



TOWN OF NAGS HEAD

Parks and Recreation Plan

Live, Visit, Play, Thrive

Adopted: January 25, 2012

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Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Committee was appointed by the Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners in 2011, and has put forward this plan which evaluates the Town's current recreational facilities, identifies the recreational needs of all ages and recommends actions for the Town to consider into the future. This action is consistent with past Town planning initiatives and the goals of the 2010 Land Use Plan. The Committee developed a mission for itself and a vision, logo, and statement of core values for Parks and Recreation planning for the Town. The vision is that "The Town of Nags Head will continuously develop and maintain Nags Head's world class, barrier-island, recreational opportunities."

The goals of the Plan are to:

- A. Serve all ages and physical abilities
- B. Create opportunities for community interaction
- C. Strive for continual improvement of existing facilities
- D. Increase access to the Sound
- E. Create pedestrian and bicycle connectivity throughout Town of Nags Head
- F. Acquire property for the purpose of parks and conservation
- G. Develop new recreational opportunities
- H. Implement Plan goals on an on-going basis.

The Committee used two survey instruments; a public forum, and 4 sub-committees to look at specific focus areas, as well as Committee discussion and staff interviews. Information was then collected into a draft planning document for review by the Committee and brought forward for consideration by the Board of Commissioners. The top three concerns from surveys were additional sound access, maintenance and improvement of beach accesses and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The need for improved wheelchair access, playgrounds, tennis courts, additional ball fields, and the development of community events such as the carnival, and other needs were also identified through surveys and Committee work. Critical in all parks and recreational improvements is a working relationship with Dare County as well as the development of partnerships with the private and nonprofit sectors, such as the YMCA, the Chamber, the Tourism Development Board, and local businesses.

US Census data shows only a slight increase in population growth between 2000 and 2010. The majority of the current Nags Head population falls into a "middle age" or older bracket: 988 are 45 to 65, and 463 residents are 65 or older. In other words, over half (52%) of the total permanent population of Nags Head is 45 or older. Only 417 are 14 and under, and only 79 are high school age. Information from the School District's 2010-2011 Demographic Profile, indicates that even fewer, only 286, are registered in the Dare County School system.

There are many benefits to Parks and Recreation Planning. The Centers for Disease Control found that public facilities that promote exercise such as parks, fields, sidewalks, trails, and bike paths can have a positive impact on public health. A study by the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, the lead marketing and promotional agency for The Outer Banks, indicates that the "average" visitor to Dare County spent a total of \$2,193 during their trip, with an average of \$61 per person per night, and came because of various recreational opportunities.

The Town of Nags Head's location and commitment to recreation has created and provides many resources that make it an attractive community to live or vacation. There are many opportunities to continue and grow our community's reputation as a world-class recreational destination. These include improvements to existing facilities, purchase of new property, pursuit of bicycle and pedestrian facilities with NCDOT, and partnerships with local groups. An implementation plan is provided with actions the Town can take immediately, in the next 1 to 3 years, and beyond to achieve the Plan's vision.

1. Purpose and Vision

A. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

On March 2, 2011, the Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners appointed a Parks and Recreation Committee to help develop a Parks and Recreation Plan to give the “Commissioners guidance in developing the Town’s recreational opportunities for its citizens.” To achieve this purpose, the Parks and Recreation Committee has put forward a plan which evaluates the Town’s current recreational facilities, identifies the recreational needs of all ages and recommends actions for the Town to consider into the future.

B. BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

As one of the first settlements on the Outer Banks, Nags Head developed as a recreational destination that supported a small population of year-round residents known as “bankers.” By 1838, Nags Head was an established resort community and constructed its first “public house” and hotel. In 1862, the Confederate Army moved into Nags Head and took over the hotel as a command headquarters, and then set it on fire as they retreated. A new hotel was built after the Civil War and the community at Nags Head again grew as a resort community until the Great Depression. In 1928, the bridge was built between Roanoke Island and Nags Head, and in 1931, the bridge between Kitty Hawk and Currituck began construction. The Federal Government authorized the Cape Hatteras Seashore Recreational Area in 1937, and it was established in 1953 with funding assistance from Andrew Mellon with its main entrance at Nags Head. The Town itself was incorporated in 1961 and recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary.

Today, Nags Head continues to attract visitors from all over the Carolinas and Virginia as well as other areas of the United States and the world. Its proximity to water, beaches and the Cape Hatteras National Park, its abundance of open spaces and conservation areas, its generally low density of development, and the overall quality of its natural environment, make it an attractive place to live or vacation. The community of Nags Head in turn has responded to the desires of its citizens and visitors to provide beach and sound access, parks, and businesses which provide support to a public actively engaged in recreation.

In fact, concern about recreation has been an integral part of Town planning and focus going back to the Town’s first adopted “Land Development Plan” in 1964, and is reflected in subsequent Town plans and policies throughout its history. As the adopted *1972 Land Development Plan* states:

Nags Head contains over 11 miles of sandy ocean beach and nearly six miles of coastline along the calm Roanoke Sound. It stands as a “gateway” to the great Cape Hatteras National Seashore which extends 50 miles separating the Atlantic Ocean from the huge Pamlico Sound. While Nags Head has traditionally been a family resort community there are more and more facilities and accommodations being provided for the general vacationing public. (p.11)

Both residents and non-resident property owners place a high level of importance on the quality of the natural environment, including such things as access to beaches and the protection of open space. Since its founding 50 years ago, the Town has worked deliberately to respond to this desire and to advance its stewardship of the land as a resource to be protected and enjoyed by visitors and residents alike. The conservation of Nags Head Woods, Jockey’s Ridge and the construction of the new Jennette’s Pier are examples of the Town’s success to preserve recreational resources.

During the 90's and early part of 2000, the Town worked specifically on Parks and Recreation resulting in the establishment of the Harvey Access Site, the improvement of several beach access points, and the multi-use trail along the Beach Road. A Recreation Committee was formed in 1997 to identify Town recreational needs for a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant and continued work through 2002. This Town Committee worked to establish parks opportunities and to build a partnership with the YMCA which resulted in the construction of a local skateboard park – the first on the Outer Banks. Together, Dare County and Nags Head built the Nags Head Soccer Complex at Satterfield Landing which is owned by the Town, but maintained and operated by the County. In working cooperatively with the County and the YMCA, the Town has demonstrated its willingness to create opportunities through partnerships.

The Town also partners with the Dare County Tourism Board which is part of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau. The Outer Banks Visitors bureau is funded by one percent (1%) of the occupancy tax and one percent (1%) of the prepared meals tax collected in Dare County. The Town has been the recipient of several Tourism Board grants which have been used to improve beach and sound access, extend the multi-use path on US 158 as well as help pay for the Town's yearly Fourth of July fireworks show.

In 2007 and 2009, the Town in partnership with the Dare County Tourism Board purchased the former Windmill Point restaurant site. The site is located on the Roanoke Sound and consists of approximately 17 acres. The green space on the site is currently being used for events and activities. This location also creates an opportunity for the Town to begin master planning with the Tourism Board and adjacent properties to improve access to the site, safety along the 158 Corridor in this area, and the development of additional sound access or a possible boardwalk along the sound which could connect to Tanger Outlets and other properties.

The Town also works with Dare County to bring recreational opportunities to Nags Head residents. The Dare County Parks and Recreation Department was created in 1984 and has a Vision Statement to build “community through people, parks, and recreational opportunities.” Today the Dare County Parks Department has a budget of 2.1 million dollars and twenty-seven full-time employees who serve the citizens of Dare County from three divisional offices. While Nags Head is in the “Northern Beach” Division, citizens may take advantage of recreational programming services and opportunities throughout the County. This includes programs for the elderly, youth sports leagues, gymnastics and dance programs, summer camps, a variety of classes and a Special Olympics program.

The Town's approach reflects an understanding of the economic, social and cultural benefits of integrating recreational interests into Town planning generally. The *Land and Water Use Plan adopted in 2000*, for example, states:

The Town of Nags Head is working to build a community with an economy based on family vacation tourism. . . . Important elements in developing and maintaining his economy are:

- An oceanfront beach that is accessible and usable, not blocked by large structures.
- A natural environment typified by clean waters and the natural landscape of sand dunes and salt tolerant vegetation.
- Commercial services provided by locally owned and operated businesses that share in the building of our community.
- Recreational amenities and attractions, both commercial and non-commercial, that are wholesome and appeal to a broad spectrum of family members. (p. 7)

C. THE 2010 LAND USE PLAN AND PARKS AND RECREATION PLANNING

The Town's current Land Use Plan was adopted by the Nags Head Board of Commissioners in December of 2010. During the land use planning process, the Lead Planning Group (LPG) was formed as the land use planning committee. The LPG was tasked with developing a list of existing and emerging concerns in Nags Head. The LPG met several times and held two public meetings to gather input from the entire community. In 2006, a Land Use Plan survey was mailed to Town residents to gather input on important issues facing Nags Head. The respondents to the survey were mostly concerned with preserving the character of the Town, bicycle and pedestrian improvements and beach nourishment and beach access.

After the public outreach effort, a table of key issues was formed which provided the framework for the 2010 Land Use Plan. The purpose of the Land Use Plan is to help Town officials make the most educated decisions regarding future growth. It analyzes the impacts of growth, identifies the Town's goals and presents policies to manage growth consistent with those goals. Management topics in the Plan include; public access, land use capability, infrastructure carrying capacity, natural hazard areas, water quality, and local areas of concern. Throughout the Planning Process, the Nags Head community and leadership often reflected on the importance of park space, water access, and recreational opportunities, resulting in an adopted Vision Statement that echoes the same interests brought forward in past plans regarding the importance of recreation to the Town:

“The Town of Nags Head is working to build a community populated by diverse groups whose common bond is a love of the Outer Banks. We recognize that the Town must be a good place to live before it can be a good place to visit. We recognize that those who have lived on this land before us have forged our path and that we must learn from them and respect their memory. We recognize that our natural environment is an integral part of our community and must be considered in all decisions. We recognize that in order to secure this future we must work together, treating all with respect and fairness and focusing on our common goals. (p. 6)

Several recommendations and policy goals that were identified in the 2010 Land Use Plan process were revisited as part of the Parks and Recreation Plan process including (see pp 91-120):

- To continue and expand public access to and use of the ocean beach and sound front.
- Expansion of the multi-use path.
- Improvements of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, safety and overall connectivity throughout Town.
- Actively pursuing funding for recreational programming and opportunities for residents of all ages.
- Preservation of natural areas.
- Purchase of available property for conservation and public use.
- Improvement and protection of the beach.
- Public education and communication through effective newsletters and web information.

D. THE PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN COMMITTEE MISSION

This plan has been prepared by a volunteer committee of Nags Head citizens to advise and guide Town actions for the continued stewardship of the unique and valued environment of the Outer Banks and its recreational opportunities. It is designed in support of and consistent with the 2010 Land Use Plan. Specifically, the Parks and Recreation Committee hopes that with the adoption of this plan, the Town will be provided with useful recommendations for the development of future parks and recreation improvements, the maintenance of existing assets, and the continual improvement of Town efforts to make Nags Head a recreational destination.

The Parks and Recreation Plan Committee agreed that the following statement describes their sense of mission in presenting this document:

We are working to create a Town of Nags Head where there are abundant quality parks and recreation opportunities for all ages, both resident and visitor. The Town is blessed with special natural resources and a unique assortment of recreation facilities within its borders that we work to protect.

We strive for Nags Head to be both a world class recreation resort that attracts active visitors and families, as well as a desirable place to live and work. We recognize that the wellness and fitness of our residents of all ages are essential to Nags Head being a good place to live.

We aim for Nags Head to be internationally renowned for our clean, unique, and accessible recreation opportunities, and for our town government to effectively and pro-actively balance preservation of resources with vibrant and creative Town planning.

Carrying out this mission will require resourceful coordination with government, non-profit, business and industry partners.

