

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Vision

Through its long history, Sullivan's Island has become an exceptional community on the coast of South Carolina that focuses on livability, promotes preservation of the natural environment and its historic character, and fosters a small-scale and unique business district.

Guiding Principles

The guiding principles will help influence the writing for each chapter and the goals and objectives throughout the 2018 Comprehensive Plan. They are intentionally concise and provide clear direction for the future of Sullivan's Island.

- 1. Sullivan's Island will strive to maintain a small-town feel that originated from its past and which continues to this day.
- 2. Sullivan's Island will work to remain a predominately low density, single-family community.
- 3. Sullivan's Island will work to promote its historic districts and maintain a small and unique business district.
- 4. Sullivan's Island will continue to maintain and preserve the natural environment including, but not limited to trees, beaches, sand dunes, marshes, creeks, public vistas and access points, as well as the accreted lands to the benefit of all island residents and the wild life it preserves.
- 5. Sullivan's Island will protect and maintain public amenities, such as parks and town facilities to sustain the town's sense of community and connectedness.
- 6. Sullivan's Island will ensure that the architecture is compatible with the existing island character, neighborhoods and historic fabric.
- 7. Sullivan's Island will promote and expand public open spaces with a commitment to sustainability for the benefit of future generations.

Goals & Objectives

Goals and objectives are the heart and soul of the comprehensive plan document and thus establish targets for a set of implementation strategies to achieve giving the Town a "work plan" for the future. Each element throughout the comprehensive plan has goals and objectives specific to its respective element.

Below, each element's goals and objectives will contain the following: Goals, strategies, responsible parties and a timeframe. The timeframes listed are: Short-term (0-3 years); Med-term (3-7 years); Long-term (7-10 years); Ongoing (Recurring)





POPULATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Town anticipates its population will remain on a very manageable growth pattern for the foreseeable future, gaining only approximately 4 people per year until 2040. As a result, the Town seeks to retain its character as a family oriented community that serves the residents with an exceptional level of resources and services. As such, it has adopted the following goals, policies and implementation strategies:

POPULATION GOAL: The Town seeks to maintain the current population growth pattern while improving quality of life among its residents.		
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
POPULATION POLICY 1: THE TOWN WILL PROM	OTE AND FOSTER A SENSE OF COMMUN	ITY.
P1.1 Promote an Island Farmers Market. Encouraging more produce vendors to participate.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Short-term
P1.2 Promote Holiday Festivals.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Short-term
P1.3 Promote a yard of the month club.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Short-term
POPULATION POLICY 2: THE TOWN WILL ENCOURAGE VOLUNTEERISM FOR BOTH RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS.		
P2.1 Promote and encourage beach (or other natural resource) cleanup days.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Staff	Short-term
P2.2 Promote park, bridge, and causeway clean up days.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Staff	Short-term
POPULATION POLICY 3: THE TOWN WILL MONI	TOR POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC	CHANGES.
P3.1 Record annual population and demographic Census data.	Town Staff	Short-term
POPULATION POLICY 4: THE TOWN WILL INITIATE AN "AGING IN PLACE" CHAPTER.		
P4.1 Initiate Chapter but then step away once it has formed.	Planning Commission;Town Council; Town Staff	Medium-term





HOUSING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Town strives to retain its character as a single-family oriented community that serves the residents with an exceptional level of resources and services. As such, it has adopted the following goals, policies and implementation strategies:

HOUSING GOAL: Preserving the single-family lifestyle while promoting a diverse style of housing
character on the island.OBJECTIVESRESPONSIBLE PARTIESTIMEFRAME

HOUSING POLICY 1: THE TOWN WILL PROMOTE AND FOSTER SINGLE FAMILY DEVELOPMENT.

H1.1 Low Density – Maintain half-acre lot sizes and other regulations.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Ongoing
H1.2 Vacation/Short Term Rentals – Regulate restrictions that address number of tenants, parking, permitted activities, licenses, etc.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Ongoing
H1.3 Preserve/encourage the diversity of structure styles on the Island.	Town Council; Design Review Board	Ongoing
HI.4 Establish a task force to review zoning, administrative processes, and historical compatibility on Sullivan's Island. The goal will be to maintain a sense of place while being respectful of the Island's traditional mass, height, and scale within each neighborhood. An example of this would be to examine Form Based Codes.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Ongoing
H1.5 Conduct an evaluation of residential design guidelines to ensure consistency with the Island's open and informal character as it relates to landscape design, fences, site design, and other architectural elements.	Town Council; Town Administration; Planning Commission	Ongoing





HOUSING POLICY 2: THE TOWN WILL MONITOR THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM.

