the evaporation and condensation of water vapor that makes up the clouds! The sky is filled with wondrous things. What do you see when you look to the sky?!

ACTIVITY: Sit or lay down on a bench or in the grass. Look up to the sky. What do you see in the sky? Use your imagination to tell a story about what you see in the clouds.

Discovery Garden sign: Width: 18"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail Shhhh! Listen Closely.

The sounds of nature and community life are all around us. Can you hear it? Children playing, birds singing, bugs buzzing, cars moving, and so much more!

ACTIVITY: Sit down on the bench or lay down in the grass. Close your eyes and listen to the world around you. What do you hear? Use your imagination and make a up a story about the sounds that you hear.

ACTIVITY: Can you feel what the sound is with your eyes closed? Try to name the sounds you hear and where they are coming from with your eyes closed.

Discovery Garden sign: Width: 18"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail BE KIND!

Painted Rock Garden

Paint one, leave one, take one and re-hide it some where else! Add your rocks to this garden and take some rocks to hide elsewhere in Horry County. These painted rocks spread love, joy, and kindness throughout our community. Just remember to keep it respectful and KEEP IT KIND!

ACTIVITY: Kindest Hopscootch (Play just like regular Hopscootch, but for whichever number you land on, think of that many kind words to describe the person you are playing with!)

Discovery Garden sign: Width: 18"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail KEEP IT CLEAN!

Did you know that tiny trash found in our rivers and oceans can hit birds and fish? Large plastics break down into smaller bits and eventually can make it into our drinking water. Sew, pick! Help us to "KEEP IT CLEAN!" by doing your part and picking up litter and recycling!

ACTIVITY: See a piece of litter? Pick it up and put it in the trash can provided by Keep Horry County Beautiful and Pallets/Phet. Want to start a community clean up? Give Keep Horry County Beautiful a call: (843)915-5340

Discovery Garden sign: Width: 18"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail Creatures Path

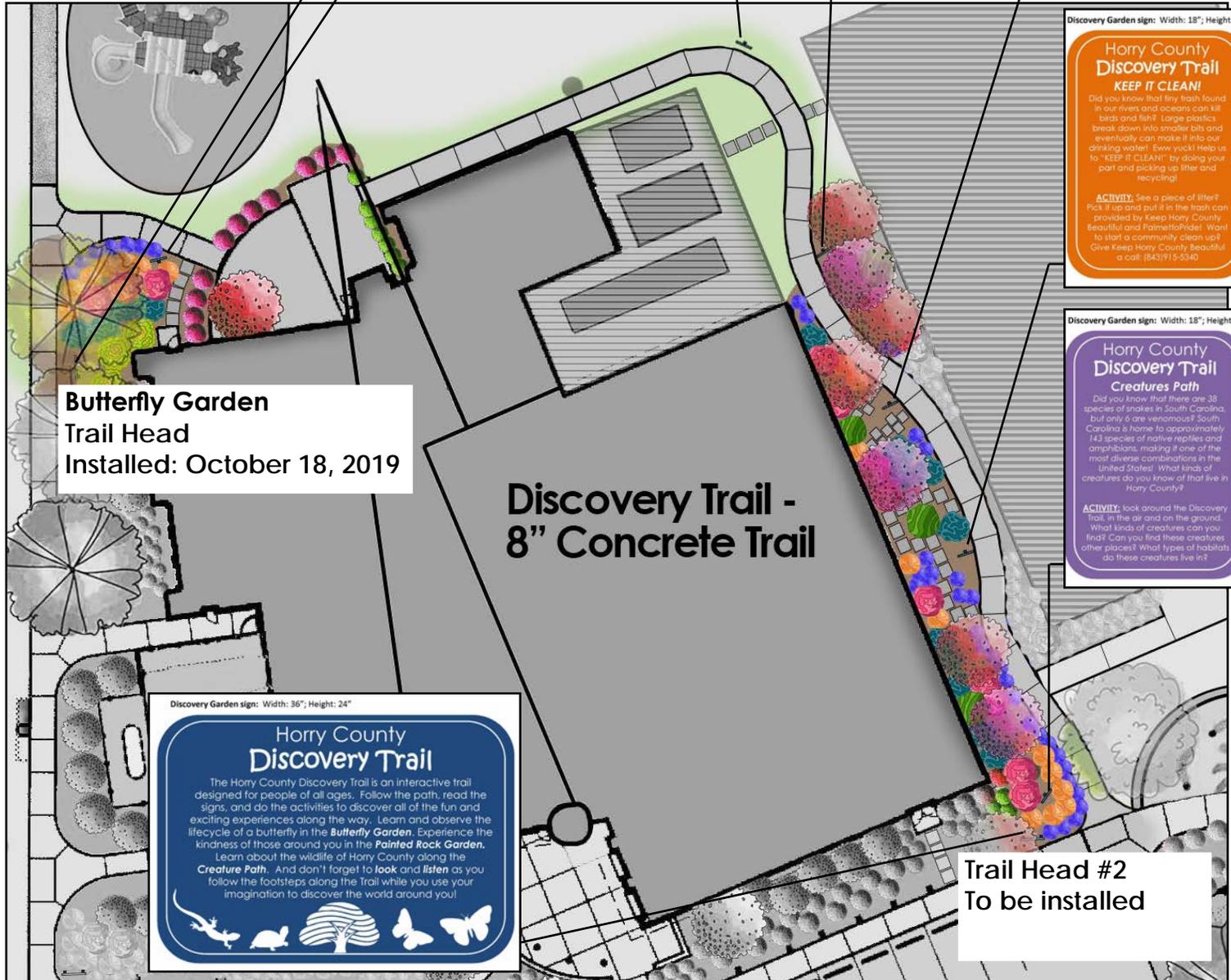
Did you know that there are 38 species of snakes in South Carolina, but only 6 are venomous? South Carolina is home to approximately 143 species of native reptiles and amphibians, making it one of the most diverse combinations in the United States! What kinds of creatures do you know of that live in Horry County?!