E. VISION STATEMENT FOR PARKS AND RECREATION IN NAGS HEAD

While the “Mission Statement” of the Committee describes the underlying values and approaches used in the development of this plan, the “Vision Statement” for parks and recreation has been created to provide an over-arching concept and idea for the future of Nags Head that complements the Vision already laid out in the 2010 Land Use Plan.

The Committee thought carefully about what this Plan’s Vision Statement should say and how that statement could be used to explain and promote Town parks and recreation planning initiatives for the public. The following Vision Statement was developed from Committee discussions to provide a concise description of how the Parks and Recreation Plan should manifest itself in the future:

The Town of Nags Head will continuously improve, expand and maintain its world class barrier island recreational opportunities.

F. MARKETING LOGO AND UNDERLYING VALUES

The Committee also determined that a “logo” or catchphrase that embodied the vision statement, as well as an expanded statement of the underlying values that went into the Plan’s development and vision, could be helpful for use in advertisements, signage, and promotional materials. The Committee therefore recommends the following logo be used to identify initiatives and continually promote parks and recreation planning through signage and other informational materials to convey the Town’s commitment to parks and recreation. Because these values are integral to the Nags Head community character and history, the logo would also be appropriate for use in public information for the Town generally, incorporating the Town Seal which is for Town use only.



Live, Visit, Play, Thrive

The following is an explanation of how Nags Head is a great place to ***live, visit, play and thrive***. These statements reflect the values of the Committee in developing the plan and a vision for parks and recreation for the Town. “Core Values” are the ideas and beliefs that are assumed to be shared by the community as beneficial, because of the statements of past and current Land Use Plans, and the known interests for them within the community now.

- A great place to live. Nags Head strives to be the leader in promoting healthy living among its residents through diverse recreation and natural resource opportunities that are fun for all. Programming strives to get children, teens, young adults and older adults involved in activities and to serve them in ways that promote health, reduce stress and prevent loneliness.
- A great place to visit. Nags Head maintains a healthy environment, protecting our beaches, sound, woods, and park space for all to enjoy, and boasts many recreational amenities that appeal to visitors of all ages and interests.
- A great place to play. Surf, swim, boat, bike, run, kite board, kayak, hang glide, fish, crab, hike, relax - a wide variety of recreational opportunities are available, many with world class programs, instruction and programming.
- A great place to thrive. Nags Head has a parks and recreation system that connects our citizens to each other and the outdoors, adding value to our economy and our community. Through conservation, parks planning, and recreational programming, our Town strives to promote health, reduce stress, and eliminate loneliness in our all of our population ages.

2. Goals and Objectives

The following goals and objectives are developed in support of the Town's Vision Statement from the 2010 Land Use Plan and to enhance the Town's parks and recreation resources in order to serve its residents and visitors into the future. These goals and objectives were developed from public input and Parks and Recreation Committee Meetings (see Chapter 3), and are further addressed and prioritized by time frame at the end of plan. It is important to note that some of these goals are already reflected in Capital Improvement Program requests.

A. SERVE ALL AGES AND PHYSICAL ABILITIES

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Develop system for coordinated communications with Dare County Parks and Recreation to inform older adults and families with special needs of programs and resources through the Town website, Face Book page and other Town communications.
2. Increase wheelchair access to sound and beach waterfronts.
3. Improve and increase playground features and number of playgrounds for younger children.
4. Increase activities and available recreational space for youth and teens, including use of park space in the evenings.
5. Create recreational opportunities in the evenings that appeal to working adults and teens.
6. Increase number of lifeguard stands and roving patrols on the beach during peak season.

B. CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY INTERACTION

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Pursue an outdoor performing arts space as part of Windmill Point design. If it is not feasible to do so at the Windmill Point site, the Town should pursue another site.
2. Publicize Dare County meal sites and activities for older adults.
3. Make park space available for un-programmed and spontaneous activities; particularly allow open field space to be used by the general public (not just reserved for organized leagues).
4. Encourage amusement and recreational opportunities within the public/ private sector and examine zoning to allow these uses in certain districts.
5. Bring back a Carnival as an allowed use, or make an annual or periodic outdoor Carnival possible under current zoning.
6. Support the use of the expanded public beach for event programming and sports opportunities (such as beach soccer, volleyball, etc.).
7. Develop Community events and programs during the off-season, especially during the "shoulder-seasons" to support local businesses and serve year-round residents.

8. Establish on-going recreation committee and assign staff, as budget allows, as an event coordinator/recreational liaison position to coordinate with Dare County, the Tourism Board, the Chamber, and other local partners to plan and promote community events.

C. STRIVE FOR CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING FACILITIES

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Replace Playground Equipment at Town Park with a design consistent with Nags Head architecture. Equipment should be made of materials which perform better than traditional materials (such as metal or wood) in our environmental conditions and which attract children.
2. Replace all or a portion of playing fields at Satterfield Landing to artificial turf and incorporate a playground within the site.
3. Repair the Beach Road multi-use trail as needed with asphalt and improve drainage where possible. Install signage to promote safety for all users. (Note: asphalt is the preferable material for the NC12 and South Oregon Inlet trail.)
4. Install uniform directional signage that allows visitors to locate existing Town parks, sound and beach access points and trailheads.
5. Improve access points along sound and beach as follows:
 - a. Formalize “drive over” access points at Eighth, Forrest, Enterprise and Juncos streets to allow pre-approved vehicles and drivers carrying disabled passengers onto beach.
 - b. Invest in roll-out matting or wooden slat walkways to go over sand for wheelchair and scooter access at Juncos Street and at Jockey’s Ridge Sound access.
 - c. Maintain Bladen Street as an emergency vehicle drive-over.
 - d. Redesign Gray Eagle access point for beach users including parking, shade and picnic structure, water source, and bathroom elements.
 - e. Provide water (shower or spigot), bike racks and trash and recycling containers at all access points wherever possible; use phased installation and funding as needed.
6. Sign and trim back trail to kayak launches along the causeway.
7. Sign sailboat, Stand up Paddle Board and kayak launches at the Harvey site and limit storage of personal watercraft. Continue prohibition of motorized craft at that access.
8. Provide maps on Google maps, Town website and Face book that indicate where Town parks and water accesses are located.
9. Explore additional public uses at Satterfield Landing Park.
10. Participate in task force with YMCA staff and Board to determine future of YMCA Skate Park including participation by a skate park user if possible.

D. IMPROVE SOUND ACCESS

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. At Jockey's Ridge State Park, add ADA surface material from boardwalk to beach area, install additional restrooms and shower facilities, expand parking lot and designate spaces, install signage on exterior of lot to prohibit parking on private property and Soundside Road r-o-w.
2. Develop Master Plan for Sound side boardwalk with adjacent property owners and the Tourism Board. Planning area should include the area between the "Little Bridge" on the causeway to Fortune Street, including Sugar Creek, Causeway businesses, Tanger Outlets, Windmill Point, Pamlico Jack's and adjacent properties in between.
3. Increase fishing and crabbing access opportunities along the sound as part of Boardwalk Plan.
4. Price park development at Town lot at the end of Forbes Street.
5. Research power boat launching and docking on the sound.

E. IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Continue construction of multi use trail along NC158 with pedestrian and bicyclist safety as priority, working toward connections to Whalebone Park/Whalebone Junction.
2. Work with NCDOT and the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization ("RPO") to formalize pedestrian and bicycle planning requests:
 - a. Coordinate with RPO on County Bicycle Plan
 - b. Apply for NCDOT funding for a Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan*
 - c. Program re-design and/or spot safety improvements along the 158 bypass as part of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.
 - d. Address drainage issues on South Oregon Inlet Road wherever possible.
3. Develop pedestrian and multi-use trail system throughout area of Whalebone District and including crosswalk at Gull Street and 158 that connects the new Whalebone Park, Jennette's Pier, the entrance to the National Park, and shopping and restaurant destinations. This area should be priority focus area of the Pedestrian Plan and should include connections with proposed sound side boardwalk.
4. Interconnect neighborhoods with crosswalks on the west side of US 158.
5. Expand and sign hiking and biking path from Town Park through Nags Head Woods.
6. Evaluate alternate paving materials where possible and appropriate.
7. Promote the Town's Adopt-a-Bench program.

**Town applied for the NCDOT Comprehensive Pedestrian Planning Grant in November of 2011 in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Planning process and pursuant to the goals of the 2010 Land Use Plan. If approved, Town will need to allocate \$6,000 in matching funds for FY 2012-2013.*

F. ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARKS AND CONSERVATION

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Purchase properties with opportunity for park development, multi-use trail and Beach and Sound access; purchase undeveloped lots within neighborhoods to preserve green space for stormwater management and for “pocket park” or trail uses as permitted.

G. DEVELOP NEW RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Promote regional events and sporting tournaments on the new beach and in Nags Head.
2. Insert low-cost recreational facilities - such as horse shoe pits, corn hole and bocce areas, picnic tables, grills, and grassy open areas within Whalebone Park and other parks.
3. Design and install disc golf course within Town Park and adjacent areas of Nags Head Woods and at the YMCA.
4. Research feasibility and location of a dog park within Nags Head in consideration of the new facility in Kitty Hawk.
5. Research feasibility, costs and location of a public pool or public/private partnership with the YMCA for use of the pool for County recreational programming.
6. Research feasibility, cost and location of public tennis courts which can be illuminated at night.
7. Promote recreational opportunities with the YMCA and private sector commercial providers as part of event planning.
8. Identify and support additional indoor recreational opportunities within the Town.

H. CONTINUOUS IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN GOALS

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Appoint a staff position and/or public task force, as funding allows, to carry out Parks and Recreation Plan goals.
2. Town Recreation Committee/Town representation on Tourism Board and Chamber Committees to participate in Special Events and Windmill Point planning.
3. Direct Town Departments to update existing CIP (“Capital Improvement Program”) requests with Parks and Recreation Plan priorities.
4. Continue active monitoring and pursuit of local, state and federal grant opportunities for Plan implementation.
5. Ask Planning Board/ Board of Commissioners to consider incentives for sidewalks, trail, bicycle parking and green space/park facilities in development and redevelopment projects.

3. Planning Approach

The Parks and Recreation Committee members were selected and appointed by the Board of Commissioners to represent a diverse group of interests: various age groups, organized sports and recreation programs, tourism oriented businesses, and residents. Committee members were tasked to work with Town staff to solicit broad public input, identify areas of focus for study, and to bring forward recommendations. To accomplish this, they utilized a multi-faceted approach that involved: Use of two survey instruments; a public forum, 4 sub-committees to look at specific focus areas, and Committee discussion. Information was then collected into a draft planning document for review by the Committee and the public and then brought forward for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.

A. COMMUNITY SURVEYS

A citizen survey regarding recreation in the Town was mailed to resident and non-resident property owners in the fall of 2009. The Recreation Committee conducted a second survey in 2011 using the Town website and personal surveys conducted at the 50th Anniversary Carnival. Special effort was made in the second round of surveys to get younger adults and children to participate. Summaries of responses to the 2009 and 2011 Parks and Recreation Plan surveys are found in Appendices A and B of this plan.

The 2009 survey was mailed to all resident and non-resident Nags Head property owners in the Town and made available on the Town's website. 744 property owners responded to the survey: 28 were year-round resident renters, 274 were year-round resident property owners, and 442 were non-resident property owners. Approximately 60% of the respondents were male and 40% female. 48% of the respondents were between 50 and 64 years of age, 30% over the age of 64, 18% between the ages of 35 and 49 and 2% between the ages of 18 and 34.

A majority of respondents stated the Town should support nature parks and trails, swimming and wading areas, fishing and crabbing opportunities and public restroom facilities. When asked what they would be willing to pay higher taxes for, respondents stated ocean and beach access areas and curbside collection of recyclables were very important. The survey respondents also stated the growth rate of the Town between 2004 and 2009 was a little too fast but recreational facilities had kept up with the growth rate and were in good condition. Most participated in walking, running, bicycling and fishing on a regular basis and used Jockey's Ridge, Nags Head Village facilities, the YMCA, Nags Head Woods and the west side multi-use path as well as the ocean and the sound for recreation purposes. When asked how close respondents lived to a park or recreational facility, besides the ocean and sound, a majority stated 2.5 miles or less.

