

OUR GOALS

Carolina Beach is a fabulous town with amazing amenities to offer stakeholders and visitors. Improve the Lake Park Blvd corridor to be more aesthetically appealing, safe and pedestrian friendly.

Combined Council Appointed Committees present the following ideas and goals for consideration, feasibility, and implementation:

- Implement a realistic and strategically planned timeline in coordination with NCDOT repaving of Lake Park Blvd and Centennial Celebrations, scheduled for 2025.
- Budgetary line item annually for maintenance of all projects at minimum of ten years.
- Budgetary line item annually for continuation of beautification projects.
- Budgetary line item annually for continuation to completion of all other listed CAC projects presented here.
- Complete projects in manageable phases and time frames and finish for CENTENNIAL.
- Prepare a nursery area with donations from NCWF Island Wildlife Chapter with donated plants and trees through CB Trash Walkers.
- Work with requisite state, county, municipal organizations & stakeholders.
- Transform the major corridor of Carolina Beach to a walkable, engaging, beautiful and safe experience, <u>connecting all sections of the Lake Park thoroughfare.</u>
 Use <u>indigenous and other species</u> that are prolific drought and salt resistant plants.
- Propagate perennials annually as a resource for constant and continued beautification and species maintenance.

Funding and Implementation

IMPLEMENTATION & RESEARCH

NCDOT has a beautification plan - engage

Get NCDOT permission - encroachment agreement

- Discuss with Keith Groves NCDOT Div.3, Roadside Environmental Engineer regarding the NCDOT supplying trees/shrubbery/plants with town care agreement of plantings. Requires planting plan in place and application to the NCDOT "Landscape Enhancement Program".
- Bring in Duke Energy to verify placement allowance

Bring in AT&T to verify placement allowance

 Bring in the Town of Carolina Beach Public Works & Utilities regarding location of water/sewer and storm water lines for placement allowance

Establish who will be doing the plantings

- Establish who will be purchasing the trees/plants
- Town Resources will be recommended for care and maintenance of all improvements.
- Will need landscape architecture plan drawings for ALL submissions to NCDOT for approval.

FUNDING

- Work in Conjunction with Pleasure Island Habitat, Friends of the Carolina Beach Parks & Greenways and Island Wildlife, and other 501c(3) groups for fundraising
- Grants to be written by town staff and possibly engage an independent grant writer, Barbara Robinson
- Approach businesses/property owners to consider splitting costs of trees with town
- See last page of this report for other funding, grant, and support avenues.

Master Beautification Plan for the Lake Park Corridor

Committee Feedback Section
From a Joint Meeting Held on
August 17, 2022 Regarding the Proposed
NCDOT 2025 Lake Park Blvd. Paving Project

Bike-Ped Committee: Request that NCDOT stripe a Bike Lane along S. Lake Park from Charlotte Ave. to Carolina Sands Dr.

- -Subject to NCDOT Approval SEE: Pages: 38-40
- -No Cost to Town, part of NCDOT roadway striping plan

Centennial Committee (CB 100, 1925 – 2025):

- -Wants a nod to the Centennial on the NCDOT "Welcome to Carolina Beach" sign on the north side of Snow's Cut Bridge, subject to Council and NCDOT Approval
- -Addition of Centennial Logo on street banners and historic street designation (Maureen will be presenting their full plan to Council in January)

Marketing Committee: Would like to see the Marketing Logo added to the NCDOT "Welcome to Carolina Beach" sign on the north side of Snow's Cut Bridge and/or included somewhere within The Plan that would be beneficial to our tourism industry

