



Copy of Historic District Stakeholder Survey

The Friendly City by the Sea’s Historic District includes 123 resources, mostly residential and commercial in character. The Period of Significance for the district extends from 1770 to 1938, encompassing the town’s significance in the naval stores, lumber, fishing, and boatbuilding industries.

Please help us learn more about the experiences of people living and working in the Town’s Historic District by completing this short survey! We hope the information gathered will aid us in improving how we serve the community, support the Historic District Commission and make connections to reinforce the Town's goal of historic preservation!

1. What is your relationship to the Historic District? Check all that apply.

- Property Owner (residential/commercial)
- Tenant (residential/commercial)
- Owner or employee of a downtown business
- Other (please specify)
- Visitor
- Swansboro Resident (Town Limits or ETJ)

2. What do you feel are some of the biggest challenges facing the Historic District (please select your top three)?

- Parking/Traffic
- Accessibility
- Environmental factors (flooding, hurricanes, etc.)
- Lack of enforcement of Town Codes/Ordinances
- Restrictive ordinances (building height, flood requirements, paint colors, etc.)
- Balancing real estate demands with preservation
- Other (please specify)
- Demolition of historic assets
- Lack of maintenance of historic properties (deterioration, neglect)
- Waterfront access
- Overhead utilities
- Narrow sidewalks/pedestrian safety
- Speeding

3. Do you feel enough is being done to preserve Swansboro's Historic District?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If no, why?

4. What is your understanding of the role of the Town's Historic District Commission?

- Preserve architecture/character of the district
- Architectural Review/Enforcement of the Design Standards/Local Ordinances
- Unsure/don't know
- Other (please specify)

5. How can the Historic District Commission assist property owners in enhancing the quality of the district and its attractiveness?

6. Would you be interested in attending regular workshops conducted by the Town?

- Yes
- No

7. If you answered yes, what topics would be of interest?

- Tax incentives for preserving historic properties
- Historic building sustainability (construction methods and materials)
- Architectural surveys and the benefits of being within a designated Historic District
- Other (please specify)

8. Were you aware of the Historic Ordinances and Design Standards before purchasing or occupying property in the district?

Link to Historic Ordinance and Design Standards:

https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/swansboro/latest/swansboro_nc/0-0-0-16791#JD_Chapter152

- Yes
- No

9. What ideas do you have for how we can better inform the public about these ordinances/standards?

10. Where do you turn for information on the Historic District? Check all that apply.

- Town website
- Town Hall
- Newspaper
- Other (please specify)
- Neighbors
- Members of the Historic Commission

11. What would you like to see the Town focus on next in the Historic District?

- Maintain a vibrant downtown
- Creation of a grant program for the maintenance of historic properties
- Attract more tourism/marketing
- Other (please specify)

12. Is there anything else you would like us to know?