

TOWN COUNCIL
Public Input Session
Cape Charles Civic Center
October 3, 2024
6:00 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Adam Charney, having established a quorum, called to order the Town Council Public Input Session related to the Beachfront Master Plan. In addition to Mayor Charney, present were Vice Mayor Bennett, Councilmen Buchholz and Grossman, and Councilwoman Holloway. Councilman Butta was out of the country and unable to attend. There was one vacancy on the Council. Also in attendance were Ricky Wiatt from VHB, the Town's consultant for this project, Town Manager John Hozey, Town Clerk Libby Hume, Zoning Enforcement Officer Jack Steinmayer, Public Works Manager Ralph Bowen and Police Officers Juana Diaz and Jordan Yee. There were 42 members of the public physically in attendance and 50 viewers on Facebook.

Mayor Charney welcomed the members of the public in attendance adding that Council would be receiving public input on the Beachfront Master Plan.

Town Manager John Hozey stated that Councilman Butta was out of the county with no reliable internet so was unable to participate electronically but would review the video of tonight's meeting. Tonight would be a listening session for the Town Council to get more information about what the public thought about the conceptual plan. Ricky Wiatt from the Town's consulting firm was in attendance to provide an overview of the plan, then the floor would be opened for public comment. Microphones would be passed around for the speakers and he asked that attendees wait until they were given a microphone before speaking. Please provide your name and address when speaking.

Ricky Wiatt informed the attendees that he was a landscape architect currently residing in Mathews County. He was a practicing architect for 20 years and had been with VHB for 10 years. He had worked on the Rail to Trail project in Richmond and the first 4 miles would be coming soon on the Eastern Shore. Neville Reynolds, one of the principals of VHB, had been involved with the Cape Charles beachfront for many decades. Mr. Wiatt went on to review the slides from the Virtual Meeting Room, adding that he would take the comments received this evening to refine the document. (Please see attached.) About 400 responses were received from the Community Survey with the top 5 requested items being 1) restrooms; 2) outdoor showers; 3) enhanced ADA access; 4) shade; and 5) boardwalk. The responses about vendors was split almost 50/50 regarding whether they should be concentrated in one area or spread out along the beachfront.

Mr. Wiatt went on to state that about 152 comments were received from the Virtual Meeting Room with about 50% of responses from full-time residents, 29 residents of Northampton County, 3 property owners living outside of town, and 13 residing outside of Northampton County. We were here this evening to listen to any additional comments.

John Hozey stated that he read every comment and also provided all comments to the Town Council. Generally speaking, the majority of the responders did not approve of the concept as currently designed. Many thought that the plan overreached and was a little too aggressive and detracted from the small-town, quaint atmosphere. We heard you. Council would take it all into consideration. He appreciated everyone who took the time to submit comments. They were well thought out.

Councilman Grossman stated that there were 67 pages of comments and asked if the comments could be broken down into categories such as parking, dunes, etc. Councilwoman Holloway agreed that it would be helpful to have the comments grouped and would provide Council some focus, so the work

session moved in a good direction. She realized that it would be labor intensive but would be beneficial for the overall discussion.

Mayor Charney opened the floor for comments asking that attendees please refrain from applause, boos, etc.

Paul Chandler, resident

Mr. Chandler stated that the Town paid \$99K for VHB to produce this plan encompassing 6 documents which were placed in a Virtual Meeting Room. VHB Sent out a survey in April and he asked why the Town didn't send out the survey.

John Hozey responded that VHB brought a lot of expertise on the subject and knew the best way to structure the survey, get it out, and compile the data, etc. The Town did not have enough staff to get this all done.

Mr. Chandler stated that he as well as others would have assisted the Town and offered to help with the comments. He submitted a Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) for the survey results this week and performed a full analysis on the results. Nobody wanted this plan, and the parking made him laugh. 15 people asked for perpendicular parking and that was what was on the plan. The maximum number of outlooks requested was 3 and we had 5 on the plan. Out of 400 responses, 3 people asked for benches and 1 person asked for shade, and we had pergolas, flat areas, etc. It was crazy. His house would get hit by blowing sand because of this plan. The top 3 responses were restrooms, ADA access and maintenance of what was already there. On the plan, we had 1 handicap access on Jefferson although people wanted to have access to the beach. He felt this information would be useful to set the temperature of the discussion this evening.

