

August 18, 2020

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at approximately 6:00 p.m., all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied.

Present were: Patrick M. O'Neil, Mayor
Chauncey Clark, Mayor Pro-Tem
Sarah Church, Councilmember
Greg Hammond, Councilmember
Tim Reese, Councilmember
Bachman Smith, IV, Councilmember
Kaye Smith, Councilmember

Mayor O'Neil called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. and stated the press and public had been notified in accordance with State Law. This meeting was conducted via virtual meeting as a result of COVID-19 Pandemic. There were approximately fifty (50) members of the public present and one (1) member of the media present. Mayor O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, to move "Approval of a Resolution Applauding the Heroism and Compassion of Nurse Claudia Franklin" up on the agenda to before Public Comments.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of a Resolution Applauding the Heroism and Compassion of Nurse Claudia Franklin:

Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark, to approve a Resolution Applauding the Heroism and Compassion of Nurse Claudia Franklin.

Motion passed unanimously.

- I. **Public Comments:** The following island residents made a public comment regarding the Accreted Land: Clyde Timmons, 1413 Middle Street; Susan Middaugh, 2420 Raven Drive; Larry Kobrovsky, 402 Seabreeze Lane; Ernest Fava, 2424 Myrtle Avenue; Allison Bourland, 1607 Atlantic Avenue; and Karen Byko, 2862 Middle Street. The following island residents made a public comment regarding Dock Ordinance: Paul Vannatta, 1802 Back Street; and David Seay, 1746 Atlantic Avenue. The complete list of residents and non-residents whom submitted a public comment is attached. (Attachment 1)

- II. Presentation:** Dr. Anna Eskridge, Charleston County Community Development Program- Citizen Input and Review of Five (5) Year Consolidated Needs Plan
- III. Presentation:** Overview and Discussion on potential island-wide paid parking implementation- Public Safety Committee Chair Tim Reese presented the paid parking overview presentation. The consensus of Town Council was to study this item at the Committee level first, then bring it back to full Council.

IV. Council Action Items:

1. Approval of Council Minutes –
Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark, to approve the following minutes of Town Council:

- **July 21, 2020 Regular Council Meeting**
- **July 28, 2020 Special Council Meeting**
- **August 5, 2020 Special Council Meeting**
- **August 12, 2020 Special Council Meeting**

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and Consideration to Defer Recreation Department Expenditure and PARD Grant Funds until Town FY2022:

Motion was made by Councilmember Greg Hammond, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark, to follow the recommendation of the Recreation Committee and fund the project for adult exercise equipment in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00.

Motion passed unanimously.

V. Reports and Communication:

1. **Mayor's Report-** No items to report.

2. Administrator's Report

I. General Correspondence

- Cathy Curtis, 2824 I'On Avenue- Message to Council asking Council to keep the maritime forest.

II. Construction

Fire Station Structural Repairs- Meetings continue with Curt Berg/ABS and the Town (Chief Stith and Town Administrator Benke) mid-June for initial conversation regarding interior work on the fire station and storage building.

Thomas and Hutton- Station 22.5 Crosswalk: SCDOT returned the encroachment permit and construction drawings completed. Awaiting Thomas and Hutton contract for permitting, bidding process and construction oversight.

Accreted Land Transition Zone Trimming- Staff awaiting vendor meeting to review cutting parameters before commencement of transition zone work along Pettigrew Street.

Beach Path Maintenance- Staff is preparing to review work necessary to establish clearance alongside each beach path.

III. General

Pandemic Planning- Town remains at OPCON-2 with limited public access to Town Hall. Residents and businesses should utilize remote access for Town business until further notice. Staff is present at Town Hall for regular hours 8am to 5pm.

Engine 1201- The new pumper is in service and Engine 1202 has been retired. Treasure Cay Emergency Services is prepared to take delivery of the truck on August 6, 2020.

Condition Assessment Following Hurricane Isaias- There was no damage to Town property and minimal erosion during the storm event. No personal property damage, flooding or power outages were reported to the Town by residents or commercial establishments.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

- a. Letter of Determination- Confirmation as to the flood hazard information for Sullivan's Island is considered final and the flood insurance rating maps for the Island will become effective as of 01-29-2021. Staff will begin the process of making the necessary text amendments to the ordinance.
- b. FEMA has announced the FY2020 funding opportunity for Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants. Funds will be made available through the new Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities grant program for pre-disaster mitigation activities.

3. Attorney's Report- No items to report.

4. Boards and Commissions Reports – Terms for various Boards and Commission seats expire in September 2020. During this calendar year, five (5) terms will expire and one seat is vacant due to resignation.

- Planning Commission, Sydney Cook- term expiration
- Planning Commission, Hal Currey- term expiration
- Planning Commission, Carl Hubbard- term expiration
- Planning Commission, Gary Visser- term expiration
- Tree Commission, Theresa Luke- resignation

- Tree Commission, Nat Robb, term expiration

VI. Committee Reports:

Finance Committee – Mayor O’Neil. Monthly report rendered.

Comptroller Jason Blanton stated that the auditors will present their annual report at either the September or October regular Council meeting. Mr. Blanton will present the July financials during the September regular Council meeting.

Public Facilities Committee – Councilmember Greg Hammond, Chair. Monthly report rendered.