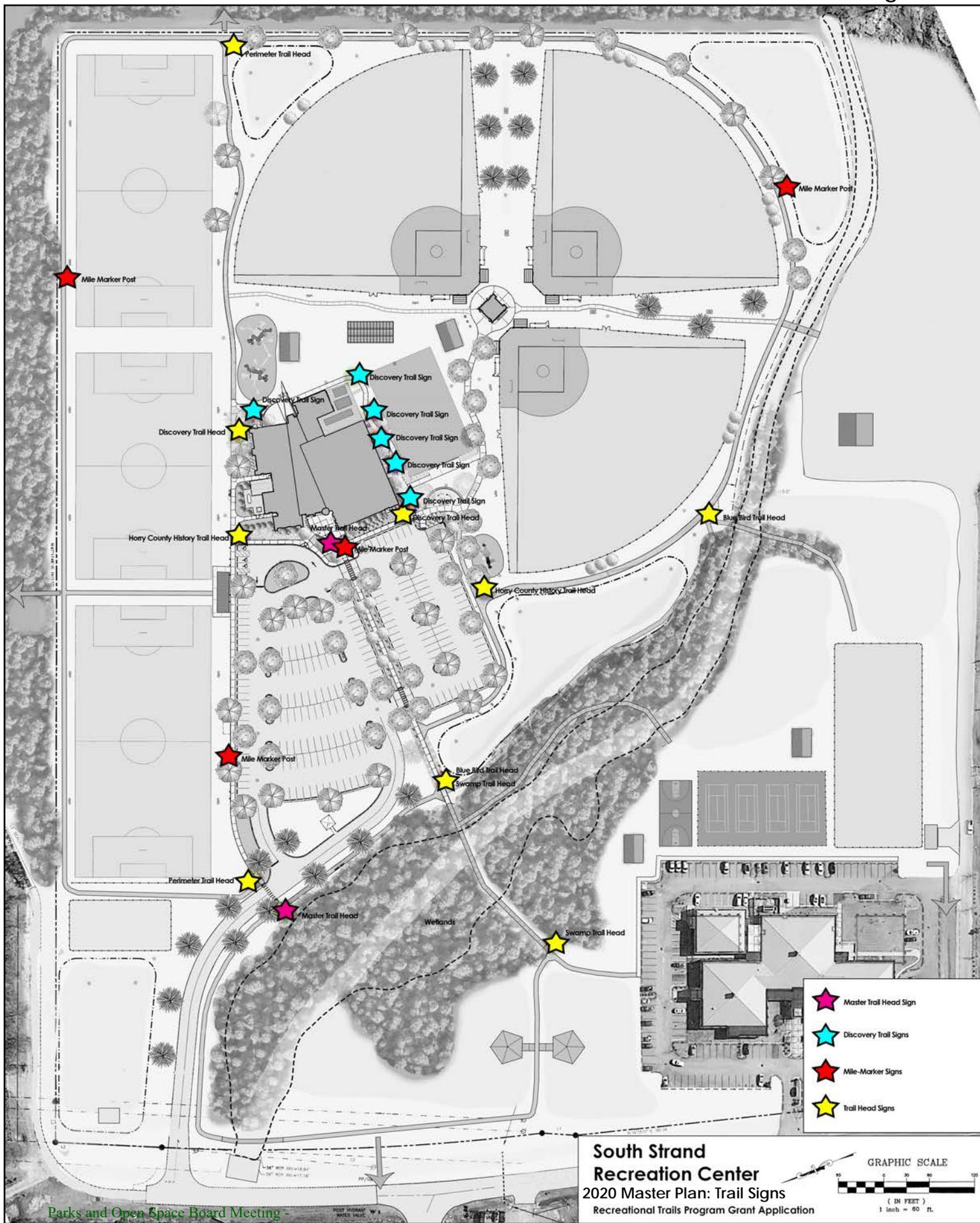
ACTIVITY: look around the Discovery Trail, in the air and on the ground. What kinds of creatures can you find? Can you find these creatures other places? What types of habitats do these creatures live in?

