

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Growth Management Department



MEETING DATE:	May 14, 2024
PROJECT:	A Resolution to Consider an Updated Buck Island-Simmonsville Neighborhood Plan
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kevin P. Icard, AICP Director of Growth Management

BACKGROUND: Initially adopted by Town Council in 2009, the *Buck Island-Simmonsville Neighborhood Plan* was developed to address resident concerns related to inadequate infrastructure, land development pressures, and community safety. With the passing of 15 years and an updated Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Town in 2022 (*Blueprint Bluffton*), an assessment of the earlier plan provides an opportunity to determine if identified actions were achieved and whether unrealized actions should continue to be pursued with an updated plan. The update also allows for the identification of present-day needs and goals. The Town's Fiscal Year (FY) 23-24 Strategic Plan identifies the Plan update as a priority for its community quality of life focus area. The boundaries of the community are shown in Attachment 2.

The update is divided into three sections: Overview and Background, Existing Conditions, and an Action Plan. The Overview and Background describes the neighborhood planning process and the Buck Island-Simmonsville community, including a brief historic overview. The Existing Conditions section includes demographic, land use and zoning, housing, transportation and mobility, public safety, public services, and other relevant data that provide a snapshot of the neighborhood's assets, challenges, and opportunities. The Action Plan includes strategies that can be undertaken to achieve the objectives that were identified by an Advisory Committee through a series of meetings with Town staff. Responsible Town departments, potential partners and a suggested timeline for completion are included.

The acceptance or adoption of the *Neighborhood Plan Update* is not a guarantee or a commitment of Town resources. The identified action items and strategies, depending on their nature, can be considered by Town Council during its annual strategic planning process in which projects for the upcoming fiscal year are identified, prioritized and a budget established.

Neighborhood meetings were held on April 25, 2023 and March 14, 2024.

NEXT STEPS:

Process	Date	Complete
Step 1. Planning Commission Recommendation	April 24, 2024	✓
Step 2. Town Council– Public Meeting	May 14, 2024	✕

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the proposed Buck Island-Simmons ville Neighborhood Plan Update.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Presentation
2. Neighborhood Plan Area Map
3. Resolution & Buck Island-Simmons ville Neighborhood Plan Update-Final Draft
4. Approved 2009 Neighborhood Plan
5. Suggested Motion