



The Town of Hilton Head Island
Intergovernmental Committee
Special Meeting

November 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

UPDATED AGENDA

In accordance with the Town of Hilton Head Island Municipal Code § 2-5-15, this meeting is being conducted virtually and can be viewed live on the Town's Public Meeting Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/townofhiltonheadislandmeetings/>). Following the meeting, the video record will be made available on the Town's website (<https://www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/>).

1. Call to Order

2. FOIA Compliance - Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of Hilton Head Island.

3. Roll Call

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Approval of Minutes

a. Intergovernmental Committee Special Meeting of June 24, 2020

6. Citizen Comments - Citizens who wish to address the Intergovernmental Committee during the meeting by phone must contact the Intergovernmental Committee Secretary at 843-341-4700 no later than **12:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2020**. Citizens speaking during the public meeting will limit their comments to no longer than three (3) minutes and will conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the decorum of the meeting, refraining from the use of profane, abusive, or obscene language.

7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business

a. Approval of Proposed 2021 Intergovernmental Committee Meeting dates

b. Discussion with General Managers from Broad Creek, Hilton Head, and South Island Public Service Districts regarding capital projects, long-term capacity needs, opportunities for collaboration and potential requests to utilize Town properties to accommodate capital projects or service delivery.

c. Discussion and Presentation by the Beaufort Housing Authority.

9. Adjournment

Please note that a quorum of Town Council may result if four (4) or more of their members attend this meeting

Public comments concerning agenda items can be submitted electronically via the Town's Open Town Hall portal (<https://hiltonheadislandsc.gov/opentownhall/>). The portal will close at **4:30 PM on Friday, November 6, 2020**. All comments will be provided to the committee members for review and made part of the official record.

Please note that a quorum of Town Council may result if four (4) or more of their members attend this meeting



Town of Hilton Head Island
Intergovernmental Committee *Special* Meeting
Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 10:00 am
Meeting Minutes

Present From the Committee: William Harkins, Chairman; David Ames, Tom Lennox

Present from Town Council: Marc Grant

Present from Town Staff: Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager; Stephen Ryan, Town Attorney; Shawn Colin Director of Community Development; Scott Liggett, Director of Public Projects & Facilities/ Chief Engineer

Call to Order

Chairman Bill Harkins called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. By way of roll call, the Chairman confirmed the attendance of David Ames, Tom Lennox and Mark Grant.

FOIA Compliance - Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

Approval of Agenda

David Ames made a motion to approve the agenda. Tom Lennox seconded. By way of approval, all members of the committee approved by a vote of 3-0.

Approval of Minutes

David Ames made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 Intergovernmental Committee. Tom Lennox seconded. By way of approval, all members of the committee approved by a vote of 3-0.

Citizen Comments

The Chairman made preliminary comments noting that this was a forum for the entire community to reach out to the Committee and share any items of interest or thoughts of concern. He continued to say that the citizens' points of view are important because we, as a Town, are a stronger and more unified community when we join together on simple and complex initiatives. Mr. Harkins noted that the comments, questions, and/or remarks would be routed to the appropriate staff or committee for follow up.

Mr. Gruber, Assistant Town Manager, began by indicating that members of the public provided comments and feedback to the Town by posting on the Town's website under the Open Town Hall Forum. The Intergovernmental agenda item question was, "Do you have any comments or suggestions about various matters affecting the Hilton Head Island community?" In response to that question, Town Hall received five written comments. These comments were read by Josh Gruber during this meeting.

Comment #1, received from Mary LaLiberty. "I would like to make a recommendation to have a parking section for motorcycles/Golf Carts only at the beach parking lots as they take up an entire space and would allow more vehicles to park. Thank you for the opportunity to submit a suggestion."

Mr. Gruber responded that Town staff look into this. More information is needed on the ability for golf carts to safely interact with other vehicles on the roadways. There were no comments from the committee members.