Land Use and Natural Resources Committee – Mayor Pro-Tem Chauncey Clark, Chair. Monthly report rendered.

Administration Committee – Councilmember Sarah Church, Chair. Monthly report rendered.

Video Recording of Town Council Meetings- for archiving on Town website for public access.

Codification of Town Ordinances- in progress, to be reviewed by Council upon completion.

Personnel Handbook- in progress, to be reviewed by Council upon completion of draft.

Water and Sewer Committee – Councilmember Bachman Smith IV, Chair. Monthly reports rendered.

Committee Meeting – The next Water & Sewer Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 8:45 a.m. at Town Hall.

Public Safety Committee – Councilmember Tim Reese, Chair. Monthly reports rendered.

Speed Limit- Chair Reese met with SCDOT to discuss speed limit and cross walks. They are looking into changing the speed limit on Middle Street to 25mph. The goal is to change the speed limit island-wide to 25mph.

Recreation Committee – Councilmember Kaye Smith, Chair.

VII. Executive Session

Legal Advice- Amendments to 21-75 (Dock Ordinance):

Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, Seconded by Councilmember Kaye Smith, to go into Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. to receive Legal Advice regarding Amendments to 21-75 (Dock Ordinance).

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, Seconded by Councilmember Kaye Smith, to come out of Executive Session at 8:17 p.m.

Mayor O'Neil stated that no votes or actions were taken in Executive Session.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, Seconded by Councilmember Greg Hammond, to adjourn Meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Courtney Sottile



PUBLIC NOTICE

Resuming Public Comments

Beginning on August 18, 2020, the Town will be resuming the public comment portion of Town Council meetings. Residents of Sullivan's Island are invited to sign-up in advance for verbal public comments during the August 18, 2020 Town Council meeting taking place via Zoom. All residents who wish to speak during the meeting must email their first and last name, address and topic to frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov no later than 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 18, 2020. All verbal comments will have a time limit of two (2) minutes. Speakers must turn on their video and make sure that their actual name shows up as their Zoom identifier, and mute themselves after their comments.

At this initial stage, non-residents of Sullivan's Island are invited to submit written comments only. Please send any written comments to frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov no later than 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 18, 2020. All written comments submitted on time will be acknowledged during the meeting.

All public comments (verbal and written) will be considered a part of the public record and will be included in the meeting minutes.

Below are the Zoom instructions and link for the August 18, 2020 Town Council Meeting.

Follow the prompts to download and run the Zoom application on your computer or mobile device. You will be prompted to set up a free Zoom account. Once you have completed sign up, click to join the audio conference. When you're in the meeting, you may click on the Start Video button to start your video. If you already have a Zoom account and would like to manually join the meeting, our Meeting ID is 898 5747 2295 and the password is 29482.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89857472295?pwd=OUliODNmU3NJNEdWdnVlZGFCTTIDZz09>



PUBLIC COMMENTS

Residents who signed up to speak:

1. Clyde Timmons, 1413 Middle Street- Protect Accreted Land
2. Paul Vannatta, 1802 Back Street- Dock Ordinance
3. David Seay, 1746 Atlantic Avenue- Dock Ordinance
4. Ken Leitch, 1763 Atlantic Avenue- No Topic
5. Susan Middaugh, 2420 Raven Drive- Accreted Land Mediation
6. Larry Kobrovsky, 402 Seabreeze Lane- Protect Accreted Land
7. Ernest Fava, 2424 Myrtle Avenue- Protect Accreted Land
8. Allison Bourland, 1607 Atlantic Avenue- Accreted Land Mediation
9. Karen Byko, 2862 Middle Street- Accreted Land Mediation

Correspondence to Council:

1. Will Spielvogel, 2430 Raven Drive- General Comments about Accreted Land Management
2. Meridith Barnola, Mount Pleasant- Beach Restrictions
3. Carol Jasinski-Beach Restrictions and Parking Restrictions
4. Brian Connor- Beach Restrictions
5. Tammy Kanapaux- Beach Restrictions
6. Myra Jones- Concerns regarding the current Emergency Ordinance Restrictions
7. Catherine Carter- Protect Accreted Land
8. Joy Morris, 2620 I'On Avenue- Protect Accreted Land
9. Robert Friedman- Protect Wetlands
10. Ellen Williams, Mount Pleasant- Opposes Paid Parking
11. Judson Matthews- Opposes Paid Parking
12. Marianne Weaver- Opposes Paid Parking
13. Sara Roth, Mount Pleasant- Opposes Paid Parking
14. Janice McRae, Mount Pleasant- Opposes Paid Parking
15. Luke Lewis, Sullivan's Island, Protect Accreted Land
16. Jerry Callahan, Protect Accreted Land, No Mediation
17. Kim Seabrook, Charleston resident- Beach Restrictions and Opposes Paid Parking
18. Carl Matthews- Opposes Paid Parking
19. Laurence Mahorney, Mount Pleasant- Unfair discrimination
20. Patricia Latham, 3010 I'On Avenue- Accreted Land Mediation

21. Peter Richardson, 2820 Jasper Boulevard- General Comments about Accreted Land
22. scyellowbird@gmail.com- Protect Accreted Land
23. Kelley and Michael Andrews- 2402 Myrtle Avenue- Protect Accreted Land

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Accreted Land Comments

From: Clyde Timmons <cctimmons@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 7:24 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Accreted Land Comments

8/17/20

Sullivan's Island Town Council

I wanted to express my opinion regarding any mediation regarding the accreted land. The accreted land is an invaluable resource to the residents of Sullivan's Island, not to mention the ecological importance to migratory birds and other wildlife. This should be the primary emphasis of any discussion of this area, not the ocean views of a select number of residents.

