

**“2020 – 2025 PARKS, RECREATION  
AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN”**

**FOR THE**

**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND, NC**



*A Family-Friendly Beach Community  
with a Small-Town Atmosphere*

TOWN OF OAK ISLAND MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN OF OAK ISLAND PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
TOWN OF OAK ISLAND PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
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Formally adopted by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on November 21, 2019  
Formally adopted by the Town of Oak Island Town Council on

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department would like to thank the citizens, elected officials, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Town staff, Department volunteers and all members of the Oak Island community who participated in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan process. Your dedication and commitment to your community are a testament to the high quality of life that is present in the Town of Oak Island. Special thanks are due to the following:

### *Town of Oak Island Town Council*

Cin Brochure—Mayor  
Jeff Winecoff—Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sheila M. Bell—Councilor  
Charlie K. Blalock—Councilor  
Loman Scott—Councilor  
John Bach—Councilor

### *Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board*

Dennis Maneri—Chair  
Marge Bell—Member  
Jody Britton—Member  
Bill Craft—Member  
Robert Germaine—Member  
Lisa Nolin—Member  
Art Seifert—Member  
Kate Seigler—Member

### *Town of Oak Island City Administration*

David Kelly—Town Manager  
Lisa Stites—Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk  
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Carrie Winkler—Recreation Center Supervisor  
Ursula Wight—Recreation Center Assistant  
Eric Falkenhagen—Program Supervisor  
Ryan Gordon—Program Supervisor  
Deanna Eddinger—Community Resource Center Supervisor  
Stephanie Stiller—Community Resource Center Assistant  
Scott Thornall—Public Works Superintendent

### *Interested and Engaged Citizens of the Community*

Special thanks to all the citizens who participated in the public meetings, public forums, interviews and focus group session and to those who responded to the need's assessment survey. The dedication, commitment and feedback from these individuals energized and guided the master plan process.



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### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE MASTER PLAN***

### ***PROCESS & RECOMMENDATIONS***

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The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan process is a vital component of any local government operation. The purpose of the master plan is to: 1) Assess, analyze and evaluate the status of the provision of local community facilities, parks and areas and recreation programs, services, events and activities. 2) Stimulate an open public discussion of present and future needs for community parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks. 3) Establish a plan of action for the future growth, development and implementation of community facilities, areas and parks and recreation programs, services, events and activities. The product of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan process is a living document that provides the Town of Oak Island a viable blueprint and plan of action to guide the future orderly growth and development of the community's comprehensive parks, recreation and open space delivery system. This section of the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan** contains a brief synopsis of the community characteristics of the Town of Oak Island, a clear and concise description of the public input portion of the planning process, and a summary of the master plan recommendations.

## ***Community Location/General Characteristics/History***

The Town of Oak Island is a seaside beach town located in Brunswick County in the southeastern corner North Carolina and is the largest beach community in North Carolina. The Town is separated from the mainland by the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) and is located about 34 miles from the City of Wilmington, North Carolina. The major portion of the Town is on Oak Island (formerly Long Beach) which it shares with Caswell Beach. The Town of Oak Island was founded in 1999 as a result of the consolidation of the Town of Long Beach and the Town of Yaupon Beach. Oak Island's main industry is tourism. Per the 2010 US Census, the Town had a permanent population of 6,783. Its average summer population ranges from estimates of 30,000 – 50,000 people. The Town of Oak Island is a part of the Myrtle Beach Metropolitan Area.



Oak Island, upon which most of the Town of Oak Island sits, has been inhabited since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century when Fort Caswell was constructed on its east end in 1838. Fort Caswell was the first area of Oak Island to have a permanent population. In 1936, the AIWW was completed. This made Oak Island a true island as the AIWW construction deepened portions of the Elizabeth River, severing the island from the mainland. The island of Oak Island developed slowly, but by the late 1930s it began attracting people from nearby Southport with fox hunting popular in the areas along the AIWW.

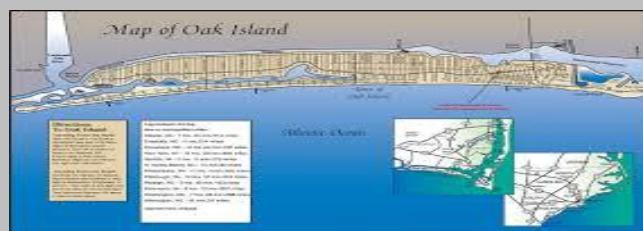
Ernest Felder Middleton, a timber exporter from Charleston, South Carolina, bought land on Oak Island in 1938. Middleton, along with his partners in Carolina Lands, Inc. began development of the area on Oak Island known as Long Beach. By 1939, Long Beach was officially open to the public. At this time the town had a pavilion, a canteen with a dining room, and 20 bathhouses. Early visitors enjoyed orchestras and dances at the pavilion every Saturday night. During this time, Carolina Lands also finished construction on some roads, and offered the first oceanfront lots for sale. By 1940, Long Beach had about 40 cottages. These early years saw a short building boom on the island, but during World War Two, construction came to a halt as building materials were scarce and activity was hampered by dim-out restrictions. By 1944, construction had returned to normal. Hurricane Hazel struck Oak Island in 1954 leaving only five (5) buildings standing on the west end of the island. The island recovered quickly however, and the towns of Long Beach and Yaupon Beach were incorporated in 1955. The Town

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of Oak Island was officially founded in 1999 as a result of the previously mentioned consolidation of the Town of Long Beach and the Town of Yaupon Beach.

The permanent, year-round population determined by the 2010 US Census was 6,783 (**Appendix A**). This figure represents approximately a 3.2% increase in population from 2000 to 2010. Current census estimates project the Town of Oak Island will continue to experience permanent, year-round population growth into the future. For example, the 2018 US Census Population Estimate for the Town of Oak Island was 8,072 permanent, year-round residents. This represents a 19% population increase from 2010 – 2018. In addition, the influx of day-trippers, summer residents and tourists can increase the actual population of the Town of Oak Island to over 40,000 individuals on most spring and summer weekends as well as some summer weekdays.

The 2010 median age of the residents of Oak Island of 52.6 years is slightly higher than Brunswick County, which is 47.4, and significantly higher than the State of North Carolina, which is 37.4 years. The 2017 US Census estimated median income of \$57,670 in Oak Island is higher than Brunswick County at \$51,164, higher than the City of Wilmington at \$43,867 and higher than the State of North Carolina, which is \$50,320. According to the 2017 US Census estimated education levels approximately ninety-two percent (92.0%) of the population of the Town of Oak Island possesses a high school diploma or greater compared to 89.1% for Brunswick County, 91.3% for the City of Wilmington, 86.9% for the State of North Carolina and 87.3% nationally.



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## **Public Input**

A significant amount of time and effort was expended identifying the expressed desires, needs and interests of the citizens of the Town of Oak Island for parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks. To this end, the citizens of the Town of Oak Island participated directly, tangibly and actively in the process in the following manner:

- One (1) formal information gathering session was held with the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Parks and Recreation staff specifically to discuss and provide input into the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan process—July 9, 2018



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- Two (2) individual interviews were conducted with key parks, recreation and open space stakeholders—Ms. Denise Justice and Mr. Bob Salemme



## **INTERVIEWS**

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- Nine (9) key parks, recreation and open space stakeholders were identified and participated in a Focus Group discussion on July 12, 2019—Mr. Steve Ausband, Ms. Melinda Ausband, Ms. Cindy Young, Ms. Lynn McDowell, Ms. Dara Royal, Ms. Ginny Gorman, Mr. Ike Keener, Ms. Cathy Bowes and Mr. John Winebar



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- Three (3) public meetings were facilitated—June 11, 2019, June 13, 2019 and June 20, 2019



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- A Parks, Recreation and Open Space Community Needs Assessment Survey instrument was administered to town residents through the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation (**Appendix F**)



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## ***Pertinent Public Input Information from Needs Assessment Survey***

One thousand three hundred and fifty-two (1,352) individuals responded to the Town of Oak Island Needs Assessment Survey. One thousand and sixty-one (1,061) or approximately 78% of those individuals identified themselves as individuals residing within the Town of Oak Island town limits.

- ❖ The survey asked, “In your opinion, what are the five (5) most important new and/or additional recreational programs, services, events and activities the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department needs to provide in the future? (MARK ONLY UP TO FIVE)”, the top responses were **Beach Music Festival, Food Truck Rodeo, Movies in the Park, 24-Hour Fitness Center and Kayak Trips (Q15)**
- ❖ Approximately **85%** of the respondents stated “**Yes**” when asked, “Would you support these new and/or additional recreational programs, services, events and/or activities identified in the previous question (Q15) if they were fully funded through reasonable and consistent user fees?” **(Q16)**
- ❖ The survey asked, “Which of the following Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department recreational facilities, areas and parks have you or any members of your household **visited or used in the last 12 months?** (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)”, the top responses were **Middleton Park (74%), The Point (72%), Veterans Park (44%) and Bill Smith Park (39%) (Q18)**
- ❖ Approximately **87%** of the respondents are **satisfied with the Variety of programs, services, events and activities offered** by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department **(Q20A)**



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- ❖ Approximately **89%** of the respondents are **satisfied with the Quality of programs, services, events and activities offered** by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department **(Q20B)**



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- ❖ Approximately **90%** of the respondents are **satisfied with the Fees Charged for the programs, services, events and activities offered** by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department **(Q20C)**
- ❖ Approximately **82%** of the respondents are **satisfied with the Quality of the facilities, areas and parks provided** by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department **(Q20D)**
- ❖ Approximately **69%** of the respondents **believe the Town of Oak Island is bike friendly/a safe place to bike** **(Q20E)**
- ❖ Approximately **71%** of the respondents **believe the Town of Oak Island is an accessible place for persons with disabilities and other special needs** **(Q20F)**



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- ❖ Approximately **83%** of the respondents **believe the existing facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of my household** **(Q20G)**
- ❖ Approximately **82%** of the respondents **believe the existing programs, services, events, and activities provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of my household** **(Q20H)**
- ❖ Approximately **86%** of the respondents **believe it is important the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department provides new and/or improved recreational facilities, areas and parks.** **(Q20I)**
- ❖ Approximately **91%** of the respondents gave the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department an overall grade of “Average”, “Good” or “Excellent when asked whether the programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks provided meet your needs and the needs of the members of your household **(Q21)**
- ❖ The survey asked, “What would it take to raise your rating to the previous question (Q21) to at least “GOOD”, the top responses are **upgrade, improve and maintain the existing facilities, areas and parks; provide bike lanes, walking lanes, sidewalks and crosswalks as part of a safe and effective bicycle, pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle transportation network and system; improve and increase the marketing and advertising of all programs, services,**

events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks; improve the existing recreation center through a total renovation of the existing facility or the demolition of the existing facility and the construction of a new, improved and enlarged facility with a gymnasium, pool and 24-hour, 7 day a week access; offer additional programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm in order to accommodate working individuals; ensure compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and improve handicapped accessibility to all programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks including the oceanfront beach; provide additional water access to the Intracoastal Waterway and Davis Canal for kayaking, canoeing, standup paddle boarding, fishing and wildlife observation; provide improved and additional public access sites to the oceanfront beach; provide an indoor community swimming pool; and, renovate and improve the existing Cabana (Q22)

❖ The survey asked, “If you could tell the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department ONE thing, they need to do better, or ONE facility they need to add, it would be”, the top responses are provide a year-round community pool; provide a safe and comprehensive system of pedestrian, bike and non-motorized vehicular movement in and around the Town of Oak Island that includes sidewalks, crossovers, crosswalks, walking lanes, walking paths, bike lanes, bike paths, bike trails, walking programs and biking programs; upgrade and improve the existing Recreation Center or demolish the existing Recreation Center and construct a new and expanded comprehensive, multi-purpose Recreation Center; advertise and market existing programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks better; provide additional and improved beach access sites and amenities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards and regulations; provide additional kayak, canoe, standup paddleboard, small boat and fishing accesses and launches to the waters, creeks, sounds and marshes within the town limits of the Town of Oak Island particularly to the Davis Canal and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; provide additional public restrooms and showers and perform better maintenance on the existing public restrooms; offer programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm and provide 24-hour, 7-day a week access to the Recreation Center in order to accommodate working individuals; provide additional free public parking for Town of Oak Island residents and begin charging non-residents a parking fee; and, construct additional lighted tennis and pickleball courts and provide lights for the existing tennis and pickleball courts (Q24)

- ❖ The survey asked, “Please state any additional improvements/enhancements to current Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks that would improve/enhance your overall parks and recreation experience”. The top responses are **focus on updating and maintaining existing facilities, areas and parks; provide a safe and comprehensive system of pedestrian, bike and non-motorized vehicular movement in and around the Town of Oak Island that includes sidewalks, crossovers, crosswalks, walking lanes, walking paths, bike lanes, bike paths, bike trails, walking programs and biking programs; improve overall communication with the residents of the Town of Oak Island and advertise and market existing programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks better; provide additional kayak, canoe, standup paddleboard, small boat and fishing accesses and launches to the waters, creeks, sounds and marshes within the town limits of the Town of Oak Island particularly to Davis Canal and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; update and improve the existing Recreation Center or demolish the existing facility and construct of a new, improved and enlarged facility with a gymnasium, exercise room, pool and 24-hour, 7-day a week access; provide a year-round community pool; upgrade the existing public restrooms and outdoor showers and construct additional public restrooms and outdoor showers; provide additional free parking for Town of Oak Island residents, particularly at The Point, and charge a parking fee to non-residents; offer programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm and provide 24-hour, 7-day a week access to the Recreation Center in order to accommodate working individuals; and, ensure that all programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards and regulations (Q25) (Appendix P)**



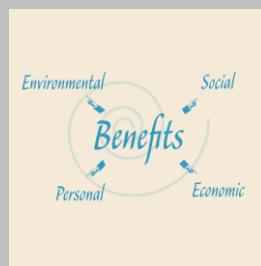
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# NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

## ***Benefits of Parks, Recreation and Open Space***

Parks, recreation and open space are valuable commodities for any community. A diversified, well-rounded and responsive parks and recreation department provides many benefits to the residents and visitors to a city. As presented in the 1995 National Recreation and Park Association publication—Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines—the four (4) categories of benefits are personal, economic, social and environmental. Each of these benefits is essential to the overall health, well-being and quality of life within a community.

- ***Personal Benefits*** of a comprehensive leisure service delivery system include: a) Opportunities for relaxation, rest and revitalization b) A full and meaningful life c) Good health d) Stress management e) Reduced risk for heart disease, diabetes, obesity, osteoporosis, and cancer f) An improved immune system g) Positive self-esteem and self-image h) A balanced life i) Alternatives to self-destructive behavior and negative life style choices j) Achieving full potential k) Gaining life satisfaction l) Human development m) Positive life-style choices and n) Improved quality of life.
- ***Economic Benefits*** of a comprehensive leisure service delivery system include: a) Preventative health care b) A productive work force c) Big economic returns on small investments d) Business relocation and expansion e) Increased property values f) Reduction in high-cost vandalism and criminal activity g) Tourism growth and h) Environmental investments that pay for themselves.
- ***Social Benefits*** of a comprehensive leisure service delivery system include: a) Building strong communities b) Reducing alienation, loneliness, and criminal and anti-social behaviors c) Promoting ethnic and cultural harmony d) Building strong families and strengthening family bonds e) Increasing opportunity for community involvement f) Opportunities to interact with fellow community members and strengthen their sense of community g) Shared management and ownership of resources and h) Providing a foundation for community pride.
- ***Environmental Benefits*** of a comprehensive leisure service delivery system include: a) Environmental health b) Environmental protection and rehabilitation c) Provision of natural buffers and habitats d) Increased biodiversity, surface and groundwater protection and flood and fire prevention e) Net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions f) Environmental education g) Sense of environmental responsibility and h) Environmental investment by increasing property values and insurance for a continuing healthy environmental future.



## ***Current Demographic Trends***

- Millennials lead structured lives filled with rules and regulations. Less accustomed to unstructured play than previous generations and apprehensive of the outdoors, they spend most of their time indoors, leaving home primarily to socialize with friends and families. With an upbeat and with a can-do attitude, this generation is more optimistic and tech-savvy than its elders
- With varied life experiences, values, and expectations, Baby Boomers are predicted to redefine the meaning of recreation and leisure programming for mature adults. Boomers are second only to Gen Y/Millennials (born between 1980 and 1999) in participation in fitness and outdoor sports. Boomers will reinvent what being a 65-year-old means
- As Baby Boomers enter retirement, they will be looking for opportunities in fitness, sports, outdoors, arts and cultural events, and other activities that suit their lifestyles
- In our country, Hispanic participants and nonparticipants alike cite a lack of access to nearby places to participate in outdoor activities as a barrier to participation more often than other ethnicities
- Technology use for finding outdoor recreation opportunities is highest among Asian/Pacific Islander populations. The most popular outdoor activities among Asian/Pacific Islanders are running and jogging; road, mountain, and BMX biking; hiking; and camping (car, backyard, and RV)
- Young adults engage in mobile data applications at much higher rates than adults in age brackets 30 and older. It is also a fact that minority Americans lead the way when it comes to mobile internet access



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## **Current Facility Trends**

- Design of a community's infrastructure is directly linked to physical activity – where environments are built with bicyclists and pedestrians in mind, more people bike and walk. Higher levels of bicycling and walking also coincide with increased bicycle and pedestrian safety and higher levels of physical activity. Increasing bicycling and walking make a big impact on improving public health and life expectancy
- In 2014, dog parks were the top planned addition to parks and recreational facilities in the country for the third consecutive year. Dog parks can be as simple as a gated area, or more elaborate with "designed-for-dogs" amenities like water fountains, agility equipment, and pet wash stations, to name a few
- Communities around the country are considering adding shade structures as well as shade trees to their parks, playgrounds, and pools, in response to raising concerns of skin cancer
- A connected system of trails increases the level of physical activity in a community has been scientifically demonstrated through the Trails for Health initiative of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Trails can provide a wide variety of opportunities for being physically active
- Park and recreation agencies have begun installing "outdoor gyms," with equipment comparable to what would be found in an indoor workout facility, such as leg and chest presses, elliptical trainers, pull down trainers, etc. Such equipment can increase the usage of parks, trails, and other outdoor amenities, while helping to fight the obesity epidemic and increase the community's interaction with nature
- There is an increasing trend toward indoor leisure and therapeutic pools. Additional amenities such as spray pads or interactive fountains are becoming increasingly popular as well. These amenities are defined as an artificially constructed depression or basin for use by children, into which potable water is sprayed but not allowed to accumulate in the bottom



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## ***Current Programming Trends***

- ⊕ Figures from the Association for Interpretative Naturalists demonstrate that nature-based programs are on the rise. The growth of these programs is thought to come from replacing grandparents as the teacher about the “great outdoors.” It is also speculated that a return to natural roots and renewed interest in life’s basic elements was spurred as a response to September 11, 2001
- ⊕ Participation in walking for pleasure and family gatherings outdoors were the two of the most popular activities for the U.S. population as reported in a 2012 report. These outdoor activities were followed closely in popularity by viewing/photographing wildlife, boating, fishing, and swimming. There has been a growing momentum in participation in sightseeing, birding, and wildlife watching in recent years
- ⊕ In the context of urban development, from the early 1980s, there has been a process that can be characterized as “festivalization,” which has been linked to the economic restructuring of towns and cities, and the drive to develop communities as large-scale platforms for the creation and consumption of “cultural experience.” There are also a growing number of smaller, more local, community-based festivals and events in communities, most often supported by local councils that have been spawned partly as a reaction to larger festivals that have become prime economic-drivers. These community-based festivals will often re-claim cultural ground based on their social, educational, and participative value. For more information on the values of festivals and events, see the CRC Sustainable Tourism research guide on this topic <sup>(1)</sup>
- ⊕ Some of the top ten athletic activities ranked by total participation in the U.S. include exercise walking, swimming, exercising with equipment, camping, and bicycle riding
- ⊕ Nationally, the top five outdoor activities with an increase in participation percentage in the past three years (2014 Topline Report) include adventure racing, triathlon (off-road), stand-up paddle boarding, kayak fishing, and recreational kayaking
- ⊕ A national trend in the delivery of parks and recreation systems reflects more partnerships and contractual agreements reaching out to the edges of the community to support specialized services
- ⊕ Most Americans agree that preserving undeveloped land for outdoor recreation is important. A large percentage of outdoor participants also believe that developing local parks and hiking and walking trails is important and that there should be more outdoor education and activities during the school day

## Current Funding Trends

- According to Recreation Management magazine's 2015 State of the Industry Report, survey respondents from parks and recreation departments/districts reporting about their revenues from 2012 through 2014 indicated a continued recovery from the impact of the Recession of 2008. From 2013 to 2014, 44.1 percent of respondents reported that their revenues had increased, and another 44.1 percent reported revenues staying steady. About 48.7 percent of respondents said they expected revenues to continue to increase in 2015, while 44 percent expected no change.



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## Current Marketing Trends

- Mobile marketing is a growing trend. Social websites and apps are among the most used features on mobile phones. Popular social media marketing tools include Facebook, SocialWhirled, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Tagged, and LinkedIn. Private messaging apps such as Snapchat and WhatsApp are being used more and more for live media coverage (2)



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(1) Ben Janeczko, Trevor Mules, Brent Ritchie, "Estimating the Economic Impacts of Festivals and Events: A Research Guide," Cooperative Research Centre for Sustainable Tourism, 2002, <http://www.sustainabletourismonline.com/1005/events/estimating-the-economic-impacts-of-festivals-and-events-a-researchguide>

(2) Jacqueline Woerner, "The 7 Social Media Trends Dominating 2015," Emarsys Blog, <http://www.emarsys.com/en/resources/blog/the-7-social-media-trends-dominating-2015/>

These Demographics, Facility, Programming, Funding and Marketing Trends were originally listed in the New Hanover County Parks and Gardens 10-Year Master Plan adopted on January 23, 2017.

## Summary of Recommendations

The **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan** outlines the existing and anticipated parks, recreation and open space needs for the Town of Oak Island. The Master Plan primarily focuses on the issues and challenges of Land Acquisition; Facility, Area and Park Development; Program, Service, Event and Activity Development; Policy and Procedure Considerations; and, Personnel Considerations.

This document recognizes and acknowledges it would be extremely advantageous and fortuitous for the Town of Oak Island to acquire additional land for parks, recreation and open space purposes. Therefore, the acquisition of land should be a high priority for the Town of Oak Island. The Town should pursue the acquisition of land:

 ***Land Acquisition—2020 – 2025***

- 1) appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular pedestrian, walking, hiking and bicycle transportation network and system
- 2) appropriate and suitable for a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island
- 3) appropriate and suitable for public access and amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island

 ***Land Acquisition—Beyond 2025***

- 1) appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular pedestrian, walking, hiking and bicycle transportation network and system
- 2) offering the possibility of public access and related amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island
- 3) appropriate and suitable for the construction of additional lighted tennis and pickleball courts and facilities
- 4) in areas of the Town of Oak Island presently without existing public parks, recreation and open space amenities such as the newly developed and developing mainland subdivisions and neighborhoods and the west end of the island
- 5) offering specific advantages for general parks, recreation and open space purposes for the Town of Oak Island
- 6) suitable for greenways and blueways in and around the Town of Oak Island
- 7) adjacent to or contiguous to Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension, William S. "Bill" Smith Park, Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch, Heron Lookout, 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park, May Moore Park, Yaupon Park, The Point, Commissioner's Observatory Park, Hannon A. Templeton Park, Veterans Park, Waterway Memorial Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden, the Crossover Trail, 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock, 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock, the Oak Island Fishing "T" Pier, the Oak Island Recreation Center, the Oak Island Cabana, the Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour and the Kevin Bell Skate Park

# LAND ACQUISITION

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

In terms of facility, area and park development, recommendations include:

## **Facility, Area and Park Development—2020 – 2025**

- 1) The planning, implementation, development of a safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting public facilities, areas, parks, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes. This system and network would include sidewalks, marked pedestrian crossings, pedestrian crosswalks, user education and enlightenment, biking paths, walking trails, hiking trails, greenways and other pedestrian and non-vehicular corridors
- 2) The construction, operation and maintenance of a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island
- 3) The inspection of all pedestrian crossovers spanning the Davis Canal and the repair or replacement of those crossovers determined to be unsafe or damaged



- 4) The inspection of all oceanfront beach dune crossovers and accesses and the repair or replacement of those dune crossovers and accesses determined to be unsafe, damaged or not meeting American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards
- 5) The construction of two (2) sand volleyball courts on the oceanfront beach within the town limits of the Town of Oak Island



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- 6) The provision of additional and improved public restroom facilities, outdoor shower facilities and outdoor foot washing facilities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and regulations

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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### 7) The upgrading, expansion and modernization of existing facilities, areas and parks:

#### [Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of one tennis backboard at each of the four (4) existing tennis courts
- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails over the existing splash pad
- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails or some other shading device over the existing outdoor amphitheater
- ❖ Placement of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the parks
- ❖ Construction of a permanent restroom facility in the area utilized for the outdoor amphitheater
- ❖ Placement of water fountains in strategic locations within the parks
- ❖ Marking a second protected pedestrian crossing from the beach access parking lot to the beach access and the Cabana
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the parks
- ❖ Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations within the parks

#### [William S. "Bill" Smith Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a permanent restroom facility near the kayak launch
- ❖ Repair of the Salty Dog Park fencing
- ❖ Installation of dog water fountains in the Salty Dog Park
- ❖ Construction of a sand volleyball court in the open field near the kayak launch which currently has volleyball posts but no net and no designated volleyball court
- ❖ Construction of an outdoor amphitheater in the open field near the kayak launch
- ❖ Installation of two (2) covered playground structures—one (1) for youth ages 2 – 5 years old and one (1) for youth ages 5 – 12 years old
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the park
- ❖ Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations within the park
- ❖ Renovation and enhancement of the existing disc golf course

#### [Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations

 [Heron Lookout](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Construction of a shade cover over the existing swing bench
- ❖ Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches

 [57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Construction of permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations
- ❖ Installation of bike racks

 [May Moore Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Construction of a picnic shelter on the existing concrete slab
- ❖ Installation of an actual kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park

 [Yaupon Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations
- ❖ Installation of bike racks
- ❖ Construction of shade covers over the existing bench swings and picnic table

 [The Point](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Investigation of methods for increasing public parking at the site
- ❖ Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility

 [Commissioner's Observatory Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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 [Hannon A. Templeton Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Removal of the existing concrete slab and inclusion of that area in a newly created Dog Park
- ❖ Construction of an actual fenced Dog Park with all the appropriate amenities
- ❖ Installation of drinking fountains for people and for dogs

 [Veterans Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity
- ❖ Construction of a picnic shelter with picnic tables and barbecue grills
- ❖ Installation of drinking fountains in strategic locations
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations
- ❖ Installation of a demonstration Rain Garden
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the park

 [Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. \(Mac\) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Replacement of the slate rock walkway and wooden walkways with an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) approved surfacing
- ❖ Replacement of the existing benches with views of the marsh and estuarine waters with swings with shade covers
- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the floating dock

 [Crossover Trail](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Replacement of the south first 75' or so of the existing wooden walkway with a new walkway that is elevated over the estuarine water channel to allow watercraft to pass under the walkway
- ❖ Installation of kayak launch amenities off the existing floating docks at each end of the walkway
- ❖ Renovation of the existing bollards at each end of the walkway to include removal of the rust and repainting

 [30<sup>th</sup> Place West Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Repair of the entranceway onto the walkway and floating dock
- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

 [\*\*78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock Park\*\*](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity
- ❖ Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations

 [\*\*Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier\*\*](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a shade cover over a portion of the “T”
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations

 [\*\*Oak Island Recreation Center\*\*](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Renovation of the existing indoor restroom facilities
- ❖ Renovation of the existing indoor shower and locker facilities
- ❖ Upgrading of the existing weight room and cardio room equipment
- ❖ Resurfacing of the existing outdoor basketball court surface
- ❖ Installation of lights for the outdoor basketball court
- ❖ Installation of a water fountain near the outdoor basketball court
- ❖ Remarking of the existing shuffleboard court
- ❖ Installation of a Bocce Ball court next to the shuffleboard court
- ❖ Placement of signage identifying the entrance to the nature trail
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability
- ❖ Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations inside the facility
- ❖ Installation of a 24-hour a day, 7-day a week electronic card system for unrestricted entry into the facility and its exercise room and cardio room

 [\*\*Oak Island Splash Pad-Middleton Park Extension\*\*](#)—Recommendation is:

- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails over as much of the Splash Pad as possible

 [\*\*Oak Island Amphitheater-Middleton Park Extension\*\*](#)—Recommendation is:

- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails or so other shading device over the actual amphitheater structure



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## [Oak Island Cabana](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Demolition of the existing Cabana and construction of a new Cabana structure with indoor changing and restroom amenities and outdoor showers and foot washing amenities
- ❖ Installation of a shading device over the existing observation deck

## [Oak Island Park Three Golf Course at South Harbour](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Formation of a management committee to determine what policies and procedures need to be implemented to make the facility self-sustaining



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## [Kevin Bell Skate Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Demolition of the existing skate park and construction of a new bowl-shaped concrete skate park meeting all ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials) standards and guidelines
- ❖ Demolition of the existing metal picnic shelter and construction of a new non-metal picnic shelter



## **Facility, Area and Park Development—Beyond 2025**

- 1) The demolition of the existing Oak Island Recreation Center and construction, operation and maintenance of a new comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, senior room, teen room, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island and in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards, guidelines and principles
- 2) The continued planning, implementation, development and completion of a safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public facilities, areas, parks, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes. This system and network would include sidewalks, marked pedestrian crossings, pedestrian crosswalks, user education and enlightenment, biking paths, walking trails, hiking trails, greenways and other pedestrian and non-vehicular corridors. This need was identified repeatedly during the need's assessment process by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members, the general public and Parks and Recreation Department staff members
- 3) The provision of additional and improved opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, small boats, fishing and standup paddleboard public access to the waters, sounds, creeks, marshes and canals in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island
- 4) The provision of additional and improved beach access sites and amenities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and regulations
- 5) The continued provision of additional and improved public restroom facilities, outdoor shower facilities and outdoor foot washing facilities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and regulations



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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Recommendations for the Parks and Recreation Department in terms of program, service, event, activity, camp development include:

## **Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025**

- 1) Provision of walking, running and biking opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps and special collaborations within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and in collaboration with the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department, St. James Plantation, the City of Southport and the City of Boiling Spring Lakes
- 2) Provision of kayaking, canoeing, standup paddleboard, sailing, scuba diving, water sports and fishing opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations
- 3) Provision of nature and environment related programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations
- 4) Initiation of a program of providing trained and paid lifeguards a flag warning system at strategic locations along the oceanfront beach between the Oak Island Fishing Pier and the Ocean Crest Fishing Pier
- 5) Offering arts related programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes, instruction and special collaborations in areas such as graphic arts, digital technology, musical instruments, etc.
- 6) Provision of community-wide programs, services, events, activities, special events and special collaborations such as Beach Music Festivals, Movies in the Park, Halloween Truck or Trick, Food Truck Rodeos, Dance Programs, etc.
- 7) Provision of a Pre-School Program and an After-School Program
- 8) Provision of early morning (before 8 am), evening (after 6 pm) and weekend exercise and fitness classes at the Recreation Center to accommodate working residents and participants
- 9) Provision of a Tennis Camp for youth, a Pickleball Camp for adults, a Sailing Camp for youth, a Sailing Camp for adults, a Golf Camp for youth, a Golf Camp for Adults and an Inclusive Camp for youth with disabilities and other special needs
- 10) Provision of cooking programs, services, events, activities and classes
- 11) Provision of specialized programs, services, events, activities, camps and special events for persons with disabilities and other special needs, youth, teens and senior citizens as deemed appropriate

## **Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—Beyond 2025**

- 1) Once the safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public facilities, areas, parks, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes is developed and open for operation, the Town of Oak Island will need to program the network and system appropriately



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- 2) Once the existing Oak Island Recreation Center is demolished and a new comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, senior room, teen room, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island and in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards, guidelines and principles has been construction and open for operation, the Town of Oak Island will need to program the facility appropriately



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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The *Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* discusses several policy and procedure changes affecting the delivery of parks, recreation and open space programs and services to Town residents. Policy and procedure considerations presented in the Master Plan include:



## **Policy and Procedure Considerations—2020 – 2025**

- 1) Establishment of a Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division within the Parks and Recreation Department
- 2) Updating and revision of the “Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)”
- 3) Development of a pedestrian, bicycle and non-motorized vehicular transportation network and system
- 4) Continued establishment and expansion of formal partnerships and cooperative agreements with interested existing community groups, agencies and organizations



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- 5) Full compliance with the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)* for all Town programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks
- 6) Implementation of an overall park and playground safety program in conjunction with a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI)
- 7) Development of a *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Gifts and Donations Catalogue*
- 8) Revisions to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board ex-officio membership
- 9) Improved and increased publicity, communication and marketing for programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks
- 10) Creation of an “Adopt-A-Park” program
- 11) Revisions and additions to appropriate Town and Department policies, rules, regulations and ordinances



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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The recommendations presented in this master plan document require a commitment by the Town of Oak Island to provide adequate and appropriate professional parks and recreation staff to carry out the current, latent and the future requirements, needs and proposed changes to the overall Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department's delivery system and operation. The ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** provides personnel considerations and recommendations for the 2020 – 2025 fiscal years and Beyond the 2024- 2025 fiscal year. Until a new comprehensive, multi-purpose, multi-functional Recreation Center/Fitness Facility/Aquatic Center is constructed and in operation, the personnel needs of the Parks and Recreation Department are minimal.

## **Personnel Considerations—2020 – 2025**

### **2020 – 2025 Personnel Recommendations:**

- 1) Fill all authorized full-time and part-time professional positions that are vacant
- 2) Establish and hire an Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Supervisor—part-time seasonal position
- 3) Establish and hire Ocean Beach Rescue Lifeguards (20 – 25)—part-time seasonal positions
- 4) Establish a Parks and Recreation Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Division within the existing Parks and Recreation Department—this Division would be comprised of the following personnel:
  - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor—full-time position
  - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Crew Leader (2)—full-time positions
  - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist (6)—full-time positions
  - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Technician (2)—part-time and seasonal positions

## **Personnel Considerations—Beyond 2025**

- 1) Establish and hire a Recreation Program Supervisor Aquatics—full-time position
- 2) Establish and hire a Recreation Program Assistant Aquatics—full-time position
- 3) Establish and hire Recreation Program Swimming Instructors and Lifeguards (10 – 20)—part-time positions and seasonal positions
- 4) Establish and hire a Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist (2)—full-time positions

## RECOMMENDATION HIGHLIGHTS

- *Acquisition of land allowing for the construction of a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular sidewalk, pedestrian, walking and bicycle transportation network and system*
- *Acquisition of land appropriate and suitable for a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island*
- *Development of a non-vehicular pedestrian, biking, hiking, walking network and system that connects Town of Oak Island public, residential, commercial and service areas with each other and the surrounding communities*
- *Development of a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island*
- *Full inspection of all crosswalks over the Davis Canal and all public beach accesses*
- *Provision of public restroom facilities, outdoor showers and outdoor foot washing facilities*
- *Improving, renovating, upgrading and redeveloping the existing parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks*
- *Initiation of a lifeguard component along the oceanfront beach*
- *Establishment of a Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division within the Parks and Recreation Department*

The *Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* is a working document unencumbered by hypothetical or academic scenarios that hold little practical application in the real world. This comprehensive Master Plan gives the citizens, managers and administrators of the Town of Oak Island solid recommendations that are feasible, practical and realistic given the economic, political, cultural, environmental and social climates of the time and area. The recommendations presented in this document present a wide and varied array of exciting and meaningful opportunities and experiences for the citizens of the Town of Oak Island and the Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department.

Consideration and evaluation of the standards developed and recommended by organizations such as the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the North Carolina Department of Environment Quality (NC DEQ), Division of Parks and Recreation transpired in the preparation of this Master Plan. These general standards are only guidelines and not requirements. Chapter Six of this document presents a listing of these standards as well as specific standards for the Town of Oak Island.

*Town of Oak Island  
Parks & Recreation*



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## **CHAPTER ONE:** **INTRODUCTION**

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The purpose of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** is: (1) to identify, analyze and define the parks, recreation and open space expressed desires, interests and needs of the citizens of the Town of Oak Island. (2) to provide a living document with an endorsed, practical, and comprehensive plan of action for meeting the immediate, short-term and long-range parks, recreation and open space needs, interests and expressed desires for services, programs, areas and facilities in the Town of Oak Island.

The Town of Oak Island traditionally provides its residents and visitors a variety and diversity of recreational and leisure opportunities and experiences through the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department. Opportunities and experiences for leisure fulfillment and enjoyment provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation include but are not limited to: a) Adult Soccer Leagues b) Day Camps c) Senior Trips d) Exercise Classes e) Halloween Events f) Summer Concert Series g) Mardi Gras Festival h) Sea Turtle Programs i) Christmas Programs j) Beach Day k) Arts by the Shore l) Kayak Trips m) Fishing Seminars n) Nature Programs and o) Farmers & Artisans Market.

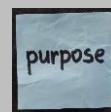
## **Purpose and Scope of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan**

The purpose of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** is to assess and evaluate the recreation and leisure needs, goals, objectives, and priorities of the citizens, elected officials, appointed officials and staff of the Town of Oak Island. The ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** is intended to serve as a comprehensive, practical planning document and procedural guide for public policy decisions pertaining to the quantity, quality, location, and, scope of parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks. The Master Plan also provides recommendations regarding the administration, acquisition, development and operation of these parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks.

The organization of the ten (10) sections of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** is:

- Executive Summary of the Master Plan Process & Recommendations
- Chapter One: Introduction
- Chapter Two: Master Plan Vision, Goals & Objectives
- Chapter Three: Town of Oak Island Characteristics & Demographics
- Chapter Four: Inventory of Existing Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas & Parks
- Chapter Five: Assessment of the Town of Oak Island Parks, Recreation & Open Space Needs and Summary of Public Input
- Chapter Six: Parks, Recreation & Open Space Standards
- Chapter Seven: Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations
- Chapter Eight: Implementation Plan
- Appendices

The existing jurisdiction of the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department delimited the scope of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan***. However, the analysis recognized the fact that residents of the Town of Oak Island are also residents of Pender County. As a result, the parks, recreation and open space needs and resources outside the immediate municipal limits of the Town of Oak Island factored into the analysis process in recognition of the fact that individuals' recreation and leisure involvement patterns and preferences are not normally restricted and limited by municipal and/or county lines, boundaries and jurisdictions.



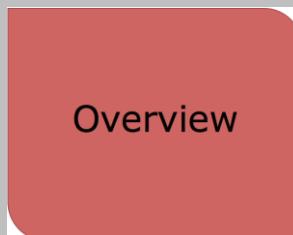
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## **Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Overview**

The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the stewardship of the Town's entrusted assets for the enhancement of the Town, the enjoyment of its citizens and for initiating and conducting recreational programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks for all Town of Oak Island residents and citizens. The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department provides a wide variety and diversity of recreational and leisure opportunities and experiences and unique amenities for more than 8,000 residents and 40,000 vacationers.

Opportunities and experiences for leisure fulfillment and enjoyment provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department include but are not limited to:

- a) Adult Soccer Leagues
- b) Day Camps
- c) Senior Trips
- d) Exercise Classes
- e) Halloween Events
- f) Summer Concert Series
- g) Mardi Gras Festival
- h) Sea Turtle Programs
- i) Christmas Programs
- j) Beach Day
- k) Arts by the Shore
- l) Kayak Trips
- m) Fishing Seminars
- n) Nature Programs
- o) Farmers & Artisans Market, a Recreation Center and seventeen public recreation areas and parks.



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## **Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Mission Statement**

“The Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is committed to providing recreation and community service in the broadest possible scope to meet the recreational, cultural and human service needs and interests of people of all ages and abilities”.



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## Previous Community Studies and Assessments

Consultation with and examination of the following previous community studies and assessments occurred during the preparation of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan***:

- ✓ Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan Public Survey (2005)
- ✓ Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)
- ✓ 2006 Oak Island Bicycle Plan: Bicycle Network—Central Oak Island
- ✓ Brunswick County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan—2009  
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- ✓ Oak Island 2010 Parks & Recreation Department Comprehensive Master Plan  
[https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/ParksRec\\_MasterPlan.pdf](https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/ParksRec_MasterPlan.pdf)
- ✓ Town of Oak Island: Comprehensive Land Use Plan  
[https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Comprehensive\\_Land\\_Use\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Comprehensive_Land_Use_Plan.pdf)
- ✓ Town of Oak Island Unified Development Ordinance  
[https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/UDO\\_5\\_23\\_19Revised.pdf](https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/UDO_5_23_19Revised.pdf)



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## **CHAPTER TWO:**

### **MASTER PLAN VISION, GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

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Contained within this chapter of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** are the overall vision, goals and objectives of the planning process and the master plan itself. It is with this stated vision and these overall goals and objectives in mind that the planning process was conducted and the structure of the master plan itself designed and formulated.

A clear, concise and dynamic vision of the future and statements of concrete goals and objectives based upon that vision are important elements of a comprehensive and successful Master Plan. The vision statement provides the target to be achieved. Goals and objectives provide structure, guidance and direction in the formulation of a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. In addition, clear and concise goals and objectives assist in the definition of overall public policy and aid in decision-making during the planning, development and implementation phases of the Master Plan

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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process. However, a progressive and successful parks, recreation and open space delivery system for the Town of Oak Island will require a long-term commitment, adequate public and private funding by the Town of Oak Island and coordinated action by all stakeholders in order to achieve these goals and objectives. This long-term commitment and coordinated action must be coupled with an effective program of overall citizen involvement in and support for parks, recreation and open space programs, services, areas and facilities.

A Vision Statement is the anchor point of any strategic plan such as a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. It is a road map indicating both what the organization wants to become and guiding transformational initiatives by setting a defined direction for the organization's growth. A Vision Statement is an aspiration description of what an organization would like to achieve or accomplish in the future. The Vision Statement is intended to serve as a clear guide for choosing current and future courses of action.



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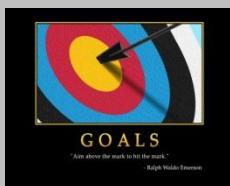
## VISION\*

- *To offer parks, recreation and open space experiences and opportunities that exceed the recreation and leisure needs, interests, desires and expectations of the citizens of the Town of Oak Island by providing a system that is transparent, progressive, cooperative and multi-dimensional*



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

Goals and objectives provide structure, guidance and direction in the formulation of a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. In addition, clear and concise goals and objectives assist in the definition of overall public policy and aid in decision-making during the planning and implementation phases of the Master Plan process. However, a progression and successful parks and recreation delivery system for the Town of Oak Island will require long-term commitment and coordinated action by all stakeholders to achieve these goals and objectives. This long-term commitment and coordinated action must be coupled with an effective program of overall citizen involvement in and support for parks, recreation and open space programs and services.



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## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES\*

### GOAL #1—NEEDS ASSESSMENT

*Implement a thorough needs assessment process in order to understand and evaluate the expressed and latent parks, recreation and open space needs, interests, wants and desires of the residents of the Town of Oak Island*

- ✓ Objective A—to incorporate current growth and demographic trends relevant to the Town of Oak Island into the master plan process



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- ✓ Objective B—to incorporate information and recommendations contained in existing Town of Oak Island and Brunswick County comprehensive planning and assessment documents such as the existing Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Plan and the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Master Plan—2009



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

- ✓ **Objective C**—to conduct public meetings, stakeholder interviews, a focus group session and administer a needs assessment survey instrument to allow residents of the Town of Oak Island the opportunity to express and explain their parks, recreation and open space needs, interests, wants and desires



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## **GOAL #2—TRANSPARENCY**

*Ensure the public and the elected town officials are aware of and involved in the master plan process in order to facilitate public engagement and Town Council awareness that encourages the public and elected town officials to take ownership of the master plan recommendations*

- ✓ **Objective A**—to engage in a master plan process that allows the public to share in the decision-making process and therefore take ownership of the master plan recommendations
- ✓ **Objective B**—to keep the elected town officials informed as the master plan process progresses and encourage their input into the process and the resulting master plan recommendations
- ✓ **Objective C**—to keep the master plan process and recommendations simple and easy to understand

## **GOAL #3—EVALUATE RECREATION CENTER FACILITY**

*Conduct a thorough and comprehensive evaluation and assessment of the current functionality of the existing Recreation Center Facility to determine what, if any reasonable and feasible alternatives need to be pursued*

- ✓ **Objective A**—to conduct an evaluation and assessment of the current functionality of the Recreation Center Facility
- ✓ **Objective B**—based upon the evaluation and assessment conducted under **Objective A**, to provide reasonable and feasible alternatives
- ✓ **Objective C**—to evaluate and assess the reasonable and feasible alternatives identified in **Objective B** and make a recommendation to be incorporated into the parks, recreation and open space master plan

## GOAL #4—ESTABLISH TOWN BRAND

*Facilitate the continued development and establishment of the Town of Oak Island's parks and recreation opportunities and experiences as the town's identity and brand*

- ✓ Objective A—to acknowledge and recognize the importance of the Town of Oak Island's Parks and Recreation Department to the identity and brand of the town
- ✓ Objective B—to use the master plan process as a means of enhancing and improving the Town's "Branding" as an important part of the overall parks, recreation and open space leisure service delivery system

## GOAL #5—TOURISM EMPHASIS

*Understand and emphasize the importance of tourism to the Town of Oak Island and integrate tourism opportunities and experiences into the fabric of the town's parks, recreation and open space leisure service delivery system*

- ✓ Objective A—to encourage comments and input from community tourists into the overall parks, recreation and open space master plan needs assessment process
- ✓ Objective B—to incorporate parks, recreation and open space opportunities and experiences for tourists and visitors into the recommendations for the "2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan" for the Town of Oak Island

## GOAL #6—GOOD EXPERIENCES FOR ALL AGES

*Establish a comprehensive system of parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks that provide outstanding opportunities and experiences for all age groups, abilities and interests, year-round residents of the Town of Oak Island and seasonal visitors and tourists*

- ✓ Objective A—to provide parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks that meet the wants, needs and interests of all age groups, all socio-economic classes, every race and ethnicity, all ability levels and any and all persons with special needs
- ✓ Objective B—to provide parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks that meet the wants, needs and interests of the year-round, full-time residents of the Town of Oak Island

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

- ✓ **Objective C**—to provide parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks that meet the wants, needs and interests of the seasonal and part-time visitors and tourists to the Town of Oak Island



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## **GOAL #7—RECOGNIZE PARKING LIMITATIONS**

*The issues of limited and free public parking most be factored into any and all decisions and recommendations regarding the provision of parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks*

- ✓ **Objective A**—to assess the quantity of public parking within the Town of Oak Island
- ✓ **Objective B**—to assess the quality of public parking within the Town of Oak Island
- ✓ **Objective C**—to base all master plan recommendations upon the assessments conducted in **Objective A** and **Objective B**



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## **GOAL #8—LAND ASSESSMENT**

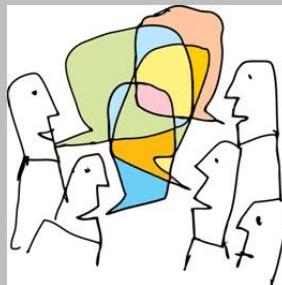
*Initiate a program of actively assessing and evaluating the availability land in the community suitable for parks, recreation and open space purposes including public parking needs*

- ✓ **Objective A**—to assess the availability of land in the community suitable for parks, recreation and open space purposes
- ✓ **Objective B**—to evaluate the appropriateness of any land deemed available through **Objective A** that is suitable for parks, recreation and open space purposes
- ✓ **Objective C**—to recommend the acquisition of any land deemed available through **Objective A** and appropriate and suitable for parks, recreation and open space purposes through **Objective B**

## GOAL #9—COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION

*Encourage and develop community and town partnerships and relationships as well as inter-departmental collaborations within the town that foster the development of superior parks, recreation and open space experiences and opportunities for ALL residents of the Town of Oak Island*

- ✓ Objective A—to open a positive dialogue with other town departments which seeks to involve these departments in the coordinated provision of parks, recreation and open space opportunities and experiences
- ✓ Objective B—to open a positive dialogue with all sections and segments of the Town of Oak Island which seeks to involve these sections and segments in the planning and provision of parks, recreation and open space opportunities and experiences for the Town of Oak Island



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- ✓ Objective C—to open a positive dialogue with private and non-profit community organizations, agencies and individuals which seeks to involve these organizations, agencies and individuals in the provision of parks, recreation and open space opportunities and experiences for the Town of Oak Island
- ✓ Objective D—to solicit funding support from various private and non-profit community organizations and agencies to be used to improve and enhance parks, recreation and open space opportunities and experiences for the Town of Oak Island



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## GOAL #10—ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF REVENUE AND INCOME

*Explore all sources of alternative revenue/income as a means of funding land acquisition requirements and parks, recreation and open space area and facility development*

- ✓ Objective A—to investigate the practicality and feasibility of a future general obligation bond referendum as a source of revenue/income for the City
- ✓ Objective B—to investigate the practicality and feasibility of future Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) Grants from the State of North Carolina as sources of revenue/income for the Town



- ✓ Objective C—to investigate the practicality and feasibility of future North Carolina Division of Coastal Management Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Grants as a source of revenue/income for the Town



- ✓ Objective D—to investigate the practicality and feasibility of future federal grants such as Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA): A Legacy for Users Grants as sources of revenue/income for the City



## GOAL #11—ACCESSIBLE AND SAFE PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AREAS AND FACILITIES

*Provide and ensure convenient, safe and accessible public access and parking to all Town of Oak Island programs, services, areas, facilities and parks*

- ✓ Objective A—to ensure all Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, areas and facilities are following current American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and universal accessibility requirements



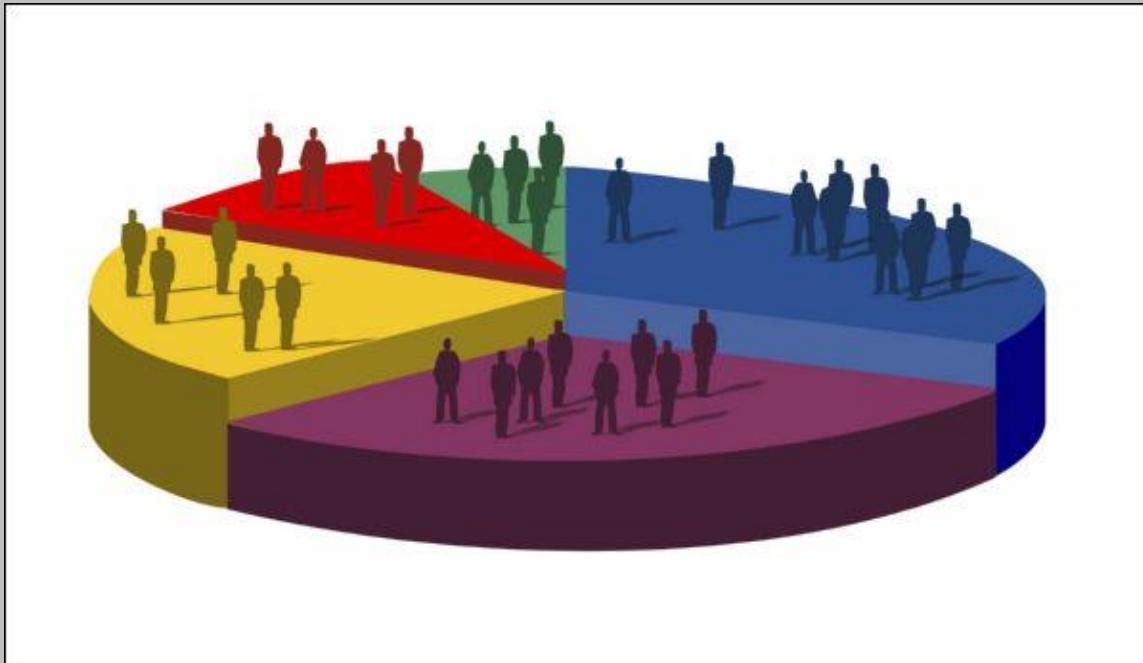
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- ✓ Objective B—to ensure all Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, areas and facilities are operated and maintained in a manner consistent with the highest standards of safety and reliability



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*\*The Vision, Goals and Objectives of the Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan were developed in conjunction and collaboration with the staff of the Parks and Recreation Department and the members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board*



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***CHAPTER THREE:***  
***TOWN OF OAK ISLAND***  
***CHARACTERISTICS & DEMOGRAPHICS***

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***Location/Geography/Natural Resources***

It is beyond the scope of this study to describe the particularly specific and physical geographical characteristics of the Town of Oak Island in detail. It is important, however, to set forth in brief form those characteristics that have significant implications for meeting parks, recreational needs and interests in the Town of Oak Island and Brunswick County.

The Town of Oak Island is in Brunswick County in the southeastern portion of North Carolina approximately 34 miles southeast of the downtown of the City of Wilmington, North Carolina and covers a total area of approximately 19.9 square miles

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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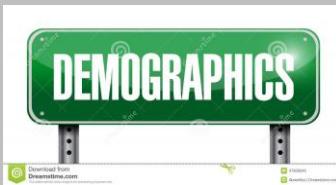
(51.6 square kilometers). The total land area is 18.5 square miles (48.0 square kilometers) and the total water area is 1.4 square miles (3.6 square kilometers). Its primary physical feature is a barrier island approximately 12.6 miles long on a predominantly east to west axis with south facing beaches with quiet surf and moderate tides. The Town of Oak Island is bordered to the south by the Atlantic Ocean, to the east by the Town of Caswell Beach, to the north across the AIWW in part by the Town of St. James, and to the west by the Town of Holden Beach across the Lockwood Folly Inlet. The majority of the Town of Oak Island is surrounded by water and accessible only by boat or bridge. Mainland additions to the Town of Oak Island in the past twenty (20) years since it was formed in 1999 consist of the following:

- Property on both sides of Long Beach Road (NC 133) to include the Cape Fear Regional Jetport and South Harbour Village with its nine-hole golf course and marina
- Land mostly west of Middleton Boulevard (NC906 either planned for or under development, the largest of which was Seawatch Complex
- Portions of north of Southport-Supply Road (NC 211)—Midway Commons Shopping Center

The largest employers in and around the Town of Oak Island include the Brunswick County Board of Education, Progress Energy Service Company, County of Brunswick, Wal-Mart Associates, Inc., Food Lion, Brunswick Novant Medical Center, Brunswick Community College, Lowes Food Stores, Inc., Dosher Memorial Hospital, Liberty Healthcare Group LLC, Troon Golf LLC, McAndersons Inc., and the Department of Defense. Brunswick County and the Town of Oak Island's diverse economies are based primarily upon tourism and retail trade.

According to the 2013 – 2017 American Community 5- Year Population Estimates, the population of the Town of Oak Island 18 years and older was 6,477 and the civilian employed population of the Town of Oak Island 16 years and over was 3,103 individuals. Of these 3,103 individuals, 1,150 were employed in management, business, science and arts occupation; 623 were employed in service occupations; 755 were employed in sales and office occupations; 345 were employed in natural resource, construction and maintenance occupations; and, 230 were employed in production, transportation and material moving occupations.

## General Demographics



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The population of the Town of Oak Island according to the official US Census in 2010 was 6,783; the 2015 estimate was 7,368; and, the 2018 estimate was 8,072. According to the 2000 US Census and the 2010 US Census, the Town's population increased approximately 3.2% from 6,571 residents in 2000 to 6,783 in 2010. According to the US Census Bureau 2018 Population Estimates, the population of the Town of Oak Island increased over the 2010 US Census by 19.0% to an estimate of 8,072 residents in 2018. The 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates placed the population of the Town of Oak Island at 7,400 residents for 2017 (**Appendix A**).

According to the 2010 US Census, 49.1% (3,328) of the Town of Oak Island population were male and 50.9% (3,455) females. According to the 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey Population Estimates, 47.7% (3,527) of the Town of Oak Island population were males and 52.3% (3,873) females. According to the 2010 US Census, approximately 15.4% of the population were 19 years old and younger; 11.9% were 20 – 34 years old; 36.8% were 35 – 59 years old; and, 35.7% were 60 years old and older. The median age for the entire population was 52.6 years old; 12.0% of the population was under the age of 16; 24.5% were 65 years old and older; the median age for the males was 51.4 years old; the median age for the females was 53.9 years old; 57.3% of the male population was under the age of 16; 11.9% of the males were 65 years and over; 54.7% of the female population was under the age of 16; and, 12.6% of the females were 65 years and over.

Source: [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## Population Age Groups

According to the 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey Estimates, approximately 10.9% of the population of the Town of Oak Island was 19 years of age or younger; approximately 2.3% of the population was under 5 years old; approximately 3.4% of the population was 20 to 24 years old; approximately 9.1% of the population was 25 to 34 years old; approximately 45.8% of the population was 35 to 64 years old and approximately 30.7% of the population was 65 years of age or older (**Appendix B**). The median age was 52.6 years old in 2010 and the estimate was 57.3 years old in 2017. The largest age group in 2010 was the 60 – 64-year-old category (11.2%) and in 2017 it was the 65 to 69-year-old category (22.0%).

Source: [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk#](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk#)



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## Families and Population in Families

As of the US Census of 2010, the Town of Oak Island included 3,223 total households. Of these 3,223 total households, 2,055 (63.8%) were family households and 1,168 (36.2%) were non-family households. The average household size was 2.1 persons and the average family size was 2.55 persons. Of the 3,223 family households, 942 (29.2%) were 1-person households; 1,530 (47.5%) were 2-person households; 398 (12.3%) were 3-person households; 230 (7.1%) were 4-person households; 83 (2.6%) were 5-person households; 31 (1.0%) were 6-person households; and, 9 (0.3%) were 7 or more-person households.

Source: [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk#](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk#)



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## Ethnicity/Racial Composition

Of the 6,783 persons listed in the 2010 US Census, 6,560 (96.7%) were White; 44 (0.6%) were Black or African American; 41 (0.6%) were American Indian and Alaska Native; 19 (0.7%) were Asian; 2 (0.0%) were Native Hawaiian and another Pacific Islander; 38 (0.6%) were Some other Race; and, 79 (1.2%) were 2 or more Races. Of the 6,783, 96 (1.4%) were Hispanic or Latino and, 6,687 (98.6%) were Not Hispanic or Latino (**Appendix C**).

Source: [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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## Income Characteristics

According to the 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the mean household income in Oak Island in 2017 inflation-adjusted dollars was \$77,495 and the median household income was \$57,670. The mean family income was \$89,681 and the median family income was \$68,984. The median earnings for all workers was \$28,200. The median earnings for male full-time, year-round workers was \$45,477 and the median earnings for female full-time, year-round workers was \$42,134. The per capita income for the Town of Oak Island was \$38,176. Approximately 7.3% of all families and 8.6% of the total population for the Town of Oak Island were below the poverty line, including 12.0% of those under the age of 18; 8.6% 18 to 64 years old; and, 7.4% of those ages 65 and over (**Appendix D**).

Source: [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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## ***Educational Attainment***

According to the 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5 – Year Estimates, 92.0% of the population of the Town of Oak Island were high school graduates or higher and 36.1% had earned a bachelor's degree or higher. Of the population 18 – 24 years old, 14.5% were less than a high school graduate; 37.5% were high school graduates (includes equivalency); 45.4% had some college or an associate degree; and 2.6% had earned a bachelor's degree or higher. Of the population 25 years and over, 1.8% had less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education; 6.2% had a 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade education but no diploma; 22.8% were high school graduates (includes equivalency); 24.0% had some college but no degree; 9.2% had an associate degree; 23.5% had a bachelor's degree; and, 12.6% had earned a graduate or professional degree (**Appendix E**).

Source: [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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## ***Populations Projections***

According to the Town of Oak Island Comprehensive Land Use Plan adopted by the Oak Island Town Council on January 10, 2017 Oak Island's permanent population is projected to increase from a range of 136.18% to 272.34%. This percent increase is dramatic but should be understood in its context. For example, most of this population growth is projected to take place on the mainland, where little residential development currently exists. Fewer than 2,300 additional permanent residents are expected to inhabit the island portion of the corporate limits by 2035. In North Carolina, the population is projected to increase by more than 20% by the year 2035. In Oak Island, seasonal and day visitation numbers are also expected to increase by 2035, but at a much lower rate the permanent population. Again, this is due to the residential development projected to occur on the mainland – the makeup of which is slated to be primarily permanent rather than seasonal residential housing unit.

### ***Summary of Existing Population and Economic Characteristics***

The Town of Oak Island, like most coastal communities, is growing at a slow but constant pace. The permanent population of the Town increased by approximately 3.2% from 6,571 residents in the 2000 US Census to 6,783 residents in the 2010 U.S. Census. Oak Island can expect an average annual increase in population of approximately 3% - 5% per year into the near future.

Approximately 96.7% of the population of the Town of Oak Island is white and approximately 50.9% of the population is female. The median age is approximately 52.6 years old and the mean household income in 2017 inflation-adjusted dollars is \$77,495. The per capita income for the Town is \$38,176.

The residents of the Town of Oak Island are educated with 92% having at least a high school education and almost 78.6% having at least some college experience or an associate degree. The median household income of \$57,670 is above the North Carolina (\$50,320) and Brunswick County (\$51,164) median figures according to the US Census Bureau. Approximately 7.3% of all families and 8.6% of the total population for the Town of Oak Island were below the poverty line, including 12.0% of those under the age of 18; 8.6% 18 to 64 years old; and, 7.4% of those ages 65 and over.

According to the 2010 US Census, approximately 15.4% of the population were 19 years old and younger; 11.9% were 20 – 34 years old; 36.8% were 35 – 59 years old; and, 35.7% were 60 years old and older. The median age for the entire population was 52.6 years old; 12.0% of the population was under the age of 16; and, 24.5% were 65 years old and older. The largest age group in 2010 was the 60 – 64-year-old category (11.2%) and in 2017 it was the 65 to 69-year-old category (22.0%). As of the US Census of 2010, the Town of Oak Island included 3,223 total households. Of these 3,223 total households, 2,055 (63.8%) were family households and 1,168 (36.2%) were non-family households. The average household size was 2.1 persons and the average family size was 2.55 persons. These numbers suggest that most residents of the Town of Oak Island white, well-educated and affluent.

Source: [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk#](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk#)

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## **CHAPTER FOUR:**

### ***INVENTORY OF EXISTING PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, FACILITIES, AREAS & PARKS***

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This chapter provides an inventory of existing parks, recreation programs, recreation services, recreation events, recreation activities, recreation areas, recreation facilities and open space sites in and around the Town of Oak Island area. Most of the programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks identified and described are Town of Oak Island owned and operated and are primarily provided for recreation purposes for the citizens of the Town of Oak Island. Significant additional sites and facilities owned and operated by other public, private, commercial and non-profit organizations and agencies are also included in this document. Only those programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks provided by non-Oak Island entities that could impact the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** are included in this inventory.

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation provides a variety of facilities and services that contribute significantly toward the community's overall quality of life. Programs, services, events and activities provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation include but are not limited to: a) Adult Soccer Leagues b) Day Camps c) Senior Trips d) Exercise Classes e) Halloween Events f) Summer Concert Series g) Mardi Gras Festival h) Sea Turtle Programs i) Christmas Programs j) Beach Day k) Arts by the Shore l) Kayak Trips m) Fishing Seminars n) Nature Programs and o) Farmers & Artisans Market.

The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation manages and operates the Oak Island Recreation Center, the Community Center at 102 NE 47<sup>th</sup> Street, the Ocean Education Center and nineteen (19) parks and areas: Middleton Park, Middleton Park Extension, Bill Smith Park, Kevin Bell Skate Park, Tidalwaves Kayak and Canoe Launch, Heron Lookout, 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park, May Moore Park, Yaupon Park, The Point, Commissioner's Observatory Park, Oak Island Par Three at South Harbor, Hannon A. Templeton Park, Veterans Park, Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden, Crossover Trail at 9<sup>th</sup> Place SE, 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock, 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock and the Town of Oak Island Fishing "T" Pier.

## **Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department "Parks"**

### **Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension—25 Acres**

- ◆ Location—off Oak Island Drive and SE 48<sup>th</sup> Street and Dolphin Drive at SE 46<sup>th</sup> Street
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Playground
  - Lighted Tennis Courts (4)
  - Lighted Pickleball Courts (6)
  - Lighted Basketball Court
  - Soccer Field
  - Picnic Shelter
  - Lighted Softball Field
  - Community Center
  - Restrooms and Port-a-Johns
  - Splash Pad
  - Outdoor Amphitheater
  - Outdoor Movie Screen
  - Beach Access Across the Street



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## [William S. "Bill" Smith Park—32.0 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—Fish Factory Road
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Baseball/Softball Fields (4)
  - Salty Dog Park
  - Disc Golf Course
  - Kayak Launch
  - Walking Trails
  - Football Field
  - Soccer Field
  - Benches and Swing Benches
  - Restroom/Concession Facility
  - Picnic Shelter with Picnic Tables
  - Maintenance Facility



## [Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch—0.5 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—SE 31<sup>st</sup> Street at Davis Canal
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Kayak Launch
  - Kayak Storage Facility
  - Davis Canal Crossover Walkway
  - Saltwater Marsh Scenic Trail



## [Heron Lookout—0.18 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street at Davis Canal
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Nature Viewing
  - Fishing
  - Bait Site
  - Swing



## 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park—0.3 Acres

- ◆ Location—57<sup>th</sup> Place West
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Beach Access



## May Moore Park—0.4 Acres

- ◆ Location—Barbee Boulevard at Elizabeth Drive
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Floating Dock
  - Picnic Tables
  - Swings
  - Concrete Slab
  - Nature Views
  - Passive Park



## Yaupon Park—0.4 Acres

- ◆ Location—Barbee Boulevard at Ocean Drive
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Beach Access
  - Swings
  - Picnic Table



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## [The Point—10.5 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—West End of Beach Drive
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Beach Access
  - Port-a-Johns
  - Parking
  - Fishing
  - Wildlife Viewing Area



## [Commissioner's Observatory Park—0.3 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—McGlamery at Ocean Drive
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Beach Access
  - Swing
  - Picnic Table



## [Hannon A. Templeton Park—12 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—Oak Island Drive and 41<sup>st</sup> Street
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Dog Park
  - Trash Receptacles
  - Swings
  - Benches
  - Picnic Tables
  - Concrete Slab
  - Passive Natural Park



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## [Veterans Park—8 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—14<sup>th</sup> NE and Yacht Drive
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Fishing Tee
  - Water View Boardwalk
  - Picnic Shelter
  - Butterfly Garden
  - Memorial
  - Picnic Tables
  - Port-a-John
  - Swings and Benches
  - Parking



## [Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. \(Mac\) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden—10 Acres](#)

- ◆ Location—NE 52<sup>nd</sup> Street
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Nature Trail
  - Nature Center
  - Floating Dock
  - Fishing Tee
  - Picnic Shelter with Tables and Benches
  - Restrooms
  - Bike Racks
  - Butterfly Garden



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## Crossover Trail—0.4 Acres

- ◆ Location—9<sup>th</sup> Place SE
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Nature Trail/Boardwalk Walkway and Crossover
  - Floating Docks



## 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock—0.2 Acres

- ◆ Location—30<sup>th</sup> Place West
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Floating Dock
  - Fishing
  - Bait Dock



## 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock—0.2 Acres

- ◆ Location—NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street and Yacht Drive
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Wildlife Viewing
  - Crab Dock
  - Fishing dock



## Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier—2 Acres

- ◆ Location—West Oak Island Drive and SW Yacht Drive
- ◆ Present Amenities
  - Wildlife Viewing
  - Fishing dock
  - Parking

## Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department “Special Areas and Facilities”

### Oak Island Recreation Center—Approximately 9,760 Square Feet

The Oak Island Recreation Center is located at 3003 E. Oak Island Drive and offers a variety of year-round classes and programs. The facility includes 3 multi-purpose rooms of various sizes, a weight room, a cardio room, a game room, 3 offices, restrooms, showers, lockers, a kitchen, 3 storage rooms, an unlit outdoor basketball court, swings, bike rack, benches, picnic shelter, picnic tables, nature trail with observation decks, an unmarked outdoor shuffleboard court and parking for approximately 50 vehicles. The Recreation Center's hours of operation are 6:30 am to 8:00 pm on Mondays through Thursdays, 6:30 am to 6:00 pm on Fridays, and 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturdays. The Recreation Center is closed on Sundays. Beach wheelchairs are available for rent at the Recreation Center. The building itself is only in fair condition and is “showing its age” as the facility is 30+ years old.



### Oak Island Splash Pad-Middleton Park

The Oak Island Splash Pad is a water activity that features spraying water and water features located at 4601 East Dolphin Drive at the Middleton Park Extension behind the Oak Island Town Hall. As part of the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) Middleton Redevelopment Project, the splash pad offers multi-generational fun for the Oak Island Community.



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## [Oak Island Amphitheater](#)

The Oak Island Amphitheater is located at SE 46<sup>th</sup> Street in the Middleton Park Extension. The outdoor amphitheater can accommodate several hundred spectators for outdoor concerts and such but is fully open and exposed to all the natural elements such as sun, wind and rain and without permanent public restroom facilities and water fountains.

## [Oak Island Cabana](#)

The Oak Island Cabana receives a tremendous amount of use and activity during the late spring, summer and early fall months and is presently in very poor operating condition due to a lot of rotting and decaying wood. The Cabana is the only “Regional Public Access Site”. Existing amenities include a restroom facility, a handicapped accessible boardwalk, a viewing platform, an outdoor shower and parking.

## [Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour—30 Acres](#)

The Oak Island Par Three Golf Course is located at 4188 Vanessa Drive in South Harbour Village. The present amenities include an 18-hole par 3 golf course, a Pro Shop, a putting green, a Clubhouse and a maintenance area.



## [Kevin Bell Skate Park—0.20 Acres](#)

The Kevin Bell Skate Park is located at 4901 East Beach Drive and is fenced and lighted. Existing facilities include 2 quarter pipes, 2 banks and a street spine. The Skate Park is suitable for skateboarders and in-line skaters. Helmets and pads are required. Skateboards, long-boards, inline skates and rip sticks are allowed. Bicycles and scooters are not allowed.



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## Handicapped Beach Access Sites

- ◆ **Commissioner's Park—McGlamery at Ocean Drive**
  - Beach Viewing Area
- ◆ **Mercer and Ocean Drive**
  - Beach Viewing Area
- ◆ **May Moore Park—Barbee Boulevard at Elizabeth Drive**
- ◆ **Malcolm Register Park/Dot Kelly Butterfly Garden—NE 52<sup>nd</sup> Street at the Waterway**
- ◆ **Cabana—SE 46<sup>th</sup> Street and E. Beach Drive**
  - Viewing Area
- ◆ **West 57<sup>th</sup> Place**
  - Beach Access Ramp
  - Viewing Area
- ◆ **SE 25<sup>th</sup> Beach Access**
- ◆ **Se 40<sup>th</sup> Beach Access**
- ◆ **The Point—West end of Beach Drive**
- ◆ **7<sup>th</sup> West Beach**

## Kayak Launch Sites

- ◆ **Bill Smith Park Access—Fish Factory Road off Long Beach Road**
- ◆ **Oak Island Public Boat Ramp—55<sup>th</sup> Street NE**
- ◆ **Public Floating Dock—SE 31<sup>st</sup> Street**
- ◆ **NC Wildlife Resources Commission Ramp—Fish Factory Road**
- ◆ **Oak Island Public Boat Ramp—57<sup>th</sup> Place West**
- ◆ **Public Floating Dock—SE 19<sup>th</sup> Street**
- ◆ **Public Floating Dock—SE 9<sup>th</sup> Street**

**About Oak Island Paddling Trails**



Oak Island offers many opportunities for paddling creeks, rivers, canals, wetlands, and estuaries. The places included in this map offer free public access areas maintained by the Town of Oak Island and the state. These trails and accesses are suitable for easy to moderate paddling.