Respondents were also asked to name recreational facilities that they would like to see in Nags Head (responses to question 13):

What Types of Recreation Facilities Would You Like To See In Nags Head?

Summary of Top Categories of Responses to Question 13*

1. Soundside Enhancements (30 responses) – includes soundside access (18), boat launch (7), kiteboard launch (2), kayak access, crabbing (2), fishing (2), pier (2), boat dock (2). Bathroom, showers, and parking. Soundside path is separate below.
2. Beach Enhancement (28 responses) - includes beach widening (12), beach access, restrooms, showers, trash cans, parking, lifeguard, artificial reef/snorkel kiteboard launch.
3. Pathway Enhancement (26 responses) – includes walking/biking/hiking/exercise and multiuse path and sidewalk (9). Significant numbers mentioned soundside and woods trails.
4. Dog Park (12)
5. Tennis Courts (10)
6. Playground (9)
7. Pools (9) – includes mention of YMCA and desired for reduced rates.
8. Open space/natural areas (8)
9. Picnic/pavilion (6)
10. Golf course/driving range (5)
11. Skate park (4)
12. Amusement park (4)
13. More ball fields (3)
14. Open field space (3)
15. Public Multi-use Park next to Nags Head Elementary School or Windmill Point (3)
16. Similar performance and park space to Duck (2) at Windmill Point or other location.

**Some categorizations are subjective and duplicative due to the nature of the narrative response.*

Other items specifically mentioned in the narrative part of the survey include:

- Walking trails
- Hiking trails
- More dedicated open/green space
- Water/amusement park
- Picnic areas
- Golf course
- Handicapped beach/sound access
- Ball fields
- Wetland/nature centers
- Community gardens
- Convention/conference center
- Sound side walking path
- Extend US158 multi-use path

In 2011, the Parks and Recreation committee created a second survey entitled “What do you like to do in Nags Head.” The survey focused on younger adults and children and was open to both residents and visitors. It was available on the Town’s website and several volunteers attended the Town’s 50th Anniversary Carnival at Windmill Point to solicit responses from carnival attendees. A total of 88 people responded to the survey. 50 of them were Nags Head residents and 38 were not. 29 were under the age of 13, 6 between the ages of 13 and 18 and 52 were over the age of 19. 53 of the respondents were female and 35 were male. Most respondents enjoyed going to the beach, swimming, going to the sound, bicycling, live musical performances and running and walking. Below is a list of recreational facilities the survey respondents stated they would like to see in Nags Head:

- Playgrounds
- Music festivals
- Open green areas
- Extend US 158 multi-use path
- Ball fields
- Ice skating rink
- West side neighborhood interconnectivity
- Shopping

Several respondents also stated that the Town needs to better communicate the recreational facilities it has available as well as let younger people be involved in making decisions regarding recreational facilities.

B. COMMUNITY FORUM

The Committee hosted a public input forum on May 16, 2011 as an opportunity to receive general comments and prompt more in depth discussion from the public on parks and recreation needs. This meeting was attended by 11 citizens of Dare County and discussion resulted in the identification of the following (quotes from participants):

What are the recreational activities and resources people enjoyed the most in Nags Head? What is working well?

- It’s an essential part of living here
- Connection to the outdoors
- Nags Head Woods
- Jockey’s Ridge
- Water sports
- Beach access
- Multi-use path/ bike path
- Sound access
- YMCA skate park
- YMCA an integral part of community
- The Beach
- Town Parks
- County and Town cooperation
- County Community Centers/Baum Center
- Events that bring visitors (marathon, tournaments)
- Walking; walking on trail
- Golf
- Fishing, Boating
- Community Parks
- Natural Areas
- Surfing
- Running and Biking
- The Sound – sailing, kayaking, sunsets

Changes or improvements people would like to see and needs that should be addressed:

- Recreational opportunities for everyone (all ages, interests)
- Connectivity among west-side neighborhoods and throughout Town
- Safe ways to cross the by-pass

- Connections between the Sound and the Beach
- Improve bike paths so that they are safe, well lit, and add amenities like water fountains and restrooms.
- More sidewalks on the west side
- Update and address maintenance needs on existing facilities (Town Park, beach/sound access restrooms, multi-use path in S. Nags Head)
- Skating rink (some skating provided at the Ark)
- Update YMCA Skate Park
- More playgrounds; playgrounds integrated into development
- Playground area or passive park space at Bonnet St. access near trail
- Other small park facilities at access points
- More restrooms at access points
- Dog Park
- Expand Harvey Access and create other sound access areas
- Beach on the sound side (sound access at Jockey's Ridge has limited facilities and behind village has obstacles and needs to be cleaned up)
- Create a way to walk along the Sound
- Provide a better boat ramp and kayak launch
- More open field spaces for general use and un-programmed use
- Event Center and Concert Space – create inter-action opportunities and work with local businesses (similar to Duck)
- Beach events (sand soccer, volleyball, lacrosse, surfing)
- Public tennis courts (6 courts would allow us to host tournaments)
- Basketball court
- Place to hang out for kids
- Repair Barnes Street Playground and provide directional signage
- Zip line
- Disc golf
- Pavilion, support Go-Karts, mini golf, and other areas for kids
- Swimming pool or sound-side area roped off for swimmers only
- Passive grassy sports areas (bocce ball, horseshoes, croquet, corn hole etc.)

Parks and Recreation Planning Priorities:

- Recognize that local and tourists needs are the same
- Playgrounds and/ or play equipment for younger kids and families
- Provide resources and activities for youth that provide options to drug and alcohol use
- Provide Events and a gathering place for community interaction
- Improve ways Town can interact with County program and address community recreation needs for all ages – maybe a recreation liaison or coordinator?
- Upgrade and expand current facilities and let people know about them; expand bike paths and multi-use trail system.
- Expansion of Sound-side facilities such as pier, canoe/kayak/other launches, and swimming areas,
- Provide more ball fields, and open space for pick-up games and un-programmed activities.
- Provide areas lighted for night use (fields, trails, skate park)
- Incorporate educational activities as part of programming
- Promote community wellness through use of facilities and exercise.

C. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE FOCUS AREAS

In addition to gathering public input, the Parks and Recreation Committee organized itself into several sub-committees to look at specific focus areas:

- Youth,
- Older Adults,
- Facilities, and
- Community Interaction.

Each sub-committee spent time researching the Town's strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and needs within these areas and then provided reports to the larger committee for feedback. The sub-committee reports can be found in Appendix C of this plan. The recommendations and reports from each study group were considered together along with Committee discussion to formulate the goals and objectives of the Plan.

D. SPECIFIC PLANNING ISSUES

Several issues that came up during the Committee discussions or on surveys were researched individually by Town staff and Parks and Recreation Committee members. Research consisted primarily of interviews with key leaders or property owners in the community.

1. YMCA Skate Park

The Skate Park was established through a joint effort of citizens, the Town and the YMCA and was the first Skate Park on the Outer Banks. Because this Park is on the private property of the YMCA, users must sign a waiver and comply with safety rules that are enforced by an on-site staff member. Since its construction, new skate parks in Manteo and Kitty Hawk have also been constructed within public parks which are "open use", i.e., users do not have to register or have a staff person on-site for access.

Use of the Nags Head Skate Park at the YMCA has declined over the years, and has become a concern for the YMCA Board. In 2009, 60 Annual Park passes were purchased; in 2010 35 passes were purchased; and so far in 2011, 27 passes have been purchased. Daily pass use has also declined (see chart). Because the YMCA must staff, the Park is now costing more money to keep open than user fees will support, and last year the Park was managed at a loss of over \$3,000. The YMCA is a private nonprofit which must serve a variety of clients, and while as an organization it has continued to support and maintain the Park on behalf of the Town, there is growing concern about the sustainability of the Park at the YMCA site and the value of the Park relative to other community recreational programming.

Another concern is the condition of the Park itself which may be contributing to decreases in users. The Park is aging and has several areas which could be improved or repaired. The investment to repair the Park could vary based on the extent of renovations, but rough estimates place these costs over the \$3,000 amount which the Park lost last year. Extensive improvements to the Park could cost over \$15,000 (See Appendix F).

The YMCA Board has suggested a Task Force be formed to look specifically at the Skate Park and to make some recommendations for its future. Ideally, the Task Force should include representation of regular Park users, YMCA staff and Board, and the Town Recreation Committee.

2011 Skate Park Usage Analysis

Type of Pass	Total Purchased	Total Residents of Nags Head
Annual Individual Pass	27	11
Annual Family Pass	12	1
Daily Guest Passes	314	7
Week Guest Passes	18	0
Y-Homes or Hotels	26	8

2010 Skate Park Usage Analysis

Type of Pass	Total Purchased	Total Residents of Nags Head
Annual Individual Pass	35	10
Annual Family Pass	19	7
Daily Guest Passes	470	11
Week Guest Passes	26	1
Y-Homes or Hotels	36	5

2009 Skate Park Usage Analysis

Type of Pass	Total Purchased	Total Residents of Nags Head
Annual Individual Pass	60	20
Annual Family Pass	19	3
Daily Guest Passes	743	18
Week Guest Passes	49	1
Y-Homes or Hotels	73	8

2. Carnival

In the summer of 2011, the Town of Nags Head held a Carnival at Windmill Point to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Town. Response from the Carnival was positive from the community, visitors, and Town staff. The Parks and Recreation Committee encourages future types of events. Future consideration of a Carnival will require amendments to the Town zoning code and/or Crowd Gathering Permit to create more opportunity for the public/ private sector to provide this service.

3. Tennis Courts

The Town established a use agreement with Mr. Mike Kelly to maintain tennis courts on property Mr. Kelly owns behind Kelly's Restaurant. These courts have fallen to disrepair and are not being used by the general public much, if at all. Mr. Kelly suggested that he is open to updating the use agreement with the Town but wanted to ensure that the courts would be maintained, have the nets replaced, and that garbage management, parking lot maintenance, and insurance be addressed by the Town. He also requested that the courts not be lit at night so as to disturb neighbors who had complained in the past. Tennis Courts were identified as a recreational need in Town surveys. Public Courts are available in other locations in Dare County (Manteo, Kill Devil Hills), but not within the Town of Nags Head itself, except for the one behind Kelly's. Other tennis courts that are within Nags Head are all for private use.

Public tennis courts could be re-established behind Kelly's restaurant with an updated agreement between the Town of Nags Head or Dare County and Mr. Kelly, or should be considered at other locations. Among the existing Town Parks, only Satterfield Landing could accommodate tennis courts within its grounds. However, location of courts at Satterfield would take away space now used for additional parking during league events.

4. Considerations for the Nourished Beach

With the Nags Head Beach re-nourishment project, the Town has an opportunity and a challenge to manage a wider beach which will draw more users, lend itself to more activities, and when allowed be more attractive to drivers. An update of Town Beach Policies and Life Guard Coverage would be beneficial with the following considerations.

Safety Coverage

The Fire Department and Ocean Rescue Services provides outstanding protection for beach users through a combination of fixed stands and roving patrols. The Nags Head Ocean Rescue also uses a series of flags and public notifications to alert beach users of water safety considerations, rip currents and daily conditions for swimmers safety. The Parks and Recreation Committee supports the Departments' Capital Improvement Program proposal to phase in additional stands, as funding allows, and would encourage additional personnel and fixed stands where and when feasible.

Maintenance of Clear Access Points

For safety of users and beach patrols, along a wider beach, it is important that beach access points be kept free and clear of tents and other equipment or clutter from beach users as well as from special events which may prevent ocean rescue from free and clear access of beach areas. During beach driving season, motorists should also drive clear of these areas (not park or stand).

Expansion of Special Events and Weddings

With the newly nourished beach, there is more opportunity for the public and for private organizations to coordinate with the town to host events on the beach. Parameters on chairs and use of beach for weddings could be expanded. The Committee recommends that the Town explore opportunities for sporting events such as beach volleyball, soccer, and lacrosse tournaments. As the Town considers these opportunities (see Chapter 6) access of Emergency Operations and Beach Rescue personnel as well as overall beach coverage should be considered and the Town should update their beach management policies to ensure that safety and recreational opportunities are balanced.