Plans to improve the health of this ecological resource should be considered. This certainly would not include any wholesale topping of the wax myrtles.

Thank you for your service to the island.

Clyde Timmons
(resident since 1971)
1413 Middle St.
Sullivan's Island, SC 29482

cctimmons@bellsouth.net
843.469.2920

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 8:34 AM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Dock Ordinance

From: Vannatta, Paul R - CHARLESTON SC <paul_vannatta@ml.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 7:38 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Subject: FW: Dock Ordinance

Paul Vannatta
Address: 1802 Back St, Sullivans Island
Topic: Dock Ordinance

From: Vannatta, Paul R - CHARLESTON SC
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 7:25 PM
To: 'frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov' <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Cc: 'Jenn Vannatta' <jenn.vannatta@gmail.com>; 'David Seay' <david@seaydevelopment.com>
Subject: Dock Ordinance

Pls add me to speak during verbal public comments regarding the Dock Ordinance change.

Thank you, Paul Vannatta

Courtney Sottile

From: David Seay <david@seaydevelopment.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:52 PM
To: Andy Benke
Cc: Courtney Sottile; Mary Poole
Subject: Re: Speaking list tomorrow.

Thank you for letting me know.

David Seay
1746 Atlantic Avenue
Sullivans Island, SC 29482

David Seay, BIC, CCIM, REDM
The Brokerage, LLC
Real Estate & Business Brokerage
david@seaydevelopment.com
www.TheBrokerageYouWinHere.com
(843) 364-6720 Direct
(888) 404-2929 eFax

#Hustle4Ever Story:
<https://youtu.be/ICkEFo9BQAE>

#Family4Ever Story:
https://youtu.be/HRSeA_XqCws

#CommUnity4Ever Story Souldier Week:
<https://youtu.be/S1p1C-10ldQ>

Please call for Confidential Properties or Businesses

On Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 9:57 AM Andy Benke <abenke@sullivansisland.sc.gov> wrote:

Thanks for your message requesting to speak during the public comment section of the Town Council meeting tonight.

In order to be added to the list you must provide, in addition to your name, your street address.

Regards,

Andy Benke
Town Administrator
Town of Sullivan's Island
Post Office Box 427
Sullivan's Island, SC 29482
Direct Telephone: 843-883-5726
Facsimile: 843-883-3009
Emergency: 9-1-1
Police and Fire Dispatcher: 843-743-7200 Email address: abenke@sullivansisland.sc.gov Web address:
www.sullivansisland.sc.gov

"Populus Felix in Urbe Felici"

II Think Green - please don't print this e-mail unless needed.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This transmission is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information which is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, distribution, or coping of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by calling (843) 883-5726.

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Poole <mpoole@sullivansisland.sc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 8:41 AM

To: Andy Benke <abenke@sullivansisland.sc.gov>; Courtney Sottile <cSottile@sullivansisland.sc.gov>

Subject: FW: Speaking list tomorrow.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ken Leitch <ken@kenleitch.com>

Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 7:22 PM

To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>

Subject: Speaking list tomorrow.

Can I get on the speaking list tomorrow at the town council meeting?

Best

Ken Leitch.

Sent from my iPhone

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 1:15 PM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Signup for public comment

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Middaugh <susan.middaugh@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 11:54 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Signup for public comment

Hello,

Please sign me up for public comment via zoom at the upcoming Town Council meeting on Tuesday, August 18.

Topic: Mediation of Accreted Land Lawsuit

Susan Middaugh
2420 Raven Drive
Sullivan's Island

Sent from my iPad

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 1:15 PM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Speaking at August 18 meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Kobrovsky <larrykobrovsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 10:45 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Speaking at August 18 meeting

Larry Kobrovsky, 402 Seabreeze Lane, Sullivan's Island

Topic: Speaking about preserving the Maritime Forest Sent from my iPhone

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Public comment request

-----Original Message-----

From: Carlin Timmons <carlin.timmons@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Public comment request

I'd like to speak during today's Town Council public comment period regarding protection of the accreted public land.

Thanks!

Carlin Timmons
1413 Middle Street SI
843-801-1679
Sent from my iPhone

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: signup for this evening

From: e e fava <e@eefava.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:12 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: signup for this evening

ernest fava
2424 myrtle avenue si sc

e@eefava.com

thank you

e

ernest e fava jr ncarb
e e fava architects, etc.
54 broad street | charleston sc
29401 | 843.723.5099

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:16 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Sign Up for 2 minutes during SI Town Council Mtg Zoom Mtg tonight

-----Original Message-----

From: Allison Bourland <adiggsbourland@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Cc: Allison Bourland <mbourlan@icloud.com>
Subject: Sign Up for 2 minutes during SI Town Council Mtg Zoom Mtg tonight

Good Afternoon,

My name is Allison Bourland and I live at 1607 Atlantic Ave. I would like to speak for 2 mins at the town council meeting tonight.