Discovery Garden sign: Width: 36"; Height: 24"

Horry County Discovery Trail

The Horry County Discovery Trail is an interactive trail designed for people of all ages. Follow the path, read the signs, and do the activities to discover all of the fun and exciting experiences along the way. Learn and observe the lifecycle of a butterfly in the **Butterfly Garden**. Experience the kindness of those around you in the **Painted Rock Garden**. Learn about the wildlife of Horry County along the **Creature Path**. And don't forget to **look** and **listen** as you follow the footsteps along the trail while you use your imagination to discover the world around you!





Horry County Parks and Open Space Board

1301 Second Avenue
Suite 1D09
Conway, SC 29526

Phone: (843)915-5340
Fax: (843)915-6340

November 12, 2019

RE: Letter of Support for South Strand Recreation Center – Recreational Trails Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern,

As Chairman of the Horry County Parks and Open Space Board, I would like to express support for the Horry County proposal to the South Carolina Trails 2020 Recreational Trails Grant, which if funded, will provide connection from South Strand Recreation Center to immediately adjacent schools in the heart of the Grand Strand. The trails will provide safe passage for children to after-school care at the Recreation Center and improve access for cyclists and pedestrians in the growing community. Additionally, the project will take care of the onsite connectivity needs of the site Master Plan which features expanded facilities such as future Playground equipment, a Veterans Memorial, active recreational areas, and expanded services for seniors and a growing residential population. The trails that would be funded through this Grant would contribute to the health, safety and wellbeing of the diverse users that utilize this site on a daily basis and include a History Trail highlighting historically relevant moments in Horry County's history, a Blue Birds Trail, a Swamp Trail, and an outer-loop perimeter trail with mile markers. The project has significant local support and was designed cooperatively through a publically-driven process that included children and seniors.

The funding of this project supports the goals and objectives of the DRAFT Horry County Parks and Open Space Plan as well as the Burgess Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Horry County residents and visitors will directly benefit from the trails implemented from this Grant. Horry County staff will work in partnership with the Parks and Open Space Board and Keep Horry County Beautiful, the Committee of which we oversee, on the planning and implementation of the trails funded through this Grant.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Staff Liaison, Ashley Cowen, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Kevin Gause", written over a white background.