Public Floating Dock  
SE 9<sup>th</sup> St

This is a floating dock with a crossover. It can be accessed at both high and low tides. This trail is on the Davis Canal and will eventually take you to the Montgomery Slough or the IOW.

**Looking For A Place to Paddle....**

Remember that some of these accesses are open to boat traffic. Always obey all boating laws and leave the water up better than you found it!



Smith Park Access  
Fish Factory Rd. off Long Beach Rd.

This access is located at the back of Smith Park and is open. Nice boardwalk ramp that eventually leads to the Intracoastal Waterway. There is a nice beach area to launch from. Beginner.



Oak Island Public Boat Ramp  
55<sup>th</sup> St NE

Located at a public boat ramp with two ramps. Located at both high and low tides. Accessible at both high or low tides. The trail leads to the Intracoastal Waterway. There is also a nice beach area to launch from. Beginner.



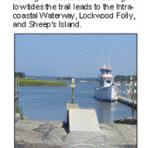
Wildlife State Ramp  
Fish Factory Rd.

Located at a public boat ramp which is open all day and night. Accessible at both high and low tides. The trail leads to the Intracoastal Waterway. There is also a nice beach area to launch from. Beginner.



Oak Island Public Boat Ramp  
57 Place West

Located at a public boat ramp with two ramps. Located at both high and low tides. Accessible at both high or low tides. The trail leads to the Intracoastal Waterway. There is also a nice beach area to launch from. Beginner.



Public Floating Dock  
SE 31<sup>st</sup> St

Located below the Recreation Center, this is a floating dock with a crossover. It can be accessed at any time other than dead low tide. The trail is on the Davis Canal and will eventually take you to the Montgomery Slough or the IOW.



Public Floating Dock  
SE 19<sup>th</sup> St

This is a floating dock with a crossover. It is best accessed higher tides, but can be used at low tide. This trail is on the Davis Canal and will eventually take you to the Montgomery Slough or the IOW.

## **Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department "Programs, Special Events and Special Collaborations"**

### ◆ *Programs*

- *Senior Errands*
- *Senior Lunch*
- *Senior Trip to Walmart*
- *Quilting Group*
- *Painting Group*
- *Scout Groups*
- *Day in the Yard Nature Program*
- *Lucky to Have You Dance*
- *Kayak Fishing Schools*
- *Backwater Kayak Tours*
- *Saltwater Fishing Schools*
- *Women Anglers in Training Fishing School (WAIT)*

### ◆ *Athletic Teams/Sports*

- *Adult Co-Ed Soccer: Free Agent*
- *Adult Co-Ed Soccer Teams*
- *50+ Adult Softball League*
- *Adult Flag Football League*
- *Adult Kickball League*

### ◆ *Day Camps*

- *Adult Camp: "The Oak Island Experience"*
- *Bizarre Science Camp*
- *Fishing Camp*
- *Golf Camp*
- *Island Saltwater Safari Camp/Nature Camp*
- *Little Picassos Camp*
- *Making a Splash Camp*
- *Mystery Fun Camp*
- *Oak Island Soccer Camp*
- *Sailing Camp*
- *Skate Camp*
- *Tennis Camp*
- *The Great Outdoors Camp*

### ◆ *Exercise Class*

- *Active Senior Yoga*
- *Mature Aerobics*
- *Silver Sneakers Circuit*
- *Sit & Be Fit*
- *Step Aerobics*
- *Tap Dancing*
- *Zumba Gold*
- *Chair Yoga*
- *Beginning Yoga Classes*
- *Tai Chi*

### ◆ *General*

- *Bag Pipe Club*

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

- *Board Games*
- *OKI Bird Club*
- *OKI Farms & Artisans Market*



- *Painting Club*
- *Play Pool*
- *Quilters*
- *Rummikub @ Recreation Center*
- *Scrabble Club*
- *Table Tennis*
- *Table Tennis Club*
- *TOPS*
- *Adult and Senior Trips*
- *Photography Workshop*

## ◆ *Special Events*

- *Spooktacular*
- *Eggsstraspooky*
- *Easter Egg Eggstravaganza*
- *Flick – R – Treat*
- *Arts by the Shore*
- *Rally for the Cure Golf Outing*
- *Tree Lighting*
- *Supper with Santa*
- *Gingerbread Beach House Contest*
- *Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt*
- *Summer Surf Fishing Seminar*
- *Summer Concert Series*



- *Beach Day*



- *Oak Island Mardi Gras*



- *Labor Day Surf Off*



- *Volunteer with Oak Island*
- *"Live and Local" Event*

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## ***North Carolina Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Sites***

- ◆ **Oak Island**—The Town of Oak Island has 67 designated North Carolina Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Sites which provide access to the beach and sound.

Cross Streets	GPS	Parking Spaces	Showers	Other
¼ mile north of Caswell Beach Rd. & Ocean Greens Ln.	33° 53'49.44" N 78° 03'13.11" W	50	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Wooden walkways</li> <li>•Portable toilets</li> </ul>
Ocean Dr. & McGlamery St. Commissioners Park	33° 54'10.44" N 78° 04'31.30" W	10	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Sand path</li> <li>•Shaded observation deck</li> </ul>
Ocean Dr. & Mercer St.	33° 54'12.59" N 78° 04'39.41" W	5	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Sand path</li> <li>•Observation deck</li> </ul>
Ocean Dr. & Norton St.	33° 54'12.98" N 78° 04'43.63" W	4 at access 5 along Norton	No	•Sand path
Ocean Dr. & Trott St.	33° 54'13.83" N 78° 04'47.69" W	5 at access 24 at lot along Trott	No	•Sand path
Ocean Dr. & Keziah St.	33° 54'14.68" N 78° 04'51.45" W	10 at access 4 at lot along Keziah	No	•Sand path
<u>Oak Island ~ Yaupon Fishing Pier</u>				
Ocean Dr. & Barbee Blvd. Yaupon Park	33° 54'16.31" N 78° 04'58.52" W	4 at access 50 at lot along Barbee Blvd	No	•Sand path
Ocean Dr. & Sherrill Ave.	33° 54'17.18" N 78° 05'02.78" W	11 at access	No	•Sand path
Ocean Dr. & Crowell St.	33° 54'17.98" N 78° 05'06.43" W	4 at access 4 at lot along Crowell St.	No	•Sand path
Ocean Dr. & SE 79th St.	33° 54'18.77" N 78° 05'10.02" W	4 at access	No	•Sand path
East Beach Dr. & SE 78th St.	33° 54'20.08" N 78° 05'13.38" W	7 at access	No	•Sand path
East Beach Dr. & SE 77th St.	33° 54'20.69" N 78° 05'17.09" W	8 at access	No	•Sand path
East Beach Dr. & SE 76th St.	33° 54'21.38" N 78° 05'20.49" W	5 at access	No	•Sand path

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

East Beach Dr. & SE 75th St.	33° 54'22.43" N 78° 05'24.11" W	8 at access	No	•Sand path
East Beach Dr. & SE 74th St.	33° 54'22.88" N 78° 05'27.64" W	8 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 73rd St. 950' south on 73rd	33° 54'22.88" N 78° 05'27.64" W	2 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 72nd St. 970' south on 72nd	33° 54'24.23" N 78° 05'35.69" W	20 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 71st St. 1000' south on 71 <sup>st</sup>	33° 54'24.97" N 78° 05'39.18" W	17 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 70th St. 1000' south on 70th	33° 54'25.60" N 78° 05'42.66" W	7 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 69th St. 1075' south on 69th	33° 54'26.20" N 78° 05'46.14" W	6 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 67th St. ¼ mile south on 67th	33° 54'26.34" N 78° 05'53.40" W	12 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 64th St. ¼ mile south on 64th	33° 54'28.08" N 78° 06'03.89" W	11 at access	No	•Sand path
Closest intersection; E Oak Island Dr. & SE 63rd St. ¼ mile south on 63rd	33° 54'29.30" N 78° 06'08.97" W	14 along 63rd	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & SE 58th St.	33° 54'31.24" N 78° 06'24.78" W	3 at access	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & SE 55th St.	33° 54'32.67" N 78° 06'34.31" W	4 at access 3 along 55th	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & SE 52nd St.	33° 54'34.11" N 78° 06'43.64" W	10 at access 4 along 52nd	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & SE 49th St.	33° 54'35.51" N 78° 06'52.95" W	14 at access also at Middleton Park	No	•Sand path

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

E Beach Dr. & SE 46th St. Cabana Park	33° 54'36.75" N 78° 07'00.82" W 33° 54'38.49" N 78° 06'57.71" W (Parking)	8 along 46th also at Middleton Park	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & SE 43rd St.	33° 54'38.49" N 78° 07'11.64" W	6 at access 7 along 43rd	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & SE 40th St.	33° 54'39.78" N 78° 07'21.12" W	6 at access	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 37th Place E.	33° 54'40.86" N 78° 07'30.52" W	12 at access 22 along 37th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 35th Place E.	33° 54'42.11" N 78° 07'39.84" W	4 at access 22 along 35th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 32nd Place E.	33° 54'43.24" N 78° 07'49.26" W	8 at access 12 along 32nd Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 29th Place E.	33° 54'44.41" N 78° 07'58.68" W	12 along 29th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 26th Place E.	33° 54'45.91" N 78° 08'07.98" W	4 along 26th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 25th Place E.	33° 54'46.69" N 78° 08'12.45" W	5 at access 6 along 25th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 22nd Place E.	33° 54'47.53" N 78° 08'21.67" W	11 along 22nd Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 19th Place E.	33° 54'48.32" N 78° 08'31.34" W	4 at access 11 along 19th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 16th Place E.	33° 54'49.36" N 78° 08'31.34" W	10 at access 11 along 16th Place	No	•Sand path
<u><a href="#">Ocean Crest Fishing Pier</a></u>				
E Beach Dr. & 14th Place E.	33° 54'49.61" N 78° 08'52.36" W	5 at access 22 along 14th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 11th Place E.	33° 54'50.02" N 78° 09'01.95" W	3 at access 11 along 11th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 9th Place E.	33° 54'50.62" N 78° 09'11.52" W	5 at access 11 along 9th Place	No	•Sand path

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

E Beach Dr. & 6th Place E.	33° 54'51.23" N 78° 09'20.92" W	4 at access 24 along 6th Place	No	•Sand path
E Beach Dr. & 3rd Place E.	33° 54'51.79" N 78° 09'30.47" W	5 at access 18 along 3rd Place	No	•Sand path
W. Beach Dr. & S. Middleton Ave.	33° 54'52.07" N 78° 09'39.81" W	No	No	•Sand path •Bike racks
W Beach Dr. & 2nd Place W.	33° 54'52.39" N 78° 09'49.38" W	5 at access 22 along 2nd Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 5th Place W.	33° 54'52.71" N 78° 09'58.97" W	6 at access 11 along 5th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 7th Place W.	33° 54'52.92" N 78° 10'08.41" W	6 at access 11 along 7th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 10th Place W.	33° 54'53.06" N 78° 10'17.91" W	6 at access 22 along 10th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 13th Place W.	33° 54'53.28" N 78° 10'27.50" W	4 at access 22 along 13th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 17th Place W.	33° 54'53.28" N 78° 10'37.02" W	4 at access 13 along 17th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 20th Place W.	33° 54'53.21" N 78° 10'46.51" W	4 at access 5 along 20th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 23rd Place W.	33° 54'53.05" N 78° 10'55.97" W	5 at access	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 25th Place W.	33° 54'52.95" N 78° 11'05.28" W	4 along 25th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 27th Place W.	33° 54'52.92" N 78° 11'14.97" W	6 at access 3 along 27th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 30th Place W.	33° 54'52.65" N 78° 11'24.50" W	6 at access	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 33rd Place W.	33° 54'52.51" N 78° 11'34.00" W	10 at access	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 36th Place W.	33° 54'52.32" N 78° 11'43.51" W	6 at access 4 along 36th Place	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 39th Place W.	33° 54'52.13" N 78° 11'52.93" W	6 at access	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. &	33° 54'51.93" N 78°	6 at access	No	•Sand path

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42nd Place W.	12°02.36" W			
W Beach Dr. & 48th Place W.	33° 54'51.54" N 78° 12'21.44" W	8 at access	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 51st Place W.	33° 54'51.22" N 78° 12'30.96" W	12 at access	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 54th Place W.	33° 54'50.86" N 78° 12'40.47" W	15 at access	No	•Sand path
W Beach Dr. & 57th Place W.	33° 54'50.49" N 78° 12'49.91" W	10 at access	No	•Wooden walkway
W Beach Dr. & 60th Place W.	33° 54'50.16" N 78° 12'59.34" W	No	No	•Wooden walkway
W Beach Dr. & 69th Place W. "The Point"	33° 54'48.95" N 78° 13'40.65" W	30	No	•Sand paths
Closest intersection; Kings Lynn Dr. & 69th Place W. 1/3 of a mile S. or W. on Kings Lynn from above	33° 54'56.60" N 78° 13'54.58" W	35	No	•Sand paths

Source: [www.saltchef.com/catch\\_fish/NC/Brunswick/oak\\_island\\_beach\\_accesses.html](http://www.saltchef.com/catch_fish/NC/Brunswick/oak_island_beach_accesses.html)



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## Other Relevant Public Parks, Recreation and Open Space Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks

- ◆ *Battleship USS North Carolina*



- ◆ *Bald Head Woods Coastal Reserve*
- ◆ *Brunswick Community College Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities and Areas*
- ◆ *Brunswick County Botanical Garden*
- ◆ *Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks*



- ◆ *Brunswick County School System Facilities and Areas*
- ◆ *Brunswick Senior Resources, Inc./The Brunswick Center at Southport: 1513 N. Howe Street, Suite 1, Smithville Crossing, Southport, NC*
- ◆ *Cape Fear Community College (CFCC) Campus*



- ◆ *Cape Fear Museum*



- ◆ *City of Boiling Spring Lakes Parks and Recreation Department Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks*
- ◆ *City of Southport Parks and Recreation Department Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks*
- ◆ *City of Wilmington Parks and Recreation Department Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks*



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

- ◆ *Eagles Island*
- ◆ *Ev-Henwood Nature Preserve*
- ◆ *Fort Johnson-Southport Museum and Visitors Center*
- ◆ *New Hanover County Arboretum*
- ◆ *New Hanover County Parks and Gardens Department Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks*



- ◆ *North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher*
- ◆ *North Carolina 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival*



- ◆ *North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport*
- ◆ *North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Public Boat Ramps*



- ◆ *North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Holly Shelter Game Lands*
- ◆ *Oak Island Lighthouse*



- ◆ *Oak Island Pier*
- ◆ *Oak Island Senior Site*
- ◆ *Town of Leland Parks and Recreation Department Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks*



- ◆ *Town of Navassa Parks and Recreation Areas and Facilities*
- ◆ *University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) Facilities and Areas*



## ***General Boating Access Locations and Paddle Trails***

- ◆ **Brunswick County**
  - ◆ **Brunswick Nature Park**



- ◆ **City of Wilmington**
  - **Dram Tree Park**
  - **Greenfield Lake Park**



- ◆ **New Hanover County**
  - **River Road Park**
  - **Smith Creek Park**
  - **Snow's Cut Boat Access**
  - **Trails End Park**



- ◆ **North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission**
  - **Castle Hayne**
  - **Hampstead Boating Access Area**
  - **Holly Shelter**
  - **Porters Neck Boat Ramp**
  - **Oak Island Ramp**



- ◆ **Town of Belville**
  - ◆ **Belville Town Park**



- ◆ **Town of Leland**
  - ◆ **Sturgeon Creek Park**



- ◆ **Town of Navassa**
  - ◆ **Davis Creek Park**



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## Relevant Private, Commercial, Non-Profit, and Church Recreational Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks

- ◆ *Angry Pelican Charters*
- ◆ *Anomaly Charters*
- ◆ *Bellamy Mansion Museum*
- ◆ *Better Beach Rentals*
- ◆ *Blackbeard Scuba*
- ◆ *Brooklyn Arts Center*



*& The Annex*

- ◆ *Brunswick Air Tours*
- ◆ *Brunswick County Bowling Center*
- ◆ *Brunswick Forest*
- ◆ *Cameron Art Museum*
- ◆ *Cape Fear Adventure Company*
- ◆ *Cape Fear Blue Marlin Tournament*
- ◆ *Cape Fear Water Sports*
- ◆ *Captain Smiley Fishing Charters*
- ◆ *Carolina Watersports*
- ◆ *Dosher Hospital/Progress Energy Gymnasium*
- ◆ *Eagle Point Golf Club*
- ◆ *Fort Caswell*
- ◆ *Fugitive Fishing Charters*
- ◆ *Greenhills Golf Club*
- ◆ *High Tide Helicopters*
- ◆ *Impulsive Charters*
- ◆ *Ingram Planetarium*
- ◆ *Keystone Copters*
- ◆ *Lighthouse Watersports*
- ◆ *Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum*
- ◆ *Mahanaim Adventures*
- ◆ *Mr. Beach Rentals*



- ◆ *Nir Family YMCA*



## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ◆ *North Carolina Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell*



- ◆ *North Carolina Boat Rentals*
- ◆ *Oak Island Fishing Charters*
- ◆ *Oak Island Golf Club*



- ◆ *Oak Island Kayak Rentals*
- ◆ *Oak Island Fishing Charters*
- ◆ *Oak Island Museum of History*
- ◆ *Oak Island Paddleboard Rentals*
- ◆ *Ocean Crest Fishing Pier*



- ◆ *Old Baldy Lighthouse and Smith Island Museum*
- ◆ *Olde Fort Golf Club*
- ◆ *Orton Plantation*



- ◆ *Paddle North Carolina*
- ◆ *Progress Energy Brunswick Nuclear Power Plant Visitors Center*
- ◆ *Reelin Pelican Fishing Charters*
- ◆ *Skydive Coastal Carolina*
- ◆ *South Harbor Village Marina*



- ◆ *Southport Boat Rentals*
- ◆ *Southport Marina*
- ◆ *Southport Paddle and Sail*

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- ◆ *Support, Hope, Assist, Reflect, Empower (S.H.A.R.E.) King Mackerel Tournament*



- ◆ *Thalian Hall Center for the Performing Arts*
- ◆ *The Adventure Kayak Company*



- ◆ *The Expedition Organization*
- ◆ *The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center*



- ◆ *The Members Club at St. James*
- ◆ *The Nature Conservancy*
  - *Black River Preserve*
  - *Green Swamp Preserve*
  - *Holly Shelter Game Land*



- ◆ *The Players Club at St. James*
- ◆ *The Sail Shop*
- ◆ *The Oak Island Experience*
- ◆ *The Reserve Golf Club at St. James*
- ◆ *Wilmington Children's Museum*
- ◆ *Wilmington Hammerheads Youth FC*



- ◆ *Wilmington Railroad Museum*
- ◆ *Wilmington Water Tours*
- ◆ *YWCA of Lower Cape Fear*





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**CHAPTER FIVE:**  
**ASSESSMENT OF THE TOWN OF OAK ISLAND PARKS,  
RECREATION & OPEN SPACE NEEDS AND SUMMARY  
OF PUBLIC INPUT**

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A **Needs Assessment** is defined as a systematic exploration of the “***way things are***” and the “***way they should be***.” A typical Needs Assessment is a four-step process:

1. Perform a “Gap” Analysis to determine the “Need”—identify the “***current state of affairs***” and the “***desired state of affairs***.” The difference is the “***gap***” or “***need***”
2. Identify priorities and importance
3. Identify causes of problems, threats and/or opportunities
4. Identify solutions and make recommendations

Chapter Four (Inventory of Existing Programs, Services, Areas and Facilities) of the master plan document gives us a very clear and understandable picture of the “***way***

**things are**" and the "**current state of affairs.**" Chapter Five, this chapter, provides the information collected from all sources pertinent and important to the delivery of parks, recreation and open space programs and services in the Town of Oak Island area in relation to the "**way things should be**" and the "**desired state of affairs**" and identifies priorities and importance. Chapter Six (Parks, Recreation and Open Space Standards) identifies the "**gap**" or "**need**". Chapter Seven (Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations) completes the Needs Assessment process by stating the solutions and recommendations.

## **Inspection, Analysis and Evaluation of Existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department "Parks"**

Each of the Town of Oak Island parks, recreation and open space areas and facilities was inspected, analyzed and evaluated to assess and determine its current disposition and status. The results were then analyzed and synthesized along with other information to provide guidance and direction in the establishment of the final **Town of Oak Island 2019 – 2024 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan**.

### **Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension**

**Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension Evaluation**—Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension are considered flagship entities in the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation delivery system. The parks provide outstanding opportunities and experiences for both active and passive recreation. However, improvements to the current design and layout of the park will enhance the park's functionality and its ability to meet the needs and interests of the citizens of the Town of Oak Island.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the parks:

- 1) Installation of one (1) tennis backboard at each of the four (4) existing tennis courts**
- 2) Installation of Shade Sails over the existing Splash Pad**
- 3) Installation of Shade Sails or some other shading device over the existing outdoor Amphitheater**



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- 4) Placement of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the parks**
- 5) Construction of a permanent restroom facility in the area utilized for the outdoor Amphitheater**

- 6) Placement of drinking fountains in strategic locations within the parks
- 7) Marking a second protected pedestrian crossing from the beach access parking lot to the beach access and the Cabana



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- 8) Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the parks
- 9) Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations within the parks

## [William S. "Bill" Smith Park](#)

**Bill Smith Park Evaluation**—The Bill Smith Park is also considered a flagship park for the Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department and a showcase parks and recreation facility throughout Brunswick County. The park is heavily utilized for sports, water access, the dog park and family and community events and activities. The park is also utilized by walkers, joggers, nature lovers and those just seeking a quiet location to enjoy the natural environment.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Installation of a permanent restroom facility near the kayak launch
- 2) Repair of the Salty Dog Park fencing
- 3) Installation of dog drinking fountains in the Salty Dog Park
- 4) Construction of a sand volleyball court in the open field near the kayak launch which currently has volleyball posts but no net and no designated volleyball court
- 5) Installation of two (2) covered playground structures—one (1) for youth ages 2 – 5 years old and one (1) for youth ages 5 – 12 years old
- 6) Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park
- 7) Renovation and enhancement of the existing disc golf course
- 8) Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the park
- 9) Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations within the parks

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## [Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch](#)

[Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch Evaluation](#)—The Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch facility is a great location to launch kayaks, canoes and standup paddleboards and to fish, crab and bait cast.

Recommended addition, improvement and enhancement to the park:

- 1) Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations**

## [Heron Lookout](#)

[Heron Lookout Evaluation](#)—Heron Lookout is a very small but aesthetically located area that offers outstanding views of the marsh and estuarine waters in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Construction of a shade cover over the existing swing bench**
- 2) Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches**



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## [57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park](#)

[57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park Evaluation](#)—57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park provides a valuable beach access facility.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility**
- 2) Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations**
- 3) Installation of bike racks**



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## [May Moore Park](#)

[May Moore Park Evaluation](#)—May Moore Park provides a lovely location for both active and passive recreational opportunities and experiences.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Construction of a picnic shelter on the existing concrete slab**
- 2) Installation of an actual kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock**



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- 3) Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park**

## [Yaupon Park](#)

[Yaupon Park Evaluation](#)—Yaupon Park provides another valuable developed beach access site and facility.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility**
- 2) Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations**
- 3) Installation of bike racks**
- 4) Construction of shade covers over the existing bench swings and picnic table**

## [The Point](#)

[The Point Evaluation](#)—The Point provides the western most beach access facility and site on the island making it an excellent way to access the oceanfront beach for swimming, surfing, walking, shelling, fishing and sunbathing.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Investigation of methods for increasing public parking at the site**
- 2) Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility**

## [Commissioner's Observatory Park](#)

[Commissioner's Observatory Park Evaluation](#)—Commissioner's Observatory Park provides a peaceful and aesthetically pleasing area for viewing the ocean, the sand dunes, the sand dune vegetation and the wildlife.

Recommended addition, improvement and enhancement to the park:

- 1) Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations**

## [Hannon A. Templeton Park](#)

[Hannon A. Templeton Park Evaluation](#)—Hannon A. Templeton Park

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Construction of an actual fenced Dog Park with all the appropriate amenities**
- 2) Removal of the existing concrete slab and inclusion of that area in the newly created Dog Park**
- 3) Installation of drinking fountains for people and for dogs**



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## [Veterans Park](#)

[Veterans Park Evaluation](#)—Veterans Park is one of the town's newest park resources and provides outstanding views of and access to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW).

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Installation of a kayak launch amenity**
- 2) Construction of a picnic shelter with picnic tables and barbecue grills**
- 3) Installation of drinking fountains in strategic locations**
- 4) Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations**
- 5) Installation of a demonstration Rain Garden**
- 6) Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the park**

## [Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. \(Mac\) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden](#)

### [Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. \(Mac\) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden Evaluation](#)

—Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden is composed of several distinct yet associated components. The park includes the Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden with its walking paths, floral displays, restroom facility and nature center; the Memorial Waterway Park with its fishing “T” and floating dock; and, the Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park with its picnic shelter and nature views. There are several entrances into the park including an entrance off Yacht Drive which begins with a slate rock walkway and then transforms into a wooden walkway.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Replacement of the slate rock walkway and wooden walkways with an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) approved surfacing**



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- 2) Replacement of the existing benches with views of the marsh and estuarine waters with swings with shade covers**
- 3) Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the floating dock**

## [Crossover Trail](#)

[Crossover Trail Evaluation](#)—Crossover Trail provides a picturesque wooden walkway over the marshes and estuarine waters. However, the wooden walkway is not elevated on the south end where it spans the estuarine water channel making it practically impossible to boat under the walkway.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Replacement of the south first 75' or so of the existing wooden walkway with a new walkway that is elevated over the estuarine water channel to allow watercraft to pass under the walkway**
- 2) Installation of kayak launch amenities off the existing floating docks at each end of the walkway**
- 3) Renovation of the existing bollards at each end of the walkway to include removal of the rust and repainting**

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## [30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock](#)

[30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock Evaluation](#)—30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock is located on Montgomery Slough. It is a convenient location to launch kayaks, canoes and standup paddleboards and to crab, fish and bait cast at mid to high tide. The dock normally sits in mud when the tide is low. The entrance to the walkway and dock is currently in disrepair.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

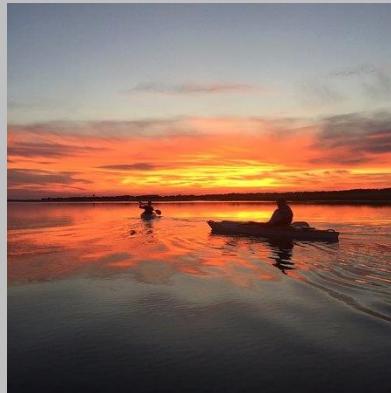
- 1) Repair of the entranceway onto the walkway and floating dock**
- 2) Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock**

## [78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock](#)

[78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock Evaluation](#)—78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock is a wonderful little water access area to the estuarine waters surrounding the Town of Oak Island.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Installation of a kayak launch amenity**
- 2) Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches**
- 3) Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations**



## [Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier](#)

[Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier Evaluation](#)—The Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier provides wildlife viewing and fishing opportunities to the estuarine waters at the west end of the island.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the park:

- 1) Installation of a shade cover over a portion of the “T”**
- 2) Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations**

## ***Inspection, Analysis and Evaluation of Existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department "Special Areas and Facilities"***

### **Oak Island Recreation Center**

**Oak Island Recreation Center Evaluation**—The Town of Oak Island Recreation Center is a vital component to the overall parks and recreation delivery system and is heavily utilized by residents. However, the indoor facility is old and in need of significant maintenance, repairs and enhancement in order to accommodate the existing demands and needs of its users. Eventually (before 2030) the existing Oak Island Recreation Center facility should be demolished and replaced by a new and comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island and in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards, guidelines and principles. Until the new indoor facility is constructed and operating there are several recommendations that can be achieved that will improve the effectiveness of the existing facility.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the recreation center and its outdoor facilities:

- 1) Renovation of the existing indoor restroom facilities**
- 2) Renovation of the existing indoor shower and locker facilities**
- 3) Upgrading of the existing weight room and cardio room equipment**
- 4) Resurfacing of the existing outdoor basketball court surface**
- 5) Installation of lights for the outdoor basketball court**
- 6) Installation of a water fountain near the outdoor basketball court**
- 7) Remarking of the existing shuffleboard court**
- 8) Installation of a bocce ball court next to the shuffleboard court**
- 9) Placement of signage identifying the entrance to the nature trail**
- 10) Installation of Wi-Fi capability**
- 11) Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations inside the facility**
- 12) Installation of a 24-hour a day, 7-day a week electronic card system for unrestricted entry into the facility and its exercise room and cardio room**



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## [Oak Island Splash Pad-Middleton Park Extension](#)

[Oak Island Splash Pad-Middleton Park Evaluation](#)—The Oak Island Splash Pad-Middleton Park Extension is an outstanding and appropriate addition to the overall parks and recreation delivery system. Since the facility is so new, there is only one (1) recommendation.

Recommended addition, improvement and enhancement to the Oak Island Splash Pad:

- 1) Installation of Shade Sails over as much of the Splash Pad as possible**



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## [Oak Island Amphitheater](#)

[Oak Island Amphitheater Evaluation](#)—The Town of Oak Island Amphitheater is another outstanding and appropriate addition to the overall parks and recreation delivery system. Since this facility is also very new, there is only one (1) recommendation.

Recommended addition, improvement and enhancement to the Oak Island Amphitheater:

- 1) Installation of Shade Sails or some other shading device over the actual physical outdoor Amphitheater**



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## [Oak Island Cabana](#)

**Oak Island Cabana Evaluation**—The Town of Oak Island Cabana is presently in extreme disrepair possibly to the point of being a safety hazard. A significant portion of the wooden structure is rotting and in need of repainting.

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the Cabana:

- 1) Demolition of the existing Cabana and construction of a new Cabana structure with indoor changing and restroom amenities and outdoor showers and foot washing amenities**
- 2) Installation of a shading device over the existing observation deck**

## [Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour](#)

**Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour Evaluation**—Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour offers great potential.

Recommended addition, improvement and enhancement to the Golf Course:

- 1) Formation of a management committee to determine what policies and procedures need to be implemented to make the facility self-sustaining**

## [Kevin Bell Skate Park](#)

**Kevin Bell Skate Park Evaluation**—Kevin Bell Skate Park

Recommended additions, improvements and enhancements to the Skate Park:

- 1) Demolition of the existing skate park and construction of a new bowl-shaped concrete skate park meeting all ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials) standards and guidelines**



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- 2) Demolition of the existing metal picnic shelter and construction of a new non-metal picnic shelter**



### **Inspection, Analysis and Evaluation of Existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department "Programs, Special Events and Special Collaborations"**

The Town of Oak Island presently sponsors and supports a wide and varied range of general recreation programs, special events and special collaborations. There appears to be the opinion the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department generally offers an acceptable number, variety, quality and level of programs, special events and special collaborations with a couple of exceptions. These exceptions are the provision of:

- ⊕ Walking, biking and hiking opportunities and experiences
- ⊕ Kayaking and other water sports opportunities and experiences
- ⊕ Nature related opportunities and experiences
- ⊕ Lifeguards and a system of warning flags on the oceanfront beach
- ⊕ Community-wide programs, special events and special collaborations
- ⊕ Fishing programs, special events and special collaborations
- ⊕ An After-School Program
- ⊕ A Pre-School Program
- ⊕ Adult day camps related to water sports
- ⊕ Early morning and late evening exercise classes such as Yoga
- ⊕ Arts related classes and instruction such as courses in graphic arts, digital technology and musical instruments
- ⊕ A Tennis Camp for youth
- ⊕ Beach Music Festivals
- ⊕ Food truck rodeo
- ⊕ Movies in the park program
- ⊕ Cooking classes
- ⊕ An adult Pickleball Camp
- ⊕ An adult Sailing Camp
- ⊕ Dance programs
- ⊕ Golf lessons
- ⊕ Teen programs

## **Community and Citizen Input on Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs and Priorities—Meeting With the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Parks and Recreation Department Staff**

A formal informational session was held with members of the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department staff on July 9, 2018 to receive input regarding the parks, recreation and open space needs and priorities for the Town of Oak Island. This input from the Town of Oak Island Recreation Advisory Committee and Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation staff was then analyzed and synthesized along with other information to provide guidance and direction in the establishment of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan***.

A summary of the information most commonly generated, discussed and collected at the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is anonymously summarized in a non-priority listing below:

### **RECORDED COMMENTS**

#### **LAND ACQUISITION**

- ◆ Acquire the land near the new bridge

#### **PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ Need lifeguards on the oceanfront beach
- ◆ Need a system of warning flags on the oceanfront beach to notify swimmers of dangers such as rip currents
- ◆ Provide a “Grandparents Day Camp”
- ◆ Offer bike rentals services
- ◆ Provide new and improved signage at the Nature Center

#### **FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS**

- ◆ Construction, operation and maintenance of a new, comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation center at least double the size of the existing recreation center and includes a gymnasium, shower room, restrooms, swimming pool with a therapeutic rehabilitation section, hot tube, jacuzzi, pickleball courts, stage, expanded weight room, cardio room, functional kitchen, auditorium, movable walls, classroom space, exercise and fitness rooms, aerobics room, office space and storage space
- ◆ Increase the size of the existing Nature Center
- ◆ Need to move the existing Nature Center from its present location to Bill Smith Park
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a Splash Pad

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- ◆ Pine Forest on Highway 211 is willing to work with the Town to develop a park with a pool
- ◆ Develop natural walking trails
- ◆ Develop bike paths, trails and lanes



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- ◆ Replace and upgrade the exercise equipment, especially the stationary bikes, in the recreation center
- ◆ Provision of shaded areas in all the parks
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a special events facility with slide-up doors at Bill Smith Park
- ◆ Provide and maintain a kayak storage area
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain kayak, canoe and standup paddleboard access sites with amenities along Davis Canal



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- ◆ Construct and maintain public crosswalks over the marsh at the west end of the Town
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain kayak, canoe, standup paddleboard and small motorized boat access sites with amenities at the west end of the Town
- ◆ Construct and maintain a public dock at Middleton Park to allow kayakers, canoers and standup paddleboarders a way to ingress and egress the water
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain soccer fields on the old football field area by 49<sup>th</sup> Street
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a Ninja Park
- ◆ Provide dog water fountains and water fountains for people along the Town sidewalks



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- ◆ Construct and maintain outdoor showers, outdoor feet cleaning areas and public changing rooms at the oceanfront beach access sites



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- ◆ Renovate the existing outdoor cabana
- ◆ Construct and maintain a public bathroom at Veterans Park
- ◆ Provide a “Quiet Zone” on the oceanfront beach for Autistic individuals
- ◆ Convert Templeton Park into a Dog Park
- ◆ Construct and maintain outdoor sand volleyball posts, nets and courts on the oceanfront beach



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## ❖ POLICY AND PROCEDURE CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ Develop a cooperative working relationship with the City of Southport and Brunswick County to jointly construct, operate and maintain a community pool
- ◆ Provide better daily and general maintenance of all facilities, areas and parks
- ◆ Renovate and improve all the existing facilities, areas and parks



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## ❖ PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ No specific comments or recommendations received

## ❖ GENERAL COMMENTS

- ◆ No specific comments or recommendations received

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**Key comments and recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Parks and Recreation staff meeting on July 9, 2018 in a non-priority order are the need for:**

- 1) Need lifeguards and a system of warning flags on the oceanfront beach to notify swimmers of dangers such as rip currents



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- 2) Construction, operation and maintenance of a new, comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation center at least double the size of the existing recreation center and includes a gymnasium, shower room, restrooms, swimming pool with a therapeutic rehabilitation section, hot tube, jacuzzi, pickleball courts, stage, expanded weight room, cardio room, functional kitchen, auditorium, movable walls, classroom space, exercise and fitness rooms, aerobics room, office space and storage space



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- 3) Planning, implementation, development and completion of a safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting public areas and facilities, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

4) Construct, operate and maintain kayak, canoe and standup paddleboard access sites with amenities along Davis Canal, at the west end of the Town and at appropriate and strategic locations in and around the waters and marsh areas of the Town of Oak Island



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5) Construct and maintain outdoor showers, outdoor feet cleaning areas and public changing rooms at the oceanfront beach access sites



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6) Construct and maintain outdoor sand volleyball posts, nets and courts on the oceanfront beach



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7) Develop a cooperative working relationship with the City of Southport and Brunswick County to jointly construct, operate and maintain a community swimming pool



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8) Improve the overall maintenance and amenities at all Town facilities, areas and parks



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## **Community and Citizen Input on Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs and Priorities—Public Forum Meetings (3)**

Direct community and citizen input was generated and received at three (3) public forum meetings conducted on June 11, 2019, June 13, 2019 and June 20, 2019. All three (3) public meetings were conducted at the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Recreation Center. The June 11, 2019 meeting started at 5:30 pm and fourteen (14) individuals attended. The June 13, 2019 meeting started at 11 am and eleven (11) individuals were in attendance. The February 26, 2019 meeting started at 5:30 pm and twenty-nine (29) individuals attended. The information received at these meetings was utilized to provide an initial understanding and assessment of the specific expressed parks, recreation and open space needs and priorities of the citizens of the Town of Oak Island. This input from the Town of Oak Island citizens and residents was then analyzed and synthesized along with other information to provide guidance and direction in the establishment of the final ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan***.

Ms. Rebecca Squires, Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Director, opened the meetings by welcoming the attendees. Ms. Squires stressed to those in attendance the importance of public participation in the overall comprehensive master plan process and introduced Dr. Jim Herstine, Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW), the consultant hired by the Town of Oak Island to facilitate and lead the comprehensive master plan process. Dr. Herstine gave the attendees a brief summary of his background and experience and then asked the attendees to follow a few general guidelines. First, think big, think “outside the box” and do not think about the price tag for any comment presented. Second, keep the discussion positive—present ideas regarding what is wanted and needed rather than complaining about something that did or did not happen.

Dr. Herstine led the public meetings by asking the following questions:

- 1) How do you feel about/what is your opinion of the Town’s current parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks? What is good? What is working?
- 2) How do you feel about the way the existing Town parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks are maintained?
- 3) How do you feel about the way the existing Town parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks are supervised?
- 4) What parks, recreation and open space program, services, events and activities would you like to participate in that are not currently provided?

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- 5) What general and specific issues and areas of interest should the Town of Oak Island Master Plan address?
- 6) Do you have any additional questions or comments?

Here is an anonymous summary of the information generated, discussed and collected at the Public Forum meetings in a non-priority listing:

## **JUNE 11, 2019 MEETING (14 in Attendance):**



### RECORDED COMMENTS

#### ❖ LAND ACQUISITION

- ◆ Acquire the building next to the pier

#### ❖ PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Expand the "Citizens Academy"
- ◆ Provide music at the pier
- ◆ Offer more community wide events such as the Diving Dogs



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#### ❖ FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS

- ◆ 20<sup>th</sup> Street Scenic Walkway needs updated and repaired
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a year-round community swimming pool with outside amenities
- ◆ Replace the existing Recreation Center with an expanded and improved comprehensive, multi-purpose Recreation Center with a gymnasium, swimming pool, expanded exercise/fitness room, meeting space, office space, classroom space and an indoor walking loop
- ◆ Extend the walking trail at Bill Smith Park
- ◆ Install a gate at the Dog Park
- ◆ Maintain the existing Dog Parks and construct, operate and maintain new Dog Parks
- ◆ Construct and maintain a greenway trail from Bill Smith Park along Fish Factory Road
- ◆ Construct and maintain a system of walking and biking trails throughout the Town's jurisdiction
- ◆ Upgrade and enhance the Recreation Center exercise/fitness room
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain an outdoor amphitheater

- ◆ Construct and maintain public outdoor showers and foot washing stations at the oceanfront beach access sites
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a Maritime Museum and/or Heritage Museum
- ◆ Construct and maintain an elevated walking path that runs from pier to pier along Oak Island Drive

❖ **POLICY AND PROCEDURE CONSIDERATIONS**

- ◆ Expand the hours that dogs are allowed off-lease on the oceanfront beach
- ◆ Provide an area on the oceanfront beach that allows off-lease dogs year-round

❖ **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS**

- ◆ No specific comments or recommendations received

❖ **GENERAL COMMENTS**

- ◆ Must recognize and deal with the tremendous parking problems that exist on Oak Island and find a solution such as specific stickers for specific parking lots
- ◆ Determine what makes Oak Island special and use those special assets such as the natural environment, the marshes, the sand dunes, the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), the wooden piers, the coastal heritage, etc. to market and brand the community
- ◆ Improve the maintenance at Bill Smith Park

Key comments and recommendations from the June 11, 2019 public meeting in a non-priority order are the need to:

- 1) Replace the existing Recreation Center with an expanded and improved comprehensive, multi-purpose Recreation Center with a gymnasium, swimming pool, expanded exercise and fitness room, meeting space, office space, classroom space and an indoor walking loop



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- 2) Offer more community wide events such as the Diving Dogs
- 3) Maintain the existing Dog Parks and construct, operate and maintain new Dog Parks

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

4) Construct and maintain a system of walking and biking trails throughout the Town's jurisdiction



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5) Construct and maintain public outdoor showers and foot washing stations at the oceanfront beach access sites

6) Expand the hours that dogs are allowed off-lease on the oceanfront beach and provide an area on the oceanfront beach that allows off-lease dogs year-round



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7) Must recognize and deal with the tremendous parking problems that exist on Oak Island and find a solution such as specific stickers for specific parking lots

## JUNE 13, 2019 MEETING (11 in Attendance):



### RECORDED COMMENTS

#### ❖ LAND ACQUISITION

- ◆ Acquire the land near the cabana at 46<sup>th</sup> Street

#### ❖ PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Provide additional programs, services, events and activities for senior citizens
- ◆ Provide fishing programs, services, events and activities



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- ◆ Reinstitute and expand the After-School Program
- ◆ Expand the summer camp programs and services by also offering them during the fall and spring
- ◆ Reinstitute and expand the Beach Ambassador Program
- ◆ Offer a Pre-School Program at the Recreation Center

## ❖ FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS

- ◆ Provide benches and places to rest along paths and trials and at road ends
- ◆ Construct and maintain sand volleyball courts on the oceanfront beach and at other strategic locations



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- ◆ Construct and maintain public showers at the beach access sites as well as benches and permanent trash receptacles
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain an indoor swimming pool
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a comprehensive, multi-use recreation center with a gymnasium, pool, exercise and fitness rooms, senior citizen room, office space, classroom space, storage space and bathrooms/changing rooms with showers
- ◆ Construct and maintain a system of walking and biking trails throughout the Town's jurisdiction
- ◆ Improve the dune walkovers and pedestrian paths leading to the oceanfront beach
- ◆ Move the Memorial Benches at Middleton Park
- ◆ Increase facilities serving senior citizens
- ◆ Maintain the dog park at Bill Smith Park
- ◆ Construct an additional dog park
- ◆ Construct and maintain fishing piers
- ◆ Expand the existing disc golf course
- ◆ Provide marked and dedicated pedestrian crosswalks and crossovers



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- ◆ Provide permanent trash receptacles at beach access sites
- ◆ Provide additional and improved beach access sites for persons with disabilities and other special needs
- ◆ Provide and maintain beach access sites that meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards

- ◆ Provide handicapped accessible ramps and mats that allow persons with disabilities and other special needs to access the oceanfront beach
- ❖ **POLICY AND PROCEDURE CONSIDERATIONS**
  - ◆ Allow fishing from the bridge over Davis Canal
  - ◆ Work closely with Brunswick County regarding funding for new parks and recreation facilities, areas and parks
- ❖ **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS**
  - ◆ No specific comments or recommendations received
- ❖ **GENERAL COMMENTS**
  - ◆ Provide better maintained beach access sites
  - ◆ Increase and improve advertising for the Recreation Center and the Welcome Center
  - ◆ Work with the local rental and real estate agencies to distribute information about parks and recreation programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks to visitors and tourists

Key comments and recommendations from the June 13, 2019 public meeting in a non-priority order are the need to:

- 1) Reinstitute and expand the After-School Program
- 2) Reinstitute and expand the Beach Ambassador Program
- 3) Construct, operate and maintain a comprehensive, multi-use recreation center with a gymnasium, pool, exercise and fitness rooms, senior citizen room, office space, classroom space, storage space and bathrooms/changing rooms with showers



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- 4) Construct and maintain a system of walking and biking trails throughout the Town's jurisdiction with benches and places to rest along the paths and trials and at road ends and marked and dedicated pedestrian crosswalks and crossovers



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

- 5) Construct and maintain sand volleyball courts on the oceanfront beach and at other strategic locations
- 6) Provide additional and improved beach access sites for persons with disabilities and other special needs



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- 7) Provide and maintain beach access sites that meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards

## JUNE 20, 2019 MEETING (29 in Attendance):



### RECORDED COMMENTS

#### ❖ LAND ACQUISITION

- ◆ The Town needs to purchase the Bluewater Point boat access
- ◆ The Town needs to purchase any and all available land suitable for parks, recreation and open space purposes

#### ❖ PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Offer a Pre-School Camp
- ◆ Provide evening kids' programs such as dance classes, yoga and gymnastics
- ◆ Provide water sports and kayak rental stations
- ◆ Provide a separate play area for kids at the outdoor concerts
- ◆ Provide more adult day camps related to water sports

#### ❖ FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS

- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain an indoor swimming pool
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a comprehensive, multi-use recreation center with a gymnasium, pool, exercise, cardio and fitness rooms, classroom space, storage space and office space
- ◆ Construct and maintain a system of designated bike paths and trials



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- ◆ Construct and maintain additional scenic walkways and crossovers particularly at the west end of Town
- ◆ Construct and maintain bike lanes on Oak Island Drive
- ◆ Construct and maintain public bathrooms at the oceanfront beach access sites
- ◆ Construct and maintain public bathrooms, showers and “feet washing” stations at the oceanfront beach access sites
- ◆ Construct and maintain water-access launch facilities and areas for kayaks, standup paddleboards and non-motorized watercraft
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain an athletic complex with parking like the one at Kure Beach
- ◆ Construct and maintain access to the Davis Canal for fishing
- ◆ Construct and maintain dune access amenities that meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and guidelines
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain an outdoor amphitheater at Bill Smith Park
- ◆ Provide water fountains for dogs and people at the dog parks



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- ◆ The 55<sup>th</sup> Street boat launch areas needs to be improved and upgraded
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain oceanfront beach sand volleyball courts
- ◆ Provide additional sand areas at Salty Dog Park
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks on the mainland as well as the island
- ◆ Construct and maintain a dog park on the mainland
- ◆ Demolish the existing cabana and construct, operate and maintain a new and expanded cabana
- ◆ Construct and maintain additional parks, recreation and open space amenities at the existing Town street ends
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a boardwalk along the oceanfront like the boardwalk at Kure Beach

## ❖ POLICY AND PROCEDURE CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ Do not close Salty Dog Park
- ◆ Improve all communication about plans for Salty Dog Park
- ◆ Provide a Parks and Recreation Department specific website separate from the Town general website
- ◆ Improve all marketing and advertising of Town programs, services, events and activities



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- ◆ Neighborhoods need to develop parks, recreation and open space plans which are consistent and adhere to the Brunswick County Blueway Plan
- ◆ The user fees charged and collected by the Parks and Recreation Department need to stay with the Department and not become a part of the Town's general fund
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department needs its own maintenance division separate from the existing Town Maintenance Department

## ❖ PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ The Town needs to hire a Marketing Specialist to coordinate all Town publicity, advertising and marketing

## ❖ GENERAL COMMENTS

- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department needs to take over maintenance of the Salty Dog Park
- ◆ Provide a designated area for off-lease dogs not necessarily on the oceanfront beach
- ◆ Need to protect the sand dunes and sea turtles through better enforcement of the existing Town regulations and rules regarding the sand dunes and sea turtles
- ◆ Become a "dog friendly" community



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- ◆ Provide "Poop Bag" stations at strategic locations

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

- ◆ The Town needs to make a commitment to operating, maintaining and improving the golf course
- ◆ The Town needs to improve the overall maintenance and upkeep of the existing cabana
- ◆ Provide and protect the ability of residents to park at the beach—have designated and reserved local resident parking spaces
- ◆ Basic maintenance at all parks and recreation facilities, areas and parks, particularly Bill Smith Park, needs to be improved
- ◆ The Town needs a comprehensive media plan

Key comments and recommendations from the June 20, 2019 public meeting in a non-priority order are the need to:

- 1) The Town needs to purchase any and all available land suitable for parks, recreation and open space purposes
- 2) Provide evening kids' programs and adult water sport related day camps
- 3) Construct, operate and maintain a comprehensive, multi-use recreation center with a gymnasium, pool, exercise, cardio and fitness rooms, classroom space, storage space and office space



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- 4) Construct and maintain a system of designated bike paths and trials
- 5) Construct and maintain public bathrooms, showers and "feet washing" stations at the oceanfront beach access sites



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- 6) Construct and maintain water-access launch facilities and areas for kayaks, standup paddleboards and non-motorized watercraft
- 7) Construct and maintain dune access amenities that meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and guidelines



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- 8) Construct, operate and maintain an outdoor amphitheater at Bill Smith Park
- 9) Construct, operate and maintain oceanfront beach sand volleyball courts



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- 10) Construct, operate and maintain parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks on the mainland as well as the island
- 11) Demolish the existing cabana and construct, operate and maintain a new and expanded cabana
- 12) Do not close Salty Dog Park
- 13) Improve all marketing and advertising of Town programs, services, events and activities



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- 14) The Parks and Recreation Department needs its own maintenance division separate from the existing Town Maintenance Department
- 15) Need to protect the sand dunes and sea turtles through better enforcement of the existing Town regulations and rules regarding the sand dunes and sea turtles



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- 16) Basic maintenance at all parks and recreation facilities, areas and parks, particularly Bill Smith Park, needs to be improved



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## **Community and Citizen Input on Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs and Priorities—Interviews with Key Stakeholders (2)**

A purposive and deliberate sample of Town of Oak Island stakeholders was selected and each individual was interviewed regarding his/her opinions concerning parks, recreation and open space needs and priorities. Those interviewed were Ms. Denise Justice and Mr. Bob Salemme.

The interviewees were individually asked to address the following questions:

1. How is the Parks and Recreation Department doing now? Address programs, services, structure, accessibility, even maintenance—good and bad points.
2. What should the Parks and Recreation Department be focusing on in the future? Address programs, services, structure, accessibility even maintenance—good and bad points. What is your vision for the department for the next 5 years? Where do we need more parks, facilities, and open spaces? What types of programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks should the department offer?
3. If you were the crown monarchy for a day, had absolute authority to accomplish anything you wanted and had all the money available that you needed, what would be the five (5) things you would like to see the Town's Parks and Recreation Department doing in terms of parks, recreation and open space that it is either not doing now or could be doing better in terms of programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks?
4. Is there anything else you would like to add?



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The input from the Interviews was then analyzed and synthesized to provide guidance and direction in the establishment of the final ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan.***

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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Here is an anonymous summary of the information generated, discussed and collected during the Interview sessions in a non-priority listing:

## **RECORDED COMMENTS**

### ❖ LAND ACQUISITION

- ◆ No specific comments received

### ❖ PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Schedule additional evening exercise classes, such as Yoga, at the Recreation Center
- ◆ Need to offer water aerobics classes
- ◆ Need to provide an expanded program of arts related classes and instruction such as courses in graphic arts and musical instruments
- ◆ Need to provide classes in digital technology such as classes on the use of iPhones, iPads and audio-visual equipment
- ◆ Provide additional summer camps for the youth such as a Tennis Camp

### ❖ FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS

- ◆ Need to increase the size of the existing exercise room at the Recreation Center
- ◆ Need a playground structure on the grounds outside the Recreation Center
- ◆ Need outside public restrooms on the grounds of the Recreation Center
- ◆ The existing Nature Center Building off Yacht Drive that is under utilized could be converted into an Arts Center
- ◆ Need an indoor pool
- ◆ Need a comprehensive and safe biking and walking network of paths and trails that includes crosswalks and exercise stations
- ◆ Maintenance at some of the parks and facilities is inadequate
- ◆ Proper maintenance of the Recreation Center is an issue—there are plumbing issues that need to be addressed such as leaks in the bathrooms and the locker rooms
- ◆ Need a neighborhood park with a playground at the west end of the island

### ❖ POLICY AND PROCEDURE CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ Install a 24-hour access system at the Recreation Center to allow residents to use the facility on their own schedule
- ◆ Pollution of the Davis Canal by raw sewage is an important issue that needs to be addressed

❖ **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS**

- ◆ Explore using volunteers to teach classes

❖ **GENERAL COMMENTS**

- ◆ The existing Recreation Center is adequate for the needs of the community provided it is properly maintained and the existing exercise equipment is replaced with new and not refurbished equipment
- ◆ Need to do a better job of maintaining the existing exercise equipment in the exercise room at the Recreation Center
- ◆ Provide free and effective public Wi-Fi at the Recreation Center and in the main parks
- ◆ The Par-Three Golf Course and the Oak Island Pier should be self-sustaining and operate without town funding
- ◆ Whether or not to charge for parking on the island and who to charge and how much to charge are issues that need to be resolved

Key comments and recommendations from the interviews in a non-priority order are the need to:

- 1) Schedule evening exercise classes at the Recreation Center
- 2) Provide an expanded program of arts related classes and instruction
- 3) Expand the size of the Recreation Center exercise room and do a better job of maintaining the existing exercise equipment
- 4) Construct an indoor pool
- 5) Provide a comprehensive and safe biking and walking network of paths and trails that includes crosswalks and exercise stations
- 6) Improve the general maintenance of the facilities, areas and parks
- 7) Provide a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island
- 8) Make the Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour self-sustaining
- 9) Resolve the issue regarding who should pay for parking on the island
- 10) Provide a playground and outside restrooms at the Recreation Center

## **Community and Citizen Input on Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs and Priorities—Focus Group**

The Focus Group of nine (9) Town of Oak Island stakeholders (Mr. Steve Ausband, Ms. Melinda Ausband, Ms. Cathy Bowes, Ms. Ginny Gorman, Mr. Ike Keener, Ms. Lynn McDowell, Ms. Dara Royal, Mr. John Winebar and Ms. Cindy Young) was formed from a purposive and deliberate sample of Town of Oak Island resident stakeholders. The Focus Group members met on July 12, 2019 at 1 pm in the Oak Island Recreation Center conference room and were led by Dr. Jim Herstine, Ph.D. The Focus Group members were collectively asked to address the following questions:

- 1) What do you think are the best/most successful programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks currently offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department?
- 2) What new programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks would you like to see the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department offer in the future (think in terms of the next 5 years)?
- 3) What do you think are the major obstacles confronting the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department in the future?
- 4) How should the Town of Oak Island pay for these additional programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks?
- 5) What do you think are the 10 most important issues in terms of programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department must address in the future?

The input from the Focus Group session was then analyzed and synthesized to provide guidance and direction in the establishment of the final ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan***.

Here is an anonymous summary of the information generated, discussed and collected at the Focus Group session in a non-priority listing:

### **RECORDED COMMENTS**

#### **BEST/MOST SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department Staff is Outstanding
- ◆ Salty Dog Park
- ◆ Summer Programs for Kids—especially the Camps
- ◆ Yoga Classes

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ◆ **Fitness Programs**
- ◆ **Exercise Programs**



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- ◆ **Allowing Local Groups to Utilize the Department Facilities**



- ◆ **Middleton Park**
- ◆ **Middleton Park Splash Pad**
- ◆ **Farmers' Market**
- ◆ **Christmas Market**
- ◆ **Concert Series**
- ◆ **Pickleball Program**



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- ◆ **Outdoor Amphitheater**
- ◆ **Maintained and Functioning Crossovers**
- ◆ **Veterans Park**
- ◆ **Bill Smith Park**
- ◆ **Equipment Checkout Program for Handicap Beach Chairs and Kayaks**
- ◆ **Handicap Accessible Access Sites**
- ◆ **Pier**



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## ❖ NEW LAND ACQUISITION

- ◆ Purchase the Blue Water Point Motel & Marina Water Access Facility



- ◆ Do not sell any oceanfront property currently owned by the Town of Oak Island
- ◆ Acquire any undeveloped appropriate and suitable lands that are affordable and/or offer specific advantages for general parks, recreation and open space purposes
- ◆ Maintain and do not sell or transfer the ownership of any public land
- ◆ Maintain and do not sell or transfer the ownership of any Town owned natural resources



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## ❖ NEW FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS

- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation center and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island
- ◆ Upgrade the Blue Water Point Motel & Marina Water Access Facility and include gas pumps
- ◆ Combine the existing Senior Center with an upgraded and improved comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation center
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain a new oceanfront beach Pavilion with restrooms and showers



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- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain public facilities for showering and rising feet
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain additional public crossovers and walkways to the oceanfront beach and the Town's other natural resources especially on the west end of the island
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain additional public oceanfront beach access sites and facilities
- ◆ Construct and maintain a comprehensive pedestrian and non-motorized vehicular transportation network and ensure the network is shaded from the sun and the natural elements
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain lifesaving stations at strategic locations along the oceanfront beach
- ◆ Improve and enhance the existing Dog Parks
- ◆ Construct, operate and maintain two (2) additional lighted tennis courts



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## ❖ NEW PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Work with various state and national tennis organizations and associations to offer more structured tennis programs such as tournaments and clinics
- ◆ Market, maintain and program the Par 3 Golf Course better
- ◆ Provide additional nature programs particularly nature programs involving walking in the natural environment
- ◆ Provide a rental program for small sailboats



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## ❖ NEW POLICY AND PROCEDURE CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ Modify and upgrade the existing 2006 Town of Oak Island Bike Plan and then implement the modified and updated Bike Plan
- ◆ Develop and enforce a Town policy to preserve trees and all-natural resources
- ◆ Develop and enforce a Town policy to "maintain the uniqueness of the island"

- ◆ **Modify the existing Parks and Recreation Department user fee structure to give a better advantage to residents**
- ◆ **Develop a policy and procedure to allow the Parks and Recreation Department to collect and disperse its own user fees without the fees going into the Town's general fund**
- ◆ **Make the Parks and Recreation Department and its programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks a priority for the Town of Oak Island**
- ◆ **Establish a Parks and Recreation Department Maintenance Division within the Parks and Recreation Department**



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- ◆ **Do all to ensure the Town of Oak Island remains a "dog friendly" municipality**
- ◆ **The Town of Oak Island needs to improve Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budgeting process particularly as it relates to maintenance of Town facilities, areas and parks**
- ◆ **Cooperate and collaborate with other local entities such as the City of Southport, the City of Boiling Spring Lakes, Brunswick County and St. James Plantation to develop a comprehensive and coordinated pedestrian and non-motorized vehicular transportation network that connects the Town of Oak Island to the other key governmental entities and locations within Brunswick County**
- ◆ **Cooperate and collaborate with other local entities such as the City of Southport, the City of Boiling Spring Lakes, Brunswick County and St. James Plantation to develop a comprehensive and coordinated greenway, blueway and open space system that connects the Town of Oak Island to the other key governmental entities and locations within Brunswick County**
- ◆ **Ensure the Town does all within its power to comply with and adhere to the standards and guidelines inherent in the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) principles and guidelines**



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## ❖ NEW PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS

- ◆ Additional full-time, professional Parks and Recreation Department staff are necessary to meet the current demand for parks, recreation and open programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks
- ◆ Additional full-time, professional Parks and Recreation Department staff are necessary to meet the future projected demand for parks, recreation and open programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department needs its own maintenance personnel



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## ❖ OBSTACLES TO ACCOMPLISHMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- ◆ Prioritizing is a difficult process and presents challenges
- ◆ Funding is a major obstacle to the accomplishment of the recommendations
- ◆ There appears to be a strong disconnect between the funding of projects and the actual allocation of funds to the projects
- ◆ Effective management is lacking



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- ◆ Management's thinking needs to be refreshed
- ◆ Management's thinking must be open-minded
- ◆ The Town's bureaucracy and bureaucratic system is an obstacle
- ◆ Town officials are often inflexible
- ◆ Town government is too centralized
- ◆ Town budget priorities are often unclear
- ◆ Small town politics is an obstacle
- ◆ There is a lack of leadership in the Town's government
- ◆ There is no solid Capital Improvements Plan (CIP budget)
- ◆ Parks and Recreation is not a high priority with the Town government



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ◆ There is a definite lack of communication between and among Town officials
- ◆ Town needs staff with special skills and expertise to assist with the budget and governing processes
- ◆ Town needs a media specialist



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## ❖ POTENTIAL METHODS FOR FUNDING THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ◆ State and Federal Grants
- ◆ CAMA Grants
- ◆ PARTY Grants
- ◆ Special Tax Payable by Renters—need to request local state legislators to sponsor such a tax
- ◆ User Fees
- ◆ Explore all and all tax options that are sustainable
- ◆ Create an endowment for Parks and Recreation
- ◆ Increase the Parks and Recreation Department portion of the Town's operating budget
- ◆ Use the Debt Service funds that are becoming available
- ◆ General Obligation Bond Referendum
- ◆ Property Tax Increase



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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Key comments and top ten (10) recommendations from the Focus Group session regarding the most critical issues facing the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department in a non-priority order are the need to:

- 1) Develop and enforce a Town philosophy and policy that "maintains the uniqueness of the island" which preserves the trees and other natural resources and provides additional nature programs particularly nature programs involving walking in the natural environment



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- 2) Emphasize the importance of land acquisition for parks, recreation and open space purposes by acquiring any and all undeveloped appropriate and suitable lands that are affordable and/or offer specific advantages for general parks, recreation and open space purposes; purchasing the Blue Water Point Motel & Marina Water Access Facility; maintaining and not selling or transferring the ownership of any oceanfront property currently owned by the Town of Oak Island; maintaining and not selling or transferring the ownership of any public land currently owned by the Town of Oak Island; and maintaining and not selling or transferring the ownership of any Town of Oak Island owned natural resources
- 3) Construct, operate and maintain a comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation center and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island and in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards, guidelines and principles



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- 4) Construct and maintain a comprehensive and coordinated greenway, blueway, open space, pedestrian and non-motorized vehicular transportation network that is based upon a modification, upgrade and expansion of the existing 2006 Town of Oak Island Bike Plan; emphasizes shade and protection from the sun and the natural elements; connects the Town of Oak Island to the other key governmental entities and locations within Brunswick County; and, has been coordinated with other local entities such as the City of Southport, the City of Boiling Spring Lakes, Brunswick County and St. James Plantation
- 5) Make the Parks and Recreation Department and its programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks a priority for the Town of Oak Island by modifying the existing Parks and Recreation Department user fee structure to give a better advantage to residents and developing a policy and procedure to allow the Parks and Recreation Department to collect and disperse its own user fees without the fees going into the Town's general fund
- 6) Expand the public beach and waterfront access amenities by constructing, operating and maintaining a new oceanfront beach Pavilion with restrooms and showers; constructing, operating and maintaining additional public facilities for showering and rising feet; constructing, operating and maintaining additional public crossovers and walkways to the oceanfront beach and the Town's other natural resources especially on the west end of the island; constructing, operating and maintaining additional public oceanfront beach access sites and facilities; and, constructing, operating and maintaining lifesaving stations at strategic locations along the oceanfront beach—such amenities should be in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards, guidelines and principles



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- 7) Improve the Town of Oak Island's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budgeting process particularly as it relates to maintenance of Town facilities, areas and parks by establishing a Parks and Recreation Department Maintenance Division within the existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department
- 8) Hire additional full-time, professional Parks and Recreation Department staff in order to meet the current and future demand for parks, recreation and open programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks
- 9) Expand program, services, event and activity opportunities and experiences by constructing, operating and maintaining two (2) additional tennis courts and expanding the overall tennis program by working with various state and national tennis organizations and associations to offer more structured tennis programs such as tournaments and clinics; improved and expanded marketing and maintenance the Par 3 Golf Course; and, providing a rental service for small sailboats



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- 10) Improve and enhance the existing Dog Parks while ensuring the Town of Oak Island remains a "dog friendly" municipality



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## **Community and Citizen Input on Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs and Priorities—Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey**

A survey instrument entitled “*Town of Oak Island Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment*” was developed and administered through a combined effort by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department staff (**Appendix F**). The survey instrument opened with the following: “The Town of Oak Island Town Council members, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Parks and Recreation Department staff are committed to sustaining and enhancing the overall quality of life for the citizens of Oak Island. The provision and operation of public parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks are important components of the Town’s immediate and long-range planning efforts. With this in mind, we need your input and assistance by completing this needs assessment survey! Information gathered here will be used to create the Town’s 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions. PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE SURVEY BY MARCH 15, 2019!!!!



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The survey instrument was distributed electronically via “Survey Monkey” and made available as a hard copy to all residents of the Town of Oak Island. A total of 1,352 individuals responded to the survey instrument. Of these 1,352 individuals, approximately seventy-five percent (78%) or 1,061 individuals stated they “Resided within the Town of Oak Island town limits.” The official 2010 US Census Population for the Town of Oak Island was 6,783 residents. The 1,061 individuals completing the survey who stated they resided within the Town of Oak Island town limits represents a response rate of approximately 15.6% compared to the 2010 official US Census. The 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates calculate the population for the Town of Oak Island as 7,780 residents. The 1,061 individuals completing the survey who stated they resided within the Town of Oak Island town limits then represents a response rate of approximately 13.6%. Both response rates give the survey results a highly acceptable degree of statistical accuracy and validity. As a result of this statistical accuracy, the survey results provide a confirmation of the community’s desires, wants, needs for parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks as expressed in the public meetings, interviews and focus group session.

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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One thousand three hundred and thirty-five (1,335) individuals responded to the “Resident Status” question with 694 or approximately 52% of the 1,335 responding “Full-Time/Permanent resident; own my home/place of residence.” Four hundred and fifty-nine (459) or approximately 34% of the 1,335 responded “Part-Time Resident; own my homeplace of residence.”

One thousand one hundred and fifty-four (1,154) individuals responded to the question “How long have you resided in the Town of Oak Island?”. Two hundred and thirty-one (231) or approximately 20% responded, “less than 2 years”; 520 or approximately 45% responded, “at least 2 years but less than 10”; 238 or approximately 21% responded, “at least 10 years but less than 20; and, 165 or approximately 14% responded, “20 years or longer”.