Thank You

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:34 PM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Tonight's Town Council Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Byko <karen.byko@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:33 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Tonight's Town Council Meeting

Hello,

I'm writing to sign up to provide public comments at tonight's Council Meeting:

Karen Byko
2862 Middle
Topic: Lawsuit Mediation

Thank you,

Karen

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Comments From Will Spielvogel Resident at 2430 Raven Drive Regarding Accreted Land Town Council meeting Tuesday August 18th

From: Will Spielvogel <will@sjhamill.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Cc: LaurenSpielvogel@hotmail.com
Subject: Comments From Will Spielvogel Resident at 2430 Raven Drive Regarding Accreted Land Town Council meeting Tuesday August 18th

I would like to make the following comments:

1. I remember a while back the Town requested comments regarding the Accreted land management program which I provided as I am sure other residents did as well. Were these comments ever reviewed and considered?
2. I strongly feel that any **decision makers** (council members and others who own front beach properties and have a personal interest in front be properties who are voting) must be excluded from the process for conflict of interest reasons.
3. I further take exception to the Council taking advantage of the Covid 19 pandemic to try to push this serious measure through hiding behind their laptops on a zoom call. What is the emergency that this very important and heated issue for many residents cannot wait until business is back to normal?
4. I simply don't understand why a few residents get to control town property that is there for the enjoyment and protection of all residents. When most of these folks purchased their properties, they purchased them with a public forest in their back yards. If they did not like it then, they should not have purchased the property. Ask yourself, are residents with homes bordering state and/or national forests allowed to cut and clear this public land for their own personal gain for logging or views?
5. Clearly one can argue that a beach front home with an unobstructed view will sell at a higher price than and identical home with an obstructed view. Do the citizens of Sullivan's Island share in these potential profits?
6. If we are going to destroy the land and weaken our Island's natural protection, then we might as well let the Town subdivide this land and sell buildable lots to increase revenue. None of this makes any sense.
7. I am all in favor of intelligent and responsible Maritime Forest Management. With management performed by the Town, employing experts in their field, we could restore our Maritime Forest to a beautiful habitat similar to the other uninhabited sea Islands such as Hunting and Capers and Bulls. Tall trees with properly managed underbrush. I am in favor of paying for this, even though I do not live on the front beach. This type of management will benefit all residents. Views will improve for front beach homes and forest floor growth will be controlled. This will address many of the nonsense arguments I have heard over the years as well by controlling forest fires, ferocious coyotes, hiding places for felons, etc...
8. In no way can the cutting and management be left in the hands of the front beach residents, as proven by past experience of illegal cutting and the poisoning of trees. Even with strict rules in place, people will not follow them and then who is going to enforce them? Rather than risk these public lands that protect our island by wasting money, time and anxiety on enforcing rules, our money is better spent having the Town manage the Forest using experts in a professional and controlled manner.
9. The benefits of a properly maintained Maritime Forest are so obvious to any rational person. We have a simple choice to either decide to exploit the land for the benefit of a few (as so often done in the greater Charleston

area) or to protect the land for the enjoyment and benefit of our entire community. This choice needs to be made by the residents via a ballot vote and not imposed by biased conflicted Town representatives.

Thank you,

Will

Will Spielvogel, P.E. || President

S.J. HAMILL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LLC

PHONE: (843) 872-8001 || EMAIL: Will@sjhamill.com

ADDRESS: 2008 Cherry Hill Lane; North Charleston, SC 29405



Courtney Sottile

From: meridith barnola <mmbarnola@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: Beach Access

Courtney, I would like to register my dismay with how SI has behaved since the Coronavirus became news. It was a very stressful and upsetting time to read the news and you guys just pulled up the moat drawbridge and said you guys can't come in. I live off Ben Sawyer just 5 minutes away and enjoy driving to SI to look for kingfishers, osprey and sometimes woodstorks on the causeway. It's so inspiring just looking at the marsh that many of the worries I have are gone before I see the town sign. When you closed the island you took that from me and I felt hurt that a town and its residents could just abandon its neighbors in a time of crises. Not to mention how scary it made everything seem. My family often chooses to eat at Home Team (miss them so) Poe's and picking up a frosé from the Co-Op. I drive my son to the beach at least once a week during summers because it is a healthy outdoor activity, but because I am very fair I have to shield myself from the sun and can no longer do that due to your restrictions. Every summer weekend we have difficulty accessing our home (we live in North Point) on the weekends due to the traffic to SI but we have dealt with the traffic as you have. Please remove your restrictions and allow us to enjoy the beach again. Sincerely, Meridith & Garrett Barnola
1506 Village Square MT Pleasant

Courtney Sottile

From: carol jasinski <caroljasinski59@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 10:55 AM
To: maybankv@charleston-sc.gov; Courtney Sottile; fsimmons@jamesislandsc.us
Subject: Public Beach Access and Parking

Council Member,

Being a relatively new resident of South Carolina who moved here to enjoy the public beaches and parks adjacent to the beach I am appalled with the restrictions on parking since the coronavirus began in March. Making the islands, Isle of palms, Sullivan & Folly virtually a private island! Using an ongoing state of emergency related to the [coronavirus pandemic](#) to block access to these communities is a crime. My taxes go to maintain the public beaches and I want to have accessibility to them as I did before coronavirus began. My move to SC. was to live close to the beaches. Which has been a dream of mine. To explore the beaches and learn as much as I can about them. To be involved in volunteer groups that help protect, preserve and enhance the beaches. Get my exercise and make friends there. All of your [coronavirus pandemic](#) restrictions such as restricting parking, no coolers, umbrellas, chairs and time restrictions have little to none science based evidence to the curving it. Simply put, you're abusing your position as an elected council member to achieve a private island.