Liz Pruitt, resident

Ms. Pruitt asked about the process from the survey to the master plan and whether there was any weighting of responses based on residency status such as full-time residents' responses versus those who visited occasionally.

John Hozey stated that he put together a committee of stakeholders who met with the consultant to review the survey responses. The responses from the full-time and part-time residents weighed more heavily than the others. The survey was not the only source of information, as information was provided from our experts related to science involved with wave action, wind, erosion rates of dunes, etc. Everything was taken into consideration. It took several months with rough concepts shared with the Council to get their blessing. After all of that, VHB put the plan together for the Virtual Meeting Room.

Ms. Pruitt asked if there had been a constraint analysis, considerations for permitting costs, the environmental impact, and infringement on the property owners.

Ricky Wiatt stated that analyses had been done, adding that the next step would be to discuss phasing, grants, and sustainability. The focus of work was on the right-of-way and the beachfront. No adjustments were made to private property. A plan needed to be approved before we would recommend phases.

Ms. Pruitt went on to state that when the Town asked for public input then produced something that was not in line with the input, it showed a lack of transparency. There was no process here that she could see, and she did not think the people here wanted it. She saw in the survey where people were willing to walk 4 blocks to get to the beach. That meant that the first 4 blocks were used for beach parking. The full-time residents in the area would like to be able to park in front of their homes. This was considered the historic district and residents had to ask permission to do anything other than to

change a light bulb. The beach abutted the historic district, and the plan was not compatible with the historic district.

Susan Carrigan, resident

Ms. Carrigan stated that she remembered when the surveys went out but asked how the Beachfront Master Plan went out. She had 2 neighbors who came here on weekends that had not heard about it.

John Hozey stated that it had been announced at many public meetings, on the website, Facebook, and the Gazette.

Ms. Carrigan added that in order to make a correct list of comments, someone needed to go through the comments and count the number related to parking, bathrooms, etc. Every single thing needed to be compared, or something would be missed, and it was not going to be fair. Ms. Carrigan offered her assistance.

Erin Harvey, resident

Mr. Harvey stated that he had lived in Cape Charles since 2006 on the corner of Randolph & Peach. It sounded like the general consensus of the plan was similar to his. It appeared that the plan was paving paradise. We had plazas at the north end of Peach, the south end of Peach, Strawberry Street Plaza and Central Park. All these beautiful plazas were nice, but the beach was something entirely different. We had other places for sidewalks and plazas, just not the beach. It was nice to have the beach and the uneven, unmanicured cut throughs through the dunes. He had specific issues with extending the breakwater and adding more. It seemed counterproductive in his mind. He kite surfed, played volleyball, flew over the beach to see the people along the beach. Everyone was squeezed together on the waterfront. The new breakwater would actually shorten the waterfront and add more sand to the back area. There was always space on the back side of the beach, but the waterfront got crowded. He appreciated seeing the volleyball courts in the plan, but they needed to be aligned and not by the sidewalk. They just needed a couple of poles in the sand by the dunes. He liked the dog beach and added that bike racks would be nice to go along with the golf carts.

Odessa Sullivan, resident

Ms. Sullivan stated that her grandfather bought their property in 1944, and her family was still living there. She had seen lots of changes in Cape Charles. She liked the simplicity of the beach. The kids and parents loved it. We all loved the simplicity. Overkill was what she saw in the plan. We were a small town with a very small beach. Years ago, we had a meeting and the beach came up. We did not want Virginia Beach or Ocean City. We did not want people selling chairs or umbrellas. We just wanted to enjoy our beach. She had also spoken to visitors who came to Cape Charles, and they all told her they would like to leave the beach as it was.

Laura Weigand, resident & business owner

Ms. Weigand stated that she liked the words overkill, simplicity and natural. She agreed that ADA access and bathrooms were needed, but she did not know where most of the plan became such a huge thing from the survey responses received. It was not what she imagined for Cape Charles and our small-town feel. One thing to revisit is the parking. A simple way to remedy the parking issue would be to issue 1 or 2 permits per household that could be used anywhere. Have kiosks in other areas for people to purchase parking permits. If visitors had more than 2 vehicles, they could go to the kiosk and buy a permit for any number of days. It would raise revenue for the town to offset some costs. Full-time residents would have free passes for parking. She felt this would alleviate some of the problems with parking.