-Subject to Council and NCDOT Approval

- Operations Advisory Committee: Butch LeCompte
- The three high level submitted ideas are:
- Decorative bike racks for enhancing the natural transition from parking & bicycling, to walking safely in the CBD.
- 2. The creation of safety bump-outs at intersections on Lake Park Blvd between Harper Blvd and Charlotte Avenue. And eliminating street front parking on the blocks where Havana's and El Cazador are on one side & The Dive and Shuckin Shack are on the other side.
- 3. Signage at hamlet avenue on both sides of lake park and at each beach access street along Carolina Beach Avenue South to direct bicyclists to use CBAS as an alternate safety bike route instead of lake park Blvd Where it could be considered dangerous to bike next to lake park especially around the curve of the CB Lake. (I cross verified this with Ricky Neic, the chairman of bike/Ped in advance .. that they would be supportive of this and not interpret this as contrary or distracting from their own 'ask' to stripe a bike/pedestrian aisle on the west side of lake from Charlotte Ave to Carolina Sands (pending DOT feedback).
- 4. 25 MPH Lake park Idea Removed as a submission.
- Note: For the slide describing where the bump-outs might be, you will see 3/4 round corner bump/outs at cape fear and lake and trapezoidal bump-out at Raleigh and lake as well as Harper and lake to address the smaller scale and space availability there.
 SEE Pages 27-37

. (See pp 27-37)

Parks & Recreation Committee:

- -Would like to see updated plantings on the Lake Park Blvd. side of Carolina Beach Lake
- -Would like decorative fencing along the Lake Park Blvd. side of Carolina Beach Lake
- -Consider utilization of their Bench and Swing Program along the corridor when executing The Plan

Planning & Zoning: Suggests to follow the Town's Landscaping Guidelines when planning for the beautification improvements along the corridor

Police Advisory: Suggests the project follow good safety practices for placing trees, plants, benches, etc.

-Suggests the use of something other than palms in some of the areas shown for trees, concerned with maintenance & upkeep

Beautification: multiple small phased projects to bring natural beauty and communal functionality to the Lake Park Corridor. To include: native perennial and annual plantings and benches, game tables, and communal rest areas. See pages 8-26. **SEE Pages 8-26**

Phase 1A GATEWAY TO CAROLINA BEACH PLANTINGS

Green on calendars

- Fall 2022
- Plant the area north of the bridge down the center.
- Move MURAL PROJECT "Welcome to Carolina Beach" sign to south west corner of Lake Park and Dow Road.Include lighting for sign.
- Presented: landscape architecture plan drawings for GATEWAY to NCDOT for approval.
- NEW NCDOT Carolina Beach sign and bed planting on west right of way.
- Native drought resistant perennials to minimize maintenance.
- Town has NCDOT permission to plant this area if town maintains.
- ADVANTAGES: Planting perennials gives the ability to propagate annually and plant more throughout town at almost no cost.
- These types of flowers and grasses will attract butterfly species that are in danger like the Monarch.

This image shows plants in two rows as an example of planting while considering drainage. See next three slides for landscape design and costs.Note: NCDOT requires native plants and trees per their list online.



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Mulch - \$25 yd x 8 yards 200,00
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Topsoil - 8 yds 30/48
Molch - \$25/4d x 8405 200,00
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Watering required every day for 10 days -

Prep - Use Side Cutter - rental cost \$ 150/day \$150 Need - I day

Watering! every other day for 10 days to establish Maintenance: cut back grasses annually-January

Topsoil/Soil needed: 5 years topsoil@ 430/yord = 9150 - (already accounted for)

NCWF Island Wildlife Chapter will donate plants and volunteers for this section of the project, after town removes grass.

Area front of town Sign
15'

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PM IN PM

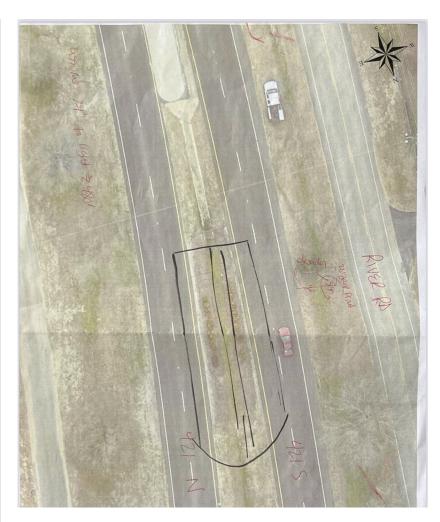
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\$ 215,90



Phase 1B Plant along Dow Rd to Elton Ave.

Purple on calendars

NCWF Island Wildlife Chapter offered help for 1B, in conjunction with Carolina Beach Trash Walkers, who have earned free plants and trees due to their clean up efforts, so the town can focus on Part 1C.