A reminder, this is an election year.

Sincerely, a very active voter.

Carol Jasinski

Courtney Sottile

From: Brian Connor <bwconnor@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 1:25 PM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: Beaches

Please open our public beaches that we pay taxes for!!!!

Sent from my iPod

Courtney Sottile

From: Tammy Kanapaux <tammykanapaux@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: Free The Beaches

If we can't park and go to the beaches, then the SC tax payers shouldn't have to pay for the beaches, roads, or any state funded help for the beach areas!

Tammy Kanapaux
843.270.8198

Courtney Sottile

From: Myra Jones <myraeasonjones@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 11:38 AM
To: Courtney Sottile
Cc: Andy Benke
Subject: Emergency Ordinance 2020-14

Ms. Sottile:

Please answer these questions for me:

1. What is the date that Emergency Ordinance 2020-14 will expire? Is it September 14, 2020?
2. What is the date of the Town Council's meeting (Special or otherwise) in which the Town Council plans to address the expiration, or the extension, of 2020-14?
3. If there is to be a Town Council meeting to address 2020-14, what is the best way to submit public comments prior to the meeting?

Thank you,

Myra Jones
843-224-5585

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Comments

From: Catherine Carter <catcarter16@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 8:38 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Comments

I don't need my comments read during the meeting, but I do want it known that I stand with the residents who want to protect this special and important natural area on our island. It is so important to preserve what little wild areas we have left. One day we will miss the sound of crickets, cicadas and frogs because we will have destroyed all of their habitat and they will be gone. The same is true for the birds that we enjoy watching so much. It is critical that we do not let the whims of a few make this very important decision to change the ecosystem of our island forever.

Catherine Carter - Marshall Blvd.

Catherine Carter
catcarter16@icloud.com
843-327-2255

Courtney Sottile

From: Joy Morris <joy2502@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:19 AM
To: oneilp; Chauncey Clark; arahforsullivans@gmail.com; Greg Hammond; Tim Reese; Kaye Smith; Bachman Smith
Cc: Courtney Sottile
Subject: Please hear my voice with regard to the Accreted Land/ Maritime Forest on our island.

Dear Mayor O'Neil and Town Council,

Thank you for your time serving our island and for hearing my voice...

I'd like to share my view point regarding the island owned Accreted Land and/or Maritime Forest.

- There are many who regularly speak at these meetings, however, they don't represent ALL on Sullivan's - regardless how loud their voices.

- **The Accreted Land is valuable to the island no doubt - but there is significant room for compromise.**
 - **The FEMA Rating - would be minimally impacted if the Accreted Land was "Managed"**
 - IOP doesn't seem to have FEMA rates Higher than Sullivan's Island - and they don't have "Accreted Land" - rates are comparable.
 - What "Managed" means is open for compromise by ALL islanders and should be determined and defined clearly.
 - **Yes - I support somehow allowing the Accreted Land to be managed** and cleaned up for invasive species of animals and plants.
 - **No - I don't support allow ALL the trees trimmed for views**
 - **Yes - I do support allowing lower vegetation trimming and clean up**
 - As for cost - this should be shouldered by the island, since as stated over and over, it effects us all.
 - At what percentage - discuss that and come to an agreement.
 - **Stop any continued Litigation by the upcoming Mediation.**
- Any Hardwood trees in the Accreted Land should be minimally pruned to allow breeze through our island.
 - The mosquito population is on steroids on the island and any breeze will help this problem substantially.
- **STORM Surge...we saw from Dorian - that it impacted the back of the island far worse than the ocean side**
 - So the argument that insinuates the only area that is in need of protecting is the Accreted Land is an overstatement
 - **All sides of the island should be in the discussion - INCLUDING OUR DRAINAGE ISSUE**
 - **Cost for manipulating or managing the Accreted Land/Maritime Forest should be incurred by ALL on the island, as so many voices published have stated "it affects all residents".**
 - **The island should consider the Management Plan that truly protects the Ocean side of the island with the BACKRIDGE DUNE TRAIL and all the Management Recommendations by the**

Sullivan's Island Comprehensive Plan 2018-2028: Resiliency Element

- ALL Residents should be required to have a Drainage Plan updated and implemented by a Licensed Storm Water Engineer regardless how long you've lived on the island and approved by Sullivan's Island and inspected by Sullivan's Island...after all - the drainage issue affects us all.
-
- Wildlife - we need to eliminate unwanted invasive animals, so the town isn't sued when a small child is harmed or killed.
 - If people want to live in a natural state a "biodiverse environment" it has to be one that all residents agree upon and not let the loudest of voices speak for the entire island.

And I couldn't agree more as someone has written:

"Let's remind Town Council that they were elected to represent and fight for **ALL islanders**, no matter where they live on the island, not just a select few, and that they should not enter into any agreements that jeopardize our COMMON FUTURE.

Let's just remember there are residents who believe in finding common ground on every issue that arises - not overpowering the voices that don't speak the loudest.

Thank you members of Council for serving our island ~

Kindly,
Joy Morris
2620 I'on Ave.

