

# TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

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On April 2, 2014 the Planning Commission held a public workshop to solicit input from residents to be presented to Town-engaged consultants in designing a revised concept plan for the Coligny area. The concept plan will be based on the following elements approved by Town Council: destination park and playground, surface parking, children's museum, streetscape improvements, roadway and intersection improvements, and pedestrian improvements. Following the workshop, public comments were reviewed and used to identify common themes. These are the summary recommendations of what was heard:

## SURFACE & OTHER PARKING and PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE IMPROVEMENTS

- Maximize, improve and increase parking capacity.
- Consider surface/satellite/structured parking (and transport options) in a way that maximizes the use of available land (e.g. structured parking leaves more ground to devote to other uses).
- Encourage walking and biking.
- Use pedestrian and bicycle friendly design techniques.
- Consider seasonal fluctuation.
- Consider parking in relationship to connectivity and circulation of larger Coligny area.

## STREETScape ELEMENTS & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING ROADWAY AND INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

- Create a beach village character with a Lowcountry look and feel (maintaining lower structure heights and maintaining a similar amount of development i.e. not dramatically increasing the amount of retail/hotel/resort uses).
- Plan for a larger Coligny area, not just Town properties, considering pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular circulation and connectivity throughout the Coligny district.

- Provide alternate routes to Coligny Circle or more ways to ingress and egress the area.
- Create a sense of arrival to the Coligny district. Create a “gateway” effect with increased plantings.
- Open and preserve views to the beach.
- Focus on pedestrian safety (i.e. traffic calming/better way-finding signage/more defined crosswalks/better defined connections between parking, retail and beach).
- Consider potential for elevated pedestrian crossings. (This may conflict with opening views.)
- Evaluate the benefit of reconfiguring Coligny Circle into a square in conjunction with a larger gridded street network.
- Address problems at intersections and crossovers along Pope Avenue.

#### DESTINATION PARK & PLAYGROUND and CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

- Highlight coastal island, Low Country character.
- Create a natural feel featuring native plants (with descriptors for education), designed with visibility/safety in mind.
- Complement the existing beach access and mirror the design of Coligny Beach Park.
- Provide opportunities for multiple age groups (children through seniors) with handicap accessibility.
- Include parking.
- Destination Park should include the following park elements:
  - Special event space (family and/or events like Shelter Cove/band shell/Farmer's Market)
  - Large areas of open space/grass and shade
  - Handling for maintenance/trash/dumpsters
  - Furnishing and features: pathways, seating (swings/benches), water feature (interactive), restrooms, shelter, sculpture, exercise stations, emergency phone

- Provide 3,500 square feet inside space/1,500 square feet of outdoor space for the children's museum adjacent to open space and playground.
- Consider a Lowcountry look with porches and swings/rocking chairs for the children's museum.
- Create a unique playground design (not cookie-cutter). For example, Harbour Town playground, tree house, platforms, ropes, swings, see-saw, etc. that can accommodate multiple age groups safely.
- Playground design to include:
  - Drinking water fountains
  - Seating for parents
  - Adequate shade
  - Fence for safety
  - A coastal/island/beach theme