Lori Blewitt, part-time resident

Ms. Blewitt stated that she was a part-time resident for 30+ years and loved Cape Charles. She came here because it was so quaint with a wonderful beach. Some of the articles that she had read in

newspapers and magazines stated that Cape Charles was a great place. She never saw them write that anything needed to be fixed in Cape Charles. They said that Cape Charles was unique. We could use another lifejacket stand, ADA compliant bathrooms, etc. Nowhere in the plan did it say what it would cost to make all these improvements, and once done, how to pay for it. How many more staff members would it take to maintain it and how many contractors would have to be hired? The historical society took their time to clean up the Neptune statue and the overgrown sidewalks. Some friends told her that 50 years ago, there were no dunes. If someone wanted to look at the water, they could walk to see it. Please do not bring these expensive paving ideas to our sweet little town.

John Hozey stated that we were not far enough along in the design to obtain cost estimates. Once we decided what we wanted to do, we would talk about cost estimates, look at grants to help with the cost and plan for future years in the capital budget. This would be a multi-year process, but we first needed to decide what we wanted to do.

Councilman Grossman added that this project would not automatically go to the #1 spot on the capital improvements list. There were other projects on the list that needed to be prioritized.

Linda Hitchings, resident

Ms. Hitchings stated that she was fairly new to the town. She moved from Goochland County after the storm several years ago. She would be disappointed if Cape Charles became an Ocean City or Virginia Beach. She was amazed that we did not have an estimate of the cost. While in Goochland County, a new school was built and she helped with it. They knew the estimated cost when they go the plans. She could not believe that the Town did not have an idea of the cost for this. Ms. Hitchings added that she would hate to see the Town changed. People came here because of the beach, and it was nice seeing all the small children.

Clayton Newman, resident

Mr. Newman stated that he was a full-time resident and had been coming here for over 30 years ever since his mother moved here. He lived one block from the beach pavilion. His understanding of the plan was that the Town would get feedback tonight and address some real issues. He heard people speak against the plan, then say that yes, we needed parking, restrooms, ADA access, etc. ADA access was not just for the handicapped but for our aging population. His mother could use something to hold onto when going to the beach. He used to sit in the gazebo and watch the sunsets. He agreed that the plan was grandiose, but it was just a start. When you went to a restaurant and got the menu, you did not say that you did not want it because you could not eat everything. Did we need 30 picnic tables at the LOVE sign? Certainly not. We were all friendly and spoke to each other, then we came into this meeting where there was so much vitriol. He did not see anyone on the Town Council with their own agenda. This plan was years away, maybe even a decade. Some people were thinking that it was happening tomorrow. This was step 1 of a multi-step process. He loved the beach but would not say it was perfect. He loved walking on the beach, playing volleyball, etc. Currently, people wondered how to park which was chaos. There was a lack of parking due to the end-to-end food trucks. There was nothing quaint about that. Maybe have a concentrated place with electrical for food trucks so there would be no need for generators. Possibly a shade area with seats and tables. The Town was asking people to be a part of the process. He expected this meeting to be overflowing with people, but others were out there enjoying the sunset or walking the beach instead. He advised everyone to remain a part of the process and not vilify each other. Look at the plan as a menu, where we could choose the items that we wanted at the beach.

Mark Usry, resident

Mr. Usry stated that he came to Cape Charles for the first time in 1996 and had seen lots of changes and appreciated most of them. He saw the plans as inspirational with things that made sense. It was a combination of ideas that we could pick and choose from. We could see the visuals and work

together to make the beach better. A little shade would be nice. As Clayton Newman said, look at it as a menu.

Sam Jones, resident

Mr. Jones stated that he had been coming to Cape Charles since 2015 and moved here permanently in 2021. He agreed with many of the comments this evening and loved the word simplicity. Master Plans were not menus. Council needed to look at what had been presented up to this point, listen to the feedback and take that information and create a broader list of options or subset of plans to get a master plan. He agreed with John Hozey that we needed a good plan before we looked at funding.