- Fall 2022
- Plant: west side of the road going south at Dow Road between Bridge Barrier and Elton to match the plantings at the corners of Dow Rd and N. Lake Park at the light. Plant Cost: \$2000
- ADVANTAGES: Planting perennials gives the ability to propagate annually and plant more throughout town at almost no cost.
- These types of flowers and grasses will attract butterfly species that are in danger like the Monarch.





Phase 1C Light at Dow Rd & N Lake Park - add trees to concrete medians. 2 PHASES Yellow & Red on calendars

- Spring 2023
- Plant 15 Sable Minor Palm trees (native trees per NCDOT) in the concrete medians south of the Dow Rd/Lake Park intersection in a 3 across by 5 deep pattern.
- Speed limits allow this.
- Proposed:
- NCDOT approval for project to cut appropriate square planting holes.
- Speed limit here allows for trees in median.
- Irrigation of area has been discussed.
- Suggest Palm Trees here to minimize overhang and keep visibility clear.
- Monkey Grass or other type grass at base of trees for low maintenance.



Phase 1D Create communal areas in CBD Orange on Calendars

- Winter 2022-2023 Benches and tables Spring 2023 Tree plantings
- Proposed: PROMOTE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Make the CBD beautiful, approachable, communal, and peaceful.

USE: Benches, trees, game tables and perennial long-flowering drought-resistant plants will transform the defined streetscapes where setbacks allow. Tree bases with thick lilies or grasses at the bases will provide shade and greenery without hiding signage for businesses. Benches and tables will offer more communal areas for shoppers to gather, rest, or enjoy our downtown. Possibility of widening the sidewalks in the CBD. These additions will draw people for fireworks viewing and to our businesses.

A. Place benches (with flipping backs) and trees in the grassy area on the east side of N Lake Park between Cape Fear Blvd and Charlotte.

B. Add benches (with flipping backs) on both sides of Cape Fear Blvd, between N Lake Park Blvd and Canal Drive.

Benches and Palm Trees between the street lights.

Benches should have backs so people can choose which way to face. People can gather for fireworks and music, coffee, quick breakfasts, food pickup, and rest from shopping. Use controlled height grass types around the Palm Trees to reduce maintenance.

Phase 1D COMMUNAL AREAS in CBD: Before and After Image mock-ups

NOTE: In NCDOT areas ONLY NATIVE SPECIES allowed. In Privately owned areas, any species allowed. Only the Sable Minor Palm (smaller) is considered an NC native.













Phase 1E Plantings past median to St. Joseph Street Complete tree planting on N. Lake Park Blvd to St. Joseph St. in conjunction with property owners/businesses.

Early 2023 to end 2023 (possibly in conjunction with The Proximity project)

- Will request a simple agreement with an owner or business to plant on their property and, if needed, an agreement with NCDOT if planting on their property. May need an easement with Duke Energy as well.
- See referenced idea photos here and at end of report...

Proposed:

Palm / Indigenous / low growth (height) trees to keep visibility, walkways, roadways, electrical lines, business signage and overhang controlled. **NOTE: In NCDOT areas ONLY NATIVE SPECIES allowed. In Privately** owned areas, any species allowed. Only the Sable Minor Palm (smaller) is considered an NC native of the Palms.

Minimum height dense grasses and maximum flowering, minimum care species to add visual interest and

celebrate our green areas between businesses.







PHASE 1A
GREEN Plant north
side of
bridge
median

PHASE 1B
PURPLE Plant Dow
Road to
Elton Ave.