H2.1 Monitor changes in federal policy.	Town Staff	Ongoing
H2.2 Monitor and adjust the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance as needed while being sensitive to historic structures and surrounding historic districts.	Town Staff	Ongoing
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
HOUSING POLICY 3: EXAMINE OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORKFORCE HOUSING.		
H3.1 Create a Workforce Housing Committee.	Planning Commission; Town Staff	Short-term
H3.2 Explore opportunities with Mt. Pleasant to build workforce housing.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Long-term





COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Town anticipates an increased demand for recreation facilities, maintenance and expansion of existing community facilities. The Town is committed to managing the development and expansion of its infrastructure to serve current and future residents as well as providing a diversity of recreation facilities. It is also committed to providing an exceptional level of safety and security for its residents. As such, the Town has adopted the following goal, policies and strategies:

COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOAL: Maintain essential Town government facilities and other community assets to meet the future needs of the Island's citizenry, including Town Hall services, maintenance, recreation, and expansion of public infrastructure.

OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
ADMINISTRATION- POLICY 1: THE TOWN WILL CONTINUE TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANDING COMMUNITY FACILITIES.		
CF1.1 Identify areas for expanding recreational opportunities.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
 CFI.2 Consider the following when locating and improving community facilities: Accessibility to all citizens and visitors Protecting the character of neighborhoods Preserve natural resources Cost effectiveness of improvements (Continue to assess Town-owned property as needed) 	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF1.3 Establish and maintain Town entrance signage on Ben Sawyer Boulevard and Jasper Boulevard.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF1.4 Explore opportunities for public restroom facilities.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
ADMINISTRATION- POLICY 2: MAINTAIN A FULLY STAFFED, CAPABLE AND PROFESSIONAL WORKFORCE WITH PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF KEEPING CITIZENS AS INFORMED AND AS ENGAGED AS POSSIBLE.		
CF2.1 Continue to provide adequate staff support to all boards, commissions and committees.	Building Department; Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing





OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
CF2.2 Implement new Town website. Periodically assess new website and mobile application technology to keep citizens as informed as possible. Ensure emergency alerts correspond with the Town's website and written notices.	Town Administration	Ongoing
WATER AND SEWER- POLICY 3: MAINTAIN AND WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEMS.	IMPROVE THE EXISTING WATER DISTRIE	BUTION AND
CF3.1 Continue pursuing the various goals of the Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Program. The program is periodically reviewed and updated through the oversight of the Council Committee for Water and Sewer.	Water and Sewer Dept.; Town Council (W&S Committee)	Ongoing
CF3.2 Continue pursuing replacement of critical facilities at the wastewater treatment plant.	Water and Sewer Dept.; Town Council (W&S Committee)	Ongoing
CF3.3 Continue pursuing repair of wastewater collection system to avoid I&I.	Water and Sewer Dept.; Town Council (W&S Committee)	Ongoing
WATER AND SEWER- POLICY 4: EXPLORE METH ENCOURAGE CONSERVATION OF WATER SOUR		USAGE AND
CF4.1 The Town should evaluate use of advanced meter reading technologies to enhance consumer access to water usage information.	Water and Sewer Dept.; Town Council (W&S Committee)	Short-term
CF4.2 Explore rate structures that reflect water infrastructure and foster conservation.	Water and Sewer Dept.; Town Council (W&S Committee)	Short-term
CF5.1 Ensure appropriate staffing levels are maintained and that all staff, volunteers and reserve officers are adequately trained.	Police and Fire Dept.; Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF5.2 Ensure all equipment and supplies are appropriate and up to date and evaluated on an annual basis. Reconstruction of Fire Station	Police and Fire Dept.; Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF5.3 Continue to explore innovative approaches to shared services through intergovernmental mutual aid agreements and pursue service excellence through technological advances.	Police and Fire Dept.; Administration; Town Council	Ongoing



MAINTENANCE- POLICY 6: CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE ENTITIES PROVIDING COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

