



Town of Hilton Head Island **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

An Update from Deputy Town Manager Josh Gruber 9/16/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Here's an update on what's happening around Town:

Town of Hilton Head Island Acquires 1.5 Acre of Property in Shelter Cove Marina Area

Town Council has approved the acquisition of a 1.5 acre tract of property in the Shelter Cove Marina area for \$875,000. The property at 18 Harbourside Lane was once the site of the former Kingfisher Restaurant. As part of the acquisition, the Town will remove the existing buildings on the property.

The acquisition of property in the Shelter Cove Marina area opens up opportunities to enhance open space, pathway connectivity, parking and public access to the waterfront. It also allows for additional uses consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Proceeds from real estate transfer fees were used to buy the property. Last month, the Town purchased two tracts of property totaling 4.58 acres along William Hilton Parkway (U.S. 278) in the Stoney area. With this acquisitions, the Town's inventory of land includes 149 parcels totaling 1,299.21 acres, with a total expenditure of \$177.91 million.

The Path Forward for Parks and Recreation Planning

On Tuesday, September 15, 2020, Town Council adopted a resolution supporting the path forward for parks and recreation planning and implementation including identification of funding sources.

Approval of the resolution allows staff to execute the next steps in planning for parks and recreation improvements, identify and implement phase 1 of the Chaplin Linear Park, and finalize and implement the Shelter Cove Connectivity project.

In August 2019, the Town hired Lose Design to prepare a Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Hilton Head Island. After an extensive community engagement period and professional assessment, Part 1 of the Master Plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Part 1, which will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan, includes recommendations for improvements to existing parks and recommendations for new park construction. The path forward for Parts 2 through 4 is outlined in Master Plan.

Staff completed a concept for the Shelter Cove Connectivity Project with additional parking and park improvements in the Shelter Cove area to include improved pathway



Town of Hilton Head Island **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

enhancements and boardwalk connections along the marsh-front of Broad Creek and along Shelter Cove Lane, additional parking, improved view shed to Broad Creek, additional public art locations, and gateway, directional, and interpretive signage.

Dump or No Dump?

With the adoption of its budget in June, Beaufort County only approved operating funds for the Hilton Head Convenience Center (26 Summit Drive) through the end of this year. This can affect how Island residents dispose of their garbage. We're still waiting on more updates regarding this and will keep you posted on what we learn. In the meantime, we do know this for sure: The Convenience Center, which opens at 7:30 a.m., will start closing an hour earlier at 6 p.m. instead of 7 p.m., effective October 1, 2020. It will still close on Wednesdays and holidays.

ArborNature Construction and Demolition Debris Transfer Station Virtual Public Meeting, September 17th

S.C. DHEC's Bureau of Land and Waste Management (BLWM) will hold a virtual public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, September 17, about the proposed ArborNature Transfer Station. The meeting is being held virtually using an online platform in a live-event setting. This platform allows public involvement in DHEC's permitting process while following local and state guidelines for social distancing and avoiding large group gatherings. Interested persons can join the meeting remotely using a phone or computer.

Access to the meeting will open at 5:30 p.m. on the day of the event. Early log-in is encouraged. An access link and instructions on how to join by phone or computer will be available at that time at DHEC's website at <https://scdhec.gov/events/arbournature-construction-demolition-debris-transfer-station-virtual-public-meeting-0>

During this public meeting, DHEC will provide additional information about the proposed transfer station, follow-up on questions asked during public meeting #1, and provide an opportunity for additional questions to be asked. Anyone who plans to participate in the public meeting should complete the [registration form](#). Information about how to join the virtual meeting can be found on our Virtual Meeting page at <https://scdhec.gov/virtual-meetings-hearings>

Overnight Lane closures on Beaufort County Bridges Now through September 23 for routine inspections

If you're across the Hilton Head Island bridges during the late P.M. hours, be on the lookout for work and workers on the bridges. Consor Engineers LLC, a consultant for the South Carolina Department of Transportation, started routine inspections for several Beaufort County bridges on Tuesday, September 15, and will continue with them through September 23. Inspection of the Hilton Head Island bridges, US 278 over Mackey Creek & US 278 over Skull Creek, will be performed during the evenings from now through



Town of Hilton Head Island TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

Sunday, September 20th. The inspections will require right lane closures between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., weather permitting. Closures will start in the eastbound direction of travel and will switch to the westbound direction as work progresses.

Free COVID-19 Tests in our Community: Who Should Get Tested?

If you are out and about in the community, around others, or not able to socially distance or wear a mask, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) recommends that you get tested at least once a month. Routine testing allows public health workers to diagnose those who are asymptomatic and interrupt the ongoing spread of the virus. Learn more about [who should get tested here \(scdhec.gov/who-should-get-tested-covid-19\)](https://www.scdhec.gov/who-should-get-tested-covid-19).

Hilton Head Hospital offers free COVID-19 drive-thru testing is available from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday thru Friday, at its campus. You do not need an appointment or a physician's order. Your test results typically will be e-mailed within 72 hours to the valid e-mail address you are asked to provide.

COVID-19 Cases in Our Community

For the latest figures on the number of cases of COVID-19 on Hilton Head Island, please visit www.scdhec.gov or the Town's COVID-19 hub page at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19. DHEC maintains the latest data on COVID-19 cases across the state and in our community, and we integrate some of that data on our website. Please be mindful of the following safety measures to protect yourself and others from getting or spreading COVID-19:

- Wear a mask in public.
- Distance yourself physically by six feet.
- Avoid group gatherings.
- Wash your hands often.
- Get tested.
- Stay home if you are sick.