Councilman Buchholz stated that the Town had a Master Plan done for the Harbor in 2008. That changed numerous times with new Councils wanting to go in a different direction.

Ms. Odessa Sullivan apologized to anyone if she gave them the impression that she did not want anything done at the beach. She did, but wanted it kept small and simple. Everything changed from day to day, year to year. There had been lots of changes in Cape Charles over the years – some she liked, and some she did not like. Please just do not give us too much.

Mr. Erin Harvey said that ADA access was a nice idea, but everything needed to be in balance. It was too much to have an ADA pad at every opening. It would be nice to add a ramp to the fishing pier which would be an easy fix. Currently, our beach toward the flagpole, LOVE sign, and fishing pier was the busier end of the beach. The north end was the quieter end. People could choose which end to go to. A bathroom at the north end would be nice, but he asked that the rest of the blocks remain unchanged. We needed to focus on the busy end by Mason Avenue, the flagpole, etc. Give people the choice regarding where they wanted to go.

There were no other comments to be heard.

John Hozey stated that the comment was made that the Town had spent money with VHB. That was true. The Town put out a request for proposals and VHB was selected based on quality, not price, but it turned out that VHB was the cheapest one. We had been using VHB for months. They had a team with expertise that the Town staff did not possess. There was value in that expertise. VHB had been working with the Town Council, the committee, etc. but the work was not done. The next step was for Town Council to meet in work session in a few weeks to review the feedback received. The comments would be narrowed down prior to the work session.

Councilman Grossman suggested each Council member provide a list of topics such as dune management, parking, etc. to the town manager.

Vice Mayor Bennett stated that parking was an issue and came up big time related to short-term rentals and now this. We had plans to study parking but needed to look at parking for the entire town. We needed a parking study. Whether it be part of this plan or not, it needed to encompass the entire town. We could not solve the parking issues for the summer until we addressed the remainder of the year.

Councilman Grossman asked where VHB's engagement ended.

John Hozey stated that phase 1 ended with the final publishing of the beach master plan and Council approval of the plan. Phase 2, the design work, would begin after Council decided how to fund the project.

Councilman Grossman stated that we needed to talk about the subsequent steps at the work session. We needed to talk through a number of iterations in order to finalize various concepts to get to the final master plan.

John Hozey stated that a menu was a good analogy. We were still at the menu stage, picking out what we wanted to see.

Councilwoman Holloway stated that the October 23rd work session was open to the public to come out and listen. If anyone had any more comments, send them to Libby Hume and she would share them with the Council. Council was doing this for the citizens and the Town Council were citizens as well. If you had something that was not covered tonight, Council wanted to hear it.

Ricky Wiatt stated that it helped to have an explanation. At the last meeting where the plan was presented to the Town Council, Council's input was received and the plan was modified before it was published in the Virtual Meeting Room. He appreciated Councilwoman Holloway's comment inviting the public to attend the next work session. Bay Avenue was a really wide road with excess pavement. We were trying to reduce that. This point was explained during the last work session, but not in the documentation that was published.

Ms. Susan Carrigan stated that we had the layout and suggestions of ideas that might fit Cape Charles. Paul Chandler had mentioned the 5 things that were most important. If we chose those 5 items to move forward, could we not hire a contractor to implement the plan? Was a third party necessary?

John Hozey responded that a design was needed. Once Town Council approved the plan and broke it down into pieces, each piece needed to be designed.

Ricky Wiatt added that there was also the necessary permitting through the Department of Environmental Quality, State of Virginia, US Army Corps of Engineers, etc.

John Hozey went on to state that permits were also needed from VDOT, and VHB would assist in getting the permits and finding grants to help pay for it. The Town solicited Phases 1 and 2 when we went out for bids, but only awarded Phase 1. We could award Phase 2 to VHB if we could agree on a price. If we could not, we would go back out for bids.