One thousand two hundred and forty (1,240) individuals responded to the question “What is your gender?”. Four hundred nineteen (419) of the 1,240 or 34% were Male and 821 of the 1,420 or 66% were “Female.” When asked, “Which of the following best describes your household?”, 1,246 individuals responded. Four hundred and seventy-one (471) or approximately 38% responded, “Retired, no children at home”; 403 or approximately 32% responded, “Couple with no children at home”; 224 or approximately 18% responded, “Couple with children at home”; 66 or approximately 5% responded, “Other”; 62 or approximately 5% responded, “Single with no children at home”; and, 20 or approximately 2% responded, “Single with children at home”. The data from the Online survey was analyzed and synthesized along with other information to provide guidance and direction in the establishment of the final ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan.***



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

The information discussed and collected from the survey data is summarized below:

✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

◆ *(Q9) One thousand two hundred and thirty-seven (1,237) individuals responded to the question, "Which of the following recreational programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department have you or any members of your household participated in during the last 12 months? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)." A tally reveals the top nineteen (19) responses are:*

- 1) Farmers & Artisans Market—630 responses
- 2) Summer Concert Series—514 responses
- 3) Mardi Gras Festival—372 responses
- 4) Fitness Center—332 responses
- 5) Beach Day—324 responses
- 6) Tree Lighting—281 responses
- 7) Sea Turtle Programs—258 responses
- 8) Arts by the Shore—212 responses
- 9) Exercise Classes—209 responses
- 10) Community Center Activities—209 responses
- 11) Christmas Programs—204 responses
- 12) I/We haven't participated in any programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department—171 responses
- 13) Yoga Classes—168 responses
- 14) Easter Events—157 responses
- 15) Nature Programs—144 responses
- 16) Fishing Seminars—120 responses
- 17) Halloween Events—115 responses
- 18) Kayak Trips—104 responses
- 19) Nature Trips—101 responses

*These responses indicate Town of Oak Island residents have been most likely to participate in large-scale community and family events and activities and fitness and wellness programs and services. The number of respondents selecting each of the listed options is included in Appendix G.*



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- ◆ *(Q10) One thousand two hundred and fifty-two (1,252) individuals responded to the question, "How frequently have you or any members of your household participated in the above programs, services, events and activities during the last 12 months?" A tally reveals the responses are:*
  - 1) Rarely (1 – 5)—414 responses (33%)
  - 2) Sometimes (6 – 10)—389 responses (31%)
  - 3) Often (More than 10)—262 responses (21%)
  - 4) Never (0)—187 responses (15%)

Frequency of Participation	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
Rarely (1 – 5)	33%	414
Sometimes (6 – 10)	31%	389
Often (More than 10)	21%	262
Never (0)	15%	187

- ◆ *(Q11) Eight hundred and one (801) individuals from a possible 990 responded to the question, "Please specify why you indicated "Never", "Rarely" or "Sometimes" to the previous question (Q10)." A tally reveals the responses center around the following themes:*

- 1) Too busy working
- 2) Just not interested in the offerings



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- 3) Do not live in Oak Island full-time
- 4) Programs, services, events and activities are offered at inconvenient times
- 5) Only in Oak Island occasionally and for short periods of time
- 6) Busy with other activities and interests



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- 7) Have not been aware the programs, services, events and activities were even offered

*The actual responses to Q11 are listed in Appendix H.*

♦ **(Q12)** *One thousand and eighty-five (1,085) individuals responded to the question, “Which of the following recreational camps offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department have you or any members of your household participated in during the last 12 months? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY).” A tally reveals the top ten (10) responses are:*

- 1) I/We haven’t participated in any recreational camps offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department—991 responses
- 2) Fishing Camp—18 responses



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- 3) Pickleball Camp—18 responses



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- 4) Sailing Camp—13 responses



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- 5) Young Artist Camp—10 responses

- 6) Science Camp—8 responses

- 7) Golf Camp—8 responses



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- 8) Splish Splash Camp—8 responses

- 9) Animal Planet Camp—6 responses

- 10) Mystery Fun Camp—6 responses

*These responses indicate Town of Oak Island residents, if they do participate in the Town sponsored summer camps, have been most likely to participate in outdoor related camps, sports camps and educational camps. The number of respondents selecting each of the listed options in Q12 is included in Appendix I.*

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

♦ (Q13) *One thousand one hundred and eighty-five (1,185) individuals responded to the question, "How frequently have you or any members of your household participated in the above recreational camps during the last 12 months?" A tally reveals the responses are:*

- 1) **Never (0)**—1,078 responses (91%)
- 2) **Rarely (1 – 5)**—65 responses (5%)
- 3) **Sometimes (6 – 10)**—23 responses (2%)
- 4) **Often (More than 10)**—19 responses (2%)

Frequency of Participation	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
Never (0)	91%	1,078
Rarely (1 – 5)	5%	65
Sometimes (6 – 10)	2%	23
Often (More than 10)	2%	19

♦ (Q14) *Nine hundred and fifty-six (956) individuals from a possible 1,166 responded to the question, "Please specify why you indicated "Never", "Rarely" or "Sometimes" to the previous question (Q13)." A tally reveals the responses center around the following themes:*

- 1) **Too busy/Work full time**
- 2) **No children/No children living in the household/No young children**
- 3) **Not interested/No Interest/Don't apply to me/Not geared for me**
- 4) **Not a full-time resident**
- 5) **Part-time resident**
- 6) **Do not actually spend much time at Oak Island**
- 7) **Time conflicts/Scheduling conflicts**



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- 8) **Not in town during the summer**
- 9) **Too busy participating in other activities during the summer**
- 10) **Not aware the camps even existed/Did not know about them**



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- 11) **Not for my age group**
- 12) **New to the island**
- 13) **Spend summertime at the beach, fishing or boating**
- 14) **Too old for camps**
- 15) **Not interested in camps**

*The actual responses to Q14 are listed in Appendix J.*

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

♦ (Q15) One thousand one hundred and twenty-four (1,124) individuals responded to the question, "In your opinion, what are the most important NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and activities the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department needs to provide in the future? (MARK ONLY UP TO FIVE)." A tally reveals the top fourteen (14) responses are:

- 1) Beach Music Festival—560 responses
- 2) Food Truck Rodeo—379 responses
- 3) Movies in the Park—376 responses



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- 4) 24-Hour Fitness Center—296 responses
- 5) Kayak Trips—267 responses
- 6) Quiet Beach Access—228 responses
- 7) Walking Clubs—197 responses
- 8) Cooking Classes—184 responses
- 9) Adult Pickleball Camp—158 responses
- 10) "Other"—141 responses
- 11) Adult Sailing Camp—135 responses
- 12) Dance Programs—130 responses
- 13) Golf Lessons—113 responses
- 14) Teen Programs—106 responses

<i>Most Important Program/Service/Activity</i>	<i>Percentage of Respondents</i>	<i>Number of Respondents</i>
<i>Beach Music Festival</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>560</i>
<i>Food Truck Rodeo</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>379</i>
<i>Movies in the Park</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>376</i>
<i>24-Hour Fitness Center</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>296</i>
<i>Kayak Trips</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>267</i>
<i>Quiet Beach Access</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>228</i>
<i>Walking Clubs</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>197</i>
<i>Cooking Classes</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>184</i>
<i>Adult Pickleball Camp</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>158</i>
<i>"Other"</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>141</i>
<i>Adult Sailing Camp</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>135</i>
<i>Dance Programs</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>130</i>
<i>Golf Lessons</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>113</i>
<i>Teen Programs</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>106</i>

*These responses indicate Town of Oak Island residents primarily want programs, services, events and activities that are community-wide, family oriented, outdoor water-related, self-improvement related, and sports and fitness related. Only 68 or 6% of the respondents stated, "It is my opinion the Town does not need to provide any NEW and/or ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events or activities". The number of respondents selecting each of the options listed on the survey in Q15 is included in **Appendix K**.*

*The "Other" responses to Q15 are listed in **Appendix L**.*

✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—FUNDING PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ *(Q16) One thousand one hundred and eighty-four (1,124) individuals responded to the question, "Would you support these NEW and/or ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and/or activities identified in the previous question (Q15) if they were funded through reasonable and consistent user fees?" The responses are:*
  - *85% responded they would support the funding through reasonable and consistent user fees (Yes)—960 responses*
  - *15% responded they would not support the funding through reasonable and consistent user fees (No)—164 responses*



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*These responses provide an excellent window into the funding aspirations of the residents of the Town of Oak Island for any new and/or additional programs, services, events and activities provided by the town. The 85% affirmative response to funding these new and/or additional programs, services, events and activities through reasonable and consistent user fees clearly indicates the citizens will support and want new and/or additional programs, services, events and activities provided these programs, services, events and activities are offered on a "pay as you go" basis.*



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- ◆ **(Q17A) Eight hundred and eighty-one (881) individuals responded to the question, "Would you support these NEW and/or ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and/or activities identified in the previous question (Q16) if the user fee was \$50 or less?" The response was:**
  - **88% responded they would support the funding if the user fee was \$50 or less (Yes)—771 responses**



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- ◆ **(Q17B) Eight hundred and eighty-one (881) individuals responded to the question, "Would you support these NEW and/or ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and/or activities identified in the previous question (Q16) if the user fee was \$51 - \$100?" The response was:**
  - **11% responded they would support the funding if the user fee was \$51 - \$100 (Yes)—97 responses**



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- ◆ **(Q17C) Eight hundred and eighty-one (881) individuals responded to the question, "Would you support these NEW and/or ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and/or activities identified in the previous question (Q16) if the user fee was \$101 or more?" The response was:**
  - **1% responded they would support the funding through reasonable and consistent user fees (Yes)—13 responses**



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## ✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS

♦ *(Q18) One thousand and fifty-three (1,053) individuals responded to the question, "Which of the following Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department recreational facilities, areas and parks have you or any members of your household visited or used in the last 12 months? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)". Specific responses are:*

- 74% visited or used Middleton Park
- 39% visited or used Bill Smith Park
- 5% visited or used Kevin Bell Skate Park
- 24% visited or used Heron Lookout
- 14% visited or used the 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park
- 12% visited or used May Moore Park
- 14% visited or used the Yaupon Park
- 72% visited or used The Point
- 13% visited or used Templeton Park
- 44% visited or used Veterans Park
- 26% visited or used Register Park/Nature Park/Dot Kelly Butterfly Garden
- 28% visited or used the Crossover Trail at 9<sup>th</sup> Place SE
- 11% visited or used the 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock
- 11% visited or used the 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock
- 8% visited or used the Commissioner's Observation Park
- 21% visited or used the Oak Island Par Three at South Harbor
- 20% visited or used the Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch
- 4% stated "I/We have not visited or used any of these Town of Oak Island recreational facilities, areas and parks during the last 12 months"

Facilities, Areas and Parks	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
Middleton Park	74%	782
The Point	72%	753
Veterans Park	44%	463
Bill Smith Park	39%	412
Crossover Trail at 9 <sup>th</sup> Place SE	28%	292
Register Park/Nature Park/Dot Kelly Butterfly Garden	26%	271
Heron Lookout	24%	248
Oak Island Par Three at South Harbor	21%	226
Tidal Waves Kayak & Canoe Launch	20%	210
57 <sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park	14%	150
Yaupon Park	14%	144
Templeton Park	13%	136
May Moore Park	12%	128
78 <sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock	11%	111
30 <sup>th</sup> Place West Dock	11%	111
Commissioner's Observation Park	8%	88
Kevin Bell Skate Park	5%	49

✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—FUNDING FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS**

♦ *(Q19) One thousand and twenty (1,020) individuals responded to the question, “Which of these funding sources would you support to pay for NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL recreational facilities, areas and parks? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY).” Specific responses are:*

- 89% responded they would support the funding through Grants—846 responses
- 75% responded they would support the funding through Private Sources—767 responses
- 28% responded they would support the funding through a General Obligation Bond Referendum—289 responses
- 19% responded they would support the funding through a Property Tax Increase—193 responses

Funding Source	Percentage of “Yes” Respondents	Number of “Yes” Respondents
<i>Grants</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>846</i>
<i>Private Sources</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>767</i>
<i>General Obligation Bond Referendum</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>289</i>
<i>Property Tax Increase</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>193</i>

*The responses to the question regarding funding new and/or additional recreational facilities, areas and parks provide an excellent window into the funding aspirations of the residents of the Town of Oak Island for any new recreational facilities, areas and parks provided by the Parks and Recreation Department in the future. Neither the General Obligation Bond Referendum nor the Property Tax Increase option received more than 28% affirmative response. This is very important information for the Town of Oak Island administrators to have available and seems to eliminate these 2 options as possible near future funding sources. However, at least 75% of the respondents affirm the use of Grants and Private Sources as funding options. Both funding sources offer the Town of Oak Island significant flexibility and incentive. These responses are very encouraging and give the Town of Oak Island significant budgetary flexibility and leaves open multiple funding options and sources, particularly state and federal grant sources.*

Survey respondents were asked to utilize a scale of 1 – 7 to indicate his or her agreement or disagreement with a series of eight (8) statements with “1” indicating “Totally Disagree” and “7” indicating “Totally Agree.”

✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—SATISFACTION WITH VARIETY OF PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ *(Q20A) One thousand and forty-two individuals (1,042) responded to the statement “The VARIETY of programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is appropriate”. The responses are:*
  - “1” (Totally Disagree)—23 responses (2%)
  - “2”—31 responses (3%)
  - “3”—78 responses (8%)
  - “4”—201 responses (19%)
  - “5”—265 responses (25%)
  - “6”—224 responses (22%)
  - “7” (Totally Agree)—220 responses (21%)

Approximately sixty-eight percent (68%) or 709 of the 1,042 respondents marked either a “5”, “6” or “7” to the statement which indicates a strong positive level of satisfaction with the variety of programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation. That **number increases to 87% if a “4” response is included** which indicates only 13% of the respondents expressed some level of dissatisfaction. **The weighted average is 5.14.**

<i><b>Rating</b></i>	<i><b>Percentage of Respondents</b></i>	<i><b>Number of Respondents</b></i>
<i><b>1 (Totally Disagree)</b></i>	<i><b>2%</b></i>	<i><b>23</b></i>
<i><b>2</b></i>	<i><b>3%</b></i>	<i><b>31</b></i>
<i><b>3</b></i>	<i><b>8%</b></i>	<i><b>78</b></i>
<i><b>4</b></i>	<i><b>19%</b></i>	<i><b>201</b></i>
<i><b>5</b></i>	<i><b>25%</b></i>	<i><b>265</b></i>
<i><b>6</b></i>	<i><b>22%</b></i>	<i><b>224</b></i>
<i><b>7 (Totally Agree)</b></i>	<i><b>21%</b></i>	<i><b>220</b></i>



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✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—SATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ *(Q20B) One thousand and thirty (1,030) individuals responded to the statement “The QUALITY of programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is appropriate”. The responses are:*
  - “1” (Totally Disagree)—17 responses (2%)
  - “2”—29 responses (3%)
  - “3”—60 responses (6%)
  - “4”—169 responses (16%)
  - “5”—264 responses (26%)
  - “6”—250 responses (24%)
  - “7” (Totally Agree)—241 responses (23%)

*Approximately eighty-one percent (73%) or 755 of the 1,030 respondents marked either a “5”, “6” or “7” to the statement which indicates a strong positive level of satisfaction with the quality of programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department. That number increases to 89% if a “4” response is included which indicates only 11% of the respondents expressed some level of dissatisfaction. The weighted average is 5.30.*

Rating	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
1 (Totally Disagree)	2%	17
2	3%	29
3	6%	60
4	16%	169
5	26%	264
6	24%	250
7 (Totally Agree)	23%	241

QUALITY

✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—SATISFACTION WITH FEES CHARGED FOR THE PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ *(Q20C) One thousand and twenty-three (1,023) individuals responded to the statement “The FEES charged for the programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department are appropriate”. The responses are:*
  - “1” (Totally Disagree)—26 responses (3%)
  - “2”—26 responses (3%)
  - “3”—45 responses (4%)
  - “4”—182 responses (18%)
  - “5”—209 responses (20%)
  - “6”—244 responses (24%)
  - “7” (Totally Agree)—291 responses (28%)

*Approximately seventy-two percent (72%) or 744 of the 1,023 respondents marked either a “5”, “6” or “7” to the statement which indicates a strong positive level of satisfaction with the fees charged for the programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island. That number increases to 90% if a “4” response is included which indicates only 10% of the respondents expressed some level of dissatisfaction. The weighted average is 5.39.*

<b>Rating</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<b>1 (Totally Disagree)</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>209</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>244</b>
<b>7 (Totally Agree)</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>291</b>



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✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—SATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF THE FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS

- ◆ *(Q20D) One thousand and thirty-eight (1,038) individuals responded to the statement "I am satisfied with the QUALITY of facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department". The responses are:*
  - "1" (Totally Disagree)—34 responses (3%)
  - "2"—59 responses (6%)
  - "3"—88 responses (9%)
  - "4"—179 responses (17%)
  - "5"—251 responses (24%)
  - "6"—227 responses (22%)
  - "7" (Totally Agree)—200 responses (19%)

*Approximately sixty-five percent (65%) or 678 of the 1,038 respondents marked either a "5", "6" or "7" to the statement which indicates a positive level of satisfaction with the quality of the facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks. That **number increases to 82% if a "4" response is included** which indicates only 18% of the respondents expressed some level of dissatisfaction. **The weighted average is 4.99.***

Rating	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
1 (Totally Disagree)	3%	34
2	6%	59
3	9%	88
4	17%	179
5	24%	251
6	22%	227
7 (Totally Agree)	19%	200



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✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—BIKE FRIENDLY/A SAFE PLACE TO BIKE**

- ◆ *(Q20E) One thousand and thirty-nine (1,039) individuals responded to the statement “I believe the Town of Oak Island is bike friendly/a safe place to bike”. The responses are:*
  - “1” (Totally Disagree)—85 responses (8%)
  - “2”—110 responses (11%)
  - “3”—119 responses (12%)
  - “4”—170 responses (16%)
  - “5”—171 responses (16%)
  - “6”—207 responses (20%)
  - “7” (Totally Agree)—177 responses (17%)

**Approximately fifty-three (53%) or 555 of the 1,039 respondents** marked either a “5”, “6” or “7” to the statement which indicates a low level of satisfaction with the ability to bike safely in the Town of Oak Island. ***That number only increases to 69% if a “4” response is included*** which indicates 31% of the respondents expressed a level of dissatisfaction. ***The weighted average is 4.58.***



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Rating	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
1 (Totally Disagree)	8%	85
2	11%	110
3	12%	119
4	16%	170
5	16%	171
6	20%	207
7 (Totally Agree)	17%	177



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✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—ACCESSIBLE PLACE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS

- ◆ *(Q20F) One thousand and fourteen (1,014) individuals responded to the statement “I believe the Town of Oak Island is an accessible place for persons with disabilities and other special needs”. The responses are:*
  - “1” (Totally Disagree)—62 responses (6%)
  - “2”—93 responses (9%)
  - “3”—135 responses (14%)
  - “4”—246 responses (24%)
  - “5”—213 responses (21%)
  - “6”—152 responses (15%)
  - “7” (Totally Agree)—113 responses (11%)

*Approximately forty-seven percent (47%) or 478 of the 1,014 respondents marked either a “5”, “6” or “7” to the statement which indicates a very low level of satisfaction with the Town of Oak Island’s accessible for persons with disabilities and other special needs. That number does increase to 71% if a “4” response is included which indicates 29% of the respondents expressed a level of dissatisfaction. The weighted average is 4.41.*

Rating	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
1 (Totally Disagree)	6%	62
2	9%	93
3	14%	135
4	24%	246
5	21%	213
6	15%	152
7 (Totally Agree)	11%	113



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✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—EXISTING FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS MEET THE NEEDS OF THE MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD

- ◆ *(Q20G) One thousand and forty-two (1,042) individuals responded to the statement “I believe the existing facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of my household”. The responses are:*
  - “1” (Totally Disagree)—27 responses (2%)
  - “2”—59 responses (5%)
  - “3”—102 responses (10%)
  - “4”—184 responses (18%)
  - “5”—216 responses (21%)
  - “6”—237 responses (23%)
  - “7” (Totally Agree)—217 responses (21%)

Approximately sixty-five percent (65%) or 670 of the 1,042 respondents marked either a “5”, “6” or “7” to the statement which indicates a level of satisfaction with the belief the existing facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of the household. That **number increases to 83% if a “4” response is included** which indicates 17% of the respondents expressed a level of dissatisfaction. **The weighted average is 5.02.**

Rating	Percentage of Respondents	Number of Respondents
<b>1 (Totally Disagree)</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>216</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>237</b>
<b>7 (Totally Agree)</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>217</b>

“MEETING YOUR NEEDS”

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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—EXISTING PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES MEET THE NEEDS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD**

- ◆ *(Q20H) One thousand and thirty-seven (1,037) individuals responded to the statement "I believe the existing programs, services, events, and activities provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of my household". The responses are:*
  - "1" (Totally Disagree)—27 responses (2%)
  - "2"—59 responses (6%)
  - "3"—99 responses (10%)
  - "4"—199 responses (19%)
  - "5"—238 responses (23%)
  - "6"—218 responses (21%)
  - "7" (Totally Agree)—197 responses (19%)

*Approximately sixty-three percent (63%) or 653 of the 1,037 respondents marked either a "5", "6" or "7" to the statement which indicates a significant level of satisfaction with the belief the existing programs, services, events and activities provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of the household. **That number increases to 82% if a "4" response is included** which indicates only 18% of the respondents expressed a level of dissatisfaction. **The weighted average is 4.96.***

<b>Rating</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<b>1 (Totally Disagree)</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>238</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>218</b>
<b>7 (Totally Agree)</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>197</b>

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✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—IMPORTANCE OF THE TOWN OF OAK ISLAND PROVIDING NEW AND/OR IMPROVED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS**

- ◆ *(Q20I) One thousand and thirty-eight (1,038) individuals responded to the statement “I believe it is important the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department provides new and/or improved recreational facilities, areas, and parks”. The responses are:*
  - “1” (Totally Disagree)—43 responses (4%)
  - “2”—47 responses (4%)
  - “3”—57 responses (6%)
  - “4”—146 responses (14%)
  - “5”—217 responses (21%)
  - “6”—230 responses (22%)
  - “7” (Totally Agree)—298 responses (29%)

**Approximately sixty-one percent (72%) or 745 of the 1,038 respondents** marked either a “5”, “6” or “7” to the statement which indicates a positive level of satisfaction with the belief it is important the Town of Oak Island provides new and/or improved recreational facilities, areas, and parks. That **number increases to 86% if a “4” response is included** which indicates only 14% of the respondents expressed the opinion it is not important for the Town of Oak Island to provide new and/or improved recreational facilities, areas and parks. **The weighted average is 5.29.**

<b>Rating</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<b>1 (Totally Disagree)</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>217</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>7 (Totally Agree)</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>298</b>



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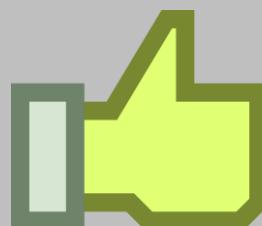
## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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*The responses to these nine (9) statements indicate the residents of the Town of Oak Island agree with eight (8) of the statements and are neutral on one (1) of the statements. There is no statement the residents disagreed with.*

### **AGREE:**

- 1) The variety of the programs, services, events and activities offered is appropriate (68% – 87% Agreement) (Q20A)**
- 2) The quality of the programs, services, events and activities offered is appropriate (73% – 89% Agreement) (Q20B)**
- 3) The fees charged for the programs, services, events and activities are appropriate (72% – 90% Agreement) (Q20C)**
- 4) I am satisfied with the quality of the facilities, areas and parks provided (65% – 82% Agreement) (Q20D)**
- 5) I believe the Town of Oak Island is bike friendly/a safe place to bike (53% – 69% Agreement) (Q20E)**
- 6) The existing facilities, areas and parks meet the needs of the members of my household (65% - 83% Agreement) (Q20G)**
- 7) The existing programs, services, events and activities meet the needs of the members of my household (63% - 82% Agreement) (Q20H)**
- 8) I believe it is important the Town of Oak Island provides new and/or additional recreational facilities, areas and parks (72% – 86% Agreement) (Q20I)**



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### **NEUTRAL:**

- 1) I believe the Town of Oak Island is an accessible place for persons with disabilities and other special needs (47% – 71% Agreement) (Q20F)**



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—DEPARTMENTAL OVERALL GRADE FOR WHETHER OR NOT PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, CAMPS, FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS MEET THE RESPONDENTS NEEDS**

◆ *(Q21) One thousand and fifty-seven (1,057) individuals responded to the statement, “The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department provides a variety of programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks. Using the scale below, please give an overall grade as to whether the programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks provided meet your needs and the needs of your household. (MARK ONLY ONE)”. The responses are:*

- Poor—2% (17 responses)
- Fair—7% (74 responses)
- Average—27% (288 responses)
- Good—48% (505 responses)
- Excellent—16% (173 responses)

*Approximately 91% of the respondents gave the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department an overall grade of “Average”, “Good” or “Excellent” in terms of whether the programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks meet his/her needs and the needs of his/her household. That is an outstanding rating by the respondents! 16% rated the Town “Excellent.” The highest rating was “Good” with 48%. Only 2% of the respondents rated the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department “Poor.”*

<b>Rating on OVERALL QUALITY</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<i>Good</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Average</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>74</i>
<i>Excellent</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>288</i>
<i>Fair</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>505</i>
<i>Poor</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>173</i>



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✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—METHODS FOR RAISING ALL RATINGS TO Q21 TO AT LEAST A “GOOD” RATING

- ◆ *(Q22) Two hundred and ninety-nine (299) out of a possible 379 individuals responded to the question, “What would it take to raise your rating to the previous question (Q21) to at least “GOOD?”. The top responses in priority order are:*
  - 1) Upgrade, improve and maintain the existing facilities, areas and parks
  - 2) Provide bike lanes, walking lanes, sidewalks and crosswalks as part of a safe and effective bicycle, pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle transportation network and system
  - 3) Improve and increase the communication, marketing and advertising of all programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks
  - 4) Improve the existing recreation center through a total renovation of the existing facility or the demolition of the existing facility and the construction of a new, improved and enlarged facility with a gymnasium, pool and 24-hour, 7-day a week access
  - 5) Offer additional programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm and keep the Recreation Center open 24-hours a day, 7-days a week in order to accommodate working individuals
  - 6) Ensure compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and improve handicapped accessibility to all programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks including the oceanfront beach
  - 7) Provide additional water access to the Intracoastal Waterway and Davis Canal for kayaking, canoeing, standup paddle boarding, fishing and wildlife observation
  - 8) Provide improved and additional public access sites to the oceanfront beach
  - 9) Provide an indoor community swimming pool
  - 10) Renovate and improve the existing Cabana

*A full listing of responses to Q22 is included in Appendix M.*



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*The responses to this question provide valuable information regarding methods the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department staff can utilize to raise respondents' overall ratings as to whether the programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks provided meet their needs from "Average" or below to "Good" or "Excellent". The responses indicate the ratings can be best raised by:*

- 1) **Upgrading, improving and maintaining the existing town facilities, areas and parks**
- 2) **Providing safe and enjoyable biking, walking and pedestrian paths, trails, sidewalks and crosswalks to the town's facilities, areas and parks**
- 3) **Advertising and marketing existing programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks better and improving overall communication with the public**
- 4) **Improving the existing Recreation Center through a total renovation of the existing facility or the demolition of the existing facility and the construction of a new, improved and enlarged facility with a gymnasium, pool and 24-hour, 7-day a week access**
- 5) **Offering additional programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm in order to accommodate working individuals**
- 6) **Ensuring compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and improve handicapped accessibility to all programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks including the oceanfront beach**
- 7) **Providing increased and expanded public access to the natural environment and waters in and around the Town of Oak Island, particularly the oceanfront beach, the Atlantic Intracoastal Water and Davis Canal**
- 8) **Renovating and improving the existing Cabana**



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

✓ **INPUT IDENTIFICATION—BEST METHODS FOR INFORMING INDIVIDUALS ABOUT PROGRAM, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

♦ *(Q23) One thousand and five (1,005) individuals responded to the statement, "The best method/methods for informing me and the members of my household about upcoming and planned Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation programs, services, events and activities is/are. (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)". The responses are:*

- **Newspaper—37% (369 responses)**
- **Flyers—24% (239 responses)**
- **Calendar—25% (246 responses)**
- **Town Hall Sign—19% (194 responses)**
- **Town Website—53% (531 responses)**
- **Email—73% (735 responses)**
- **Facebook—60% (605 responses)**
- **Text Message—24% (238 responses)**
- **Other—7% (69 responses)**

<b>Communication Method</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<b>Email</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>735</b>
<b>Facebook</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>605</b>
<b>Town Website</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>531</b>
<b>Newspaper</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>369</b>
<b>Calendar</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>246</b>
<b>Flyers</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>239</b>
<b>Text Message</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>238</b>
<b>Town Hall Sign</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>194</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>69</b>

*The responses to this question provide valuable information regarding methods the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation staff can utilize to communicate information regarding programs, services, events and activities to the residents. The four (4) most popular methods for communicating information as identified by the respondents are 1) Email (73%), 2) Facebook (60%), 3) the Town Website (53%), and 4) the Newspaper (37%). This requires the town to obtain the Email addresses and to "Friend" the residents of the Town of Oak Island in order to be successful.*



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*A full listing of the "Other" responses to Q23 is included in Appendix N.*

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—ONE THING NEEDED TO DO BETTER OR ONE FACILITY NEEDED TO ADD

- ◆ *(Q24) Seven hundred and ninety-one (791) individuals responded to the statement, "If you could tell the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department ONE thing, they need to do better, or ONE facility they need to add, it would be". The top responses in priority order are:*
  - 1) Provide a year-round community pool
  - 2) Provide a safe and comprehensive system of pedestrian, bike and non-motorized vehicular movement in and around the Town of Oak Island that includes sidewalks, crossovers, crosswalks, walking lanes, walking paths, bike lanes, bike paths, bike trails, walking programs and biking programs
  - 3) Upgrade and improve the existing Recreation Center or demolish the existing Recreation Center and construct a new and expanded comprehensive, multi-purpose Recreation Center
  - 4) Advertise and market existing programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks better
  - 5) Provide additional and improved beach access sites and amenities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards and regulations
  - 6) Provide additional kayak, canoe, standup paddleboard, small boat and fishing accesses and launches to the waters, creeks, sounds, marshes and canals within the town limits of the Town of Oak Island particularly to the Davis Canal and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway
  - 7) Provide additional public restrooms and showers and perform better maintenance on the existing public restrooms
  - 8) Offer programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm and provide 24-hour, 7-day a week access to the Recreation Center in order to accommodate working individuals
  - 9) Provide additional free public parking for Town of Oak Island residents and begin charging non-residents a parking fee
  - 10) Construct additional lighted tennis and pickleball courts and provide lights for the existing tennis and pickleball courts

*A full listing of responses to Q24 is included in Appendix O.*

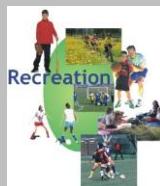


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✓ INPUT IDENTIFICATION—

- ◆ *(Q25) Five hundred and sixty-seven (567) individuals responded to the statement, "Please state any additional improvements/enhancements to current Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks that would improve/enhance your overall parks and recreation experience". The top responses are:*
- 1) Focus on updating and maintaining existing facilities, areas and parks
- 2) Provide a safe and comprehensive system of pedestrian, bike and non-motorized vehicular movement in and around the Town of Oak Island that includes sidewalks, crossovers, crosswalks, walking lanes, walking paths, bike lanes, bike paths, bike trails, walking programs and biking programs
- 3) Improve overall communication with the residents of the Town of Oak Island and advertise and market existing programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks better
- 4) Provide additional kayak, canoe, standup paddleboard, small boat and fishing accesses and launches to the waters, creeks, sounds, marshes and canals within the town limits of the Town of Oak Island particularly to Davis Canal and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway
- 5) Update and improve the existing Recreation Center or demolish the existing facility and construct of a new, improved and enlarged facility with a gymnasium, exercise room, pool and 24-hour, 7-day a week access
- 6) Provide a year-round community pool
- 7) Upgrade the existing public restrooms and outdoor showers and construct additional public restrooms and outdoor showers
- 8) Provide additional free parking for Town of Oak Island residents, particularly at The Point, and charge a parking fee to non-residents
- 9) Offer programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm and provide 24-hour, 7-day a week access to the Recreation Center in order to accommodate working individuals
- 10) Ensure that all programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards and regulations

*A full listing of responses to Q25 is included in Appendix P.*



## **SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT COMMENTS**

The public input revealed consistent results leading to the establishment of consistent themes throughout the various stages of the process (meetings with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; meetings with the Parks and Recreation Department staff; the formal public meeting; interviews, the focus group session; and, the survey). While each stage of the process was not identical to the others and some input stages identified stronger desires, wants and needs for specific programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks than others, the overall direction for future improvements and expansion of the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department was relatively parallel among all phases of the process. The priorities identified through public input were also consistent with the deficiencies and needs noted during the consultant's analysis, evaluation and assessment of the Town's current parks, recreation and open space system. The most consistent themes arising from the entire needs' assessment process are:

- ✓ **Need to provide a safe, reliable and comprehensive system and network of pedestrian, bike and non-motorized vehicular movement in and around the Town of Oak Island that includes sidewalks, crosswalks, walking lanes, walking paths, bike lanes, bike paths, bike trails, walking programs and biking programs**
- ✓ **Need to improve the overall communication, marketing and advertising of parks and recreation department programs, services, events and activities**
- ✓ **Need to provide increased and improved opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, small boats, fishing and standup paddleboard public access to the waters, sounds, creeks, marshes and canals in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island**
- ✓ **Upgrade and improve the existing Recreation Center or demolish the existing Recreation Center and construct a new and expanded comprehensive, multi-purpose Recreation Center**
- ✓ **Provide additional and improved beach access sites and amenities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards and regulations**
- ✓ **Offer programs, services, events and activities on weekends, holidays, before 8 am and after 5 pm and provide 24-hour, 7-day a week access to the Recreation Center in order to accommodate working individuals**
- ✓ **Provide additional free public parking for Town of Oak Island residents and begin charging non-residents a parking fee**
- ✓ **Provide additional public restrooms and showers and perform better maintenance on the existing public restrooms**
- ✓ **Construct additional lighted tennis and pickleball courts and provide lights for the existing tennis and pickleball courts**
- ✓ **Provide a year-round community pool**

## **REVIEW OF PREVIOUS COMMUNITY STUDIES AND ASSESSMENTS**

### **Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan Public Survey (2005)**

Public input for a proposed Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan was solicited at two (2) public meetings in June and August 2005. Participants were asked to complete a survey at these workshops. Eleven surveys, filled out by Oak Island residents, were returned for the following analysis. Results are presented here but because of the small sample, there is no statistical validity or significance. All respondents owned at least one bicycle and mostly cycle for recreation and exercise with safety being a top concern.

The questions asked at the public meetings are listed along with the specific participant responses:

- 1) Are you a resident of Oak Island or a visitor?

**All eleven (11) respondents to the Oak Island Bicycle Plan participant survey were Oak Island residents**

- 2) How many bicycles do you have in your household?

**All respondents owned between one (1) and six (6) bikes each. Seventy percent (70%) owned between two (2) and four (4). The average was 2.82 bikes**

- 3) How many times per month (on average) do you ride a bicycle for the following purposes?

**Eighty-two percent (82%) responded that recreation and exercise was one of the reasons they bicycled. Exercise and recreation also accounted for the highest number of total bicycle trips that respondents took per month—137**

- 4) Are there places you would like to be able to bike that you cannot at this time?

**The most common response was from Oak Island to Southport. Three (3) of the six (6) respondents identified this route as the place they would like to be able to bike but cannot at this time**

- 5) Which of these bicycle facilities would you like to use?

The responses were:

- ✓ Designated Bike Lanes—8 responses
- ✓ Paved Shoulders—5 responses
- ✓ Shared-Use—5 responses
- ✓ Wide Vehicle Travel Lanes—5 responses
- ✓ Vehicle Travel Lanes—3 responses
- ✓ Sidewalks—2 responses

## **OAK ISLAND BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PUBLIC SURVEY (2005)**

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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6) Please order this list of priorities according to the importance you place on each of them.

- ✓ **Maximizing safety for cyclists across the entire community—2.9 score out of a possible 4**
- ✓ **Protecting a few major travel corridors for cyclists—2 score out of a possible 4**
- ✓ **Maximizing bicycle usability in certain hubs around the community—2 score out of a possible 4**
- ✓ **Focusing bicycle modifications on roads already scheduled for repair—2 score out of a possible 4**

7) Which of the following factors plays a role in whether you ride your bike to a destination?

**Eleven (11) options were on the survey as possible factors that could affect whether the respondent rode their bike. All factors that applied could be chosen. The options were cost of other travel modes, availability of bike parking, travel time, theft/bike security, need for exercise, safety of route, traffic, bike availability, available showers, changing facilities and weather. Three of the options: bike availability, available shower and changing facilities were not chosen by any respondent. The top three choices were weather, traffic, and the safety of the route.**

8) Should public funds be used to improve bike transportation?

**All eleven (11) respondents agreed that public funds should be used to improve bicycle transportation**

9) Do you have any suggestions about specific programming or bicycle related policies that you would like to see enacted?

**Six (6) respondents gave suggestions about the future Bicycle Plan for Oak Island. The responses were:**

- ✓ **More signage**
- ✓ **Bike lanes going to NC Highway 211, Long Beach Road and West Beach Drive**
- ✓ **Creating bikeways along the water, the new bridge and along new sewer pipelines**
- ✓ **Adding public education on bicycle safety**
- ✓ **Cleaning debris on road shoulders**

## **OAK ISLAND BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PUBLIC SURVEY (2005)**

## **Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)**

In January 2005, the Town of Oak Island contracted with Greenways Incorporated (GWI) to create a Bicycle Transportation Plan for the Oak Island area that addresses all aspects of bicycling and provides recommendations for improvements. The project area encompasses the entire Oak Island municipal boundary that includes the main island and extends across the NC Highway 133 bridge to the airport and South Harbor area.

### **BENEFITS OF BICYCLING**

- ◆ **Transportation Benefits**
- ◆ **Increased Health and Fitness Benefits**
- ◆ **Environmental Improvements**
- ◆ **Economic Benefits**
- ◆ **Quality of Life**

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**—overarching goals and objectives that relate to bicycle usage in Oak Island were generated during four (4) steering committee meetings and two (2) public meetings

- ◆ Promote safe and effective bicycling in Oak Island for all types of resident and tourist cyclists and to promote the safe interaction of motorists and cyclists
- ◆ Reduce traffic congestion by creatively investing in attractive, convenient, and safe means for bicycle travel, and improving bicycle facilities
- ◆ Develop a system of designated island bicycle routes to connect destination points
- ◆ Create a bikeway network that is an integral part of the transportation system and provides an alternative means of transportation as well as recreation opportunities
- ◆ Provide system of safe and appropriate bicycle facilities and amenities for bicyclists
- ◆ Increase public awareness and education initiatives to promote the legal rights and responsibilities of bicyclists
- ◆ Improve the quality of life for Oak Island residents

### **VISION**—Create a safe and effective system of bicycle facilities that links together existing resources and destinations, allows for safe interaction between bicyclists and motorists, supports alternatives to automobile travel, increases recreation opportunities, and provides improved options for advancing the community's mobility, health, quality of life, and attractiveness to tourists

 **TRIP ATTRACTORS**—the most common category of bicycle trip attractors on Oak Island include:

- ◆ Places of Employment
- ◆ Parks
- ◆ Community and Recreation Centers
- ◆ Piers
- ◆ Beach Access Points
- ◆ Trails
- ◆ Tourist Destinations
- ◆ Shopping Locations

 **EXISTING BICYCLE FACILITIES**

- ◆ Oak Island Drive has a wide easement on most of the south side, with grass, plantings, and a five-foot sidewalk used by both pedestrians and bicyclists. This does not provide adequate space for both users. Sidewalk bicycling is dangerous here because of the numerous crossing roadways and driveways coming into Oak Island Drive
- ◆ Beach Drive from E. 58th Street to Middleton Ave., has four-foot shoulders on both sides of the two-lane road. From Middleton to W. 30th, there is no shoulder; the shoulder section continues only on the north side from W. 30th to Kings Lynn Drive. There is no striping or signage for bicycle usage but there are occasional pedestrian signs. The Town created a plan recently for four-foot shoulders to extend from Middleton Avenue west all the way to The Point on both sides. This includes bicycle signage and pavement markings. The project began construction in 2005
- ◆ The NC Highway 133 Intracoastal Waterway bridge has eight-foot shoulders but only a 24" high wall that does not meet the AASHTO 54" minimum requirements. The Second Bridge to Oak Island includes a six-foot shoulder on each side with a 54" bicycle-safe rail (There will be no pavement markings for bicycling upon construction). The Middleton Bridge over the Davis Canal will be replaced with construction scheduled to be completed before 2010. Its design calls for an eight-foot shoulder, five-and-a-half-foot sidewalk between the travel lane and the bridge rail on one side, and an eight-foot shoulder with bicycle-safe railing on the other. Again, there will be no official designation, signing, or pavement markings for bicycle lanes but the facilities will be in place on both bridges

## **Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)**

- **EXISTING PLANS, PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND ORDINANCES**—Bicycle planning in Oak Island is shaped by planning and project development at many levels. The Federal Government produces standards and guidelines that are then applied at the state, regional, and local levels. The State also produces long-range policy, project, and funding documents that are based on local-level needs and state-level interests and capacities. Of all the plans, guidelines, and strategies, the most important documents for guiding this process are: NCDOT's Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan (updated in 2004), North Carolina Bicycle Facilities Planning and Design Guidelines, NCDOT Transportation Plan Technical Report for Oak Island, and the Corridor Land Use and Development Plan for the Second Bridge to Oak Island
  - ◆ [NCDOT Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan \(2004\)](#)—the latest version of this document calls for connectivity improvements between different modes of transportation as well as the development of new opportunities for multimodal transportation. To achieve this, the plan recommends a larger financial investment in bicycle facilities than has historically been available. It also promotes the idea of strengthening the importance of community-level goals in transportation planning and “mainstreaming” the development of bicycle facilities. This ensures that bicycle facility planning is considered early in the project planning process and is a regular part of transportation activities across the state rather than a secondary consideration or overlooked component
  - ◆ [The North Carolina Bicycle Facilities Planning and Design Guidelines \(1994\)](#)—this is the primary guidebook for designing bicycle facilities in North Carolina. It includes recommendations for the bicycle planning process and then provides references to the AASHTO Design Guidelines and those of other states to recommend a set of guidelines that maximize safety, efficiency, and conformity of facilities. The document was created by the UNC Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) for the NCDOT Office of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation. Document appendices include excerpts from the MUTCD and State level bicycle policy and law

## Oak Island, North Carolina

# Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)

- ◆ NCDOT Transportation Plan Technical Report for Oak Island (1998)—created more specifically for Oak Island, this report indicates the importance of planning for increased tourist traffic and providing bicycle accommodations as one means of mitigating the problem. It recommends bicycle accommodations/routes for the following locations:
  - ✓ Both sides of Beach Drive from Middleton Avenue to its west end
  - ✓ Along Second Bridge to Oak Island
  - ✓ Along East Oak Island Dr. from NC 133 to Beach Road to SE 58th Street
  - ✓ Along NC 133 from NC 211 to the Intracoastal Waterway Bridge and from the south end of the Intracoastal Waterway Bridge to Caswell Beach Road
- ◆ Corridor Land Use and Development Plan for the Second Bridge to Oak Island (1998)—produced by the Town of Long Beach and Brunswick County, this plan reiterates the NCDOT's Statewide Transportation Plan concept that bikeways should be considered part of an intermodal transportation system and recommends the development of bicycle routes and facilities. It specifically addresses future land use and development policy regarding the areas affected by the future Second Bridge to Oak Island. It recommends that three types of bikeways be established: bike paths where easements or natural features provide that option, bike lanes along higher traffic volume streets, and shared roadways on low traffic volume residential streets. Specifically, it calls for 4' bicycle lanes on the bridge's "connector highway." It accentuates the importance of connectivity, calling for the option for every property owner to be able to ride a bicycle to all major destinations in the corridor. It also recommends secure bicycle storage at shopping areas and recreation facilities and appropriate, coordinated signage to designate bicycle facilities and provide directions
- ◆ Local Ordinances—a variety of local ordinances pertain to multi-modal transportation activity. Because the summer sees significantly larger crowds and traffic, speed limits are lowered from 45mph to 35mph from June-September on Dolphin and Beach Drives. This is an attempt to make conditions safer for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists

## Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)

- **COMMUNITY USAGE AND CONCERNS**—during the public meetings, citizens provided several bicycle route recommendations used in the bicycle network development process. Several needs were voiced including desires for:
  - ◆ More signage
  - ◆ Maintenance that includes debris removal on road shoulders
  - ◆ Connectivity of bicycle facilities
  - ◆ A dichotomy of ideas also surfaced between two types of recreational users: Skilled bicyclists preferred to be in the roadway environment while those less-skilled users believed bicyclists should be out of the roadway
- **THE BICYCLE NETWORK**—the Bicycle Network is a set of on and off-road corridors that create a system of safe and convenient bicycle facilities throughout the island. The newly proposed network includes nearly 45 miles of new bicycle facilities. These facilities include bicycle lanes, signed-shared roadways, shared-use paths, and other bicycle accommodations. It is anticipated that the full network will be complete by 2020
  - ◆ Guiding Concepts
    - ✓ Residents and tourists, of all different skill levels, should be able to bike safely along the east-west routes of the island
    - ✓ North-south bicycle routes should provide safe crossings over Oak Island Drive and be determined mostly by trip attractors, existing facilities, and even spacing across the 12.6-mile island
    - ✓ Most of the network's roadway system should serve as connectors to important destinations
    - ✓ There should be bicycle access across the Intracoastal Waterway allowing safe bicycle entry into the island onto the mainland portion of the town's limits
    - ✓ A specific bicycle facility type should be specified for each roadway

## Oak Island, North Carolina

# Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)

## RECOMMENDED FACILITIES

- ◆ **Shared Roadways (No Special Bicycle Facilities)**—shared roadways are streets and roads where bicyclists can be served by sharing the travel lanes with motor vehicles. Usually, these are residential streets with low traffic volumes and/or low speeds, which do not need special bicycle accommodations in order to be bicycle friendly. Most of the residential north-south island roads fit into this category already. They do not require any new facilities and are not part of the proposed bicycle network. Example locations:
  - ✓ Most residential north-south roadways
  - ✓ Oak Island Drive
  - ✓ Holly Drive
- ◆ **Signed-Shared Roadways**—a signed-shared roadway is a shared roadway which has been designated with signage as a preferred route for bicycle use. Bicycle route signs can be posted on key routes to indicate to bicyclists that advantages exist to using these routes compared with alternative routes. The signs are used to officially designate bicycle routes, show the proper direction for cycling on the road, and provide a visual cue that bikes are welcome on the road. These are shared roadways that provide important connections to other recommended bicycle facilities and destinations in the region. Because they do not require paint, these facilities are also less expensive than bike lanes. Proposed locations:
  - ✓ Yacht and Dolphin Drives
  - ✓ Yaupon Way
  - ✓ E. 9th, E. 20th, E. 30<sup>th</sup> and E. 47<sup>th</sup> Streets
  - ✓ Middleton Park area
  - ✓ Barbee Street
- ◆ **Wide Paved Shoulders**—paved shoulder space improves the safety and comfort of bicyclists. A minimum width of four feet is recommended. On many roadways, motor vehicle travel lanes can be narrowed to provide more shoulder space. According to the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities (1999), “where four-foot widths cannot be achieved, any additional shoulder width is better than none at all.” For instance, smaller shoulders may be necessary briefly in specific situations to provide continuity. Paved shoulders also improve safety for motor vehicles, prevent pavement damage to the travel lanes, and provide space for pedestrians. Bicycle route signage can also be posted for designation and directional guidance. Proposed locations:
  - ✓ None

- ◆ **Bike Lanes**—a bike lane is a portion of the roadway that has been designated by striping, signing, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use by bicyclists. Bike lanes are always located on both sides of the road (except one-way streets) and carry bicyclists in the same direction as adjacent motor vehicle traffic. The minimum width for a bicycle lane is four feet; five- and six-foot bike lanes are typical for collector and arterial roads. Bike lanes in the Oak Island proposed network are striped shoulders with designated markings for bicyclists. Proposed locations:
  - ✓ Middleton Avenue and Fish Factory Road
  - ✓ Oak Island and Beach Drives
- ◆ **Shared-Use Paths (Separated from the roadway right-of-way)**—shared-use paths are an important component of a bicycle and pedestrian transportation system. They can provide a high-quality bicycling experience in an environment that is protected from motor vehicle traffic because they are constructed in their own corridor, often within an open-space area. Shared-use paths can be paved and should be a minimum of ten-feet wide. Where high usage by a variety of users is anticipated, twelve feet is preferred. Width may be reduced to eight feet if there are physical or right-of-way constraints. Shared-use paths that are recommended in this Plan provide important connections that complement on-road bicycle facilities. Proposed locations:
  - ✓ Path along NC Highway 133 bridge
  - ✓ Path along north side of Intracoastal Waterway
- ◆ **Sidepaths**—sidepaths can provide a more comfortable place for beginning bicyclists and other people who are not comfortable riding on the road with traffic. Pedestrians also benefit from wide sidepaths. Sidepaths should be provided on both sides of roadways, when possible, separated from the roadway by as large of a buffer as possible. The minimum width should be ten feet. This option was recommended for Oak Island Drive because of an existing sidewalk, wide landscaped right-of-way (ROW), and double stop signs at north-south intersecting roads for both sidewalk and road traffic. It should be noted that there are numerous intersecting roads and driveways. Education and signage should be a part of this facility development to ensure safety of bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists. Sidewalks generally should not be designated as bike routes because of conflicts with turning vehicles at intersections. Even in locations with sidewalks, the long-term strategy should be to widen the road or narrow the lanes to provide additional space for bicyclists in on-road bike lanes or shoulders. Proposed locations:
  - ✓ Oak Island Drive and NC Highway 133/Country Club Drive



## KEY CORRIDORS AND AREAS

- ◆ **Eastern Oak Island**—covers the area from E. 40th Street eastward to the Town limits. It has the greatest concentration of commercial areas on the island and perhaps the most traffic, with the NC Highway 133 Intracoastal Waterway Bridge currently serving as the only entry point to the island.

On the north end, the scenic Elizabeth Drive-Yacht Drive corridor along the intracoastal waterway is currently well-used by bicyclists despite the lack of facilities or marked bicycle routes. Because this corridor runs along most of the island and generally only carries residential traffic, it provides an excellent opportunity for a signed route. It links such trip attractors as May Moore Park, Memorial Waterway Park, and the Nature Center.

Along E. Oak Island Drive lie the commercial areas with heavier traffic, and an existing sidewalk, mainly along the south side. Currently there are no bicycle facilities. There are two recommendations: 1) Additional concrete should be laid along the sidewalk to produce a ten-foot wide multi-use side path for bicyclists and pedestrians. Generally, there is adequate space despite some challenges in the commercial zones. 2) Creation of a minimum four-foot shoulder/bike lane adjacent to the main road. Additional pavement will be necessary given the road's current 32' width (10.5' travel lanes and 11' turn lane). The side path should end at E. 58th Street with the bike lanes continuing through the commercial areas to the intersection with Country Club Drive. Adequate signage, reminding people to drive slowly and share the road, would be necessary to create a safe bicycle area. These signs should be placed strategically so that they do not add sign clutter to the commercial areas.

On the southern end, Beach Drive provides scenic views and beach accesses. Beach Drive, from E. 40th Street eastward to its temporary end at E. 58th Street, has four-foot-wide paved shoulders in place on both sides. Pavement markings and bicycle route signage should be installed here to create a bike lane. Beach Dr. is discontinued between E. 58th St. and 74th Street. At this point, bike lanes should continue along 58th St. to Oak Island Dr., providing the opportunity to connect into bicycle lanes along Oak Island Dr. At E. 74th Street, a signed bicycle route should link back to Beach Dr. where minimum four-foot bicycle lanes should be installed to the end of Beach Dr. at 79th St. In order to maintain connectivity, the Beach Dr. bicycle route should continue north briefly on 79th St. and then east on Live Oak Drive to Country Club Drive. Because of low traffic in this area, only route directional signage would be necessary along

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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these segments. From there, Country Club Drive leaves the Oak Island limits as a signed route giving bicyclists options to continue to Caswell Beach or over to Yaupon Way.

Dolphin Drive, a residential road running parallel and to the north of Beach Drive should be denoted as a signed bicycle route shared roadway and should also see reduced speed limits regardless of season. This would provide the option for cyclists to move off the main traffic road, Beach Drive. Share-the-Road signage may be necessary near blind spots and significant intersections.

Yaupon Way, a pleasant corridor through the Oak Island Golf Club community provides a connection from the Beach Drive extension - Country Club Drive bicycle route back to the NC Highway 133 bridge. This should be a signed route shared roadway. Special attention should be given to a bicycle-safe crossing over NC Highway 133 to Elizabeth Drive which would include signage warning motorists of bicycles crossing.

A recreational bike path should be installed along an existing, overgrown, and damaged concrete path that extends from Yaupon Way north underneath and parallel to the Intracoastal Waterway Bridge, all the way to the waterfront. Excellent views of marsh areas and waterfowl provide the opportunity for a nature bicycle path.

A side path is recommended along NC Highway 133/Country Club Drive from Yaupon Way southward to the intersection of Live Oak Dr. and Country Club Drive. This portion of State-maintained road has 80' ROW and would be an attractive feature of the bicycle system as automobile traffic enters the island.

The main north-south connections through the east side of Oak Island should be on 47th, 58th, and Barbee Streets. These north-south connectors are evenly spaced and were chosen to provide connectivity to trip attractors. These routes should be designated with directional signs. Bicycle crossing signs should be provided along Oak Island Dr. at those intersections. 47th St. provides a connection to the major recreation areas on the island including ballfields, skate park, cabana, etc. This entire recreation area should be well signed with lower speed limits to provide safe bicycling from the beach north to Oak Island Dr. Because E. 58th St. and Oak Island Dr. form one of the major island intersections, special focus should be given to this pedestrian and bicycle crossing. Bike lanes should be provided along S. 58th St to extend the Beach Dr. bicycle lanes and connect to the Oak Island Dr. bicycle lanes. Barbee St. is an attractive north-south option because of May Moore Park at its north end, the library at Oak Island Dr., and Yaupon Park on Beach Drive.

- ◆ **Central Oak Island**—covers the area from Middleton Avenue eastward to E. 40th Street. Most of this area is residential but still sees substantial traffic, especially in the summer.

On the north end, the scenic Elizabeth Drive-Yacht Drive corridor would continue as a signed bicycle route. A continuous five-foot sidewalk with nearly twenty feet of landscaped ROW between the edge of the road and the sidewalk is common along the south side of E. Oak Island Drive. There are two bicycle facility recommendations including: 1) wider multi-use side path or 2) bike lane. On the south end, Beach Drive already has four-foot shoulders on both sides to Middleton Avenue. Signage and pavement markings are necessary here to create bike lanes. Dolphin Drive would continue as a signed shared roadway with adequate signage.

Because of the Davis Canal, there are no north-south crossing roadways in this section from Oak Island Drive to Beach Drive except for Middleton Avenue. The north-south bicycle corridors should be the existing scenic boardwalks at 29th - 30th Streets (connecting the Recreation Center), 20th Street, and the future 9th Street boardwalk that provide access from Oak Island Drive to the beachfront. These provide excellent scenic bicycle paths although the 20th Street corridor requires walking your bicycle across. It should be ensured that these boardwalks are wide enough and railings high enough for bicycles. Otherwise, bicycles should be walked across.

The Middleton Avenue corridor runs north south and is the location of the future Second Bridge to Oak Island across the intracoastal waterway and future reconstruction of the Davis Canal bridge. Once construction of the Second Bridge is complete, traffic volumes will increase dramatically on Middleton Avenue to the central portion of the island. Both bridge designs incorporate adequate shoulder widths (six-foot shoulder on Second Bridge; eight-foot shoulder on Davis Canal Bridge) and bicycle-safe railings (54" high). The construction will not include bicycle pavement markings or signage so these will need to be added upon completion of the bridge work. Construction on the bridges and the widening of Middleton Avenue is slated to begin in 2006.

Bicycle lanes should be installed along Middleton Avenue during the widening process along the non-bridge segments from Beach Drive to the Second Bridge to create connectivity. This effort would support the Corridor Land Use and Development Plan for the Second Bridge to Oak Island that recommends that bikeways be considered part of an intermodal transportation system and should be developed. It specifically recommends bike lanes along higher traffic volume streets, and shared roadways on lower traffic volume residential streets

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ◆ **Western Oak Island**—covers the area from Middleton Avenue westward to the island's end at The Point, a popular beach access area. Most of this area is residential and has less traffic than the central and eastern sections of the island.

On the north end, the scenic Elizabeth-Yacht corridor should continue as a signed shared roadway route to its terminus with W. Oak Island Drive. The two prong facility option (1. multi-use side path, or 2. bike lane) for W. Oak Island Drive will continue as the existing sidewalk and wide right-of-way continue on the road's south side to its terminus. No north-south connector routes are necessary between Yacht Drive and W. Oak Island Drive because of the low traffic volume, ease of traveling along any of the residential roads, and the nature of the roadway which accommodates shared use.

On the south end, Beach Drive currently has no shoulders from Middleton Ave. to W. 30th St. (Long Beach Fishing Pier); a four-foot shoulder begins on the north side westward to Kings Lynn Drive. There are no shoulders beyond that on Beach Drive to The Point. The Town of Oak Island has begun construction of four-foot bike lanes with route signage on both sides for the entire length from Middleton Avenue to the Point. It is recommended that proper signage and markings be included to complete the bike lane facility. The shared roadway signed route along Dolphin Drive should continue to its end at W. 42nd Street.

- ◆ **Oak Island Mainland Area**—mainly includes the northeastern sections of the Town's limits, on the mainland portion along NC Highway 133. This includes the Brunswick County Airport and new developments such as the South Harbor Village and Marina east of the bridge and future condominiums on the west side.

The current Intracoastal Waterway Bridge has adequate eight-foot shoulders but only a 24" wall that does not meet the AASHTO standard of 54". In order to create an acceptable situation, a 54" rail would have to be added.

NC Highway 133 is the busiest of all roads in Oak Island and makes the most advanced cyclists in the area uneasy. The bicycle path, mentioned below, and Fish Factory Road provide an attractive alternative. Fish Factory Road, a two-lane road, extends north from the South Harbor Village area alongside the Bill Smith Park area. A bicycle lane is recommended along this stretch. Additional shoulder pavement to a minimum four-foot width will be necessary.

A bicycle path is recommended to connect the future condominium area to the South Harbor Village and Marina and Fish Factory Road. It would run underneath the NC Highway 133 bridge, along the intracoastal waterway. Currently there are two cleared

underpass corridors with extremely high bridge clearance creating the possibility of a connected bike path. Future development plans include a private road underneath the bridge. Collaboration with the developers, landowners, the State (who currently own right-of-way beneath the bridge), and the Town of Oak Island will be necessary to establish a bike facility along the intracoastal waterway

### ANCILLARY FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS FOR BICYCLISTS

♦ **Roadway Crossings and Intersections**—in addition to modifications to the actual road system for cyclists, it is also important to ensure that intersections are appropriately designed to facilitate safe and efficient bicycle traffic. Because Oak Island has a large tourist and recreation-based bicyclist population, it is important to consider crosswalk improvements for those more comfortable with walking their bike across an intersection. Driveways in residential and commercial areas also create the potential for conflict between bicycles and turning motor vehicles.

Treatments that can be used to improve intersections in the Town of Oak Island include:

- ✓ High-visibility crosswalks
- ✓ Bike-friendly traffic signals
- ✓ Advance warning signs and flashing lights
- ✓ Reduced (i.e., fifteen-foot) motor vehicle turning radii (to reduce motor vehicle turning speeds)

Potential locations include:

- ✓ 58<sup>th</sup> Street and Oak Island Drive
- ✓ Oak Island Drive and Country Club Drive
- ✓ Oak Island Drive with its numerous crossings and driveways

♦ **Bike-Friendly Traffic Signals**—there are a variety of ways to make traffic signals work for bicyclists. These treatments include changing signal timing so that bicyclists can clear intersections during green lights, providing adequate green time, and installing improved detection equipment.

Potential locations include:

- ✓ 58<sup>th</sup> Street and Oak Island Drive
- ✓ Oak Island Drive and Country Club Drive

# Oak Island, North Carolina

# Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)

- ◆ **High Visibility Bicycle Warning Signs**—advance warning signs can be posted to make drivers more aware of trail and other key bike route crossings. “Share the Road” signs can be posted on road sections where improvements cannot be made, bicycle use is regular, and there are existing road curves, narrow bridges, and/or heavier traffic volumes. These signs can increase awareness of bicyclists, especially in areas where bicyclists may not be expected or where many drivers are tourists. A new fluorescent yellow/green color has been approved in the national Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and can be used on these signs. Signs should be used judiciously—too many signs can cause visual clutter and lead to noncompliance. Bike crossing signs will also be necessary along Oak Island Dr. where the north-south bicycle connector options cross.

Potential locations include:

- ✓ Oak Island Drive
- ✓ Beach Drive
- ✓ Dolphin Drive
- ✓ Yacht Drive
- ✓ 58<sup>th</sup> Street
- ✓ Middleton Avenue (Bridges)

- ◆ **Bicycle Parking**—secure bicycle parking located close to building entrances, popular beach access points, piers, and parks can make bicycling more attractive to potential cyclists. It also reduces the risk of bicycle damage or theft. Bike parking is important at destinations such as beach accesses, recreation areas, and commercial areas. It is also good to have bike parking available near business entrances and at employment sites.

Potential locations include:

- ✓ Pier Areas
- ✓ Cabana
- ✓ Beach Accesses
- ✓ Middleton Park Recreation Area
- ✓ Memorial Waterway Park-Nature Center
- ✓ The Point
- ✓ Commercial Zones

# Oak Island, North Carolina

# Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)

- ◆ **Connections Outside Oak Island**—bicycle route connections with adjacent communities would make accessing and leaving Oak Island a more attractive option. Particular attention should be given to the Towns of St. James, Caswell Beach, and Southport. Coordination with these communities will make a connected local system possible. Bicyclists who enjoy longer rides could benefit from this connectivity.

Connections to the NC Bicycle Route 3 and East Coast Greenway would provide a means of accessing longer bicycle routes and provide opportunities for long-distance and tourist riders to access Oak Island. Bike lanes proposed along Middleton Avenue and across the Second Bridge should continue as a signed bicycle route northward to NC Highway 211 which is the location of NC Bicycle Route 3. NC Bicycle Route 3 is a 300-mile route from South Carolina to Virginia taking riders to all the major ports of the colonial era—Southport, Wilmington, New Bern, Bath, and Edenton.

The East Coast Greenway will be the nation's first long-distance, city-to-city, multi-modal transportation corridor for cyclists, hikers, and other nonmotorized users. The goal is to connect existing and planned trails that are locally owned and managed to form a continuous, safe, green route. This 2,600-mile traffic-free path linking East Coast cities from Maine to Florida was launched 14 years ago and is roughly 20 percent complete<sup>1</sup>.

(Footnotes) 1The East Coast Greenway Alliance. About the East Coast Greenway. Retrieved on 12/6/05 from [www.greenway.org/](http://www.greenway.org/)

### PROGRAM AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- ◆ **Program Recommendations**—education, encouragement and enforcement programs should be in place to teach and encourage safe bicycling and ensure the success and integrity of Oak Island's future bicycle network
  - ✓ Education—long term educational strategies should be developed to teach and promote safety
  - ✓ Encouragement—encouragement programs should be initiated to help build a larger bicycling community
  - ✓ Enforcement—enforcement is critical to ensure that proper actions are being taken by both bicyclists and motorists and that the rights of each are recognized

# Oak Island, North Carolina

# Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)

◆ **Policy Recommendations**

- ✓ To ensure that the bicycle facilities recommended in this document are constructed, the elected leaders should allocate enough resources on an annual basis to regularly expand the bicycle network and maintain the facilities as they are completed. There must be commitment to a phased timeline of roadway modification and facility construction must be adopted and followed
- ✓ Once the proposed network has been adopted by the Town and efforts to implement the network are underway, focus should be directed towards the maintenance and enhancement of the system. Well maintained and managed facilities are critical elements to the long-term success of Oak Island's bicycle network. Regular maintenance of the community's bicycle facilities will be essential to maintain the safety of the facilities and their overall usability
- ✓ In order to implement, construct, promote and maintain a bicycle network, Town departments and staff should be given the following responsibilities:
  - Implementation—Planning Department
  - Facility Development and Maintenance—Public Works Department
  - Community Programs—Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department
  - Enforcement—Town Police Department
- ✓ Adapted from other successful bicycle communities, recommended staffing for each department is:
  - Planning Department—the Town Planning Director or another high-ranking planning official should take on the responsibilities of "Bicycle Coordinator." These duties would include the overall devotion to carrying out recommendations from this Plan, applying for funding, and overseeing the entire bicycling program. Members of the Planning staff should also conduct tasks such as updating and publishing new local bicycle maps, creating and updating GIS layers of all bicycle facilities, proposing future alternative routes, and working with adjacent communities and regional organizations to coordinate bikeway linkages

## Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)

- **Public Works Department**—the Public Works Director should oversee the construction and maintenance of all bicycle facilities. The Public Works section devoted to Streets should also be devoted to future Bikeways. One member of the Public Works should handle bicycle facility development and construction among his/her other responsibilities
- **Parks and Recreation Department**—the Parks and Recreation Director and/ or staff should play a role in education and encouragement programs. The recreation center and Middleton Park areas can be the location of events such as educational courses and bike rodeos. This department should also play a role in managing off-road bicycle facilities
- **Police Department**—all local police officers should be educated about North Carolina bicycle and pedestrian laws and interactions between bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists. The Guide to North Carolina Bicycle and Pedestrian Laws, written by the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, should be distributed to local law enforcement. Specific laws in the State of North Carolina include wearing a helmet under the age of 16, having an adequate light if riding after dark, riding on the right side of the road, and proper signaling when turning. Police officers should become more proactive in educating the public and enforcing laws when they are broken
- **Volunteers**—services from volunteers, student labor, and seniors, or donations of material and equipment may be provided in-kind to offset construction and maintenance costs. Formalized maintenance agreements, such as adopt-a-trail or adopt-a-highway can be used to provide a regulated service agreement with volunteers. Other efforts and projects can be coordinated as needed with senior class projects, scout projects, interested organizations or clubs or a neighborhood's community service to provide for the basic needs of the bicycle network. Advantages of utilizing volunteers include reduced or donated planning and construction costs, community pride and connection to the Town's bicycle network, and increased awareness about bicycle safety issues

## FRAMEWORK FOR INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- ◆ Use the base of bicyclists and strong tourist interest in cycling to expand the awareness of the benefits of bicycling
- ◆ Expand and modify the existing bicycle route network to a comprehensive, connected system so that it better meets the needs of the community and enhances the current transportation infrastructure
- ◆ Start making the critical connections between destination points that will allow for continuous growth of and improvement in the bicycle transportation network

## KEY STEPS IN IMPLEMENTATION

- ◆ Create the necessary governance capability and administration capability to oversee the implementation of this plan and the proper maintenance of the facilities that are developed
- ◆ Secure the funding necessary to undertake the short-term projects and develop a funding strategy that will allow the community to incrementally complete each of the suggested bicycle facility improvements over a 10-15-year period
- ◆ Add signs to the recommended network routes so that a functional, safe, and updated bicycle route is immediately available to the community
- ◆ Develop and implement education and awareness programs such as public events, which can be used to announce new bike routes and some of the upcoming projects
- ◆ Begin working on the proposed short-term phasing facilities
- ◆ Ensure that bicycle planning is integrated with other transportation planning and funding efforts at the state and local level, as well as with long-range and current land use, economic development, parks and recreation, environmental, and community planning
- ◆ Develop bicycle facilities during sewer construction that will occur in Oak Island through 2010. Off-road and on-road bike facility construction could occur simultaneously with sewer construction, providing the opportunity for cost-effective development
- ◆ Develop bicycle facilities as part of all future paving, construction, and reconstruction projects



This image was downloaded from the Creative Commons Online picture site

## **2006 Oak Island Bicycle Plan: Bicycle Network—Central Oak Island**

Notes and comments from the 2006 Oak Island Bicycle Plan include:

 **2006 GOALS**

- ◆ Promote safe and effective bicycling in Oak Island for all types of resident and tourist cyclists and to promote the safe interaction of motorists and cyclists
- ◆ Reduce traffic congestion by creatively investing in attractive, convenient, and safe means for bicycle travel and improving bicycle facilities
- ◆ Develop a system of designated island bicycle routes to connect destination points
- ◆ Create a bikeway network that is an integral part of the transportation system and provides an alternative means of transportation as well as recreation opportunities
- ◆ Provide a system of safe and appropriate bicycle facilities and amenities for bicyclists
- ◆ Increase public awareness and education initiatives to promote the legal rights and responsibilities of bicyclists
- ◆ Improve the quality of life for Oak Island residents

 **Bicycle Plan Vision**—*Create a safe and effective system of bicycle facilities that links together existing resources and destinations, allows for safe interaction between bicyclists and motorists, supports alternatives to automobile travel, increases recreation opportunities, and provides improved options for advancing the community's mobility, health, quality of life and attractiveness to tourists*

-  The Bicycle Plan study boundary covers the entire Oak Island municipality, including the main island portion and extending across the NC Highway 133 Intracoastal Waterway bridge into the airport and South Harbor Village areas
-  As of 2005, the NC Highway 133 bridge is the only way to access Oak Island, but it is not safe for bicyclists. The second bridge across the Intracoastal Waterway will provide a second access from the north and will have more bicycle accommodations
-  There is not an interconnected bicycle facility system and because the island is elongated east-west, the major east-west transportation corridors become important focal points for this Plan
-  Much of the island is built out with a few exceptions, including the beachfront easement from SE 59<sup>th</sup> Street to SE 74<sup>th</sup> Street, which is composed of grassy, low-lying sandy areas

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- The areas of Oak Island north of the Intracoastal Waterway include a future condominium development on the western side of the bridge along with the existing Brunswick County Airport
- On the eastern side of the bridge is the South Harbor Village area which is a new development consisting of vacation homes, condominiums, a marina and a village center with shops
- Oak Island Drive has a wide easement on most of the south side, with grass, plantings and a five-foot sidewalk used by both pedestrians and bicyclists
  - ◆ This does not provide adequate space for both users
  - ◆ Sidewalk bicycling is dangerous here because of the numerous crossing roadways and driveways coming into Oak Island Drive
- The Town created a plan recently for four-foot shoulders to extend from Middleton Avenue west all the way to The Point on both sides
  - ◆ This includes bicycle signage and pavement markings
  - ◆ The project was to begin construction in 2005
- Of all the plans, guidelines and strategies the most important documents for guiding this process are:
  - ◆ NCDOT's Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan
  - ◆ North Carolina Bicycle Facilities Planning and Design Guidelines
  - ◆ NCDOT Transportation Plan Technical Report for Oak Island
  - ◆ Corridor Land Use and Development Plan for the Second Bridge to Oak Island
- The newly proposed network includes nearly 45 miles of new bicycle facilities which includes bicycle lanes, signed shared roadways, shared-use paths, and other bicycle accommodations
- It is anticipated the full network will be completed by 2020
- **Anticipated results:**
  - ◆ **Residents and tourists of all different skill levels should be able to bike safely along the east-west routes of the island**
  - ◆ **North-south bicycle routes should provide safe crossings over Oak Island Drive and be determined mostly by trip attractors, existing facilities and even spacing across the 12.6-mile island**
  - ◆ **Most of the network's roadway segments should serve as connectors to important destinations**
  - ◆ **There should be bicycle access across the Intercoastal Waterway allowing safe bicycle entry into the island onto the mainland portion of the town's limits**
  - ◆ **A specific bicycle facility type should be specified for each roadway**

## **Brunswick County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan—2009**

A review of the Brunswick County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Brunswick County Commissioners in May 2009 yielded the following information pertinent to the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan:**

[file:///C:/Users/herst/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/IE/J7OM9V0Z/08176F\\_BRUNSWICK\\_FINAL\\_CPRMP-compressed.pdf](file:///C:/Users/herst/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/IE/J7OM9V0Z/08176F_BRUNSWICK_FINAL_CPRMP-compressed.pdf)

### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

- ◆ Increase partnerships with the schools and allied providers to provide additional and a wider variety of programming to the community
- ◆ Develop partnerships with local, State and land trust organizations to provide outdoor programming with nature and education themes
- ◆ Acquire rights-of-way or secure easements for future trail development
- ◆ Consider all trail users in greenway development including bicyclists, walkers, joggers and equestrians
- ◆ Partner with city departments to develop park facilities; Boiling Spring Lakes, Oak Island and Ocean Isle may have opportunities for partnership
- ◆ Acquire land and secure easements for greenway development throughout the county
- ◆ Explore partnerships with city parks and recreation departments to develop parkland or indoor space. Boiling Spring Lakes, Oak Island, Southport and Leland parks boards and city officials expressed interest in partnerships to develop park facilities. Oak Island is planning for the expansion of their recreation center
- ◆ Develop a comprehensive county-wide greenway master plan and begin implementation
- ◆ The County should work with the cities to determine the best method of meeting sports field needs in this area to minimize duplication of services and maximizing government tax resources
- ◆ Proposed recommendations for Dutchman Creek Park
  - ✓ Develop a master plan for the park: this should include passive and un-programmed recreation opportunities like a walking trail, canoe/kayak access or a dog park
  - ✓ Build a floating dock and support facilities for sailing lessons
  - ✓ Prevent further shoreline erosion by designating a beach access point
  - ✓ Plant shade trees and install a shade structure over the benches at the playground
  - ✓ Provide ADA access throughout the park
  - ✓ Create policy and fees for anchoring in the cove
  - ✓ Pave and light the parking lot
  - ✓ Install a pavilion

- ✓ Standardize site furniture
- ✓ Provide a boardwalk to Intracoastal Waterway
- ✓ Provide an outdoor shower
- ✓ Provide a perimeter walking path around the park
- ◆ Proposed recommendations for Smithville District Park
  - ✓ Develop the park as the District 2 main facility, with soccer as the primary athletic program. Maintenance crews will operate from this park and its facilities should support tournaments and provide diversity to the park system
  - ✓ Develop a park master plan that includes the undeveloped eastern half of the property. Maximize usable space and improve pedestrian/vehicular circulation. Include two more tennis courts, a dog park and six regulation soccer fields in addition to the existing fields. Create shade with trees and structures. Standardize site furnishings and provide ADA accessibility
  - ✓ Replace the playground's sand surface with a surface that meets safety and access requirements. Add a shade structure and benches
  - ✓ Replace shelters with new standardized architecture
  - ✓ Connect facilities (fields, pavilions, playgrounds and parking lot) with sidewalks



# **Brunswick County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan—2009**

## **Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Master Plan**

A review of the Oak Island 2010 Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Master Plan yielded the following information pertinent to the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan**:

[https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/ParksRec\\_MasterPlan.pdf](https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/ParksRec_MasterPlan.pdf)

### **⊕ PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ◆ **Cabana**
  - ✓ Additional restroom facilities
  - ✓ Handicap accessible
  - ✓ Expand facility
  - ✓ Landscaping
  - ✓ Routine maintenance
- ◆ **Blue Water Point Marina Boat Ramps**
  - ✓ More boat launches
  - ✓ Partner with marina to improve parking
  - ✓ Partner with marina to upgrade ramps
- ◆ **Tidal Waves Park**
  - ✓ Repairs and improvements to the dock
  - ✓ Repairs and improvements to the gazebo
  - ✓ Expanded dock
- ◆ **Oak Island Pier**
  - ✓ Improved restroom facilities
  - ✓ Improved parking
  - ✓ Upgraded Tackle Shop
- ◆ **Crab Dock**
  - ✓ Handicap picnic table
  - ✓ Routine maintenance to grounds
  - ✓ Routine inspection of platform
  - ✓ Make park handicap accessible
  - ✓ Look at adding a floating dock if feasible
- ◆ **Beach Access Sites**
  - ✓ Recycling
  - ✓ Handicap access
- ◆ **55<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Ramp**
  - ✓ Repair ramps
  - ✓ Need for additional ramps
- ◆ **Scenic Walkway**
  - ✓ Security lighting
  - ✓ Repairs to Gazebo
  - ✓ Recycling
  - ✓ Fishing line recycling container

- ◆ **9<sup>th</sup> Street Crossover**
  - ◆ Continue to maintain at a high level
- ◆ **30<sup>th</sup> Place West Canoe Dock**
  - ✓ Routine maintenance and inspection
- ◆ **Intracoastal Waterway Access Sites**
  - ✓ Regular inspection of stairs and bulkheads
  - ✓ Enforce the street ends as public access
- ◆ **Canoe Trail System**
  - ✓ Identify and mark trails
  - ✓ Market Oak Island as a destination for paddlers
- ◆ **Community Resource Center**
  - ✓ Future need to expand the facility
- ◆ **Oak Island Recreation Center**
  - ✓ Enlarge facility—current demands exceed capacity
  - ✓ Upgrades/Repairs to ensure energy efficiency
  - ✓ Upgrades/Repairs to current lighting (include security lighting)
  - ✓ Routine maintenance of grounds
  - ✓ Handicap accessibility
  - ✓ Appropriate office space
  - ✓ Appropriate storage space
  - ✓ Commercial grade kitchen
- ◆ **6<sup>th</sup> Street Overlook**
  - ✓ Signage on Oak Island Drive
  - ✓ Recycling
  - ✓ Fishing line recycling container
  - ✓ Look at the possibility of acquiring land to the west of the park—small boat launch on private property
- ◆ **Bike/Walking Trails**
  - ✓ Mark trails
  - ✓ Obtain correct distances
  - ✓ Biking and walking trails along new bridge corridor and new bridge
  - ✓ Work with area cycling groups on establishment of appropriate trails
- ◆ **Teen Center**
  - ✓ Replace furniture
  - ✓ New pool table
  - ✓ New foosball table

### Oak Island

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## SPECIAL USE FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

- ◆ **Oak Island Par 3 Golf Course at South Harbour**
  - ✓ Need for appropriate Pro Shop to enable increased revenue
  - ✓ More targeted marketing to increase play and revenue
  - ✓ Improved signage
  - ✓ Access to clubhouse to better package events and rentals
- ◆ **Heron Lookout**
  - ✓ Develop routine maintenance inspections of all amenities
  - ✓ Provide informational signage
  - ✓ Repairs to bulkhead
  - ✓ Repairs to sidewalk
  - ✓ Repair fence along roadway
  - ✓ Replace fence in parking lot
  - ✓ Address erosion issues
- ◆ **Environmental Overlook and Trail**
  - ✓ Devote time and attention to revitalizing the overlook trail and its surroundings
  - ✓ Develop a regular maintenance check of the crossover and boardwalk
  - ✓ Consider the observation tower and a possible relocation
- ◆ **Skate Park/SK8 Park**
  - ✓ Upgrade/Repair aging ramps and equipment to suit needs of skaters
  - ✓ Replace fall zone surfacing
  - ✓ Addition of concrete entry to facility
  - ✓ Replace and add additional shade canopies
  - ✓ Replace/Upgrade staff observation area in the pen—shade, seating
  - ✓ Improve lighting
  - ✓ Consider future relocation of facility and expansion
- ◆ **Middleton Park Extension**
  - ✓ Repair/Upgrade existing lighting
  - ✓ Replace/Upgrade existing irrigation system and utilize reclaimed water
  - ✓ Add a 1/4-mile surfaced track around fields on Dolphin
  - ✓ Construct bridge with direct access to restrooms and concession stand
  - ✓ Relocate trash site
  - ✓ Relocate parking for PW vehicles
  - ✓ Maintain fields year-round, reseed, irrigate, etc.
  - ✓ Landscape parking areas and maintain
  - ✓ Replace movie screen
  - ✓ Add shade structures for tennis courts

## Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Master Plan

- ◆ **The Point**
  - ✓ Pull remaining signs and determine ones that can be salvaged
  - ✓ Possible use for the area needs to be discussed
  - ✓ Plans for future use need to be in place
- ◆ **William S. "Bill" Smith Park**
  - ✓ Continue phased development of park to include walk-in camp sites, soccer fields, additional restroom facilities, picnic shelters, boardwalk, fishing pier, canoe/kayak water access and amphitheater
  - ✓ Some public concerns over infield composition (safety). Have infields analyzed for proper makeup
  - ✓ Increase promotion of facility as a revenue generator, A-frame, Picnic shelter, event/festival host facility, baseball tournament site, etc...
- ◆ **Oak Island Ocean Education Center (OEC)**
  - ✓ New displays
  - ✓ Expand facility
  - ✓ Handicap accessibility
- ◆ **Oak Island Nature Center**
  - ✓ Replace flooring
  - ✓ Expand the facility to include enclosing the first floor
  - ✓ Rotate exhibits and develop a monthly feature
  - ✓ Coordinate more evening programs—most of the animals are nocturnal

### GENERAL USE FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

- ◆ **Middleton Park**
  - ✓ Replace gazebo with updated structure that can serve as a picnic shelter and a stage for events
  - ✓ Expand playground—look at modern and challenging systems for youth ages 9-12 years
  - ✓ Improve grounds maintenance (grass and landscaping)
- ◆ **Commissioners Observatory Park**
  - ✓ Paint ramp, railings and platform
  - ✓ Surfacing at shower
  - ✓ Grounds upkeep, landscaping
  - ✓ Upkeep of shower

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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ◆ **Yaupon Park**
  - ✓ Routine grounds maintenance
  - ✓ Repair or replace picnic table
  - ✓ Routine maintenance and care of shower and surrounding area
- ◆ **Waterway Park**
  - ✓ Enhance landscaping and policing of grounds
  - ✓ Publicize park more and explore revenue potential for rental of gazebo
  - ✓ Upon completion of boat ramps, permanent restroom and shower facilities
  - ✓ Additional parking or specific designated trailer parking area
  - ✓ Add restroom facilities
- ◆ **Hannon A. Templeton Park**
  - ✓ Relocate the dog park to a bigger and better suited area
  - ✓ Demolish existing building and build a storage shed
  - ✓ Add restroom facilities
  - ✓ Explore alternative uses for the park that will be better appreciated by the community
  - ✓ Add restroom facilities
- ◆ **Memorial Park**
  - ✓ Maintain nature trail and surrounding path
  - ✓ Plant and maintain seasonal flowers and plants in garden
  - ✓ Make repairs to shelter and water feature
  - ✓ New metal roof for restrooms
- ◆ **May Moore Park**
  - ✓ Replace picnic tables
  - ✓ Handicap accessibility
  - ✓ Addition of wildlife signs
  - ✓ Add rails to fence posts (buffer from Yacht Drive)
  - ✓ Bike rack
- ◆ **Malcolm Register Park**
  - ✓ Replace picnic tables (include handicap table)
  - ✓ Paint shelter
  - ✓ New metal roof for shelter
  - ✓ Make facility handicap accessible
  - ✓ Security lighting
  - ✓ Regular maintenance to include seeding and landscaping
  - ✓ Repair water fountain
  - ✓ Repair fence throughout parking lot
  - ✓ Landscaping

### Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Master Plan

 **PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS**—The department makes every effort to offer programs and services that fit the needs of the community based on demand, interest and trends. Given the current resources the Parks and Recreation Department appears to be doing an outstanding job of providing recreational and leisure services; **however additional demands for increased programming and leisure opportunities cannot be met.**

- ◆ The lack of programmable space is evident and as the numbers indicate the weight and fitness facility is often at capacity
- ◆ The absence of a gymnasium/recreation complex in the community further limits the ability of the department to meet the growing needs of the citizens
- ◆ A gymnasium/recreation complex would expand the programming potential indefinitely, including basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, walking and running programs, concerts and plays, a rain site for many festivals and an opportunity to generate revenue.
- ◆ This facility would also enable the senior nutritional lunch program to expand and meet demands with a commercial kitchen and serving area.
- ◆ The continued increase in instructional health and wellness activities could be better met with an aerobic room with proper flooring, audio system and acoustics

In the fall of 2009, a twenty-question survey was distributed to Oak Island residents. Approximately 9,000 of these questionnaires were enclosed with Oak Island residents' monthly water or recycling bills requesting that the completed survey be returned with their utility payment. Of the 9,000 surveys distributed, 549 completed questionnaires were returned. This represents an approximate rate of response of 6%, which is slightly better than the average expected return rate for a typical, unsolicited municipal survey.