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 8:35 AM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Protection of wetlands

From: Robert Friedman <robert.friedman1950@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 1:57 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Protection of wetlands

On my daily beach walks, I have seen progressive beach loss.
Global warming is accelerating and increasing flood risk
Charleston is paying large sums to look at plans to protect itself.
Loss of our Wetlands, a natural barrier, at this critical time will increase flood risk and harm us all.

Courtney Sottile

From: Ellen Williams <ido429@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:40 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Front Desk
Subject: Town Council Do not implement Paid Parking

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to ask that you do not vote to implement island wide paid parking and and roll back restrictions that been implemented over the last several years.

We live here because of the beach; it provides us a place of peace and enjoyment. It is therapeutic for many. Those of us that live here treasure the beach, it is OUR natural resource to cherish and protect. I'm willing to bet we are not the ones who are leaving trash, tromping through your lawns and disrespecting residents. You do not own the beach. You don't have the right to prevent non-residents from leaving their stress behind and relaxing on a little piece of paradise. We should not have to hassle with a lack of parking or deal with resident's trash cans and landscaping hindering where we park.

Further, implementing all paid parking is discriminatory. Many people in this area and state cannot afford to pay to park at the beach, and they should not have to. All of the racial angst leading to the recent riots is build up from systematic inequalities, such as what you are doing with moving towards limited, paid parking. Do you want to turn our area into what is happening in Chicago? Please consider the consequences of what you are doing and make parking free for all who just want to smell the salt in the air and feel the sand between their toes! In this time of high stress and hate, you have an opportunity to make things right and bring many people a sense of peace.

If you need help figuring out ways to help with REAL issues that your residents might face living in a beach town, we have over 8,000 minds in the Charleston Area Public Beach Access and Parking Group who can help you develop real solutions that will work for everyone.

Kind Regards,
Ellen
Mt. Pleasant

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Paid Parking for beach access

From: Judson Matthews <judson.matthews@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:32 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Paid Parking for beach access

Good morning,

I am sure I am one of many emails sent regarding the above subject.

As a South Carolinian (family and roots), the beach has always been a much needed and welcomed release of stress and method to unwind.

While it is apparent that the island experiences more visitors and to some degree, more residents. There is only so much land to build a residence so I suspect the increase is not huge. Thus, I am trying to understand, from a budgetary perspective, why SI needs to have paid Parking. Would not the taxes from the residential base cover your expenses? Would it not be prudent to base budget on known sources such as taxes? Thus, I am disappointed and not in favor of SI pursuing the paid Parking approach. To me it appears SI is looking for additional revenue stream above their thought-out tax base revenue from residential properties. Why should day visitors pay to fund island services that should be based on residential metrics?

I am afraid that SI will try and follow suit of what other towns are doing instead of realizing that the property owners are experiencing significant gain in wealth without having to pay additional fees for increased services (which paid Parking would cover). Does that seem fair when the people visiting the island probably have a net worth and income 50-75% less than the typical resident?

Please think about what is fair. Greed does not prevail in the long run.

Best,

Carl

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Paid parking

-----Original Message-----

From: MARIANNE WEAVER <mkw1958@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Paid parking

Mayor and town council,

Your actions against people using the PUBLIC BEACH have been outrageous. Haven't you made enough money with your ridiculous rules and fines? We paid \$50.00 for the "privilege" of walking our dog on SI. You closed the beach for 3 months, so I expect a refund of \$12.50.

Don't charge for parking unless you put up a lot near the beach that we can choose to use. By the way, a lot of your beach access paths need work.

Very angry at all of you 😡!

Marianne Weaver

Sent from my iPad

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:59 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Paid Parking

From: Sara Roth <sarawvu@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:40 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Paid Parking

I am a resident of Mount Pleasant who literally lives 3.5 miles from Sullivan's Island. I frequent Sullivan's Island 4 to 5 times a week for exercise, eating at the local restaurants, meeting friends for happy hours, walking my dog and enjoying family time at the beach(well, not this year since chairs, shade devices and coolers are now banned). I am begging you to not go forward with the paid parking. I am a state employee and do not make very much money. There is NO WAY I could afford to pay to park each time I went the 3.5 miles over the Sullivan's Island. I simply can not afford it. By doing the paid parking you would ultimately be cutting off my access to the PUBLIC BEACH. I know I would not be the only one affected by this. I know the business owners personally and they are infuriated with town council for even suggesting the paid parking. Please stop and think about all those whom you will be hurting with this island-wide paid parking....elderly, low income families, pet owners, minorities, day-trippers, business owners, employees who work on the island and the list goes on and on. Please, DO NOT GO AHEAD WITH PAID PARKING ON SULLIVANS ISLAND!!!!

Thank You,
Sara Roth

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Parking

From: Janice McRae <jfmcrae29@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 1:08 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Parking

I have been so saddened about the fighting between communities over parking at OUR community beaches! Especially during this very difficult time in all our lives. It's time for our communities, as well as our country, to come together and make a better tomorrow.

We chose Charleston (Mount Pleasant) 12 years ago as our final destination after military retirement BECAUSE of the beaches. I grew up in Long Beach, CA, one block away from the beach, where I spent every summer day. I am a beach person. My husband was in the US Coast Guard for 30 years, so fortunately, we have always lived near beaches.