William Kevin Gause
Horry County Parks and Open Space Board Chairman
380 Gurley Rd
Loris, SC 29569
wkgause@scoast.net

CC: Ashley Cowen – Senior Planner and Staff Liaison to the Parks and Open Space Board,
Horry County
cowen.ashley@horrycounty.org
843-915-7894



Keep Horry County Beautiful

1301 Second Avenue
Suite 1D09
Conway, SC 29526

Phone: (843)915-5340
Fax: (843)915-6340

November 26, 2019

RE: Letter of Support for South Strand Recreation Center – Recreational Trails Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern,

As Chairman of Keep Horry County Beautiful, an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, I would like to express support for the Horry County proposal to the South Carolina Trails 2020 Recreational Trails Grant. If funded, this project will provide a pivotal connection from South Strand Recreation Center to immediately adjacent schools in the Grand Strand. The trails will improve access for cyclists and pedestrians and provide safer passage for children to after-school care at the Recreation Center in the growing community. The project will take care of the onsite connectivity needs and expanded services for seniors and a growing residential population. The trails that would be funded through this Grant would contribute to the health, safety and wellbeing of the diverse users that utilize this site on a daily basis and include a History Trail highlighting historically relevant moments in Horry County's history, a Blue Birds Trail, a Swamp Trail, and an outer-loop perimeter trail with mile markers. The project has significant local support and was designed cooperatively through a publically-driven process that included children and seniors.

Horry County residents and visitors will directly benefit from the trails implemented from this Grant. The funding of this project supports the goals and objectives of the DRAFT Horry County Parks and Open Space Plan as well as the Burgess Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Horry County staff will work in partnership with Keep Horry County Beautiful and the Parks and Open Space Board, the Board which oversees our Committee, on the planning and implementation of the trails funded through this Grant.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Staff Liaison, Katie Moore, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bo Ives
Keep Horry County Beautiful Chairman

CC: Katie Moore – Senior Planner and Staff Liaison to Keep Horry County Beautiful, Horry County
moore.kathleen@horrycounty.org
843-915-8731

COUNTY OF HORRY)
)
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SOUTH STRAND RECREATION CENTER MASTER PLAN FROM THE HORRY COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD.

WHEREAS, this Master Plan was developed through interactive public workshops utilizing insight from a variety of dedicated users who share the needs of the growing South Strand community; and,

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department’s application for the trail improvements for the South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan has the support of the County Administrator, Assistant Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department Director, the Parks and Open Space Board, and Keep Horry County Beautiful; and,

WHEREAS, the plan was developed in coordination between Horry County Planning and Zoning, Engineering, Public Works, Community Development, and the Parks and Recreation Department; and,

WHEREAS, the Parks and Open Space Board is charged by Horry County Code of Ordinances Article VII, Section 15-124 with the purpose of promoting the expansion of quality open space for a wide range of recreational opportunities including playgrounds, parks, picnic areas, bicycle or hiking trails for all county residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Parks and Open Space Board is charged by Horry County Code of Ordinances Article VII, Section 15-125 to encourage such planning and development as may be necessary or advisable to or develop recreational sites; and,

WHEREAS, the South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan is consistent with the South Carolina Outdoor Recreation Plan’s Goal to adapt to changes in recreation demand by providing additional recreational opportunities in underutilized portions of an existing recreational site, therefor expanding the capacity; and

WHEREAS, the South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan trail projects contribute .9 linear miles to the Horry County Strategic Plan’s goal of providing 10 additional miles of trail by 2021; and

WHEREAS, the perimeter multipurpose trail in the Master Plan will link the site to Scipio Lane, which is identified in the adopted Burgess Bike and Pedestrian Plan, thereby connecting the South Strand Recreation Center to a larger network of future Bicycle and Pedestrian projects; and

WHEREAS, the IMAGINE 2040 Comprehensive Plan has identified and supports continued improvements and expansion of the South Strand Recreation Center.