 **ASSESSMENT OF PARKS AND FACILITIES**

- ◆ Respondents were asked a series of questions about their general satisfaction with Oak Island parks. In terms of location, respondents generally considered the department's parks to be convenient with 78.5% indicating that parks were just the right distance away from their residence. 5.5% felt a park was too far away, 10.5% had no opinion, 5.5% did not answer, and no one believed there was a park that was too close

## Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department

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- ◆ Most respondents believe that Oak Island parks are usually well maintained and another 28.9% said they were always well maintained. Sometimes well maintained was cited by 4.5% of respondents and never cited 0.4%, 7.7% had no opinion and 5.3% gave no answer. Overall, 82.1% believe the department's parks are well maintained, while only 4.9% expressed negative views
- ◆ Respondents also agreed that Oak Island parks were safe and secure with 33.2% selecting always safe and 45.9% selecting usually for a total of 79.1%. Only 3.8% considered the parks safe sometimes and 0.3% said they were never safe. 12.2% of respondents had no opinion and 4.7% did not answer
- ◆ When asked whether Oak Island's parks possessed all the features and amenities necessary for their use and enjoyment, the overall favorable rating is 73.3%, of which 53.4% said usually and 20% said always. Sometimes was cited 8.5% and never 1.3% for an overall unfavorable opinion of 9.8%, roughly double the unfavorable percentages for maintenance and safety, 11.7% had no opinion and 5.2% gave no answer
- ◆ Overall, most respondents believe the department's parks are properly located in the community and are both well maintained and safe. And while a sizable majority also believes the parks have enough amenities for their purposes, a higher percentage of respondents believe they do not always have all the amenities they need
- ◆ Respondents were asked a series of questions about their general satisfaction with the department's facilities, which was defined as including both buildings and non-park service amenities like boat docks. In terms of location, respondents generally considered facilities to be convenient with 77.0% indicating that Oak Island facilities were just the right distance away from their residence, 5.7% felt facilities were too far away, 10.2 % had no opinion, 6.0% did not answer, and 1.1% believed there was a facility that was too close
- ◆ Asked about conditions 51.6% believe the Oak Island facilities are usually well maintained and another 28.6% said they were always well maintained. Sometimes well maintained was cited by 2.9% of respondents and never cited 0.2%, 10.0% had no opinion and 6.7% gave no answer. If it is assumed that a citation of usually or always equates with a favorable view of facilities' maintenance, overall 80.2% believe Oak Island parks are well-maintained, while only 3.1% expressed negative views

### Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department

### Comprehensive Master Plan

- ◆ Respondents also agreed that Oak Island facilities were safe and secure with 31.9% selecting always safe and 45.5% selecting usually for a total of 77.4%. Only 2.0% considered the parks safe sometimes and 0.2% said they were never safe while 13.3% of respondents had no opinion and 7.1% did not answer
- ◆ When asked whether Oak Island facilities possessed all the features and amenities necessary for their use and enjoyment, the overall favorable rating drops to 64.9%, of which 48.3% said usually and 16.6% said always. Sometimes was cited 11.1% and never 1.5% for an overall unfavorable opinion of 12.7% while 14.7% had no opinion and 7.8% gave no answer

## ASSESSMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING

- ◆ Respondents were asked for their assessment of Parks and Recreation Department programs in which they had participated. When asked whether the programs offered by the Recreation Department was of interest, respondents said usually 38.1% of the time and always 16.8% while 24.2% found programs that interested them only sometimes, 2.2% said never, 10.9% had no opinion, and 7.8% gave no answer
- ◆ Respondents were asked about their ability to find openings in the programs of classes in which they wished to register. A high percentage, 46.8%, had no opinion and 10.0% had no answer while 28.2% said they could usually get into the class or program they wanted and 11.5% said they could always get into it. That left 7.1% who could only sometimes register for a desired program while 2.4% said they could never get into the class or program they desired
- ◆ When asked whether the registration for classes was simple, 24.2% of all respondents said usually, 21.0% said always, 3.5% said sometimes, and 1.8% said never; 39.3% had no opinion and 10.2% offered no answer
- ◆ Respondents generally believed that programs and classes were offered at convenient times of day with 33.9% answering usually, 7.6% indicating always, 13.3% answering sometimes, and 2.2% answering never; 33.7% had no opinion and 9.3% gave no answer
- ◆ When given the choice of morning, afternoon, or evening program times, 43.3% of all respondents expressed no preference, 21.3% preferred mornings, 14.8 preferred evenings, 10.8% preferred afternoons, and 9.8% gave no answer
- ◆ When asked for a preference on day of the week, 30.8% of all respondents preferred weekday programs, 10.4% preferred weekend programs, 46.1% had no preference, and 12.7% gave no answer

## Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Master Plan

- ◆ Respondents were asked whether the department's program offerings were well organized: 31.9% said usually, 14.9% said always, 2.7% said sometimes, and 0.6% said never, 38.6% had no opinion and 11.3% gave no answer
- ◆ The staff's level of knowledge about the programs they were offering was cited as usually good by 26.6% of all respondents, always by 23.3%, sometimes by 1.3% and never by 0.6%. 37.0% had no opinion and 11.2% gave no answer
- ◆ Regarding facilities, 33.3% of all respondents believed that the facilities used for Recreation Department programs were usually adequate, 15.7% believe the facilities are always adequate, 8.7% believe that the Recreation Department's facilities are only sometimes adequate, 1.5% said they are never adequate, 29.5% had no opinion and 11.3% gave no answer
- ◆ Rating programs, 37.0% of all respondents believe the programs they have participated in usually meet their expectations, 14.2% believe their expectation have always been met, while 4.9% indicated only sometimes and 1.3% said never, 31.3% had no opinion and 11.3% gave no answer
- ◆ For those program that require a user fee, 62.6% of all respondents agreed that fees for programming were about right, 6.4% felt fees were too high, 1.1% thought fees were too low, and 29.9% had no opinion

### SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

- ◆ Respondents are satisfied with the programs offered by the department. For the eight questions requesting an evaluation, favorable responses averaged 46.5% while unfavorable responses averaged 9.8%
- ◆ Respondents are satisfied with the time and day of current program offerings, although 15.5% felt that programs were either sometimes or always scheduled at inconvenient times. Respondents expressed a preference for weekday morning classes and programs. Finally, there is a consensus (62.6%) that the fees charged for programs are in the proper range

### PARKS, FACILITIES, BUILDINGS, AND DESIRED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS—

Respondents were presented with two questions regarding their preferences for improvements or additions to the Parks and Recreation Department's inventory of parks, buildings, and facilities. The second of the two questions was more general, asking which of a series of property acquisitions they would most favor. The following is a summary of their responses:

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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## ◆ Property Acquisition and Use

<u>PROPERTY ACQUISITION AND USE</u>	<u>%</u>
Acquire Property for Passive Park Use	34.2%
Acquire Property for Passive and Active Use	24.9%
Acquire Property and Preserve	22.5%
Acquire No New Property	12.2%
Acquire and Improve for Active Use	6.2%

◆ In the first question about desired capital improvements, respondents were given a series of potential improvements or additions to the department's present inventory of parks, buildings, and facilities and asked to rank their preferences on a 1-5 scale, with 1 indicating their most important preference. The following is a summary of their preferences:

Improvement or Addition	1 – 5 Ranking (1 Indicates Highest Preference)
More Beach Restrooms	0.73
New Indoor Pool	0.88
More Bicycle Lanes	0.96
More Hiking/Walking Trails	1.07
New Outdoor Pool	1.30
More Beach Showers	1.48
More Fishing Access Points	1.84
More Beach Access Points	1.93
Larger Cardio (Fitness) Room	1.97
New Therapy Pool	2.09
Larger Weight Room	2.23
More Boat Access Points	2.30
More Canoe/Kayak Access Points	2.62
Larger Dog Park	2.89
New Greenways	2.89
New Indoor Track	3.05
New Amphitheater	3.56
New Camping Areas	3.99
More Playgrounds	3.99
New Water Play Spray-Ground	3.99
More Park Shelters	4.09
New Boating/Sailing Center	4.93
More Tennis Courts	5.07
New Gymnasium	5.08
Other*	>6.00

Other\*: refers to responses receiving rankings of 6.0 or more. Listed in descending order: New Outdoor Track, More Park Land, New Art/sculpture Park, New Climbing Wall, More private party Rental Space, More Meeting Space, New Multi-Court Tennis Facility, More Multi-Use Fields, Larger Skate Park, More Soccer Fields, More Softball Fields, and More Baseball Fields.

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

 **DESIRED PROGRAM EXPANSION AND ADDITIONS**—Respondents were asked to rank a proposed list of new or enhanced recreation programs they most favored. The following is a summary of their preferences, based on a scale of 1-5, in descending order:

New or Enhanced Program/Activity	1 – 5 Ranking (1 Indicates Highest Preference)
More Music Concerts	1.37
Recreational Swimming	1.55
More Fitness Activities	1.76
More Crafts (Painting, Pottery, etc.)	2.21
Therapeutic Aquatics	2.27
Bowling	2.61
Computer Classes	2.65
Swimming Lessons	3.0
Rock Climbing	5.36
Other*	>6.0

*Other\*:* refers to responses receiving rankings of 6.0 or more. The options in descending order: Martial Arts, Archery, Competitive Swimming, Youth Baseball, Gymnastics, Ultimate Frisbee, Extreme Sports, Adult Baseball, Cheerleading, and Inline Hockey.

 **FUNDING**—Respondents were asked their preference in terms of funding sources for any future improvements or additions to the Parks and Recreation Department's parks, facilities or programming. The following is a summary of the responses:

<u>FUNDING RECOMMENDATION AND SOURCE</u>	<u>%</u>
<i>Increase Funding Through Use of Matching Grants</i>	<b>27.6%</b>
<i>Increase Funding Without Increasing Taxes</i>	<b>22.6%</b>
<i>Increase Funding Through Use of Accommodations Tax</i>	<b>18.1%</b>
<i>Increase Funding by Increasing User Fees</i>	<b>15.4%</b>
<i>Increase Funding Through Bond Referendum</i>	<b>13.5%</b>
<i>Increase Funding by Increasing Taxes</i>	<b>02.8%</b>

- **RECOMMENDATIONS**—The following recommendations are a compilation of the input from all sources. Of the nineteen (19) recommendations proposed for the 10-year period covered by the comprehensive master plan three are in the forefront:
  - ◆ **Construction of a Recreation Complex (gymnasium, walking track, etc.).** Replacement and or/modernization of the existing Recreation Center is a top priority including the addition of a gymnasium and other flexible programming space. Current facility is inadequate for fitness training, lacks suitable flex space, and has inadequate administrative areas among other needs. The Recreation Center has been a focal point of the community and improvements and expansion are necessary to insure its continued standing in the community
  - ◆ **Recognize Park Maintenance as a priority.** Parks and recreation facility maintenance is a shared responsibility between Parks & Recreation and Public Works functions. In tight budget times maintenance often is reduced, extended or delayed for cost containment reasons. The impact may be negative on overall operations and create a backlog of maintenance needs. Management of the maintenance function should account for changes in facility maintenance levels that affect adversely on services and public opinion
  - ◆ **Partner with other agencies in the planning, construction and operation of an aquatic facility.** A major need expressed during the master planning process involved a local aquatics facility for swimming and for medical rehabilitation. While the facility may be located locally, its functions would serve a regional population. Oak Island should pursue efforts at attracting multiple partners to meet this need. The Town realizes that it is not feasible to undertake such an endeavor but would be a supportive partner

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These are the remaining recommendations:

- ◆ Increase recreation and social programs for youth, teens, adults and seniors. Programming to meet recreational and social needs is a cornerstone of the Oak Island community. Efforts should be continued to meet the growing community needs including expansion of services through the Community Resource Center
- ◆ Expand indoor and outdoor facilities to meet community growth within the 10-year planning period. The Plan recognizes that there are current limitations in programming both indoor and outdoor programs (athletics and classes). Facilities should be expanded to meet community needs based on growth on both the island and mainland segments of the community
- ◆ Provide new community events in partnership with others for celebration and socialization. The Parks and Recreation Department partners with a variety of community organizations. Efforts should continue in reaching out to others in providing events that highlight and improve the community's quality of life
- ◆ Utilize park resources as assets to generate new revenue. Efforts should be expanded in the area of special programs which could generate an income stream to assist in meeting overall departmental expenses
- ◆ Construct Phase III of Bill Smith Park. Phase III consists of soccer fields and support facilities. Phase III is eligible for grant funding through the PARTF program
- ◆ Incorporate "Sustainable Design Elements" into current and future facilities. In design of new facilities and up-fit of existing facilities, energy efficiency and other conservation principles should be used wherever practical to reduce long-term operating expenses
- ◆ Update technology on a scheduled, routine basis to enable better service. Increased use of technology offers an opportunity to do more efficiently. Computers and other information technology tools should be used as much as possible. A replacement budget should be established for technology upgrades and maintenance
- ◆ Increase staffing as new facilities and program demands indicate. Efficient operation of facilities and programs is dependent upon adequate staffing. As facilities and programs are expanded, enough funding for staffing requirements should be provided
- ◆ Develop a non-profit group to assist with fundraising for Recreation needs. Establishment of a non-profit support group to assist in fundraising for recreation facilities and programming would augment the taxpayer funded portions of the Recreation and Parks service. The Recreation Advisory Board would remain as a policy advisor to Council and staff

- ◆ Bring existing facilities up to current Americans with Disabilities Act standards within the 10-year planning period. Efforts are being made to make all Town facilities compliant with ADA standards. Recreation facilities should be completely ADA-accessible by the end of the planning period
- ◆ Acquire land and construct a Regional access serving the West Beach area. Recreation demand through beach access is expected to increase in demand in the planning period. Acquisition of land should begin while land prices are low and be banked until the need for the facility exists
- ◆ Incorporate playground equipment into existing and future major parks. Playground equipment should be planned for additions to some existing parks (Bill Smith Park) and planned for any major park development in the community
- ◆ Add restrooms to selected accesses along the beach strand. Demand for additional areas such as the Cabana is expected to grow during the planning period and should be incorporated at certain strategic locations on the beach strand
- ◆ Implement the Town's Bicycle Transportation Plan where practical within the 10-year planning period. The Town's Bicycle Plan should be used in conjunction with this planning document as the Town considers capital investments throughout the community
- ◆ Coordinate with Brunswick County and neighboring municipalities in planning and developing trails, greenways and blueways. Participation in cooperative efforts among area local governments is a proven strategy in obtaining the passive development of sensitive areas. A regional approach may have a beneficial impact on funding and sharing of resources
- ◆ Develop a menu of funding options for implementation of the Master Plan recommendations. Funding options should include federal, state, local and foundation grant sources; Department generated revenue; support group fundraising; flexible financing including use of Capital Reserve funding; funding from other partner agency sources including area local governments; local revenue sources or a combination of all of the above

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## **Town of Oak Island: Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

A review of the “**Town of Oak Island: Comprehensive Land Use Plan**” adopted by the Oak Island Town Council on January 10, 2017 yielded the following information pertinent to the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan**:

[https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Comprehensive\\_Land\\_Use\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Comprehensive_Land_Use_Plan.pdf)

### **ASSETS AND ISSUES**

- ◆ The top three (3) assets selected by the survey responders were: beach (an overwhelming 93% selected “beach” as one of the top 3 assets); family atmosphere (54.6%); and established tree canopy (26.3%). Further information was gleaned from the top three (3) issues selected by the responders: sewer debt (with 59.3% selecting it as one of the top 3 issues); beach erosion (52.8%); and appearance of commercial areas (34.8%)
- ◆ The assets and issues identified during the survey process point to awareness that protecting the environment – particularly the beach and the tree canopy – and preserving the cultural heritage is critical and that it must be accomplished and funded with a clear plan in place

### **GOALS**

- ◆ **Goal 1:** In all decisions/actions, Oak Island will address the impact on its quality of life and maintenance of a “family beach” atmosphere
- ◆ **Goal 2:** Oak Island will continuously support and pursue funding options for effective beach renourishment
- ◆ **Goal 3:** Oak Island will protect the Town’s tree canopy in all pertinent deliberations
- ◆ **Goal 4:** Oak Island will support improvements to its community appearance as an important tool for economic development and neighborhood preservation
- ◆ **Goal 5:** Oak Island will consider the fiscal impact on the Town and its citizens in all deliberations
- ◆ **Goal 6:** Oak Island will support fiscally responsible expansions of its recreational opportunities
- ◆ **Goal 7:** Oak Island will support fiscally responsible increases in its multi-modal transportation opportunities
- ◆ **Goal 8:** Oak Island will address, in all deliberations, any negative environmental impact on the Town
- ◆ **Goal 9:** Oak Island will support robust enforcement and improve consistency in its code enforcement programs
- ◆ **Goal 10:** Oak Island will strive to expand economic development within its jurisdiction

## EXISTING CONDITIONS—PARKS AND RECREATION

- ◆ Current Needs Identified by the Parks and Recreation Staff include:
  - ✓ **New Future Park**
    - Playground
    - Kayak/Canoe Launch
    - Splash Pad
  - ✓ **Recreation Center Expansion**
    - Gymnasium
    - Fitness Center
    - Aerobics Room
    - Office Space
    - Storage
  - ✓ **Greenways/Bike Paths Throughout the Town**
  - ✓ **Additional Mainland Park Facility**
  - ✓ **Beach and Marsh as Public Trust Areas**

## AESTHETIC ENHANCEMENTS

- ◆ Many areas of Oak Island have an exceptional aesthetic character and provide an inviting atmosphere for residents, visitors, and tourists. Throughout much of Oak Island, and particularly on the island portion of town, an abundant tree canopy is present, parks are situated within walking distance, with gridded streets lending to walkability. All these elements enhance the human scale features of Oak Island's built environment. The presence of these elements not only creates a more pleasing aesthetic environment, but also yields benefits in the form of higher property tax revenues. Investing in public realm improvements that encourage walkability and enhance the visual interest of the built environment are hallmarks of desirable communities across the state
- ◆ Unfortunately, much of the development that has occurred throughout the country over the last sixty years has been tailored to the automobile. In fact, when Oak Island (Long Beach/Yaupon Beach) was just coming of age, so too was our fascination with the automobile. As a result, few considerations were given to ensuring the built environment favored walkability. Elements of the automobile scale-built environment can be found in nearly every community in North Carolina and the nation. This form of the built environment is characterized by development that is designed to cater to the automobile. Large signage, expansive off-street parking, and a lack of facilities for alternative forms of transportation are all symptoms of an automobile oriented built environment. In many communities, prescriptions for improving these areas is through the addition of landscape material, the reduction of parking requirements, and changes to signage requirements.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCEMENT

- ◆ Regulatory requirements can be utilized by a jurisdiction to improve the overall look and feel of the built environment. Many cities and towns require landscape and vegetative improvements to coincide with nonresidential or multi-family development. This is particularly true on high volume commercial corridors. These high-volume commercial corridors are often in need of aesthetic enhancement due to their design to accommodate the automobile. Requirements for off-street parking create vast pavement expanses that diminish the quality of the built environment from both an environmental and aesthetic standpoint. In many communities, the most undesirable locations are commercial corridors. In fact, "Appearance of Commercial Areas" was identified as one of the top three issues in Oak Island
- ◆ Currently, Oak Island does not require landscape material to be installed as non-residential development occurs (except in instances where a parking lot is provided that includes ten or more spaces). A vegetation plan is required but is limited to the replacement and preservation of specimen trees. No requirements are in place that necessitate the installation of trees or vegetation along the street right-of-way line of nonresidential development. The street right-of-way line is the primary location from which visitors, residents, and tourists examine the aesthetics of a given community or commercial district. If the town is truly interested in improving its visual appeal, particularly along areas of commercial use, then an expanded landscape section should be provided in the proposed Unified Development Ordinance. Specific items and/or considerations to be included as part of an enhanced landscape ordinance are listed below:
  - ✓ Street yard requirements for non-residential and multi-family residential development to include screening options. The primary component of the street yard would be the screening of the parking facility and visual enhancement of the development. Street trees would be included as part of the street yard requirement. See the narrative to the right regarding benefits of street trees for more information
  - ✓ Enhance buffer yard requirements between non-residential and residential development (responsibility of non-residential development). A menu of buffer yard types should be provided as part of the ordinance
  - ✓ Plant listing categorized by shrub and tree sizes. Due to Oak Island's location on the coast, it is important to install plant

- ✓ species that are salt and drought tolerant. Thus, the plant list should also identify salt and drought tolerant species
- ✓ Should the town wish to enhance only the commercial areas, such as Oak Island Drive, Long Beach Road, Middleton Road, and NC 211, then an overlay district can be applied to improve aesthetics in those key areas

### TREE PRESERVATION

- ◆ Retaining Oak Island's tree canopy is extremely important to the residents of the town. In fact, the established tree canopy was identified as one of the top three assets that exist in Oak Island. Various mechanisms can be utilized to retain tree canopy on undeveloped lands in with the town's planning jurisdiction. New tree growth can also be encouraged or required through landscape ordinances
- ◆ Oak Island is also a member of Tree City USA and is one of more than 3,400 communities across the USA that earned the designation of being a Tree City USA. Oak Island has been designated as a Tree City USA for 18 years, longer than any other barrier island along the NC coast. The island itself has a larger forested area than any other barrier island in Brunswick County
- ◆ The Tree City USA program has been "greening up" cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees
- ◆ In Oak Island, a "Vegetation Management Program" currently exists within the Town Ordinances. The purpose of the tree and vegetation preservation program is to provide a means to preserve and manage natural areas and specimen trees in the community. The objectives of the program are as follows:
  - ✓ Maintain and enhance property values
  - ✓ Preserve and enhance the visual appearance of the town
  - ✓ Preserve unique and productive coastal habitats
  - ✓ Reduce the impacts of development on the town's stormwater system
  - ✓ Assist the town in preserving and enhancing the quality of its estuarine waters
  - ✓ Help create and protect the protective dune systems

## **Town of Oak Island: Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

- ◆ A vegetation plan is to be submitted for the issuance of a development or building permit, in which the species and location of all trees five inches caliper at breast height and greater must be noted
- ◆ Based on the tremendous public support for tree preservation, the ordinance requirement should be refined to provide a more clear and enforceable mechanism for maintaining natural vegetation in Oak Island. The following items are suggested to enhance the “Vegetation Management Program”:
  - ✓ Require tree protection standards for preserved trees
  - ✓ Create a tree removal permit process
  - ✓ Place greater emphasis on tree preservation. Incentivize the preservation of trees through a more stringent replacement schedule
  - ✓ Clarify replacement schedule for removed trees
  - ✓ Define and provide clarity regarding “essential site improvements”
  - ✓ Increase the civil penalty for unauthorized tree removal
  - ✓ Provide a tree replacement species list



### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- ◆ Parks and Recreation—the Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of updating the parks and recreation master plan. Recommendations for future improvements will be included in the updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Needs identified by the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) and recreation department staff are provided below:
  - ✓ New Island Future Park
    - Playground
    - Kayak/Canoe Launch
    - Splash Pad
  - ✓ Recreation Center Expansion
    - Gymnasium
    - Fitness Center
    - Aerobics Room
    - Office Space o Storage
  - ✓ Greenways/bike paths throughout the Town
  - ✓ Additional mainland park facility
  - ✓ Maintain beach and marsh as public trust areas
  - ✓ Provide ICWW access via the NC 133 bridge and the EF Middleton Boulevard bridge

### **Town of Oak Island:**

### **Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

## PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRAVEL

- ◆ Town residents have expressed a desire to increase the availability of non-motorized facilities within the town. As mentioned previously, a Comprehensive Bicycle Plan was created for the town in 2006. Currently, no pedestrian plan exists for the town. However, planning grants are available through NCDOT to create a Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan. There is a demonstrated need for pedestrian facility enhancements within the corporate limits, particularly on the island, including pedestrian control lights. One of the primary concerns identified by the public is the danger associated with crossing Oak Island Drive. No dedicated crossing facilities currently exist for pedestrians. It should be noted that pedestrian countdown signals can be installed only at signalized intersections such as NE 58th and Oak Island Drive. However, to reduce safety concerns and crossing distances, medians can be installed intermittently throughout the business district to allow pedestrians to cross Oak Island Drive in two stages
  - ✓ Potential Crossover SS 5<sup>th</sup> or SW 6<sup>th</sup> Street
  - ✓ Greenway Proposed for South Side of Oak Island Drive
  - ✓ Sidewalks Proposed for North Side of Oak Island drive
  - ✓ NE 58<sup>th</sup> Street and Oak Island Drive: High Visibility Crosswalks/Pedestrian Countdown Signal
  - ✓ Sidewalks Proposed for North Side of Oak Island Drive
  - ✓ Greenway Proposed for South Side of Oak Island Drive

## OCEAN AND ESTUARINE ACCESS

- ◆ In 2012, an Ocean and Estuarine Access Plan was prepared to identify additional locations for accessing public trust waters. It should be noted that the plan was accepted by the Town Council, but not formally endorsed through adoption. The plan is included as a reference but not as specific recommendation(s). Parking, beach and waterway access, and non-motorized access points were all inventoried as part of the process. Primary access issues and recommendations from the plan are provided below. Area sites should be increased/standardized, and the 2012 plan updated. The updated plan should be prepared using the following recommendations for reference.

### ✓ Access Issues

- Request NCDOT to permit use of areas
  - Under Swain's Cut Bridge (shoreline and lot)
  - Old bridge roadbed adjacent to State 133
- Additional parking at NE 55th Street boat ramp
- No improved water access facility on mainland (Bill Smith Park) – kayak launch/fishing pier

- Bill Smith Park
  - No signs with hours of use posted on piers, fishing Ts, or walkovers for all recreational areas as required per Town ordinance
- Identify funding for beach renourishment
  - Accommodations tax
  - Additional ad valorem tax
  - Paid parking
- Establish process for increasing access sites
- Selected CAMA Land Use Plan projects
  - Yacht Drive Sidewalk Project (proposed)
  - Walkover west of Middleton (proposed)

✓ Recommendations—Ocean Access (OAR)

- OAR1: It is recommended that the Town provide the necessary funding to maintain in good repair all existing ocean access sites, their associated existing parking facilities, and existing amenities
- OAR 2: As a general management principle, it is further recommended that the Town neither acquire new ocean and estuarine access sites nor expand existing beach facilities unless all existing facilities are in good repair
- OAR 3: It is recommended that the Town temporarily increase from 2% to 3% the amount of revenue received from the 6% Accommodations Tax (Brunswick County receives 1% and Oak Island receives 5%) that is restricted to beach renourishment
- OAR 4: It is recommended that the Town evaluate the cost and benefits of constructing a Cabana at The Point on Town-owned property at the ocean-side access site
- OAR 5: Only six ocean access sites have one or more reserved handicapped parking spaces. It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments reevaluate the number and distribution of ocean access handicapped parking

✓ Recommendations—Estuarine Access (EAR)

- EAR 1: It is recommended that demand for capital expenditures for ocean and estuarine access site improvements be determined through:
  - A survey mailed to every household in Oak Island and to non-resident property owners

### **Town of Oak Island:**

### **Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

- A voter survey/referendum every two years on capital spending that includes cost data for potential improvements in ocean and estuarine access sites
- EAR 2: It is recommended that the construction of walkovers across Davis Canal west of Middleton be withdrawn from the Town's CAMA Land Use Plan
  - It could impair navigation in the deeper waters of Davis Canal
  - It could violate the right of navigational in public trust waters rights
  - Its construction would affect the appurtenant easement rights of property owners along the access street
- EAR 3: It is recommended that when funds become available, a single pier with a floating dock at the unimproved access site in Bill Smith Park be given a high priority for funding
- EAR 4: It is recommended that the Town increase the amount of parking for vehicles with attached trailers in the immediate proximity of the NE 55th Street boat ramp. The limited parking at the site has resulted in underutilization of the boat ramp
- EAR 5: It is recommended that the Town provide the necessary funding to maintain its boat ramps in good repair
- EAR 6: It is recommended that the Waterway Park's multi-use concept of a small park with a boat ramp be abandoned. A more compatible option is a recreational park with a scenic vista and with an enhanced fishing potential through the ongoing construction of a "living shoreline" using bagged oyster shells and marl
- EAR 7: It is recommended that an agreement with NCDOT be negotiated to allow improvements to the old Oak Island Bridge roadbed adjacent to State Road 133 and Swain's Cut Bridge so fishermen can access these areas for bait casting, crabbing, and fishing
- EAR 8: It is recommended that the Town comply with its ordinance controlling the hours of use for parks and recreational areas and facilities

### **Town of Oak Island:**

### **Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

✓ **Recommendations—Ocean Site Selection (OSSR)**

- OSSR 1: It is recommended that when unbuildable oceanfront lots become available, the Town will follow the recommended procedures for acquiring new access sites
  - Establish need for additional access and parking
  - Investigate funding assistance from federal and state sources to determine affordability
- OSSR 2. If an unbuildable oceanfront lot becomes available and is considered for purchase, the loss of the discounted lifetime revenue stream from property taxes will be considered in the cost of acquisition.

✓ **Recommendations—Estuarine Site Selection (ESSR)**

- ESSR 1: It is recommended that the Town's estuarine and ICW access policy give priority to street-end access improvements at locations where adjacent property owners consider the project as an improvement to their quality of life
  - Most property owners along the street-end should agree, as increased traffic on their street-end would affect their quality of life and appurtenant easement rights
- ESSR 2: It is recommended the highest priority for selection of estuarine access sites should be State or Town-owned property adjacent to the ICW or creek/waterways
  - Second in priority are access locations where both property owners at the street-end and residents along the street-end would welcome the building of a pier with floating dock or a fishing T
  - Where property owners do not welcome construction of a pier with floating dock, fishing T, or other structure, the following priorities are recommended when selecting an access site and exercising the power of eminent domain to legally acquire the street-end property:
    - Waterfront lots on street-ends that have vacant lots on both sides of the street
    - Waterfront lots on street-ends that have one vacant lot and one house adjacent to the street end

- Last in preference and priority, street-ends that have houses on both sides of the street-end
- ESSR 3: When seeking to improve or acquire new public access to ocean, ICW, and estuarine waters:
  - First, establish the need for more improved access sites
  - Identify candidate access sites
  - Determine affordability and adverse consequences if not funded
  - Perform cost-benefit analyses of the proposed candidate projects
  - Rank and order/sort the candidate projects based on their cost effectiveness
- ESSR 4: Analyze unimproved candidate estuarine access sites for:
  - Spatial separation to avoid access redundancy
  - Population density (cost effectiveness)
  - Environmental impact
  - Topography (slope) suitability
  - Stormwater runoff and erosion
  - Estuary suitability (right of navigation in public trust waters)
- ESSR 5: It is recommended that Fishing Ts that are more suitable for handicap access by their design (as opposed to piers with ramps to floating docks whose slope is subject to the tide) be alternated with piers with floating docks
- ESSR 6: To improve the water quality of Public Trust waters, it is recommended, that where possible in choosing among candidate access improvement project locations, preference will be given to selecting streets with the most severe stormwater runoff problem and the worst street-end bank erosion so that the improvement can fix the stormwater issues at these sites
- ESSR 7: It is recommended that any improvements made to an access site will:
  - Correct and stabilize the existing street erosion along the street
  - Stabilize the bank of the creek or waterway and marsh at the street-end
  - Further the Town's compliance with the requirements of its stormwater permit

- **ESSR 8:** It is recommended that the Town's Stormwater Director maintain a list of ICW and estuarine street-ends and adjacent lots with the most severe erosion. This list will also include a list of street-end access sites where improvements (bulkheads, piers, etc.) contribute to stormwater runoff and erosion problems for public trust waters

## HABITAT CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- ◆ In consideration of the extensive valuable wildlife habitat areas located in Oak Island's jurisdiction, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission recommends the following considerations for future development:
  - ✓ Crafting conservation development standards or incentives
  - ✓ Density bonuses and other incentives to protect riparian and wetland forest buffers and habitat corridors
  - ✓ Establish a 100-foot protection buffer outside of conservation areas on the mainland on each side of perennial streams in order to conserve aquatic life and water quality
  - ✓ Require major development (100 parcels or larger) to employ Low Impact Development techniques to treat stormwater onsite using the natural topography and vegetation
  - ✓ Utilize the NCWRC Green Growth Toolbox as a guide for future development

## MANAGEMENT GOALS, PLANNING OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS

### ◆ PUBLIC ACCESS

- ✓ **Management Goal**—Maximize public access to the beaches and the public trust waters of the coastal region
- ✓ **Planning Objectives**—Policies that address access needs and opportunities, with strategies to develop public access and provisions for all segments of the community, including persons with disabilities. Oceanfront communities shall establish access policies for beach areas targeted for nourishment
- ✓ **Implementing Actions**
  - I.1 The Town will seek state and federal grants to offset the cost associated with acquiring, rehabilitating, and improving public access  
*Schedule: Continuing*
  - I.2 The Town will maintain traditional public recreational uses of "The Point." The Point is the westernmost end of Oak Island formed by the

Lockwood Folly River Inlet, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Eastern Channel

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.3 The Town will pursue programs and funding for the maintenance and improvement of publicly owned T-shaped fishing piers

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.4 The Town will provide public beach access and parking that meet the US Army Corps of Engineer standards for participation in beach renourishment projects

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.5 Marina operators within the Town's jurisdiction will be encouraged to participate in Best Practice Operating Programs such as the "Clean Marina" program sponsored by the NC Division of Coastal Management and the NC Marine Trade Services organization and will be required to provide pump-out facilities

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.6 The Town encourages the development of new upland marinas and supports the rebuilding of existing marinas if damaged by storms. Upland marinas are marinas located on the landward side of an estuarine shoreline, requiring dredging, but no dredging/alteration of wetlands or estuarine habitat and providing flushing by tidal or wind generated water circulation. (For detailed definition, refer to 15A NCAC 7H.0208(b)(5))

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.7 The Town encourages marina operators to apply for grants that may be available to help pay for pump-out facilities or other environmental improvements

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.8 The Town will work in conjunction with state agencies focused on boating access efforts, e.g., North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.9 The Town will investigate mechanisms, programs, and funding to maintain the ocean fishing pier, including UDO provisions that would protect existing uses, and prohibit major change in uses or expansion

*Schedule: High*

- I.10 The Town and Beach Preservation Society will conduct a “Beach User” survey during a summer season to determine problems and opportunities that may exist based on the experiences of “typical” beachgoers. The survey results will provide the basis for needed changes and improvements to existing and proposed shoreline access sites

*Schedule: High*

- I.11 The Town will prepare (with or without state and/or federal funding) an Ocean and Estuarine Access Plan to address, at a minimum, the following:

- Review of the law regarding Appurtenant Easement Rights
- Provision of a Cost Benefit analysis to prioritize projects on a Need basis
- Priorities for funding of existing and proposed public access facilities
- Additional facilities for recreational boating
- Standards for floating docks, boat ramps, and/or parking areas associated with public access sites that will address stormwater runoff, water quality, aesthetic concerns, and adequate water depth at low tide

*Schedule: High*

- I.12 The Town will develop an ordinance to regulate mooring fields and floating structures. The ordinance should prohibit floating homes, boats, or other watercraft used as a permanent or temporary residence for more than 30 days

*Schedule: Medium*

- I.13 The Town will review, evaluate, and improve existing ocean and estuarine waterway access for people with disabilities

*Schedule: Medium*

- I.14 The Town will develop a brochure that identifies accessible beach, and estuarine waterway access, and parks for people with disabilities

*Schedule: Medium*

## **Town of Oak Island: Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

## ◆ LAND USE COMPATIBILITY

- ✓ Management Goal—Ensure that development and use of resources, or preservation of land balance protection of natural resources and fragile areas with economic development, avoid risks to public health, safety, and welfare, and are consistent with the capability of the land
- ✓ Planning Objectives—Policies that characterize future land use development patterns and establish mitigation criteria and concepts to minimize conflicts
- ✓ Implementing Actions

- I.18 The Town will maintain the zoning of open space areas, such as marshes and other environmentally sensitive lands, and expand where possible. The Town has an Open Space zoning district

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.20 The Town will prepare a Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to consolidate all Town land use regulatory documents including the following ordinances: Zoning, Subdivision, Flood, Sedimentation and Erosion Control, Stormwater, and Vegetation Management

*Schedule: High*

The UDO should provide/accomplish, at a minimum, the following:

- A simpler, more flexible, and more easily administered regulatory document
- Improvement in and increase of sidewalk requirements
- Greater clarity for landscaping/tree/screening requirements (increase landscape requirements including: tree protection/preservation, reducing tree damage during construction, replacing trees lost during construction, planting trees on construction sites where trees do not exist, and long-term maintenance of trees); coordination with the NC Forestry Service grant
- Requirement of bike racks at all multi-family and commercial developments
- Addition of regulations for food trucks
- Inclusion of open space zoning district

◆ INFRASTRUCTURE CARRYING CAPACITY

- ✓ Management Goal—Ensure that public infrastructure systems are appropriately sized, located, and managed so that quality and productivity of AECs and other fragile areas are protected or restored
- ✓ Planning Objectives—Policies that establish service criteria and ensure improvements minimize impacts to AECs and other fragile areas
- ✓ Implementing Actions
  - I.22 The Town will seek Federal, State and County funding for community facilities and infrastructure needs  
*Schedule: Continuing*
  - I.29 The Town will continue to maintain a Capital Reserve Fund which will be based on an annually approved Capital Improvements Plan  
*Schedule: Continuing*
  - I.30 The Town will review and encourage implementation of the 2006 Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan and update the plan as NCDOT funding may become available  
*Schedule: Continuing*
  - I.31 As NC Department of Transportation enhancement grants become available, the Town will actively pursue these grant funds for the purpose of establishing or re-establishing bike paths along Town roadways such as Yacht Drive as well as vegetation along all state-maintained roads  
*Schedule: Continuing*
  - I.32 The Town supports the following roadway improvements which were identified by the CPAC:
    - An access management plan should be created for EF Middleton Boulevard in concert with the Town and NCDOT
    - The speed limit on E. Oak Island Drive should be evaluated. A request should be made to NCDOT to conduct a speed limit study of all state-maintained roads on the island

## **Town of Oak Island:**

# **Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

- The feasibility of a roundabout at the intersection of Oak Island Drive and NC 133 should be assessed
- The need for additional crosswalks on all state-maintained roads needs to be assessed

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.35 The Town recognizes the value of water quality maintenance for the protection of its previously described fragile areas and for the provision of clean water for fishing and recreational purposes. The Town will support existing local and state regulations relating to stormwater runoff resulting from development (Stormwater Disposal Policy 15A NCAC 2H.001-1003)

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.40 For pedestrian safety, the Town will support and request NCDOT to consider the following safety improvements at major intersections and mid-block crossovers:

- Thermoplastic crosswalk markings
- Pedestrian countdown signals
- Mast arm traffic signal pole with underground utilities
- ADA curb ramps
- Continue the sidewalk along E. Oak Island Drive from 79th Street to Country Club Drive (NC 133)

*Schedule: High*

- I.41 The Town will apply to NCDOT for funding to prepare a pedestrian access/transportation plan, including development of a system of sidewalks throughout the community

*Schedule: High*

## **Town of Oak Island: Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- I.43 The Town was preparing a Parks & Recreation Master Plan concurrently with the preparation of this plan. That plan should address the following:

- New future park: playground, kayak/canoe launch, splash pad
- Recreation center expansion: gymnasium, fitness center, aerobics room, office space, storage
- Greenways/bike paths throughout the Town
- Additional mainland park facility
- Maintain beach and marsh as public trust areas
- Provide ICWW access via the old bridge site.

When adopted, the recreation plan will become functional extension of this plan

*Schedule: High*

- I.45 The Town will provide bike racks at all municipal buildings

*Schedule: Medium*

## ♦ WATER QUALITY

- ✓ Management Goal—Maintain, protect, and where possible, enhance water quality in all coastal wetlands, rivers, streams, and estuaries
- ✓ Planning Objectives—Policies that establish strategies and practices to control nonpoint source pollution and maintain or improve water quality
- ✓ Implementing Actions

- I.69 The Town will undertake tree and vegetative enhancement projects on public property

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.72 The Town will support actions to reduce stormwater runoff and associated pollution to all public trust waters (ocean beaches, waterways, and estuaries) from all public areas (such as streets, parking lots, access areas, and ramps) and private properties (impervious surfaces)

*Schedule: Continuing, High*

- I.82 The Town will seek local legislation to regulate personal watercraft operation in the Davis Creek/Montgomery Slough Complex and Eastern Channel

*Schedule: Low*

- ◆ LOCAL CONCERNS—In addition to the CRC Management Topics outlined above, CAMA guidelines also allow for the inclusion of policies to address local areas of concern:
  - ✓ Implementing Actions
    - I.84 The Town will continue to provide beach wheelchairs for people with disabilities  
*Schedule: Continuing*
    - I.85 The Town will continue to support the educational and stewardship efforts of the Oak Island Parks & Recreation  
*Schedule: Continuing*
    - I.86 The Town will actively pursue NC Department of Transportation Enhancement Grants and other grant opportunities to protect specimen trees and establish and/or re-establish trees along the main corridors of the Town  
*Schedule: Continuing*
    - I.88 The Town will encourage physical activity and wellness  
*Schedule: Continuing*
    - I.89 The Town will provide outlets for physical activity  
*Schedule: Continuing*
    - I.91 The Town will pursue programs and funding for the maintenance and improvement of the ocean fishing piers  
*Schedule: Continuing*
    - I.92 The Town will support non-regulatory actions and/or opportunities for the preservation of the ocean fishing piers  
*Schedule: Continuing*
    - I.93 The Town supports the Brunswick Shoreline Protection, which includes the towns of Caswell Beach, Holden Beach, Oak Island, Ocean Isle Beach, and Sunset Beach. The Town will support the Oak Island Beach Preservation Society, and will actively participate in the North Carolina Beach, Inlet and Waterway Association, and the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association  
*Schedule: Continuing*

## **Town of Oak Island:**

# **Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

- I.95 The Town will use all available resources for the Town's beach preservation program. The Town will work with state and federal agencies to ensure that these resources are used in the most effective manner to further the Town's beach preservation goals. Alternative sand sources will be investigated

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.96 The Town will improve enforcement of the beachfront lighting ordinance and make recommendations to minimize impacts to turtle nesting/hatching. The Town will review and update the existing applicable ordinances

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.97 The Town will work to develop an education program for residents and visitors concerning the lighting impact on sea turtles nesting and shore birds

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.102 The Town will support federal, state and county funding for maintenance of inlets, waterways and beaches

*Schedule: Continuing*

- I.113 The Town will provide routine maintenance of the beach by removal of garbage, trash and debris

*Schedule: Continuing, High*

- I.116 The Town strongly encourages overall land use and development patterns that support retention of the Oak Island small town character, its existing quality of development, and its family atmosphere, including limited mixed use

*Schedule: Continuing, High*

- I.117 The Town will inventory open space, actively pursue grants and funding opportunities, develop, and implement a plan to acquire and preserve open space and environmentally fragile areas throughout the Town

*Schedule: Continuing, High*

## **Town of Oak Island:**

## **Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

- **I.118** The Town will continue to update, maintain, and seek additional recreational facilities appropriate to the present and future populations. This includes but is not limited to – recreational buildings, playing fields, tennis courts, pool, golf course, basketball courts, playgrounds, and walking/jogging/biking paths. This task will be reflected/supported in the Town's Recreation Master Plan  
*Schedule: High*
- **I.120** The Town mandates development practices that preserve important environmental features, provide a high-quality living environment, address transportation needs, and emphasize compatibility with neighboring residential areas  
*Schedule: High*
- **I.122** The Town will preserve its tree canopy and coordinate with the NC Forestry Service Urban and Community Forestry Program on the preparation of a tree preservation plan and update of its tree preservation requirements in the preparation of the town's UDO  
*Schedule: High*
- I.126 The Town will consider conducting a branding study  
*Schedule: Medium*

# **Town of Oak Island: Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

## **Town of Oak Island Unified Development Ordinance**

[https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/UDO\\_5\\_23\\_19Revised.pdf](https://www.oakislandnc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/UDO_5_23_19Revised.pdf)

A review of the “Town of Oak Island Unified Development Ordinance” which was adopted by the Oak Island Town Council on October 9, 2018 yielded the following information pertinent to the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan:**

### GENERAL REGULATIONS

#### ◆ *Sidewalks*

- ✓ All new non-residential and major subdivision construction permitted following the adoption of this Ordinance shall be required to construct five (5) foot sidewalk(s) on the street right-of-way. The sidewalk(s) shall comply with the Town of Oak Island Standards and Specifications document and NCDOT requirements

### SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS

#### ◆ *Regulation of Docks Within Town Limits*

- ✓ The construction of docks and piers within the Town limits shall be governed by the applicable US Corps of Engineers and Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) regulations

#### ◆ *Swimming Pools*

- ✓ All public, commercial, or private outdoor swimming pools of three feet or more in depth, either aboveground or belowground, and of either permanent or temporary construction, shall meet the following requirements in addition to setbacks and other requirements specified elsewhere:
  - The setback for a swimming pool from any lot line shall equal the required setback for accessory structures in the district in which it is located, plus one foot for each foot over five feet of pool depth. Swimming pools are not allowed in the required front yard area
  - A fence, being an enclosing structure of rails, pickets, wires or the like, shall be erected to a minimum height of four feet and a maximum height of six feet, to completely enclose all sides of the pool not bounded by a building. A gate of equal height with a locking mechanism shall be installed and securely fastened when the pool is not in use
  - Fencing surrounding swimming pools shall be designed to minimize the possibility of unauthorized or unwary persons from entering the pool area. In the case of a semi-open (such as chain-link) fence, the open space between each section of fencing material shall be no

*larger than 16 square inches. The fence or wall may be constructed of wood, masonry or similar materials or by a chain-link or similar fencing with natural screening, if it complies with the requirements of the location of accessory buildings in the district in which it is located. This section shall also apply to day care centers having swimming pools with a depth of 18 inches or more*

- *All mechanical equipment associated with pool maintenance shall be located a minimum of five feet from any property line*
- *All floodlights shall be shielded from adjacent properties to reduce offensive glare*
- *All electrical wiring shall be in conformance with the National Electrical Code*

♦ **Recreational Campgrounds and Recreational Vehicle Parks**

- ✓ Campgrounds for recreational purposes may be located on the island, provided:

- *Accessibility—The campground shall be readily accessible to a public street, and no entrance or exit from the campground shall require traffic movement through a developed residential district. Access to campsites or recreational vehicle sites shall be provided through well-maintained roadways within the campground*
- *Dimensions—No campground or recreational vehicle park shall be less than two acres. No campsite shall be located closer than twenty-five feet to the right-of-way of any public street. Gross density of the campground shall not exceed twenty-five trailer spaces per acre and no more than one motorized recreational vehicle or recreational trailer is parked on each site*
- *Site Design—Detailed site plans showing the proposed type and location of campsites, access roads, location and type of all related facilities and a description of the provisions for utilities shall be provided in accordance with Article 5. During the review, special attention shall be directed toward ensuring that adequate space is provided for each campsite. Concrete slabs shall be allowed if they do not exceed 100 square feet per campsite and shall not violate the restrictions of impervious surface coverage as provided in this Ordinance*

### Town of Oak Island Unified Development Ordinance

- *Walkways—Walkways shall be provided to service facilities and comfort stations*
- *Screening and Landscaping—Additional yard areas and landscaping may be required when granting the special use. Campgrounds shall be enclosed by an appropriate fence except at drive-in entrance or exit*
- *Recreational Vehicles—A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on wheels or a jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick-disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no additions. Recreational vehicles placed on sites shall be on site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, and be fully licensed and ready for highway use*
- *Additions—All additions, excepts those provided by the facility owner, are prohibited*
- ♦ **Marinas/Boatominium**
  - ✓ Marinas/Boatominiums shall be located, designed, and operated in accordance with Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) requirements
- ♦ **Waterslide**
  - ✓ Buffers must be installed on all property lines abutting residentially zoned or used property in accordance with the requirements of Article 10, Part I
  - ✓ Lighting installed on the property must comply with the provisions for town lighting in Article 10, Part V and shall be installed in a manner that prevents trespass onto adjoining properties and controls glare on the public right-of-way and on public trust waters
  - ✓ Required off-street parking spaces shall be provided in accordance with Article 10, Part III
- ♦ **Auto, Watercraft, and Recreational Vehicle Sales, Rentals and Indoor Repairs**
  - ✓ Storage areas for vehicles or watercraft being repaired shall be screened (in accordance with Article 10, Part I) from view of the public right-of-way and any adjacent residentially used or zoned property
  - ✓ A buffer meeting the requirements of Article 10, Part I, must be installed along any property line adjoining residentially zoned or used property
  - ✓ All repairs must take place inside a structure
  - ✓ Vehicles or watercraft to be repaired may not be stored on the property for more than 120 days
  - ✓ No vehicle may be stored on the public right-of-way

- ✓ Lighting installed on the property must comply with the provisions for town lighting in Article 10, Part V, and shall be installed in a manner that prevents trespass onto adjoining properties and controls glare on the public right-of-way
- ♦ **Commercial Piers**
  - ✓ The property shall have frontage upon a collector or higher classification street
  - ✓ Adequate parking in accordance with Article 10, Part III, shall be provided for all associated uses (restaurant, gift shop, bait and tackle supplies and general retail sales)
- ♦ **Commercial Recreation Establishments**
  - ✓ Commercial recreation establishments may be allowed, subject to the following conditions and other conditions that may be required:
    - Access—the site shall front on a dedicated street
    - Water and Sewer—the site shall be served by the town water system or by a sewer system approved by the county health department
    - Parking—off-street parking shall be provided in accordance with Article 10, Part III
    - Site Plan—a site plan, drawn to scale, shall be submitted in accordance with Article 5

### PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- ♦ **Tree Resource Management**
  - ✓ Tree resource management regulations shall apply to all protected trees for both new and existing development in accordance with the Town of Oak Island Tree Management Program. No building permit or certificate of occupancy shall be issued for any improvements upon a property where the provisions of the Tree Management Program have not been complied with



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## Town of Oak Island Unified Development Ordinance



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***CHAPTER SIX:***  
***PARKS, RECREATION &***  
***OPEN SPACE STANDARDS***

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Parks, recreation and open space standards are more likely to serve the needs and interests of a community if those standards meet certain specific criteria. In truth, the real measure of a good and practical standard is the level of citizen satisfaction with the standards. In developing parks, recreation and open space standards for the Town of Oak Island, the following criteria were considered:

- **Relevance**—the standards should reflect the needs, interests and lifestyles of the community's residents.
- **People Orientation**—the standards should reflect the unique needs and preferences of specific people in the area being served.

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- **Performance Standards**—the standards should provide a basis for measuring achievement of community objectives. They should measure the quality of parks, recreation and open space services rather than simply the quantity.
- **Feasibility**—the standards should be attainable within a reasonable timeframe and with available funding sources.
- **Practicality**—the standards should be simple to understand and apply. They should be based on sound planning principles, information and a credible development process. They should also be flexible enough to handle unanticipated situations and rapidly changing needs.

The United States has experienced rapid and, in some locals, extreme socioeconomic and demographic shifts over the last decade. Accompanying these shifts has been the realization that every community has its own unique blend of social, environmental and economic characteristics that define it. Therefore, considering each community on an individual basis to tailor the most appropriate range, quantity and quality of parks, recreation and open space programs, services, areas and facilities within fiscal limits is important.

The national and state parks and recreation standards presented in this section of the Master Plan were utilized strictly as guidelines and benchmarks for comparison in the preparation of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan***. These national and state standards were not judged to be requirements. They were considered to be subjective recommendations that necessitated modification in order to meet the specific and particular demands and requirements of the Town of Oak Island. The standards served only as tenets for what national and state professional agencies and organizations in the field of parks and recreation consider adequate and acceptable types and numbers of parks and recreation programs, services, areas and facilities. They were compiled by and proposed by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), Division of Parks and Recreation.

These national and state standards provided a starting point for establishing unique and specific local standards for parks, recreation and open space development for the Town of Oak Island. It is appropriate to state that the NRPA, in a 1995 report entitled “Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines”, reached the conclusion that there are no “national standards” for parks, recreation and open space development. In fact, the report reaffirms that notion that each local community is unique, and that standards reflecting the local community’s “uniqueness” should be established. This is the approach that was utilized and implemented in constructing standards for the Town of Oak Island.

The ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** analysis considered and evaluated two types of parks and recreation standards: 1) the total acreage of parkland and open space recommended for inclusion within a park, recreation and open space system; and, 2) the programs, services, areas and facilities necessary to adequately meet the parks, recreation and open space needs of the citizens of the Town of Oak Island. The ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** incorporates these park standards in its recommendations for evaluating the current parks, recreation and open space system and for establishing a plan of action to meet future growth patterns.

## Parks, Open Space and Greenways Classifications

A comprehensive parks, recreation and open space system is made up of a variety of park types. These park types range from very large Nature Preserves or Regional Parks, often encompassing hundreds of acres, to the very small neighborhood and mini-parks, sometimes less than one acre. Some of these park types are the responsibility of governmental entities other than municipalities, such as federal, state or county government. To fully appreciate and understand the Town of Oak Island's role in the provision of parks and recreation services to its citizens, one needs to comprehend the context that makes up a total parks, recreation and open space system.

### **Nature Preserves—the acquisition and development of Nature Preserves are typically undertaken by federal and state governments**

Nature Preserves are typically very large sites, encompassing unique qualities that exemplify the natural features found in the region, the diverse land formations, and the variety of vegetation and wildlife. Examples of the types of facilities provided in a Nature Preserve are environmental centers, camping, nature trials, observation decks, and picnic areas. Open fields for non-structured activities, such as Frisbee throwing or kite flying, are also generally found.

Land chosen for future preserves, or the expansion of existing sites, should contain the previously mentioned characteristics accompanied with natural water features such as lakes, rivers, and creeks. The majority of the site should be reserved for passive recreation, with the remaining acreage utilized for active recreation.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing Nature Preserves are as follows:*

Service Area:	County/Region Wide
Acreage/Population Ratio:	2.5 acres per 1,000 persons
Desirable Range:	150 – 1,000 acres with adequate area to encompass the resources to be preserved and managed

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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Typical Facilities:	Environmental Center Equestrian Center Vending Beach Swimming Nature Trails Boat Docks Parking RV Camping	Picnic Tables/Grills Restrooms Primitive Camping Group Camping Boating Fishing Pier Observation Decks Picnic Shelters/Grills Caretaker's House
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Specialty areas and facilities may be added to or substituted for other areas and facilities, depending on regional/community needs or special site characteristics.

## **Regional Parks—the acquisition and development of Regional Parks typically fall within the responsibility of county government**

Regional Parks are typically large sites that provide a wide and varied range of both active and passive recreational opportunities. These parks are intended to serve a substantial number of people who are willing to spend travel time to visit the sites. Examples of the types of areas and facilities provided in a Regional Park are sports complexes, swimming pools, nature trails, fitness trails, restrooms, parking, concessions, picnic shelters, playgrounds, amphitheaters, recreation centers, picnic areas, boating facilities and open play areas.

Land selected for Regional Parks should be located on major transportation corridors and easily accessible by a large number of citizens. The majority of the site should be reserved and utilized for active recreation with adequate provision for passive recreation.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing Regional Parks are as follows:*

Service Area:	8-mile radius—typically serves a population base of approximately 60,000	
Acreage/Population Ratio:	2.5 acres per 1,000	
Desirable Range:	125 – 500 acres	
Desirable Size:	±250 acres	
Minimum Size:	125 acres	
Typical Features:	Picnic Shelters/Grills Nature Trails Tournament Baseball Fields Tournament Softball Fields	Picnic Tables/Grills Tennis Complex Playground Fitness Trails
Specialty Features:	Swimming Pool	Recreation Center

Specialty areas and facilities may be added to or substituted for other areas and facilities, depending on regional/community needs or special site characteristics.

## **Community Parks—the acquisition and development of Community Parks typically fall within the responsibility of county and municipal governments**

Community Parks provide a full range of facilities to support tournament competition for athletic and league sports. These parks also present opportunities for non-traditional types of recreation. Activities that generate large crowds, such as special events and tournament competitions, are well suited for Community Parks, where adequate space and parking are provided. Approximately fifty percent (50%) of a Community Park should be developed for only passive recreation. These relatively undisturbed areas may serve as buffers around the park or act as buffers between active areas and facilities.

Community Parks should have varying topography and vegetative communities. Forested areas should have a variety of tree species. Cleared areas should be present for placing active recreation areas and facilities. One or more natural water features, such as a lake, river, or creek should be included in a Community Park. Parkland should also be contiguous and strategically located in order to be accessible to all users within the service area.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing Community Parks are as follows:*

Service Area:	.5 – 3 mile radius—typically serves several neighborhoods																													
Acreage/Population Ratio:	5 – 8 acres per 1,000 persons																													
Desirable Range:	15 – 100 acres																													
Desirable Size:	<u>±25</u> acres																													
Typical Facilities:	<table><tr><td>Recreation Center</td><td>Playground</td></tr><tr><td>Picnic Shelters/Grills</td><td>Basketball Court</td></tr><tr><td>Picnic Tables/Grills</td><td>Tennis Courts</td></tr><tr><td>Nature Trails</td><td>Restrooms</td></tr><tr><td>Tournament Baseball Fields</td><td>Parking</td></tr><tr><td>Tournament Softball Fields</td><td>Volleyball Courts</td></tr><tr><td>Concessions</td><td>Soccer Fields</td></tr><tr><td>Golf Course</td><td>Swimming</td></tr><tr><td>Beaches</td><td>Environmental Center</td></tr><tr><td>Boating</td><td>Equestrian Center</td></tr><tr><td>Amphitheater</td><td>Fishing Pier</td></tr><tr><td>Boat Docks</td><td>Observation Decks</td></tr><tr><td>Marina Operations</td><td>Swimming Pool</td></tr><tr><td>Fitness Course</td><td>Paddle Boats</td></tr></table>		Recreation Center	Playground	Picnic Shelters/Grills	Basketball Court	Picnic Tables/Grills	Tennis Courts	Nature Trails	Restrooms	Tournament Baseball Fields	Parking	Tournament Softball Fields	Volleyball Courts	Concessions	Soccer Fields	Golf Course	Swimming	Beaches	Environmental Center	Boating	Equestrian Center	Amphitheater	Fishing Pier	Boat Docks	Observation Decks	Marina Operations	Swimming Pool	Fitness Course	Paddle Boats
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## **Sports Complex—the acquisition and development of a Sports Complex typically falls within the responsibility of county or municipal governments**

A Sports Complex functions as the major source of active recreation in the local community. Programs, services and activities found at a Sports Complex are similar to those in a Community Park, but are developed to support tournament competition. Passive recreation experiences and opportunities are generally limited, but may be found in undisturbed areas, preferably within the surrounding buffers.

Sites for Sports Complexes should be relatively flat to alleviate excessive grading and land preparation for active areas and facilities. Sites without significant vegetation or natural features are preferable since most of the land will be developed for active recreation such as athletic fields. Sites should be easily accessible from major thoroughfares. Direct access to residential areas should be limited and buffers provided adjacent to residential areas.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing a Sports Complex are as follows:*

Service Area:	3 – 5 mile radius	
Acreage/Population Ratio:	2.5 acres per 1,000 persons	
Desirable Range:	80 – 100 acres	
Desirable Size:	<u>±100</u> acres	
Typical Features:	Playgrounds	Picnic Shelter/Grills
	Basketball Courts	Nature Trail
	Tennis Courts	Baseball Fields
	Softball Fields	Benches
	Parking	Multi-Purpose Fields
	Service Yard	Volleyball Courts
	Restrooms/Concessions	
	Tournament Level Soccer Fields	
	Tournament Level Baseball/Softball Fields	
	Tournament Level Tennis Complex	
Alternate Facilities:	Recreation Center	Running Track
	Amphitheater	Observation Decks

Specialty areas and facilities may be added to or substituted for other areas and facilities, depending on community needs or special site characteristics.

## District Parks—the acquisition and development of District Parks typically fall within the responsibility of municipal government

District Parks function as the major source of active recreation in the neighborhoods they serve. Activities are similar to those found in Community Parks, but are not developed to support tournament competition. Their smaller size often requires District Parks to be more intensely developed than the Community Parks. Passive recreation opportunities are found in the undisturbed areas, preferably within surrounding buffers.

Sites for District Parks should be relatively flat to alleviate excessive grading of active areas and facilities. Where possible, there should be an equal balance of wooded and cleared areas. If a natural water feature is present, the adjoining land should be developed primarily with passive recreation. Accessibility to neighborhoods should also be a consideration when choosing a site for a District Park.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing a District Park are as follows:*

Service Area:	1 – 2 ½ mile radius	
Acreage/Population Ratio:	5 acres per 1,000 persons	
Desirable Range:	20 – 100 acres	
Desirable Size:	<u>±50</u> acres	
Typical Features:	Playgrounds	Picnic Shelter/Grills
	Basketball Courts	Nature Trail
	Tennis Courts	Baseball Fields
	Softball Fields	Benches
	Parking	Multi-Purpose Fields
	Service Yard	Volleyball
	Soccer Fields	
	50% of Site to Remain Undeveloped	
Alternate Facilities:	Recreation Center	Tennis Center
	Football Fields	Running Trail
	Boating	Amphitheater
	Observation Decks	Fishing Piers
	Swimming Pool	Fitness Course

Specialty areas and facilities may be added to or substituted for other areas and facilities, depending on community needs or special site characteristics.

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## **Neighborhood Parks—the acquisition and development of Neighborhood Parks typically fall within the responsibility of municipal government**

Neighborhood Parks offer the local citizens a convenient source of accessible recreation and serve as the basic unit of the parks and recreation system. These parks are located in residential areas and usually within walking distance of the areas served and provide a variety of activities to interest all age groups. While their small size requires intense development, fifty percent (50%) of each site should remain undisturbed to serve as a buffer between the park and adjacent land owners and users.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing Neighborhood Parks are as follows:*

Service Area:	$\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius to serve walk-in recreation needs of surrounding neighborhood population	
Acreage/Population Ratio:	1 acre per 1,000 persons	
Desirable Range:	5 – 25 acres	
Desirable Size:	$\pm$ 15 acres	
Typical Facilities:	Playground	Basketball Courts
	Softball Field	Baseball Field
	Multi-Purpose Field	Picnic Shelters/Grills
	Picnic Tables/Grills	Benches
	50% of Site to Remain Undeveloped	
Alternate Facilities:	Tennis Courts	Nature Trail
	Fitness Course	

These areas and facilities may be added to or substituted for other areas and facilities, depending on community needs or special site characteristics.