5. Sound side Boardwalk

From the causeway to Fortune Street, the Sound lends itself to several access points and connections among property owners. The development of Windmill Point by the Tourism Board will create a regional destination within the Town adjacent to the Sound. A Sound-side boardwalk could connect Windmill Point to adjacent properties and add value to the site as part of a cohesive sound-side development plan to provide the public with increased access to the water, space for outdoor dining along the waterfront, places to catch the sunset, dock boats, and stroll. The Town should pursue creation of a master plan with the Tourism Board and adjacent property owners to evaluate feasibility, design options, and costs of a boardwalk in the area from the Causeway to Fortune Street. This should be a key planning focus in the Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan as well as site planning for Windmill Point.

6. Whalebone Park Development

With the development of Jennette's Pier and the potential of development at Windmill Point, the center area of Nags Head around "Whalebone Junction" promises to be an increasing center of activity. The Town is therefore constructing a new park between US Highway 158 and the Beach Road near Jennette's Pier. The design of this park will include pedestrian and bicycle connections, public parking, picnic areas, and other recreational elements. The Committee recommends particularly that a playground should include shade and be designed to provide a place for families with small children to get away from the beach. The Town Board of Commissioners has allocated funding for construction of this project, has received assistance from the Tourism Board and is seeking grant assistance from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund towards park construction.

7. Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Connectivity

In both the public surveys and Committee discussions, pedestrian and bicycle connectivity and safety were identified as a critical need. Visitors and older and younger residents often prefer, or are limited to, walking or cycling to the beach or other destinations. Current parks do not have safe bicycle and pedestrian connections for kids to get to them unless they are being driven in an automobile. Nags Head Elementary has limited sidewalk access. The popularity of the Beach Road (NC12) multi-use path reflects the desire of locals and visitors to walk and bicycle for both recreation and transportation. The multi-use trail along US158 has generally been well received but is not yet complete enough to provide cross connections with west side neighborhoods and shopping areas. East to west connections from the beach road to US158 and the West side neighborhoods are limited and directed to a few crosswalks.

In September of 2011, the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Traffic Safety Unit conducted a road safety review of US Highway 158 which has one of the highest rates of bicycle and pedestrian fatalities in the State. The Traffic Safety Unit was tasked with identifying and recommending improvements to roads with high vehicle to vehicle as well as vehicle to pedestrian crash rates but particular attention was paid to improving the safety for bicyclists and pedestrians moving along and across the Highway. Several recommendations were suggested including low cost signage, improved crosswalks and continuation of the multi-use trail the length of US158.

The Parks and Recreation Committee recommends the Town be continue to phase-in completion of the US Highway 158 multi-use trail, maintain the Beach Road trail, and the develop a cohesive and comprehensive pedestrian plan which promotes connectivity and safety in conjunction with NCDOT.

The Town has allocated funding for the next phase of the multi-use trail along US158 and can pursue grant applications through the State Trails Program and Safe Routes to School Program for areas around Nags Head Elementary, and other grant opportunities as they arise. The Town may also get funding through NCDOT for the development of a Comprehensive Pedestrian Transportation Plan which would identify all existing facilities, map out the most effective connections and additions to the Town's infrastructure (trails, sidewalks, boardwalks, crosswalks), and make recommendations going forward.

8. Satterfield Landing Park and Fields

One of the County's premier recreational fields is located in Nags Head at Satterfield Landing. During soccer and lacrosse league seasons, these fields are heavily used and the parking lot will routinely be full to over-flowing during Saturday games. Because of our area's environment and the heavy use of the fields, these fields are not open to the public during the summer months in order to allow the turf to rejuvenate. These fields are also susceptible to scorching and lack of water. This means that these fields which are on Town property but which are maintained and programmed by Dare County, are not available for passive recreational use by the general public during the summer and are difficult to maintain in top condition. In addition to the ball fields, the Park has cleared flat areas that are sometimes used for overflow parking, but otherwise are left open and present an opportunity for additional recreational space.

The Committee recommends that the Town work with Dare County to develop all or a portion of the fields at Satterfield Landing into artificial turf. Artificial turf would not require the same level of maintenance that the County must now undertake, and would make fields available for general public use during the off-season. The open area now used for overflow parking, should be considered for turf and a playground to allow for passive play and warm up play during games. The Committee feels strongly that park space should be made available for un-programmed and spontaneous activities, particularly allowing open field space to be used by the general public (not just reserved for organized leagues), and creating a play ground opportunity for younger children.

9. Older Adults

The majority of the Nags Head population falls into a "middle age" or older bracket. Over half (52%) of the total permanent population of Nags Head is 45 or older. The Older Adult subcommittee used a variety of methods to identify the existing recreational opportunities and needs of the Town's older adult community and found a large need for recreational opportunities for the "over 50" age group as they are very physically active as a whole. Nags Head's natural resources including the ocean and sound, multiuse paths and parks and playgrounds were cited as opportunities for recreational activity for older adults and the subcommittee recommends improving ADA access to the beach and sound wherever possible.

Other available services include the Dare County Center and the Baum Center which offer many free amenities such as a library, dance classes, card and board games, yoga, arts and crafts and exercise equipment among other activities. Transportation is also available for free or at reasonable rates. The Committee recommends that the Town support existing older adult recreational programs provided by local and state government and non-profits by publicizing those programs within Nags Head. The subcommittee noted that most activities are not geared towards the physically disabled or "shut-ins."

Though there were some older adult desires expressed for an expanded meals program, free swimming pool facilities, and socialization programs, the subcommittee did not determine those to be substantiated recreation "needs" that the Town could address and did not recommend implementing programs in those areas. The complete Older Adult sub-committee report can be found in Appendix C of this plan, and includes eleven specific recommendations for action (also see Recommendations and Implementation).

10. Existing Facilities

The Facilities Committee toured all of the Town Parks to identify needs and make recommendations for improvements. Several items of concern have already been addressed or are being worked on already by the Town Public Works Department since the facility tour was completed (see Appendix C), including:

- Water fountains at causeway parks have been removed because of corrosive environmental conditions. Hurricane Irene caused extensive damage after the facilities tour. Public Works will also be making repairs to the causeway sites, Jockey's Ridge Sound-side Park and the Harvey Access.
- Town is working on next phase of US158 trail construction from Barnes Street to the YMCA.
- Public Works is improving several beach accesses for ADA access and other amenities in current CIP.

The committee consensus was that the Town should continue to support on-going maintenance and improvement opportunities in existing facilities prior to developing new initiatives. Replacement of the Town Park playground, integration of a playground and other recreational elements at Satterfield Park, continued improvement of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and general directional signage to all parks were focus areas of recommendation.

E. ADOPTION PROCESS

A draft of this plan was presented to the Commissioners in the fall and made available to the public through the Town web site and the Planning and Development Department for a three month review period. A public hearing on the document was held January 4, 2012, and a workshop for further discussion by Commissioners on January 18, 2012. This Plan can be cited in future grant applications in order to document how certain grant requests are part of a larger planning context that is consistent with Town goals. In certain cases, the Plan may give the Town an advantage for competitive requests. For example, this plan would qualify the Town for additional points in Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) application scoring.

As a "living document" this Plan should be revisited periodically for updates and planning activities and the task items at the end for "immediate" and longer term actions should be considered as a flexible guideline that allows staff to bring opportunities or actions to the Board of Commissioners on an on-going basis. It should also be recognized that while some costs or approximate costs are included in this plan, actual budget allocations and future grant applications for any project will still need approval by the Town Board of Commissioners.

4. Community Conditions and Context

A. POPULATION PROJECTIONS

The most recent U.S. Census data shows the population of Nags Head increased by 57 people from 2000 to 2010 and that the median age increased from 42.7 years to 46.8 years.

2000 Census Data for Nags Head by Age			2010 Census Data for by Age		
Total population	2,700	100%	2,757	100.0%	
Under 5 years	121	4.5	159	5.8	
5 to 9 years	129	4.8	144	5.2	
10 to 14 years	179	6.6	114	4.1	
15 to 19 years	130	4.8	79	2.9	
20 to 24 years	97	3.6	109	4.0	
25 to 34 years	338	12.5	334	12.1	
35 to 44 years	492	18.2	367	13.3	
45 to 54 years	427	15.8	489	17.7	
55 to 59 years	184	6.8	270	9.8	
60 to 64 years	144	5.3	229	8.3	
65 to 74 years	263	9.7	258	9.3	
75 to 84 years	128	4.7	146	5.3	
85 years and over	68	2.5	59	2.1	

As the median age increase indicates, the majority of the Nags Head population falls into a “middle age” or older bracket: 988 are 45 to 65, and 463 residents are 65 or older. In other words, over half (52%) of the total permanent population of Nags Head is 45 or older. Information collected by the Older Adults subcommittee (See Appendix C) indicates that much of this population is very active and concerned with issues of preserving beach and sound access, maintaining current programming at resources such as the YMCA and the Baum Center, and in expanding opportunities for older adult meals, a public swimming pool, and improving access for people with disabilities to the Town beaches and sound front areas.

Only 417 are 14 and under, and only 79 are high school age. Information from the School District’s 2010-2011 Demographic Profile completed October 20, 2010, indicates that even fewer, only 286, are registered in the Dare County School system: 162 are in grades Kindergarten – 5th grade, 68 are in grades 6-8th, and 56 are in grades 9-12. Of course, not every resident may go to the local public school or register their child appropriately. Discussions at the Committee level indicate a desire to support programs for youth at all levels. Concern was voiced that the existing playground area is out-dated and in need of maintenance, and that new playground opportunities and interactive areas for the very young should be developed.

While youth leagues, especially in soccer, lacrosse and gymnastics are very popular, field space and indoor activity space is limited within Nags Head. Organizers in Dare County indicate that the gymnastics and dance programs which are very popular but are located in the only facility that can provide indoor basketball courts. The fields at Satterfield Landing are fully programmed during the soccer and lacrosse seasons, and, because of the wear and tear on the fields from league play, the fields must be closed down during the summer months to allow the fields to be reseeded and the grass to rejuvenate. Even though the Nags Head population for youth may be small, the facilities catering to young teens and children are not meeting the needs of local families or the Dare County programs.

B. VISITOR PROJECTIONS

The Town is interested in not only serving its local citizens but the many visitors who come to Nags Head and the Northern Beaches. In 2005, the North Carolina State Data Center used Dare County room tax information to provide an estimate of a peak seasonal population of 36,826. Other sources place Nags Head seasonal population between 30,000 and 40,000 annually, which is well over ten times the Town's population.

It should be noted that both older and younger people's recreation needs are of great concern when it comes to Nags Head visitors. The Recreation Committee observed that within these numbers, many families coming to the beach are bringing inter-generational groups and lots of children. Furthermore, many of the older residents who live here have grandchildren who visit on a regular basis. The 2010 Land Use plan and earlier plans stated that one state that a goal for the Town is to remain a popular destination for families. Therefore, it is very important that Nags Head create and maintain recreational opportunities for all ages.

An instructive experience for the Committee along these lines was the Town's 50th Anniversary Carnival. The Carnival was well received as an event that was able to provide all ages with something fun to experience together in addition to the beach and was enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Several on the Recreation Committee observed that it reminded them of the Dowdy's Amusement Park and other recreational activities that were once available in Nags Head, and which helped give Nags Head the reputation as the "family beach."

C. THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Studies have demonstrated that preventing disease before it starts is critical to helping people live longer, healthier lives and keeping health care costs down. Poor diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use, and alcohol misuse are just some of the challenges communities are facing throughout the United States. The Centers for Disease Control found that housing, transportation, education, workplaces, and environment are major elements that impact the physical and mental health of Americans. Specifically, public facilities that promote exercise such as parks, fields, sidewalks, trails, and bike paths can have a positive impact on public health. Similarly, communities that do not have easy access to these types of facilities often have high rates of obesity.