2022 SEPTEMBER								
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
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2022 OCTOBER								
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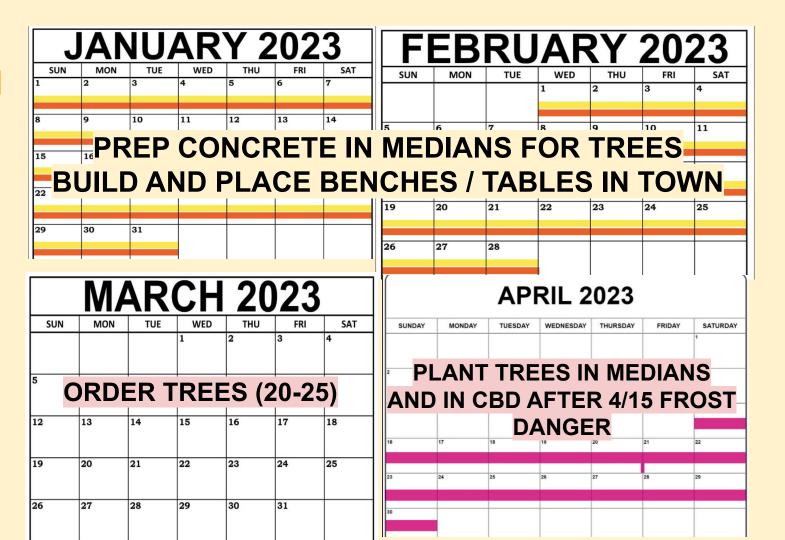
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PHASE 1D ORANGE -

Bench building & placement

PHASE 1C RED -Tree Planting

PHASE 1C YELLOW -Digging, concrete prep, tree ordering



Additional before/after images for Phase 1E

NOTE: In NCDOT areas ONLY NATIVE SPECIES allowed. In Privately owned areas, any species allowed. Only the Sable Minor Palm (smaller) is considered an NC native of the Palms.













Additional before/after images for Phase 1E

NOTE: In NCDOT areas ONLY NATIVE SPECIES allowed. In Privately owned areas, any species allowed. Only the Sable Minor Palm (smaller) is considered an NC native of the Palms.













Phase 2 Winter 2023 - Spring 2024

Tree Planting and beautification between St. Joseph St. and the Carolina Beach Lake Park at Atlanta Ave.

- Winter 2023 Spring 2024
- In conjunction with property owners/businesses and NCDOT approval.
- Funding from sources identified in this report.

Phase 3 Fall 2024 South end of Carolina Beach Lake Park to Carolina Sands entrance

Tree planting and establishment of a bike or walking path between the South End of the Carolina Beach Lake Park and the entrance of Carolina Sands at Carolina Sands Drive, on the west side of South Lake Park Boulevard. Bike/Ped Committee is requesting NCDOT to stripe a Bike Lane between mid point of the lake and south or just south of the lake and Carolina Sands. They have been working with NCDOT Complete Streets Program and the WMPO.

- Fall 2024
- In conjunction with area businesses, the Town's Bike & Pedestrian and Operations Advisory Committees, subject to the Town and NCDOT approval.
- Will require a discussion of removing 7 parking spaces on the west side of South Lake Park Blvd.
- Will involve cooperation with NCDOT.
- Will require a much more involved effort to implement.
- Time frame allows for planning and discussion.
- Needed for safety for pedestrians to navigate these businesses and this area on bicycles and on foot.

22

Phase 4 2024 - 2025 South of Carolina Sands Drive to Alabama Ave.

- Work in conjunction with affected property owners, the Town and the Town's Bike/Ped and Operations Advisory Committees, and the WMPO, to request implementation and installation by NCDOT of sidewalk/bike path and tree plantings on the west side of S. Lake Park Blvd within the already established setbacks.
- Include tree plantings and benches
- Include perennial plantings
- Needed for bike and pedestrian safety on this main thoroughfare.
- Raise funds for tree plantings to be identified on the east side of S. Lake Park Boulevard, with NCDOT support and approval.

Tree and Planting Needs Suggestions:

KONIGEEHRE 20 Gallon Tree Watering Bags, Reusable, Heavy Duty, Slow Release Water Bags for Trees, Premium PVC Tree Drip Irrigation Bags. 5 for \$54.99 Bags will need to be filled every two days, if two bags per tree, every four days. Will need a water truck (town has???) Irrigation has been discussed as an option at TRC.

Water Bladders need to be used on trucks to water trees or fill watering bags. Can be found at Farmers Supply.

Palm trees planted in spring after April 15, all other trees can be planted in fall.

SPECIES SUGGESTIONS FOR TREE APPLICATIONS: Trees to be less than 15' in height full grown.