CF7.1 Construct a new public works building	Administration; Town Council	Short-term
CF7.1 Continue regularly scheduled solid waste collection service to ensure a visually attractive for living environment for residents and visitors.	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF7.2 Continue support for Sullivan's Island Elementary School.	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF7.3 Continue to support the operation of Poe Library.	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF7.4 Continue to support and keep a U.S. Post Office on Sullivan's Island	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF7.5 Continue to support projects and initiatives for burying utility powerlines where economically feasible. (SCE&G power lines, cable, etc.)	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND SERVICES- POLICY 8: ENHANCE THE EXISTING COMMUNITY-WIDE EMERGENCY REACTION TRAINING PROGRAM AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEM.		
CF8.1 Prepare appropriate informational sessions for community residents, providing particular focus on new coastal residents.	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF8.2 Assist vulnerable members of the Island's populations during emergency situations. Ensure an up to date list is maintained for outreach.	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CF8.3 Continue to improve community-wide system of notification in case of emergency situations (consider all forms of mobile technology	Administration; Town Council	Ongoing





CULTURAL RESOURCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The cultural resources on Sullivan's Island are an essential link to the Town's rich history and family-oriented quality of life. Retention and preservation of these resources enable residents and visitors to understand what makes Sullivan's Island unique. As such, the Town has adopted the following goals, policies and implementation strategies:

CULTURAL RESOURCES GOAL: The Town will continue to focus its efforts on protecting sites that are significant to the Town's history, uniqueness and natural beauty.

OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICY 1: THE TOWN WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO PROTECT HISTORIC RESOURCES (SITES, STRUCTURES, ARCHEOLOGICAL FEATURES).		
CR1.1 Property owners of important sites and structures should be encouraged to place deed restrictions on these properties, thus protecting these sites for future generations.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing
CR1.2 The Town should continue to encourage the local historical designation of properties and compliance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties: Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstruction of Historic Buildings.	Design Review Board; Town Administration	Ongoing
CRI.3 Continue to support Design Review Board oversight of the historic overlay districts and individual historic structures and, through Town ordinances, protect historic properties on the Island. Continue efforts, where appropriate, for the inclusion of historical properties on the National Register of Historic Sites.	Town Administration	Ongoing
CRI.4 The Town should conduct or facilitate periodic educational opportunities for citizens to benefit from available tax or other incentives in the maintenance of historical properties	Town Administration	Ongoing







OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
CR1.5 The Town should make such efforts using best management practices and within its scope of responsibilities to protect and preserve scenic/ historical sites and view corridors such as Breach Inlet, "The Mound," Cove Inlet, Battery Logan, Station 26 landing, the old dump site at Station 19 and wherever view corridors are available from public rights-of-way.	Town Administration	Ongoing
CR1.6 The Town should continue to support the preservation and historical records of the historic cemeteries on the Island. Island cemeteries should be researched and the grounds should continue to be maintained and protected.	Town Administration	Ongoing
CR1.7 The Town should continue membership of Certified Local Government Program through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).	Town Administration	Ongoing
CR1.8 Continue applying zoning standards and SIS guidelines when elevating historic structures and adding additions.	Town Administration	Ongoing
CR1.9 Consider updating historic surveys for all properties not protected by the Historic Preservation Overlay District. Continue evaluating whether these properties embody a distinguishing character, time period and architecture, which could lead to historic designation.	Town Administration; Design Review Board	Ongoing
CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICY 2: ENCOURAGE THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF ALL ISLAND BATTERIES, INCLUDING BATTERIES CAPRON AND BUTLER.		
CR2.1 Support such groups as the Sullivan's Island Park Foundation, Battery Gadsden Cultural Center and others in efforts consistent with this goal.	Town Council	Ongoing
CR2.2 Support the creation of a new volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of island-wide historic military structures.	Town Council	Ongoing



OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICY 3: CONTINUE T RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE UNITED STATES NAT		TING
CR3.1 The Town should work to maintain a strong mutually cooperative bond with Fort Moultrie in support of activities such as Carolina Day and various other events conducted by the Park Administration.	Town Administration	Ongoing





ECONOMIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Town of Sullivan's Island maintains a quaint business district that provides both visitors and residents a place to congregate and patron. Likewise, the natural amenities* such as the beaches and water provide access for those same groups. The local economy depends on both the business district and the natural environment to thrive. As such, the Town has adopted the following goals, policies and implementation strategies:

ECONOMIC GOAL: Preserve the business district size, scale, and local atmosphere.		
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
ECONOMIC POLICY 1: THROUGH LANDUSE AND ZONING REGULATIONS, MONITOR EXISTING AND FUTURE BUSINESS USES.		
E1.1 Zoning – Maintain zoning regulations that do not change the fabric of the district.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff	Ongoing
E1.2 Design – Monitor and regulate design through the DRB.	Planning Commission; Town Council; Town Staff; DRB	Ongoing
ECONOMIC POLICY 2: REVISIT THE COMMU	NITY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT MASTER PI	AN
E2.1 Update the Plan when needed.	Town Staff	Long-Term
E2.2 Re-evaluate parking within the Commercial District.	Town Staff	Ongoing
ECONOMIC POLICY 3: MONITOR CHANGES IN ECONOMIC DATA		
E3.1 Review ACS and Census Data Annually	Town Staff	Ongoing

*Natural Amenities Goals & Objectives will be located in the Natural Resources Section



TRANSPORTATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of Sullivan's Island transportation planning efforts is to ensure a safe, functional and well-maintained network that is consistent with the character of the Island and lifestyles of the population. The network and infrastructure should strive to make it feasible and safe for Town residents and visitors to enjoy various modes of transport, including automobiles, bicycles and walking, as well as to recognize the growing use of golf carts. In addition, as part of a larger metropolitan area, the Town should be an active partner in regional and public transportation discussions and policy making:

TRANSPORTATION GOAL: Ensure the transportation needs of those who live, work and play on Sullivan's Island are met.		
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
TRANSPORTATION POLICY 1: THE TOWN WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP PROCESSES IN PLACE THAT ENSURE SULLIVAN'S ISLAND RECEIVES ITS FAIR SHARE OF FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY FUNDING TO ENHANCE THE ROADWAY AND PEDESTRIAN SYSTEMS		
TI.1 Continue exploration of federal, state and local funding opportunities to enhance Sullivan's Island's transportation network	Town Administration	Ongoing
TI.2 Coordinate with SCDOT and pursue funding through all funding sources, such as the Charleston County Transportation Committee (CTC) or other repaving or maintenance funding sources	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
TRANSPORTATION POLICY 2: SUPPORT AND PROMOTE COMMUNITY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SAFETY AND ACCESS FOR BOTH RESIDENTS AND VISITORS		
T2.1 Encourage Bicycle Committee in its efforts to obtain Bicycle Friendly Community designation for Sullivan's Island	Town Administration	Ongoing
T2.2 Continue to support the needs of the East Coast Greenway Trail System	Town Administration	Ongoing
T2.3 Look for ways to improve pedestrian connectivity along Middle Street, especially the South side	Town Administration	Ongoing





T2.4 Continue to explore the establishment of new pedestrian connectivity opportunities and cross-walks island-wide. Particularly neighborhoods on the northeastern side crossing Jasper Boulevard and Middle Street to access the beach, parks and SI Elementary School.	Town Administration	Ongoing
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
T2.5 Seek grants and resources to establish safe routes for students attending Sullivan's Island Elementary School	Town Administration; Town Council	Short Term
T2.6 When available, seek funding and opportunities to provide additional handicap parking spaces and improve beach path approaches	Town Administration	Ongoing
TRANSPORTATION POLICY 3: DEVELOP A COMMUNITY-WIDE EDUCATION PROGRAM REGARDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR OPERATING GOLF CARTS ON TOWN STREETS		
T3.1 Collect all applicable state and Town regulations regarding the operation of golf carts	Town Administration	Short-term
T3.2 Distribute printed copies of rules and regulations and post these on the Town website	Town Administration	Short-term
T3.3 Enforce the rules and regulations regarding golf cart usage and other small motorized vehicles such as electric bikes and electric skateboards.	Town Staff; Law Enforcement	Ongoing
TRANSPORTATION POLICY 4: CONTINUE TO IMPROVE ROADWAYS ON THE ISLAND		
T4.1 Implement plans, as funding is available, for street tree planting, as well as pursuing a commitment from South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) to place all utility lines underground with decorative, environmentally sensitive lamp posts replacing the streetlights currently on the poles	Town Council; Town Administration	Long-term



T4.2 As part of the construction permitting process, assess the impact of proposed new construction projects on traffic flow, parking, safety and stormwater runoff onto roadways