Comment #2, received from Owen Ambur. *"Among the goals in the comprehensive plan is to: "Enable innovation and excellence in regional planning ..." Among the objectives are these two: "Apply tools, applications and services to facilitate sharing information supporting community connections and collaborative efforts." "Foster and encourage new business start-ups." The proposed ideals of excellence include: "using innovation and learning to continually develop and apply best practices and standards ..." In support of such direction in the comprehensive plan, it would be good if the Town could engage: (a) the State, Beaufort County, Bluffton, and other local jurisdictions in in a collaborative effort to publish their plans in an open, standard, machine readable format; and (b) local tech developers to demonstrate how such data can be leveraged to enable not only more efficient and effective coordination of intergovernmental objectives but also more transparent reporting of results achieved with taxpayer funding."*

Mr. Gruber stated that staff is actively going through the Comprehensive Planning Process. The adoption of the plan has been a public process with a number of participation opportunities. Work groups were brought together to help develop the fillers that could be part of the Comprehensive Plan document. Once this goes through the process and Town Council adopts this plan, the Town will publish it and make the document available on its website.

All the Intergovernmental Council Members agreed this has application not only to Hilton Head Island but also regionally, with Bluffton, Hardeeville, Ridgeland and the surrounding areas. Mr. Ames noted it would be helpful for Council to receive from staff their assessment of the potential, the hurdles to achieve it and the benefits for us to get there.

Comment #3, received from Beth Marttila. *"The personal safety of Town residents is a severe risk with the current non protocols that could be implemented and have not been by our Mayor and Town staff. We need stricter ENFORCED MEASURES protecting the people who actually live here! My previous email to our Mayor -- I certainly appreciate all the dedication the Town of Hilton Head has done thus far to keep the permanent residents as safe as possible with the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, it isn't enough and there isn't a full time owner on this island that I have spoken with that feels differently than I do. Our restaurants opening is a joke since they do not enforce a stricter code to protect the people that have supported them for years prior to this March, 2020. They should be wearing masks at all times. The golf tournament people were outspoken about the inability to curb the tourists at this time with no social distancing or protective measures. I was driving onto the Island a short time ago and thought a better idea than saying "Wear Mask" and "Keep Social Distance" there should be a daily update letting all who come to our Island see exactly how many Covid-19 cases we have and a statement saying "MASKS NOT AN OPTION...MUST WEAR IN ALL PUBLIC SPACES". For the tourists and even residents who object to this, stay home. Our numbers are climbing substantially and it doesn't seem the Town of Hilton Head has any sort of a grasp on the intensity with which this is building. Please consider stricter guidelines. If the tourists don't come this year, they will still come back!"*

Mr. Gruber indicated that this is of great importance, and there are a lot of ongoing discussions about the issue of masks. The Community Services & Public Safety Committee, led by Chairman Mark Grant, are meeting to continue this conversation.

It was noted that every member of Town Council are strong advocates of the following three suggestions: social distancing, wearing a mask in public spaces and hand washing. Those are the three critical guidelines that the professional community state will help mitigate the upward curve of this virus.

Staff continues to actively work to identify additional opportunities to message to the public the Town's clear and unequivocal desire that people wear masks any time they are out in public. The Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce also continues to have involvement with the Path Forward Program and Palmetto Priority Program that advocates the use of masks in public areas.

Comment #4, received from the Coalition of Island Neighbors. *"Bill, Tom, David & Marc- We understand and see on your agenda for tomorrow that your Committee is having a "Community Listening Session" to "receive feedback on various matters affecting the Hilton Head Community." Risa Prince and I plan to speak at your Committee meeting this week on behalf of the Coalition of Island Neighbors ("COIN"). We believe that there are key issues which must be addressed. Those issues are as follows: (1.) 278 Gateway Corridor need independent consultant, no impact on Native Islander communities & no six lanes. (2.) Town Manager Selection inclusive public input throughout the process. (3.) Equitable Operational & Capital Funding reflective of needs of all communities on the Island. (4.) Environmental Stewardship plan for sea level rise adaptation & regulations on development. (5.) Gullah-Geechee Preservation & Native Islander Respect accelerate timetable & expenditures to address Task Force recommendations. (6.) Balanced Tourism Plan address "over-tourism" & honor all Islander values. Thank you. -Patsy Brison & Risa Prince*