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED THAT:

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board recommends that Horry County Council adopt the South Strand Recreation Center Master Plan as the guide for allocation of resources for the improvement and continued development of the South Strand Recreation Center.

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED.

Dated this 10th day of March, 2020.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD

William “Kevin” Gause, Chairman
District 10

Pamela Dawson, Vice Chairman
District 4

Suzanne Pritchard, District 1

Austin Cooke, District 2

Kevin Kiely, District 3

Lisa Davis, District 6

Eric Westover, District 7

Sarah Diaz, District 8

Samuel T. Johnson, Jr. District 11

Attest:

Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner
Staff Liaison to Parks and Open Space Board



Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Briefing Memorandum
Horry County, South Carolina

Date: March 10, 2020
From: Planning
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner
Cleared By: Paul McCulloch, Parks and Recreation Director
Leigh Kane, Principal Planner
Regarding: Rural Civic Arena

ISSUE:

What is the status of the Horry County Rural Civic Arena?

CONCLUSION:

Staff have completed preliminary analysis of six (6) potential sites for the Horry County Rural Civic Arena for the Rural Civic Arena Subcommittee of the Infrastructure and Regulation Committee to evaluate. Potential sites were submitted by property owners or their agents.

BACKGROUND:

To date, six (6) possible sites within the target area of the County have been identified, through owner or Agent request, to be included in the initial site selection and analysis for the future Horry County Rural Civic Arena. Preliminary analysis for each parcel included the following:

- Evaluation of the IMAGINE 2040 Future Land Use Map, Area Plans, Overlays, and Tree Preservation and Landscape Buffer Corridors;
- Identification of previous rezoning requests and their outcomes (dating back to 1999), along with current rezoning requests within close proximity to the site;
- Identification of surrounding land uses and incomplete major residential developments;
- Identification of areas with an ISO10 rating, as well as travel times for Fire and EMS according to 2017 Horry County Fire GIS datasets;
- Identification of potential hydric soils and partially hydric soils as mapped by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS);
- Identification of potential wetlands as mapped by the National Wetlands Inventory Maps (US Fish and Wildlife, 2006) and Horry County GIS (2017);
- Identification of areas within the Preliminary Floodzone; and
- Preliminary Deed and Plat research.

The property owner or agent may have more accurate soils information or wetland delineation available.

ANALYSIS:

Staff created conceptual plans for three (3) properties based upon the Equestrian Arena Concept discussed at the November 14, 2019 Subcommittee meeting. Additional information needs to be gathered on many of the initial sites selected to determine their suitability, including, but not limited to wetland delineations and plat, deed, and easement research.



Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Briefing Memorandum
Horry County, South Carolina

Date: March 10, 2020
From: Planning
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner
Cleared By: Paul McCulloch, Parks and Recreation Director
Leigh Kane, Principal Planner
Regarding: Proposed Recreation Centers

ISSUE:

What is the current status of the proposed Loris and Aynor Recreation Centers?

CONCLUSION:

County Councilman Paul Prince has directed Parks and Recreation staff to begin looking for potential parcels for the future location of the Loris Recreation Center. County Councilman Al Allen has directed Parks and Recreation staff to consider the parcels around Michael Morris Graham Park as the future potential location for Aynor Recreation Center.

BACKGROUND:

Parks and Recreation Director, Paul McCulloch requested direction on the future potential land acquisition for the Loris and Aynor Recreation Centers from County Council at the February, 2020 Infrastructure and Regulation Committee Meeting. Councilmen Al Allen, District 11, and Paul Prince, District 9, provided guidance on the locations and potential funding source for land acquisitions.

ANALYSIS:

The Town of Aynor and residents within the surrounding unincorporated area do not have access to recreation beyond what is available at area boat landings, Aynor Town Park, and the fields at Michael Morris Graham Park. The Town has a continued interest in the development of a recreation center, as this project was proposed in the County's 1999 Recreation Needs Assessment. The residents in the Loris area have a similar situation. A lack of close proximity programmed recreation opportunities and growth along the Highway 9 corridor has increased the need for a recreation facility near the City of Loris. Aynor and Loris are in need of recreation centers that will meet both the needs of municipal residents and those in surrounding unincorporated areas.