TRANSPORTATION POLICY 5: CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN ALL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION			
T5.1 Remain active in CARTA	Town Council	Ongoing	
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME	
T5.2 Work with BCDCOG Mobility Manager to discuss alternative transportation options through the Low Country Go program.	Town Administration	Ongoing	
TRANSPORTATION POLICY 6: ADDRESS COMM	UNITY PARKING NEEDS		
T6.1 Examine parking management solutions for Middle Street for the entire community commercial district	Town Administration	Ongoing	
T6.2 Restripe parking lines within the Commercial District	Town Administration	Short-Term	
T6.3 Ensure ADA compliance with all parking facilities on the island	Town Administration	Ongoing	
TRANSPORTATION POLICY 7: FUTURE TRANSPORTATION ISSUES			
T7.1 Assess and create policies for Uber/Lyft transportation services (i.e. – specific drop-off/ pickup locations that do not impede traffic)	Town Administration	Immediate	
T7.2 Monitor advancing technologies such as Connected/Autonomous Vehicles CAVs	Town Administration	Long-Term	
T7.3 Continue evaluating signage and landscaping improvements for the Island's gateway	Town Administration	Long-Term	





LAND USE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of Sullivan's Island land use planning efforts is to ensure that the Town maintains its small-town character and controls the land uses currently present on the Island, as well as maintain future growth. The following objectives and policies are a guiding framework to achieve these ends:

LAND USE GOALS:			
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME	
LAND USE POLICY 1: PRESERVE THE SINGLE-FAN	IILY RESIDENTIAL CHARACTER OF THE IS	LAND	
LU1.1 Keep housing density low through maintaining half-acre lot sizes and other regulations	Town Council; Planning Commission	Ongoing	
LU1.2 Continue to prohibit multifamily development	Town Council; Planning Commission	Ongoing	
LU1.3 Continue to restrict the short-term rental market and enforce all policies pertaining to the regulations.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
LUI.4 Consider creation of an "institutional" or "governmental" zoning district to properly separate more intensive uses from residential properties by way of zoning standards.	Town Council; Town Administration; Planning Commission	Short-Term	
LAND USE POLICY 2: PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN THE ECLECTIC NATURE OF THE ISLAND ARCHITECTURE			
LU2.1 Continue to implement policies and encourage building options that prevent demolition of structures that contribute to the historic fabric and eclectic sense of place.	Town Council; Town Administration; Design Review Board	Ongoing	
LU2.2 Encourage training and certification of board members and staff involved with historic review.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
LU2.3 Explore advantages of tax incentives in historic preservation efforts.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	



OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME	
LAND USE POLICY 3: BALANCE THE VIABILITY NATURE OF THE ISLAND.	OF THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT WITH TH	IE RESIDENTIAL	
LU3.1 Support the implementation of a Master Community Commercial District Plan that addresses concerns such as on-street parking, street trees, design, landscaping, site placement of structures and parking.	Town Council; Town Administration; Planning Commission	Ongoing	
LAND USE POLICY 4: DISCOURAGE LOSS OF HIS WITHIN THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT DUE TO IN ZONING RESTRICTIONS AND MAINTENANCE RE	IABILITY TO USE THE STRUCTURES BECA		
LU4.1 Investigate methods to allow and encourage adaptive reuse of military era structures island-wide.	Town Council; Town Administration; Planning Commission	Ongoing	
LAND USE POLICY 5: ENHANCE AND INCREASE POSSIBLE.	EPUBLIC AND PROTECTED OPEN SPACE V	VHENEVER	
LU5.1 Encourage the transformation of Town- owned property into public protected open space.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
LU5.2 Investigate protection, such as a conservation easement, on the designated conservation recreation space.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
LAND USE POLICY 6: ADDRESS NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY DESIGN CONCERNS REGARDING SENSE OF PLACE ON THE ISLAND.			
LU6.1 Establish a task force that will revise land use regulations by review of the existing Zoning Ordinance to ensure that future construction is respectful of the Island's traditional mass, height, scale, proportionality to lot size, neighborhood compatibility, and historic resources.	Town Council; Planning Commission	Ongoing	
LU6.2 Conduct an evaluation of residential design guidelines to ensure consistency with the Island's open and informal character as it relates to landscape design, fences, site design, and other architectural elements.	Town Council; Town Administration; Planning Commission	Ongoing	





NATURAL RESOURCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

As a low-lying barrier island, the Town of Sullivan's Island faces many benefits and challenges involved with living in such a dynamic ecosystem. This element strives to retain and preserve the Island's natural resources and also protect the community's health and quality of life. As such, the Town has adopted the following goal, policies and strategies:

NATURAL RESOURCES GOAL: Retain and preserve all of the Island's natural resources including openspaces, dunes and dune vegetation, tree canopy and native wildlife of front and back beaches through best management practices and public services.

OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME	
NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 1: THE TOWN WILL ENSURE LOCAL ORDINANCES, ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PLANS PRESERVE THESE NATURAL RESOURCES.			
NR1.1: Identify existing public accesses needing constructed walkovers that include appropriate access and parking for handicapped visitors. Pursue funding through gifts and grants to construct and maintain beach accesses.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing	
NR1.2: Inventory and evaluate each beach access to determine ways to limit damage and mitigate environmental impacts.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing	
NR1.3: Town should install and maintain sufficient and appropriate signs at beach accesses to inform visitors of ordinances that protect natural dunes and beach resources	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing	
NRI.4: Continue to provide for adequate animal waste, refuse and recycling resources at beach access paths. Encourage citizen volunteer groups and private litter management programs for all public spaces.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing	
NR1.5: Update and incorporate into the Town's Beachfront Management Plan a program to stabilize, maintain and enlarge the dunes. Enforce ordinances pertaining to walking or climbing on the dunes.	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing	
NR1.6 Ensure emergency preparedness protocols of Chapter 4 correspond with community resiliency goals and objectives.	Town Council; Administration	Ongoing	





OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME		
	NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 2: THE TOWN RECOGNIZES THE NEED TO PROTECT THE AREAS OF THE ISLAND VULNERABLE TO FLOODING AND EROSION THAT MAY JEOPARDIZE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.			
NR2.1 Identify and pursue funding sources, including but not limited to public and private grants	Town Administration; Town Council	Ongoing		
NR2.2 Determine if "best practices" to control erosion are being utilized and, if not, seek to have best practices identified and implemented	Planning Commission; Town Council	Short-term		
NR2.3 Seek methods to mitigate the erosion problems in the Island's most vulnerable areas.	Town Council	Ongoing		
NR2.4 Collaborate with SCDOT, Charleston County, and DHEC-OCRM to establish and improve stormwater drainage improvements island-wide and improvements of all marsh outfalls. Where appropriate, use Town staff to facilitate and implement all improvement projects.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing		
NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 3: THE TOWN WILL IDENTIFY AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES THAT CREATE AND ENHANCE GREEN SPACES AND PASSIVE PARKS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.				
NR3.1 Complete the Sullivan's Island Accreted Land Management Plan with the broadest possible community participation and input, as an integral part of the Town's resiliency plan.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing		
NR3.2 Consider other opportunities for "pocket" parks, scenic overlooks and other passive recreational areas. Preserve public access to open-spaces and public lands community-wide.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing		
NR3.3 Continue to encourage conservation easements to protect open space on the Island and continue to encourage conservation easement structures as part of the Island's policy of retreat from beachfront development.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing		





OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME		
	NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 4: ENCOURAGE THE USE OF NATIVE VEGETATION AND PROTECTION OF EXISTING TREES ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.			
NR4.1 Maintain existing ordinances to maximize the opportunities for the use of native vegetation.	Tree Commission; Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing		
NR4.2 Continue to set an example by planting native plants in public areas.	Planning Commission; Town Council	Ongoing		
NR4.3 Review and update, as required, the existing tree protection ordinance.	Tree Commission; Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing		
NR4.4 Consider adopting policies and programs to keep the Tree City USA designation	Tree Commission; Town Council; Administration	Ongoing		
	NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 5: CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE MARSHES, BEACHES AND WATERWAYS ON AND ADJACENT TO THE ISLAND ARE CRITICAL HABITATS THAT REQUIRE SPECIAL PROTECTION			
NR5.1 Continue supporting efforts to protect these areas, not only for the wildlife habitat that exists there but also for the enjoyment and safety of the residents of the Town.	Town Council	Short-term		
NR5.2 Continue to participate in the ocean water quality monitoring program	Planning Commission; Town Council	Mid-term		
NR5.3 Continue to participate in the ocean and marsh water quality monitoring program	Town Council	Short-term		
NR5.4 Continue partnership with Charleston County to ensure full compliance with NPDES Phase II requirements and take any other steps necessary for timely permitting of stormwater systems.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing		



OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME	
NR5.5 Continue to encourage the use of pervious surfaces with all public and private development.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
NR5.6 Continue to evaluate zoning regulations that limit the amount of impervious surface coverage for development. Standards	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 6: THE TOWN RI NESTING AND HATCHING SITE FOR MIGRATORY PROTECTION EFFORTS ARE REQUIRED.		-	
NR6.1 The Town will continue to enforce existing ordinances that will support the protection of seasonal turtle and bird habitats.	Town Council	Short-term	
NR6.2 Encourage and support community participation to protect turtle and seabird habitats.	Planning Commission; Town Council	Mid-term	
NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 7: MONITOR SILTING IN THE WATERWAYS ON OR ADJACENT TO THE ISLAND AND DETERMINE WHAT IF ANY ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PRESERVE THE WATERWAYS AND ENCOURAGE ADEQUATE DRAINAGE OF THE ISLAND-WIDE STORMWATER SYSTEM.			
NR7.1 Recognize strategies for maintaining drainage into the marsh and creek waterways while preserving this area as a vital habitat for birds and other marine life.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
NR7.2 Explore potential grants and other funding options to accomplish regular, reliable, effective dredging of the Intercoastal Waterway, Cove Creek and other waterway areas.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	
NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 8: IMPROVE ISLAND-WIDE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT AND EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH.			
NR8.1 Coordinate with County agencies to ensure regular, effective mosquito abatement treatment, and, useful public outreach to educate the general public on mosquito control.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing	





OBJECTIVES

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

TIMEFRAME

NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY 9: SULLIVAN'S IS OF SEA LEVEL RISE (SLR) AND KING TIDES.	LAND MUST BE PREPARED TO ADAPT TO	THE EFFECTS
NR9.1 Coordinate with the Charleston Resilience Network, DHEC-OCRM, the City of Charleston, Sea Grant Consortium, NOAA, and other public and private organizations to consider policies that encourage resiliency towards the impacts of flooding and high water	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NR9.2 Continue participation in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) to reduce flood risk on Sullivan's Island and decrease flood insurance costs. Collaborate with the DHEC- OCRM working group	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NR9.3 Develop a comprehensive sea level rise adaptation strategy that explains high water impacts and identifies goals, needs, and strategies to ensure Sullivan's Island is resilient to flooding and high-water impacts in the future.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NR9.4 Ensure the Comprehensive Plan's SLR adaptation strategies, and any future resilience and SLR adaptation plan, corresponds with all state and county plans. Ensure goals and strategies are updated and tracked to improve eligibility for state and federal grant opportunities.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NR9.5 Complete the Accreted Land Management Plan as an integral part of the Town's comprehensive SLR and resiliency strategy.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing





RESILIENCY AND SEA LEVEL RISE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Sullivan's Island faces many challenges involving localized flooding from king tides and storm events. This section is intended to provide goals, policies and a series of initiatives that are designed to strengthen the Town's resilience to sea level rise.

RESILIENCY & SLR GOAL: Identify initiatives that will improve the Town's ability to withstand the effects of sea level rise, resulting in more frequent tidal flooding and other flooding events.		
OBJECTIVES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	TIMEFRAME
RESILIENCY AND SLR POLICY I ESTABLISH STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS TO REDUCE AND ADAPT TO THE EFFECTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE (SLR): STORM EVENTS, KING TIDES AND OTHER REGULAR FLOODING EVENTS. ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY GIVEN FLOODING POTENTIAL.		
NR1.1 Coordinate with the Charleston Resilience Network, DHEC-OCRM, the City of Charleston, Sea Grant Consortium, NOAA, and other public and private organizations to consider policies that encourage resiliency towards the impacts of flooding and high water	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NR1.2 Continue participation in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) to reduce flood risk on Sullivan's Island and decrease flood insurance costs. Collaborate with the DHEC- OCRM working group	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NR1.3 Develop a comprehensive sea level rise adaptation strategy that explains high water impacts and identifies goals, needs, and strategies to ensure Sullivan's Island is resilient to flooding and high-water impacts in the future.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NRI.4 Ensure the Comprehensive Plan's SLR adaptation strategies, and any future resilience and SLR adaptation plan, corresponds with all state and county plans. Ensure goals and strategies are updated and tracked to improve eligibility for state and federal grant opportunities.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing
NR1.5 Complete the Accreted Land Management Plan as an integral part of the Town's comprehensive SLR and resiliency strategy.	Town Council; Town Administration	Ongoing