Below are Mr. Gruber's response to each of these bullet points:

1. The Town 278 Gateway Corridor Advisory Committee is actively reviewing the information provided by the Department of Transportation and will provide some additional guidance to Council. This has been a public process. Contacting the Advisory Committee continues to be the best way to address any questions or concerns.
2. The Town Manager selection process is currently underway since the Town Manager has stated he will be retiring by year end. Town Council narrowed the choices for a search firm to lead in this process. It was also noted that there are a number of key questions that will be raised in the search for a Town Manager, including the viewpoints on: equitable funding, environmental stewardship, our historic Native Island community, environmental issues and assets, and the needed balance between economy and the volume of tourists.
3. The Equitable Operational & Capital Funding is part of the Town's Capital Improvement Plan and a function relative to public engagement. Projects are identified through a public process as well as through the Planning Commission. This is an opportunity for the public to weigh in on what projects the Town will look to undertake in the immediate future with its capital spending.
4. In regards to Environmental Stewardship, the Town continues to look at opportunities for action. Before the pandemic started, Town Council was exploring regulations in regards to tree protection and environmental protection standards. The Town continues to look at the government standards, in particular to flood elevation levels and the potential changes that may

be proposed regarding those levels. Ultimately this would be discussed through the Public Planning Committee.

5. Concerning the Gullah Geechee Preservation and Native Islander Respect, Town Council has appointed a Gullah Geechee Task Force. Staff has been actively working to restart their work after the pandemic shutdown. The Advisory Board Agencies and Commissions have begun to work via electronic meetings. The Gullah Geechee and the Public Planning Committee will discuss the integration of an overlay district for the community, respecting the Native Island community in development and a comprehensive way for the overall betterment.

Shawn Colin, Director of Community Development, indicated that the Town has drafted an overlay and were scheduled to go back to the Task Force in late March until COVID interrupted the meeting schedule. The overlay, which encompasses some of the top priorities recommended by the Task Force, will need to be reviewed by the Task Force. After their approval, it will be brought through the normal process of the LMO, Planning Commission, Public Planning Committee and then to Town Council for Council's ultimate approval.

Mr. Grant noted his appreciation to build relationships with the people in the community. More communication is needed, not just from the Mayor, but also from Staff and the Planning Commission. Mr. Gruber noted that an updated meeting schedule would be forthcoming and shared with those involved in the process.

Mr. Lennox commented that conversations have continued through the pandemic closure in respect to the Balanced Tourism Plan. Over-tourism and Island values are being addressed with the DMO Marketing Plan. Town Council is actively engaged in discussions with the Chamber of Commerce as the potential designated marketing organization partner.

Mr. Ames commented on this list of items discussed and see them as inter-related objectives. The Town government, the Chamber of Commerce and its members and the residents of this community need to come together and agree on the direction for the Island: the character of the community, the values we need to protect, the leadership thinking, the programs and public services provided, and the overall quality of life.

Comment #5, received from John and Margaret Swenson. Thanks Mayor McCann. Hilton Head is now considered a "hot spot". This would not have happened had it been mandated that masks and social distancing were required upon entering our beautiful island. Now, as residents we are confronted with increased cases of COVID-19. We have been diligent with our protection but not the tourists who have been allowed to mingle and not protect themselves thereby jeopardizing our safety and health. It is now time for you to make some requirements i.e. mask wearing and social distancing which by the way should include employees of restaurants who do not. Protect your residents before more become victims of this relaxed atmosphere. Your consideration would be appreciated as the 4th of July season is upon us with more visitors. We need ACTION. Thank you. John and Margaret Swenson

Mr. Gruber indicated that the Committee appreciates this comment and has addressed this issue with an earlier discussion point.