According to "Eat Smart, Move More: North Carolina's State Plan to Prevent Overweight, Obesity and Related Chronic Diseases, 2007-2012, more than half of American adults are overweight or obese. Additionally, 30 percent of children ages 6-19 are overweight or at risk for being overweight. In some parts of our state, the number of children who are overweight is even higher. From 1999-2004, the prevalence of overweight among children and adolescents and obesity among men increased significantly (See Eat Smart Move More Fact Sheet in Appendix D). In Dare County in 2007, 8.6% of adults were diabetic (10.73% of all adults in North Carolina). The North Carolina Report goes on to recommend several community policy and environmental strategies which overlap the Town's Parks and Recreation and other planning efforts, including:

- Prioritize capital improvement projects to increase opportunities for physical activity.
- Expand opportunities for physical activity including recreational facilities, parks, playgrounds, sidewalks, bike paths and safe streets in neighborhoods.

- Involve worksites, coalitions, agencies and communities in attempts to change the local environment to create opportunities for physical activity. Such changes include creating walking trails, building exercise facilities or providing access to existing nearby facilities.
- Build new bike paths, sidewalks, accessible walking trails and parks where the need exists.
- Review transportation policies and traffic patterns and revise to facilitate safe walking and biking.
- Adopt local policy that sets standards for green space and sidewalks in new developments.

Locally, the Dare County Department of Public Health and the Healthy Carolinians of the Outer Banks are working with local health care providers and the Outer Banks YMCA to refer children ages 10-18 who are at risk for Type 2 Diabetes to the ENERGIZE program, which includes a 12-week course at the YMCA. Additionally, the Parks and Recreation Committee wants to encourage the development of activities that keep kids active and engaged, and away from drugs and alcohol.

The Committee communicated that expanded facilities and park space could in fact allow Dare County to provide more programming, as well as allow “un-programmed” space to be available in parks for kids to have a place to go and be active. The Committee also recognized the need to increase connectivity in the form of sidewalk connections and expansion of the multi use paths to allow people to walk and bicycle.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, seniors can benefit especially from access to parks and recreational facilities, sidewalks and trails. “Most Americans age 65 and older are the least active age group in the United States: approximately 35% of those aged 65-74 years and 46% of those aged 75 or older report no leisure-time physical activity at all. Most seniors (80%) have at least one chronic condition, and 50% have at least two. Research has shown that seniors who have healthy lifestyles that include regular physical activity reduce their risk for chronic diseases and have half the rate of disability of those who do not.” (*Trails for Health, Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Environments*).

All parks, recreation programming, sidewalks, trails, bike paths, swimming and boating areas are being developed and planned in the hopes of creating a safe and inviting system of opportunities to get people of all ages outdoors, playing, exercising and enjoying time together.

D. THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF PARKS AND RECREATION

With so many visitors annually, parks and recreation planning has an economic impact as well as benefits for community health and enjoyment. The Outer Banks Visitors Bureau is the lead marketing and promotional agency for The Outer Banks of North Carolina and is funded by one percent of the occupancy tax and one percent of the prepared meals tax, collected in Dare County. A 2006 Visitors Research Report funded by the bureau indicates that the “average” visitor to Dare County spent a total of \$2,193 during their trip, with an average of \$61 per person per night, spread out over the various expenditures:

Lodging	\$1,139	52%
Meals/Food/Groceries	\$421	19%
Entertainment, e.g., shows/theater/concerts	\$40	2%
Shopping	\$258	12%
Transportation	\$207	9%
Attractions	\$63	3%
Other	\$65	3%
Total	\$2,193	

This same study indicates that leading motivations for visiting the Outer Banks are recreational:

<u>“Motivations for Visiting”</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>Summer</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Beautiful beaches	40.7%	49.0%	34.0%	22.1%	30.9%
Interesting historic sites	14.2%	8.1%	19.3%	22.1%	24.5%
Scenic areas or drives	11.5%	8.4%	13.3%	24.7%	12.8%
A clean & safe environ.	9.8%	10.5%	9.1%	7.8%	9.6%
Good accommodations	10.2%	9.2%	11.0%	5.6%	8.5%
Wildlife viewing	1.9%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	7.4%
Family attractions	3.5%	4.4%	2.8%	1.3%	3.2%
Others:					
Fishing	4.7%	5.0%	5.1%	3.9%	1.1%
Arts or cultural activities	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Sporting activities	0.7%	1.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Good golf courses	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Visual or performing arts	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

<u>“Activities During Trip”</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>Summer</u>	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Enjoy scenic beauty	89.3%	89.3%	88.7%	85.9%	94.7%
Visit the ocean or beaches	94.8%	96.6%	92.9%	92.3%	92.6%
Take scenic drives	75.5%	73.3%	75.8%	79.5%	86.3%
Others:					
Visit the national parks	57.1%	52.6%	57.4%	73.1%	72.6%
Wildlife/bird watching	46.4%	44.9%	42.4%	60.3%	63.2%
Take ferry	48.8%	53.3%	41.2%	50.0%	51.6%
Hiking or biking	34.3%	35.9%	30.4%	24.4%	49.5%
Visit art/cultural	26.2%	25.5%	24.5%	32.1%	33.7%
Go fishing	29.1%	35.6%	25.2%	19.2%	10.5%
Attend festivals or craft fairs	7.8%	8.1%	7.8%	5.1%	8.4%
Go camping	9.7%	11.2%	8.2%	6.4%	8.4%
Golf	8.8%	9.3%	8.7%	7.7%	6.3%
Attend theatre performances	5.6%	7.3%	3.8%	3.8%	4.2%
Canoeing or kayaking	9.7%	14.5%	5.4%	0.0%	4.2%
Play tennis	2.7%	3.3%	1.6%	1.3%	4.2%
Attend/participate in sporting events	5.6%	7.0%	4.7%	1.3%	3.2%
Attend musical performances	4.6%	5.8%	3.1%	5.1%	3.2%

The Report also indicates that visitors come from a variety of origins, with Virginia being the leading source of visitors to the Outer Banks, and North Carolina the second leading source. Other visitors came from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland and other States. This indicates that the Outer Banks creates revenue not just for Dare County, but for the entire State in that it draws in visitors from so many areas and that there is in fact an economic benefit to supporting recreational resources. It also clearly shows that beach access, preservation of scenery and recreational resources is an important part of continuing to attract visitors. Supporting this conclusion is the more recent 2010 Visitor Profiling and Re-Contact Study conducted by the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, with ROI Research. 443 people were surveyed regarding how they planned the vacation and the effectiveness of the website OuterBanks.org.

As part of that survey they answered the following question: **What types of activities are you planning for your trip to the Outer Banks?**

Going to the Beach	96%
Sightseeing	77%
Lighthouses	76%
Shopping	65%
Historic Sites	59%
Wright Brothers Memorial	47%
Fishing	39%
Arts and Culture	29%
Biking	28%
Surfing or boogie boarding	27%
Hiking	23%
Boating	21%
Special events	21%
Kayaking	18%
Scuba/snorkeling	12%
Golf	12%
Spa treatments	12%
Tennis	4%
Watching/riding horses	1%
Dining out	1%
Other	4%

A study conducted by the Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) at North Carolina State in 2004: *The Economic Impact of Investments in Bicycle Facilities: A Case Study in the Northern Outer Banks* obtained data from self-administered surveys of tourists at three visitors' centers in the region. The study found that the economic impact of bicycling visitors is significant with conservative estimate of annual economic impact of \$60 million, with 1400 jobs created / supported per year (See Appendix E).

5. Existing Facilities and Resources

The Town of Nags Head's location and commitment to recreation has created and provides many resources that make it an attractive community to live or vacation. Its proximity to water and beaches, its abundance of open spaces, its generally low density of development and land planning efforts to preserve vegetation, and the overall quality of its natural environment are unique strengths which the community desires to preserve, while continuing to seek ways to improve.

THE BEACH

Nags Head has over 11 miles of oceanfront shoreline. The land area from the mean low water mark to the mean high tide line (wet sand beach) is sometimes called the "public beach" where the public has a legal right to use that portion of the beach. The area between the high tide line to the base of the dune is often referred to as the "dry sand beach." While this area in many instances may be in private ownership with property boundary lines extending landward to the mean high water line, the courts have generally held that the public has the right to travel across this "dry sand beach" area. The "dry sand beach" areas will not be developed. The Town maintains forty free public access areas on the ocean front.

THE SOUND

The Roanoke Sound is part of the Albemarle-Pamlico estuary which contains some 30,000 square miles of watershed. The Albemarle-Pamlico is the second largest estuarine system in the United States and is composed of five major river basins and seven sounds, one of which is Roanoke Sound. The Roanoke Sound is part of the Pasquotank River Basin which encompasses 3,697 square miles of low-lying land and vast open waters and includes all or portions of Camden, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington counties. A small portion of the basin extends up into Virginia. The estuary is home to oysters, crabs, bay scallops, and clams and is a spawning ground for many varieties of fish. The Town maintains six free public access areas on the sound.

JOCKEYS RIDGE

Jockey's Ridge is the tallest active sand dune along the Atlantic Coast of the United States. It is located within the Town of Nags Head between US 158 and the Roanoke Sound. The Ridge represents the southern extremity of a back barrier dune system which extends north along Currituck Spit into Virginia. Jockey's Ridge attracts many residents and visitors every year. Climbing the dune and hang gliding are activities that people can enjoy.

NAGS HEAD WOODS

The Nags Head Woods is a maritime forest occupying the northwest portion of Nags Head. It was the home of the first settlers and is one of a few remaining maritime forests in North Carolina. It consists of ecologically important marshlands, pine hummocks, bay forest, the ridge, hardwood and pine forests, ponds and dunes. In the 1960's, the Town acquired 318 acres of land west of the Fresh Pond in order to preserve it as a source of potable water. Conditions of the acquisition were that the area remain as a watershed and not be subject to development. In 1992, the Town, in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), purchased 386 adjacent acres in Nags Head Woods to be managed as a natural area and nature preserve. In 1997, the Town offered Articles of Dedication to the State of North Carolina for most Town owned property in Nags Head Woods, and this area is now dedicated in perpetuity as a nature preserve and are managed through a cooperative agreement with the Nature Conservancy.

HARVEY SOUND ACCESS

The Harvey sound access is located near Grouse Street. It consists of approximately one and one-half acres. The site boasts a large pavilion with restrooms and approximately one-half acre of open space for activities.

TOWN PARK

Town Park is located off of US 158 on Barnes Street at Mile Post 11. The Park is part of Nags Head Woods. There is a picnic shelter, a children's playground and an open grass area. The picnic shelter area can be reserved by calling the Town Administration office.

SATTERFIELD LANDING

Satterfield Landing is located off of US 158 on West Satterfield Landing Road. The park was a joint project between the Town of Nags Head and Dare County. Satterfield Landing consists of two soccer fields, a concession building with a covered shelter and a parking lot.

YMCA (private nonprofit)

The Outer Banks YMCA is located on US 158 at Wrightsville Avenue. Amenities at the YMCA include a fitness center with strength training equipment, treadmills, stationary bikes and elliptical machines. There is also an indoor pool as well as two outdoor pools and a water park. A skate park is also located on the site. The skate park includes concrete bowls and a street section. The YMCA is a committed community partner who has also strived to develop programming that meets community needs.

NAGS HEAD ELEMENTARY

Nags Head Elementary School is located off of US 158 on Wrightsville Avenue and opened in 2006. The school has a children's playground which is open to the public after school hours and when not being used for school functions with permission.

WHALEBONE PARK

In 2008, the Town purchased the 1.31 acre Whalebone park property to maintain it as a recreational area. Whalebone Park will be enhanced by The North Carolina Aquarium at Jennette's Pier project on the East side of Virginia Dare Trail. The proposed project will feature recreational open space areas which include volleyball net, a bocce ball and horseshoe court as well as a picnic pavilion, children's playground and park benches. The Whalebone Park project will also link to the North Carolina Mountains to Sea Trail which stretches from Clingman's Dome in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park to Jockey's Ridge State Park in Nags Head.