Mayor Charney thanked everyone for coming and stated that the next work session was scheduled for October 23rd, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Motion made by Councilman Grossman, seconded by Councilwoman Holloway, to adjourn the Town Council Town Hall Meeting. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

The Town Hall Meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Mayor Adam Charney

Town Clerk

**10/3/2024 Town Council Public Input Session
Items Provided in Writing**



Beachfront Master Planning Committee

Adam Charney, Mayor/Town Council

Bill Prickett, Citizens for Central Park

John Schoeneck, Wetlands Board

Bob Panek, Yacht Club and CIP Manager

Claudette Lajoie, CC Civic League

Ralph Bowen, Public Works Manager

Gerry Taylor, Main Street

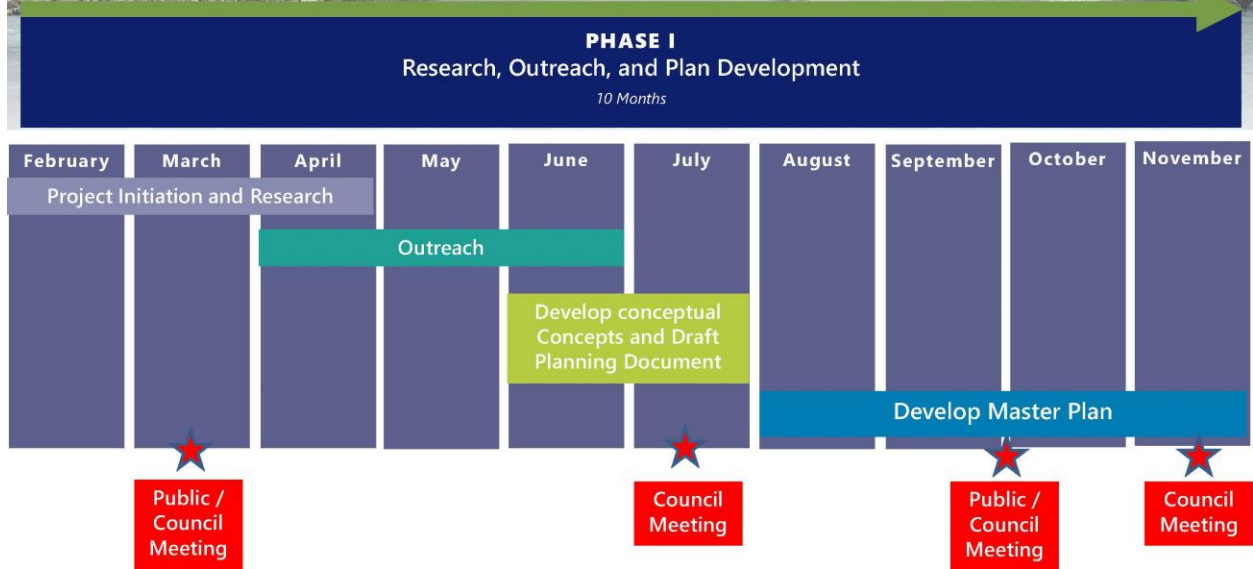
John Hozey, Town Manager

Understanding of the Project

- ✓ Enhance the beach
- ✓ Promote economic development
- ✓ Improve accessibility
- ✓ Reinvigorate recreation opportunities
- ✓ Reevaluate existing infrastructure



Beachfront Master Plan Schedule



Community Survey

- Paper copy with Utility Bills – Week of 3/25
- Online Version – Posted Live – 3/27/24
- Deadline – 4/30/24

- Full-time resident living within t... 164
- Resides in Northampton County... 59
- Owns property within the Town ... 137
- Resides outside Northampton C... 30



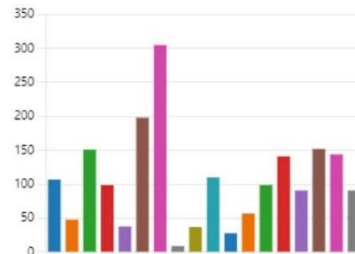
<https://www.townofnorthampton.com>

Community Survey

19. Please select your top five Beachfront Attractions or Amenities from the following:

[More Details](#)

Picnic area	107
Grills	48
Shade	151
Seating	99
Venue Space	38
Outdoor Showers	198
Restrooms	305
Lockers	9
Lighting	37
Overlook	110
Private Cabanas	28
Sports Areas	57
Pet-Friendly Area	99
Quiet Areas for Relaxation	141
Existing Sculptures	91
Enhanced ADA Access	152
Boardwalk	144