Call-In Citizens:

Risa Prince called in and addressed the Committee. She elaborated more on the Open Town Hall comments she submitted and that was read earlier in the meeting.

Patsy Brison addressed the Committee via a phone call. She elaborated more on the Open Town Hall comments she submitted and that was read earlier in the meeting.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Mr. Grant addressed the committee before adjournment. He received various citizen letters commenting on the history and use of the word “plantation,” specifically in relation to the various communities around the Island. Mr. Grant suggested that it would be beneficial to have Town Staff do some research and gather data regarding the use of the word. Mr. Grant requested that Town Council discuss these findings and have factual conversations, building a trustworthy relationship with the community.

Mr. Grant also noted having effective communication with the Beaufort County Sheriff’s Office (BCSO.) Many things are working very well with the Town and the BCSO. He would like to bring those on the Gullah Task Force and others in the community together to discuss what is working and what challenges need to be addressed within the Sheriff’s office. This item can be addressed with the Community Services & Public Safety Committee.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Ames. It was seconded by Mr. Lennox. The meeting adjourned by all members at 10:55 AM.

Submitted by:

Phyllis Deiter, Sr. Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

William D. Harkins, Chairman



The Town of Hilton Head Island
Proposed Intergovernmental Committee
Meeting Dates for 2021

10:00 A.M. – BENJAMIN M. RACUSIN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MONDAY PRECEDING THE 1ST TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2021 *	JULY 12, 2021*
FEBRUARY 1, 2021	AUGUST 2, 2021
MARCH 1, 2021	SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 *
APRIL 5, 2021	OCTOBER 4, 2021
MAY 3, 2021	NOVEMBER 1, 2021
JUNE 7, 2021 **	DECEMBER 6, 2021

*The January July and September meetings will follow the 1st Town Council Meeting due to the 1st Monday falling on National holidays.