Need trees with good roots, small root balls that don't spread too much, salt and drought tolerant.

Little Gem Magnolia: evergreen, can be trimmed, need less water than palms, good size

Sable Minor Palms / Palmetto: evergreen, require a lot of water first year, Fitness Tree does 1 year warranty, excellent root ball size

Vitex Chaste Tree:: Deciduous - good size, flowers summer

Yaupon Holly: evergreen, salt and drought tolerant, fall planting, winter red berries

Sweet Bay Magnolia: evergreen year only losing some leaves. White flowers May-June

Crepe Myrtles: Deciduous - flowering spring through fall.White, lavender, red, or pink flowers











Little Gem.

Sable Minor Palm.

Vitex Chaste Tree

Yaupon Holly

Sweet Bay Magnolia

Crepe Myrtle

SPECIES SUGGESTIONS FOR PLANTS AND GRASSES APPLICATIONS:

Prolific bloomers, drought and salt resistant, thick growing to force out weeds, can be mowed and weed whacked and recover. Most of THESE

PERENNIALS, once established, can be split and used to propagate new plants at ZERO COST, excluding the worker effort

Stella D'oro Day Lillies: choose reblooming, comes in yellow, red, purple, pink. Can be divided and propagate

Gallardia: reblooming red/yellow. Drought & salt tolerant. Grows wild here.

Pink Muhly Grass: Autumn bloom, salt tolerant, 3-4' W&H, dry to moist, cut back, butterflies

Little Blue Stem Grass: Autumn color change blue to orange, salt tolerant, 2-4' W&H, cut back, butter

Sand Coreopsis: Spring - summer continuous blooms, salt tolerant, sun, 1-2' W&H

Purple Cone Flower:(orange?)bloom July-September, drought & slightly salt tolerant, good for median/road

Black Eyed Susan: bloom Summer to Autumn, drought and slightly salt tolerant, good for median/road.

Blue Wild Indigo: Spring bloom, dry soil, low salt tolerant, good for median/roadways and not beach



Black Eyed Susan & Purple Cone Flower



Stella D'oro Gallardia Pink Muhly Grass Little Blue Stem Grass Sand Coreopsis Blue Wild Indigo

FUNDING & PROJECT HELP RESOURCES AND IDEAS TO CONSIDER

<u>Grants for Gardens and More - New Hanover County Arboretum - NC Cooperative Extension and Arboretum - New Hanover County Arboretum - North Carolina (nhcqov.com)</u>

Verizon Community outreach

Five Grants to Fund Your Community Green Space - Nature Sacred

- National Park Service Community Assistance in Conservation and Recreation Grants. ...
- Apply for Conservation or Outdoor Recreation Community Assistance Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance
 Program (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)
- NC Wildlife Federation
- NC State Extension Service in Wilmington
- Scotts Miracle Gro Gro1000 Grants. ...
- ScottsMiracle-Gro: Our commitment Gro More Good. (scottsmiraclegro.com)
- National Association of Realtors; Placemaking Micro Grant.
- Placemaking Grant (nar.realtor)
- Home Depot Foundation Community Impact Grants.
- The Home Depot | The Home Depot Foundation Team Depot Community
- Any Bank especially local, Real Estate Companies and Cape Fear Realtors.
- Lloyd at the Arboretum
- Island Men, Island Women
- Pleasure Island Habitat
- Communal agreements with Private Property owners for care and permission of plantings
- Possible sponsorship effort for planting areas with plaques/recognition.
- Advertising campaign with sponsors throughout the time period until the Bicentennial Celebration.

TOWN OF CAROLINA BEACH **OPERATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



Summary

Created: October 10, 2021 Updated: October 05, 2022

BIKE SAFETY ROUTE - CB SOUTH

TwoSigns on either side of Lake Park Blvd. @ Hamlet Avenue Designating a Recommended Alternate Safe Bike Route.

Features Safety Within Lower Traffic Carolina Beach Avenue South than is experienced on Lake Park Blvd. Around the Carolina Beach Lake Area.

Between Hamlet Ave. & Greenville Ave.