Communications – Key Take Aways

- Top 5 Desired Beachfront Attractions / Amenities
 - Restrooms
 - Outdoor Showers
 - Shade
 - Enhanced ADA Access
 - Boardwalk
- Beach's General Size and Character
 - 73% said it was "Just Right"
- Dune's General Size
 - 68% said it was "Just Right"
- Vendors to be in one central location or spread out along Bay Avenue
 - One Central Location 51% / Spread Out 49%



<http://www.ci.TownAdmin>

Communications



Engaging the Public



CAPE CHARLES ~~~~~
Beachfront Master Plan
MASTERPLAN

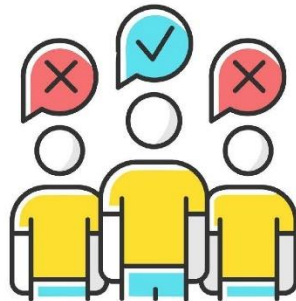


- Full-time resident living within t... 80
- Resides in Northampton County... 29
- Owns property within the Town ... 32
- Resides outside Northampton C... 13



154 Total Responses
8/27/24 – 10/3/24

CAPE CHARLES ~~~~~
Beachfront Master Plan
MASTERPLAN



154 Total Responses
8/27/24 – 10/3/24

CAPE CHARLES
Beachfront Master Plan
MASTERPLAN



Next Step:
Council Work
Session – 10/23/24



Comments received via email from Full-Time Residents:

From: Lauren I Sisson <laurenis@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2024 2:05 PM
To: Libby Hume <clerk@capecharles.org>
Subject: Beach Master Plan Question and Comment

Hello,
Please explain the percentage of existing dunes that would be impacted or eliminated by this project.

If it is more than 0% please explain the justification of that destruction.

Our address is 11 Park Row Unit D. We have been residents for only about 2 weeks but we fell in love with the natural beauty of the beach and the small town feel.

Best regards,
Lauren

From: Pat Tinkelman <ptink1960@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2024 9:04 AM
To: Libby Hume <clerk@capecharles.org>
Subject: Beachfront master plan

Comment on proposed plant: this plan is way more than a small town like Cape Charles needs! What we need are more bathrooms along Bay and some foot showers and maybe a small shaded area but not this grand plan. I love the small town feel of our town and I think this would change that drastically.

Thank you.
Pat Tinkleman
123 Saratoga Place
Full time resident

From: MARYBETH EYE <mizzmb@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2024 3:09 PM
To: Libby Hume
Subject: Beachfront Master Plan

Thoughts on the Beachfront Master Plan

Mary Beth Eye
106 Monroe Avenue
Cape Charles
Full-time resident living within the corporate limits of Cape Charles

We need more and better bathrooms, bathroom attendants who will keep them clean and in order and simple showers/foot washing stations. Some shade at two or three spots on the beach along with some seating would be nice. We need ADA-compliant ways to get from the street to the boardwalk, and from the boardwalk to the beach.

We don't need pavilions, palm trees, hardscaping, and recreational activities. The beach is small enough when it has not been replenished in the winter that at high tide there is barely enough room for the people who are there and all of the tents and umbrellas and cabanas that they bring; adding more stuff to the beach only makes it smaller. We are a small town with a small beach, and people appreciate the small town feel. We are not nor I hope do we desire to be Virginia Beach; our beach should not look like Virginia Beach.

I have worked in retail stores for several years in Cape Charles. At least once a day, and usually more, visitors, ask where they can find the LOVE sign. It should stay where it is at the end of Mason Avenue. The bay backdrop is nice and it is easily accessible from people already on Mason Avenue as well as the beach.

Comments received via email from Non Residents:

From: lapjrs <lapjrs@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 8, 2024 10:23 AM
To: Libby Hume
Subject: FW: Beachfront Master plan resending

Adding:
Linda Pappas
Full time resident of Cape Charles, not in Historic District. **(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY RESIDENT)**
Own home: 2123 Arlington Chase Rd, Cape Charles, VA 23310

Please consider this the entire email submission
Thanks Linda Pappas.

----- Original message -----
From: lapjrs <lapjrs@aol.com>
Date: 9/8/24 10:20 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: clerk@capecharles.org
Subject: Beachfront Master plan

Too much! We don't need all that hardscape taking over.