**The June meeting will follow the 1st Town Council Meeting.



TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND

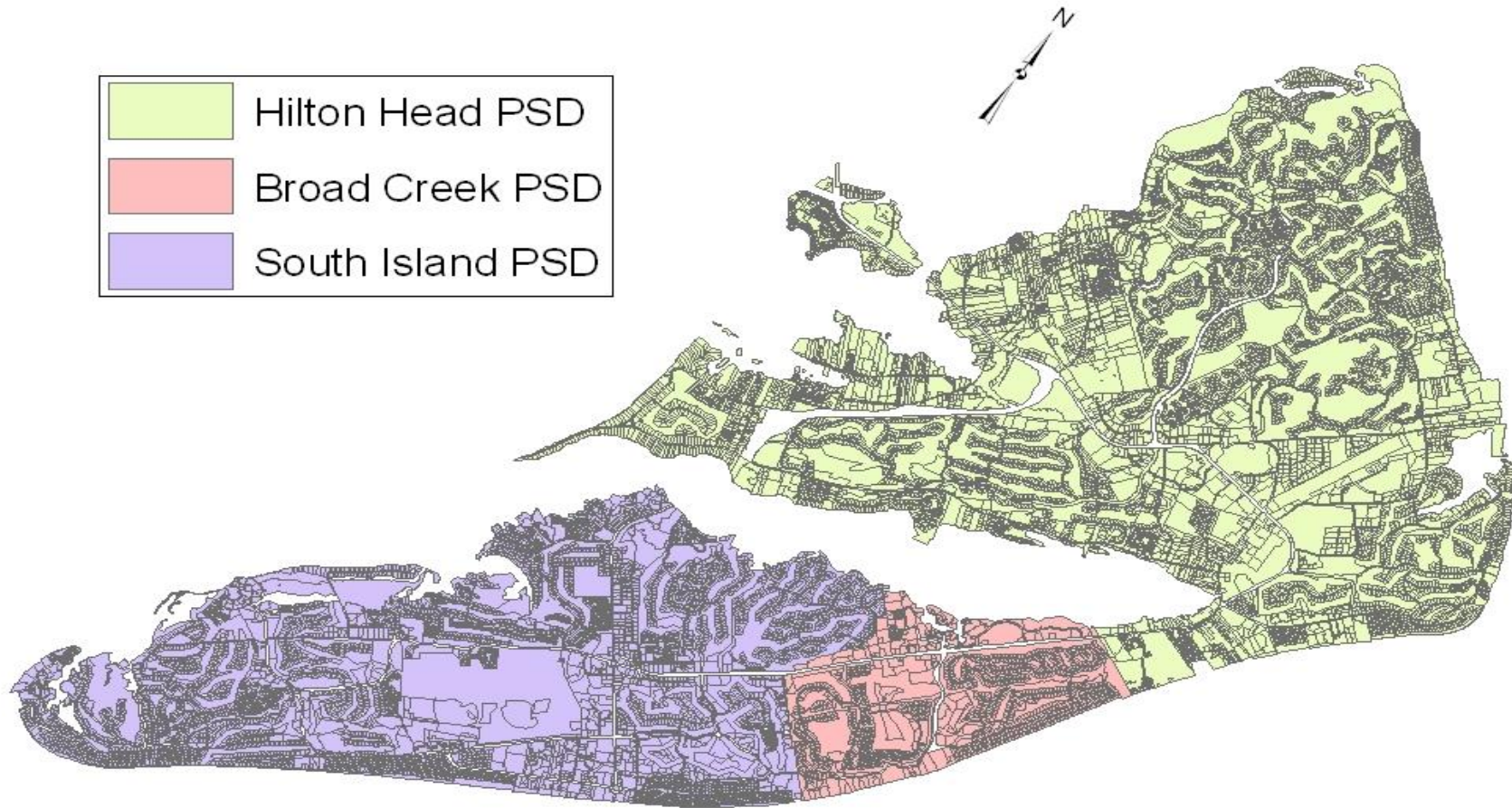
Community Development Department

TO: Intergovernmental Committee
FROM: Shawn Colin, *AICP, Director of Community Development*
DATE: October 26, 2020
SUBJECT: Public Service Districts - Capacity and Long-Term Projects

There are three Public Service Districts operating on Hilton Head Island. They are: Broad Creek PSD, South Island PSD and the Hilton Head PSD. General Managers, Mike Allen, Kelley Ferda, and Pete Nardi will participate in a discussion with the Intergovernmental Committee to provide a better understanding of planned and anticipated capital projects, current and long-term capacity needs, and potential requests from their respective PSDs to utilize Town properties to accommodate capital projects or service delivery.



-  Hilton Head PSD
-  Broad Creek PSD
-  South Island PSD



OUR SERVICES



**Water
Production**



**Water
Treatment**



**Water
Distribution**



**Sanitary
Sewer
Service**



**Wastewater
Treatment**



**Recycled
Water
Distribution**

“SISTER UTILITIES”

- ▶ **Mutual Aid**
- ▶ **Emergency Preparedness/Cost Recovery**
- ▶ **Business Continuity**
- ▶ **Asset Management**
- ▶ **Mutual Water Source/Supply Studies**
- ▶ **Professional Development & Safety Training**

OUR SOURCES OF WATER

Hilton Head Island Groundwater

- **Upper Floridan**
 - **Saltwater Intrusion Threat**
- **Middle Floridan**
- **Cretaceous**

Wholesale Water from Mainland

OUR FUTURE CHALLENGES

Replacing supply lost to saltwater intrusion in Upper Floridan

- **Development of new infrastructure needed to replace existing water supply**

Meeting increased demand due to growth and/or redevelopment

Ongoing need for water efficient behavior

HOW CAN THE TOWN HELP?

Provide a designated Town staff member as liaison for utility infrastructure improvements

Consider water/sewer impacts due to growth/redevelopment

Continue to provide Town-owned land for water/sewer infrastructure

Enforcement of existing irrigation/rain sensor code

Questions?