## **Mini-Parks—the acquisition and development of Mini-Parks typically fall within the responsibility of municipal government**

Mini-Park is the smallest park classification. Mini-Parks are often very small in size and are only easily accessible by the citizens immediately surrounding the park. These small parks are usually located within walking distance of the area serviced and provide a limited variety of activities to targeted interest groups.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing Mini-Parks are as follows:*

Service Area:	$\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius to serve walk-in recreation needs of surrounding population	
Acreage/Population Ratio:	.25 acres per 1,000 persons	
Desirable Size:	$\pm\frac{1}{2}$ acre	
Typical Facilities:	Benches	Picnic Tables/Grills
	Playground	
Specialty Features:	Water Fountain	$\frac{1}{2}$ Basketball Courts
	Open Play Area	
	Landscaped Public Use Areas	

These areas and facilities may be added to or substituted for other areas and facilities, depending on community needs or special site characteristics.

## **School-Parks—the acquisition and development of School-Parks typically fall within the responsibility of municipal and county governments**

The joint use of public areas and facilities is a national growing trend. Through joint use both local government and the school system benefit from shared use of areas and facilities and valuable land resources. The School-Park concept takes full advantage of the joint use objective and provides a planned area and/or facility that also maximizes public funding. Historically, elementary and small middle schools provide the ideal setting for a neighborhood park while large middle schools and high schools are suitable for a community park or a sports complex.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing School-Parks are as follows:*

Service Area:	Varies depending upon the type of school and park
Desirable Size:	Varies depending upon the type of school and park
Typical Facilities:	Varies depending upon the type of school and park

### **Greenways—the acquisition and development of Greenways typically fall within the responsibility of municipal and county governments**

Greenways provide an important component of most municipal and county park systems. A greenway is a corridor of protected open space managed for conservation, recreation and non-motorized transportation. Greenways often follow natural geographic features such as ridge lines, wetlands, streams and rivers, but may also be built along canals, utility corridors, or abandoned rail lines. Widths may vary from thirty (30) to a thousand (1,000) feet. Most greenways include a trail or bike path, but others may be designed strictly for environmental or scenic protection.

Greenways, as vegetated linear parks, provide tree cover, wildlife habitat, and riparian buffers to protect streams. The environmental benefits include reduced storm-water runoff, flood reduction, water quality protection, and preservation of biological diversity. The trails within the greenways provide access between neighborhoods and destination points, opportunity to travel without an automobile, outdoor education classrooms, and close-to-home paths for walking, jogging, bicycling, and other non-motorized forms of transportation. Tree cover and use of bicycles instead of cars provide for better air quality, fewer hard-surfaced parking lots, and reduced energy costs.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing Greenways are as follows:*

Desirable Size:	Varies considerably—A thirty (30) feet width is generally considered a minimum
Typical Facilities:	Paved and non-paved paths, benches and lighting



### **Boat Access Sites—the acquisition and development of Boat Access Sites typically fall within the responsibility of municipal, county and state governments**

Most public boat access sites in North Carolina are designed, constructed and maintained by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. However, there are standard construction and design guidelines for boat ramps.

*Specific standards and criteria for developing boat access sites are as follows:*

Standard Dimensions for Concrete Launch Ramp:

- ⊕ Length—varies by site characteristics. Ensure that the bottom of the ramp at Mean Low Water (MLW) will be in at least 3' of water. The top of the ramp should be at least 1' above Mean High Water (MHW)
- ⊕ Width—single launch ramp should be at least 14' wide
- ⊕ Thickness—concrete should be at least 6".

Launch Ramp Slope:

- ⊕ Approximately 14%, but can vary from 15% to 12.5%

Construction and Materials:

- ⊕ Sub-Grade Preparation—the concrete ramp should be placed on compacted aggregate which is placed on geo-textile fabric to prevent washout.
- ⊕ Push Slab—use a push slab for the launch ramp below the MLW level. The steel reinforced concrete slab should be cast on upland and allowed to cure for a minimum of 21 days before it is pushed into place. Typically, a 32'L x 14'W x 6"T push slab can be properly placed when the water level is at MLW
- ⊕ Cast in Place Section—once the push slab is cast in place, there should be at least 2 – 3 feet of ramp left above the water line. The remaining ramp should be cast in place



## North Carolina Outdoor Recreation Plan 2015 – 2020 Park and Recreation Area Class Names and Descriptions

**Neighborhood Park**—Area for active recreation such as field and court games or using a playground or splash pad. Can also be smaller informal parks for open space activities. Two to eight acres is a typical size. Examples include mini parks serving residential areas, playgrounds, sports fields and combination playgrounds/sports fields/passive natural areas.

**Community Park**—Area providing a wide array of active recreational opportunities including a recreation center with a gymnasium, athletic fields, swimming pool, hard surface courts, and picnicking areas. Natural or landscaped areas are provided for passive recreation. 10 – 20 acres is a typical size. Examples include large park/school complexes; recreation center/pool/sports fields and court complexes; and community center/park complexes.

**District/Metro Area Park**—Area serving one or more suburban or rural communities. Similar to the Community Park, these areas offer intensive recreation activities and natural environment areas. Typical size is 20 – 100 acres. Examples include intensively developed county-wide or regional parks and developed public recreation sites at large reservoirs.

**Local Parks**—Combines Neighborhood, Community and District/Metro Area parks classes described above.

**Regional/State Parks**—Area of natural quality for natural resource-based outdoor recreation. Generally, 80% of the land is reserved for conservation and natural resource management with less than 20% developed for recreation. Typical size is 3,000 – 5,000 acres. Examples include state parks, state recreation areas, state natural areas, educational state forests and large natural resource-based county parks. Activities include nature study, picnicking, camping, fishing, boating, swimming and various trail uses.

**Dispersed Use/Conservancy Area**—Area for protection and management of the natural environment with recreation use as a secondary objective. Certain multiple use management approaches produce natural resource outputs such as timber, agricultural produce and minerals. Examples include state game lands, multiple use areas of national and state forests, reservoir shoreline buffer lands, and Blue Ridge Parkway acreage. These sites are generally large enough to manage the primary resource while providing secondary recreational use.

**Wilderness Area**—Area characterized by unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Low interaction between users, and evidence of others is minimal. Motorized use is not permitted. Typical size is 5,000 – 15,000 acres. Examples are congressionally designated National Wilderness Areas.



## 2016 NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION (NRPA) FIELD REPORT PARK AND RECREATION AGENCY PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

The 2016 NRPA Field Report is the only resource that provides park and recreation agencies, professionals and other key stakeholders such a wealth of valuable benchmarks and insights that informs on the state of the industry. These insights help:

1. Show the prevalence of expanded activities and offerings of agencies throughout the nation.
2. Provide guidance to park and recreation professionals to evaluate the performance of their agencies. Do their agencies provide as much open space, recreation opportunities and programming as their peers? Is the agency properly staffed? Sufficiently funded?
3. Make informed decisions on the optimal set of services and facility offerings based on the demographics and, therefore, the needs of a specific community while also providing comparative agency data from other communities and agencies.

However, the report clearly states the information in the 2016 NRPA Field Report is not the definitive answer in terms of decision making for local park and recreation agencies. Instead, park and recreation leaders should use findings from this report to start the conversation with internal colleagues, external consultants and partners, and policymakers. Data is only a tool — albeit a very valuable tool — to help determine the best decisions for an agency.

Consider that no two park and recreation agencies are the same. They serve different residents with different needs, desires and challenges and have different access to funding. For example, just because an agency may have more workers per 1,000 residents relative to “typical” park and recreation agencies does not mean that agency should shed staff. It is possible that the agency with more staff offers more hands-on programming because of the unique needs of the population it serves.

A successful agency is one that tailors its services to meet the demands of its community. Knowing who uses your agency’s resource and who may use it in the future (including age, race, income trends) are also factors in shaping the optimal mix of facilities and services to be offered. Every park and recreation agency and the public it serves are unique. Communities look different and so too should their park and recreation agency. It is this reason why NRPA no longer publishes “National Standards.”

## NRPA FIELD REPORT AT A GLANCE

*The Typical Park and Recreation Agency....*

- Has 9.5 acres of park land **per 1,000 residents**
- Has operating expenditures per capita of **\$76.44**
- Has 7.4 staff members per **10,000 residents**
- Recovers 29% of operating expenditures through revenue generation
- Has 1 park for every **2,277 residents**
- 80% of agencies offer summer camps
- 50% of agencies offer After School programs

PARK FACILITIES	TOP-LINE FINDING IN REPORT
Residents per Park	Typically, one Park for every 2,277 Residents
Acres of Park Land per 1,000 Residents	Typically, 9.5 Acres of Park Land for every 1,000 Residents
Outdoor Park and Recreation Facilities—Population per Facility	Overwhelming Majority have Playgrounds (91%) and Basketball Courts (85%) in their Portfolio of Outdoor Assets
Indoor Park and Recreation Facilities—Population per Facility	Majority offer Recreation Centers and Gyms, while at least 2 in 5 Agencies offer Community Centers, Senior Centers and Fitness Centers

PROGRAMMING	TOP-LINE FINDING IN REPORT
Programs offered	Team Sports, Fitness Enhancement Classes, and Health and Wellness Education
Targeted Programs for Children, Seniors and People with Disabilities	4 in 5 Agencies offer Summer Camps to Residents

Source: [https://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications\\_and\\_Research/Research/Field-Report.pdf](https://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications_and_Research/Research/Field-Report.pdf)

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICE PER 1,000 POPULATION STANDARDS

<b>TOTAL PARKLAND</b>	<b>10 ACRES PER 1,000 PERSONS</b>
<b>COMMUNITY PARKS</b>	<b>8 ACRES PER 1,000 PERSONS</b> <b>2-Mile Service Radius</b>
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>	<b>2 ACRES PER 1,000 PERSONS</b> <b>0.5-Mile Service Radius</b>

## NRPA AND NCDEQ STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES

The National Recreation and Park Association published the Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, 2012 to provide national guidelines that could serve as an expression of reasonableness and adequacy with respect to quality leisure service delivery. These guidelines are:

<b>Facility</b>	<b>NRPA Standard</b>	<b>NCDEQ Standard</b>
<b>Fields</b>		
Adult Baseball	1/10,000 persons	1/5,000 persons
Adult Softball	1/3,000 persons	N/A
Youth Baseball	1/6,000 persons	N/A
Youth Softball	1/5,000 persons	N/A
Football	1/10,000 persons	1/20,000 persons
Soccer	1/4,000 persons	1/10,000 persons
<b>Courts/Pits</b>		
Basketball—Outdoor	1/5,000 persons	1/5,000 persons
Basketball—Indoor	1/5,000 persons	1/5,000 persons
Tennis	1/2,000 persons	1/2,000 persons
Volleyball	1/3,000 persons	1/5,000 persons
Shuffleboard	1/5,000 persons	1/5,000 persons
Horseshoe	1/2,000 persons	1/5,000 persons
Multi-Use	1/3,000 persons	N/A
<b>Outdoor Areas</b>		
Picnic Shelters	1/2,000 persons	1/3,000 persons
Playgrounds	1/2,000 persons	1/1,000 persons
Camping	N/A	2.5 sites/1,000 persons
Archery/Skeet Shooting Area	1/50,000 persons	1/50,000 persons
Theater	1/20,000 persons	N/A
<b>Specialized Areas</b>		
Community Center	1/50,000 persons	1/20,000 persons
Swimming Pool—25m	1/10,000 persons	N/A
Swimming Pool—50m	1/20,000 persons	1/20,000 persons
Wading Pool	1/5,000 persons	N/A
Golf Course	1/25,000 persons	1/25,000 persons
Trails—Bicycle	1 mile/2,000 persons	1 mile/1,000 persons
Trails—Exercise	1 mile/7,500 persons	N/A
Trails—Hiking	1 mile/4,000 persons	.4 mile/1,000 persons
Trails—Jogging	1 mile/2,000 persons	N/A
Trails—Nature	1 mile/2,500 persons	.2 mile/1,000 persons
Canoeing—Stream Mileage	N/A	.2 mile/1,000 persons

## TOWN OF OAK ISLAND: FACILITY, AREA AND PARK STANDARDS

Minimum standards for public recreational facilities, areas and parks (i.e., Recreation Centers/Multi-purpose facilities, ball fields, pools, courts, trails, playground areas, etc.) proposed for the Town of Oak Island were developed in accordance with industry guidelines established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NC DEQ); an identification and understanding of the unique and specific socioeconomic, environmental and demographic information related specifically to the Town of Oak Island; and, input from staff and community citizens generated during the needs assessment component of the master plan process. These standards, identified in **Table 6.1 “Standards for Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks”**, are the minimum recreation facility, area and park standards that should be used in establishing the public recreation facility, area and park needs for the Town of Oak Island.

**Table 6.1 “Standards for Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks\*”**

Facility/Area	NRPA	NC DEQ	Town of Oak Island
<b><u>FIELDS</u></b>			
Adult Softball	1/3,000	1/5,000	1/10,000
Youth Baseball/Softball	1/5,000	N/A	1/2,000
Football/Soccer/Multi-Purpose	1/10,000	1/10,000	1/5,000
<b><u>COURTS/PITS</u></b>			
Basketball—Indoor	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/Community
Basketball—Outdoor	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/10,000
Tennis	1/2,000	1/2,000	1/2,000
Pickleball	N/A	N/A	1/2,000
Volleyball	1/3,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Bocce Ball	N/A	N/A	1/8,000
<b><u>OUTDOOR AREAS</u></b>			
Picnic Shelter	1/2,000	1/3,000	1/1,500
Playground	1/2,000	1/1,000	1/2,000
Multi-Purpose Path/Trail	1 mile/3,000	.4 mile/1,000	3 miles/1,000
<b><u>SPECIALIZED AREAS</u></b>			
Recreation Center	1/50,000	1/20,000	1/Community
Teen Center	N/A	N/A	1/Community
Environmental Education Center	N/A	N/A	1/Community
Senior Center	N/A	N/A	1/Community
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	1/20,000	1/Community
Golf Course	1/25,000	1/25,000	1/Community
Skate Park	1/100,000	N/A	1/Community
Disc Golf Course	N/A	N/A	1/10,000
Fitness Center	N/A	N/A	1/Community
Outdoor Amphitheater	N/A	N/A	1/Community
Dog Park	N/A	N/A	1/5,000
Splash Pad	N/A	N/A	1/Community
Water Access/Boat Launch	N/A	N/A	1/1,000

\*National, state and local standards for public recreational facility, area and park development were used as a guide in developing standards for the Town of Oak Island. The actual standards developed and established for the Town of Oak Island are based on input generated during the public input process and reflect both staff and citizen comments. These standards were also developed with the understanding that the 2017 population estimate of the Town of Oak Island was 7,780.

**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**  
**EXISTING FACILITIES, AREAS AND PARKS**

**Table 6.2 “Town of Oak Island Existing Inventory of Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks”** depicts the number of existing public recreational facilities, areas and parks (i.e., Recreation Centers/multi-purpose facilities, ball fields, pools, courts, trails, playground areas, etc.) currently maintained and/or operated by the Town of Oak Island.

**Table 6.2 “Town of Oak Island Existing Inventory of Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks”**

Facility/Area	Town Standard	Town of Oak Island 7,780 Residents in 2017 8,072 in 2018
<b><u>FIELDS</u></b>		<b><u>EXISTING</u></b>
Adult Softball	1/10,000	1
Youth Baseball/Softball	1/2,000	4
Football/Soccer/Multi-Purpose	1/5,000	2
<b><u>COURTS/PITS</u></b>		
Basketball--Indoor	1/Community	0
Basketball—Outdoor	1/10,000	1
Tennis	1/2,000	4
Pickleball	1/2,000	6
Volleyball—Indoor	1/Community	0
Volleyball—Outdoor	1/5,000	0
Bocce Ball	1/8,000	0
<b><u>OUTDOOR AREAS</u></b>		
Picnic Shelter	1/1,500	3
Playground	1/2,000	1
Multi-Purpose Trail	3 miles/1,000	0.2 Miles
<b><u>SPECIALIZED AREAS</u></b>		
Recreation/Fitness Center	1/Community	1
Teen Center	1/Community	0
Environmental Education Center	1/Community	1
Senior Center	1/Community	0
Swimming Pool	1/Community	0
Skate Park	1/Community	1
Par 3 Golf Course	1/Community	1
Disc Golf Course	1/10,000	1
Outdoor Amphitheater	1/Community	1
Dog Park	1/5,000	2
Splash Pad	1/Community	1
Water Access/Boat Launch	1/1,000	2
Total Parkland/Open Space Acreage	18 Acres/1,000	132.58 Acres
Neighborhood Park Acreage	5 Acres/1,000	30.0 Acres
Community Park Acreage	12 Acres/1,000	97.50 Acres

**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**  
**CURRENT FACILITY, AREA AND PARK DEMAND**

Table 6.3 “Town of Oak Island Current Demand for Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks” depicts the current demand in 2019 for public recreational facilities and areas (i.e., ball fields, pools, courts, playground areas, trails, etc.) that should be maintained and/or operated by the Town of Oak Island based upon Town specific standards.

**Table 6.3 “Town of Oak Island Current Demand for Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks Based on Standards”**

Facility/Area	Town Standard	Town of Oak Island 7,780 Residents in 2017 8,072 in 2018
<b><u>FIELDS</u></b>		<b><u>CURRENT DEMAND</u></b>
Adult Softball	1/10,000	1
Youth Baseball/Softball	1/2,000	4
Football/Soccer/Multi-Purpose	1/5,000	2
<b><u>COURTS/PITS</u></b>		
Basketball—Indoor	1/Community	1
Basketball—Outdoor	1/10,000	1
Tennis	1/2,000	4
Pickleball	1/2,000	4
Volleyball—Indoor	1/Community	1
Volleyball—Outdoor	1/5,000	2
Bocce Ball	1/8,000	1
<b><u>OUTDOOR AREAS</u></b>		
Picnic Shelter	1/1,500	6
Playground	1/2,000	4
Multi-Purpose Trail	3 miles/1,000	24 Miles
<b><u>SPECIALIZED AREAS</u></b>		
Recreation/Fitness Center	1/Community	1
Teen Center	1/Community	1
Environmental Education Center	1/Community	1
Senior Center	1/Community	1
Swimming Pool	1/Community	1
Skate Park	1/Community	1
Par 3 Golf Course	1/Community	1
Disc Golf Course	1/10,000	1
Outdoor Amphitheater	1/Community	1
Dog Park	1/5,000	2
Splash Pad	1/Community	1
Water Access/Boat Launch	1/1,000	8
<b>Total Park/Open Space Acreage</b>	<b>18 Acres/1,000</b>	<b>144 Acres</b>
<b>Neighborhood Park Acreage</b>	<b>5 Acres/1,000</b>	<b>40 Acres</b>
<b>Community Park Acreage</b>	<b>12 Acres/1,000</b>	<b>96 Acres</b>

**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**  
**CURRENT FACILITY, AREA AND PARK NEED**

**Table 6.4 “Town of Oak Island Current Need for Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks”** depicts the current need in 2019 for public recreational facilities, areas and parks (i.e., ball fields, pools, courts, playground areas, etc.) that should be maintained and/or operated by the Town of Oak Island based upon Town specific standards identifying current demand and the existing public recreation facilities, areas and parks.

**Table 6.4 “Town of Oak Island Current Need for Public Recreational Facilities, Areas and Parks”**

Facility/Area	Town Standard	Town of Oak Island 7,780 Residents in 2017 8,072 in 2018
<b><u>FIELDS</u></b>		<b><u>CURRENT NEED</u></b>
Adult Softball	1/10,000	0
Youth Baseball/Softball	1/2,000	0
Football/Soccer/Multi-Purpose	1/5,000	0
<b><u>COURTS/PITS</u></b>		
Basketball—Indoor	1/Community	1
Basketball—Outdoor	1/10,000	0
Tennis	1/2,000	0
Pickleball	1/2,000	0
Volleyball—Indoor	1/Community	1
Volleyball—Outdoor	1/5,000	2
Bocce Ball	1/8,000	1
<b><u>OUTDOOR AREAS</u></b>		
Picnic Shelter	1/1,500	3
Playground	1/2,000	3
Multi-Purpose Trail	3 miles/1,000	23.80 miles
<b><u>SPECIALIZED AREAS</u></b>		
Recreation/Fitness Center	1/Community	0
Teen Center	1/Community	1
Environmental Education Center	1/Community	0
Senior Center	1/Community	1
Swimming Pool	1/Community	1
Skate Park	1/Community	0
Disc Golf Course	1/10,000	0
Outdoor Amphitheater	1/Community	0
Dog Park	1/5,000	0
Splash Pad	1/Community	0
Water Access/Boat Launch	1/1,500	6
Total Park Acreage	18 Acres/1,000	11.50 Acres
Neighborhood Park Acreage	5 Acres/1,000	10 Acres
Community Park Acreage	12 Acres/1,000	0 Acres

## EVALUATION OF TOWN OF OAK ISLAND CURRENT FACILITY, AREA AND PARK NEED IN 2019

The assessment of public recreational facility, area and park standards against existing public recreational facilities, areas and parks maintained and/or operated by the Town of Oak Island reveals several current areas of deficiencies in many of the established public recreational facility and area categories. Utilizing the public recreational area and facility standards that were established specifically for the Town of Oak Island, there is a need for the following additional public recreational facilities, areas and parks:

- 1 Indoor Basketball Court
- 1 Volleyball Indoor Court
- 2 Volleyball Outdoor Courts
- 1 Bocce Ball Court
- 3 Picnic Shelters
- 3 Playgrounds
- 23.80 Miles of Multi-Purpose Trails (Walking, Biking and Hiking)
- 1 Teen Center
- 1 Senior Center
- 1 Indoor/Outdoor Swimming Pool
- 6 Water Access/Boat Launch Sites
- 11.50 Acres of Total Park Acreage
- 10.00 Acres of Neighborhood Park Acreage—0.5 – 3-mile service radius
- 0.00 Acres of Community Park Acreage—3 – 7-mile service radius

### TOWN OF OAK ISLAND PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICE PER 1,000 POPULATION STANDARDS

TOTAL PARK ACREAGE	18 ACRES PER 1,000 PERSONS
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK ACREAGE	5 ACRES PER 1,000 PERSONS 0.5 – 3 Mile Service Radius
COMMUNITY PARK ACREAGE	12 ACRES PER 1,000 PERSONS 3 – 7 Mile Service Radius



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**CHAPTER SEVEN:**  
**MASTER PLAN PROPOSALS**  
**& RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department has traditionally, historically and accurately seen its role as one of providing basic public parks, recreation and open space opportunities and experiences for the citizens of the Town of Oak Island. This accepted role is certainly one that the Town should continue, expand and enhance over the next five (5) years. Community input and a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the Town's current programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks reveal several deficiencies or "needs" in the Town of Oak Island's existing parks and recreation delivery system and resources. These deficiencies or "needs" can be satisfied through the long-range strategic planning process and the careful allocation and management of the Town of Oak Island's resources over the next five (5) years.

The overall **Needs Assessment and Public Input** portion of the master plan process revealed several consistent and interesting pieces of information concerning the parks,

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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recreation and open space needs and issues facing the Town of Oak Island over the next five (5) years.

For example, the need in varying degrees for each of the following programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks and policy considerations was mentioned during all components of the Needs Assessment and Public Input process:

- ⊕ A comprehensive, safe, functional and usable sidewalk, crosswalk, bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, and non-motorized vehicular transportation network and system that allows for safe and efficient movement in and around all areas of the Town of Oak Island, connects the various residential, commercial and service areas of the Town and connects the Town of Oak Island to its neighboring municipalities such as St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes
- ⊕ A new and comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation facility with a gymnasium, swimming pool, exercise room and fitness room
- ⊕ Enhanced and increased access to the waters in and around the Town of Oak Island to include ramps and launch facilities for kayaks, canoes, standup paddleboards and small motorized boats and improved opportunities for fishing
- ⊕ Enhanced and increased handicapped accessible public access to the oceanfront beach
- ⊕ Provision of outdoor public showers, foot washing facilities and public restrooms
- ⊕ Continued physical improvement and enhancement of existing Town of Oak Island facilities, areas and parks to include safety, accessibility and maintenance considerations
- ⊕ A swimming pool facility
- ⊕ Times that department programs, services, events, activities and camps have been offered, particularly the operating hours of the Recreation Center, may not be convenient and suitable for many of the Town of Oak Island residents, especially those employed
- ⊕ Increased, enhanced and improved communication, marketing and advertising of programs, services, events and activities offered by the Parks and Recreation Department

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To a lesser degree, the need for each of the following programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas, parks and policy considerations was mentioned during three (3) or more but not all components of the Needs Assessment and Public Input process:

- ⊕ Additional lighted tennis courts and lighted pickleball courts
- ⊕ Provision of improved and additional “dog parks”
- ⊕ Provision of sand volleyball courts
- ⊕ Provision of a community pool
- ⊕ Increased, enhanced and improved programs, services, events, activities and camps related to environmental education, outdoor recreation, nature and outdoor adventure
- ⊕ Improved and increased cooperation and collaboration between the Town of Oak Island and other public, non-profit, commercial, private and individual entities

Although there were several hundred specific diverse comments and suggestions regarding parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas parks and policy considerations in the Town of Oak Island generated during the public input and needs assessment process, it is impractical to suppose or believe that all of these suggestions and recommendations can or should be targeted for acceptance and completion in this current 5-year Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. It is, however, wise, feasible and practical to identify the most significant of those suggestions and recommendations and to develop a plan of action for their incorporation and completion.



## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

In order to facilitate and simplify this process, the needs have been categorized into five distinct (5) areas: **Land Acquisition; Facility, Area and Park Development; Program, Service, Event and Activity Development; Policy and Procedure Considerations; and, Personnel Considerations**. The recommendations for the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan** are:

### **Land Acquisition—2020 – 2025**

This document recognizes the fact that the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is a stable and well-established functioning entity within the Town of Oak Island. This document also recognizes and acknowledges it would be extremely advantageous and fortuitous for the Town of Oak Island to acquire additional suitable land for parks, recreation and open space purposes. Therefore, the acquisition of land should be a high priority for the Town of Oak Island. The Town of Oak Island should pursue the acquisition of land:

- 1) **appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular pedestrian, walking, hiking and bicycle transportation network and system**
- 2) **appropriate and suitable for a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island**
- 3) **appropriate and suitable for public access and amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island**

These are the only land acquisition recommendations for the 2020 – 2025 period of this document due to the anticipated cost of acquiring lands for these three (3) specific purposes. This land acquisition program could be implemented either through direct purchase of land or through an aggressive agenda of grants, land donation, eminent domain acquisition, leases and the development of conservation easements. It might also be possible to enter into cooperative agreements with existing public entities such as the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department, the Brunswick County School Board, the City of Southport Parks and Recreation Department and the City of Boiling Spring Lakes Parks and Recreation.

*The Town of* Oak Island

NORTH CAROLINA

## Land Acquisition—Beyond 2025

Beyond the 2020 – 2025 period of this document, the Town of Oak Island should prepare for the additional acquisition of land:

- 1) appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular pedestrian, walking, hiking and bicycle transportation network and system
- 2) offering the possibility of public access and related amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island
- 3) appropriate and suitable for the construction of additional lighted tennis and pickleball courts and facilities
- 4) in areas of the Town of Oak Island presently without existing public parks, recreation and open space amenities such as the newly developed and developing mainland subdivisions and neighborhoods and the west end of the island
- 5) offering specific advantages for general parks, recreation and open space purposes for the Town of Oak Island
- 6) suitable for greenways and blueways in and around the Town of Oak Island
- 7) adjacent to and/or contiguous to Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension, William S. “Bill” Smith Park, Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch, Heron Lookout, 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park, May Moore Park, Yaupon Park, The Point, Commissioner’s Observatory Park, Hannon A. Templeton Park, Veterans Park, Waterway Memorial Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden, the Crossover Trail, 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock, 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock, the Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier, the Oak Island Recreation Center, the Oak Island Cabana, the Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour and the Kevin Bell Skate Park

This land acquisition program could be implemented and financed either through direct purchase of land with funds generated by existing General Funds, State Grants, Federal Grants, Transfers of Land from Land Trusts and State Agencies, a Bond Referendum (General Obligation Bonds) or through an aggressive agenda of private ownership Land Donations and the development of Conservation and other types of Protective Easements.



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## Facility, Area and Park Development—2020 – 2025

Once the land acquisition recommendations identified in the 2020 – 2025 Land Acquisition section of this document have been achieved, facility, area and park development should be the primary and significant focus of the Town of Oak Island over the next 5 years. There is a need to upgrade and enhance the existing town facilities, areas and parks and to develop new parks and recreation facilities, areas and parks.

Numerous suggestions and recommendations for further facility, area and park upgrades and development were received during the public information gathering process. These included, but were not limited to; general and specific requests such as the development of a safe, usable and comprehensive pedestrian and bicycle transportation network and system throughout the Town of Oak Island and its surrounding communities; the construction of a new and improved comprehensive and multi-purpose recreation center facility; the construction of a swimming pool facility; the provision of kayak, canoe, standup paddleboard, small boat access launches and access to the waters and marshes in and around the Town of Oak Island; the provision of additional “dog park” areas and facilities; the provision of handicapped accessible oceanfront beach access areas and facilities; the construction of outdoor sand volleyball courts; and, continued upgrading of the existing park facilities, areas and amenities. When asked the open ended question in the Needs Assessment Survey ***“In your opinion, what are the most important NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL recreational facilities, areas and parks the Town of Oak Island needs to provide in the future?”***, the responses in priority order are:

- ❖ Bike Lanes
- ❖ Walking Trails/Paths
- ❖ Sidewalks
- ❖ Public Restrooms
- ❖ Water Access Sites/Facilities
- ❖ Lighted Tennis Courts
- ❖ Skateboard Park
- ❖ Dedicated Pickleball Courts
- ❖ Gymnasium/Recreation Center
- ❖ Outdoor Fitness Equipment
- ❖ Playground Equipment

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With this and all public input information in mind, seven (7) overall facility, area and park development needs and recommendations are specifically identified in this 5-year Master Plan for 2020 – 2025 that are deemed to be the most urgent and the most practical to implement during the period of this document. These needs and recommendations are not presented in any particular or priority order:

- 1) The planning, implementation, development and completion of a safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public facilities, areas, parks, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes. This system and network would include sidewalks, marked pedestrian crossings, pedestrian crosswalks, user education and enlightenment, biking paths, walking trails, hiking trails, greenways and other pedestrian and non-vehicular corridors**
- 2) The construction, operation and maintenance of a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island**



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- 3) The inspection of all pedestrian crossovers spanning the Davis Canal and the repair or replacement of those crossovers determined to be unsafe or damaged**
- 4) The inspection of all oceanfront beach dune crossovers and accesses and the repair or replacement of those dune crossovers and accesses determined to be unsafe, damaged or not meeting American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards**
- 5) The construction of two (2) sand volleyball courts on the oceanfront beach within the town limits of the Town of Oak Island**
- 6) The provision of additional and improved public restroom facilities, outdoor shower facilities and outdoor foot washing facilities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and regulations**

**7) The upgrading, expansion and modernization of existing facilities, areas and parks:**

 [Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of one (1) tennis practice backboard at each of the four (4) existing tennis courts
- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails over the existing splash pad
- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails or some other shading device over the existing outdoor amphitheater
- ❖ Placement of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the parks
- ❖ Construction of a permanent restroom facility with outdoor showers and outdoor foot washing facilities in the area utilized for the outdoor amphitheater
- ❖ Placement of water fountains in strategic locations within the parks
- ❖ Marking a second protected pedestrian crossing from the beach access parking lot to the beach access and the Cabana
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the parks
- ❖ Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations within the parks

 [William S. "Bill" Smith Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a permanent restroom facility near the kayak launch
- ❖ Repair of the Salty Dog Park fencing
- ❖ Installation of dog water fountains in the Salty Dog Park
- ❖ Construction of a sand volleyball court in the open field near the kayak launch which currently has volleyball posts but no net and no designated volleyball court
- ❖ Construction of an outdoor amphitheater in the open field near the kayak launch
- ❖ Installation of two (2) covered playground structures—one (1) for youth ages 2 – 5 years old and one (1) for youth ages 5 – 12 years old
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the park
- ❖ Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations within the park
- ❖ Renovation and enhancement of the existing disc golf course



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- ⊕ [Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch](#)—Recommendation is:
  - ❖ Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations
- ⊕ [Heron Lookout](#)—Recommendations are:
  - ❖ Construction of a shade cover over the existing swing bench
  - ❖ Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches
- ⊕ [57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park](#)—Recommendations are:
  - ❖ Construction of permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility
  - ❖ Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations
  - ❖ Installation of bike racks
- ⊕ [May Moore Park](#)—Recommendations are:
  - ❖ Construction of a picnic shelter on the existing concrete slab
  - ❖ Installation of an actual kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock
  - ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park
- ⊕ [Yaupon Park](#)—Recommendations are:
  - ❖ Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility
  - ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations
  - ❖ Installation of bike racks
  - ❖ Construction of shade covers over the existing bench swings and picnic table
- ⊕ [The Point](#)—Recommendations are:
  - ❖ Investigation of methods for increasing public parking at the site
  - ❖ Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility



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- ⊕ [Commissioner's Observatory Park](#)—Recommendation is:
  - ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations

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## [Hannon A. Templeton Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Removal of the existing concrete slab and inclusion of that area in a newly created Dog Park
- ❖ Construction of an actual fenced Dog Park with all the appropriate amenities
- ❖ Installation of drinking fountains for people and for dogs

## [Veterans Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity
- ❖ Construction of a picnic shelter with picnic tables and barbecue grills
- ❖ Installation of drinking fountains in strategic locations
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations
- ❖ Installation of a demonstration Rain Garden
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the park

## [Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. \(Mac\) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Replacement of the slate rock walkway and wooden walkways with an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) approved surfacing
- ❖ Replacement of the existing benches with views of the marsh and estuarine waters with swings with shade covers
- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the floating dock

## [Crossover Trail](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Replacement of the south first 75' or so of the existing wooden walkway with a new walkway that is elevated over the estuarine water channel to allow watercraft to pass under the walkway



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- ❖ Installation of kayak launch amenities off the existing floating docks at each end of the walkway
- ❖ Renovation of the existing bollards at each end of the walkway to include removal of the rust and repainting

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 [30<sup>th</sup> Place West Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Repair of the entranceway onto the walkway and floating dock
- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock

 [78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a kayak launch amenity
- ❖ Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations

 [Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Installation of a shade cover over a portion of the “T”
- ❖ Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations

 [Oak Island Recreation Center](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Renovation of the existing indoor restroom facilities
- ❖ Renovation of the existing indoor shower and locker facilities
- ❖ Upgrading of the existing weight room and cardio room equipment
- ❖ Resurfacing of the existing outdoor basketball court surface
- ❖ Installation of lights for the outdoor basketball court
- ❖ Installation of a water fountain near the outdoor basketball court
- ❖ Remarking of the existing shuffleboard court
- ❖ Installation of a Bocce Ball court next to the shuffleboard court
- ❖ Placement of signage identifying the entrance to the nature trail
- ❖ Installation of Wi-Fi capability
- ❖ Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations inside the facility
- ❖ Installation of a 24-hour a day, 7-day a week electronic card system for unrestricted entry into the facility and its exercise room and cardio room



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 [Oak Island Splash Pad-Middleton Park Extension](#)—Recommendation is:

- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails over as much of the Splash Pad as possible

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 [Oak Island Amphitheater-Middleton Park Extension](#)—Recommendation is:

- ❖ Installation of Shade Sails or so other shading device over the actual amphitheater structure

 [Oak Island Cabana](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Demolition of the existing Cabana and construction of a new Cabana structure with indoor changing and restroom amenities and outdoor showers and foot washing amenities
- ❖ Installation of a shading device over the existing observation deck

 [Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour](#)—Recommendation is:

- ❖ Formation of a management committee to determine what policies and procedures need to be implemented to make the facility self-sustaining



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 [Kevin Bell Skate Park](#)—Recommendations are:

- ❖ Demolition of the existing skate park and construction of a new bowl-shaped concrete skate park meeting all ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials) standards and guidelines



- ❖ Demolition of the existing metal picnic shelter and construction of a new non-metal picnic shelter

## ***Facility, Area and Park Development—Beyond 2025***

There are five (5) Facility, Area and Park Development identified needs and recommendations “Beyond 2025”:

- 1) The demolition of the existing Oak Island Recreation Center and construction, operation and maintenance of a new comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, senior room, teen room, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island and in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards, guidelines and principles
- 2) The continued planning, implementation, development and completion of a safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public facilities, areas, parks, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes. This system and network would include sidewalks, marked pedestrian crossings, pedestrian crosswalks, user education and enlightenment, biking paths, walking trails, hiking trails, greenways and other pedestrian and non-vehicular corridors. This need was identified repeatedly during the needs assessment process by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members, the general public and Parks and Recreation Department staff members



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- 3) The provision of additional and improved opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, small boats, fishing and standup paddleboard public access to the waters, sounds, creeks, marshes and canals in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island
- 4) The provision of additional and improved beach access sites and amenities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and regulations
- 5) The continued provision of additional and improved public restroom facilities, outdoor shower facilities and outdoor foot washing facilities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and regulations

## **Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025**

The Town of Oak Island is doing a good job of providing basic programs, services, events and activities for residents especially considering the obstacles it faces with limited facilities, areas, parks and staff. The Needs Assessment Survey confirms this to be true as eighty-seven percent (87%) of the respondents expressed some level of agreement with the statement ***“The VARIETY of programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation department is appropriate”***; eighty-nine percent (89%) of the respondents expressed some level of agreement with the statement ***“The QUALITY of programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is appropriate”***; and, eighty-two percent (82%) of the respondents expressed some level of agreement with the statement ***“I believe the existing programs, services, events, and activities provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of my household”***.

However, there is always room for improvement. A tally of the responses to the survey question ***“In your opinion, what are the most important NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and activities the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department needs to provide in the future? (MARK ONLY UP TO FIVE).”*** reveals the top fourteen (14) responses are: Beach Music Festival (560 respondents), Food Truck Rodeo (379 respondents), Movies in the Park (376 respondents), 24-Hour Fitness Center (296 respondents), Kayak Trips (267 respondents), Quiet Beach Access (228 respondents), Walking Clubs (197 respondents), Cooking classes (184 respondents), Adult Pickleball Camp (158 respondents), “Other” (141 respondents), Adult Sailing Camp (135 respondents), Dance Programs (130 respondents), Golf Lessons (113 respondents) and Teen Programs (1006 respondents). These responses indicate Town of Oak Island residents are most interested in innovative programs, services, events and activities that are community-wide, family oriented, outdoor water-related, self-improvement related, and sports and fitness related.



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Based upon the information obtained during the needs' assessment process and after a comprehensive evaluation of the capabilities of the Town of Oak Island to provide various innovative programs, services, events and activities the following new programs, services, events, activities and camps are recommended to be addressed over the next 5 years:

- 1) Provide walking, running and biking opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps and special collaborations within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and in collaboration with the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department, St. James Plantation, the City of Southport and the City of Boiling Spring Lakes**



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- 2) Provide kayaking, canoeing, standup paddleboard, sailing, scuba diving, water sports and fishing opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations**



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- 3) Provide nature and environment related programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations**
- 4) Initiate a program of providing trained and paid lifeguards and a flag warning system at strategic locations along the oceanfront beach between the Oak Island Fishing Pier and the Ocean Crest Fishing Pier**



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- 5) Offer arts related programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes, instruction and special collaborations in areas such as graphic arts, digital technology, musical instruments, etc.



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- 6) Provide community-wide programs, services, events, activities, special events and special collaborations such as Beach Music Festivals, Movies in the Park, Halloween Truck or Trick, Food Truck Rodeos, Dance Programs, etc.
- 7) Provide a Pre-School Program and an After-School Program
- 8) Provide early morning (before 8 am), evening (after 6 pm) and weekend exercise and fitness classes at the Recreation Center to accommodate working residents and participants
- 9) Provide a Tennis Camp for youth, a Pickleball Camp for adults, a Sailing Camp for youth, a Sailing Camp for adults, a Golf Camp for youth, a Golf Camp for Adults and an Inclusive Camp for youth with disabilities and other special needs
- 10) Provide cooking programs, services, events, activities and classes



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- 11) Provide specialized programs, services, events, activities, camps and special events for persons with disabilities and other special needs, youth, teens and senior citizens as deemed appropriate

***Special  
Olympics***



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## **Program and Service Development—Beyond 2025**

There are two (2) identified program, service, event and activity needs and recommendations “Beyond 2025” and those are:

- 1) Once the safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public facilities, areas, parks, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes is developed and open for operation, the Town of Oak Island will need to program the network and system appropriately**



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- 2) Once the existing Oak Island Recreation Center is demolished and a new comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, senior room, teen room, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island and in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards, guidelines and principles has been construction and open for operation, the Town of Oak Island will need to program the facility appropriately**



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## ***Policy and Procedure Considerations—2020 – 2025***

There are several areas of policy and procedure that need to be examined and evaluated in light of the recommendations contained in this Master Plan. Some of these policies and procedures are currently strategic parts of the standard operating procedures of the Town of Oak Island. However, several of the policy and procedure recommendations delve into areas not presently an active part of the Town's operating procedures. Highlights of these policy and procedure considerations are summarized as follows:

◆ ***Establishment of a Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division within the Parks and Recreation Department***—The Town of Oak Island

Parks and Recreation Department has no maintenance personnel on its staff. For this reason, the Parks and Recreation Department must rely upon the Town of Oak Island Public Works Department for all facility, area and park maintenance. In order to facilitate and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the maintenance of Parks and Recreation Department facilities, areas and parks, it is recommended a separate and distinct Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division be created within the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department.



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◆ ***Updating and Revision of the “Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)”***—The Town of Oak Island contracted with Greenways Incorporated (GWI) in January 2005 to create a Bicycle Transportation Plan for the Oak Island area that addressed all aspects of bicycling and provided recommendations for improvements. Although never officially adopted by the Town of Oak Island Town Council and presently outdated and in need of revision,

this document contains a wealth of information and meaningful recommendations regarding the creation of a safe and effective system of bicycle facilities for the Town of Oak Island that links together existing resources and destinations, allows for safe interaction between bicyclists and motorists, supports alternatives to automobile travel, increases recreation opportunities, and provides improved options for advancing the community's mobility, health,

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quality of life, and attractiveness to tourists. It is recommended the “Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)” be updated and revised as a part of the proposed safe, practical and comprehensive pedestrian, bicycle, sidewalk, crosswalk and non-motorized vehicular transportation network and system.

- ◆ **Pedestrian, Bicycle and Non-Motorized Vehicular Transportation Network and System**—The Town of Oak Island needs to renew and expand its commitment to a safe, practical and comprehensive pedestrian, bicycle, sidewalk, crosswalk and non-motorized vehicular transportation network and system and continue to work to develop and implement this transportation network and system in and around the Town of Oak Island.



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- ◆ **Partnerships**—The number and type of cooperative partnerships should be expanded and enhanced. Although the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is already involved in several significant partnership commitments that have provided valuable services to the citizens of Oak Island, there are still numerous groups, agencies and organizations within the Town’s planning area and jurisdiction available and willing to enter into additional or expanded partnerships with the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department in the provision and administration of parks and recreation programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas, and parkss. These partnerships would significantly increase the effectiveness and efficiency of Town resources and expand the scope of available parks and recreation programs and services. Available partners include, but are not limited to, the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department, the Brunswick County School System and Board of Education, the Brunswick Community College (BCC), the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW), the Nature Conservancy, the Coastal Land Trust, the City of Southport, the City of Boiling Spring Lakes, the Southport Oak Island Chamber of Commerce-Welcome Center, Oak Island Realtors, Brunswick Senior Resources, Inc., and other public, non-profit, private, commercial, service and civic organizations and individuals in and around Oak Island.



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- ◆ **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Compliance**—A major issue confronting all parks, recreation and open space providers is the ability to enhance access for disabled patrons and persons with special needs. Public Parks and Recreation Departments are not exempt from this requirement and legislation dictates that parks, recreation and open space amenities be barrier-free. The 1990 passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) makes it imperative that the Town of Oak Island make a strong and comprehensive commitment to providing ADA accessibility to all citizens Oak Island. The Town should continue to make ADA compliance and recreational inclusion a top administrative priority in the development and implementation of all programs, services, areas and facilities. The ADA requirements and regulations governing design standards leave some room for interpretation for some parks, recreation and open space facilities; however, they are very specific regarding the design of restrooms, pathways and other amenities. Before renovating old areas and facilities, or constructing new ones, the Town of Oak Island should consult with the Town's legal department or ADA compliance staff to review and interpret the ADA legislation and develop a standard by which they begin to develop a system sensitive to the needs of all visitors and users. If this assistance is not available, the Town staff should contract with a professional certified and trained in ADA requirements and regulations to conduct an ADA Accessibility Study of all current town parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas, parks, programs, services, events, activities and camps.



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- ◆ **Certification of Parks and Playground Equipment/Playground Safety Standards**—The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department must be aware of possible non-compliance of playground equipment and park areas to safety standards adopted by organizations such as the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and the International Play Equipment Manufacturers' Association (IPEMA). The Town of Oak Island should contract with an outside Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) or a Town staff member certified as a CPSI on a regular basis to inspect all parks and playground equipment and areas under

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the maintenance and operation of the Town. This action will ensure that the Town's parks and playground equipment are in compliance with existing park and playground standards and serve as an additional protection against loss, damage, injury and negligence lawsuits.



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- ◆ **Parks, Recreation and Open Space Gifts and Donations Catalogue—**

Current economic conditions demand creative and effective methods to deal with shrinking budgets for parks, recreation and open space programs, services, areas and facilities. With this in mind and as a means of supplementing and complimenting the efforts of the "Oak Island Parks, Recreation and Open Space Foundation", the Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department working in collaboration with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should compile and distribute a "Parks, Recreation and Open Space Gifts and Donations Catalogue" which identifies departmental needs that can be "given" to the department by private citizens, local businesses and interested organizations. The catalogue would identify what is needed, how much it costs and how the interested party can assist in meeting the need.



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- ◆ **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**—A representative from the Town of Oak Island Planning Board, the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department and the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should be added to the membership of the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as ex-officio members. Packets including the agenda and specific memoranda related to all action items to be discussed at the regularly scheduled monthly meetings should be sent out to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at least one week in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting.

## *Parks and Recreation Advisory Board*

- ◆ **Publicity, Communication and Marketing of Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Camps, Facilities, Areas and Parks**—Increased and enhanced awareness, publicity, communication and marketing of programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks offered by the Town of Oak Island would be beneficial. It might be possible to work with the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW), Cape Fear Community College, Brunswick Community College (BCC), East Carolina University, North Carolina State University, Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Fayetteville State University, Elizabeth City State University or another entity, to have a Publicity, Communication and Marketing Strategic Plan prepared for the Town of Oak Island.



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- ◆ **Adopt-A-Park Program**—Contact should be made with area homeowner associations and garden and civic clubs regarding the establishment of formal contracts and arrangements for their assistance in maintaining and improving parks, recreation and open space areas and facilities. The contracts and arrangements could include trash pick-up, placement of flowering plants and shrubs in landscape beds, surveillance, and, the construction of minor improvements and repairs.



- ◆ **Revisions and Additions to Town Of Oak Island and Parks and Recreation Department Policies, Rules, Regulations and Ordinances**—It was mentioned several times during the needs' assessment process by multiple sources the Town of Oak Island's policies, rules, regulations and ordinances pertaining to dogs off-lease, fishing off the Davis Canal crossovers and preservation of trees and other natural resources while maintaining and celebrating the uniqueness of Oak Island need to be reviewed and revised if unacceptable or created and implemented if non-existent. It is recommended this occur.

## **Personnel Considerations—2020 – 2025**

The current 2019 – 2020 organizational chart for the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is presented in **Appendix Q**. The current permanent full-time professional staff approved positions for the department are the Parks and Recreation Director, Recreation Center Supervisor, Recreation Center Assistant and Program Supervisors (2). The permanent full-time professional staff is supplemented and complemented by part-time and seasonal Parks and Recreation Department employees and part-time instructors.

The Needs Assessment component of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*** process indicates the existing full-time, part-time and seasonal staff positions of the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department are adequate to meet the current demand and need for parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks but not the need for maintaining the facilities, areas and parks.

In summary, the following list identifies the full-time, part-time and seasonal positions currently serving the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department for the 2019 – 2020 fiscal year:

- Parks and Recreation Director—full-time position
- Recreation Center Supervisor—full-time position
- Recreation Center Assistant—full-time position
- Recreation Center Assistant—part-time positions
- Community Resources Center Supervisor—full-time position
- Community Resources Center Assistant—full-time position
- Community Resources Center Assistant (2)—part-time positions
- Recreation Program Supervisor—full-time position
- Seasonal Day Camp Staff (8)—part-time positions
- Recreation Program Supervisor Athletics—full-time position
- Golf Pro Shop Attendant (6)—part-time positions
- Skate Park Staff (2)—part-time positions



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Creation of a Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division within the Parks and Recreation Department and recommended changes and additions to the parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department due primarily to facility, area and park development, program development and increased maintenance responsibilities between the 2020 – 2025 fiscal years will require, at a minimum, the following additional full-time, part-time and seasonal personnel positions and personnel changes to be in place by the end of the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year in order to afford the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department the ability and capability to accomplish the parks, recreation and open space mission, goals and objectives during that time period:

- ❖ Creation of a Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division
  - **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor**—full-time position
  - **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Crew Leader (2)**—full-time positions
  - **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist (4)**—full-time positions
  - **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Technician (2)**—part-time and seasonal positions
- ❖ Development and operation of the safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public areas and facilities, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes will require the following new employees and additions to the existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department administrative structure:
  - **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist**—full-time position
- ❖ Establishment of the Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Program would require the following new employees and additions to the existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department administrative structure:
  - **Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Supervisor**—part-time seasonal position
  - **Ocean Beach Rescue Lifeguards (20 – 25)**—part-time seasonal positions

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- ❖ Completion of the recommended improvements and additions to Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension, William S. “Bill” Smith Park, Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch, Heron Lookout, 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park, May Moore Park, Yaupon Park, The Point, Commissioner’s Observatory Park, Hannon A. Templeton Park, Veterans Park, Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden, Crossover Trail, 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Park, 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock Park, Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier, Oak Island Recreation Center, Oak Island Splash Pad, Oak Island Amphitheater, Oak Island Cabana, Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour and the Keven Bell Skate Park will require the following new employees and additions to the existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department administrative structure:

- **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist—full-time position**

Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department recommended staff positions and organizational chart by the end of the 2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year ([Appendix R](#)):

## **BY END OF 2024 – 2025 FISCAL YEAR**

- ⊕ Parks and Recreation Director—full-time position
- ⊕ Recreation Center Supervisor—full-time position
- ⊕ Recreation Center Assistant—full-time position
- ⊕ Recreation Center Assistant—part-time positions
- ⊕ Community Resources Center Supervisor—full-time position
- ⊕ Community Resources Center Assistant—full-time position
- ⊕ Community Resources Center Assistant (2)—part-time positions
- ⊕ Recreation Program Supervisor—full-time position
- ⊕ Seasonal Day Camp Staff (8)—part-time positions
- ⊕ Recreation Program Supervisor Athletics—full-time position
- ⊕ Golf Pro Shop Attendant (6)—part-time positions
- ⊕ Skate Park Staff (2)—part-time positions
- ⊕ Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Supervisor—part-time seasonal position
- ⊕ Ocean Beach Rescue Lifeguards (20 – 25)—part-time seasonal positions
- ⊕ Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor—full-time position
- ⊕ Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Crew Leader (2)—full-time positions
- ⊕ Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist (6)—full-time positions
- ⊕ Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Technician (2)—part-time and seasonal positions

The Department would still need to supplement and complement these full-time and part-time positions with the necessary volunteers, seasonal employees, contract instructors and student interns.

## ***Personnel Considerations—Beyond 2025***

- ❖ Demolition of the existing Oak Island Recreation Center and construction, operation and maintenance of a new comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, senior room, teen room, storage rooms and office space and based upon the existing demographic information regarding the Town of Oak Island and in compliance with all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design standards, guidelines and principles will require the following new employees and additions to the existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department administrative structure:
  - **Recreation Program Supervisor Aquatics—full-time position**
  - **Recreation Program Assistant Aquatics—full-time position**
  - **Swimming Instructors and Lifeguards (10 – 20)—part-time and seasonal positions**
  - **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist—full-time position**



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- ❖ Continued development and operation of the safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public areas and facilities, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes will require the following new employees and additions to the existing Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department administrative structure:
  - **Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist—full-time position**

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Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department recommended staff positions and organizational chart Beyond the 2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year ([Appendix S](#)):

### **BEYOND THE 2024 – 2025 FISCAL YEAR**

- Parks and Recreation Director—full-time position
- Recreation Center Supervisor—full-time position
- Recreation Center Assistant—full-time position
- Recreation Center Assistant—part-time positions
- Community Resources Center Supervisor—full-time position
- Community Resources Center Assistant—full-time position
- Community Resources Center Assistant (2)—part-time positions
- Recreation Program Supervisor—full-time position
- Seasonal Day Camp Staff (8)—part-time positions
- Recreation Program Supervisor Athletics—full-time position
- Golf Pro Shop Attendant (6)—part-time positions
- Skate Park Staff (2)—part-time positions
- Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Supervisor—part-time seasonal position
- Ocean Beach Rescue Lifeguards (20 – 25)—part-time seasonal positions
- Recreation Program Supervisor Aquatics—full-time position
- Recreation Program Assistant Aquatics—full-time position
- Swimming Instructors and Lifeguards (10 – 20)—part-time/seasonal positions
- Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor—full-time position
- Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Crew Leader (2)—full-time positions
- Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist (8)—full-time positions
- Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Technician (2)—part-time and seasonal positions

The Department would still need to supplement and complement these full-time and part-time positions with the necessary volunteers, seasonal employees, contract instructors and student interns.



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## **CHAPTER EIGHT:**

### **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

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The **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan** is grounded in an analysis and synthesis of current parks, recreation and open space background information for the Town of Oak Island, an inventory and evaluation of the existing parks, recreation and open space delivery system, an understanding of appropriate and applicable parks, recreation and open space standards and guidelines, and, the identification of citizen and participant needs, wants, desires and interests.

The recommendations of the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan** are designed to be planned and implemented over the next 5 year period and beyond utilizing revenues and funds from current appropriations, the annual City operating budget, grants, private sources, tax revenues, gifts, donations, a municipal *General Obligation Bond Referendum*, and/or, user fees and charges. The implementation of the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan** is also contingent upon the Town's ability to enter into cooperative ventures with various complimentary agencies and organizations currently operating in and around the Town of Oak Island and Brunswick County.

## LAND ACQUISITION IMPLEMENTATION—2020 – 2025 AND BEYOND 2025

The land acquisition recommendations identified within the *Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* are significant and expensive. Any land acquisition could be funded through a General Obligation Bond Referendum, the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF), the North Carolina Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program, Clean Water Trust Fund grants and other available grant funding through the state of North Carolina, private foundations/sources and the federal government. In addition, the Town of Oak Island should begin immediately to budget \$50,000 - \$75,000 per year in a 5-Year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget for these land acquisition purposes. The accumulated funds in the CIP budget would then be available for land acquisition purposes as the need arises in the future.

### Land Acquisition Implementation 2020 – 2025

#### 2020 – 2025 Fiscal Years

- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular sidewalk, crosswalk, pedestrian, walking and bicycle transportation network and system\*
- Acquire 3 – 5 acres of land appropriate and suitable for a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island\*
- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for public access and amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island\*
- Prepare for the *General Obligation Bond Referendum* to be placed on the November 2022 general election ballot
- Budget \$50,000 – \$75,000 in a 5-Year Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget for future land acquisition

**1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

#### 2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year

- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular sidewalk, crosswalk, pedestrian, walking and bicycle transportation network and system\*
- Acquire 3 – 5 acres of land appropriate and suitable for a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island\*

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- Prepare for the *General Obligation Bond Referendum* to be placed on the November 2022 general election ballot
- Budget \$50,000 – \$75,000 in a 5-Year Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget for future land acquisition



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**1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**

## ❖ 2021 – 2022 Fiscal Year

- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular sidewalk, crosswalk, pedestrian, walking and bicycle transportation network and system\*
- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for public access and amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island\*
- Prepare for the *General Obligation Bond Referendum* to be placed on the November 2022 general election ballot
- Budget \$50,000 – \$75,000 in a 5-Year Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget for future land acquisition



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**1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**

## ❖ 2022 – 2023 Fiscal Year

- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular sidewalk, crosswalk, pedestrian, walking and bicycle transportation network and system\*
- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for public access and amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island\*
- Place *General Obligation Bond Referendum* on Ballot—November 2022
- Budget \$50,000 – \$75,000 in a 5-Year Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget for future land acquisition

**1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024**

❖ **2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year**

- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular sidewalk, crosswalk, pedestrian, walking and bicycle transportation network and system\*
- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for public access and amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island\*
- Budget \$50,000 – \$75,000 in a Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget for future land acquisition



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**1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025**

❖ **2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year**

- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular sidewalk, crosswalk, pedestrian, walking and bicycle transportation network and system\*
- Acquire all available land appropriate and suitable for public access and amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island\*
- Budget \$50,000 – \$75,000 in a Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget for future land acquisition



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## Land Acquisition Implementation Beyond 2025

### Beyond 2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year

Acquire all available land:

- appropriate and suitable for a comprehensive, safe and functional non-vehicular pedestrian, walking, hiking and bicycle transportation network and system
- offering the possibility of public access and related amenities to the oceanfront beach, creeks, sounds, estuarine waters, canals and marshes in and surrounding the Town of Oak Island
- appropriate and suitable for the construction of additional lighted tennis and pickleball courts and facilities
- in areas of the Town of Oak Island presently without existing public parks, recreation and open space amenities such as the newly developed and developing mainland subdivisions and neighborhoods and the west end of the island
- offering specific advantages for general parks, recreation and open space purposes for the Town of Oak Island
- suitable for greenways and blueways in and around the Town of Oak Island
- adjacent to or contiguous to Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension, William S. “Bill” Smith Park, Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch, Heron Lookout, 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park, May Moore Park, Yaupon Park, The Point, Commissioner’s Observatory Park, Hannon A. Templeton Park, Veterans Park, Waterway Memorial Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden, the Crossover Trail, 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock, 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock, the Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier, the Oak Island Recreation Center, the Oak Island Cabana, the Oak Island Par Three Golf Course at South Harbour and the Kevin Bell Skate Park

\*The actual land acquisition costs, the amount of acreage to be acquired and the location of the acquisitions should be calculated in a 5-Year Parks, Recreation and Open Space Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget to be developed in concert with the 2020 - 2021 Town of Oak Island operating budget and then updated annually during the operating budget planning process.

## FACILITY, AREA AND PARK DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION

### 2020—2025 AND BEYOND 2025

The specific details for the implementation of the facility, area and park development recommendations for the 2020 – 2025 fiscal years should be worked out in a **5-Year Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget** for the Town of Oak Island. In addition to the use of general fund operating revenues to pay for these specific facility, area and park recommendations, the Town should aggressively apply for state, federal and non-profit **grants**, seek **private funding sources** and place a **General Obligation Bond Referendum** before the town residents. The recommendations to be implemented are:

- 1) The planning, implementation, development and completion of a safe, practical and comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting Town of Oak Island public facilities, areas, parks, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction and connecting the Town of Oak Island to St. James Plantation, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes. This system and network would include sidewalks, marked pedestrian crossings, pedestrian crosswalks, user education and enlightenment, biking paths, walking trails, hiking trails, greenways and other pedestrian and non-vehicular corridors
- 2) The construction, operation and maintenance of a Neighborhood Park at the west end of the island
- 3) The inspection of all pedestrian crossovers spanning the Davis Canal and the repair or replacement of those crossovers determined to be unsafe or damaged
- 4) The inspection of all oceanfront beach dune crossovers and accesses and the repair or replacement of those crossovers and accesses determined to be unsafe, damaged or not meeting American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards
- 5) The construction of two (2) sand volleyball courts on the oceanfront beach within the town limits of the Town of Oak Island
- 6) The provision of additional and improved public restroom facilities, outdoor shower facilities and outdoor foot washing facilities that comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) standards and regulations

**7) The upgrading, expansion and modernization of existing facilities, areas and parks:**

- Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension
- William S. "Bill" Smith Park
- Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch
- Heron Lookout
- 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park
- May Moore Park
- Yaupon Park
- The Point
- Commissioner's Observatory Park
- Hannon A. Templeton Park
- Veterans Park
- Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden
- Crossover Trail
- 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Park
- 28<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock Park
- Town of Oak Island Fishing "T" Pier
- Oak Island Recreation Center
- Oak Island Splash Park—Middleton Park Extension
- Oak Island Amphitheater—Middleton Park Extension
- Oak Island Cabana
- Oak Island Par 3 Golf Course at South Harbour
- Kevin Bell Skate Park

Eighty-three percent (83%) of the respondents to the Needs Assessment Survey responded "Yes" to the use of **Grants** to pay for new park, recreation open space facilities, areas and parks. Seventy-five percent (75%) responded "Yes" to the use of **Private Sources** to pay for new park, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks. Twenty-eight percent (28%) responded "Yes" to use of the funds from a **General Obligation Bond Referendum** to pay for new parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks.

This document anticipates the Town of Oak Island will aggressively pursue potential state, federal and non-profit **grants** as well as **private sources** to pay for new parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks. However, the master plan implementation strategy also anticipates the Town of Oak Island will place a **General Obligation Bond Referendum** on the ballot during the November 2022 general election.

## Facility, Area and Park Development

### Implementation 2020 – 2025

Recommended schedule for each of the Facility, Area and Park Development needs identified for 2020 – 2025 Fiscal Years (FY) are:

 Non-Vehicular Transportation Network and System



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➤ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

✓ **Planning Phase**

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- Seek and Apply for Planning Grants
- Seek and Apply for Design Grants
- Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
- Hire Consulting Firm to Update and Revise “Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)” and Design Network and System



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➤ **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**

✓ **Planning Phase**

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- Consulting Firm Completes Planning Document
- Continue to Seek and Apply for Design and Construction Grants

✓ **Construction Phase**

- Hire Consultant to Oversee Construction of Network and System
- Continue to Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
- Begin Initial Construction

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Continue to Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
    - Continue Construction
- **2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024**
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Continue Construction
- **2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025**
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Continue Construction and Operation as an On-Going Project

## [West End Neighborhood Park](#)

- **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
    - Seek and Apply for Planning Grants
    - Seek and Apply for Design Grants
    - Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
    - Hire Consultant to Complete Park Master Plan Design
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Hire Consultant to Oversee Construction of Park
    - Continue to Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
    - Begin Initial Construction
- **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
    - Continue to Seek and Apply for Planning, Design and Construction Grants
    - Consultant Completes Park Master Plan Design
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Hire Consultant to Oversee Construction of Park
    - Continue to Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
    - Begin Initial Construction
- **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Begin and Complete Park Construction



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## [Pedestrian Crossover Inspection, Repair or Replacement](#)

- **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
    - Conduct Comprehensive Inspection of all Town Public Pedestrian Crossovers spanning the Davis Canal and all Creeks, Sounds, Estuarine Waters and Marshes in and Surrounding the Town of Oak Island
    - Seek and Apply for Maintenance and Construction Grants
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Begin Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers as an On-Going Project
- **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
    - Seek and Apply for Maintenance and Construction Grants
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers as an On-Going Project
- **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Placed on Ballot—November 2022
    - Seek and Apply for Maintenance and Construction Grants
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers as an On-Going Project
- **2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - Seek and Apply for Maintenance and Construction Grants
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers as an On-Going Project
- **2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - Seek and Apply for Maintenance and Construction Grants
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers as an On-Going Project

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## Oceanfront Beach Dune Crossovers and Accesses Inspection, Repair or Replacement

### ➤ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

#### ✓ Planning Phase

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Conduct Comprehensive Inspection of all Town Public Oceanfront Beach Dune Crossovers and Accesses
- Seek and Apply for State (Coastal Area Management Act—CAMA) Maintenance and Construction Grants

#### ✓ Construction Phase

- Begin Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers and Accesses as an On-Going Project

### ➤ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

#### ✓ Planning Phase

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Seek and Apply for State (Coastal Area Management Act—CAMA) Maintenance and Construction Grants

#### ✓ Construction Phase

- Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers and Accesses as an On-Going Project

### ➤ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

#### ✓ Planning Phase

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Placed on Ballot—November 2022
- Seek and Apply for State (Coastal Area Management Act—CAMA) Maintenance and Construction Grants

#### ✓ Construction Phase

- Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers and Accesses as an On-Going Project

### ➤ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

#### ✓ Planning Phase

- Seek and Apply for State (Coastal Area Management Act—CAMA) Maintenance and Construction Grants

#### ✓ Construction Phase

- Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers and Accesses as an On-Going Project

### ➤ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

#### ✓ Planning Phase

- Seek and Apply for State (Coastal Area Management Act—CAMA) Maintenance and Construction Grants

#### ✓ Construction Phase

- Continue Repairs or Replacement of Crossovers and Accesses as an On-Going Project

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## [Oceanfront Beach Sand Volleyball Court](#)

- **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - Identify Site Location
- **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Begin and Complete Court Construction



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## [Public Restroom Facilities, Outdoor Showers and Foot Washing Facilities](#)

- **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**
  - ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
    - Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Construct Recommended Permanent Public Restroom Facility with Outdoor Showers and Outdoor Foot Washing Facilities at the Oak Island Cabana



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- **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**

- ✓ **Planning Phase**
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
    - Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
  - ✓ **Construction Phase**
    - Construct Recommended Permanent Public Restroom Facility with Outdoor Showers and Outdoor Foot Washing Facilities Near the Outdoor Amphitheater in the Middleton Park Extension

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## ➤ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

- ✓ Planning Phase
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*
  - Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
- ✓ Construction Phase
  - Construct Recommended Permanent Public Restroom Facility with Outdoor Showers and Outdoor Foot Washing Facilities at The Point



## ➤ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

- ✓ Planning Phase
  - Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
- ✓ Construction Phase
  - Construct Recommended Permanent Public Restroom Facility with Outdoor Showers and Outdoor Foot Washing Facilities at the 57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park



## ➤ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

- ✓ Planning Phase
  - Seek and Apply for Construction Grants
- ✓ Construction Phase
  - Construct Recommended Permanent Public Restroom Facility with Outdoor Showers and Outdoor Foot Washing Facilities at Yaupon Park



## Existing Facility, Area and Park Improvements

### ➤ **Middleton Park and Middleton Park Extension**

✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- **General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation**
- Installation of one (1) tennis practice backboard at each of the four (4) existing tennis courts
- Installation of Shade Sails over the existing splash pad
- Installation of Shade Sails or some other shading device over the existing outdoor amphitheater
- Placement of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the parks
- Install Wi-Fi capability within the parks



## **free WiFi**

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- Install several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations inside the parks

✓ **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**

- **General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation**
- Construction of a permanent restroom facility with outdoor showers and outdoor foot washing facilities in the area utilized for the outdoor amphitheater

✓ **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**

- **General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022**



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✓ **2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024**

- Placement of water fountains in strategic locations within the parks

✓ **2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025**

- Marking a second protected pedestrian crossing from the beach access parking lot to the beach access and the Cabana

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## ➤ **William S. “Bill” Smith Park**

### ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Install Wi-Fi capability within the park
- Install several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations inside the park
- Repair of the Salty Dog Park fencing
- Installation of dog water fountains in the Salty Dog Park
- Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park
- Renovation and enhancement of the existing disc golf course

### ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Installation of two (2) covered playground structures—one (1) for youth ages 2 – 5 years old and one (1) for youth ages 5 – 12 years old

### ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Placed on Ballot—November 2022
- Installation of a permanent restroom facility near the kayak launch

### ✓ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

- Construction of an outdoor amphitheater in the open field near the kayak launch

### ✓ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

- Construction of a sand volleyball court in the open field near the kayak launch which currently has volleyball posts but no net and no designated volleyball court

## ➤ **Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch**

### ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations

## ➤ **Heron Lookout**

### ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Construction of a shade cover over the existing swing bench
- Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## ➤ **57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park**

### ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- Installation of permanent trash receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park

### ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- Installation of bike racks



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### ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*

### ✓ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

- Construction of permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility

## ➤ **May Moore Park**

### ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations throughout the park

### ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- Installation of an actual kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock

### ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*

### ✓ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

- Construction of a picnic shelter on the existing concrete slab

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## ➤ **Yaupon Park**

- ✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
  - Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations
  - Installation of bike racks
- ✓ **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- ✓ **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*
- ✓ **2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024**
  - Construction of shade covers over the existing bench swings and picnic table
- ✓ **2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025**
  - Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility

## ➤ **The Point**

- ✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
  - Investigation of methods for increasing public parking at the site
- ✓ **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- ✓ **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*
  - Construction of a permanent public restroom facility with outdoor shower facility and foot washing facility

## ➤ **Commissioner's Observatory Park**

- ✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
  - Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations



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## ➤ **Hannon A. Templeton Park**

### ✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation***
- **Removal of the existing concrete slab and inclusion of that area in a newly created Dog Park**
- **Construction of an actual fenced Dog Park with all the appropriate amenities**



- **Installation of drinking fountains for people and for dogs**

## ➤ **Veterans Park**

### ✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation***
- **Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations**
- **Installation of Wi-Fi capability within the park**

### ✓ **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation***
- **Installation of drinking fountains in strategic locations**

### ✓ **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022***
- **Installation of a demonstration Rain Garden**

### ✓ **2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024**

- **Installation of a kayak launch amenity**

### ✓ **2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025**

- **Construction of a picnic shelter with picnic tables and barbecue grills**



- **Memorial Waterway Park-Malcolm H. (Mac) Register Mini-Park-Dot Kelly Memorial Butterfly Garden**
  - ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
  - ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
    - Replacement of the slate rock walkway and wooden walkways with an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Design (UD) approved surfacing
  - ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*
  - ✓ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024
    - Replacement of the existing benches with views of the marsh and estuarine waters with swings with shade covers
  - ✓ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025
    - Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the floating dock
- **Crossover Trail**
  - ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
    - Replacement of the south first 75' or so of the existing wooden walkway with a new walkway that is elevated over the estuarine water channel to allow watercraft to pass under the walkway
    - Renovation of the existing bollards at each end of the walkway to include removal of the rust and repainting
  - ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
  - ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023
    - *General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022*
  - ✓ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025
    - Installation of kayak launch amenities off the existing floating docks at each end of the walkway



## 30<sup>th</sup> Place West Park

- ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
  - Repair of the entranceway onto the walkway and floating dock
- ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Placed on Ballot—November 2022
- ✓ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024
  - Installation of a kayak launch amenity off the existing floating dock

## ➤ 78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock Park

- ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
  - Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations
- ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Placed on Ballot—November 2022
- ✓ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024
  - Installation of two (2) additional shade covered swing benches
- ✓ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025
  - Installation of a kayak launch amenity

## ➤ Town of Oak Island Fishing “T” Pier

- ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
  - Installation of permanent trash and recycling receptacles in strategic locations
- ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023
  - *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Placed on Ballot—November 2022
- ✓ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025
  - Installation of a shade cover over a portion of the “T”

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## ➤ Oak Island Recreation Center

### ✓ 2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Renovation of the existing indoor restroom facilities
- Renovation of the existing indoor shower and locker facilities
- Installation of Wi-Fi capability
- Installation of several cell phone charging stations in strategic locations inside the facility
- Installation of a 24-hour a day, 7-day a week electronic card system for unrestricted entry into the facility and its exercise room and cardio room



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### ✓ 2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Preparation
- Upgrading of the existing weight room and cardio room equipment

### ✓ 2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum* Placed on Ballot—November 2022

### ✓ 2023 – 2024 FY—1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

- Resurfacing of the existing outdoor basketball court surface
- Installation of lights for the outdoor basketball court
- Installation of a water fountain near the outdoor basketball court

### ✓ 2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

- Placement of signage identifying the entrance to the nature trail
- Remarking of the existing shuffleboard court
- Installation of a Bocce Ball court next to the shuffleboard court



➤ **Oak Island Splash Pad—Middleton Park Extension**

✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- **Installation of Shade Sails over as much of the Splash Pad as possible**



➤ **Oak Island Amphitheater—Middleton Park Extension**

✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- **Installation of Shade Sails or so other shading device over the actual amphitheater structure**



➤ **Oak Island Cabana**

✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- *General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation*
- **Demolition of the existing Cabana and construction of a new Cabana structure with indoor changing and restroom amenities and outdoor showers and foot washing amenities**
- **Installation of a shading device over the existing observation deck**

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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➤ **Oak Island Par 3 Golf Course at South Harbour**

✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation***
- **Formation of a management committee to determine what policies and procedures need to be implemented to make the facility self-sustaining**



➤ **Kevin Bell Skate Park**

✓ **2020 – 2021 FY—1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation***
- **Demolition of the existing metal picnic shelter and construction of a new non-metal picnic shelter**

✓ **2021 – 2022 FY—1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Preparation***

✓ **2022 – 2023 FY—1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023**

- ***General Obligation Bond Referendum Placed on Ballot—November 2022***

✓ **2024 – 2025 FY—1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025**

- **Demolition of the existing skate park and construction of a new bowl-shaped concrete skate park meeting all ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials) standards and guidelines**



\*The actual development costs, schedule and timeline should be calculated in a 5-Year Parks, Recreation and Open Space Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget to be developed in concert with the 2020 - 2021 Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department operating budget and then updated annually during the operating budget planning process.