Update will be onerous and expensive given shifting sands.

Keeping the charm of Cape Charles is important as well.

Lower the Dunes, make the existing entrances more clear and accessible (level) and add showers (cold) and real bathrooms.

Put the brick (hardscape) centered around the Love sign area and keep the noise and people with the Food trucks at that space.

Let's not become a Cape Charles Disney World.

Sent: Sunday, September 8, 2024 3:00 PM
To: Libby Hume; capecharlesmirror@gmail.com
Subject: Cape Charles Beach Masterplan

As someone who has cherished Cape Charles since my childhood, I feel deeply compelled to speak out against the proposed beachfront master plan. My parents first brought me here in 1997, and I've watched this special place evolve over the years. Cape Charles has always held a unique charm—a blend of natural beauty, rich history, and a tight-knit local community that makes it unlike any other coastal town. I've spent countless hours here as a local who calls this place home.

The beachfront has seen its fair share of change, but nothing as sweeping and irreversible as this proposal. This new master plan threatens to rip away everything our town stands for. The delicate balance between progress and preservation is at risk, and I fear this plan will tip us over the edge. What makes Cape Charles so extraordinary is its sense of authenticity. It's a place where both locals and visitors alike can feel the heartbeat of a genuine coastal town, where the sunsets over the dunes are magical, and the environment feels untouched.

For me, as a professional photographer who conducts about five sessions a week down at our beach, I've been privileged to capture the natural beauty of the dunes, the soft golden light, and the joy on families' faces as they interact with the untouched charm of the area. This is what draws people here— not commercialization or overdevelopment. This plan would fundamentally alter what makes Cape Charles so special, stripping away that timeless beauty in favor of something much less authentic.

Beyond the visual impact, the environmental toll concerns me the most. The dunes are a fragile, precious ecosystem. They serve as a natural barrier, protect wildlife, and contribute to the overall health of the shoreline. Disrupting this ecosystem could have devastating consequences not only for the environment but also for our future generations. Once the dunes are gone, they're gone for good.

What's even more disheartening is that changes like these have a tendency to push locals further and further away from the town they love. Cape Charles thrives on tourism, but it's the locals who keep the town alive long after the tourists have left. We are the ones who stay here year-round, who attend the town meetings, who raise our families here, volunteer, and who support local businesses even when the streets aren't bustling with visitors. This plan doesn't just impact the aesthetics of the beach; it threatens the very soul of our community. If we continue down this path, the charm that brought so many people here—including my own family—will be lost.

I urge the town council to reconsider this beachfront master plan and to listen to the voices of those who have lived here, loved here, and invested in the future of Cape Charles. The charm of this town is irreplaceable, and we need to cherish it, not pave over it in the name of progress. Our town's future depends on preserving its past and protecting its environment, not on creating a version of Cape Charles that caters only to short-term interests. Let's keep the locals at the heart of this town, because when tourist season dries up for the year, we are still here, standing strong and invested in this place we call home.

Rachel Stevens
Owner | Photographer
Cape Charles VA, 23310
Direct: 443.274.8119
baysidegatheringco.com | Facebook | Instagram
Address: 3353 Sherwood Gate, Cape Charles, VA 23310
Work in Cape Charles

From: Tanya O'Connor <salaam13@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2024 2:15 PM
To: Libby Hume
Cc: capecharlesmirror@gmail.com
Subject: Feedback on Beachfront Master Plan

Full Name: Tanya O'Connor
Address: 31246 Latimer Bluff Rd., Cape Charles, VA 23310
Relationship to Town: Full-time resident in Northampton County but I live outside the corporate limits and I am a frequent visitor to Cape Charles beach (my friend and I swim and paddleboard there 3x/week).

4. Comments:

The upgrades mentioned in the Beachfront Master Plan seem to prioritize adding urban-style infrastructure that could detract from the natural charm and simplicity of the Cape Charles beachfront. Instead of extensive construction, it would be more beneficial to focus on essential amenities that enhance the visitor experience while preserving the area's natural beauty. Simple facilities like bathrooms and a wash-off area would serve the practical needs of beachgoers without disrupting the natural environment or the laid-back vibe that makes Cape Charles special.

Thanks,
Tanya