*Intentionally
Blank*



Horry County Parks and Open Space Board
Briefing Memorandum
Horry County, South Carolina

Date: March 10, 2020
From: Planning
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Senior Planner
Cleared By: Leigh Kane, Principal Planner
Regarding: Huger Park

ISSUE:

What is the status of Huger Park?

CONCLUSION:

Coordination on creating a Huger Park Master Plan has begun.

BACKGROUND:

On January 10, 2013, Horry County acquired the land to create the Huger (Ten Oaks) Park. There have been multiple iterations for the future design for the Park. Currently, the park is planned to be a Memorial Park for General Isaac Huger, who alongside Generals Francis Marion and Peter Horry fought in the American Revolutionary War. The land on which the ten Live Oaks stand, (the area for the park) was once part of Isaac Huger land holdings in the South Carolina Lowcountry, which also included thousands of acres that are now part of the City of Myrtle Beach. The preservation of the ten Live Oaks together with the commemoration of General Isaac Huger has been the main area of interest.

ANALYSIS:

On February 12, 2020 a Conceptual Master Planning Workshop for Huger Park was held. Participants included representatives from the Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, Beautify Carolina Forest, Carolina Forest Civic Association, D.R. Horton, Horry County Parks and Recreation, Horry County Planning & Zoning, the Horry County Parks and Open Space Board, Horry County Board of Architectural Review and Historic Preservation, Coastal Carolina University's Horry County Archives, the Horry County Historical Society, and the Horry County Museum. Multiple park designs concepts were developed. Staff will synthesizing the design concepts.

Currently, representatives from the various groups mentioned above are presenting ideas shared during the Conceptual Master Planning Workshop to their State and National organizations to garner potential interest in additional funding and support for contributions to specific elements

of the plan. A future meeting with involved partners will be planned to present Master Plan alternatives and potential organization contributions.

HORRY COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD

CHAIR

Term Expires: 6/30/21
District #10

William Kevin Gause
3800 Gurley Rd
Loris, SC 29569
e-mail: wkgause@sccoast.net

Home: 843-254-9795
Office: 843-365-9800

VICE CHAIR

Term Expires: 6/30/20
District #4

Pamela Dawson
113 Dreamland Drive
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576
e-mail: pdawson.horry.POSB@gmail.com

Cell: 256-295-1684

Term Expires: 6/30/21
District #1

Suzanne Pritchard
2234 Dykman Circle
Little River, SC 29566
e-mail: lspritchard@gmail.com

Office: 843-280-5572
Cell: 843-455-7699

Term Expires: 6/30/20
District #2

Austin Cooke
801 Redwolf Trail
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
e-mail: cookespw@gmail.com

Office: 843-957-2805

Term Expires: 6/30/21
District #3

Kevin J. Kiely
525 Uniola Drive
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
e-mail: prof1974@live.com

Home: 843-796-2941
Cell: 727-303-6039

Term Expires: 6/30/21
District #5

Vacant

2nd Term Expires 6/30/23
District #6

Lisa Davis
275 Tibton Circle
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588
e-mail: ldavis4@ups.com

Home: 843-450-0753
Office: 843-236-5279

Term Expires: 6/30/23
District #7

Eric Westover
9211 Little Hill Drive
Conway, SC 29527
e-mail: ewestover.horry.posb@gmail.com

Home: 843-504-5773

Term Expires: 6/30/20
District #8

Dr. Sarah Diaz
117 Furman Circle
Conway, SC 29526
e-mail: sbanks@coastal.edu

Home: 828-773-2246
Office: 843-349-6611

Term Expires: 6/30/21
District #9

Thomas Mezzapelle
236 Cox Lane
Longs, SC 29568
e-mail: autoxdrv@gmail.com

Home: 843-602-1419
Cell: 843-349-2180

2nd Term Expires: 6/30/23
District #11

Samuel T. Johnson, Jr
11975 Pee Dee Rd S
Galivants Ferry, SC 29544
e-mail: sam@seedslingers.com

Home: 843-358-0736
Cell: 843-907-0723