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## 2020 – 2025 Fiscal Years Facility, Area and Park Development Implementation

PROJECT	BEGIN	COMPLETE
Non-Vehicular Transportation Network and System	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	On-Going Project
West End Neighborhood Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2022 – 2023 Fiscal Year
Crossover Walk Inspection, Repair or Replacement	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	On-Going Project
Beach Crossover Walk and Access Inspection, Repair or Replacement	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	On-Going Project
Oceanfront Beach Sand Volleyball Court	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2021 – 2022 Fiscal Year
Public Restroom Facilities, Outdoor Showers and Foot Washing Facilities	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Middleton Park-Middleton Park Extension	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements William S. "Bill" Smith Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Heron Lookout	2021 – 2022 Fiscal Year	2021 – 2022 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements 57th Place West Access Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements May Moore Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Yaupon Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements The Point	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2022 – 2023 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Commissioner's Observatory Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Hannon A. Templeton Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Veterans Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Memorial Waterway-Register Mini-Dot Kelly Memorial Garden	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Crossover Trail	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements 30th Place West Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements 78th Street Crab Dock Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Park Improvements Town of Oak Island Fishing "T" Pier	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Facility Improvements Oak Island Recreation Center	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year
Facility Improvements Oak Island Splash Pad	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year
Facility Improvements Oak Island Amphitheater	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year
Facility Improvements Oak Island Cabana	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year
Facility Improvements Oak Island Par 3 Golf Course at South Harbour	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year
Facility Improvements Kevin Bell Skate Park	2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year	2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year

## Facility, Area and Park Development

### Implementation—Beyond 2025

Recommended cost estimates, schedule and timeline for each of the three (3) Facility, Area and Park Development needs identified Beyond the 2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year are:

 Construction, Operation and Maintenance of New Recreation Center

- ✓ 2025 – 2026 FY—1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
  - Project to be Funded Through the *General Obligation Bond Referendum* and Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) Grant
  - Hire Consultant to Design New Recreation Center
- ✓ 2026 – 2027 FY—1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027
  - Demolish Existing Recreation Center
  - Begin Construction of New Recreation Center
- ✓ 2027 – 2028 FY—1 July 2027 – 30 June 2028
  - Complete Construction of New Recreation Center

 Non-Vehicular Transportation Network and System

- ✓ On-Going Project

 Public Access to Waters, Sounds, Creeks, Marshes and Canals

- ✓ 2025 – 2026 FY—1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
  - Project to be Funded Through the *General Obligation Bond Referendum* and North Carolina Division of Coastal Management Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program (CAMA) Grants
  - Hire Consultant to Design Beach Access Sites and Amenities on Lands Purchased During the 2020 – 2025 Fiscal Years
- ✓ 2026 – 2027 FY—1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027
  - Begin Construction of Access Sites and Amenities
- ✓ 2027 – 2028 FY—1 July 2027 – 30 June 2028
  - Continue Construction of Access Sites and Amenities
- ✓ 2028 – 2029 FY—1 July 2028 – 30 June 2029
  - Continue Construction of Access Sites and Amenities
- ✓ 2029 – 2030 FY—1 July 2029 – 30 June 2030
  - Continue Construction of Access Sites and Amenities



NORTH CAROLINA  
*Environmental Quality*

## [Public Beach Access Sites and Amenities](#)

- ✓ 2025 – 2026 FY—1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
  - Project to be Funded Through the *General Obligation Bond Referendum* and North Carolina Division of Coastal Management Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program (CAMA) Grants
  - Hire Consultant to Design Beach Access Sites and Amenities on Lands Purchased During the 2020 – 2025 Fiscal Years
- ✓ 2026 – 2027 FY—1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027
  - Begin Construction of Access Sites and Amenities
- ✓ 2027 – 2028 FY—1 July 2027 – 30 June 2028
  - Continue Construction of Access Sites and Amenities
- ✓ 2028 – 2029 FY—1 July 2028 – 30 June 2029
  - Continue Construction of Access Sites and Amenities
- ✓ 2029 – 2030 FY—1 July 2029 – 30 June 2030
  - Continue Construction of Access Sites and Amenities



## [Public Restroom Facilities, Shower Facilities and Foot Washing Facilities](#)

- ✓ On-Going Project



\*The actual development costs, schedule and timeline should be calculated in a 5-Year Parks, Recreation and Open Space Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget to be developed in concert with the 2025 - 2026 Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department operating budget and then updated annually during the operating budget planning process.

## **PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES DEVELOPMENT**

### **IMPLEMENTATION 2020 – 2025**

Based upon the needs' assessment conducted as a part of the master plan development process, there are additional programs, services, events, activities and camps that should be offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department. These additional programs, services, events, activities and camps should only be offered as a part of the normal operating budget and as staff, areas and facilities and financial resources allow. The recommended programs, services, events, activities and camps are not particularly human resource intensive and should therefore be able to be accomplished with the existing staff, resources and facilities or contracted out to professional outfitters and contractors at minimal cost to the Town of Oak Island. These programs, services, events, activities and camps will also be revenue generating activities which will help to decrease the net cost. The provision of these programs, services, events, activities and camps might also be facilitated via cooperative arrangements with other agencies and organizations. Eventually additional staff will need to be employed by the Parks and Recreation Department to accommodate all the future program, service, event, activity and camp development needs.

The following opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps and special collaborations can and should be implemented and provided by the Parks and Recreation Department:

- + **Walking, Running and Biking opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps and special collaborations**—the walking, running and biking programs, services, events and activities identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department's normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year operating budget



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ⊕ **Kayaking, Canoeing, Standup Paddleboard, Sailing, Scuba Diving, Water Sports and Fishing opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations**—the kayaking, canoeing, standup paddleboard, sailing, scuba diving, water sports and fishing opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department’s normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year operating budget. These opportunities, experiences, programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations could be contracted through a local commercial provider and/or provided directly by the Parks and Recreation Department



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- ⊕ **Nature and Environment Related programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations**—the nature and environment related programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes and special collaborations identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department’s normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year operating budget
- ⊕ **Trained Lifeguards and Flag Warning System**—the program providing trained and paid lifeguards and a flag warning system at strategic locations along the oceanfront beach between the Oak Island Fishing Pier and the Ocean Crest Fishing Pier identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department’s normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2022 – 2023 fiscal year operating budget

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Arts related programs, services events, activities, camps, classes, instruction and special collaborations—the art programs, services, events, activities, camps, classes, instruction and special collaborations identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department's normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year operating budget



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- Community-Wide programs, services, events, activities, special events and special collaborations—the community-wide programs, services, events, activities, special events and special collaborations identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department's normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year operating budget
- Pre-School Program and After-School Program—the pre-school program and after-school program identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department's normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year operating budget
- Early Morning (before 8 am), Evening (after 6 pm) and Weekend Exercise and Fitness Classes at the Oak Island Recreation Center—the early morning (before 8 am), evening (after 6 pm) and weekend exercise and fitness classes at the Oak Island Recreation Center identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department's normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year operating budget

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ⊕ **Tennis Camp for Youth, Pickleball Camp for Adults, Sailing Camp for Youth, Sailing Camp for Adults, Golf Camp for Youth, Golf Camp for Adults and an Inclusive Camp for Youth with Disabilities and other Special Needs**—the Tennis Camp for youth, a Pickleball Camp for adults, a Sailing Camp for youth, a Sailing Camp for adults, a Golf Camp for youth, a Golf Camp for Adults and an Inclusive Camp for youth with disabilities and other special needs identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department’s normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2022 – 2023 fiscal year operating budget
- ⊕ **Cooking programs, services, events, activities and classes**—the cooking programs, services, events, activities and classes identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department’s normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2022 – 2023 fiscal year operating budget
- ⊕ **Specialized Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Camps and Special Events**—the specialized programs, services, events, activities, camps and special events for persons with disabilities and other special needs, youth teens, and senior citizens identified and outlined in **Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Program, Service, Event and Activity Development—2020 – 2025** should be implemented and budgeted on an annual basis as a part of the Parks and Recreation Department’s normal fiscal year operating budget beginning with the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year operating budget



North Carolina  
Senior Games



## PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES DEVELOPMENT

### IMPLEMENTATION BEYOND 2025

The provision of additional programs, services, events, activities, camps and special collaborations beyond those identified above is contingent upon the complete construction and operation of the comprehensive network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation and the demolition of the existing Oak Island Recreation Center and construction, operation and maintenance of a new comprehensive, multi-purpose recreation and fitness complex with an indoor pool, a gymnasium, exercise rooms, fitness rooms, aerobics rooms, senior room, teen room, storage rooms and office space. Each of these proposed facilities, areas and parks will have its own unique program, service, event and activities requirements and opportunities. For example:

#### **Non-Vehicular, Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Network and System**

- ✓ Bike Races
- ✓ 5k and 10k Races
- ✓ Triathlons
- ✓ Bike Safety Classes
- ✓ Bike Maintenance Classes
- ✓ Instructional Classes
- ✓ Walks



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#### **Comprehensive, Multi-Purpose Recreation and Fitness Complex**

- ✓ Swimming Classes
- ✓ Swim Team
- ✓ Basketball Leagues
- ✓ Volleyball Leagues
- ✓ Indoor Pickleball
- ✓ Exercise Classes
- ✓ Fitness Classes
- ✓ Aerobics Classes
- ✓ Sports Camps
- ✓ Community-Wide Events



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## **POLICY AND PROCEDURE CONSIDERATIONS**

### **IMPLEMENTATION—2020 – 2025**

⊕ ***Establishment of a Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division within the Parks and Recreation Department***—The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department has no maintenance personnel on its staff. For this reason, the Parks and Recreation Department must rely upon the Town of Oak Island Public Works Department for all facility, area and park maintenance. This current organizational configuration is inadequate to meet the present, latent and projected demand for parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks and the programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas, parks and functions performed by the Parks and Recreation Department staff are too complex and comprehensive to be supported effectively and efficiently under the current administrative organizational structure. In order to facilitate and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the maintenance of Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, events, camps, facilities, areas and parks, it is recommended a separate and distinct Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division be created within the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department. The creation of this separate and distinct Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division within the existing Parks and Recreation Department should occur during the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year. This creation could be accomplished by transferring current Town of Oak Island Public Works Department personnel directly to the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department; by creating and hiring new town positions directly within the existing Parks and Recreation Department; or by a combination of both methods. Additional information regarding this transition is detailed in the **Town of Wrightsville Beach 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Chapter Seven: Master Plan Proposals and Recommendations—Personnel Considerations—2020 – 2025** and in the **Town of Wrightsville Beach 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Chapter Eight: Implementation Plan—Personnel Considerations Implementation—2020 – 2025**.



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 ***Updating and Revision of the “Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)”***

—The “Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)” prepared by Greenways Incorporated (GWI) in January 2005 but never officially adopted by the Town of Oak Island should be updated and revised as a part of the proposed safe, practical and comprehensive pedestrian, bicycle, sidewalk, crosswalk and non-motorized vehicular transportation network and system. To this end, a nine (9) member ***Bicycle & Pedestrian Community Transportation Task Force*** should be formed by no later than July 2020 and be comprised of individuals from the Parks and Recreation Department staff, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Oak Island Town Council and three (3) interested and concerned town residents. The ***Bicycle & Pedestrian Community Transportation Task Force*** should take the lead in the effort to determine the best method for updating and revising the existing ***“Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)”***. The ***Bicycle & Pedestrian Community Transportation Task Force*** should make a recommendation to the Oak Island Town Council by October 2020 regarding the best process to follow to update and revise the existing ***Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006)”***. Once this recommendation is made and adopted by the Town of Oak Island Town Council, the master plan recommendations outlined in the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Chapter Seven: Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Facility, Areas and Park Development Implementation—2020 – 2025*** should be implemented following the implementation process outlined in the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Chapter Eight: Implementation Plan: Facility, Area and Park Development Implementation 2020 – 2025—Non-Vehicular Transportation Network and System***.

 ***Pedestrian, Bicycle and Non-Motorized Vehicular Transportation Network and System***

—The Town of Oak Island should act immediately to implement the recommendations of the ***Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master*** regarding the creation of a safe, practical and comprehensive multi-use network and system of non-vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle transportation between and connecting public facilities, areas and park, residential areas, commercial areas and service areas within the Town of Oak Island planning jurisdiction as well as connecting the Town of Oak Island with the City of Southport, the City of Boiling Spring Lakes and St. James Plantation. This network and system would include sidewalks, marked pedestrian crossings, pedestrian crosswalks, user education and enlightenment, biking paths, walking trails, hiking trails, greenways and other pedestrian and non-vehicular corridors. Additional

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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details regarding the planning, implementation and construction of this network and system is contained in **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Chapter Seven: Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations—Facility, Area and Park Development—2020 – 2025** and in the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Chapter Eight: Implementation Plan—Policy and Procedure Considerations Implementation—2020 – 2025, Updating and Revisions of the “Oak Island Bicycle Transportation Plan (2006).”**



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 **Partnerships**—The number and type of cooperative partnerships should be expanded and enhanced. Although the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is already involved in several significant partnership commitments that have provided valuable services to the citizens of Oak Island, there are still numerous groups, agencies and organizations within the Town’s planning area and jurisdiction available and willing to enter into additional or expanded partnerships with the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department in the provision and administration of parks and recreation programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas, and parkss. These partnerships would significantly increase the effectiveness and efficiency of Town resources and expand the scope of available parks and recreation programs and services. Available partners include, but are not limited to, the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department, the Brunswick County School System and Board of Education, the Brunswick Community College (BCC), the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW), the Nature Conservancy, the Coastal Land Trust, the City of Southport, the City of Boiling Spring Lakes, St. James Plantation, the Southport Oak Island Chamber of Commerce-Welcome Center, Oak Island Realtors, Brunswick Senior Resources, Inc., and other public, non-profit, private, commercial, service and civic organizations and individuals in and around Oak Island. The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Director should take the immediate lead in this initiative.



**Brunswick Senior Resources, Inc.**

*Making a Difference*

- ⊕ **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Compliance**—The Town of Oak Island should hire or contract with a competent certified professional to conduct a comprehensive inventory and evaluation of all existing programs, services, events, facilities, areas and parks in order to determine current ADA and recreational universal inclusion compliance. This inventory and evaluation should be completed during the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year. All future programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks should be designed, constructed and implemented according to recommended and acceptable ADA, Universal Design and recreational inclusion guidelines and standards.



- ⊕ **Certification of Parks and Playground Equipment/Playground Safety Standards**—The Town of Oak Island should contract with a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) to perform complete and detailed assessments of all parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks, particularly the playground equipment at these facilities, areas and parks on a regular basis. A town employee could even obtain the certification and complete the process. CPSI assessments should be scheduled for every 2 years beginning with the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year. This recommendation should not eliminate the need for town staff to conduct daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and assessments of its own at Town of Oak Island parks, playgrounds, areas and facilities.



- ⊕ **Parks, Recreation and Open Space Gifts and Donations Catalogue**—The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Director working in cooperation with the “Oak Island Parks, Recreation and Open Space Foundation”, Brunswick Community College (BCC), Cape Fear Community College (CFCC), the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) or another appropriate college or university should create the catalogue during the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year. This would be an excellent class project for students at any college or university.



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ◆ **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**—The membership of the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should be increased to include ex-officio members from the Town of Oak Island Planning Board, the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department and the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should be added to the membership of the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as ex-officio members. The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should discuss the recommendation to increase the membership of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at the September 2020 regular monthly meeting. If the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is in favor of the recommendation to increase the membership, the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Director should contact the appropriate spokespersons for the Town of Oak Island Planning Board, the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department and the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board between October – December 2020 to determine whether these organizations are interested and willing to place ex-officio members on the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. If at least one of the above mentioned organizations is interested and willing to place an ex-officio member on the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should adopt a motion at the January 2021 regular meeting recommending the change to the Town of Oak Island Town Council. If the motion is adopted by the Town Council, the Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board working in concert with the Parks and Recreation Director, the Town Manager and the Town Attorney should determine the best method for implementing this membership increase. The recommendation regarding the distribution of a packet to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at least one week in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting should be implemented with the July 2020 regularly scheduled RAC meeting.



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**Town of Oak Island**  
**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

- ◆ **Publicity, Communication and Marketing of Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks**—The need for this recommendation to be implemented quickly is substantial and the potential to have this developed as a class project by students at any of the local colleges and universities is very strong. The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Director should contact professors at any of the colleges or universities identified in the **Town of Oak Island 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Chapter Seven—Master Plan Proposals & Recommendations: Policy and Procedure Considerations—2020 – 2025. Publicity, Communication and Marketing of Programs, Services, Events, Activities, Facilities, Areas and Parks** in July 2020 to discuss this opportunity as a potential fall 2020, spring 2021 or fall 2021 class project.



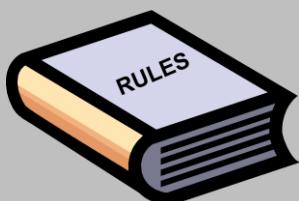
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- ◆ **Adopt-A-Park Program**—The Director of Parks and Recreation with support from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should identify all area homeowner associations, garden clubs and civic organizations and hold an initial meeting with representatives from each entity in early fall 2021. Suitable parks, recreation and open space facilities, areas and parks can be identified at this meeting and interested stakeholders assigned responsibility for various projects within the identified locations.



### **ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM**

◆ ***Revisions and Additions to Town of Oak Island and Parks and Recreation Department Policies, Rules, Regulations and Ordinances***—a three (3) member *Policy, Rules, Regulations and Ordinances Review Task Force* consisting of the Parks and Recreation Director, the Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and one (1) other member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should be formed in January 2020. This Task Force will meet as a group to identify and review Town of Oak Island and Parks and Recreation Department Policies, Rules, Regulations and Ordinances which have a direct or indirect impact on the operation and implementation of Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks such as “off-lease dogs”, “fishing off the Davis Canal crossovers” “preservation of trees and other natural resources while maintaining and celebrating the uniqueness of Oak Island”, etc. The Task Force will submit a report to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at its January 2021 regularly scheduled meeting recommending which current Town of Oak Island and Parks and Recreation Department Policies, Rules, Regulations and Ordinances are being appropriately enforced and have a positive impact on Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, facilities, camps, areas and parks; which are not being appropriately enforced but would have a positive impact on Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks if properly enforced; which are being properly enforced but have a negative impact on Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks; which need to be revised or rewritten; which need to be eliminated all together; and, which new Policies, Rules, Regulations and Ordinances need to be added to the Town’s Code of Ordinances and Regulations and the Parks and Recreation Department Policies and Procedure Manual in order to enhance the delivery and operation of Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks.



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## **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS IMPLEMENTATION—2020 – 2025**

- ◆ **2020 – 2021 Fiscal Year— (Appendix R)**
  - ❖ Fill any and all vacant positions
  - ❖ Establish the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division
    - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor—full-time position
    - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Crew Leader (2)—full-time positions
    - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist (4)—full-time positions
    - Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Technician (2)—part-time and seasonal positions
- ◆ **2021 – 2022 Fiscal Year— (Appendix R)**
  - ❖ No new or additional positions recommended for this fiscal year
- ◆ **2022 – 2023 Fiscal Year— (Appendix R)**
  - ❖ Hire an additional Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist—this position would be responsible for general maintenance of the existing facilities, areas and parks maintained and operated by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department
  - ❖ Establish and hire a new full-time position of Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Supervisor—this position would be responsible for the supervision and operation of the Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Program
  - ❖ Establish and hire new part-time and seasonal Ocean Beach Rescue Lifeguards (20 – 25)—these positions would be responsible for rescue and lifeguarding operations along the oceanfront beach as a part of the Ocean Beach Rescue and Lifeguard Program
- ◆ **2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year— (Appendix R)**
  - ❖ No new or additional positions recommended for this fiscal year
- ◆ **2024 – 2025 Fiscal Year— (Appendix R)**
  - ❖ Hire an additional Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist—this position would be responsible for general maintenance of the existing facilities, areas and parks maintained and operated by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department

## **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS**

### **IMPLEMENTATION—BEYOND 2025—(APPENDIX S)**

With the completion and operation of the Recreation Center and Fitness Complex:

- ❖ **Establish and hire a new full-time position of Recreation Program Supervisor Aquatics**—this position would be responsible for the general operation, management, administration and programming of the aquatics facility (pool) within the Recreation Center and Fitness Complex
- ❖ **Establish and hire a new full-time position of Recreation Program Assistant Aquatics**—this position would be responsible for supporting the Aquatics Supervisor with the operation, management, administration and programming of the aquatics facility (pool) and for general scheduling and programming of aquatics and swimming programs, services, events and activities within the Recreation Center and Fitness Complex
- ❖ **Establish and hire new part-time and seasonal Swimming Instructors and Lifeguards (10 – 20)**—these positions would be responsible for teaching and supervising swimming and aquatics programs, services, events and activities and guarding and supervising the aquatics and swimming participants within the Recreation Center and Fitness Complex



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- ❖ **Hire an additional full-time Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist**—this position would be responsible for general maintenance of the existing facilities, areas and parks maintained and operated by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department

With the continued construction, operation and maintenance of the Non-Vehicular Transportation Network and System:

- ❖ **Hire an additional full-time Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Specialist**—this position would be responsible for general maintenance of the existing facilities, areas and parks maintained and operated by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department

The Town of Oak Island will need to continue to supplement and compliment these full-time and part-time staff positions with contract instructors, seasonal employees, student interns and volunteers.

## **Funding Sources and Opportunities**

Most, if not all, capital investments such as land acquisition and facility, area and park development involve the expenditure of substantial amounts of money. Local governments, like the Town of Oak Island, have several options available to them when making these large capital investments. These options include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Current Revenues—capital improvement costs from current revenues such as general taxation, fees, services charges and special assessments
- Reserve Funds—financing capital improvement costs through the accumulation of funds
- General Obligation/Bond Referendum
- Eminent Domain
- Lease/Purchase Agreements
- Subdivision Dedication
- Donations/Gifts
- State and Federal Government Assistance and Grants

## **External Grant Funding Sources and Opportunities**

It is a well-accepted fact of doing business that public parks and recreation agencies and organizations cannot survive under the current economic conditions without external grant funding. These grants may come from the state or federal government, quasi-governmental agencies, non-profit entities or from private foundations and organizations. The competition for these grants is enormous and formidable. Regardless of the source of the grant funding, the ability of a local government agency or organization to successfully secure these monies is vital and hangs on the local government's capability to present its case for securing the funding in the best light.

Grant-writing is both an art and a science. It requires creative ability to present the local government's needs and requests in the most advantageous manner and knowledge of specific grant writing requirements, policies and procedures. For this reason, successful grant-writing skills and abilities have become a requirement and a necessity for all local government operations. With this in mind, it is recommended the Town of Oak Island address this need. The recommendation is that the Town designate an employee to be the grant-writing authority for all Town requests for external grant funding and train that individual for this purpose. Or, the Town hires an outside consultant already trained in grant-writing to work with the Town when preparing a grant request for external funding.

In response to shrinking federal assistance during the 1980s and 1990s, North Carolina established dedicated funding sources for recreation from sources such as

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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bonds, real-estate transfer taxes, user fees, state sales taxes, income tax write-offs, and mineral severance taxes. North Carolina has taken major steps to provide on-going sources of park and conservation funds with the establishment of the Natural Heritage Trust Fund, the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund and the Clean Water Management Trust Fund. In addition, grant money is also available through the federally funded Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFTEA) [formerly known as the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA)], National Highway System Funds, Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funds, Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEAs). The North Carolina Department of Transportation administers the funds and the local government agency can use these funds for developing portions of any proposed greenway system. Local governments can also apply for assistance with pedestrian, bikeway and greenway projects by applying for North Carolina Department of Transportation Enhancement Funds. The following is an incomplete but representative listing of available state and federal funding sources:

- ⊕ **Natural Heritage Trust Fund (NHTF)**—The Natural Heritage Trust Fund (NHTF) was established in North Carolina in 1987. The fund provides supplemental funding to select state agencies for the acquisition and protection of important natural areas, to preserve the state's ecological diversity and cultural heritage, and to inventory the natural heritage resources of the state.



- ⊕ **North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF)**—The North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) provides state parks and local governments with a reliable funding source for projects. The North Carolina General Assembly established the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund in July 1994 to fund improvements in the state's park system, to fund grants for local governments and to increase the public's access to the state's beaches and coastal waters. The PARTF program provides dollar-for-dollar grants to local governments. Recipients use the grants to acquire land and/or to develop parks and recreational projects that serve the general public. A portion of the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund is the primary funding source for the Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access (PBCWA) Program. The PBCWA Program, administered by the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (DCM), offers matching grants to local governments throughout North Carolina's 20 coastal counties. The fund is fueled by money from property sold in North Carolina and is allocated in 3 ways: 65% to the state parks through the North

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation; 30% as dollar-for-dollar matching grants to local governments for park and recreation purposes; and, 5% for the Coastal and Estuarine Water Access Program. More information can be found at: [http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/partf\\_main.php](http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/partf_main.php)



- **North Carolina Division of Coastal Management Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Grants**—The North Carolina Division of Coastal Management awards more than \$1 million a year in matching grants to local governments for projects to improve pedestrian access to the state's beaches and waterways. Local governments may use access grants to construct low-cost public access facilities, including parking areas, restrooms, picnic shelters, dune crossovers and piers. Projects range in size from small, local access areas to regional access sites with amenities such as large parking lots, bathrooms and picnic shelters. Cities and counties may also use the grants to replace aging access facilities. In addition, local governments can use the funds to help acquire land for access sites or to revitalize urban waterfronts. More information can be found at: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-management-beach-waterfront-awareness-program-public-access-grant-application-package>



- **Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program**—The Boating Infrastructure Grant Program provides grants to States and Territories to construct, renovate, or maintain tie-up facilities for recreational boats 26 feet or more in length. More information can be found at: <http://wsfprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/BIG.htm>

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⊕ **Water Resources Development Project Grant**—The Water Resources Development Project Grant Program is designed to provide cost-share grants and technical assistance to local governments throughout the State. Applications for grants are accepted for seven (7) purposes: General Navigation, Recreational Navigation, Water Management, Stream Restoration, Beach Protection, Land Acquisition, and Facility Development for Water-Based Recreation, and Aquatic Weed Control. More information can be found at: <http://www.ncwater.org/Financial/Assistance>

⊕ **North Carolina Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grants**—The North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation and the Transportation Planning Branch created an annual matching grant program—the Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative—to encourage municipalities to develop comprehensive bicycle plans and pedestrian plans. This program was initiated in January 2004 and is administered through the North Carolina Department of Transportation.



⊕ **North Carolina Department of Transportation Enhancement Program—Federal Transportation Enhancement Fund**—The Federal Transportation Enhancement funding is administered by the Enhancement Unit and serves to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the Nation's intermodal transportation system. Transportation Enhancement (TE) activities, awarded through the North Carolina Call for Projects process, must benefit the travelling public and help communities increase transportation choices and access, enhance the built or natural environment and create a sense of place. Transportation Enhancement projects must have a relationship to surface transportation and encompass one of the following qualifying activities: bicycle and pedestrian facilities; bicycle and pedestrian safety; acquisition of scenic easements, scenic or historic sites; scenic or historic highway programs; landscaping and other scenic beautification; historic preservation; rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities; preservation of abandoned rail corridors; control or outdoor advertising; archaeological planning and research; environmental mitigation; or transportation museums.



- ⊕ **Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF)**—The 1996 North Carolina General Assembly created the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) “to clean up pollution in the state’s surface waters and to protect and conserve those waters that are not yet polluted.” State agencies, local governments or other political subdivisions of the state, and non-profit conservation organizations may apply for grants. Projects must “...specifically address water pollution problems and focus on upgrading surface waters, eliminating pollution and protecting and conserving unpolluted surface waters, including urban drinking water supplies.” The funds from the CWMTF can be used for acquisition of riparian properties, financing of innovative wastewater management initiatives, storm water mitigation and stream bank restoration projects, support for greenways, and some planning programs. The acquired or purchased property can be used for recreation while protecting valuable water resources from the effects of urban encroachment.



### North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund

- ⊕ **The North Carolina Trails Program: Recreational Trails Program (RTP)**—The Recreational Trails Program is a \$1.3 million grant program funded by Congress with money from the federal gas taxes paid on fuel used by off-highway vehicles. This program’s intent is to meet the trail and trail-related recreational needs identified by the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Grant applicants must be able to contribute 20% of the project cost with cash or in-kind contributions. The program is dedicated to helping citizens, organizations and agencies plan, develop and manage all types of trails ranging from greenways and trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding to river trails and off-highway vehicle trails.



### State trails program

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- ⊕ **Cooperative Forestry Assistance Funds: Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program**—The Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Grant Program provides 50/50 matching grants to the States, and through the states to any unit of local government, educational institutions, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organizations and other tax-exempt organizations to provide technical assistance and services to individuals, groups, communities, governmental agencies and organizations with respect to the protection, improvement, management, establishment and utilization of trees and shrubs in urban areas, communities, and open spaces, for the improvement of the beauty and livability of the urban environment.



- ⊕ **Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**—The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has historically been a primary funding source of the U.S. Department of Interior for outdoor recreation development and land acquisition by local governments and state agencies. In North Carolina, the program is administered by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. More information can be found at:  
[http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/lwcf\\_main.php](http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/lwcf_main.php)



- ⊕ **United States Department of Transportation's Federal-Aid Highway Program**—This program is the largest source of federal funding for pedestrian and bicycle projects. Monies from this program are administered through the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Federal funding is intended for capital improvements and safety and education programs, and projects must relate to the surface transportation system. For more information, visit:  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/summaryinfo.cfm>

- ⊕ **Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA): A Legacy for Users**—This program provides funding for transportation related bicycle and pedestrian facilities. There is a Surface Transportation Program (STP) category, which allows cities and counties the option of using bridge and road funds for providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Enhancements can include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, rail corridor preservation, scenic and environmental transportation opportunities and improvements to historical transportation sites. Funds from this program could be used to establish corridor linkages between neighborhoods and park and recreational areas.



- ⊕ **Transportation Alternatives (TA)**—This program is a funding source under the **Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST ACT)** that consolidates three formerly separate programs under SAFETEA-LU: Transportation Enhancements (TE), Safe Routes to School (SRTS), and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). These funds may be used for a variety of pedestrian, bicycle, and streetscape projects including sidewalks, bikeways, multi-use paths, and rail-trails. TA funds may also be used for selected education and encouragement programming such as Safe Routes to School, even though TA does not provide a guaranteed set-aside for this activity as SAFETEA-LU did. A list of eligible activities under this program can be found at: <http://fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/>



- ⊕ **Surface Transportation Program (STP)**—This program provides states with flexible funds which may be used for a variety of highway, road, bridge, and transit projects. A wide variety of pedestrian improvements are eligible, including trails, sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian signals, and other ancillary facilities. Modification of sidewalks to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is also an eligible activity.



**APPENDIX—A**

**POPULATION FIGURES AND ESTIMATES**

**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**

**1980 – 2018**

**BASED ON US CENSUS 2018 POPULATION ESTIMATES**

**POPULATION ESTIMATES PROGRAM**

YEAR	LONG BEACH	YAUPON BEACH	OAK ISLAND	PERCENT INCREASE	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	PERCENT OF COUNTY POPULATION
1980	1,844	569	2,413		35,777	6.7%
1990	3,816	764	4,580	89.8%	50,985	9.0%
2000			6,571	43.5%	73,141	9.0%
2010			6,783	3.2%	107,431	6.3%
2015 Estimate			7,368	8.6%	122,211	6.0%
2016 Estimate			7,572	2.8%	126,302	6.0%
2017 Estimate			7,780	2.7%	130,735	5.6%
2018 Estimate			8,072	3.6%	136,744	5.9%

[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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**APPENDIX—B**

**PERSONS BY AGE**  
**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**  
**BASED ON**  
**2010 US CENSUS**

Age Group	Number	Percent Total
<b>Under 5 years</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
<b>5 – 9 years</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
<b>10 – 14 years</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
<b>15 – 19 years</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>20 – 24 years</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
<b>25 – 29 years</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>4.1%</b>
<b>30 – 34 years</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
<b>35 – 39 years</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
<b>40 – 44 years</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>5.8%</b>
<b>45 – 49 years</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
<b>50 – 54 years</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>8.9%</b>
<b>55 – 59 years</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>10.2%</b>
<b>60 – 64 years</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>11.2%</b>
<b>65 – 69 years</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>9.9%</b>
<b>70 – 74 years</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
<b>75 – 79 years</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>4.8%</b>
<b>80 – 84 years</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
<b>85 years and older</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,783</b>	<b>100%</b>

[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)

Age Group	Number	Percent Total
<b>16 years and older</b>	<b>5,971</b>	<b>88.0%</b>
<b>18 years and older</b>	<b>5,849</b>	<b>86.2%</b>
<b>21 years and older</b>	<b>5,684</b>	<b>83.8%</b>
<b>62 years and older</b>	<b>2,142</b>	<b>31.6%</b>
<b>65 years and older</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>24.5%</b>

[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## APPENDIX—C

### **ETHNICITY/RACIAL COMPOSITION**

#### **TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**

#### **BASED ON**

#### **2010 US CENSUS**

Race	Oak Island Population	Percent Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,783</b>	<b>100%</b>
One Race	6,704	98.8%
White	6,560	96.7%
Black or African American	44	0.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native	41	0.6%
Asian	19	0.3%
Native Hawaiian and another Pacific Islander	2	0.0%
Some other Race	38	0.6%
Two or More Races	79	1.2%
Hispanic or Latino	96	1.4%
Not Hispanic or Latino	6,687	98.6%

[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)

Race and Hispanic or Latino	Oak Island Population	Percent Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,783</b>	<b>100%</b>
One Race	6,704	98.8%
Hispanic or Latino	85	1.3%
Not Hispanic or Latino	6,619	97.6%
Two or More Races	79	1.2%
Hispanic or Latino	11	0.2%
Not Hispanic or Latino	68	1.0%

[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## APPENDIX—D

### **MEDIAN AND MEAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME**

#### **TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**

#### **ESTIMATES BASED ON**

**2013 – 2017 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 5 – YEAR ESTIMATES**

<b>Estimated Median Household Income in 2017</b>	
<b>Oak Island</b>	<b>\$57,670</b>
<b>Brunswick County</b>	<b>\$51,164</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>\$50,320</b>

MEDIAN  
data:3, 2, 9, 8, 12  
2, 3, 8, 9, 12

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<b>Estimated Mean Household Income in 2017</b>	
<b>Oak Island</b>	<b>\$77,495</b>
<b>Brunswick County</b>	<b>\$66,755</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>\$70,523</b>

MEAN :  
data> 5, 3, 10  
5+3+10=18  
18 / 3 = 6  
6=MEAN

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[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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**APPENDIX—E**

**EDUCATIONAL LEVEL ATTAINMENT**

**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**

**POPULATION 18 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER**

**ESTIMATES BASED ON**

**2013 – 2017 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 5 – YEAR ESTIMATES**

Education Completed	Oak Island	Wilmington	Brunswick County	North Carolina	National
High School Graduate or Higher (Includes Equivalency)	92.0%	91.3%	89.1%	86.9%	87.3%
Completed Some College or Associates Degree	78.6%	88.6%	67.5	76.6%	74.8%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	36.1%	41.4%	28.0%	29.9%	30.9%
Completed Graduate or Professional Degree	12.6%	13.8%	9.9%	10.6%	11.8%

Sources:

[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## **APPENDIX—F**

**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND PARKS, RECREATION  
AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY INSTRUMENT**

**Town of Oak Island  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Needs Assessment Survey**

The Town of Oak Island Town Council members, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members and Parks and Recreation Department staff are committed to sustaining and enhancing the overall quality of life for the citizens of Oak Island. The provision and operation of public parks, recreation and open space programs, services, events, activities, facilities, areas and parks are important components of the Town's immediate and long-range planning efforts. We need your input and assistance by completing this needs assessment survey! Information gathered through this survey will be used to create the Town's 2020 – 2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions. **PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE SURVEY BY APRIL 30, 2019.**

**Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in helping us sustain and improve our services!**

**Q1** Do you reside within the Town of Oak Island town limits?  
**Q1a** \_\_\_\_\_ Yes → if this is your response please go directly to **Q2**  
**Q1b** \_\_\_\_\_ No → if this is your response please go directly to **Q4**

## DEMOGRAPHICS

**Q2 Resident Status:**  **Q2a**  Full-Time/Permanent Resident; own my home/place of residence  
 **Q2b**  Full-Time/Permanent Resident; rent my home/place of residence  
 **Q2c**  Part-Time Resident; own my home/place of residence  
 **Q2d**  Part-Time Resident; rent my home/place of residence  
 **Q2e**  Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q3** How long have you resided in the Town of Oak Island?

**Q3a** less than 2 years      **Q3b** at least 2 years but less than 10  
**Q3c** at least 10 years but less than 20      **Q3d** 20 years or longer

**Q4** Are you a non-resident Visitor/Tourist to Oak Island?      **Q4a**  Yes  
**Q4b**  No

**Q5** In what year were you born? **Q5a** \_\_\_\_\_ Year

**Q6** What is your gender? **Q6a**  Male **Q6b**  Female

**Q7** Including yourself, how many individuals live in your household? **Q7a** \_\_\_\_\_ Individuals

**Q8** Including yourself, how many individuals in your household are 18 years of age or older?

**Q8a** Individuals

**Q9** Which of the following best describes your household?

**Q9a** Single with children at home      **Q9b** Single with no children at home

**Q9c** Couple with children at home **Q9d** Couple with no children at home

**Q9e** Retired, no children at home

**Q9f** Other (Please Specify)

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## **PROGRAMS/SERVICES/EVENTS/ACTIVITIES**

**Q10** Which of the following recreational programs, services, events and activities **offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department** have you or any members of your household participated in during the last 12 months? **(MARK ALL THAT APPLY)**

**Q10a**  Senior Trips      **Q10b**  Exercise Classes      **Q10c**  Yoga Classes

**Q10d**  Fitness Center      **Q10e**  Nature Trips      **Q10f**  Community Center Activities

**Q10g**  Nutrition Lunch      **Q10h**  Coffee & Conversation      **Q10i**  Quilters Club

**Q10j**  History Series:      **Q10k**  OKI Bird Club      **Q10l**  Play Pool

**Q10m**  Art Guild Workshops      **Q10n**  Halloween Events      **Q10o**  Senior Errands

**Q10p**  Art Classes      **Q10q**  Table Tennis League      **Q10r**  Youth Sports League

**Q10s**  Adult Sports League      **Q10t**  Summer Camps      **Q10u**  Ride the Tide

**Q10v**  Women Anglers in Training      **Q10w**  Board Game Club      **Q10x**  Summer Concert Series

**Q10y**  Tree Lighting      **Q10z**  Mardi Gras Festival      **Q10aa**  Nature Programs

**Q10bb**  Youth Fishing Derby      **Q10cc**  Sea Turtle Programs      **Q10dd**  Labor Day\_Surf Off

**Q10ee**  Fishing Seminars      **Q10ff**  Christmas Programs      **Q10gg**  Kayak Trips

**Q10hh**  Golf Tournament      **Q10ii**  Golf Lessons      **Q10jj**  Surf Lessons

**Q10kk**  Farmers & Artisans Market      **Q10ll**  Easter Events      **Q10mm**  Arts by the Shore

**Q10nn**  Beach Day      **Q10oo**  Arts by the Shore

**Q10pp**  Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q10qq** Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q10rr** I/We haven't participated in any programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department

**Q10A** How frequently have you or any members of your household participated in the above programs, services, events and activities during the last 12 months?

**Q10A1**  Never (0) → Proceed to **Q10B**

**Q10A2**    Rarely (1 – 5) → Proceed to **Q10B**

**Q10A3** Sometimes (6 – 10) → Proceed to **Q10B**

**Q10A4** Often (More than 10) → Proceed to **Q11**

**Q10B** Please specify why you indicated "Never", "Rarely" or "Sometimes" to **Q10A** \_\_\_\_\_

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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## CAMPS

**Q11** Which of the following recreational camps offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department

have you or any members of your household participated in during the last 12 months? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

<b>Q11a</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Fire Camp	<b>Q11b</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Planet Camp	<b>Q11c</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Artful Antics Camp
<b>Q11d</b> <input type="checkbox"/> British Soccer Camp	<b>Q11e</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Camp	<b>Q11f</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Camp
<b>Q11g</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mystery Fun Camp	<b>Q11h</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Oak Island Soccer Camp	<b>Q11i</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball Camp
<b>Q11j</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sailing Camp	<b>Q11k</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Skate Camp	<b>Q11l</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Splash Splash Camp
<b>Q11m</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Camp	<b>Q11n</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Great Outdoors Camp	<b>Q11o</b> <input type="checkbox"/> To Infinity & Beyond Camp
<b>Q11p</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Science Camp	<b>Q11q</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Young Artist Camp	
<b>Q11r</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Specify) _____		

**Q11s**  I/We haven't participated in any recreational camps offered by Oak Island Parks and Recreation Parks and Recreation Department

**Q11A** How frequently have you or any members of your household participated in the above recreational camps during the last 12 months?

**Q11A1**  Never (0) → Proceed to **Q11B**  
**Q10A2**  Rarely (1 – 2) → Proceed to **Q11B**  
**Q11A3**  Sometimes (3 – 5) → Proceed to **Q11B**  
**Q10A4**  Often (More than 5) → Proceed to **Q12**

**Q11B** Please specify why you indicated "Never", "Rarely" or "Sometimes" to **Q11A** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Q12** In your opinion, what are the five (5) most important NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and activities the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department needs to provide in the future? (MARK ONLY UP TO FIVE)

<b>Q12a</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Sailing Camp	<b>Q12b</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Ninja Park	<b>Q12c</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Pickleball Camp
<b>Q12d</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet Beach Access	<b>Q12e</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Day Camp	<b>Q12f</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mah Jongg
<b>Q12g</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Ultimate Frisbee	<b>Q12h</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness Program for Kids	<b>Q12i</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Teen Programs
<b>Q12j</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball League	<b>Q12k</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Kids Art Programs	<b>Q12l</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Beach Music Festival
<b>Q12m</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Dock Dog Diving Event	<b>Q12n</b> <input type="checkbox"/> After School Prog	<b>Q12o</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Before School Program
<b>Q12p</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Softball League	<b>Q12q</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 24-Hour Fitness Ctr	<b>Q12r</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Special Populations Programs
<b>Q12s</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis Lessons	<b>Q12t</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Lessons	<b>Q12u</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tournaments
<b>Q12v</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Dance Programs	<b>Q12w</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Wrestling	<b>Q12x</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Acting Classes
<b>Q12y</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Kayak Trips	<b>Q12z</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Walking Clubs	<b>Q1aa</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Movies in the Park
<b>Q12bb</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Food Truck Rodeo	<b>Q12cc</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Lacrosse League	<b>Q12dd</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Disc Golf League
<b>Q12ee</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Beach Volleyball League	<b>Q12ff</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Derby	<b>Q12gg</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Teen IT Workshop
<b>Q12hh</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking Class	<b>Q12ii</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Music Programs for Youth	<b>Q12jj</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Moms' Morning Out
<b>Q12kk</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Preschool Programs	<b>Q12ll</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Flag Football	<b>Q12mm</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cheerleading
<b>Q12nn</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Running Club	<b>Q12oo</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Kickboxing	<b>Q12pp</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling Club
<b>Q12qq</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Specify) _____		

**Q12rr**  It is my opinion the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department does not need to provide any NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL recreational programs, services, events and activities

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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**Q13** Would you support funding these **NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL** recreational programs, services, events and activities identified in **Q12** if they were funded through reasonable and consistent user fees?

**Q13a**  Yes → Proceed to **Q14**

**Q13b**  No → Proceed to **Q15**

**Q14** Would you support funding these **NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL** recreational programs, services, events and activities identified in **Q12** if the user fee was? **(MARK ONLY ONE)**

**Q14a**  \$50 or less

**Q14b**  \$51 - \$100

**Q14c**  \$101 or more

## RECREATIONAL FACILITIES/AREAS/PARKS

**Q15** Which of the following Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department recreational facilities, areas and parks have you or any members of your household visited or used during the last 12 months? **(MARK ALL THAT APPLY)**

**Q15a**  Middleton Park (off Oak Island Drive and SE 48<sup>th</sup> Street)

**Q15b**  Bill Smith Park (Fish Factory Road)

**Q15c**  Kevin Bell Skate Park (SE 49<sup>th</sup> Street)

**Q15d**  Heron Lookout (SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street at Davis Canal)

**Q15e**  57<sup>th</sup> Place West Access Park

**Q15f**  May Moore Park (Barbee Blvd. at Elizabeth Drive)

**Q15g**  Yaupon Park (Barbee Blvd. at Ocean Drive)

**Q15h**  The Point (West end of Beach Drive)

**Q15i**  Templeton Park (Oak Island Drive & 41<sup>st</sup> Street)

**Q15j**  Veterans Park (14<sup>th</sup> NE & Yacht Drive)

**Q15k**  Register Park/Nature Park – Dot Kelly Butterfly Garden (NE 52<sup>nd</sup> Street)

**Q15l**  Crossover Trail at 9<sup>th</sup> Place SE

**Q15m**  30<sup>th</sup> Place West Dock

**Q15n**  78<sup>th</sup> Street Crab Dock (NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street & Yacht Drive)

**Q15o**  Commissioner's Observation Park (McGlamery at Ocean Drive)

**Q15p**  Oak Island Par Three at South Harbor (4188 Vanessa Drive in South Harbor Village)

**Q15q**  Tidalwaves Kayak & Canoe Launch (SE 31<sup>st</sup> Street at Davis Canal)

**Q15r**  I/We have not visited or used any of these Oak Island recreation facilities, areas and parks during the last 12 months

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

**Q16** In your opinion, what are the five (5) most important **NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL** recreational facilities, areas and parks the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department needs to provide in the future (These new and/or additional recreational facilities, areas and parks will require a capital investment by the Town of Oak Island)? (**MARK ONLY UP TO FIVE**)

**Q16a**  Indoor Swimming Pool      **Q16b**  Outdoor Swimming Pool

**Q16c**  Sidewalks/Pedestrian Lanes

**Q16d**  Recreation Center/Gymnasium    **Q16e**  Bike Lanes      **Q16f**  Pedestrian Crosswalks

**Q16g**  Tennis Courts      **Q16h**  Hiking Trails/Paths      **Q16i**  Fitness Equipment

**Q16j**  Dedicated Pickleball Courts    **Q16k**  Soccer Fields      **Q16l**  Baseball Fields

**Q16m**  Outdoor Basketball Courts    **Q16n**  Lacrosse Fields      **Q16o**  Playground Equipment

**Q16p**  Water Access Sites/Facilities    **Q16q**  Athletic Fields      **Q16r**  Skateboard Park

**Q16s**  Dog Park      **Q16t**  Public Restrooms      **Q16u**  Beach Shower

**Q16v**  Small Boat Launch Site    **Q16w**  Picnic Shelters at Parks      **Q16x**  Teen Center

**Q16y**  Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q16z**  It is my opinion the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department does not need to provide any **NEW** AND/OR ADDITIONAL recreational facilities, areas and parks

**Q17** Which of these funding sources would you support to pay for these **NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL** recreational facilities, areas and parks? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

**Q17a**  Private Sources      **Q17a**  Grants  
**Q17b**  Property Tax Increase      **Q17c**  General Obligation Bond Referendum

## HOW ARE WE DOING?

**Q18** Using the following scale with "1" indicating **"Totally Disagree"** and "7" indicating **"Totally Agree"** please rate the following:

**Q18A** The VARIETY of the programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is appropriate.

**Q18B** The QUALITY of the programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department is appropriate.

A horizontal scale with seven points labeled 1 through 7. Point 1 is labeled "Totally Disagree" and point 7 is labeled "Totally Agree".

**Q18C** The FEES charged for the programs, services, events and activities offered by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department are appropriate.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
“Totally Disagree” “Totally Agree”

**Q18D** I am satisfied with the QUALITY of the facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
“Totally Disagree” “Totally Agree”

**Q18E** I believe the Town of Oak Island is bike friendly/a safe place to bike

Sum of Q1 and Q2 is 10  11  12  13  14  15  16  17  18  19  20  21  22  23  24  25  26  27  28  29  30  31  32  33  34  35  36  37  38  39  40  41  42  43  44  45  46  47  48  49  50  51  52  53  54  55  56  57  58  59  60  61  62  63  64  65  66  67  68  69  70  71  72  73  74  75  76  77  78  79  80  81  82  83  84  85  86  87  88  89  90  91  92  93  94  95  96  97  98  99  100  101  102  103  104  105  106  107  108  109  110  111  112  113  114  115  116  117  118  119  120  121  122  123  124  125  126  127  128  129  130  131  132  133  134  135  136  137  138  139  140  141  142  143  144  145  146  147  148  149  150  151  152  153  154  155  156  157  158  159  160  161  162  163  164  165  166  167  168  169  170  171  172  173  174  175  176  177  178  179  180  181  182  183  184  185  186  187  188  189  190  191  192  193  194  195  196  197  198  199  200  201  202  203  204  205  206  207  208  209  210  211  212  213  214  215  216  217  218  219  220  221  222  223  224  225  226  227  228  229  230  231  232  233  234  235  236  237  238  239  240  241  242  243  244  245  246  247  248  249  250  251  252  253  254  255  256  257  258  259  260  261  262  263  264  265  266  267  268  269  270  271  272  273  274  275  276  277  278  279  280  281  282  283  284  285  286  287  288  289  290  291  292  293  294  295  296  297  298  299  300  301  302  303  304  305  306  307  308  309  310  311  312  313  314  315  316  317  318  319  320  321  322  323  324  325  326  327  328  329  330  331  332  333  334  335  336  337  338  339  340  341  342  343  344  345  346  347  348  349  350  351  352  353  354  355  356  357  358  359  360  361  362  363  364  365  366  367  368  369  370  371  372  373  374  375  376  377  378  379  380  381  382  383  384  385  386  387  388  389  390  391  392  393  394  395  396  397  398  399  400  401  402  403  404  405  406  407  408  409  410  411  412  413  414  415  416  417  418  419  420  421  422  423  424  425  426  427  428  429  430  431  432  433  434  435  436  437  438  439  440  441  442  443  444  445  446  447  448  449  450  451  452  453  454  455  456  457  458  459  460  461  462  463  464  465  466  467  468  469  470  471  472  473  474  475  476  477  478  479  480  481  482  483  484  485  486  487  488  489  490  491  492  493  494  495  496  497  498  499  500  501  502  503  504  505  506  507  508  509  510  511  512  513  514  515  516  517  518  519  520  521  522  523  524  525  526  527  528  529  530  531  532  533  534  535  536  537  538  539  540  541  542  543  544  545  546  547  548  549  550  551  552  553  554  555  556  557  558  559  560  561  562  563  564  565  566  567  568  569  570  571  572  573  574  575  576  577  578  579  580  581  582  583  584  585  586  587  588  589  590  591  592  593  594  595  596  597  598  599  600  601  602  603  604  605  606  607  608  609  610  611  612  613  614  615  616  617  618  619  620  621  622  623  624  625  626  627  628  629  630  631  632  633  634  635  636  637  638  639  640  641  642  643  644  645  646  647  648  649  650  651  652  653  654  655  656  657  658  659  660  661  662  663  664  665  666  667  668  669  670  671  672  673  674  675  676  677  678  679  680  681  682  683  684  685  686  687  688  689  690  691  692  693  694  695  696  697  698  699  700  701  702  703  704  705  706  707  708  709  710  711  712  713  714  715  716  717  718  719  720  721  722  723  724  725  726  727  728  729  730  731  732  733  734  735  736  737  738  739  740  741  742  743  744  745  746  747  748  749  750  751  752  753  754  755  756  757  758  759  760  761  762  763  764  765  766  767  768  769  770  771  772  773  774  775  776  777  778  779  780  781  782  783  784  785  786  787  788  789  790  791  792  793  794  795  796  797  798  799  800  801  802  803  804  805  806  807  808  809  810  811  812  813  814  815  816  817  818  819  820  821  822  823  824  825  826  827  828  829  830  831  832  833  834  835  836  837  838

**Q18F** I believe the Town of Oak Island is an accessible place for persons with disabilities and other special needs.

own of Oak Island is ~~an accessible place for persons with disabilities and other special~~  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
“Totally Disagree” “Totally Agree”

Q18G I believe the existing facilities, areas and parks provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of my household

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
“Totally Disagree” “Totally Agree”

**Q18H** I believe the existing programs, services, events and activities provided by the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department meet the needs of the members of my household.

ent meet the needs of the members of my household.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
“T-4, B. B.”					“T-4, B. A.”	

**Q18** I believe it is important the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department **provides new and/or improved recreational facilities, areas and parks**

areas and parks 1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
"Tall Pines" (Tall Pines)

Total, Dish Fee Total, A Fee

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

**Q19** The Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department provides a range and variety of programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks. Using the scale below, please give the department an overall grade as to whether the programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks provided meet your needs and the needs of your household. (MARK ONLY ONE)

**Q19a** \_\_\_\_\_ Poor → Proceed to **Q20**

**Q19b** Fair → Proceed to **Q20**

**Q19c** Average → Proceed to **Q20**

**Q19d** Good → Proceed to **Q21**

**Q19e** Excellent → Proceed to **Q21**

**Q20** What would it take to raise your rating to **Q19** to at least “Good?”

**Q20 (Please Specify)**

**Q21** The best method/methods for informing me and the members of my household about upcoming and planned Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department programs, events, services and activities is/are: (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

### **Q21a**      **Newspaper**

## Q21b Flyers

**Q21c**      Calendar

**Q21d** Town Hall Sign

Q21e Town

Q21e \_\_\_\_\_ town we

Q21. \_\_\_\_\_ Email

Q21h Text Message

**Q22** If you could tell the Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department ONE thing they need to do better, *or* ONE facility they

**Q23** Please state any additional improvements/enhancements to current Town of Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department programs, services, events, activities, camps, facilities, areas and parks that would improve/enhance your overall parks and recreation experience:

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in helping us sustain and improve our services!

# The Town of Oak Island

# NORTH CAROLINA

**APPENDIX—G**

***RESPONSES TO PARTICIPATION IN  
PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES (Q9)***

<b>PROGRAM, SERVICE, EVENT AND ACTIVITY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONSES</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES</b>
<i>Senior Trips</i>	<b>47</b>	<b>3.80%</b>
<i>Exercise Classes</i>	<b>209</b>	<b>16.90%</b>
<i>Yoga Classes</i>	<b>168</b>	<b>13.58%</b>
<i>Fitness Center</i>	<b>332</b>	<b>26.84%</b>
<i>Nature Trips</i>	<b>101</b>	<b>8.16%</b>
<i>Community Center Activities</i>	<b>209</b>	<b>16.90%</b>
<i>Nutrition Lunch</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>1.70%</b>
<i>Coffee &amp; Conversation</i>	<b>31</b>	<b>2.51%</b>
<i>Quilters Club</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>1.05%</b>
<i>History Series</i>	<b>29</b>	<b>2.34%</b>
<i>OKI Bird Club</i>	<b>46</b>	<b>3.72%</b>
<i>Play Pool</i>	<b>9</b>	<b>0.73%</b>
<i>Art Guild Workshops</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>1.94%</b>
<i>Halloween Events</i>	<b>115</b>	<b>9.30%</b>
<i>Senior Errands</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.65%</b>
<i>Art Classes</i>	<b>33</b>	<b>2.67%</b>
<i>Table Tennis League</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.65%</b>
<i>Youth Sports League</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>1.05%</b>
<i>Adult Sports League</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>1.54%</b>
<i>Summer Camps</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>2.26%</b>
<i>Ride and Tide</i>	<b>78</b>	<b>6.31%</b>
<i>Women Anglers in Training</i>	<b>37</b>	<b>2.99%</b>
<i>Board Game Club</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.16%</b>
<i>Summer Concert Series</i>	<b>514</b>	<b>41.55%</b>
<i>Tree Lighting</i>	<b>281</b>	<b>22.72%</b>
<i>Mardi Gras Festival</i>	<b>372</b>	<b>30.07%</b>
<i>Nature Programs</i>	<b>144</b>	<b>11.64%</b>
<i>Youth Fishing Derby</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>1.54%</b>
<i>Sea Turtle Programs</i>	<b>258</b>	<b>20.86%</b>
<i>Labor Day-Surf Off</i>	<b>94</b>	<b>7.60%</b>
<i>Fishing Seminars</i>	<b>120</b>	<b>9.70%</b>
<i>Christmas Programs</i>	<b>204</b>	<b>16.49%</b>
<i>Kayak Trips</i>	<b>104</b>	<b>8.41%</b>
<i>Golf Tournament</i>	<b>54</b>	<b>4.37%</b>
<i>Golf Lessons</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.40%</b>
<i>Surf Lessons</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>1.37%</b>
<i>Farmers &amp; Artisans Market</i>	<b>630</b>	<b>50.93%</b>
<i>Easter Events</i>	<b>157</b>	<b>12.69%</b>
<i>Arts by the Shore</i>	<b>212</b>	<b>17.14%</b>
<i>Beach Day</i>	<b>324</b>	<b>26.19%</b>
<i>"Have Not Participated"</i>	<b>171</b>	<b>13.82%</b>
<i>"Other"</i>	<b>143</b>	<b>11.56%</b>

## APPENDIX—H

***RESPONSES TO WHY RESPONDENTS “NEVER”, “RARELY” OR “SOMETIMES”  
PARTICIPATED IN RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES  
OFFERED BY THE TOWN OF OAK ISLAND (Q11)***

- We haven't lived in town long enough but will participate more as time goes. We love it and all that is has to offer the community
- Not interested
- Never really hear anything about what's going on until the last minute. Nothing really catches my attention
- Don't know what is available
- We plan to participate more often when we live there fulltime
- Summed about the right amount
- Do to scheduling and time of your events. I also help with the Oak Island Christmas parade
- Busy schedule
- When available
- Have many interests. No specific reason
- Work schedules
- I have not participated in those activities
- We don't live there fulltime, but visit regularly
- Just at beach once a month for several days
- We only vacation there 2 – 3 times a year
- Still work fulltime
- Time of events
- I'm not a resident
- Busy with work
- Only owned home for approximately 18 months
- Scheduling. We are here on weekends and some weeklong trips
- Would like to participate but still working when most programs are scheduled
- Just began going within time frame indicated but plan to continue and investigate other activities offered as well
- Mot there when some events go on
- Many are seasonal related to specific holidays and only held once a year
- We do participate when we are in town. We enjoy the concerts and farmers market. We will keep an eye out for more events to attend
- Sickness, other commitments
- Not there enough. Soon will be permanent residents in our home there and will be able to get involved in the community
- The things chosen were specifically timed, so work got in the way sometimes
- Not a permanent resident
- Only part-time resident
- We would participate more but until this January we spent most of our time in Greensboro. We retired in January so now have more time to be active
- Hit or miss, depending upon my schedule
- No reason do it as much as we can
- Sometimes there isn't enough notice for us to travel to our vacation house to attend these events. Also, part-time residents (not tourists) are not really welcomed in the community even though we pay the same taxes. That said, we adore going to the farmers market and dump a lot of our money into the local economy
- Nothing I am interested in

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- We usually go out on our boat or hang out on the beach when we're there
- Not always there
- Didn't know all this is offered should post on this FB page
- Not interested in those activities
- Just moved here and not very aware of all the activities that are available
- Recently moved to the area
- Family events
- Wasn't aware of all the different events or were not in town
- Always working
- They were onetime events
- Because we never have
- Didn't know some of these existed
- I just don't take advantage of the offerings
- We're not islanders fulltime yet
- Wasn't aware of programs and out of town on some
- It depends on how many times during the year that I visit Oak Island
- I work a lot
- We are not down enough but hope to go soon to use these programs
- Vacationer
- I am new to the area, and I am only in town on the weekends. I would love to be more involved
- Work 2 PT jobs and go when time permits
- We mostly come on weekends and have extended stay in summer over Thanksgiving and Christmas, so the events don't work for our schedule at this time
- We do not have a good schedule of events, so we just google to see if there is something, we are interested in. Would be great if we could get an email with the schedule
- Don't live there; calendar doesn't coordinate with activities when I am there
- This is a vacation home...we aren't there more than 6-10 times/year
- Sometimes I must work, and events are on Saturday; I can't go
- Timing of when we are at the house with our work schedules
- NON-RESIDENT OWNER
- We come down but have not used the park trips
- Bridge closing
- We've been transitioning to OKI for several years; we are finally here full-time
- Not always there when they are held
- We fully intend to participate more once we move there full-time at the end of this summer
- Your hours when the class is available
- Not aware of all the activities going on
- Just moved here as a full-time resident a few months ago
- When we come to OKI, we are always busy with Friends/Shopping or the events are held when we are not on OKI. This year we expect to spend more time there and take more advantage of the events
- We are usually too busy when we get to OKI with visiting friends/shopping/House Maintenance or the events are scheduled when we are not on OKI. This year we hope to spend more time on OKI and attend more of the functions - Dog Easter Egg Hunt for example!!
- We travel a lot and don't always have time to participate in Oak Island activities. Perhaps in the future
- We just moved in 6 months ago; plan to do more in the future
- Based on timing of when we are at OKI and the activities are scheduled to coincide with our visits

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

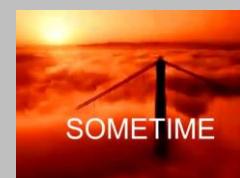
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- We only go occasionally due to the time
- Fishing seminar offered only once a year
- Chose what we were interested in
- Because we are only here a few days each month we are unable to participate on a regular basis
- Death of husband in 2016 and travelling back and forth to children. Little depressed at times. Been sick a lot this fall and winter. Will return to exercise soon
- Most town rec facilities need updating
- Events do not always coincide with time we are on the island
- We're handicapped and find it hard to participate in some programs because they're not handicapped accessible. We hope to begin to participate in some of the programs this year as I've had knee replacements and hope to be able to get around better
- We don't get to spend as much time at our home as we'd like to so our opportunity to participate is not very often
- Nothing of interest at times we are in residence
- Part-time resident
- I have just moved here
- Live there part-time
- Travel extensively
- Participate when vacationing at OKI
- Not interested in organized group events
- Busy lives
- Live in Southport
- Recently purchased a home
- Not aware of many of them
- Only there part-time
- Go to Southport for Sr. Ctr.
- Other things scheduled
- Don't get to all events I want to
- Sometimes when it is at convenient times
- I work and travel for business sometimes I'm home on the weekend but may have to many chores to play. I play golf on the par 3 often and have a membership
- Mostly there in the summer
- I live alone. Just me attended noted events
- Husband is 84 and in poor health
- We just moved here in March and are busy working on our house. We walk a lot but have not had time to get involved in classes, etc.
- It's our second home. We come to OKI for holidays and summer vacations
- Enjoy the activities when time allows. Hope to participate more when we retire to OKI
- Lack of being informed
- Not here enough
- Not there when some of the activities took place. Most of them did not interest us
- Still work
- Moved here a few months ago
- Part-time, and often have visiting family
- We do our own thing; fishing, beach, bike riding
- Not convenient times when we are only there on weekends
- I attended the events that interest me. OKI has a ton of fun things to do
- Class too full
- We are only in OKI roughly 10-12 days per month currently
- Just bought in December
- I am new to town and was unaware of these activities

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Lots of activities sound interesting; we just haven't tried them yet
- I travel a lot for work and am usually only home on weekends
- Only part-time resident currently. Major illness and treatment this past year
- Just moved here
- We are part-time residents so only there occasionally
- We are both employed and don't have the extra time to participate. When we retire, we plan to be more involved in the activities
- Other obligations
- Busy schedules
- We go when we can
- Busy
- Mostly there on weekends
- Time
- I have been sick and am just now retiring
- Due to work schedule conflicts with things I would be interested in
- They don't hold Farmers Market too often
- Didn't know about them
- Just haven't gotten around to it
- Part-time
- There are few classes and activities in the evenings after work hours
- Enjoy the summer concert series and try to attend all of them
- I am not a full-time resident otherwise this number would be higher



**participate**<sup>SM</sup>

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**APPENDIX—I**  
**RESPONSES TO PARTICIPATION IN**  
**RECREATION CAMPS (Q12)**

RECREATIONAL CAMP	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES
<i>Youth Fire Camp</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.46%</b>
<i>Animal Planet Camp</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.55%</b>
<i>Artful Antics Camp</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.46%</b>
<i>British Soccer Camp</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.28%</b>
<i>Fishing Camp</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>1.66%</b>
<i>Golf Camp</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.74%</b>
<i>Mystery Fun Camp</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.55%</b>
<i>Oak Island Soccer Camp</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.28%</b>
<i>Pickleball Camp</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>1.66%</b>
<i>Sailing Camp</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>1.20%</b>
<i>Skate Camp</i>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.37%</b>
<i>Splash Splash Camp</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.74%</b>
<i>Tennis Camp</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.46%</b>
<i>Great Outdoors Camp</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.18%</b>
<i>To Infinity &amp; Beyond Camp</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.28%</b>
<i>Science Camp</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.74%</b>
<i>Young Artist Camp</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.92%</b>
<b>“Have Not Participated”</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>91.34%</b>
<b>“Other”</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3.13%</b>



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## APPENDIX—J

***RESPONSES TO WHY RESPONDENTS “NEVER”, “RARELY” OR “SOMETIMES”  
PARTICIPATED IN RECREATIONAL CAMPS  
OFFERED BY THE TOWN OF OAK ISLAND (Q14)***

- No reason
- Have not had the opportunity yet but want to do art, pickleball and golf!
- I want to but don't know the schedule. Been so busy fixing up our home have not had time during the days and most activities are during the morning time
- My husband had a hip replacement, a knee replacement and then another knee replacement in the last two years, which had us less active
- Have not had the opportunity
- Just haven't had the occasion to do so
- Have not had the time to participate, however we are still interested in many of them
- We don't have any children in the age group for a camp
- Cause we never went to a camp program....
- We have not participated in camps
- Never went
- Other local options chosen
- No interest
- Never think of it
- We don't have children
- We are new to OKI and may participate in the future if schedule permits
- My kids have outgrown the camps, they used to do a camp every summer for years
- Only at beach once a month for long weekends
- Only vacation at Oak Island
- Still work full-time
- No children
- Limited time and funds
- The camps are for kids and there are none in our household
- Non-resident
- No kids
- Busy with work
- Haven't owned home very long
- Children are too old or scheduling reasons. Need more tween activities
- Weren't aware of them
- Again, if all the available events and camps can be posted more often on the OKI Facebook pages (where I get a lot of my OKI info)
- Not there all the time
- Part-time resident...mainly weekends
- Sickness
- Not there enough. This year we will be permanent residents and will be involved in the community
- None applied to us
- Retired
- No free time
- Not been able
- Again, these events are not advertised to part-time residents. We need notice in order to attend a specific weekend as we travel three hours to get to our cottage
- Not interested
- We don't always know what activities are going on
- Not there for extended periods of time
- Haven't used yet
- Again, not aware of these activities
- Not interested
- We only have one child and he's a grownup so no need for any camps

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Doesn't apply to us
- Recently moved to the area
- For several years we had our grandson down for a week to visit and go to summer camp. He is too old
- Not interested
- Not applicable
- Didn't know there were camps for adults
- Was not aware these areas available to adults
- Neglected to use these offerings
- Part-timers
- Wasn't aware of them in time to sign up
- No interest
- Not aware of any
- Didn't know about most of them
- Again, we are not down enough to participate but hope to be soon!
- Vacationer
- New to the area
- I have not had the opportunity to participate due to my schedule
- Not interested
- Out time is limited at this time. We expect that to change when we retire
- We didn't receive any info about these camps
- I'm single
- Not there enough
- We aren't on the island long enough to participate
- Conflicts with work schedule but keep the programs as they are wonderful to offer
- Age reflects camp participation
- Just my wife and I
- Will participate more once we move there permanently
- No kids
- No kids and we travel a lot to visit our grandkids
- Just moved here
- We have no children nor the time they are scheduled
- No kids
- No reason
- Did not know about them
- Not present on the island when camps are scheduled
- Didn't interest us
- No interest
- Boring programs
- Children not of the age to participate
- No children in our household
- Have not been able to participate
- We don't have any children at home to participate in camps
- No interest due to age
- We're not there when the event occurs
- No interest
- Part-time resident
- I just moved here
- Never been to a camp
- Travel extensively
- Vacation time at OKI
- No time
- No kids
- Have not had enough information or interest
- When grandchildren are available
- Recently bought a house
- Don't fit age group
- I just use the gym and do the Silver Sneakers classes

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Only there part-time
- Go to Southport Sr. Ctr.
- Didn't know about them
- Not interested
- Time not convenient
- No time, I'm not retired yet...5 more years
- Grandson here during summer
- I live alone and am still learning about the department offerings
- We have not lived here long enough to try the camps
- Husband is 84 and in poor health. I am his caregiver
- Our youngest child is 17 years old
- Not interested
- We were in process of building a new home and had to attend to health issues out of town
- Don't have kids
- Not here enough
- We are retired and no longer go to camps
- Not interested
- No young children
- No children
- Newly moved here
- Part-time and age
- We do our own things
- Not convenient
- Only in OKI part-time with no young children with is
- Just didn't
- Just moved here
- I am new to town and was unaware of these activities
- Limit income raising children can't really afford
- We thought the camps were for children and we are all adults
- Travel
- We work
- Just moved here
- Not interested in camps
- Other obligations
- Busy schedules
- Never have done camps
- Do not have camp age participants
- Interest
- Not interested
- No kids at home
- There isn't anything interesting for a 12-year old here
- Didn't know about them
- Just haven't gotten around to it
- Did not realize town offered
- Times are not suitable for those that still work
- I don't know
- We attended the Citizens Academy. It was very beneficial and we are happy we attended. We work. It was not easy to attend after work. We choose to spend our time away from work in our home and/or entertaining people in our home or on the beach
- Not interested
- My family has not participated in any of the events listed
- My children are both special needs and don't feel comfortable participating in camps where they may not have access to help
- Haven't lived in the area long enough to try any
- Have not participated
- Have never participated in those activities
- Weren't aware
- Part-time resident-only there on weekends