I use the beaches here (specifically, Sullivan's, because I prefer the vibe over IOP) to run, walk, swim, and think. I go several times a week and it helps my well being immensely.

I implore you to think of alternatives to expensive paid parking! I certainly cannot afford to pay \$15-\$20 every time I go! Surely the council can think outside the box to fix whatever problem you are trying to fix (though some say the reasons for the implementation of paid parking is because you want to privatize Sullivan's. I certainly hope that's not true.)

I would be all for an annual parking pass, costing, say, \$50. That gives you revenue (even though you're getting \$\$ from my tax dollars already) and gives me the peace of mind to go to the PUBLIC beach whenever I want, without having to pay over \$200 per month in parking fees! Again, the beaches are PUBLIC.

Sullivan's is very different from the beaches I have always lived near. Because it is a barrier island we can't just walk there from Mount Pleasant. Please, listen to the communities and do the right thing! Creating a paid parking system for the entire island is tantamount to privatization.

Thank you,

Janice McRae

Hemp Heals
JFMcRae.PrimeMyBody.com

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Accreted land

From: Luke lewis <lukelewis47@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 1:28 PM
To: oneilp <oneilp@sullivanisland.sc.gov>; Chauncey Clark <CClark@sullivanisland.sc.gov>; Greg Hammond <ghammond@sullivanisland.sc.gov>; Tim Reese <Treese@sullivanisland.sc.gov>; Kaye Smith <ksmith@sullivanisland.sc.gov>; Bachman Smith <BSmith@sullivanisland.sc.gov>; Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Accreted land

It has been nearly 30 years since residents of our island voted to put our accreted land in trust. The major proponents of that decision lived in front beach and were motivated by the assurance that there would be no more development seaward of existing homes. They were also assured that their views and breezes would be preserved. It was written in the document. Our Supreme Court acknowledges that. Now there must be agreement, between the town and the plaintiffs in that case, on how to manage the land- or it's back to court.

There is a very vocal group of islanders, who have succeeded, over the years, in stonewalling any efforts to manage the land. Their intentions might have been righteous, but they have acted with little consideration of their neighbors. They want a maritime forest the length of the island.

They have been deceptive and political in their efforts. Their only concessions have been to allow front beach owners the right to trim wax myrtles to 5 feet, at the homeowners expense, and to create a small restrictive transition zone. Those two things don't meet the requirements.

They claim that the forest is essential to protect us from storms. Not true. The fact is that dunes are the best protection from surges, and the forest prevents the dunes from fully developing. Did the trees protect anyone from Hugo?

They claim that our FEMA insurance requires the Forrest to maintain our rates. That is not true. Check it.

A Firewise expert who testified to council years ago told us “wax myrtles are not our friends” and much of the growth on the accreted land is a fire hazard. There is a record of the experts testimony. We are all at risk.

After insisting for years that the land not be managed, those same residents are now upset that the bill has come due. We could be forced to pay for their lack of action over the years. The Mayor and certain members of town council have been kicking the can down the road for years and they should be held accountable. The reality is that most front beach owners will probably be willing to pay for the management on the seaward side of their property. Much like the owners on Station 22-23 do.

We should keep in mind that the wonderful accretion which Sullivan’s has benefitted from is not a “natural” occurrence. Man made jetties bordering the entrance to Charleston Harbor have caused the accretion, and it is a blessings. Another blessing we share are the huge wildlife refuges throughout the low country. Our few hundred acres are vital to our residents, and thankfully there are hundreds and thousands of acres of surrounding land in the low country set aside for wildlife. Although we all love the wildlife that surrounds us, Sullivans Island is a place where people live, and our safety should be paramount.

I doubt there are any Sullivan’s Island residents who don’t love the trees in our community. That is one of the reasons we chose to live here. Breezes and views are another. I also doubt that front beach residents are insistent that “all trees in the accreted land be cut”. There is likely not to be any disagreement over saving mature Live Oaks, Magnolia, and Palmetto trees. But the remainder of what has become an unmanaged jungle must be dealt with. The law says so.

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Accreted Land

From: Jerry Callahan <jmcallahan@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 1:33 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Accreted Land

I do not believe the Town should mediate the lawsuit, we should stand up for what is right, and I also don't believe the Town should keep changing the rules, as they have for so many years. The accreted land does not belong to the people with waterfront lots, and they should not be allowed to cut down any plants on land they do not own.

Thanks,
Jerry Callahan.

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Beach access and parking - council meeting

From: kseabrook1@aol.com <kseabrook1@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Beach access and parking - council meeting

Dear Council,

As a lifelong resident of Charleston County for over 50 years, I find it appalling that you now want to basically "privatize" Sullivan's Island by restricting access and parking to those who have supported your community for decades. Your actions do not support the sentiment of anyone other than those persons who currently reside on the island. Charleston County taxes are supporting your roads, emergency personnel, schools and many other things. If you want to restrict public beach access, then I suggest a gate! You should go ahead and move to privatization. I am extremely disappointed and will not support business such as Poe's, Obstinate Daughter, Dunleavy's and many others that I have enjoyed in the past. Very sad state of affairs!

Regards,

Kim Seabrook

Charleston county resident

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:05 PM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Paid Parking for beach access

From: Judson Matthews <judson.matthews@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:32 AM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Paid Parking for beach access

Good morning,

I am sure I am one of many emails sent regarding the above subject.