NAGS HEAD PIER (private sector)

Nags Head Pier is located in the northern end of Nags Head near Bainbridge Street. The pier is approximately six hundred feet long. The pier is open to the public for fishing and has a tackle shop and restaurant on site.

NC AQUARIUM AT JENNETTES PIER (public and nonprofit)

The North Carolina Aquarium at Jennette's Pier is an extension of the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island. It is located on NC 12 at Whalebone Junction. The pier has an eight hundred foot long pier which is open to the public for fishing. It is also available to host special events such as fishing tournaments for youth and the visually impaired. The Pier draws special attention to alternative energy, conservation and sustainability, aquatic programs and camps, educational exhibits and fishing tournaments.

OUTER BANKS PIER (private sector)

The Outer Banks Pier is located in south Nags Head near Isabella Street. The Pier is six hundred feet long and is open to the public 24 hours a day for fishing. The pier house contains a fully stocked tackle shop and restaurant. The restaurant is open for breakfast and lunch and outdoor dining and music on the pier are also offered in the evenings.

US 158/WESTSIDE MULTI-USE PATH

The US 158/West side multi-use path is located on the west side of US 158. It begins at the Town line and ends at Villa Dunes drive. The Town intends to extend the multi-use path as funding becomes available.

NC 12/1243 MULTI-USE PATH

The Beach Road multi-use path is an eleven mile path which runs from the northern Nags Head Town line to the southern Town line. The path can be utilized for walking, jogging, biking and rollerblading.

COMMERCIAL PROVIDERS (private sector)

The Town has numerous private sector businesses which provide hang gliding, surfing, paddle boarding, and kite boarding lessons as well as rental equipment such as surfboards, kayaks and jet skis. Scuba diving, snorkeling, dolphin watching and fishing tours are also popular in the ocean and sound. These providers have utilized the Nags Head environment to create recreational opportunities that are well known and world class. The Outer Banks Triathlon and the Hurley Atlantic National Surfing Championships are an example of the types of competition and events which draw people from all over the country and the world to Nags Head.

GOLF (private sector)

Nags Head Golf Links is a Scottish links-style championship course located on the sound in The Village at Nags Head. The course offers spectacular views and a challenging design that attracts golfers regionally. The golf course is open to the public year around and offers clinics, private lessons and a wonderful restaurant.

EXAMPLES OF LOCAL RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

Outer Banks Visitors Bureau: <http://www.outerbanks.org/>

Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.outerbankschamber.com/>

YMCA: <http://www.ymcashr.org/locations/outerbanks>

Jennette's Pier/NC Aquarium: <http://www.jennettespier.net/>

Outer Banks Pier: <http://fishingunlimited.net/>

Nags Head Pier: <http://www.nagsheadpier.com/>

Nags Head Golf Links: <http://www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Nags-Head-Golf-Links>

Outer Banks Sporting Events: <http://www.obxmarathon.com/>

Kitty Hawk Kites Hang Gliding: <http://www.kittyhawk.com/>

Nags Head Woods Ecological Preserve: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/>
(The Nature Conservancy)

Plus many other private businesses that provide services for watercraft rentals and instruction, fishing, wedding and vacation planning.

6. Opportunities

A. PROPERTIES TO WATCH FOR PURCHASE OPPORTUNITIES

WINDMILL POINT

In 2007 and 2009, the Town, in partnership with the Dare County Tourism Board, purchased the former Windmill Point restaurant site. The site is located on the Roanoke Sound and consists of approximately 17 acres. The green space on the site is currently being used for events and activities. This location also creates an opportunity for the Town to begin master planning with the Tourism Board and adjacent properties to improve access to the site, safety along the 158 Corridor in this area, and the development of additional sound access or a possible boardwalk along the sound which could connect to Tanger Outlets and other properties.

DOWDY TRACT

The Dowdy tract is located on the corner of US158 and Bonnett Street across from the Outer banks YMCA. The site was formerly an amusement park with recreational opportunities such as go carts and a Ferris wheel. The parcel is approximately 5 acres and would lend itself to ball fields and playground area which could serve both the public at large as well as Nags Head Elementary which is abutting to the south, and which does not have fields for athletic programming.

DOWDY GO KART PROPERTY

This property is located on the Beach Road between the Bonnet Street and Bittern Street Beach accesses. This property could be re-used as an expansion to the two beach accesses to create additional parking and parks facilities.

“OLD HORSE FARM” OR GILLAM WOOD PROPERTY

The Old Horse Farm is located on the east side of US 158 between Sound side Road and East Dune Street. It includes 9 parcels totaling approximately 3.5 acres and could be incorporated into the multi-use trail design.

Other properties may also come up for purchase over time, and the Town should be aware of any property adjacent to or potentially beneficial to existing parks, trails and access points, particularly properties that can meet the following public purposes:

- Lend themselves to expanded or improved beach or sound access;
- Extension of pedestrian, bicycle and wheelchair connections and trails;
- Create open space for passive or active parks, stormwater management, and other benefits; and
- Create space for additional recreational facilities, particularly play grounds and ball fields.

UNDEVELOPED LOTS WITHIN SUBDIVISIONS

The Town has several undeveloped lots that exist within subdivisions which for whatever reasons have not been developed or sold after many years. These lots have the potential for future use as “pocket parks,” stormwater catchment and treatment areas, or just as dedicated open space. Some of these lots are more strategic than others in terms of location for park and stormwater areas and should be considered on a case by case basis as permitted.

B. NCDOT PLANNING INITIATIVES

The Town has several opportunities to advocate and plan for improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities through NCDOT and the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization. The Comprehensive Transportation Plan or “CTP” is an opportunity for the Town to update the 1995 Thoroughfare Plan and Town’s requests for the State Transportation Improvement Program (“TIP”) and Priority Needs List. Of particular concern should be:

1. The inclusion of additional sidewalk, crosswalk and pedestrian safety improvements throughout Town, but especially within the Whalebone District;
2. The continuation of the multi-use trail along NC158 from its current location to Whalebone Junction;
3. Redesign of the NC158 Corridor to promote Access Management, pedestrian and bicycle safety, stormwater management, and landscaping; and
4. Creating a “gateway” area at Whalebone Junction that tells visitors they have arrived at Nags Head and the northern entrance to the Hatteras National Seashore.

The Albemarle RPO is working with NCDOT to update the regional bicycle map and plan in the coming year. The Town should play an active role to ensure that its two multi-use trails are considered in regional planning and that bicycling safety is improved. NCDOT also offers assistance to develop comprehensive pedestrian or bicycle plans. The Town also hopes to pursue Comprehensive Pedestrian Planning with assistance from the NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Branch.

C. THE NEW BEACH

Perhaps no opportunity is as dramatic or obvious as the fact that Nags Head now has a beautiful and wide public beach as a result of the recent beach nourishment project. The new beach will draw more visitors and provide more space for beach oriented events and uses. Committee discussions have indicated an interest in trying to bring beach soccer, volleyball and other tournaments to the beach.

The Town currently has 42 beach accesses of which 37 have facilities. The Town would like to go ahead and add facilities and improvements to the remaining 5 access points. Additionally, the Town would like to improve the visibility and use of recycling and garbage containers throughout the beach and at the accesses. The new beach will also have more space for vehicles to access the beach during beach driving seasons and it will be equally important to protect the dunes and the safety of users as more vehicles use the beach. As the beach nourishment project concludes, the Town should update policies for beach management to allow safe use of the public beach for all, protecting the sand of the beach to allow for natural and planned dune improvement and re-establishment, and to manage the expected demand for beach use.

D. PRIVATE SECTOR EFFORTS

Nags Head is fortunate to have an active and creative business and non-profit community that organizes events and activities for the community. The Town has a systematic process for working with these organizations through the special events (“Crowd Gathering”) permit process. The Town should continue and increase its effort to pro-actively work with local groups to help publicize and promote events. A designated town staff member would be helpful in these efforts to both coordinate such permit applications, be the liaison and manager for Town activities for any given event and to assist in the promotion of community events and the maintenance of a community calendar. This person could also coordinate with Dare County in the promotion of County Parks and Recreation activities, educational programs and leagues within Nags Head.

7. Recommendations and Implementation

Given the draft goals and objectives, the Committee recommends the following actions be taken by the Town to implement this plan, as organized into:

1. Immediate: Low to no cost actions the Town can take now
2. Years 1-3: Short Term initiatives of high priority
3. Years 4-10: Mid-term, capital improvements programming of less priority
4. Years 10 and beyond, long range planning.

This list of action items represents recommended tasks identified by the Parks and Recreation Committee at the point in time in which this document was developed. It is not meant to prevent the Town from pursuing other future opportunities to expand or improve parks or recreational programs, or to commit the Town to apply for certain grants or address specific needs through CIP or annual budgeting development. Rather, this should be considered as a list of identified needs and recommendations for the Board to consider and update on an on-going basis as budgets, CIPs and grant opportunities are considered in the future.

Low-cost to no-cost items were generally placed in the “immediate” category, as things the Town could begin working on now. One to three year items are projects the Committee would like to see the Board consider in the near future. Longer range items (Four years + and Ten years +) are activities which are Committee feels are opportunities or needs the Board should keep in mind for the long term, but which may not be priorities, or for which there is not enough information or predictability from the Town’s perspective. For any given recommended implementation item however, the Board of Commissioners will have to determine what priorities for any given budget year are and direct staff accordingly.

While the Committee agreed to the following priorities, the committee consensus was that the Town should also continue to upgrade and/or repair existing facilities and address on-going maintenance needs before new facilities are built. In other words, maintenance needs of existing facilities are *assumed* to be an on-going priority which will continue even as new initiatives are developed.

PARKS AND RECREATION ACTION PLAN: IMMEDIATE

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>ESTIMATED COSTS</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>COMMENT</i>
Adopt Plan	N/A	Board of Commissioners	Adopted Plan should guide grant applications and budget planning. PARTF rates points for adopted plan.
Communication system with Dare County to inform NH citizens of programs and resources.	Staff or volunteer time	Town PIO; Dare Parks and Rec. Director	Use of Town website, FB, email notifications, and Channel 20
Coordinate Community Calendars of events with local partners such as the Tourism Development Board, YMCA, and Dare County	Staff or volunteer time	Town PIO; Dare Parks and Rec. Director	Town website and FB
Provide maps on Google maps that indicate where parks and water access are located.	Staff or volunteer time	Town PIO; Planning	Town website and FB
Partner with the YMCA on Skate Park task force	Staff or Volunteer time	Town Manager assign	Provide Town representation on Skate Park discussions
Research feasibility, cost and location for illuminated tennis courts or work with Kelly's to update agreement.	Staff time	Town Manager assign	Coordinate with Dare County, Kelly's and Public Works for possible CIP request.
Application to NC Trails Program for multi-use trail (deadline 1/31/12)	25% local match to be met with \$150,000 already allocated for trail construction.	Planning and Public Works Departments	Town researched Safe Routes to School funding for this project and learned that it is not available at this time. SRTS funding could be used on small sidewalk segment near school.
Update CIP requests and parks maintenance budgets for BOC Consideration for FY2012-2013.	To be considered at budget development process.	Town Manager and planning Director to coordinate	Many recommendations noted in this plan are items Town Departments were already working on, or had already developed CIP requests for.