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- The hours don't accommodate working parents
- Often when we have visitors
- Don't have a house on our lot yet
- Time
- None interest us
- No children
- Remodeling 2 homes here to hopefully become full-time residents
- My child attends the charter school. Her summer break ends on or around July 17th. The things she is interested in are not offered when her school is on break. They are only offered when the public school is on break
- Probably will not participate in camps because of limited available personal time
- Child is too young
- I don't take the time
- Not interested
- Time of events; we are working residents
- Medical
- No time
- We're not aware of these camps. If they are for children, they're not relevant to us
- No interest/no children in household
- Did not know about
- Not full-time resident
- We participated in other activities
- Most don't interest
- Working and don't have time
- Live part-time in Oak Island
- Weren't aware of all these camps. Also weren't aware of all the events you mentioned in prior question. Also We need more outdoor music festivals. Not just in summer
- Our work schedules and interest level for programs
- We have no occasion or time to participate
- No interest
- Not of interest to us
- No kids
- Camps require too much time and we have full lives
- No children within that age group
- Don't have time
- We didn't previously have the time, but may explore participating in some of the camps
- New to the area
- Not interested in those
- Didn't know about these camps
- No interest
- My child isn't old enough for camp yet
- No young children living with us
- Can't afford the fees and/or they are scheduled when I am at work
- Not interested in camps listed
- Not suitable
- Although great, some of the programs do not apply to my age group
- We are seniors, husband works part-time...also, not real familiar with all the camps, thought they were for kids, teens or young adults
- As seniors, we don't use the camps-though we're interested in the Adult Summer Camp program
- No children
- Didn't really know about them. Are these for youth?
- Children are grown
- We don't have grandchildren here long enough to participate
- Our son just turned six and has not previously attended camp as he was too young. But he is signed up for a few camp weeks this coming summer
- Just retired and did not know about these camps; the cost or the time commitments
- Camps are of no interest to us
- Most did not meet our schedule when we are in town

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Are there only part-time
- Are not there long enough
- Not my liking
- Not aware of these programs existing
- Scheduling conflicts
- Are these for youths? Attend all summer concerts. Would like to have more of this type event!
- Time family
- Was not aware of most of these programs
- We don't have kids and the grandkids aren't available but a week in the summer
- No time to do so yet
- Not reason to
- The one we were interested in was already full
- Not our style
- Doesn't appeal to me
- Only in town part-time
- No swimming pool
- No interest and no children living with us
- No need for the camps
- Did not attend camps since part-time resident
- Schedules conflicted
- It seems when the activities are going on, I am not at beach. My children and grandchildren would if they were here more often and were allowed to participate because their names are not on the property. I think any program should be allowed to family members of owners of Oak Island property. This is easy to prove. I am glad you offer these opportunities for the people that live on the island, but letting family members participate for a fee would be great
- Still learning about area camps
- We love to walk on the beach (& sit), boat occasionally, and fish from our dock on the Davis Canal
- No children
- Really not aware of what Rec Ctr offers
- Unaware of them
- No kids here
- Camps are mainly for children
- Schedule does not allow us to
- Not interested in most camps or don't have time. Still work full-time
- I have no children, do not participate in camps. I volunteer at the Environmental Center once a week
- Time
- Not my interests
- We do camps in the summer with grandkids
- Don't know. No kids, they're grown or grandkids, only two, were here at the time
- No interest
- I don't know about hem or how they work. Are they for kids or adults?
- I have no children to attend camp
- Work part-time; unable to participate in camps
- No children
- No kids
- My family taught me how to play pickleball, but last summer I helped with the children pickleball camp
- I travel frequently and live off the island part of the time
- BAD TIMING OR NOT INTERESTED
- Don't like camps
- We're still settling in, but involvement is coming!
- Too old
- Not for me
- Other things to do
- We are only guests on the island
- We are retired and do not participate in the camps, but we are very active in the other Parks and Recreation programs
- Program only offered in the summer

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Rarely because I have helped with the summer pickleball the last two years
- No children
- Not interested
- DO NOT HAVE CHILDREN
- Pickleball camp is once a year
- Other than a couple special events and the pickleball, we utilize Southport activities and recreation
- Not here during time frames
- Not interested
- It is a summer program, so even going every year only equals "rarely" in the last 12 months
- Out of state
- No interest
- Physical limitations
- We have no interest in these camps
- Never seen advertisement for camps so was never aware of the camps
- Didn't really know about them
- Part-time resident
- Second home right now
- Not there much
- Haven't had the time, but hope to in the future
- Not interested in camps
- Didn't know about camps
- Do not enjoy camps
- Not something I want to do
- Live out of town and retired
- Uninterested
- Not able
- Out of town caring for family
- I golf a lot
- Not really interested in camp
- I hadn't heard about many of them
- No children living with us
- Youngest just turned 5 and oldest has preferred to be at home for the summer
- No camps
- Time
- Didn't know
- Our kids are high school age and have not been interested except in the fishing seminars
- Hadn't had time yet
- Haven't had time yet to do any of these
- Grandson participated in summer when he lives with us
- I live alone
- Didn't know about the programs
- My children are 16 and 20
- Most topics are not of interest
- No children to participate
- As part-time residents we aren't on the island enough to participate in the camps
- Assume camps are for children
- Nothing of interest to us
- I haven't had the opportunity to do any of these yet
- No interest
- None of the programs have any appeal to us
- Not enough time during our weekend visits. Never coincides with or visits. But will participate if we have an opportunity
- Never heard of some
- The activities offered by the Parks and Rec department are less than desirable by my children. They find them "boring" or overall not engaging enough
- No interest
- Haven't heard about them!
- Not interested

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- I have worked out with a personal trainer at your facility in the past and have worked out in the fitness room and taken classes. There seemed to be less classes I liked and then with the bridge closure I found other places to work out (I tend to do more outdoor activities in the nice weather). I'd love to come back when the bridge opens. I love your early morning hours and Zumba and yoga. Your fitness room could use some more space and machines, in my opinion. But I think your facility and organization are great assets in this community, particularly because we don't have much in Southport
- Didn't know about adult camps
- Age
- Limited time on the island.... just learning of these programs
- Unaware of these camps. Also, we work full-time
- No kids
- Not interested
- I have no children in my household under 19
- Never offered after work hours
- We haven't had an interest in camps. We use the Rec Ctr daily already
- We rent our condo, so we miss a lot of these events
- We do not wish to attend camps
- Aren't there full-time yet
- Child just turned minimum age to participate
- New owner 2018-2019. Haven't yet had chance
- No young kids
- No children
- Not geared to our age
- Not interested
- We don't desire to
- Did not know about some; weren't there
- Not my thing
- Children are older and these camps are geared to younger children
- Not a resident
- Only down certain times of the year
- Work schedule
- We're adults
- Our visits are often too short. We only come for a few days
- Haven't heard about any camps
- Not there
- No young children
- Not interested
- Not interested
- I am not aware of "camps"
- Just moved in March
- We are new residents of Oak Island and only lived there for 4 months
- Number offered
- No opportunity with work schedule
- We don't have kids and are only part-time
- We do not have children of the age to attend the camps. However, if our granddaughter were to spend time with us, she would most likely want to attend at least one
- No interest
- None of interests
- Part-time new resident-can't wait for the kids to try some out!
- Just moved here
- Grandchildren come down for the summer months and enjoy participating in the camps
- Our children are adults
- Granddaughter not able to attend the camps
- Didn't know they existed
- Not coincided with our time in OKI
- By the time I went to register the camps we wanted were full
- They are mostly only a week at a time in the summer

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- No children and rarely on the island in the summer
- Too busy. Children go to Southport summer camp because it is less expensive
- We are not aware of when all this is going on. Usually we are there for a few days at a time
- If we camp, we go our own way
- No interest... more for younger group of individuals
- Not interested in camps
- They are held during the day and we work
- Kids are grown, grandkids are <2
- Enjoy the variety of activities but did not participate in the camps
- I value the camps and would love to attend one, just haven't made the schedule work with mine
- Grandson has attended skate camp the last 3 to 4 years
- Not interested
- We don't have any younger children in our family, so we never use recreational camps
- Too old for these activities
- As stated before, we do not live on the island full-time if we did would participate more
- Not interested in
- Have not had free time when they were offered
- Camps do not meet my interests
- Other priorities
- Physically limited
- Health problems
- I don't have any children living at home anymore
- Work
- Too old
- No interest
- Not interested
- We, I guess I don't keep up when camps are offered, and often we decide to come to our place at OKI at the last moment
- Busy
- Will consider camps for grandchildren
- We are new residents to the island
- No kids at home anymore
- Busy schedule right now
- Weekend people
- My grandchildren live in CA and my nieces'/nephews' visits are not long enough to benefit from such programs
- No young children at home
- Not interested in these camps
- Our kids are adults and grandchildren are very young
- We have a terrible time understanding the schedule of events and if signup is required for many of them. In addition, if the events are one time or ongoing, so if we missed something due to being out of town is that an issue
- Not there enough to get involved
- Not offered at times when I could participate
- Grandchildren not in town
- Not interested
- I helped with the instruction of the Pickleball camp for a couple of days only
- We come to go to the beach and visit friends
- Unavailable due to retiring within the last year and trying to relocate to Oak Island full-time
- Because haven't and have not thought to look
- Our grandchildren stay with us for the month of June through July 4<sup>th</sup> so we enroll them in the camps for the weeks they are here
- Nothing that is for our age group
- Family is only here once a year
- Grandchildren are not here often
- Not sure
- I didn't know there was a Pickleball camp. Is it for youth or older people?
- PT Residents; grandchildren older

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- I AM 65 YEARS OLD AND DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN CAMPS... I HAVE NOT CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN TO PARTICIPATE. THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A RETIREMENT VILLAGE...
- No youth in my household
- Lack of awareness or interest
- Our timing to attend these events never seems to work out
- Teenage grandchildren have made infrequent visits
- Too old for camps
- Busy with work
- We are not here enough to participate any more than sometimes
- New residents
- New to area... slow starter
- Never attended any of the camps because my kids are grown, and I would like to do the anglers, but it's not always held at a convenient time for me
- Not full-time residents
- Not aware of the programs offered
- Didn't know about some of the programs
- Not interested
- Recently retired and have not made the time
- No youth or young children in our home
- My age
- We're seniors!
- Just moved
- No young kids
- No children at home but as grandchildren get older, we hope they can participate when visiting us
- Have not gotten enough info on the above interest
- Unable to get my grandsons into camps when I had them
- Not interested
- Not interested
- Travel too much
- No children
- Travel schedule. Plan to attend more in 2019
- Not interested
- We generally are not available for the duration of a camp
- I never have time to do a recreational camp
- Handicapped. Cannot get around easily!
- Weekend resident
- No time
- Just don't
- I haven't
- Have not had the opportunity
- Rarely here when programs are offered
- Scheduling has been a problem for us, there are many things we want to do, just haven't yet
- Part-time resident, not always here
- Moved here full-time recent. Not aware of some camps listed
- No interest
- Only owned home since June 2018
- Our children are grown up and we spend less time here than we'd like. When our kids were younger, they participated in programming every summer and we use the fitness center
- I work in Wilmington and don't have time
- Because we're not here much
- Grandchildren not old enough yet. Hope to this summer
- I do not have kids
- None of these appeals to us
- Not appropriate for my age
- We come in on weekends and on vacation and spend our time doing other things
- I honestly didn't know about some of them
- Not interested in what was offered
- I work full-time. My schedule does not allow me to attend

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Not interested in camps
- No one in that age group
- We just are not interested in any of them
- Availability of programs. Filled up
- Was not aware of those activities
- No children
- Vacation only
- We don't live there
- My grandchildren come for long enough periods to participate in camps. Two grandchildren did a turtle patch though
- Not there but part-time
- No kids
- Need more information
- Have been busy with other activities, including Master Gardener through Cooperative Extension office
- Just bought house in February 2018
- Disabled
- Not interested
- Not down long enough and didn't know
- No young kids
- Not age appropriate for our household
- Other priorities
- Do not have time
- Mostly an issue of scheduling
- Our kids are older, and we are not down there daily to participate. We are there quite a bit, but usually over long weekends
- Because of my length of stay. I stay a week at the time and unfortunately, I miss the activities. I hope to enjoy our place down here more
- Just found out about it
- I would love to sign my son up for summer camps, but the times don't work with our work schedule.  
The camps end to early in the day
- We do not do the camps
- Again accessibility
- I look forward to hearing more about these opportunities. And I really hope that my work schedule is flexible enough to have more time to do do
- I have no children to do any of these camps
- I have no children here
- Started a new job
- The timing has not worked for me
- Attended years ago, but not within last 12 months
- Too old, too busy in other activities such as volunteering at our church
- Just moved to island; plan to attend
- No interest
- Timing
- Not interested
- Non-Resident
- My kids aren't interested. The tennis camp my daughter loved, but she aged out
- Just don't take the time
- Work, travel and health
- No interest
- Time limitations
- Didn't know about the camps
- Only there about 3 weeks per year
- Not in town or have no interest
- No interest
- We haven't been able to go at the dates/times offered
- Didn't know all the camps existed. Also, probably too old for camps
- Our children are grown

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- We've only been in Oak Island briefly
- No children
- Not looking for something else to do
- Household unavailability and/or classes full
- We have not had the opportunity to participate since we have lived here less than a year, but would like to be more involved in the future
- We stopped going to the center because it was too busy in the weight room at the times, we preferred to go
- Most programs are for youth and senior but not much for anyone in between these ages
- We do not live at OKI full-time
- So far not interested in those camps. Also work all day
- New to the island just this past summer
- Not interested or other commitments
- Only there a limited time each year
- Not aware of all the camps
- Did not know about them. Work full-time and these are usually during the day
- Unsure
- Don't live there permanently but may someday
- Teen is 17
- Time
- No interest. We have a 4-year-old, so will have him participate in camps when he is old enough
- I might feel guilty putting the kids in camp when we only see their grandparents for the week
- No children in household
- Just not plugged in to the schedule of activities available
- Don't know about it
- We use the rec center exercise equipment on a regular basis, and fish everyday
- New to area
- Not of interest to us
- Not interested
- Time
- Just starting to find our way around town
- Recently moved and do not have anyone under 18
- No children in household
- Have been a full-time resident for almost 3 years and are still learning about all the camps/programs offered. Hope to take advantage of some of them in 2019
- Not a permanent resident
- Not campers
- Was not interested
- Limited time on the island
- No children visiting at the time of these camps
- Not interested
- Was not aware of many of them
- I exercise and go on senior trips but haven't been to a camp
- Nursing schedule
- Not there during day much
- I don't have children
- Or children are too young (2 & under)
- Depends on what is happening when vacation time is possible
- Have physical limitations for some, no interest in others; are involved with family a lot. Intend to become more involved in 2019
- Not interested or relevant for us
- New to Oak Island
- Not up to par compared to other areas
- Nothing in my age group
- Time is limited
- Only on Oak Island 6-weeks a year
- Busy this past year/away while home under renovation
- Camps listed don't interest me; have no young children

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Did not know they existed
- Not here enough
- No time
- Didn't know they were available
- A little too busy, travels. Signed up for softball but was never contacted
- Work
- Grandkids schedule to come visit varies
- Just learning about all the programs offered
- Haven't had the time
- We are still unpacking and getting settled. We would love to participate in the activities offered once I get all our things unpacked and settled
- Waiting to retire and more time to participate
- Not something I wanted to do at the time
- Did not know about them
- Just moved to Oak Island. Do want to participate in many of the above-mentioned programs
- I have been busy doing other things
- Not interested
- Unknown
- Made no effort- planning to begin this year-just here 2 1/2 years
- Not a permanent resident
- Newly retired
- No young folks and no artistic talent
- Not enough knowledge of events
- There were none on the list that we participated in
- Dah, no kids
- Not interested
- Lazy with bad back
- Scheduling
- Disabled
- I was not aware of these camps; not sure which ones are for children/teens/adults; and don't know when they are offered
- No children here
- Did not realize the events could include adults
- Not available
- Didn't know most of them existed
- Lack of interest
- Recently moved here
- We only visit during summer months
- All our children are adults
- We just like to do what we do when we feel like it
- Calendar doesn't coincide with visit to Town
- Do not live full-time in OKI
- Didn't know many of these were available
- Timing and schedule is an issue
- We spend most of our free time on the beach
- Never heard of these camps
- No kids under 18 anymore
- Not enough time
- Not involved in those activities
- We don't have children
- Due to amount of time we are current able to spend on OKI
- We are not full-timers
- Cost, time and commitment
- Those events don't interest me
- I just haven't visited often enough to be more involved
- Live there part-time
- Just haven't
- Just have not had the time

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- We're part-time residents, and schedule conflicts
- We alternate between Caswell camp and OKI camp
- Other activities
- Didn't know some of those listed were available
- We aren't interested in camps
- No kids at home
- Have not yet had a chance
- We just bought our house at the end of the season late August
- The camp was only held once in a year
- Kids are getting older and not in town during the week very often
- Again, not a permanent resident
- I didn't know about those programs
- My wife and I don't camp
- Husband disabled
- Hard to coordinate our time with the events
- Don't have the need
- Not interested
- We keep very busy with our own activities here in the island. The offered programs are great for those that attend
- Not here long enough for camps, just stay on weekends
- Not on the island full-time
- We are there approximately 3-4 months a year
- Only there on weekends and holidays for vacation
- We do not live full-time on the island
- Not applicable or interest
- We are only weekenders 😊
- No kids
- I didn't get the chance last year. Signing up for some this year
- No interest
- No interest
- No time yet
- No children
- No need or interest
- We had no knowledge of any camps offered
- We have been very busy setting up our home and visiting family
- Part-time
- No camps appealed to me at my age
- Didn't know about the camps
- Our children have aged out of camps. But they look awesome! (Wish we had bought the house sooner...)
- Does not apply to my household
- Aren't the camps for children?
- No longer in age bracket
- No kids
- No young members and accessibility for seniors
- Retired and no children
- Not of interest
- Only come on weekends during the summer typically
- I never had the opportunity to participate because of conflicting work schedules
- Dealing with issues right now
- DATES WEREN'T GOOD FOR US
- Part-time resident less than a year
- Why would I need the town to find things for me to do? Too busy working so I can pay my water/sewer bill
- No time
- Lack of time spent on the island, plan to spend more time in the future
- Haven't had the opportunity or the event happens when I am at work or commuting to and from work

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Have not taken the opportunity
- No interest in these camps
- Not interested
- Some handicaps
- Lack of knowledge
- Part-time resident. Own 2<sup>nd</sup> home in OKI
- Thought that most of the camps were oriented towards youth
- Sometimes because that is all the weeks that were offered for sailing
- Our child attends Christian camps during the summer
- Daughter has aged out of them now, but when she was pre-teen, she participated in sailing camp every year and many of the others frequently
- Not enough free time to enjoy a camp activity
- Don't have children to attend camps
- Timing of the events and conflicts
- Didn't know about them. Plus, already fish
- New resident
- Scheduling conflicts
- Haven't found the time
- Not applicable at this time of my life
- New to area
- Haven't participated in any camps, but hope to in the future
- Getting new home ready for family to visit
- Full-time employment
- No interest
- No young kids in our house
- Wasn't aware of them
- Didn't really know when they were
- Too busy
- Not interested, or wasn't aware
- Don't have kids young enough
- Not interested
- Did not know all these camps were available
- None apply to me and none interested in
- Didn't know they existed
- Nothing interesting in this section
- No children
- Not interested
- Because they aren't geared for me
- Not interested
- Other interests
- I go to the beach
- We're moved here in the beginning of April 2018 after retiring. Then came Hurricane Florence, then the holidays. Is the camp for children only?
- No young children
- Visiting with family in and out of state
- I didn't know about the camps
- Didn't know the camps existed
- I didn't know about some of the camps that I would have been interested in
- Didn't know about the camps or though they were just for kids
- Just moved
- We did more of this when my child was under 18
- Haven't lived here through the summer yet
- Too bus, plus we have a very active social life with friends who live here
- No reason
- Time limits
- Not programs that meet my needs
- No kids
- New to island

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Cost, not always in town
- Too old
- Children are too young
- Because they didn't interest me, I guess okay they won't available when I was
- Times
- Not interested in those types of activities
- The camps' topics did not interest us
- Because I haven't yet, just getting settle, but I plan to participate in many
- We haven't had an opportunity to take advantage of these offerings, but are considering them for our grandchildren this coming summer
- Not interested
- We work full-time and don't have kids living in our home
- My children weren't old enough until this year. We plan on signing up for this summer
- Working
- Didn't know about the ones that interested me or may have had conflict
- I was not aware of all available camps
- Just haven't
- Unavailable during offered times, no interest in event, event geared towards different age range
- No children reside in this household
- We have attempted to participate in a few events, and they were canceled last minute. Seems like there is a lot to offer but Challenges to see the program or offered class all the way through
- Not interested in those activities
- Children's ages
- Family matters
- No children in house
- Didn't have time
- Children not here
- Children aren't yet old enough to participate
- Time
- They don't apply to me
- Unaware
- We either know enough already about a certain sport, etc. or are not interested
- If was only offered once
- I wasn't aware of them plus I'm not sure if my children are old enough
- Not interested
- No interest
- No children... cared for elderly parent
- Didn't know about them
- We are not retired; still work full-time and have not taken the opportunity to participate
- We have only been here less than a year, but I'm planning to get more involved this year. We love the concert series!
- Did not know about it
- We rent our beach house during the summer, so we are never in town during most of the camps
- I have two children under the age of two
- New to the island
- We have similar programs in Southport
- Only been here 6 months. Still learning what all is available
- No young children
- Scheduling of what is available is either not available or doesn't fit our full-time work schedules
- Haven't had the opportunity since I still work a full-time job
- Not interested
- Not my age group
- We have not participated in the activities, but would like to soon
- They are not always the cheapest, which I understand, it takes money for the program. They usually attend Fort Caswell camps as well
- I have become too old to participate in this

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## APPENDIX—K

### **RESPONSES TO FUTURE NEW AND/OR ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES (Q15)**

<b>PROGRAM, SERVICE EVENT AND ACTIVITY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONSES</b>
Adult Sailing Camp	135
Ninja Camp	33
Adult Pickleball Camp	158
Quiet Beach Access	228
Senior Day Camp	52
Mah Jongg	39
Ultimate Frisbee	17
Fitness Program for Kids	69
Teen Programs	106
Basketball League	18
Kids Art Program	63
Beach Music Festival	560
Dock Dog Diving Event	63
After School Program	63
Before School Program	11
Adult Softball League	38
24-Hour Fitness Center	296
Special Populations Programs	25
Tennis Lessons	37
Golf Lessons	113
Golf Tournaments	73
Dance Programs	130
Youth Wrestling	4
Acting Classes	21
Kayak Trips	267
Walking Clubs	197
Movies in the Park	376
Food Truck Rodeo	379
Lacrosse League	4
Disc Golf League	24
Beach Volleyball League	46
Fishing Derby	68
Teen IT Workshop	16
Cooking Classes	184
Music Programs for Youth	36
Moms' Morning Out	26
Preschool Programs	38
Flag Football	8
Cheerleading	0
Running Club	42
Kickboxing	27
Cycling Club	88
"No Need to Provide New"	68
"Other"	141

## APPENDIX—L “OTHER” RESPONSES TO (Q15)

- Swimming programs
- Nature walks or nature programs for adults
- Community gardening
- Pilates class
- Swim lessons/programs for kids
- More events middle aged. We'd love to attend something like a laid back dinner. At our other home the community has pork, spaghetti, or BBQ dinners every few weeks. It's typically \$7-10 a person and less if you bring a side or dessert
- Sunset watches; stargazing; nature walk; beach soccer
- More stuff for adults that still work for a living
- Please allow Caswell Beach residents to join fitness center at resident rate
- Yoga classes
- Yoga
- Indoor year-round pool
- Trash on 46<sup>th</sup> Street
- Public swimming pool
- Pedestrian safety class, music club for adults who play instruments (classical)
- Health related exercise programs for specific illnesses, water aerobics
- Older people need easy access to the beach. We love to go too
- I support additional programs
- Nice fitness workout facility
- Book Club
- Town pool
- I think marketing might be a problem. We would have participated if we knew these programs happen/exist
- Karate lessons
- Year-round music festivals with Beach music bands like at Ocean Drive, SC
- POOL
- Indoor pool
- Surf Fishing Tournament
- Bicycling club, sailing club, guitar jam, surf meetups, SUP meetups, kayak meetups, model train club, motorcycle meetups, bicycle meetups
- Dolphin, shark, native peoples talks
- Line dancing
- BBQ competition
- Seafood Festival, Weekend Beach or Dockside Yoga classes
- More local nature or history programs
- I think we need lots of kids' programs although my family doesn't have children currently
- Indoor year-round swimming pool

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- We've owned a house on OI for many years (12 yrs. in 1st house, and now 5 yrs. in current house). Some health limitations, so we love fishing, the beach and just being here
- More Pickleball. There are times when we have a lot of players and would like to play some at night. The courts i play on have no lights. Would love to have lights at courts on OKI. Please, Please
- Jazz Festival
- Pickleball
- Lights for the Pickleball courts
- Working lights on the Pickleball courts
- Bike trials
- Dog park improvements
- Warm water indoor pool
- Tai Chi and/or chair yoga
- Surf fishing, intracoastal kayaking exploring
- Tai Chi
- Additional group exercise classes in the am
- I LOVE the idea of adult sailing! Fitness classes, too
- Saltwater pool
- Outdoor workout stations
- Paddleboard lessons
- Large Recreation Center with indoor lap pool
- Some more Yoga for all not just seniors
- PLEASE FOR THE LOVE OF GOD.... SWIMMING POOL!!!!
- More sports leagues for kids
- Music in the Park
- Most of this is geared to full-time residents
- More walking/biking trails and paths and access to Davis Canal from numerous dead-end streets (especially for year-round residents). More passive recreation facilities like picnic/grilling facilities especially along beaches and other water bodies and scenic areas
- Need better roads and wastewater drainage systems
- Inside pool & wading pool
- More and better facilities for grandchildren, i.e., water slide, decent arcade, bowling, etc. Holden Beach/Shallotte get all that money when our grandkids visit. And that's substantial amount in summer
- Youth lacrosse camp
- Walking/Running paths, festivals
- Town outdoor pool
- To make some available on weekends
- After school recreational activities led by staff plus free meals for Oak Island kids in poverty (validated) (2) Staff a robotics club (insure kids in poverty can participate), (3) Perhaps an adult scuba club (with instructors), (4) Long range: Affordable day care (even subsidized via grants) for at risk families, (5) Provide environmental/science programs for kids, such as, learning about water quality & stormwater runoff using simple INEXPENSIVE tests and observations at of water quality in our estuary (SE 40th St to Blue Water Point)

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Beach area with lifeguards; not to relieve parents of responsibility but to provide safe areas for children to swim and lessen rip current accidents
- Bocce Ball!
- Tai Chi classes
- Indoor swimming pool
- Swimming pool
- Indoor water activities
- Just because I don't participate doesn't mean that other people will enjoy new programs
- Not interested in more but happy others are
- Swimming pool
- Walking Club
- Yoga
- I can't say
- A much better SKATE PARK with a bowl that is free and open to the public 24/7 would be an amazing attraction to the town of Oak Island!!!!
- Not a permanent resident so many are not applicable to me
- Golf leagues at Par 3
- Funding should be put aside to maintain and expand the disc golf course at bill smith park and a full 18 target course should be considered, possibly at wildlife or lacing the municipal par 3 ball golf course at South Harbor
- Hand and Foot (card game)
- Dominoes
- No opinion
- Lots more TEEN and young adult events
- Water aerobics or water type exercises
- Reading groups or writing workshops
- Horseshoe pitching
- Line Dancing for beginners
- Tai Chi
- River Boat nature tours
- We enjoy the summer concerts. Love Blues and RO
- Friday Music in the Park
- Square Dancing and Clogging classes
- Offer exercise classes, dance with monthly fee instead idea ch session
- Over 50 basketball leagues
- Get acquainted gatherings for new & old residents
- Larger dog park
- Cards
- Senior Softball League
- Close, discontinue GOLF
- Options for 17-21-year old
- Treasures of the Sea (Tides and Treasures) - shell seeking; learning about the shells on the beach; Night Sky - stargazing and learning the constellations
- The gardening seminars put on by the County Extension Agent and others were very helpful, very interesting and well attended
- Zip line adventure
- Public swimming pool

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- The weight room is entirely too small and does not have adequate equipment
- More day or overnight adult trips
- OKI community pool
- Promote & Assure Pedestrian & Cycling Safety. Environmental Education and Action. Walks or mini parks (empty lots owned by Town of OKI) for rest outdoor tables for eating board games etc. Free fitness yoga etc. for seniors (e.g. Silver Sneakers, Fit)
- The small park for dogs needs to be larger
- Pool
- Please consider installing a bike/walking lane on West Dolphin drive — at least from Middleton to 39th St. W. So many residents and tourists walk and ride bikes along that stretch and it would be a great feature to the island. It would also increase safety for all who use the street
- Tai Chi, teen programs
- More compatible fitness center. The current does not accommodate walkers or wheelchairs in the exercise room. We also need better access to beach dune crossings
- Public swimming pool
- More weekend activities
- Kids nature programs
- Not sure—if we were there more, would enjoy knit/crochet class/group
- Meals on Wheels
- A saltwater community pool
- Horseback riding
- Astronomy club
- Tai Chi lessons, field or day trips, shagging lessons or shag dancing, square dancing
- Yoga for limited mobility would be great
- Talks on coastal themes (wildlife, ecology, erosion, history of the area, etc.)
- More senior fitness classes, especially on Friday
- We need a community pool
- A much larger fitness center
- Kayak fisherman group to share knowledge and Scrabble
- Municipal swimming pool
- More disc golf



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## APPENDIX—M

### ***RESPONSES TO METHODS FOR RAISING ALL RATINGS TO Q21 TO AT LEAST “GOOD” (Q22)***

- I think the classes for yoga and Zumba and others should be included in our yearly fee and should not be extra
- More advertising
- Less people to decide. Always must be a damn act of congress to get something done. And most of the time it's done W/O any news about it at all. Oak Island Pier and parking...
- More activities
- It seems that more staff and more money is needed in order to provide better programs and upkeep of facilities. A few more benches at accesses would be nice. It would be wonderful to have a pool or one area of the beach maintained by a lifeguard for visits by our grandchildren. A shaded playground would be nice. We were unable to find one and the worker at the Town Hall desk didn't know of any other playgrounds. I would love to access the park/pier at the west end of Oak Island drive for sunset photos. It would be wonderful if the area under the New Bridge could be a park. Restrooms at a few beach accesses
- More advertising of the services offered by the department
- Bigger gym facility
- Tween and teen programs
- Rec Center fitness facility needs expansion and upgrades and I would be willing to pay more to go there if it was improved. I pay to go off island now as do other people I know. The scenic walkway at 30th St. by Rec Center needs attention. Boards are deteriorating
- Please offer more handicap parking at events! We've often turned away from events due to lack of handicap parking. Also, please remember that most residents are middle class and middle aged. We are the taxpayers, so we need more events aimed at us!
- Improve the cabana
- Offer more adult programs and sports that take place outside normal business hours. We are not all retired!
- I haven't experienced any of these activities, but my question is how many actual permanent residents you have that use all these activities annually. Maybe cut programs not being used and increase funding to those that the residents do use are used often
- Add lights to pickle and tennis courts
- Recently moved to the area, have not had much interaction yet, perhaps more to come
- Maintain what you have rather than build and forget. Paths and walkways over Davis Canal are not safe. Add a walkway/bike path to Yacht Drive
- Upgrade skate park and have it open all day. Skate at own risk. Other towns have them like that. More for teenagers
- More weekend activities. Art, Cycling, Running, Kayaking
- More things for teenagers to do
- More programs for active adults
- Bike lanes
- Improve the public beach access and parking at Caswell Beach. Permanent restroom facilities and gazebo with benches/tables like Middleton access
- Due to the cars speeding it has been difficult to enjoy bike rides and even walk the dog safely
- We need more greenways for walking and biking trails
- Need events etc. timed better. Adults with jobs can't go to daytime programs
- Need people who take pride in what their doing and not on the phone or talking to friends
- Additional offerings of programs in evening or weekends
- Improve handicapped programs, improve handicapped accessibility to beach and parks
- Better marketing of programs

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Pay more attention to parks and golf activities
- More variety for non-seniors, more offerings on weekends. Most of what I am interested in is currently offered during work week
- Up to date extended hours fitness facility. Better music events with later hours
- Bike racks in more places to park your bikes when you are at the beach or restaurants
- Better advertising
- More activities to ATTEND and a Pool
- I would like more information as to what events are being held. A newsletter/email would be nice
- Bigger variety for middle age folks. It would be nice to have a nice workout facility that you don't have to leave the island to join a gym
- The dock at May Moore Park needs some work. It did not seem completely safe. Also, beach accesses are great but crossing E Oak Island Drive is difficult due to no "pedestrian refuges", stop signs or marked crosswalks. Even crossing at 58th street at the traffic light is difficult and there is no pedestrian crosswalk signal. Also, sidewalks are missing in part of the Yaupon Village area along E Oak Island Drive
- Handicapped accessible beach accesses
- No. there is nothing special about Oak Island Parks and Rec. it is just as average as every other town
- More or better boat ramps and fishing facilities
- Providing activities that I marked were my areas of interest. More activities for active seniors over 60
- Offer more for people with disabilities and more for children and teens
- Open the skate park all the time and eliminate the supervision. Make it a skate at your own risk location like most other cities
- With the high rate of taxes property owners pay...there should be no charge or way less...not renters because they are not paying property taxes
- Most programs are geared towards older individuals. Need more for young adults (fitness) and middle aged (music/wine events)
- More restrooms
- More adult dance classes. Better space for dancing
- Repairs made to the boat ramps ESPECIALLY at the Blue Water boat ramp near the point. Also, signs stating "Boat Trailer Parking Only" as the restaurant patrons will park there before parking in their parking lot. It's beyond ridiculous in the summer. Also a kayak launch somewhere Middleton as well so when kayaking you don't have to deal trying to launch in between everyone & their boats
- Put in a year-round swimming pool for water aerobics and accessible swimming
- CLEAN restroom facilities, upgrade in maintenance in a lot of areas
- Revamping everything
- List of programs made available easily accessible thru website, paper
- More classes for the working folks
- Better exposure Anytime I have entered the recreation facility it is not a very welcoming atmosphere. It is a bit depressing. No one there to meet and/or greet
- Better maintenance
- My answer would improve if the timing of events offered was more conducive to my family's schedule. Classes offered appear to be geared toward retired individuals and do not make accommodations for working individuals
- Better marketing of the programs – how are we supposed to find out about them????
- Replace round pavilion & bathrooms behind soccer fields. It is in shambles, disgraceful and an embarrassment to our community!

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Youth camps that accommodate working parents. The hours should allow parents to continue to work a regular workday, not have to go in late and leave early for a week to pick up and drop off the child at camp. We have never been able to utilize the youth summer camps
- Maintain, update the rec center
- Longer hours for fitness center, more programs, movies in the park and would LOVE a city pool and would pay for membership
- More offerings for teens
- Indoor pool
- Adding a public swimming pool
- More action-oriented activities
- Feel the island needs to be much more bike and pedestrian friendly! sidewalks on both sides of Oak Island drive. Bike lanes, bike lanes and more lanes!!
- Maintain/repair existing facilities and amenities. Walkover at 19th place is rotting and splintering, for example. Need more kayak docks on canal and creek
- Prioritize Bike and Pedestrian Friendly access everywhere on the Island: designated bike lanes on Yacht drive, sidewalks on the northside of Oak Island Drive, pedestrian footbridges over busy Oak Island Drive at 9th NE, 19 NE, 31 NE, 40th NE, 48th NE, 73 NE, and Barbie Dr.
- Better parking for vehicles with kayaks and a large dog park on the island
- More events and quality in area of interest. Music, dance lessons, quality of facilities
- Better communication about programs offered. keep costs low for participants
- Bike trails to the beach
- Most permanent residents are seniors/retired. Only need chairs, etc. Need Old folks' stuff!!!!
- Activities for older adults
- The parks and access to them is very limited
- Add bike paths; develop and maintain more active, organized tennis program
- Update of Bill Smith park walking trails and consistent cleanup of fallen trees and debris improved maintenance of golf course
- Better communication as to what the programs are and who are the target audience. Example: I would like to learn about pickle ball but I don't want to start a camp with experience players
- Put in lights at the Pickleball courts on OKI. This game is catching on fast and probably need more of these courts than tennis courts
- Better parking
- Better maintenance of facilities, especially tennis and pickleball courts. The lights at these don't work. It would be ideal to play these sports at night in the summer
- To see more items for the residents instead of building splash pads for people coming here 1 week out of the year
- More activities for children and teens
- Not sure. Love the Par 3 golf
- Future bike paths and better upkeep of the Bill Smith Dog Park
- More biking/walking trails
- Enhancements of parks and golf course
- Total support and increase of funding and advertising of South Harbor Par 3 – it's a great place
- Better programs
- Not sure
- I would love a wide variety of walking trails and organized walks
- There are way too many programs attended by very few people. There are way too many facilities which are not well maintained (e.g. the pier, the skate park, the fishing piers until last year, ...) or are under-utilized (sell the Ocean Education Center). Cut the number of facilities such that the current budget can maintain the highly utilized facilities in above average condition. Stop buying/receiving/getting grants for recreational facilities without having the funds to maintain them. No more taxes - pay off the sewer bonds first!
- Not sure

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- More activities for school aged children after school and on the weekends. Providing a safe environment for bicycles and pedestrians with marked pedestrian crosswalks and signage for bicyclist and pedestrians
- More information
- Different times
- The times of the events are not always convenient to my work schedule
- It would be nice if the town offered more events for teens and young adults
- Few more programs involving ICW
- More attention to senior programs and senior activities at local parks
- Making the dog park larger and nicer. What is there is pitiful
- I feel the town has a lot of good intentions and ideas but utilizes too many of them poorly. I feel if the town focused on fewer options but did a very good job with them it could be much more desirable and appealing. Many people feel the splash pad is a great idea but lack the faith in the town to "maintain" it well. The dog park on 41st street could be significantly improved by taking down trees, new fencing, and improved landscaping. Focus on the full time residents that support the community year round and they will continue to support the town in their endeavors as well
- More citizen input
- More group exercise classes in the am!
- Could use improvement. Oak Island needs bike lanes and more bike awareness
- More variety of programs
- Information sharing could be better. I was unaware of some of the activities or locations. Some existing facilities could be improved, but most that I'm aware of are in good shape
- Build a concrete boardwalk along the ocean
- When we can be on the island more and participate in more activities
- More info, new owner
- Access to the beach for people with disabilities, bathrooms, a pool
- Fitness center with sauna. More organized sports. Late night food options
- More surveys
- Less scheduling of programs at the rec center during the day when most people are working and cannot come
- To get the town to get more involved for the safe of owners and visitors
- The parks are not being maintained in good condition. The Dot Kelly Butterfly Park and fishing pier area are in dire need of upkeep and rebuilding
- Commercial grade Precor Elliptical Trainer in the gym. Sit up bench
- Not sure
- Fitness center cost more than private facilities and they are open 7 days and normal hour's
- Most activities are mostly targeted at senior citizens
- New basketball gymnasium, soccer/basketball leagues, new disc golf course, new dog park
- Cleaner, upgraded parks and canal ends. Perhaps an adopt a canal end program or community enhancement committee
- More variety
- Update facilities
- Keep parking areas free of charge, improve public access for all. All this paid parking talk has us going elsewhere to other areas that seem to appreciate us more. If you want to increase interest in parks and recreation activities you have to make everyone feel welcome, not just the full time residents and property owners. You will have more growth encouraging outsiders to come to oak Island than deterring them with paid parking. Access is what brought our family to Long Beach in 1974
- Better bike paths, more advertising/notice, the skate park opened all the time. We have gone to the park multiple occasions and never found it open. More long-term sports leagues for kids/teens

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- A nice bike path on road and golf cart lane
- Evening classes for working people. Better beach access and parking for senior adults
- More variety and beach related events/activities
- Adding more kayak launches and fishing piers to the ICW and the Davis Canal besides just boat ramps. Adding a community pool to the area would be great
- Better facilities and equipment
- More green spaces. Actually being able to access public areas at end of streets. (Closed off by residents parking boats, trailers, cars and trucks there as if it is their gift of extra land from the town.) Tall fauna not cleaned out where we can see and approach canals. Need to slow ENTIRE island-wide speed limit to 35 mph, so walkers, bicyclists, children, and pets (and tourists)are safer. Too many speeding, unsafe drivers that we allow to make our island unsafe. This is a resort vacation area. People need to slow down on the whole island!! Quit raising taxes for every little whim someone wants, like a ridiculously expensive water park!! People can go to water parks back in their home cities. They come to Oak Island for the beach!! Residents pay enough to keep up the beach!! Quit adding ridiculous things like a small water park that people will be using to wash all their beach gear, and it will fill up with sand. They can go to much nicer and bigger water parks in cities all around NC. What a complete waste of money!! Put that money into helping pay off the sewer bill. Take care of the CITIZENS for once!!
- Upkeep of the properties. They really need more care
- Improve basic facilities-more benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, sidewalks/trails, shelters, bike racks, car parking
- It is better to have less park but good looking and structure park facilities
- No fees at recreation center for residents! Also improved access to disabled beach front property or larger areas on ICW for relaxing and not fishing! More and improved beach parking for residents only! Paying our taxes should give locals more benefits
- Have more accessible to Beach and other activities for disabled
- Cleaner, and a Boardwalk
- More services geared toward children, instead of senior citizens
- More should be used to address sewage/flooding
- Designated bike lanes and more bike paths. Expanded access to parking at The Point
- Bigger work out area at the rec center
- Increase the quality of the facilities
- Need more kid stuff; would like to see more on weekend
- Our island and most of its activities are centered around water. The boat launch floating dock on Yacht and 58th is a safety is a safety risk. The bumpers on the sides are partially missing and the wood boards on the top are rotted, warped and have nails sticking up
- More quality focus on less activities. these programs are too numerous and as such stretch resources too much
- Better understanding of the programs offered
- More senior activities
- Your parks and equipment need to be updated and clean. You don't offer enough activities for a beach town
- Improvement needed at our parks and boat ramps and boardwalks
- More facility activities
- YOU ARE ASKING THE WRONG PERSON. I THINK MOST OF THESE ACTIVITIES ARE A BUNCH OF BULL. IT IS NOT MY RESPONSIBILITY AS A TAX PAYER TO ENTERTAIN THE CHILDREN OF OAK ISLAND AND GUEST, FROM GOD KNOWS WHERE. WHEN THEY COME TO THE BEACH, ENJOY THE BEACH OR STAY HOME. I CANNOT AFFORD THESE LITTLE LUXURIES FOR EVERYONE. IT IS WONDERFUL GRANTED, BUT THE MONEY IS COMING FROM SOMEWHERE AND IT IS MY POCKET. I DO NOT CARE IF WE HAVE CHILDREN'S FACES PAINTED OR IF WE HAVE SNOW CONES ON FRIDAY NIGHT. WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT PARKING. SO AM I. LET'S HAVE A HEAD BANGING SESSION, PUT THIS CASH FLOW MONEY INTO THIS, THE WATER PROJECT THAT EVERYONE

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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GRIPES ABOUT YEAR ROUND, MY TAXES THAT HAVE INCREASED TO OUT OF SIGHT, THE EROSION, THE STREET LIGHTS (that nobody has except Yacht Drive - why so?) SIDEWALKS FOR THE DOG WALKERS, AND LASTLY: GET THE POLICE THE MUCH NEEDED PATROL CARS THEY NEED FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!!! I DARE SAY I WOULD MUCH RATHER HAVE MORE POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREMEN ON THE ROAD AND BETTER CARS & EQUIPMENT THAN A FLIPPING CAMP AND PLAY DAY OR DOG PARK... WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO GO TO ONE OF YOUR MEETINGS AND VOICE MY OPINION ON THE ACTIVITIES??? ONE OF THE REASONS FOR FOLKS MOVING TO THIS ISLAND WAS FOR PEACE AND TRANQUILITY OF OLD BEACH LIFE AS IT WAS IN THE LONG BEACH DAY. NOW IT HAS CHANGED FROM THE DAY WHEN I WAS COMING AS A BABE AND NOTHING HERE EXCEPT THE OLD GROCERY ON THE CORNER AND OF COURSE THE LIQUOR STORE AND THE BAPTIST CHURCH. NOW THE NEW LOOK IS TRYING TO RID OUT THE "MOM AND POPS" OF THE OLD AND BIGGER AND BETTER. ASK US OLDIES, WE LIKE IT. MY HUSBAND BUILT OUR HOME IN 2010 TO RETIRE HERE AND HE PASSED AWAY OF PANCREATIC CANCER BEFORE WE COULD MAKE "OUR PARADISE" HOME. PLEASE PUT SOME REAL THOUGHT INTO THIS AND DO NOT MAKE THIS A CIRCUS. ALL IT NEEDS RIGHT NOW IS A TENT... LET US ENJOY THE QUIET AND NOT AS MUCH TRAFFIC AS POSSIBLE. THIS IS NOT MYRTLE BEACH AND I PRAY TO GOD ABOVE THAT THE POWERS TO BE PREVENT IT FROM BECOMING JUST THAT. PLEASE GIVE THIS SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT AND ELIMINATE ABOUT THREE FOURTHS OF THESE ACTIVITIES. LET PARENTS BE PARENTS AND REAR THEIR CHILDREN. WE ARE ALREADY DOING IT FIVE DAYS A WEEK IN SCHOOL AND THEY THINK IT IS OUR JOB. PARENTS NEED TO SPEND TIME WITH THEIR CHILDREN AND GET TO KNOW THEM AS WELL AS THEY NEED TO KNOW HOW TO DO SOMETHING BESIDES TALK AND TEXT ON THE PHONE. WE WERE NEVER BLESSED WITH CHILDREN AND I AM SO UPSET WHEN I SEE CHILDREN/TEENAGERS WITH NO INTERACTION WITH THEIR PARENTS. TRUTH BE KNOWN, THEIR SCHOOL BUS DRIVER PROBABLY KNOWS MORE ABOUT THEM THAN THEIR OWN MOTHER AND DADDY. THE DRIVER PROBABLY KNOWS IF THEY HAD BREAKFAST! AGAIN, REVIEW THESE PROGRAMS BEFORE VOTING YES AND IS THIS SOMETHING YOU ARE DOING FOR THE PUBLIC EYE TO MAKE YOU LOOK GOOD, LOOK LIKE WE HAVE A LOT TO OFFER ON THE ISLAND, IS THIS FOR THE TRAVEL BROCHURE/BUILDERS, IS THIS FOR A VOTE FOR THE CITY COUNCIL, IS THIS FOR MONEY IN YOUR FRIEND'S POCKET/BUSINESS OR JUST WHAT? WHY DO THE PERMANENT RESIDENTS (MOST OF WHICH, I THINK AND THAT IS JUDGING BY THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL BUSES ON THE ISLAND, ARE OLDER ADULTS AS MYSELF. I DO NOT SEE THAT MANY BABIES AND TEENAGERS UNLESS THEY ARE SUMMER RENTALS OR NEWBIES. I HAVE BEEN ON MY SOAPBOX LONG ENOUGH. I ASK OF YOU TO EXAMINE THIS PROJECT AS IF IT WAS YOUR ALLOWANCE FOR THE MONTH AND YOU ARE ON A FIXED INCOME AND CANNOT GO OVER ONE CENT. EVERYONE WILL BE THERE AT ONE POINT AND TIME AND IT IS NOW FOR OAK ISLAND. WE ARE OUT OF MONEY... WE HAVE GOT TO NOT ONLY CUT BACK, WE HAVE GOT TO SHAVE THE SKIN. I WOULD LOVE THE JOIN THE FINAL DECISION MAKING IF THE OPPORTUNITY ARISES. I WORKED FOR 27 YEARS FOR GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER COMPANY IN FAYETTEVILLE, NC. I WAS THE TRAINING COORDINATOR. I FACED OBSTACLE AFTER OBSTACLE BUT IT WAS MY JOB TO MAKE SURE OUR PLANT WAS SUCCESSFUL AND HAD THE ASSOCIATES CAPABLE OF DOING THE JOB TO KEEP IT OPERATING AT THE MAXIMUM CAPABILITY. IF I DID NOT HAVE MY STAFF TRAINING EFFECTIVELY AND PROPERLY, I FAILED. MY GOAL WAS TO WEED OUT THE BAD AND SOAR WITH THE GOOD. WE WERE A TEAM AND A GREAT ONE. WHEN AUDITED, WE NEVER HAD AN INFRACTION AND IT SHOWED IN OUR TIRE BUILDERS. THEY WERE QUALIFIED AND PROUD OF THEIR WORKMANSHIP. WHEN A TIRE LEFT THE PLANT WITH THEIR BUILDER NUMBER ON IT, THEY WERE NOT AFRAID FOR SOMEONE TO IDENTIFY IT. THAT IS WHAT I AM ASKING FOR WITH THIS COMMITTEE. PLEASE DO NOT BE AFRAID TO SPEAK UP, OWN THIS PROJECT AND WEED OUT THE UNNECESSARY

- Costs for some programs are too high, and some basic needs at park areas is toilets
- Improve parking/playgrounds/skate park/picnic areas

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Upgrade the Point access-extremely crowded during season; yoga/exercise classes geared toward seniors at a reasonable price
- Improve existing facilities
- More advertising of such things. Then we would know they exist and can use
- Better publicize activities offered. I have participated in very few to date, so it is hard to rate the quality
- Greater awareness of and exposure to the programs offered: didn't know many of these even existed so I don't feel I can accurately give a rating
- Not sure
- More age appropriate activities
- Better access to largely attended venues (i.e. Shag Contest parking)
- Improve the quality of summer concerts with better performers, dance floor. Glad to see stage coming. OIB is a good model of concerts done well. Move to a night that doesn't conflict w other area concerts. Encourage food trucks
- Need to repair and have a program to keep parks clean and safe. We need safe crossways to cross the road. People have been killed crossing the road. We don't need a splash pad or big amphitheater we don't need a golf course. We need paid parking
- More weekend and summer activities
- A much better SKATE PARK with a bowl that is free and open to the public 24/7 would be an amazing attraction/activity to the Town of Oak Island!!!!
- More kayak launches along the ICW
- Skatepark should be free as is Carolina Beach and Ogden and be open year-round with more hours
- More help for disabled.... another crossing point besides 57<sup>th</sup>
- More offerings on the mainland; advertising and promotion of the Par 3
- The people want more disc golf
- Better rec center. More modern workout rooms
- Cleanliness of some restroom facilities
- We aren't really program attending individuals, but we are into fitness and think a 24-access workout gym would be great as well as safer areas to walk. We enjoy walking the island so much, but we think there needs to be mandatory stops for people crossing Oak Island Drive. It can be very difficult to cross on foot or bike. Also, Yacht Drive could use a bicycle or walking lane. It is such a beautiful walk. The 3 way stops have helped a great deal but maybe a bicycle/walking lane would be even better. A park for walking and biking with a 2 mile loop outside of the Oak Island streets would be very welcomed too. And lastly, along Oak Island drive, the sidewalks are in need to some help. I know it takes funding, but it could be improved for walking and biking since many people walk to those shopping areas. Hope this helps
- Better hours for youth summer camps. Play area and water park for the youth and better stage at Middleton Park. Better bands and more food trucks for summer concert. More family activities
- Wheelchair access and ADA compliant parking lots, ramps, doorways, and bathroom facilities. Can't get a wheelchair through gravel, grass and potholes in parking areas
- Upgrade and better maintenance of existing parks and facilities
- Improve on Bill Smith Park; improve the Gazebo area at the beach
- Fitness center needs longer hours & open on holidays
- Have 24-hour exercise facility
- Have accessible and consistent teen events/locations. Community pool or access to a local pool (Caswell pool hours are super restricted and they are way overcrowded). Longer gym hours on the weekends
- We need a pool. Longer hours at the fitness center. Open on Sundays and longer hours on Saturday
- The parks need to be better maintained

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Improvement
- I wasn't even aware of all the town has to offer
- Maintenance and repair on existing facilities. The bathrooms at 52nd and Middleton park are fantastic assets, the gazebo-no so much. The majority of docks across the island are in deep need of repair, and I rarely have access to activities appropriate for children 5-12. I often find events offered by the town are held at inconvenient times for people who work outside the home further away than BSL
- Group exercise programs, adult basketball leagues, more access to the fitness center
- Upgraded more spacious fitness center with state of art equipment. Qualified staff
- Maintain and improve the sites in question
- More opportunities for people in their senior years and kids under 10 years of age
- More adult sports leagues
- Cabana fixed up. Speed limits on island made 35 year-round for safety of pedestrians
- Lands and facilities just seem average. I do believe that we should try and upgrade higher visited locations and facilities as much as possible
- Need a pool
- More variety of services
- Update and refurbish the recreation center exercise equipment
- Bigger variety of classes; I am mostly interested in fitness classes for middle aged and older
- Dog park in Smith park on fish factory road needs care. Also water. Fences need to be fixed. More sand or dirt in front of the larger dog area so it doesn't flood. Really needs water, only dog park I know of that does not provide water sprocket. Lots of people use this park. Thanks for listening
- Fix the boat ramp and parking at 55<sup>th</sup>
- More bike lanes, kayak launches, repair existing boat launch at 55<sup>th</sup> Street
- More parks and running/hiking trails that are off the road
- Stop raising taxes and manage taxes more wisely
- Work with senior center to offer a wider range of activities for seniors besides fishing, gardening and bird watching
- Senior yoga & aerobics, Mid-day hours or afternoon, not always early AM Parks are infested with ants & filthy tables & play equipment
- The accesses to the ICW off Yacht Drive should be cleared. Some are "claimed" by next door property owners for storage. Some are overgrown. I am a painter and would like to view the marsh and waterway
- Funding (from private sources) that will improve the activities
- Feeling safe to go to some of these areas
- More kayak launch points along Davis Canal
- Better quality
- Don't forget about the working-class people and the time they work. Not everyone has the weekend off
- More options for older kids 17 – 22
- More disabled entries for beach
- Provide more for the disabled
- Focus on fiscal responsibility and not add complexity or needs for increased fees and or taxes. Pay off town debt before expanding or adding any programs
- I would prefer to see OKI properly maintain existing or improve upon existing rec. assets instead of adding. Unless the added program is budget neutral
- Less meeting, office space in the rec center and more usable space. Office space enables employees to "stay" in their office and not supervising, helping, instructing, observing, cleaning... With all the spaces you have mentioned you have, more time needs to be spent in areas of use, not in an office. Meeting rooms should be turned into an activity room. Wasted space to have meeting rooms. Use other facilities in the town for meetings, churches, gyms,

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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put tables and chairs in the user friendly room temporarily. How often are there meetings versus client usage. Open that space up to user areas. Add weights, classes, cardio machines... Look into establishing a YMCA in the area. That in and of itself would be a major help for our community

- More diverse options
- More Public access either by more "places" or Public Transportation To Park locations. Pedestrian legal enforcement of "pedestrian right of way" everywhere any time, no crosswalks required. WALKING AND/OR CYCLING TRAILS
- Quality of events and facilities needs to be upgraded
- Add computer skills
- Upgrade facilities
- Better handicapped access to beach. I have an elderly family member in a wheelchair and I cannot get her to the beach. We've tried the "handicapped access points" but you cannot get to the water. I know you have "beach wheelchairs" but you need a truck to transport them. Provide access points with a surface allowing P&R (or volunteers) to provide golf cart access to the sand and water. My mother is 91 and can't get her toes in the water. Shame. Also, limited boat ramp access. It's an accident waiting to happen requiring boaters to back long distances sometimes across travel paths
- The beach revitalization program is a disgrace. The beach is the towns number one tourist attraction and yet there are the infamous rock piles all over, the filling in with DIRT as opposed to sand. Lack of sand scraper...no on beach waste baskets... The public boat launch on 57 is in dire need to dredging and year after year nothing is done
- Activities for part-time residents, visitors
- Nothing
- Install bike/walking lanes on the island
- Relocate crosswalk at beach access 46<sup>th</sup> Street directly across and install solar powered flashing crosswalk sign
- Better facilities and equipment; more and frequent activities; food trucks at summer concerts; have tables, chairs and canopies food truck rodeo. Last year it was so hot and there was nowhere to sit and eat and meet new people
- Big new workout building, update everything, too old!!!
- Public pool when RIP Tides prevent swimming and fire area swim meets. Fine to charge a fee to cover costs even if resident memberships
- Do surveys like this and act upon them
- There is nothing that anyone could do other than lower taxes, lower fees, better business decisions... stop buying golf courses and piers!
- More undeveloped, protected natural areas
- I think the north end of all the numbered streets, that seem to be public areas, should be accessible by the public. It seems that property owners adjacent to these properties have taken them as their own property. If these properties could be developed for public use it would give the town a feeling of community, and give people access to the ICWW at many locations for kayaking and fishing
- Variety of activities and times
- Public pool
- Dog park
- More and newer bathroom facilities
- More kayak accesses for the intracoastal waterway, such as steps down to a kayak launch
- Skate park open more often, community pool
- Provide more information to the public about activities and classes that are available
- More offerings but pass the cost on to those taking the classes/camps
- More info
- Increased variety. Better stage and time for summer concerts. Look at how nearby islands do it

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Availability to full-time workers
- Beach access for people with disabilities. Often I can't climb the sand piled up at the beach entry ways. Even a removable boardwalk would make access easier for people with canes or even small children
- Notifications & hours that accommodate the working class. It seems like a lot of activities I'm aware of revolve around retired people
- Improved handicap accessibility. Improved maintenance of existing facilities especially beachfront. Lower speed limit, increased number of stop signs to make streets more walkable
- I think OKI needs to provide lifeguards during the summer. I would be OK with charging for parking to pay for it
- Advertising
- I would like to see more programs geared to the 40 – 60 age group. Not all people are retired
- More maintaining, less spending on new
- Bike paths and more beach accesses with easier access for people with disabilities. Also need more bathrooms at beach accesses
- Better bike trails and paths and upgrades to the disc golf course at Smith Park
- Build a swimming pool
- NOT using latex balloons & latex gloves at festival and programs due to severe latex allergy. Having the handicap accessible ramps clear to use
- Better beach access for disabled
- Longer hours
- Public restrooms instead of porta johns or no restroom facilities at all. Walk ways to beach for the elderly or handicap. Enforce parking violations. More parking areas for residents. Don't waste money on things that are not needed
- Improving some of the existing facilities
- Build a decent disc golf course
- The rec fitness center needs to be open Sundays at least .5 day
- Updating some facilities such as the fitness center
- Programs and facilities are subpar especially considering the number of taxable homes on the island. Do fewer things but do them better. A cabana bathroom is nice to have but it is so dated and dirty that you don't want to use it. It would be nice to have more ocean front bathrooms
- Upgrades to the existing structures
- More organized programs
- More classes and programs geared toward children, teens and those not yet retired
- Maintenance better, handicap accesses
- More events and programs
- Better quality of entertainment
- Better concerts and activities. The bands are horrible. Most everyone loves beach music. Other nearby towns are able to book beach music bands
- Designated bike and walking paths. My family likes to walk or bike everywhere and it would be great to do that safely with young children. The playground is need of repair. We love to visit it, but it needs updated. Expanded would be great. We are really looking forward to the Splash Pad. Programs for young children (under 5) would also be utilized by our family
- An art studio with part-time instructors, occasional art classes or craft classes
- A bigger gym facility
- An upgraded gym with classes that also appeal to young adults. Pedestrian cross walks across oak island drive at beach access streets
- Better rec center... more showers/restrooms at beach accesses
- More frequent fitness classes- not everyone can attend daytime only classes; we need municipal swimming pool, expand offerings to cooking classes.... just some ideas...
- More programs for teenagers

## APPENDIX—N

### ***“OTHER” RESPONSES TO BEST METHOD/METHODS FOR INFORMING PARTICIPANTS ABOUT PROGRAMS, SERVICES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES (Q23)***

- The website is not very good. It takes a bit of work to see what activities and programs are available
- Word of mouth seems to work well here
- New town hall sign is often impossible to read. Keep it simple!
- Text message links
- Mail
- Water bill insert
- Insert in utility bill
- Flyer in water bill
- Twitter
- Water bill
- Flyer in the town water bill
- Parks & Rec sign & overhead banner on Country Club Drive
- Put monthly calendars in with water bills
- Rec Ctr automated sign
- Like notice that comes with water bill
- Street markers and/or directions would help
- Newsletter with water bill
- Maybe a sign in the Yaupon area would be of help. Many people who live or rent there may not have occasion to drive by town hall. Also, the rental companies should have detailed information on activities and the associated costs
- Insert included with water bill
- Oak Island Tribune in water/sewer bill
- Oak Island Tribune
- Water bill flyer
- Oak Island Tribune newsletter
- Rec Center sign
- The flyer that comes with the water bill
- Newsletter included in the monthly water bill is excellent
- Oak Island Tribune (with water bill)
- For Residents—Todd’s email on town activities works for us. Town website may be good for visitors, but it requires someone to access the site, something I seldom do. I “may” see something if posted in the State Port Pilot
- Newsletter with water bill
- Kyles emails
- Bulletin in the water bill
- Kyle Thomas

- Direct mail
- Instagram
- Next door neighbor websites
- Town newsletter
- Kyle's emails very helpful
- Street side banners
- Water bill mailing for new offerings
- Utilities bill inserts
- The monthly newsletter in Brunswick electric billing
- Newsletter in water bill
- Insert included with monthly water bill
- Flyers in with bill's are the best!
- Love the ones that come in the bills
- Newsletter in utilities bill and via Kyle Thomas emails
- Continue the newsletter
- News insert in water bill
- Would be great to have an email that has a pdf calendar I could print out and put on the refrigerator
- Go back to old rec sign.... new sign is poor
- List of "Parks" and facilities at each location
- Monthly newsletter with water bill
- Added info in the regular water bill insert
- Monthly activities mailer
- Annual publication of activities and sites
- Telephone book
- Oak Island locals FB
- Water bill notice like you do now
- Flyers with water bill
- Flyer in water bill with schedules
- TV
- Insert in water bill
- Banners at bridges
- Included with utility bill
- Southport Pilot
- Other social media
- The Pilot Newspaper



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## APPENDIX—O

### ***RESPONSES TO ONE THING TO DO BETTER OR ONE FACILITY TO BE ADDED (Q24)***

- A bike lane all over the island also a sidewalk on both sides of Oak Island Boulevard
- Walking trail on main line near Bill Smith Park
- Maintain ample beach access for part-time and full-time residents
- Class charges like Zumba include in our yearly fee
- I think the new splash park is a nice addition which my grandchildren will most likely enjoy when they visit. I don't think residents and their guests should have to pay to enter
- Upgrade fitness center equipment
- Advertise what is available
- Swimming pool
- More informed workers who aren't overworked with cleaning duties
- Establish a state-of-the-art ocean education center-exhibits and activities!
- Better beach parking for residents
- Better management of the golf course
- Upgrade to the fitness center
- Increase sales tax. That way tourists pay for needed growth and infrastructure improvements
- Increase gym size and times it is open. Have some sort of adult sporting activities. My husband and I are in our late 20s early 30s and have no children. Most of the activities are geared to kids or elderly
- No comment as you all are doing a great job!
- Bike paths
- Another kayak launch
- Need more paid staff
- A Tai Chi class would be welcome. Kudos to you for continuing balance yoga with Emily. She's a wonderful instructor
- Be vigilant about renewing and improving the existing programs, with an eye on what other island communities are doing/trying
- Nothing. You are doing a great job
- Upgrade the current rec center
- Carefully vet food truck vendors. More variety and price points
- Sponsor beach cleanups
- A bike path/lane – dodging bikes riding down the sidewalks is not safe – a lawsuit waiting to happen
- As much as I enjoy the parades, I think there are too many which affects the quality. The people that participate can't do all of them and it makes some the parades sparse
- Start the concert venue early and let it go into fall
- Updates to rec center would be welcomed. Even more fun and colorful paint
- Indoor swimming pool
- Handicap ramp access to the beach
- Improved handicap access out to beach
- Better beach access for handicapped
- Improve fitness facility at rec center
- Seniors should not have to pay for classes! Please put swings at Veteran's Park and use tax monies you already have wisely!
- Middle-aged, middle-class events are needed! There's a lot going on for the kids and seniors or those with big wallets. How about offering events for the 40-60 age group with incomes of \$50k - \$75k

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Improvement to the cabana
- More emphasis on handicapped accessibility
- Don't charge for use of splash pad
- You need to cater to Seniors more because that is what is full-time, permanent residents here on the island. Have more for teens living here
- More kayak launches! And larger too. Docks are too small and dangerous
- Fitness classes in the evening geared towards middle-aged-young adults
- It is good the way it is
- As is done in the National Park Service's National Heritage Areas programs, identify those things that make OKI special i.e. South Facing Beach and have Sunset events, and crabbing events, and yacht watches along the intercoastal, and star gazing below the Dunes
- Great work on enhancing pickle courts. A popular and growing sport. Please add lights for summer night play
- Community pool
- Bike lanes
- Newcomers' "get to know Oak Island" class
- No tax increase. Cut services before raising taxes. We pay enough
- Charge non-residents for beach area parking
- Swimming pool
- Facility for all children including autism/mental and physically handicapped children and adults
- Skate park; pool
- More weekend stuff for adults
- I often miss out on events because I find out about them to late and they are already sold out
- No charge for splash pad as it was originally stated. Operation costs beginning to rise & somehow it will cost the residents. Should have been put to a vote
- Add more fun things for older teens to do
- Have fun programs for visiting grandkids
- More active adult classes
- More parking at Caswell Beach. you have not kept up with the increase in population on weekends. Can never get a parking place
- Pool
- Community pool
- More tennis courts. Picnic park with BBQs (folks can bring their own charcoal) and picnic tables
- Shade covers at the oak island park over the playground area for kids to play like at the ocean isle park so playground equipment will not be hot in summer for kids
- Handicapped access
- Greenway and bike trails
- Hours of operation. And exercise classes that work for the working-class people
- Caswell Beach full time residents should be offered resident rate to join the fitness center. I would join the fitness center if it was not so expensive because my address is in Caswell Beach
- Publicize the events earlier. Don't get the flyer till a week has gone by. More advance notice for planning
- Swimming pool
- This may be part of another jurisdiction, but porta-potties or bathrooms (plural) along the beach
- Bike lanes and or a bike path around the island
- Take better care of the par 3 golf course
- Another kayak launch for Montgomery Slough
- Would love swings at some beach exits to be able to sit and watch the ocean
- Pool
- Offer better quality entertainment at summer concerts
- Handicapped accessibility

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Keep improving maintenance of the Par 3 course
- Would like a year-round indoor swimming pool added
- Maintain the golf course-people will use if they know it is a fun, good playable course and not neglected
- Promote the Oak Island Boys more
- More festival/food type events!
- Please keep trash on 46th, when you own a 2nd home and come down for weekend it is so helpful to have a place to get rid of trash without hauling it 4 hrs. back home please rethink this. It has been a great help for homeowners! Thanks for all you do
- Up-to-date fitness facility with extended hours or open 24 hours
- Bike racks for locking up your bikes. More bathroom facilities. A great restaurant at the pier. Really liked the Flying Fish
- Port-Johns at the Nature Center pier/butterfly garden
- Limit net fishing dates in beach areas
- Public swimming pool
- Stop fighting the SHV Golf Course and utilize it for your youth and retirees!
- Marked crosswalks near facilities. Reflective paint on asphalt and flashing yellow lights at high traffic area crossings such as Carolina Beach has
- All full-time residents deserve a free parking pass at beach access points. Unfair to charge for this
- More elliptical machines
- Continuing improvement of the Par 3 golf course
- Covered beach area
- Take better care of the golf course. Build waterway pathway adjacent to boat ramp on Fish Factory Road
- More convenient times for the working population
- Make sure the current programs and facilities are well run and maintained before adding new programs
- A large gathering venue, i.e. weddings, reunions
- Workout facility
- Make crossing E Oak Island Drive easier so that everyone can enjoy the parks (on both north and south sides of the island) and safely walk to beach access points. Thanks!
- Handicapped accessible beach accesses
- Would love a sand volleyball court off the beach. Near tennis courts or baseball field
- Have a larger rec and fitness center
- A community pool
- More music nights
- More beach parking at some of the accesses. Some accesses have more parking places than others! It seems unfair. Then you now allow side of house driveways and that takes away parking spots at the accesses
- Make beach easier for people with walking and breathing problems to get on
- Boat ramps and parking for vehicles and trailers
- Maintain, update and drive more activities through the recreation center at 31<sup>st</sup> Street with quality instructors
- More handicap beach accesses
- Improve the access to the skate park. Today it is a complete waster
- Better advertising of upcoming events
- Bike lanes
- Better advertising of activities
- Not charge fee for splash pad?? Heard there would be a fee
- Stop cutting down the oak trees to build more homes. They are an environmental need for drainage and protection, as well as, the island's namesake

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- A community swimming pool
- Can't think of anything. Y'all do a great job
- More restrooms
- Upgrade rec center
- You all do an excellent job so carry on as you are
- Kayak park/launch somewhere OTHER THAN 55th or Blue Water Marina. It's dangerous in the summer with all the boat traffic/launching
- Fix the issue with the water easement. Billing that is now taxes
- More access to Davis Canal and Intercoastal
- Open skate park and add youth programs
- Aquatics center
- Benches and water for ALL beach accesses
- A few more beach restroom facilities and kept clean
- Drop regulations. Skate park needs to be open more. We need a town pool on the island
- Vending, snack bar, tiki bar at the piers!
- Evening/outdoor activities for kids/teens. Town closes after dark! Boardwalk area
- I would love to see more afternoon or night classes for people who work during the day
- Facelift the recreation facility
- Maybe their own website with online registration for activities? If it already exists, then it needs to be easier to find... I would subscribe to emails about programs if I knew how
- Previously stated round pavilion
- Dog park
- Beach access for handicap
- More activities geared towards the youth instead of investing so much in adults/retirees
- Public restrooms spread out along beach access
- Swimming pool
- The town needs a better fitness facility
- Have the new splash pad opened 8 am till 8pm and continue it through October (maybe shorter hours) so the locals can enjoy it with smaller crowds. Also, the Farmers Market should also run through October for the fall festivals and veggies
- Pool with membership fees, movies in the park, longer fitness hours/update fitness center
- I think they do a good job
- Since my participation has been limited, I don't have any suggestions at this time
- Basketball courts
- To add a bicycle lane on Oak Island Drive, or multi-use path, instead of a sidewalk
- Less silver sneakers and more whipper snapper
- No charge for walking on pier
- A town pool that residents could buy season passes to and visitors could pay per visit would be wonderful
- Improve bike lanes
- More bathrooms
- No idea...you seem to be doing a great job!
- Boardwalk at the beach
- I would love to see a public pool. The splash pad is a wonderful addition, but we would utilize a pool
- Shag lessons
- Publicize classes, camps and events more effectively
- Improve disabled/handicapped/special needs access to facilities and beaches
- Have facilities available on Sunday
- Roads clean up take down the beautification areas. With which item being place are trashy and disgusting
- Contact via email through constant contact