Signs Marking Safe Bike Route @

· Hamlet Avenue.

Atlanta Avenue

· Driftwood Lane.

Lake Drive

· Spartanburg Avenue

· Carolina Beach Avenue South

Beach Access.

Beach Access.

Beach Access.

Beach Access.

Beach Access.

Street End @ Lake Park Blvd.

* All Beach Accesses have existing Bike Racks to support Bike Route.

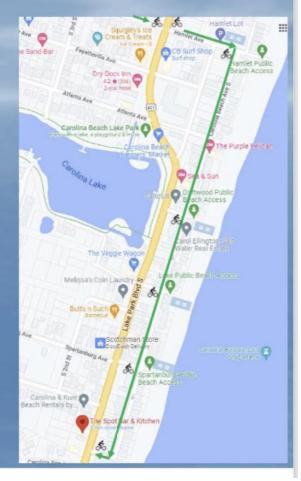
B = Bicycle Rack

F = 15 Minute Food Delivery/Pickup Space

H = Handicap Space

G = Golf Cart Space

M = Motorcycle / Scooter Space



LAKE PARK @ THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

41 Relocated Spaces @Lake Park
Between Harper and Cape Fear Blvd
Create safety Bump-Outs on both sides of street...

Features Increased Safety for Foot Traffic, Storefront Visibility, Improve Streetscape.

188 Spaces within 1-2 blocks of CBD

-41 Spaces converted along Lake Park

147 Net New Spaces

+80 Spaces @ Harper Ave - Median 3rd & 5th. +72 Spaces @ Old Library - 3rd & Cape Fear.

+36 @ Hamlet→ Fayetteville (26 auto / 10 Golf)

+40-60 Bike Capacity @ Raleigh & Charlotte

11-13 Bump-outs

- · ~ 300 Linear Ft.
- · Avg \$3k per Bump-out.
- · \$5 Linear/Ft.
- · Connective Curbing Add'l.

B = Bicycle Rack

F = 15 Minute Food Delivery/Pickup Space

H = Handicap Space

G = Golf Cart Space

M = Motorcycle / Scooter Space



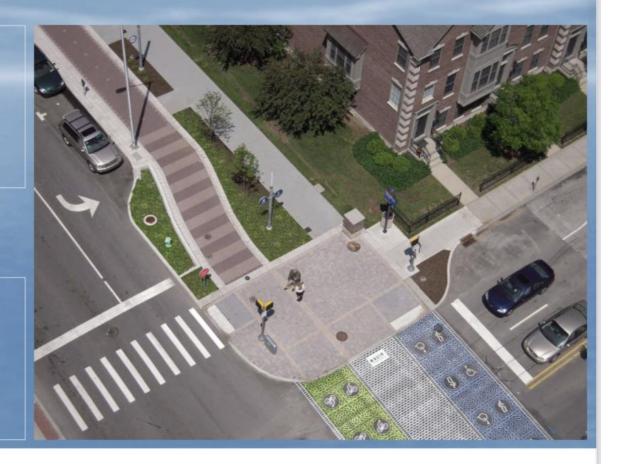
DESIGN ALTERNATIVE 1: LAKE & CAPE FEAR EXAMPLE

FEATURES:

- SAFETY CORNER BUMP-OUTS
- BEAUTIFIES 'MAIN-STREET'
- MAINTAINS BICYCLE SAFETY BUFFER
- EMPHASIZED CROSSWALKS

BENEFITS:

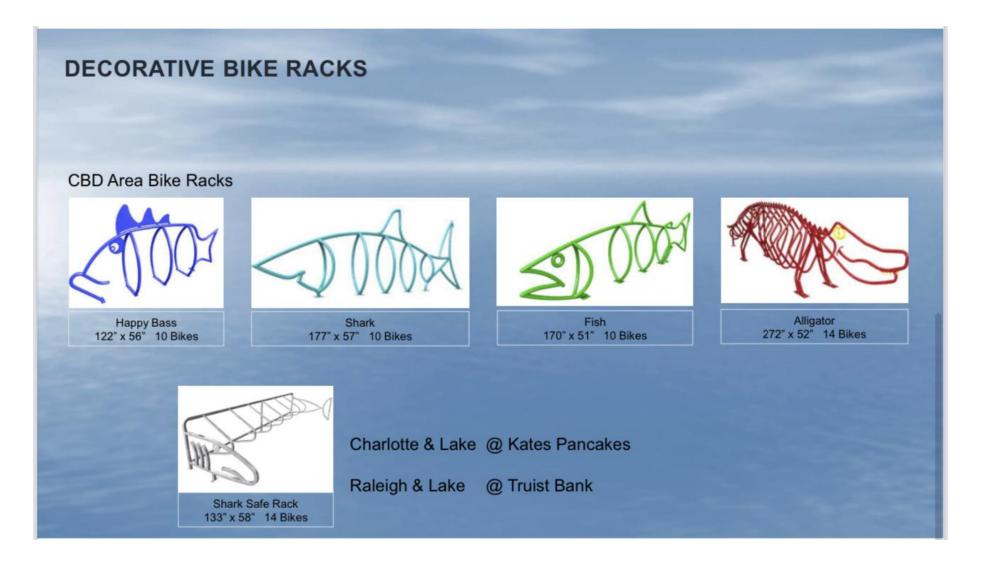
- SAFETY FIRST IMAGE
- PLEASING STREETSCAPE
- PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY
- ECONOMICAL SOLUTION



DESIGN ALTERNATIVE VISUAL FEATURES: SAFETY CORNER BUMP-OUTS BEAUTIFIES 'MAIN-STREET' EMPHASIZED CROSSWALKS BENEFITS: SAFETY FIRST IMAGE 98 PLEASING STREETSCAPE PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY

ECONOMICAL SOLUTION





HARPER AVENUE PARKING & MULTI-USE PATH

Parking 1 Block from Amenity - Relieve Congestion

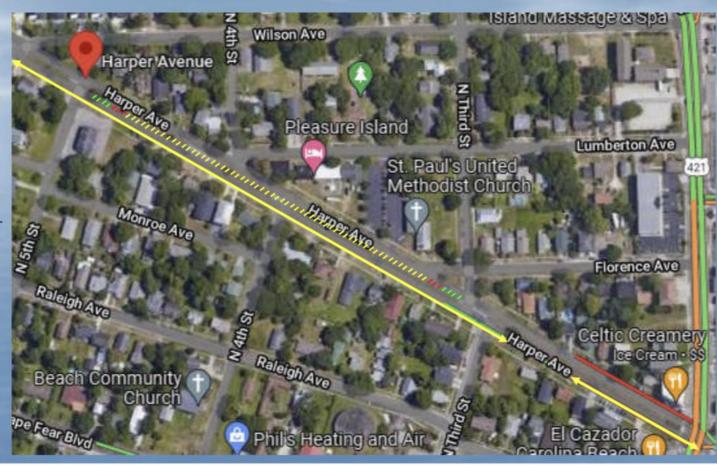
80+ Spaces @ North Side of Median ONLY on Harper Avenue. 800 Ft Long 11.5" wide angles spaces.

Exiting parking spaces would encourage egress naturally to Dow Road to ease congestion.

Assumption:

- Retain "C" Shape of Existing Curbing to define parking area.
- 2. Hollow out dirt from median.
- 3. Apply Crush & Run Surface.
- 4. Apply Angled Parking Blocks.
- Apply Signage prohibiting Back-In Parking and Double Parking for all vehicles.

Future 8 ft. Wide Sidewalk Placed on South Side, opposite Existing Underground Water & Sewer.



CAPE FEAR & 3RD STREET PARKING LOT

Convert 20 Existing Straight Style Spaces to 72+ Angled Modern Style Spaces.

Features:

Parking 1 Block away from CBD.

Moving Parking 1 Block from Amenity:

- · Relieves Congestion on Lake Park.
- · Reduces need to 'hunt' for parking in CBD.
- Puts drivers' eyes back on pedestrians and bicyclists, increasing safety.

Room for expansion of 32 more spaces in the future using the 'junk' lot adjacent to the Water Storage Tank.