PARKS AND RECREATION ACTION PLAN: YEARS 1-3

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>ESTIMATED COSTS</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>COMMENT</i>
Improve, increase or replace recreational elements at: Town Park, Satterfield, and Whalebone.	Est. \$150,000 (varying in cost and design)	Public Works and Planning	Grant application to PARTF, in January of 2012, could provide funding for enhanced recreational elements in Whalebone Park.
NCDOT grant application for Comprehensive Pedestrian Planning Grant (applied 12/2/11). If approved, then staff will work with consultant to develop Comprehensive Plan.	Staff time; \$6,000 to be allocated if grant approved in FY12/13	Planning Department	Grant requires 20% match: \$6,000 of local funding will produce \$30,000 product. Town should hear this spring if application is approved.
Develop and install uniform directional signage that allows visitors to locate existing parks, sound and beach access points and trailheads.	\$75,000 (estimated, actual cost to be determined through RFP)	Public Works and Planning	This effort could be incorporated into a larger "wayfinding project" that is aesthetically consistent with district signage.
Continue development of multi use trail along the US158 by-pass.	Phased	Public Works/Planning	Grant possibilities include Safe Routes to School, NC Trails Program
Repair the Beach Road multi-use trail, as needed, with asphalt and improve drainage where possible. Install signage to promote safety for all users.	8' trail at approx. \$14.00 sf.	Public Works and Planning	Committee feels that asphalt is the preferred surface and that trail areas in South Nags Head may need resurfacing.
Continue to improve and maintain all access points (sound and beach), and make ADA improvements.	Varies	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include CAMA
Provide sun shelters and water fountains at parks and beach accesses where possible.	Varies	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include CAMA, Tourism Board
Purchase properties to advance or benefit park development, multi-use trail and Beach and Sound access improvements.	Varies	Board of Commissioners	Grant possibilities include CAMA, PARTF and Tourism Board
Promote regional events and sporting tournaments at Windmill Point, on the new beach, and other locations with community partners.	Varies/use of property and staff time	Town Task Force and/or staff appointment	Town would need to allocate funding for staff and/or co-sponsorships

<i>PARKS AND RECREATION ACTION PLAN: YEARS 1-3 (continued)</i>			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>ESTIMATED COSTS</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>COMMENT</i>
Research feasibility and possible lay out of disc golf course within Town Park and adjacent areas of Nags Head Woods and the YMCA.	Staff time	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include PARTF and YMCA Partnership
Improve and sign kayak launches along the causeway.	Signage/staff time	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include CAMA, NC Trails Program
Construct recreational facilities for general public use - such as horse shoe pits, corn hole and bocce areas, picnic tables, grills, playground and grassy open areas within Whalebone Park and other park areas as space allows.	Varies	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include PARTF, Tourism Board
Offer joint recreational opportunities with the County, YMCA and other private sector commercial providers for youth and teens	None/ staff time	Planning	Identify program needs with County and other providers.
Create recreation committee and/or staff coordinator to work with Dare Co, Tourism Board, Chamber, and local partners to plan/promote events.	Volunteers and staff (or consider an intern or new staff position)	Board of Commissioners	A staff person would need to be appointed to carry out these duties by the Town Manager.
Encourage amusement type areas within the public/ private sector and examine zoning to allow these uses in certain districts.	Planning Board; Commissioners	Board of Commissioners and Planning	Short of rezoning, more flexibility in Crowd Gathering permits.
Participate in Windmill Point Master Planning once initiated with Tourism Board (see below)	Staff and volunteers	Staff and/or as requested by Windmill Point Committee	Ensure that traffic safety and pedestrian/bike connectivity and boardwalk are included.
Work with adjacent property owners and the Tourism Board to develop master plan for a boardwalk along the Sound and connecting Tanger Outlets, Windmill Point and other adjacent properties. Plan should improve sailboat and kayak launches at the Harvey site, consider development of park at the end of Forbes Street, and increase fishing, crabbing and boat launching opportunities.	Staff time plus master plan and design costs.	Board of Commissioners, Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include CAMA, NC Trails program, CWMTF

PARKS AND RECREATION ACTION PLAN: YEARS 4-10

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>ESTIMATED COSTS</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>COMMENT</i>
Develop pedestrian and multi-use trail system throughout area of Whalebone District including crosswalk at Gull Street and 158 that connects the new Whalebone Park, Jennette's Pier, the entrance to the National Park, and shopping and restaurant destinations.	Phased	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include NC Trails Program
Expand hiking and biking path from Town Park through Nags Head Woods.	Phased	Public Works and Planning In coordination with The Nature Conservancy	Grant possibilities include NC Trails Program
Research feasibility and location of a dog park within Nags Head in consideration of the new facility in Kitty Hawk.	Staff time	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include PARTF
Coordinate with Jockey's Ridge State Park to add ADA surface material from boardwalk to beach area, install additional restrooms and shower facilities, identify opportunity to expand parking and/or improve traffic flow.	Signage/staff time	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include CAMA, Tourism Board

PARKS AND RECREATION ACTION PLAN: 10 years and beyond

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>ESTIMATED COSTS</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>COMMENT</i>
Improvements to Satterfield Landing: 1) replacing all or a portion of playing fields to artificial turf and 2) installing playground within the site 3) and outdoor lighting.		Dare County Parks and Recreation and YMCA	
Interconnect neighborhoods with crosswalks on the west side of US 158. Continue development of multi-use trail along 158 to Whalebone Junction Area.	On-going Phases of construction	Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include, tourism Board and NC Trails Program
Pursue the development of additional recreational opportunities at Dowdy and other available properties.		Board of Commissioners, Public Works and Planning	Grant possibilities include, PARTF
Research feasibility, costs and location of a public pool.		Public Works and Planning	

Appendices follow.

Appendix A

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/31/2011 10:24:14	YES	13-18	NO		Male	Football/soccer/lacrosse, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Going to the beach, Hanging out with friends				
5/31/2011 10:38:11	YES	13-18			Female	Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Hanging out with friends			More things to do.	Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/16/2011 9:46:01	YES	19 and over	NO		Female	Hiking, Running/walking/Road Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Live music performances, Visiting museums		watch movies on an outdoor screen festivals - art, food, entertainment visit art museums walk to meals-drive less, walk more. Very scary crossing 45 mph bypass North Ridge has no light to get across bypass, so we have to go through Jockey's Ridge or Ark Church...need a sidewalk to Hollowell or Bonnett to get across bypass.		Email
5/16/2011 15:12:25	YES	19 and over	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Running/walking/Road Skateboarding, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Dance, Live music performances, Gaming/video games, Hanging out with friends		Anything cultural (Diverse live music performances; nightclubs; concert venues with independent or underground music; art movies; fine arts theaters; Shakespeare.) Also enjoy eating with friends at vegetarian and other interesting restaurants and going to water parks.	A music festival with good music would be popular with young people. A cheap bus system that can bring people to Virginia Beach for something like \$5	Social network (Facebook, Twitter)

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/16/2011 15:22:46	YES	19 and over	NO		Male	Football/soccer/lacrosse, Tennis, Golf, Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Roller Skating, Skateboarding, Roller Skating, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Music lessons, Gaming/video games, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		Ice skate on a rink, play hockey, see bands that are actually on labels that aren't crappy.	Also, a good ice skating rink would be great because it would be a year round activity, and it would be a good place to hang out when it's hot outside. It would let young people do something different and all the high schools could have teams--- since hockey is a fast-growing sport in the state --- and compete against other teams in the region. Instead of dance, you could have young kids do figure skating, and offer hockey and figure skating clinics throughout the summer, and a place for birthday parties.	Social network (Facebook, Twitter)

5/16/2011 22:52:47	YES	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Male	Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends, Archery Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Roller Skating, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach		There's no archery range or place to teach/practice archery.		Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
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What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/16/2011 22:58:39	YES	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Male	Listening to the sound, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends, Community gardening		Environmental action-recycling and trash cleanup. Stargazing, camping, storytelling and kite flying. Birding, photography.	The town should ask a diverse range of young people this question.	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)

5/16/2011 23:00:27	YES	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Rowing, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Boating/sailing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities				Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Mail
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What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/17/2011 9:48:16	YES	19 and over	NO		Female	Walking on bike paths, Swimming, Jet-Skiing, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Dance, Arts and crafts, Live music performances		More adult classes - arts and crafts, exercise, sports leagues.	Co-Ed sports leagues!	Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/17/2011 9:58:08	YES	19 and over	NO	15 and older	Male	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Softball/baseball, Tennis, Roller Skating, Bicycling on bike paths, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Going to the beach, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Hiking, Running/walking/Rowing, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with		skating areas or even a skating rink	Communicate what is available. We need more and better maintained playgrounds and green areas (with no dog poop).	Email, Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
								I would like more parks. More inside/outside activities for the children	Events for children and teens	Teens Email Social

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/17/2011 15:40:24	YES	19 and over	YES	Under 5, 5-10	Female	hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		More things to do with the family on rainy days.	really need more constructive things to do!!!	network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/18/2011 14:09:30	YES	19 and over	YES	Under 5, 5-10	Male	Football/soccer/lacr Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Dare County Parks and Rec activities Paddling, Skateboarding, Bicycling on bike paths, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound		Boat Launch, Walk on Sidewalks between neighborhoods, not just the beach.	better playgrounds, places for families and children to come together.	Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter), Printed Materials
5/20/2011 13:05:25	YES	19 and over	YES	5/10/2011	Male	Football/soccer/lacr Golf, Running/walking/Ro Bicycling on bike paths, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to		Skateboarding. Public boat ramp.	Safer bypass crossing areas, sidewalks.	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/20/2011 13:40:22	YES	19 and over	NO		Male	the sound, Live music performances, Visiting museums				Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/20/2011 20:08:37	YES	19 and over	YES	5/10/2011	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Tennis, Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Ro Skateboarding, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends		More open spaces. More parks. We need some type of rec center for basketball and dance.	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)	
5/20/2011 20:25:34	YES	19 and over	YES	5-10, 11-14	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Basketball, Hiking, Running/walking/Ro Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Dance, Arts and crafts, Music lessons, Playgrounds and parks, Dare County Parks and Rec activities, Tennis, Hiking, Paddling, Bicycling			Email, Social network (Facebook, Twitter)	

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/20/2011 23:53:33	YES	19 and over	NO		Male	Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Music lessons, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends			improve pedestrian options	Email
5/24/2011 8:55:41	YES	19 and over	YES	5/10/2011	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Softball/baseball, Tennis, Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Ro, Skateboarding, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Dance, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Music lessons, Playgrounds and parks		Tennis have festivals outdoor concerts outdoor art shows have kayak launch pier at beach access	West side bike-path, access throughout the west side neighborhoods (bicycle, walking path, so not to cross the bypass). Create another park, with playgrounds, ball-fields, perhaps a venue for outdoor music, gatherings. SOUNDSIDE.	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
5/24/2011 10:04:56	YES	19 and over	NO		Male	Hiking, Paddling, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Live music performances, Visiting museums			make a inline, roller skate park reactivate Dowdy's	Website (www.townofnagshead.net)

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/24/2011 15:39:49	YES	19 and over	YES	5/10/2011	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Softball/baseball, Football/soccer/lacrosse, Basketball, Golf, Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Rolling, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		more parks -- especially more up-to-date facilities -- baseball fields and areas for general outdoor exercise. It is a shame that NH has only one park, and the equipment at that park is dated and dangerous due to its age. It is an even bigger shame that NHES has no ballpark and so little outdoor space for even certain PE activities. The town and school system should buy the unfortunately over-priced Dowdy's land and create proper fields for our youth. No baseball or softball field in town. Outrageous! No wonder we have so many overweight children.	More family-oriented activities and areas. This is not JUST a vacation town. How about some places for year-round activities?	Email, Social network (Facebook, Twitter), Printed Materials
5/24/2011 16:34:48	YES	19 and over	NO		Male	Golf, Running/walking/Rolling, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Visiting museums, Dare County Parks and Rec activities, Paddling, Running/walking/Rolling, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts. Live				

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/24/2011 20:13:02	YES	19 and over	NO		Male	Live outdoor music performances, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends		Live outdoor music Farmers market	More bike access water access sea and soundside	Email