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Communicate activities
- Year-round music festival. More programs held during winter months
- Bike racks at more locations
- Better notification to part-time residents of events and things to do while at OKI. This doesn't necessarily mean events only at OKI
- Clean up areas
- Better communication with the turtle program
- More creativity in your offerings
- Larger fitness center area with more equipment
- Maintain the current facilities before adding anything new
- Make it easier for the community to have their own events
- Repair the restroom/bathhouse close to King's
- The number of parks, access and facilities are more than enough. Programs offered are great, although wider variety of new programs would be appreciated. Love our town and Parks & Rec team. More activity options are needed. Would love Hand & Foot, Mahjongg, line dancing, Pilates
- Indoor poll for exercise
- More bike lanes
- Bigger Rec Center Building
- More parking
- Place some bench swings at Veteran's Park, or other ICW locations, or ocean locations. Like Kure Beach and Southport. Where we can sit and swing and enjoy the view
- Softball league for all adults
- A NEW, modern Rec Center
- Wheelchair access. Go see OCEAN ISLE
- Eliminate any underappreciated activities so Oak Island can have one thing it's famous for to add to its reputation and charm, and appeal - a unique "brand" if you will. OI Parks and Rec should sponsor and initiate an annual Seafood festival around an Oak Island signature item developed by local chefs, and every restaurant in the area optionally serves that special item year-round. Maybe it's the most awesome OI fish sandwich! We had one in Bermuda on home baked cinnamon bread at Art Mel's, you can google the unique sandwich. Live Music would be part of festival, and a regular OI feature at a permanent festival entertainment venue
- More activities for teenagers
- Better maintenance of what we have. If adding facilities, a public swimming pool
- The fitness center needs a major upgrade. The beaches need showers and foot washer
- Put in bike lanes on Yacht Drive and KEEP the stop signs as they help to slow the car traffic
- Walling/Bike trails
- Educating the rental companies/tourists about sea turtle protection - keeping beaches clean, turning lights off at night, protecting dunes - etc. The rental companies are not held accountable for renters and the town needs to help with that education
- Public restrooms and outside showers like you see at other nearby beaches
- Music venue
- It would be awesome if we had a wider, uninterrupted sidewalk to walk, run or bike down Oak Island Drive
- Support the Par 3 golf course
- You don't need to do better at the Par 3 golf course; just keep doing the good job you're doing. KUDOS
- Larger dog park
- Quality of facilities. Better vs more. Music!
- More kayak launches
- Better 24-hour fitness access at a low cost

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Senior center needs a "fellowship" club for those of us who don't have any particular skills or talents, just to have fun with each other, perhaps taking field trips sometimes and listening to interesting speakers' other times
- Public swimming pool
- They need to be more friendly AND ASK IF THEY CAN HELP PEOPLE. Be more outgoing
- Another walkover before 9<sup>th</sup> Street would be nice!
- Quit catering to young kids
- Clean the accesses off Yacht Drive so people can view/fish the waterway. Some are overgrown and others are being "used as private property"
- I think you are fabulous
- Shade over play areas for children
- Pool
- Need fitness/community center as proposed in the past
- Allow immediate family members same privileges as the property owners. I am property owner and have been for 26 years. We love our place and the island and use it as well as my sons and their family
- As property owners (2 properties) of a house and a waterfront lot on Davis canal, we'd personally appreciate the street endings be improved where all the rainy weather has washed out the road, to facilitate fishing and access
- More handicap accessible
- Keep the Par 3 Golf Course viable and in great shape
- Provide safe access to facility other than automobile. Be able to walk or bike to facilities. No safe way to cross Oak Island Dr and not safe to bike
- Please consider minimal improvement of Cabana restroom
- Bike paths
- A more up to date website - Ask for a direct link to the P&R website/page from your Webmaster; instead of having to go to OKI Town webpage, then go to departments drop down, than finding P&R, all to get to the P&R website/main page. Visitors and older residents are probably not finding your information. The main town page should just have your link - <https://oakisland.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=7818>
- Wooden walkways out to the beach at every public parking/entry point
- I would like to see lights at the Pickleball Courts
- They do a great job
- Swings in Veterans Park
- SWINGS AT PARKS (FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN; ESPECIALLY VETERANS AND MIDDLETON
- More restroom facilities and water fountains. The Rec Center should be open on Sunday for access to the restrooms. More benches for taking a break on
- Town pool on fee per use basis. Like at the Community College with nice inside walking track above it. Would work for all ages. Have some specific times for children. Host pool party events, with music, food, dancing. Pay fee per entry
- Better maintenance and cleanup and finishing the walking trails of Bill Smith Park
- A Town of Oak Island welcoming and orientation session for new residents or people who have not used the facility
- Please clean mold from picnic tables at May Moore Park-there is handicap access, but they are too moldy to use
- I think they do a marvelous job. Any additions are welcome but not 'must haves'
- Lighted Pickleball Courts
- The staff does a wonderful job, but facilities are outgrown
- Advertise things
- More pickleball courts with lights
- LIGHTS AND 2/3 PLYWOOD WALLS FOR PICKLEBALL TRAINING
- Working lights for Pickleball courts

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Swimming pool
- Pickleball lights
- Safe lifeguard areas maybe located in town by town hall would be ok and each end of the island
- I rarely hear what's going on; I guess I don't know where to look
- Market the Par 3 course better
- Completion of Splash Park
- Lights for the pickleball courts. It would greatly increase use of the facility, both in summer when it's cooler in the evening, & in winter when the days are short
- Please provide lights for the Pickleball courts
- Lights and additional parking for the pickleball courts
- Make the Pickleball area just a little more attractive. Please put in some lights as there are many people who would play at night. While some of the people who play may live off of the island, they do spend money here
- Lights on the Pickleball courts
- Lights for the Pickleball courts
- Improve exercise room/equipment
- Properly lighted Pickleball courts
- More advertisement and affordable events for the Par 3 course at South Harbour
- Improvement to the Par 3
- The Program is good especially the Golf Course maintenance
- More art events
- More environmental programs
- Walking trails
- Embrace the South Harbour Par 3 fully-so it can be best in class and known for it
- Adequate staffing
- Need to expand and improve the fitness center and fitness programs for seniors
- More Yoga classes or expand floor space utilizing room next door
- Fitness stations in Bill Smith Park
- An outdoor/indoor pool
- Walking trails; they were once discussed to begin at Bill Smith Park loop around by the creek and return
- You need to ask what we can get rid of? The west end beach access needs a walkway and more parking; something hundreds of people use daily
- Indoor swimming pool with a warm water area for exercise
- More beach access
- Bike path...ability to safely ride a bicycle from one end of the island to the other
- Pool access in town or nearby
- Need to expand and update the Dog Park on the island
- MORE BEACH SAND
- Don't raise taxes
- More evening classes
- A lot of the programs that I would like to try should require me to take vacation days, because they run in the weekday mornings only
- Keep areas clean
- Clean up dog park and allow more space for the dogs to run. I've never seen another dog there
- I would like to see more restrooms/showers at public beach accesses
- Bowling alley or roller-skating rink
- Splash pad
- Fix the pickleball courts and organize a league
- Pool
- Bring back the Oak Island triathlon

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Indoor swimming, Larger fitness center
- Be sure the beach accesses are toped and clearly marked. Signs to Kee Off Dunes posted and enforced!
- Dog park
- Eliminate the personal trainers at the Rec Ctr. I don't appreciate the town subsidizing another business which should be left to the private sector
- Take care of town people not tourist and day trippers
- I would recommend they evaluate the maintenance of what they must sustain the facilities longer. Provide necessary maintenance and upkeep/upgrades. The Rec Center feels like it hasn't been worked on since the 80s-90s. Upgrade the equipment that is frequently used and get rid of the stuff that is not used
- Listen
- Renovate/build new building
- We need boardwalks or other material walks at beach right of ways. It is difficult for many to walk in the sand.... but would love to get to the beach
- Golf lessons and a cycling club with improved awareness about bikes
- Paint/stain the benches in the island. They look old and rugged. Make them look more inviting
- Improve notifications of events-better "marketing" of events
- The so-called gym
- A facility I would like to see added is an additional park with a fishing dock
- Park with trails to run or walk
- Keep upgrading the fitness center
- Add events to social media and emails
- More pickleball instruction camps
- A pool
- Fitness center with sauna
- Better stage & sound system for summer concerts
- Building at Beach behind town hall AWFUL now needs painting, repair etc. Builders could offer one person for day or two to cleanup. It is embarrassing right NOW Our family will not use in the present conditions
- Have designated bike lanes on all roads
- Physical Fitness
- A public swimming pool
- Keep longer hours at the Rec Center for exercising
- Repair the parks
- Dance classes
- A community pool
- All is fine...personally I think you are doing a great job
- A community outdoor pool with admission cost
- Community vegetable garden
- More public access fishing at the ICW
- Beach access, parking and access for wheelchair bound
- Need an indoor fitness pool
- A larger room to hold the exercise classes
- Friday night movie in the park with food vendors/trucks
- More picnic tables some with and without shelter
- Advertise more! Be specific about dates, times, locations and any costs
- Make activities appropriate for all ages not just retired seniors. PLEASE GOD.... ADD A POOL
- Basketball gymnasium
- More bike friendly routes/lanes
- Safe bike path/trail
- More events for teens

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Large covered area with a metal wind and water designed structure as seen in Superstar Magazine by Anthony Howe
- I'm not sure if this falls under Parks and Rec jurisdiction, but it would be nice to see the Cabana at 46th St and Beach expanded, or perhaps even a second one added (one for men and one for women)
- More senior programs as there are lots of older indigent people living here
- Update the playground at Middleton Park
- The splashpad will be a great addition to the island. Its facilities like these that draw people to the island. Maybe a swimming pool can be added in the future
- More activities/options for older/teenage children
- Oak Island NEEDS to be more pedestrian friendly
- Please add bike lanes/golf cart lanes for safety of residents
- Evening classes for Yoga and exercise and cooking. More public docs to fish from
- Boat ramp access
- Water Park addition, not just a splash pad
- I think the Parks and Rec department does a fantastic job, truly great. If I had my pie in the sky wish come true, we'd have a town pool and occasional adult swim. But I think it is important to keep the teenagers engaged and out of trouble - so a focus on teen programs is probably the most needed. I think this is a low priority for people in their budgets so I'd advocate for the town to cover the cost, in fact I'd even like to see some programs where the teens make some money or get a skill that lets them make money. (A babysitting training course for example)
- Add a community pool preferably with an indoor and outdoor pool for winter swimming
- Bike lanes and routes... the roads are not safe to ride on and sidewalks are inconsistent
- Post summer events on social media so visitors can attend and know about the events in advance
- We don't need to keep adding anything!! We need to take proper care of the things we already have!! Quit spending so much of our taxes and raising them so much!! Retirees cost you nothing. All we do is pay higher taxes. All you do is keep gouging us to give the tourists a free lunch. Tourists need to pay parking and tourist tax to pay for beach upkeep. I haven't been to the beach in three years!! Too cold in winter. And in the summer, too many tourists and their free-running dogs, for me and my dogs to walk safely. We were brutally attacked by two bull dogs belonging to tourists, running free. They almost killed my two small dogs and bit me on my leg!! Nothing was done to the tourists and police refused to take a report. Only animal control took a report, and nothing was done to the tourists for breaking the rules. Seems rules only apply to residents. Sad. But like one council member said...."If we don't like it, we can move! This is a tourist town!!"
- Lights on the pickleball courts located at city hall/police station
- Gazebo at West End like at Middleton Park
- Improve sidewalks along Oak Island Drive by widening it to more of multipurpose trail / greenway system so pedestrians and bicyclists can use together. Also, it would need more human scale lighting (lamp post or bollard style lighting), some landscaping, trash receptacles, pet litter pick-up/disposal stations, and benches
- I am aware that a Splash Pad is "in the works." I believe this will be a great addition. Bike trails would also be useful
- Disabled access to beaches
- Better disabled access to beaches. And indoor pools
- DISC GOLF. DISC GOLF. DISC GOLF!!!! PLEASE
- Restrooms!!! Renovate Cabana. Install restrooms on platforms (as previously promised) at the Point. Get rid of Porta Johns. They're disgusting and disgraceful
- More hour's fitness center
- It appears from your list of available activities that you may be on the verge of sinking under the weight of too many programs. But some of your activities for seniors are outstanding

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Pedestrian crossing at rec center (across E. Oak Island Drive)
- Bike path that has been proposed for the Fish Factory Road wildlife area
- More point access
- Walking/Running paths
- Dog parks need improvement; park at 52 and Yacht needs improvement; I would love to see a town swimming pool
- Would love to have a few daytime or Saturday evening concerts. Most weekenders do not arrive in time for the Friday night concerts. One whole Saturday a month devoted to our beach music and shagging lovers close to the beach. Not a N Myrtle but our own version. However, you guys do a great job! Thank you for giving us the privilege to comment. You really do care what we think!
- Bigger workout area at the rec center with extended hours
- Add public swimming pool. Increase lighting at parks and many areas around town, especially around new bridge
- More kids' things to do ages say 3 to 10
- More children's activities on the weekends. Take ownership and repair the boat launch at 58 & Yacht. It's a safety issue. No reason we don't have a state-of-the-art boat launch. What we have now hurts our property values
- When my grandchildren visit, I am very nervous about rip tides. I am ALWAYS with them, but I wish we had a beach area with lifeguards. I would be willing to pay a use fee when I take them there. Every year there are deaths due to rip currents on the NC coast and it is not just children but mostly adults, sometimes well-meaning adults who went into the water to rescue a person caught in the current
- Move surf contest to gazebo area. Also, the pier at the end of Oak Island Dr. West should be put back the way it was. The old lady next door needs to get a life
- New central mall to clean up the area around Eagles beach shop. Create the kind of anchors that Food Lion has centered and let businesses grow down the central spine road. Keep revenues on island rather than off island and in Southport
- Stop trying to serve all and do a limited number of things better and that goes for parks as well
- Remove Yacht Drive stop signs; ask cyclist not to use Oak Island Drive
- Don't raise taxes... leave parking alone. We don't use town services, but we love going to the beach
- Publish a list of services available, and let property owners know where they can find the list
- Please add Bocce Ball area
- Senior activities
- Skip the water park and improve your children playgrounds with new equipment especially for handicap children
- More day trips
- Larger rec center
- Lifeguards
- More winter activities for full-time residents
- Nothing although I wish the gym at the rec center was cleaner ... floors are usually dirty, and lights have bugs in them (when doing floor exercises at yoga)
- Boat ramps
- Better inform part-time residents of activities
- Outside music venue on the beach
- Indoor swimming pool
- Improve playground and add more shelter/shade for picnic
- Maybe more restroom facilities at some parks
- Upgrade The Point-more parking and easier access to the beach area
- I know that there are many public beach access points on Oak Island, but it would be nice if there were more public bathrooms or Port-O-Johns accessible near the beach access points.

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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We often end up having to walk, bike, or drive back home several times to use the bathroom during the day while at the beach

- Offer more for kids
- Better workout center with newer equipment
- Please improve our dog park. We are a dog friendly island, right? It's in need of attention yesterday... isolation entrance needed to prevent escape
- The rec center longer hours and updated equipment
- More parking at The Point
- Lights on Pickleball courts
- Indoor pool!!!!
- A real post office like the one Supply has
- Way for new residents to meet other ones
- Love the facilities and activities provided and like the new splash pad and stage coming. Keep up the great work!
- Love the idea of a 24-hour gym; a more productive way of getting info out to residents maybe we could sign up for a monthly update
- Additional machines to strengthen knees/thighs/legs
- Visit all the town and evaluate for visitor safety
- Swimming pool
- Better communicate offerings by the P&R dept via social media 30 days in advance so we can schedule attendance or participate in camps and clinics
- Offer more senior programs
- Just let people know what's out there to do
- Walk light at Middleton and Oak Island Drive
- Pickleball
- In an ideal world, would have heated indoor saltwater pool, and infrared sauna room. I would pay up to 300/yr. for membership
- Improve pedestrian and bike safety
- Upon visiting the Oak Island Senior Center and trying to join, there was an atmosphere of snobbery. Two separate occasions told me there was no place here for me. Therefore, I went to Southport and joined the Senior Center there. A much better atmosphere of friendliness and openness. I am not the only one this has happened to
- Communication
- Classes/activities after 5 pm for those who still work
- Rook Games (card games) Tournaments
- Racquetball court would be awesome
- Update and improve the dog park at 42<sup>nd</sup> Street
- Card group clubs and Mahjongg games
- Senior activities
- Additional parking areas for events
- Improve summer concerts
- Better communication/advertising/marketing of program offerings/times/dates, etc.
- Finish Pickleball courts. It has been a long process & has been closed for more than 2 weeks for a job that was to take a week
- Make the nature center walkway safe. I have seen people trip there and when it is wet you slip. Take up the wooden walkway and put down gravel. Also lock those bathrooms at night
- I would like a kickboxing class
- Enlarge space for Yoga classes
- 24-hour fitness or extended hours
- A kayak dock/entry at the new Veterans Park
- Indoor swimming pool

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Time set aside for women only to use the fitness center. Two men just stand around and watch women in the weight area and they are not "old" men
- Safer bike and walking trails
- Notify residents of what activities are going on
- New equipment at the rec center
- Need to keep up the ship area on Barbee better. Lots of visitors come thru
- More walking trails
- Football/soccer programs for all age groups. Local on the island
- A much better SKASTE PASRK with a bowl that is free and open to the public 24/7
- Have the farmers market go past labor day
- Replace the basketball goals at Middleton park. There are constantly teens using that court
- Always keep the big picture in view. This is a beautiful town and it needs to continue to grow, expand and change and keep the small-town atmosphere as best it can. Thanks for all the work you have done. Looking forward too many years of living here!!!
- Find ways to notify residents of activities and programs
- Skate park
- Employees need to be aware of activities being offered or held at the center and if cancelled. I attended something that no one could tell me had been cancelled when I went to ask on the day before the event. Making the information on the Rec Center web site is also critical. Everyone does not use Face Book
- Help people with disabilities
- Improve public beaches. Cleanliness, bathroom, parking
- Update equipment in gym
- Advertising and promotion of Par 3 golf course
- An 18-target disc golf facility, professionally designed and suitable for hosting a tournament sanctioned by the PDGA
- Continue to provide free access to beach for residents
- Finish the sidewalks on East Oak Island Drive and provide for more pedestrian crosswalks!
- Update and upgrade rec center
- A shell for music and movies
- A Walking/Biking Park about 2 miles in a scenic area; maybe a boardwalk down the beach
- Bathrooms and rinse off shower at beach access. Better hours for youth summer camps
- Add parking at The Point
- Fitness center – more hours – at least Sundays
- ADA compliance to include wheelchair access to all public and private facilities and businesses
- Showers at some of the beach accesses
- Communication about all these wonderful programs
- More advertising for Par three golf. Lots of people visit and use this but are not aware of that the course allows children to play free with paying Adults. That it has 18 holes
- Keep up the good work!
- Improve fitness center & longer hours
- Love to see a swimming pool for community; I would use it
- More recycling bins at Waterway Park at 52nd Street NE
- An indoor/outdoor recreation area for teens and young adults, with free meeting space for clubs and gatherings
- More promotion of programs
- A pool
- Better promoting of activities. get small business on the island behind you
- Designated biking lanes in some areas where it gets busy
- Public pool
- The appearance of all the parks need to be kept up. Do not need to add anymore

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- The bandstand @ Middleton Park should be relocated to the opposite side of the field so that bands can be heard
- Better advertising for residents to know what is available
- Share about events to more people
- Publishing upcoming events with as much time as possible
- Open facilities like the skate park more often and “Use at your own risk”
- Updated weight and fitness rooms at rec center
- The rec center needs updating
- Some sort of bike/walking path or green from Bill Smith Park to the Marina. Fish Factory Road is dangerous to walk on and it would be great to connect the two areas
- Increase weight training facility and access to it
- Please add more classes for all ages. being a middle age woman there is not a lot for me or my spouse to do. Everything is geared towards the youth and seniors
- Add another fishing/crabbing access dock on the ICC
- Ut calendars of events in The Pilot
- Fitness center is small, and equipment is poor
- Safe cycling lanes & trails
- Indoor pool for swimming and water exercise classes. Charge a fee for the classes to maintain the pool
- YMCA program for all ages
- Upgrade and maintain the dog park on 41<sup>st</sup> Street
- Public pool
- Expand Veterans Park fishing dock
- Reduce the prices
- Christmas tree lighting back to the Cabana
- Part-time resident property owners should pay the same rates as full-time resident property owners: our taxes are the same, so services should be the same
- Improving the REC Center
- Offer better bands for summer concert series
- Communicate more
- Beach accessibility
- Indoor and outdoor pool
- More programs and trips for seniors
- Exercise facility or greatly improve the current one
- Still learning how to find what is going on
- More bike trails and pathways which are also accessible for 3-wheel bikes
- A place for dogs to run
- Kayak lessons
- Maintain oceanfront signage to inform tourist to stay of dunes. Re-nourish the dunes
- Would love better kayak access at SW 5<sup>th</sup> Street on Davis Canal
- Dog park on Fish Factory Road needs water spicket, fences fixed and more dirt, so park doesn't flood. Thanks!
- I would tell the town NOT to install a water park due to the fact too many water parks have spread disease. Reference the eater park in Geneva, NY
- Advertise what you offer better!
- The Dot Butterfly Park and fishing pier next to it and that park is a disgrace. It's so sad how it is not being maintained at all. It was beautiful when they built it all
- Indoor pool
- Boat ramp at 55<sup>th</sup> and open parking at lot in front of condos you guys own the land
- Indoor swimming
- After-School program with homework help for middle-high school
- More available parking

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Make OKI safer for bicycles with good lanes
- Paddleboard launch and use lessons
- Rec Center exercise/tap/yoga, etc. participants pay a monthly fee instead of per class. Class sessions
- The Point is a mess, parking on the dunes, blocking mail and driveways, no place for boat / kayak trailers, at least 10 paths through dunes, I believe the official parking area needs to be expanded, and no parking along road like the rest of the entire island
- Better & more up to date exercise machines
- Upgrade activities offered by recreation department. Offer classes, trips, pool tournament, etc.
- We need parks and trails for walking and running that are not directly beside main roads where cars are going 45 mph
- More beach parking and facilities at the beaches
- Indoor swimming pool
- Remember our children
- More beach ambassadors to enforce littering and dog leash laws
- Some more Kayak launches along Davis Canal and the ICW/ inlet would be great. Also, a ride table for Davis Canal since the direction of the water can be very misleading
- The town should not compete with private businesses that provide fitness facilities, restaurants, shopping, entertainment. They should add fees to use the beach so that the beaches can be maintained
- They do a great job, always friendly and informative. They don't NEED to do/add anything. Maybe better information pathways
- Bingo, card games, etc. for seniors; music name that tune cover dish for seniors
- Pickleball
- Clear the accesses to the ICW
- Not sure if this is Parks and Rec but bathrooms for beach
- Advertise better
- Find private sources of income...tap into it...do your homework
- Free art classes and stained-glass classes and a variety of card games for prizes or money
- Kayak launch areas. Nothing fancy; just access to water at the ends of some of the north/south streets
- More events at the Par 3 Golf Course. Golf lessons. A driving range
- Senior softball and a decent softball field. Could play in Brunswick Co. league but several teams could be Town sponsored. I'd be willing to play/coach!
- Crosswalks on E. Oak Island Drive; lower speed limit on E. Oak Island Drive to 35 mph
- Better calendar of activities
- New equipment for cardio room
- Continue to stay current with changing population input/needs
- Multi use the skate park. How often is it used?
- Access area for disabled. Close Par 3 Golf Course
- Outdoor pool
- More for seniors
- A boardwalk to beach
- Evaluate each for receptacles for trash; posted signs to encourage responsible use of the beach, walkways, and pack it in/pack it out; and love the OKI fireworks!! So much better to me to see from the beach on OKI than crowded in Southport
- Have some weekly event like the concerts in the winter months or have a bingo night in the winter at the center
- Keep gods away from public events
- Exercise classes that accommodate individuals with disabilities
- Expand and improve upon exercise space to include resistance such as Truax and classroom space

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Replacement of decking at 31<sup>st</sup> Walkover, May Moore landing decking
- Need more parking at The Point
- The Par 3 golf course needs more marketing focus. Great improvements have been made in the last year, but year is much more needed
- The new sign at rec center flashes so fast that it can't be read while in traffic at 45 mph. the previous sign was better
- Children's fitness
- West end boat/kayak/canoe launch easily accessible and available regardless of tide
- Better fishing/crabbing piers for public
- In 6 years of being a property owner I have never seen the skate park open
- Add a YMCA
- Maintenance at Register Park is needed
- To ensure the exercise classes aren't cancelled. They seem to be cancelled a lot, per emails I get
- Put more emphasis on fishing tournaments for all ages
- Needs to be more police on the beach handing out tickets to people who litter, destroy dunes and not pick up after dogs!!
- Enlarge Rec Center
- Mow the fields behind town hall more often!
- Keep up the good work! All the sites I have visited are well maintained which is the most important to me
- A nice public water park
- Swimming pool
- Outdoor swimming pool for residents
- Lobby the Town Council to promote Pedestrian Safety Empty lots (Town ordered or private donations of use) maintained with minimal clearings, benches or picnic tables to provide rest and even possible recreation, gardens or gatherings, in accessible neighborhood locations. Maintained by volunteer neighbors?
- Town pool
- Improvements to beach access and facilities to be more polished and inviting. Also, more sidewalks/bike paths to allow for more mobility around the island without car, especially during the summer months. This is probably not part of Parks and Recreation, but an overall face lift to Oak Island drive to bring in more vegetation and make the island look more appealing. Thinking of resort towns in Florida that have manicured green spaces
- Bike lanes
- By comparison, the farmers market at Southport is much better and has more quality vendors than the OKI market. I feel it has gone downhill over the five years we've been on OKI. I'd like to see more produce vendors at the farmers market
- Get the word out better as to what is happening in the community
- More exercise classes
- Renovation of restrooms at 46<sup>th</sup> Street access
- Improved fitness center
- More boat ramps and improve the two currently in use. Very dangerous without turn around areas for vehicles pulling boats to launch. And to repeat: Better handicapped access to beach. I have an elderly family member in a wheelchair, and I cannot get her to the beach. We've tried the "handicapped access points" but you cannot get to the water. I know you have "beach wheelchairs" but you need a truck to transport them. Provide access points with a surface allowing P&R (or volunteers) to provide golf cart access to the sand and water. My mother is 91 and can't get her toes in the water. Shame.
- The beach revitalization program is a disgrace. The beach is the towns number one tourist attraction and yet there are the infamous rock piles all over, the filling in with DIRT as opposed to sand; lack of sand scraper...no on beach waste baskets...

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Improve frisbee golf course
- Community pool and preschool camps and programs
- More/better parking at the town kayak launches
- A disc golf course on the island
- I am satisfied right now with performance and programs, but then I'm in good health, have hobbies I thoroughly enjoy, and a batch of good friends. If any of those changed, it would be a different story
- The 3 small park for dogs needs to be bigger
- Better accessibility to the beach for the handicap residents
- Bigger aerobics rooms
- Dedicated space for exercise
- Bike/walking lanes on the island, particularly West Dolphin Drive
- Pedestrian crosswalks
- More concerts
- Spend the taxpayer's money wisely!
- Upgrade fitness center and longer hours
- New Facilities!!!!
- Town pool
- Pool
- Swim instruction for youth
- Communication
- I would say don't add any more items to the list of frivolous items already spending tax dollars
- Any chance the west end of the island will ever get a crossover walk to the beach?
- Using the north end of the numbered streets as park areas and access. Areas to the ICWW as mentioned in the previous text block response
- More public parking and off-season events
- Portable John's at beach entry points
- Senior activities such as softball should be for seniors and not allow younger participants
- Lifeguards
- A disc golf course
- Dog park
- More and updated bathroom facility
- Is there a kayak launch on the Intercoastal Waterway side of the island?
- Bathrooms for concerts in the park can stand some improvement
- Lap swimming pool
- Public pool
- I think you are doing a good job; wish we had fishing tournaments inshore for different age groups
- Community swimming pool
- Take better care of kayak launch on 31<sup>st</sup>
- More fishing piers and parking at them
- Swimming complex
- Add more fishing access places in canal and waterway
- A facility for kids we have so many things for seniors and not a lot for kids minus summer. Also, more programs after 5:00 working people can't do afternoon. I feel like everything is geared to older residents and not the young family raising kids
- Public swimming pool
- Larger fitness center
- Remote control aircraft flying area
- We need to have a celebration of some sort when the bridge opens again
- Bill Smith Park needs improvements
- Great job; no complaints!!!!

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- More pet friendly amenities
- Bike/hiking/walking trails
- We need a larger rec center
- How to classes on sewing, quilting and other interests other than just beach related activities
- Get info out
- Make website easier to surf
- More things to do when the sun goes down
- Move the farmers markets/craft shows to the park with trees
- Would love for OKI to have a public swimming pool for year-round use: free swim time, aquatic exercise, team sports, swimming lessons, lifeguard training
- Longer hours and more access to fitness facilities
- Improvement to and enlarging dog parks specifically Templeton Dog Park
- I think the Town's Parks & Recreation Dept does a very good job offering a wide variety of activities for the size of the town. There is always something going on and always some kind of class or group to meet with if you want to
- Safe bike paths/greenways
- Little League Baseball
- More available scheduling of activities (including farmers market)
- Better oceanfront park with amenities; food, showers, etc.
- A community pool
- More sidewalks for walking safely
- Better communication about programs and facilities on your town webpage for out of town guests
- Pool
- A swimming pool. Improve existing rec facility and fitness center
- Swimming pool
- Parking
- Reopen the drive thru at Veteran's Park
- Cleanup what is here before considering adding to
- Porta potties at all beach access
- Bike paths
- Allow horseback riding on the beach during the off season
- New and more variety of cardio equipment at Rec Center
- Bike paths
- A swimming pool
- Better entrances to the beach and more parking
- BATHROOMS readily available at the beach!
- More yoga classes. Room is too crowded. Larger workout/gym area
- Some of the existing facilities require improved maintenance. An example is the bike paths on Beach Dr are typically covered in sand and gravel
- Don't raise taxes or make residents pay more. We pay enough. Collect some money from the visitors if you need more
- 24/7 access to gym. Add more facilities. Aim for a little big younger generation
- Extend the Mardi Gras Parade to McGlamery next year. The initial intention of the Mardi Gras Festival was to bring business to all Oak Island's businesses during the off season. The businesses on the Yaupon End were left out
- I would like to see more exercise/group workout opportunities on weekends for part-timers. Overall, I think you do a great job and I look forward to the day I can enjoy your department full time!
- It would be lovely to have more boardwalks across the beach accesses. Another public restroom or two (and better ways of knowing where public restrooms are) would be useful. Porta-potties would be ok, though the facility around 49th is nice

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Restrooms at The Point
- More events that are on the beach
- Skate park needs to be improved and open every afternoon on the weekdays
- Children's play park at Veterans Park
- More public access points for fishing
- Extend hours
- Be open Sunday, improve equipment at rec center, offer more weight/cardio classes, more afternoon classes
- I think the parks and recreation department is doing a great job! I feel the improvements being made to Middleton Park are excellent! I'm not sure if this falls under Parks and Recreation, but I would like to see the public beach accesses improved, i.e. clear parking spots, graded surface, rinsing stations, boardwalks over the dunes at the accesses, and overall beautification. If these types of improvements do not fall under Parks and Rec, could you please forward these suggestions to the appropriate dept? Thank you for all that you do to make Oak Island a great place to live!!
- Make information about activities easier to find, not only schedules, but points of contacts, etc. Upgrade park grounds behind City Hall
- Make the splash pad a doggie water park
- More sidewalks in the Yaupon area on the beach side. It crosses the street and stops
- Add disc golf to the Park 3 golf course. Would increase use of course. Or add disc golf course at park past wildlife boat ramp
- Dog park with grass instead of dirt
- Pool
- We would live a preschool program on the island
- Need crosswalks! Trying to access beach walkovers is dangerous- even if don't have stop signs, at least have painted crosswalks, warning signage & perhaps blinking lights- lower speed limits on Oak Island Drive if needed in order to install crosswalks- other towns & cities have crosswalks - For OKI to be a walkable/bikeable community it must make it safe to do
- Swimming pool
- Repair or replace 9<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> walkovers
- Rec center open Sunday and holidays
- Become more organized as and improve publicity
- Upgrade the stage and bathrooms at Middleton Park. Sell some of the extra parks that are used infrequently
- Game room
- The facility really needs to be larger. The population has grown but that facility has not, and it gets really crowded in classes and in the weight room
- A public pool area with sand volleyball would be amazing!
- Handicapped accesses that are maintained. Also, more!
- 24-hour fitness or exercise classes after 6
- Better quality of entertainment at concerts
- Keep up the great work!
- Communicate
- Repair and expand the OKI playground
- Summer children's programs
- Think about the percentages of the year-round population's ages. Are there more seniors? More children? More families? Then, plan accordingly offering more programs for largest age groups and less for the smaller groups. Are there enough year-round children to warrant a splash park, for instance?
- A bigger gym
- A walkover on the west end of the island

## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Maintain and provide safe access at existing beach approaches especially at handicap designated accesses
- For the summer concert series...the stage needs to NOT face the water...the wind/breeze distorts the sound, band is "playing into the wind". Add food vendors at the cabana area (hot dog carts, etc.) or Food trucks in that area for beach goers
- A new gym
- Control bicycles and golf carts on Oak Island Drive
- Showers/restrooms at beach accesses
- Trash cans at the beach areas
- Provide nice portable restrooms every so often in between beach areas
- Communication is acceptable
- SWIMMING POOL!!!!!!
- Additional kayak launches along Davis Canal
- Walking program
- Boat launch needs to be better maintained
- More disc golf areas. Dutchman Creek or expand Bill Smith Park
- Update the activity facility-senior center
- Provide better access to anything offered
- Keep gym clean



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## APPENDIX—P

### ***RESPONSES TO ANY ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS/ENHANCEMENTS (Q25)***

- An Olympic size swimming pool! Not just a kiddie water park!
- Walking trail
- Tolls or fees for vacationers/visitors before accessing bridges to the island in consideration for parking and upkeep of services and facilities
- Some afternoon activities and classes not all in the morning hours
- The cabana on Beach Drive is looking sad. It could use some sprucing up. And again, more assessable information to programs and activities
- None come to mind currently
- OK for now
- Better communication of programs
- Would love to have a pool, or a section of beach with a lifeguard, or a park/pier under the new bridge. Would love to have more adult or family educational programs/special events
- Encourage more seamless engagement with non-residents in supporting environmental and beach/sustainability awareness and opportunities to serve/volunteer during the time they are here
- More care of Bill Smith Park; maintenance is poor
- Better maintenance of the Par 3
- Disc golf group would be great. Also, a monthly “jam session” for amateur musicians for rock and country music would be great!
- More teen programs
- More Pilates classes
- Tween and teen programs
- Better publication/communication of what is available
- More public restroom facilities that will benefit all
- Campfire on the beach
- Public pool
- We need a camp site for RV's and campers. More revenue for city!
- Please do more for handicap people. We need more access and more parking
- Informing all owners of what is happening so full-time and part-time know
- Adult and teen sports leagues, fishing events, hours of operation of facilities not so restrictive
- Improvements to playground
- Please consider having the Town of Oak Island staff actively feed into a new website or iPhone app or the like the sightings of Nature on OKI. For example, if Dolphins are offshore let folks know, or if the pelicans are in masses chasing fish let folks know they are running, or if a meteor shower is predicted, put it on the site if the weather and sky look promising. I suggest that the new site be named OKI Now. All too often folks even folk who live here full time are not aware of the special natural occurrences that happen on our island. If for example, we have Osprey nesting at Bill Smith it would go into the App. I am surprised to find folk that have moved down here permanently and been here for months that don't know about the three crossovers, or accesses to the Davis Canal from the northside. Bald Eagles, fiddler crabs, even the occasional Manatee would be fodder for OKI Now
- Maintain current facilities
- The dumpsters at Middleton Park are in the perfect location. Please do not move them. But please do something to make it more aesthetically pleasing
- Mostly it's fine. I see the need for better communication

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Maintain what we currently have. Example: 55<sup>th</sup> Street boat dock
- More events that are not arts and crafts for sale
- Leave the Yaupon pier open to residents/property owners. I like to walk the pier but not fish. Charge for those fishing but not for just walking on the pier
- Croquet courts, tennis courts, dance and sailing classes
- Bike trails
- Thank you for what you do to make Oak Island a safe and great place
- Place sail covers over playground equipment in kid park next to police station and town hall in oak island to help with heat in summer
- Less mosquitoes
- Greenway on Fish Factory Road
- Facilities look great-would join fitness center at a lower fee
- Keep doing what you are doing but perhaps add one or two new events every so often
- A larger rec center would be nice
- More classes and events in the evening
- Tennis lessons for a reasonable fee for seniors
- Water fountain at Pickleball/tennis courts
- Handicapped accessibility
- A year-round indoor swimming pool 😊
- Keep up the gym and golf course
- Don't' put in metered parking. Raise the bed rate tax instead
- I feel the facilities are adequate; but there are few outdoor festivals. Most of the activity currently is sports related & I think people would enjoy outdoor concerts & food truck rodeos in the park!
- Have a place to get rid of trash on island!
- Additional facilities or events for teenagers
- Wish you would preserve the trees. Too many are being cut down and cookie cutter houses being built. Losing the cottage, home feeling
- Pool
- Maintain dog park and Dutchman Creek Parks and marina
- Improve the dock at May Moore Park, and if possible, set up a kayak/canoe launch thee for nearby
- Consistency
- Send out a local newsletter through the mail to town residents
- More porta johns at beach accesses
- Plan for lifestyle activities for active senior adults - those that golf, surf, paddle board, pickle ball, tennis, run .... - focus on this demographic
- We do not like how the beach is now
- More beach access
- One child from each family gets free admission to one summer camp
- Fitness center
- Improve the dog park on Oak Island. The one on Fish Factory Rd is great but my dog hates riding so it would be great to be able to walk to a park on the Island that was similar in quality
- As stated previously the boat ramps need serious improvement & marked boat trailer parking signs & a safe place other than the boat ramps needs to be added for kayak launching/kayaking
- Improve both boat launch ramps
- Beach renourishment
- More accessible beach access

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Quality
- During summer concerts and events, supply a few porta johns like you used to do
- Focus on different age groups
- Boardwalk, amphitheater, staging area like Southport for bands/groups
- More variety of afternoon and night classes for those who work
- Recruit volunteers to always be present and knowledgeable at the recreation facility at the front door
- 24-hour fitness-more Silver Sneakers classes
- Bike path next to the sidewalk would be wonderful. Several safe crosswalks across Oak Island Drive
- Movies in the park and keep concerts too; food trucks at concerts and movies. Keep the old timey feel of the island that makes it unique
- I appreciate what you do
- Schedule. It would enhance our experience if there were child friendly cmaps offered at the time the child can go
- Our parks and recreation dept is wonderful-I think they do a terrific job
- Beach music festival
- I love the Par 3 course; improvements to it would be great
- Would like boat ramps
- I appreciate the work that the personnel at the rec center does. However, a larger building, more children playground equipment, even more activities that are new, and more personnel would enhance citizens' use and enjoyment of the center
- Better communication of what's going on in the community. Advance notice of available programs so we can better plan to attend and join in. Use social media more. Don't rely on newspaper. Many don't subscribe
- Dredging boat ramp at 55<sup>th</sup> Street
- Light pole over 55th boat ramp is an ELECTROCUTION DANGER for sailboats, fishing boats with outriggers, etc. PLEASE ROTATE LIGHT ON POLE 45 DEGREES so it does not jut out over the boat ramp!
- Repair parking lot at the Point. We were sad that water access was removed at Veteran's Park. We like most other improvements we've noticed
- Hand & Foot, Hand, Knee & Foot card games. Mahjong, line dancing and Pilates
- More evening activities
- The OKI Rec Ctr staff is superb, helpful, courteous, and friendly and above the top in service to all the residents that participate. Appreciate all the dedication! Great JOB
- Softball league
- Just a NEW Rec Center
- More activities for today's teens. Skateboarding was big in the 1990s
- The Town provides way more recreation than my hometown. We already have natural recreation (ocean, estuaries). Why add more?
- Open the skate park
- There needs to be more activities geared towards teens. The recreation center needs to be updated or rebuilt
- We could put up rip tide warning flags and have a lifeguard for 4 hours a day at at least one section of beach
- New fitness center and YES, I would support a tax increase for this!
- Maybe a fountain in the pond next to Vanessa Drive across from Wyncie Wynd on the Par 3
- More dog parks



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

- Improve maintenance of existing facilities
- Ensure adequate parking for residents at the beach
- I look on St. James site to get the latest local happenings in the area, including Southport's and larger Brunswick Co events. Maybe a website local/regional calendar would be helpful?
- Pool
- Bike lanes
- The gym being open on Sunday
- Maybe bingo or cards for senior
- Keeping applying for grants to provide great opportunities for kids of all ages
- Sunshade at playground
- Quality of the boat ramps needs improvement
- Fitness/community center as proposed in the past
- Permanent seating at Middleton Park
- We love our Island and appreciate all you do. Just need to make immediate family to be able to enjoy services also
- The city does a great job with most everything. The walkway on SE 20th St. is badly in need of repairs...seemed almost dangerous the last time we were there. Not sure about other walkways. So, for us, street endings & walkways need attention.... otherwise OI does a fine job.
- Preventative maintenance
- "Additional improvements/enhancements" would be accomplished by continuing to maintain regular upkeep and maintenance of existing facilities, such as parking areas, public restrooms, etc. 😊
- Seems like focus is too much on visiting kids-this is meaningless for us
- Fishing Pier at ICC/NE 52nd need maintenance, at least the deck boards replaced ASAP on the pier, as well as around the edging on the waterway. I have personally seen adults and children almost trip/fall in the water from unsecured or rotted boards
- There must be a restriction on beach fishing to specific areas. suggestion around piers. I feel unrestricted access to beach around swimmers. is like chumming for sharks where we swim and inviting problems
- Patrols to catch thieves who steal crab pots and contents. I have given up putting out pots. The annual license, buoy, weighted line, and bait aren't cheap. Even padlocks don't stop them! It is heartbreaking
- More town boat rentals of all types; at reduced prices, and only for town residents
- New playground equipment at Middleton Park
- Appreciate Rec ctr help in cleaning up 52nd St. Nature ctr area. Needs regular maintenance to control vines & overgrowth. Beautification Club nicely maintains the adjacent Butterfly Garden
- Well, I put a pool in because they didn't have one; so I really don't need them to add one anymore LoL
- Update some of the parks. For example, there are numerous boards loose along the walkways at the Nature Park. This is not at all conducive to disabled persons, let alone generally safe for people to walk on
- More pickleball courts with lights...thank you, thank you...for all that you do. I do love pickleball as you can tell....
- **PICKLEBALL LIGHTS TO EXTEND PLAY DURING COOLER HOURS**
- At present, it appears the town is doing a fine job with Parks and Rec
- More parking for Pickleball courts



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Help with childcare to families with children that need help
- More fishing seminars
- The lights at the tennis and pickleball courts need to be fixed. I would like to play in the evening when it is too hot during the day
- Concentrate on our residents
- Larger fitness center
- Just need to know more about them, we are seasonal residents, and would like to know more about the above
- Lights at the Pickleball courts
- More parking for Pickleball courts
- I think the water park is a great idea and once again most of the users will not live here but they do spend money here
- Additional parking near the town building, tennis and P B courts
- Lights for Pickleball courts
- Lighted Pickleball courts
- Water for the dogs at Smith Park on Fish Factory and really need bike paths
- Parks and Recreation Program is important Town asset
- More designated parking
- Better management of the Par 3 golf course
- Keep the Par 3 in good playing condition
- Keep the walking and biking trails in good condition
- Need to better let people know of what is happening from month to month
- More golf events. Not necessarily tournaments but to include new as well as seasoned golfers
- Keep the Par 3 golf course in good shape
- More parking and a walkway at the west end
- Thank you for providing shower and foot faucets and port johns at the beach entrances
- Complete fishing pier; add more bathrooms near beach access areas
- The bathrooms at the Beach Cabana need repair
- Updated, expanded dog park on the island
- MORE BEACH SAND
- Less restrictions... for example... the pier at the end of Oak Island Dr. closes so early and only has three parking places
- Divided (private) shower areas in the gym would be nice
- Extended hours on Saturday for exercise rooms. Yoga on Saturday perhaps
- After my divorce, I was a single mother of two young boys. I would have loved it if there had been a program that would have allowed me and my sons to learn to fish, for example. I think it would be nice if there were more programs for teens too. I am aware of programs for senior and I encourage the department to continue offering those
- Update facilities
- ICW kayak map for self-tours
- Change farmers market from Monday to Saturday
- Biking paths
- Safe Oak Island Drive crossings for tourists
- More events for the Par 3 in order to get more people interested in utilizing the course
- Do a better job enforcing rules, as posted, in the weight and fitness rooms. Mainly, wipe down equipment after use
- As mentioned with the dog park. Simple updates to the rec center would be great too. Operating the fitness center 24/7 would be great. Utilizing a key fob system that many people would pay extra for

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- No paid parking
- More exercise classes
- Handicap accessible walkways
- Add more flowers in the parks to add some color to our beautiful town
- As a person with some physical limitations, I would like to see an area designated to be more accessible to people with disabilities
- Yoga studio
- More beautification of public access sites
- Music amphitheater
- Outdoor workout stations
- A public swimming pool
- More picnic tables and drinking water available
- Bring in more beach music concerts
- OKI is great for older ones to enjoy area...beach...great local food...concerts...exercise...love the water park for kids and grandkids and amphitheater will be enjoy by us...paid parking for people who use beaches...but stickers for locals under 15.00 annually for free parking anywhere available...thanks for listening!!!
- Swings to sit on
- Please fix the 30<sup>th</sup> Street dock/walkway... it's in bad shape and needs some repairs
- Love all the parks
- A walking track with mileage
- Bathrooms
- Bathrooms and foot washing stations
- Consider building a new workout facility with indoor pool
- A bigger facility to accommodate the increases of interest in the classes and gym
- Indoor lap pool
- More picnic tables
- More kayak ramps like the one behind the rec center
- Add more activities during weekdays, make activities appropriate for all ages (not just seniors). PLEASE GOD, PLEASE!! WE NEED A POOL!
- More covered areas; parking areas
- Maybe a boardwalk along the oceanfront area at Middleton Park? More kayak launches
- Add more places to sit
- Rental items for revenue
- Expand parking at the Point, if paid parking is ever implemented I think people will expect paved lots with marked spaces with bath houses and rest rooms, not port-a-johns
- Skate park open and more crosswalks
- Inexpensive summer camps for teens and elementary age
- There are too many pedestrians and too many people that want to ride bicycles that make it dangerous for all involved. Additional sidewalks and bike lanes need to be added
- The town needs to recognize the increasing number of retired, tax paying, residents. Updates to building and facilities are important. Too often the town focuses on tourist and ignores the other tax base of retired residents. Give US more attention when it comes to funding
- Be able to use the fishing docks at street ends without being yelled at by adjoining property owners saying it's their land! Build more fishing docks and clean up street ends to access them
- More beach access points for people with limited mobility



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Get the debris and trash collected from the beach. Residents can only do so much, when we walk, we take a trash bag and pick up trash. There needs to be better use of public works staff and beach preservation
- I am appreciative of our parks and rec team; it is probably the best of any place I've lived. I'd like to see a way for us to develop the turtle program back to a point that we have a safe way to observe the nests hatch and educate people
- Have fun sports activities for visitors and residents to attend during the week. Such as a 1-3-day evening tennis, volleyball, or pickle ball tournament
- I've said it already. Don't expect anything to change until we get people on council who care about the residents who pay all the bills nine months out of the year. Tourists only help with bills three months of the year!! And the builders and rental houses are taking in the money off our backs!!
- Just the overall appearance of the parks. The upkeep seems very low priority and a shame since such great Area. They really look rundown and very outdated
- In addition to improving Oak Island Drive sidewalks to multipurpose trails the portion of Middleton bridge over Davis Canal desperately needs lights - it is extremely dangerous to walk or bike across at night
- I think that something is missing on the Island i.e. a unique public sculpture giving an unique image to the Town. A public Sculpture that visitors will stop by to take pictures with themselves. Many towns and cities have such unique sculptures
- Better parking at The Point for sunset viewing!
- Water slide. Splash pad is an improvement, but you downgraded it and it will not be large enough or interesting enough for most kids. Why not seek a successful private enterprise to invest in water slide here, i.e. Magic Mountain in HB? They have one of the best safety records in the SE
- Movies on Friday instead of Thursday
- More sidewalks/bike lanes to connect parks
- Better communication and advertising for all the services provided by the rec dept. better maintained golf course
- Hope swings will be added to the beautiful Veterans Park soon. So nice and many now enjoy it. Also, a children's play area would be nice while adults' fish
- Add sidewalks t Yacht Drive to make more walk/run/bike friendly
- Make a viable weekend
- I would like to see the parks have small trash bag holders available. We all like to pick up trash/litter when we see it. My hometown (Cramerton, NC) just made small boxes on posts for its parks and waterway docks. Citizens can keep it filled with small grocery bags
- Free beer would be GREAT at all the parks
- Buy up a significant block of mobile homes east of 40th and build an RV center. Island investors welcomed to buy slips that rent just like a beach house for short terms only
- Please communicate better
- It appears to me that "upkeep" is not figured into a lot of their projects. after a few years, what started off looking nice, becomes an eye sore
- Keep beaches clean and easily accessible
- Make sure the boat ramps on our island are maintained properly
- Your addition of the pickle ball courts has served a lot of people. I trust that both pickle ball and tennis courts can soon be restored to their former glory

# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Bocce Ball play area
- More parking at locations
- Larger exercise facilities
- Beginner Tai Chi classes
- Parking for the farmers market
- Need toilet facilities at all park areas; can be simple as port-a-lets
- More awareness of community activities by flyers/banners, etc.
- Thank you for allowing the residents voices to be heard
- Rebuild crossover bridges!!!
- Tennis and Pickleball courts
- More public fishing n ICW and Davis Canal
- Lights on Pickleball
- Indoor pool
- More handicapped spots at the beach accesses
- Bike lanes
- Important to keep providing variety and things after work for those of us that aren't retired yet!
- Would like more info about the area at parks such as birds fish foliage around that park, informative info more education makes better decisions
- Need a little bit better upkeep of existing parks
- Keep handicap entrances to beaches sand free for my wheelchair access and add deck platforms at the end onto the beach for keeping chair out of sand
- Communicate and share all the great things the P&R department is doing for the citizens and part time residents of OKI... would like to see more bike lanes, golf clinics and kayak outings... thanks!
- Just keep putting the information in front of people
- NO parking fees
- Provide pedestrian crosswalks to Oak Island Drive and improve bike safety
- Facilities and parks are great!
- Classes/events after 5 pm for those who still work
- More music festivals
- Update the dog park one OKI. The 1 at Bill Smith park is nice but far away for residents living on Island
- To make sure they can be maintained. Don't overextend
- Walkways across Davis canal are dangerous. Please repair. Take the stop signs down on yacht drive. Add a bike lane on Yacht Drive and please put lines back on the road it is dangerous. Add cross walks. No more new parks budget to keep up the ones we have. Repair and update playground
- Our household is happy with the programs
- Additional parking spaces at the Rec Center
- A dog park on the island closer to the west end or around Middleton would be nice
- More of a Town Center that incorporates dining, shopping and events (music, etc.) A place free of traffic that allows people to gather
- Doing a great job!



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- No paid parking
- More senior programs
- A much better SKATE PARK with a bowl that is free and open to the public 24/7
- I suggest making a flyer or front and back bookmark listing all these park locations. I did not know this many were associated with the Parks and Rec Center until I completed this survey. That is awesome but I did not know of many of them!
- Create a safe bike loop lane that goes over both bridges. Combined with great beach access. This could bring in races if done correctly. Think triathlons! These are usually done in off season when things are beginning to get and/or are still warm
- Include mainlanders in advertising & promotion of all events in time for us to participate. Now we learn about events after the fact
- \$500 dog waste citations; maximum littering penalties
- I hope to be able to take advantage of services provided in the future. Overall, considering I am a new resident, I think you do a very good job. I have been coming to Oak Island since 1960
- Provide more pedestrian crosswalks and provide sidewalks on both sides of the main street
- Better weight training and cardio area
- We love to shop so any kind of shows like the artisan's festival we really enjoy so maybe more of those. My husband recommended beach mile markers for those of us who are paying attention to how far we walk. This may be off topic, but we notice a lot of money goes into beach refurbishment. My husband thinks we need a seawall which would solve the problem better. Maybe a boardwalk running along the top of a seawall. People probably don't like the idea of a seawall because of how it looks, but why pour money into constantly building up the beach when one storm could wash it away. We find this frustrating as taxpayers. Thank you for sending the survey
- Better hours for youth summer camp. to many beach music bands, need more variety music. at beach access need more bathroom and rise/shower. need way more beach (pump in sand from off coast). Get rid of the rocks. play area at Middleton Park for youth. more after hour events at skatepark. need a more real look alike Santa
- Maintain walkways on 20<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>
- ADA compliance
- Adequate notification of upcoming events to plan for attendance
- Excited about the splash pad and improvements on park area for concerts. My guest have children that will use these areas
- Upgrade restrooms
- Exercise facility to 24 hours
- More recycling bins
- Splash pad is a good start. Weekly movies/bingo or similar event to piggyback onto the Friday music
- Overall doing a great job. Thank you
- More places to go fishing. I've noticed some areas that docks, or pier don't allow fishing
- Add park locations to area maps so newcomers know what is here
- Cut the smaller programs with little to no interest (i.e.: board games at 1:30pm) and focus on repair and promotion of existing facilities
- Kayak launch at Veteran's Park
- More reserved resident parking spaces at beach accesses
- Group exercise increase the available hours for the fitness center
- Pool



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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Keep them clean and safe
- Coffee once a week to meet and greet new people
- Dog friendly park. More activities for senior adults
- Remove skateboard park
- Bring beach volleyball court back to the pier please1 and maintain it!!
- Trees at Heron Lookout for some shade-put another picnic table
- Additional local parking at the beach
- Keep up the good work! Thanks for what you do for our community
- Please complete the bandstand in time for the 2019 concert series
- More parking spaces for town residents with stickers, police enforcement of beach ordinances, such as trash and glass. Not paid parking. Cost outweighs profit
- Be sensitive to park lighting; Oak Island has some very bright lights at City Hall that light up the Westend of the beach. Poles may be too tall or not hooded properly. We don't need any additional light pollution, please
- Better kayak access to Davis Canal on west end
- Dog park on Fish Factory Road needs water spicket, fences fixed and more dirt, so park doesn't flood. Thanks
- It is my understanding you are already in the process of building a new band shell music venue
- A campground is needed!
- More beach music events in the park. Country artists
- Boat ramps and town docks at end of street on intercoastal
- More kayak launches like the one near the rec center
- Good grade of pool tables
- More access to intracoastal waterway too many houses restricting access
- Playground is so old. Children 9+ need a better play area
- For some reason the skate park is locked. I think things to do for teens/young adults are not enough
- Oak Island has one enormous park....it is the beach. The beach is why people move here. It should be maintained through increased taxes, bonds, and fees for use
- Getting the word out about all the programs
- More senior citizen activity
- More adult activities. we don't have kids and enjoy things that don't include kids sometimes
- Restrooms along the beach front
- A couple of indoor racquetball courts would be nice!
- Lower speed limits to 35 mph on Oak Island Drive
- Better signage at parks
- Add public pool
- Beach access for wheelchair-bound residents, homeowners, that disabled or elderly spouses or caregivers can easily navigate for access for their loved ones
- At times do wonder if we need to evaluate where we have or the need for more public restrooms
- More handicapped accessible outside areas
- Good sound system to go with new stage at Middleton Park
- More designated golf cart parking @ beach access
- Need wider bike lanes on East and West Beach Drive



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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Nothing should be built or added which will require maintenance unless a maintenance schedule is created, proper maintenance funding is identified, and budgeting is secured
- Why can't the turtle nest locations be posted where all residents have access to the information?
- More nature focused events that focus on the unique environment locally. Better advertise
- Public fishing piers need maintenance/improvements
- Look at improvements in boat ramps, more public crabbing/fishing spots, kayak usage, off road bike trails. More active experiences
- Better general maintenance
- I liked hearing that a splash pad is being put in. I hope it's going to be for smaller children, and not for teenagers or dogs. I feel the town does a good job at caring for the spaces available to residents/tourists
- I'm in favor of any enhancements that DO NOT RAID MY TAXES.... Find ways to charge tourists!!!!
- Enlarge Rec Center
- Add a water park
- Continue to add additional public access locations to the canals and intercoastal waterway
- Awareness. I didn't know about all the parks on the list in this survey
- Beach cleaning - provide better signs at the beach telling people to PICK UP LITTER WHETHER IT'S THEIRS OR SOMEONE ELSE'S!!! (Litter doesn't magically disappear, and way too often it ends up in the ocean.)
- More and better parking at The Point
- OKI needs to take advantage and provide more access to the natural resources for elderly and handicapped people. The demographics are changing to an older population. Look at what Carolina Beach has accomplished with their boardwalk. Easy access. Hard, walkable, wheelchair and walker access down to the hard sand. People with limited abilities can actually "put their toes in the water and sand". I take my mother there so she can get close to the water. It was not always like that. We've vacationed at Carolina/Kure since the 60's. They saw the need
- The beach revitalization program is a disgrace. The beach is the towns number one tourist attraction and yet there are the infamous rock piles all over, the filling in with DIRT as opposed to sand. Lack of sand scraper...no on beach waste baskets... The public boat launch on 57 is in dire need to dredging and year after year nothing is done
- Preschool programs
- Additional kayak launches and bicycle lanes
- Rec center open on weekends and longer hours
- It seems the Rec Center is well maxed out. Of the town continues its explosive growth, its inadequacies will become more obvious
- My number one gripe is the tacky Christmas decorations at the intersection coming over the new bridge. Red faded bows are still hanging off the bike and beautification sign. The tire snowman and tree were not a good representation of our island. I believe the town should invest and approve of all decorating of the town property
- Additional parking places at both spots on The Point
- Bike and walking lanes on Yacht Drive
- Cleaner/newer bathrooms



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Access to gym equipment 24/7
- More swim activities
- Better communication
- Sell the golf course. Sell the pier complex. Pay the sewer bill. Protect the beach
- If you're going to charge to park a vehicle on Oak Island, please keep it reasonable. I like Oak Island but if parking becomes too expensive or too much of a hassle, I will drive to Ocean Isle instead
- Additional portable John's at beach access points
- Be consistent in charging non-residents higher fees. Monitor sign in
- Lifeguards
- The Summer Concert Series is a popular event, and a fun place to spend the evening. However, the stage used for presentation of the acts needs improvement
- Dog park good size with water and shade access
- More bathroom facilities
- Better access to the Intracoastal waterway for kayakers
- I love Veteran's Park; you have done a great job... how can I buy bricks?
- Skate park open all year and more hours
- Walking trails with maps so you could park at a park or rec center and have a designated walking area with distance maps and not have to watch out for the traffic on Oak Island Dr. Even with the sidewalk, there is too much traffic to dodge coming from the side streets
- Parks and beach cleanup events to get people involved in respecting our natural resources
- Spray for mosquitos in the dog park. So many trees and it's all shaded and damp
- It would be nice to offer exercise programs at the Recreation Center that would be open to children, specifically Yoga
- Pet fountains along major walkways/scenic walkways
- The dog park on E. Oak Island Drive needs constant flea control
- Maybe fix up the fishing docks
- Dog park fencing/gate repair on Oak Island Drive. Repair/fix retaining wall at NC 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Park
- Add another dog park on West end if possible
- Keep maintaining the bike paths. Sometimes the ones on the beach become covered with sand and debris
- Increased space and equipment for fitness center
- Lifeguards at major parking areas
- Lifeguards
- Swimming pool
- More beach activities
- Pave the road coming out of the Rec Center
- Fix end of road on West end, King Lynn's
- Larger Rec Center and fitness center
- Build an indoor swimming pool
- Water aerobics classes, lap swimming, competitive swimming, general cooling off without having to go to the beach



## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- If paid parking passes in the future, I believe that OKI PR programs, events, activities will not grow. People on & off OKI will not pay to park to attend the activities or to play
- I would like to see the accessibility for the disabled to be better at the beach. I think this area is lacking in that department
- Clean up Frisbee golf course ASAP
- Expand/create more bike lanes. They are non-existent on most of the island
- Community pool
- Public indoor and outdoor pools. Or outdoor pool with bubble in winter. One for recreational swimming and one for lap swimming. Fees to cover cost
- More ideas for kids
- I think Oak Island does a great job of public facilities, especially what I think of as pocket parks. I would love to have a nice map of the island. Perhaps an artist drawn map with all the facilities on it that could be sold at a reasonable cost? Something that would be attractive and useful would be great
- Handicap access
- Maybe widen sidewalks for bikes and walkers
- Showers at beach access and crosswalks at beach access areas as well as the 9th and 20th SE street across Oak Island Drive and a sidewalk on the north side of Oak Island drive with a designated bike lane
- OKI has been and should always be the retirement resort area... let's keep it that way and STOP trying to make it look like Ocean Isle with the huge stores and houses
- More senior yoga classes-too crowded
- Disc golf course at Bill Smith Park gets high use but maintenance is non-existent
- Keep South Harbour Par 3 open and maintained. Require business owners to maintain properties better on E. Oak Island Drive. Install some curbing and landscaping on E. Oak Island Drive
- Additional wildlife or walking trails
- Public beach crossovers are in disrepair- nails popped up, missing boards, shaking bridges, - they are a great & widely used asset but need attention
- Swings at Veterans Park and possible a playground would be nice
- I would personally like to see more events that can appeal to all ages. Many events target children or retirees/ senior adults. There are few events that appeal to younger adults
- Dance classes
- Larger facility
- Again, just more programs and classes for kids, teens and those not retired yet
- Wish the summer concerts start at 7:00 instead of 6:30
- More parking at The Point
- Repair the water spigot at the dog park on NE 41-42 streets although I haven't been there in several weeks so this may have already been done
- Dog parks are dusty and dirty and not kept up year-round and I mean in the summer too
- Programs for young children (under the age of 5). Hiking/walking paths Designated bike paths
- Additional of benches and public restrooms
- Basically, the whole town seems to care less about its permanent residents. As it does so, OI will lose the small town feel and the residents who enjoy that. Pleasing owners of beach rental properties will just make Oak Island another beach resort area
- 24-hour gym access



## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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- Mats instead of sand or mulch under playground equipment
- More lunch tables at parks. Bathroom/rinse off station at beach. New larger gym
- Better rec center
- Fix the walkway over 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Dangerous for kids and dogs!
- Fishing lessons, bike rentals, sports events
- Maybe more recycle bins
- More food trucks/beverages available at summer concerts
- Keep all parks clean
- Flip Flop cubbies/trees at beach access points
- More places to sit at the parks
- More teen events. A lot seem to aim for the young or old. We would love more disc golf and volleyball as well
- Not much you could improve on
- Advertise more to allow the residents to know of upcoming events
- More and larger parks off the island

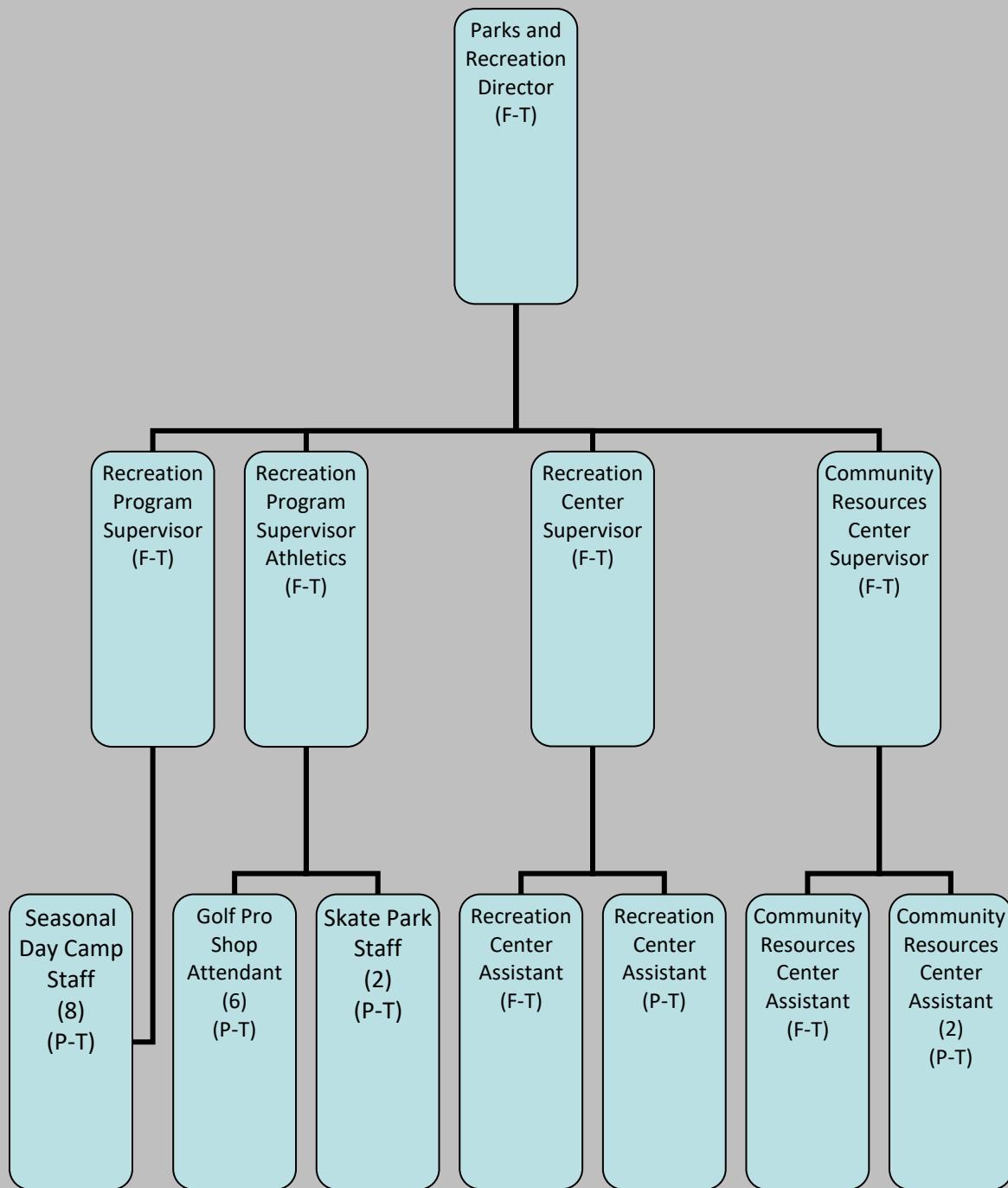


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# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## APPENDIX—Q

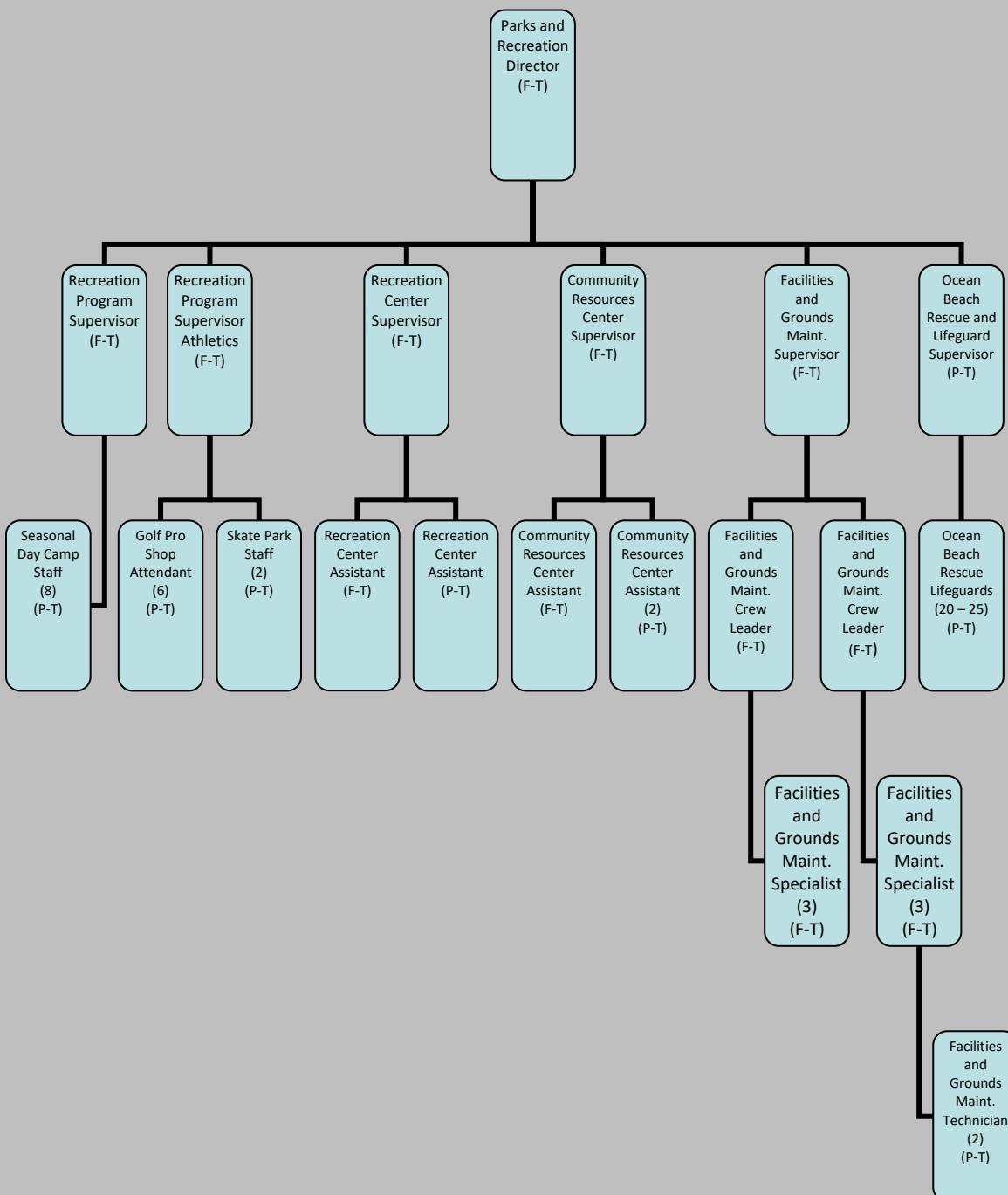
**CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**  
**2019 – 2020 FISCAL YEAR**  
**TOWN OF OAK ISLAND**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## APPENDIX—R

**PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART  
EFFECTIVE BY END OF 2024 – 2025 FISCAL YEAR  
TOWN OF OAK ISLAND  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**



# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

## APPENDIX—S

### **PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART EFFECTIVE BEYOND 2024 – 2025 FISCAL YEAR TOWN OF OAK ISLAND PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