HAMLET → FAYETTEVILLE PASS-THRU LOT

Current Lot is an Equipment/Junk use.
36 Total New Spaces
26 Auto Angled Spaces
10 Parallel Golf Cart Spaces
Beautify Lot to New Lot Standards.

Features:

Parking 1 Block away from CBD.

Moving Parking 1 Block from Amenity:

- Relieves Congestion on Lake Park.
- Reduces need to 'hunt' for parking at CB Lake.
- Puts drivers' eyes back on pedestrians and bicyclists, increasing safety.



KEY OBJECTIVES & BENEFITS - NEW PARKING

New Parking on Town Owned Property.

Objective: Provide significant 188 New Parking Spaces at least 1 block from CBD. Relieve congestion on Lake Park. Improve Safety for Pedestrian and Bicyclists.

Functional Benefit(s):

- Add Significant Net New Parking for the Town of Carolina Beach 1 block from CBD, relieving congestion and improving safety.
- Establish parking consistent with Parking Lot Standards and with inexpensive and flexible future use as alternative uses present themselves.
- Add significant annual Parking Revenue that can and should be designated for future Town Amenities and Quality of Life Features.
- Strategic Contingency for inevitable loss of Private Parking Options at CBD and Ocean Front Areas.
- Strategy Enables Funding Approach for Delivering Beach Amenities called for by CAMA Requirements and The Adopted 2020 Land Use Plan.

Financial Benefits:

- \$424,227.64 new Parking Revenue. \$2256.53 per space yearly revenue. (188 new spaces X \$2256.53)
- ** 33% Future Parking Revenue (\$140,409.21) could be rationalized to fund future CBD Area Improvements benefiting residents, businesses and visitors.
- New Lots conform to Parking Lot Standards. Lot Borders, Shrubbery to Beautify, Trash Receptacles, Parking Blocks for Angled Parking, Crush & Run Surface.
- 1st Year Revenue ROI offsets expenses of establishing new parking areas and maintenance.

Historical Facts:

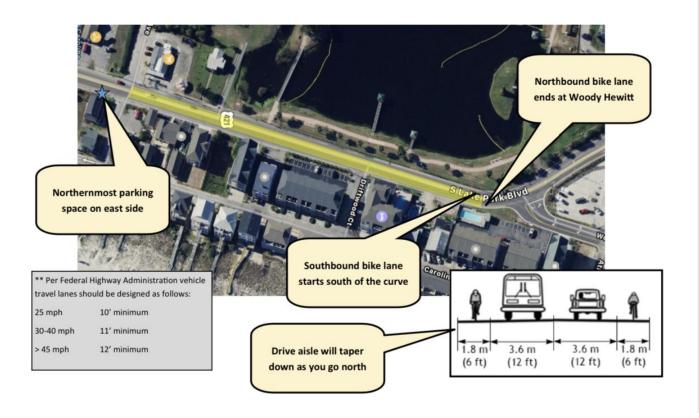
- 2021 Total Annual Parking Revenue: \$2,144,144.26 = (\$1,450,692.19 Lot Spaces Revenue + \$693,452.07 Metered Spaces).
- # of Town Owned Spaces 946 = (539 Lot + 407 Metered)
- Town Owed Space Average Annual Revenue \$2256.53.

Lake Park Blvd - South

Woody Hewitt Ave - Lake Ave

ROW 40' - 32' wide

- · Re-stripe to add bike lanes
- On this section there are no parking spaces on either side of Lake Park

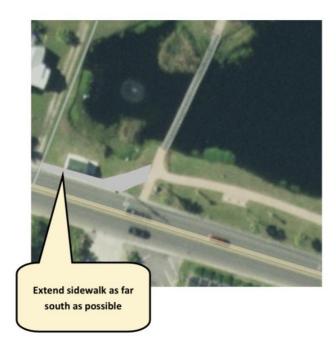


Lake Park Blvd - South

Sidewalk Improvements at CB Lake

ROW 40' - 32' wide

- Improve sidewalk where the CB Lake Greenway meets Lake Park Blvd
- Cut curb and add ramp for bike access from northbound bike lane
- Extend sidewalk and add ramp for merging bike access to southbound bike lane



Before



After