As a South Carolinian (family and roots), the beach has always been a much needed and welcomed release of stress and method to unwind.

While it is apparent that the island experiences more visitors and to some degree, more residents. There is only so much land to build a residence so I suspect the increase is not huge. Thus, I am trying to understand, from a budgetary perspective, why SI needs to have paid Parking. Would not the taxes from the residential base cover your expenses? Would it not be prudent to base budget on known sources such as taxes? Thus, I am disappointed and not in favor of SI pursuing the paid Parking approach. To me it appears SI is looking for additional revenue stream above their thought-out tax base revenue from residential properties. Why should day visitors pay to fund island services that should be based on residential metrics?

I am afraid that SI will try and follow suit of what other towns are doing instead of realizing that the property owners are experiencing significant gain in wealth without having to pay additional fees for increased services (which paid Parking would cover). Does that seem fair when the people visiting the island probably have a net worth and income 50-75% less than the typical resident?

Please think about what is fair. Greed does not prevail in the long run.

Best,

Carl

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Unfair discrimination

From: Laurence Mahorney <laurencemahorney@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:22 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Unfair discrimination

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a longtime resident of Mt. Pleasant who lives along the "Gateway to the Beach", I would like to express how Sullivan's has always been a favored place of peace and solitude for my family. After a heartbreaking divorce, my son and I returned to the area in 1997. Sullivan's Island provided a place of healing which eventually brought our whole family together again. For this I will be forever grateful, and sentimental.

All I ask is that your Council please not lose the wonderful spirit that has kept our communities so close for so long.

Thank You.

Laurence Mahorney
749 McCants Dr, Mt Pleasant, SC 29464

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:40 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Public Comments prior to Mediation

From: pat <platham833@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:38 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Public Comments prior to Mediation

I would like to add my comments concerning the future of the protected accreted land and maritime forest on Sullivan Island.

There are so many reasons why this land is important to be preserved both for now and the future. While beach views and breezes are important for those most closely aligned to the area, it is also important to consider the broader impacts on all current and future residents of the island. Such things as preserving natural vegetation which aids in the preservation of both FEMA insurance rates and providing protection from storm surges.

The natural habitat provides shelter for migratory birds and is one of the few such areas along the East Coast. It is a great opportunity to have such a biodiverse environment available for recreational and learning opportunities. This benefits current and future residents and visitors to the island.

All island residents will share in the cost of active management of the land. The cost of any impact to function of the vegetation in protecting the land will also be borne by all island residents not just the few.

Much study and planning has been done over the years since the land was put into trust in 1991. Reputable experts have been consulted and advice on the management of the area has been given by these experts. Yet, in an ongoing way, this advice has been compromised again and again. This appears to be in a way so that benefits accrue to a few and the cost to many.

It's important to note that the Town Council members were elected to serve all of the residents of the island not just the few.

Patricia K. Latham
3010 Ion Avenue

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Courtney Sottile

From: Mary Poole
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:59 PM
To: Courtney Sottile; Andy Benke
Subject: FW: Accreted land

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris Richardson <crich649@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 12:49 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivanisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Accreted land

The maritime forest arbitration is an environmental issue and potential expense for the entire island. The entire community should vote or be surveyed in order to obtain a plan that represents the interest of the majority of the residents rather than the potential interests of a few. This also allows the council to truly represent the will of the residents. Peter Richardson
2820 Jasper

Sent from my iPad

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 8:35 AM
To: Andy Benke; Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: August 18 Town Council Meeting

From: scyellowbird <scyellowbird@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 10:00 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Subject: August 18 Town Council Meeting

When are we ever going to learn how to admire and accept Mother Nature as she is and not expect her to conform to our selfish whims? Accept her or don't invest in her. It's that simple.

Courtney Sottile

From: Front Desk
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Courtney Sottile
Subject: FW: Please Save our Trees

From: Kelley Andrews <ksandrews68@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:51 PM
To: Front Desk <frontdesk@sullivansisland.sc.gov>
Subject: Please Save our Trees

Dear Town Council,

We live in a magical place that deserves to be protected. Our island-owned accreted land/maritime forest is an invaluable natural resource that provides benefit and enjoyment to ALL residents, current and future, regardless of where we live on the island, and the voices and wishes of ALL residents should be considered by Town Council. The height, density, coverage and type of vegetation between the beach and the first home, provide critical protection from storm surge approaching from the ocean...and limits the distance the storm surge penetrates inland. The roots of our trees and shrubs provide stability to our barrier island, protecting us from damaging erosion, and help to absorb storm water. Our existing vegetation, especially our maritime forest...left in its natural, unmanipulated state...provides the island with a source of incomparable community-wide resilience and outstanding protection in the face of rising sea level and more frequent and damaging storms; it is a self-sustaining and low-cost solution. Actively manipulating this natural resource will be a cost borne by all island residents to implement and maintain. Reducing our natural storm protection increases the risk of significant loss to public and private property and public infrastructure. We are blessed with a beautiful, biodiverse environment that is home to many species of flora and fauna, including nesting sea turtles, butterflies, and year-round and migratory birds. Our land should be preserved in as natural a state as possible for the enjoyment of our generation, future generations and our wildlife partners. Please make the right decision for all the residents of this island.

Thank you,

Kelley and Michael Andrews

2402 Myrtle Avenue