5/25/2011 15:56:45	YES	19 and over	NO		Female	Softball/baseball, Tennis, Paddling, Running/walking/Rowing, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends		Softball/baseball, Tennis, Paddling, Running/walking/Rowing, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends	There are no dog parks in this area. EVERYONE I know owns a dog, but we have nowhere to take them. A lot of the beaches don't even allow them on the beach in the summer. So what are you supposed to do? My dogs to me are like my kids, I love doing everything I can with them. I think there should be more things around the town that are 'dog friendly.' Even a family park in general would be nice. A place for kids to play on jungle gyms, slides, sea-saw's, etc. Everyone knows we have great beaches, but there should be more places where families can go together FOR FREE and just relax and let the kids (or pets) play.	I think creating more events, and publicizing them more would be fantastic. If you aren't 21 and can't go to a bar, there is not much of a night life for 'young people.'	Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
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What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/26/2011 11:00:40	YES	19 and over	YES	11-14, 15 and older	Male	Walking on the paths, Swimming, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Live music performances				Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
5/29/2011 12:08:54	YES	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Rc Swimming, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums		Listen to live music outdoors in the summer. Have a pleasant park to go to and eat lunch.	Have a place for them to meet, with activities they enjoy.	Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
5/29/2011 14:12:08	YES	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Female	Swimming, Going to the beach, Pool swimming		Shop at nicer stores	keep it a family friendly environment	Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
5/31/2011 10:39:05	YES	19 and over	YES	Under 5, 5-10	Male	Football/soccer/lacrosse, Tennis, Paddling, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Gaming/video games, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends				Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
6/15/2011 9:41:43	YES	19 and over	YES	5-10, 11-14	Male	Softball/baseball, Basketball, Golf, Swimming, Jet-Skiing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Live music performances			more activities other than mini golf	Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
						Swimming, Going to the beach, Pool				

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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6/15/2011 9:42:57	YES	19 and over	YES	Under 5	Female	swimming, Arts and crafts, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends			have a beach party/big bon fire	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter), Mail
6/15/2011 9:44:02	YES	19 and over	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Golf, Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Rowing, Bicycling on bike paths, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Dance, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities				
6/15/2011 9:44:48	YES	19 and over	NO		Female	Running/walking/Rowing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Live music performances, Music lessons, Visiting museums			teen court	Email

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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6/15/2011 9:46:10	YES	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Female	Swimming, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, horseback riding Softball/baseball, Basketball, Golf, Skateboarding, Bicycling on bike paths, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Live music performances, Gaming/video games, Hanging out with friends			need more parks for families in south nags head	Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
6/15/2011 9:46:58	YES	19 and over	NO		Female	Swimming, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, horseback riding Softball/baseball, Basketball, Golf, Skateboarding, Bicycling on bike paths, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Live music performances, Gaming/video games, Hanging out with friends		more public pools	Email	
6/15/2011 9:47:42	YES	19 and over	NO		Male	Football/soccer/lacrosse, Tennis, Hiking, Paddling, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool				Website (www.townofnagshead.net)

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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6/23/2011 23:23:12	YES	19 and over	YES	Under 5, 5-10	Male	swimming, Gaming/video games, Playgrounds and parks, Dare County Parks and Rec activities			More Sidewalks to connect the neighborhoods. More activities like the carnival.	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
5/10/2011 10:38:18	YES	19 and under	YES	Under 5, 5-10	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Softball/baseball, Football/soccer/lacrosse, Tennis, Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Road Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Music lessons, Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Road Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Hanging out with friends	Live outdoor music performances, playing on playgrounds, arts and craftclasses, music lessons, playing tennis	Public tennis courts/lessons, more ballfieldswith playground equipment nearby, a hangout place for teens (youth center or basketball court/obtable course), a track, an updated playground, easier access from soundside to oceanside. connecting west side neighborhoods.	Email
5/10/2011 10:25:23	YES	Under 13			Female	Swimming, Gaming/video games, Playgrounds and parks, Dare County Parks and Rec activities	Swimming, Gaming/video games, Playgrounds and parks	Indoor Water park	More sidewalks.	

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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5/16/2011 10:19:11	YES	Under 13			Female	paddleboard, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		Better playgrounds.	More sidewalks.	Mom and Dad
5/16/2011 12:12:10	YES	Under 13		Under 5, 5-10	Female	Running/walking/Ro Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Dance, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks		Improved playground equipment. The equipment at the town park is outdated.	see above.	Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/16/2011 20:58:17	YES	Under 13			Female	Paddling, Running/walking/Ro Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Going to the beach, Arts and crafts, Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends				
5/17/2011 20:28:17	YES	Under 13			Female	Football/soccer/lacr Roller Skating, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Going to the beach, Pool swimming Skateboarding, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Pool swimming		horse backriding trails	giant public pool, more school funding for after school activities	Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/18/2011 14:06:25	YES	Under 13			Male	Paddling, Running/walking/Ro Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming		nothing	better playgrounds, sidewalks, places to play.	Social network (Facebook, Twitter)

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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5/20/2011 20:10:13	YES	Under 13			Female	Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Dance, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Music lessons, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends		Music lessons, horse back riding lessons.	More parks, expanded green areas for soccer.	Email
5/24/2011 15:43:08	YES	Under 13			Male	Softball/baseball, Football/soccer/lacrosse, Hiking, Paddling, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Going to the beach, Gaming/video games, Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		more parks with stuff for older kids like climbing walls and bike ramps and hockey and baseball	safe things for kids to do so that parents don't have to be with us all the time because they are worried someone is going to get us	Mail
5/26/2011 9:10:20	YES	Under 13			Female	Tennis, Going to the sound, Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		Water parks and amusements parks.	Better playgrounds.	

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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5/27/2011 22:21:44	YES	Under 13			Male	Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		rock climb baseball	parks bike paths	mom and dad

5/31/2011 10:34:42	YES	Under 13			Female	Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Gaming/video games, Playgrounds and parks, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		Dare County Parks and Rec, Indoor Waterpark, Snowskiing, Hiking in the Mountains,	Sidewalks to connect neighborhoods, Better Playground.	
6/24/2011 11:57:22	YES	Under 13	NO		Female	Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Dance, Arts and crafts		ice rink		Email, Social network (Facebook, Twitter), Mail
6/24/2011 12:23:08	YES	Under 13		Under 5	Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Softball/baseball, Football/soccer/lacrosse, Basketball			iceskating, tot lots	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
6/24/2011 12:24:05	YES	Under 13	YES		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates) Paddling, Running/walking/Rowing, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/			more organized activities	Email

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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5/19/2011 20:54:31	NO	13-18	NO	15 and older	Female	standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Going to the beach, Gaming/video games, Playgrounds and parks, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities		indoor sky diving and zero gravity flights	more recreation spots	Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
6/24/2011 12:22:08	NO	13-18	NO		Female	Softball/baseball, Football/soccer/lacrosse, Basketball		roller coasters		
6/24/2011 12:22:30	NO	13-18			Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates)		boardwalk		
6/24/2011 12:25:13	NO	13-18	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates)			shopping	
5/16/2011 17:16:05	NO	19 and over	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Tennis, Hiking, Running/walking/Rocket, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Dance, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Dog Parks		We need a dog park in the outer banks! Additional sound access closer to the Causeway. Public access for watersports (kiting, windsurfing, standup paddle, kayaking, etc). Land where the convention center was proposed would be ideal for these activities	More outdoor and live music	Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
						Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the				Website (www.townofnagshead.net) Social

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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5/17/2011 6:15:26	NO	19 and over	YES	11/14/2011	Male	Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming		Field area for kite flying, frisbee, traditional sports.	See above	network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/17/2011 7:24:50	NO	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Male	Softball/baseball, Golf, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the sound		Gamble. How about a casino???? I would love to see more bike paths, for both mountain bikes and road bikes. For road bikes a larger berm on the beach road could work and would be very helpful, or leave it that way it is since it is decent and add a sidewalk for pedestrians. Also bicycle racks at all the beach access points would be nice.	Hire local high school children and not exchange students.	Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
5/17/2011 10:50:51	NO	19 and over	NO		Female	Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Visiting museums				Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter), Mail, Printed Materials
5/17/2011 11:48:56	NO	19 and over	YES	5-10, 11-14	Female	Tennis, Hiking, Running/walking/Rc Bicycling on bike paths, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends Golf, Bicycling on bike paths, Going to the beach			I've lived both in waterfront and non-waterfront cities with my children. We love waterfront parks with shaded playground equipment, open green space for festivals & sports (soccer, frisbee, etc.), boat ramps & docks and paths for biking and running.	Website (www

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

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5/18/2011 9:31:22	NO	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Male	Going to the sound, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks		An amusement park, like Doughties or Diamond Shoals.	Get some younger people making decisions.	townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
5/18/2011 16:39:09	NO	19 and over	NO		Male	Running/walking/Robicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Football/soccer/lacrosse, Tennis, Hiking, Paddling,				Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter), Mail, Printed Materials
5/19/2011 7:33:15	NO	19 and over	YES	Under 5	Female	Running/walking/Robicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Dare County Parks and Rec activities				
5/19/2011 13:06:05	NO	19 and over	YES	Under 5	Female	Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums, Swimming, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Live music performances, Gaming/video games, Handing			I think it would be very beneficial for the Outer Banks to have an amusement park of some sort. I work in the vacation rental industry and alot of guests request something like that.	
5/22/2011 18:41										Website (www.townofnagshead

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/25/2011 11:11	NO	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Female	golfing, hanging out with friends				(www.townofnagshead.net)
5/25/2011 15:57:22	NO	19 and over	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Dance, Live music performances, Hanging out with friends, Dare County Parks and Rec activities			Email	
5/29/2011 14:18:16	NO	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Female	pick up beach glass, Paddling, Running/walking/Roller Skating, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Live music performances, Hanging out with friends			Website (www.townofnagshead.net)	
5/31/2011 8:40:54	NO	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Male	Running/walking/Roller Skating, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ stand up paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends				
5/31/2011 16:04:19	NO	19 and over	NO		Male	Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Dance, Live music performances, Gaming/video games, Hanging out with friends		Put in a nice gaming area like the old FooseBall Palace that was near the nags head fishing pier. Something like Dave & Rusters	Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)	
5/31/2011 16:26:45	NO	19 and over	YES	15 and older	Male	Hanging out with friends	Drag Racing.			

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6/3/2011 16:31:48	NO	19 and over	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Basketball, Tennis, Golf, Hiking, Skateboarding, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Pool swimming, Dance, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums		Tennis Basketball	outside shows music pavillion summer movies on the grass skateboarding	Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
6/6/2011 14:22:48	NO	19 and over	YES	5/10/2011	Male	Softball/baseball, Golf, Paddling, Running/walking/Rc Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Jet-Skiing, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Pool swimming, Dance, Arts and crafts, Live music performances, Gaming/video games, Visiting museums, Hanging out with friends				Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
6/24/2011 12:21:31	NO	19 and over	NO	5/10/2011	Male	Football/soccer/lacr				Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
6/24/2011 12:25:39	NO	19 and over	NO		Female	Basketball Hiking, Paddling, Running/walking/Rc Skateboarding			free entertainment	

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
5/16/2011 22:23:36	NO	Under 13	YES	15 and older	Male	Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound, Live music performances		More bicycling opportunities that are away from traffic. Better sound access for kayak launching.		Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
5/28/2011 9:02:22	NO	Under 13	NO		Female	Football/soccer/lacrosse, Hiking, Paddling, Bicycling on bike paths, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Playgrounds and parks, Visiting museums		Well I dont know because I am coming as a visitor and its just that I couldnt find anything on your site that lead me to interesting things and fun activites!	Well I dont know because I am coming as a visitor and its just that I couldnt find anything on your site that lead me to interesting things and fun activites!	Website (www.townofnagshead.net) Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
6/24/2011 11:55:05	NO	Under 13	NO		5/10/2011 Male	Basketball				
6/24/2011 11:55:49	NO	Under 13	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates)		playgrounds, more trees		
6/24/2011 11:56:21	NO	Under 13	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Football/soccer/lacrosse		plant trees		Email Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
6/24/2011 11:56:46	NO	Under 13	YES		5/10/2011 Male	Football/soccer/lacrosse Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Basketball, Running/walking/Rolling, Skateboarding, Roller Skating, Bicycling on bike paths, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing				
6/24/2011 11:57:56	NO	Under 13			Female	Football/soccer/lacrosse Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates), Basketball, Running/walking/Rolling, Skateboarding, Roller Skating, Bicycling on bike paths, Jet-Skiing, Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard, Boating/sailing		no littering		Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)

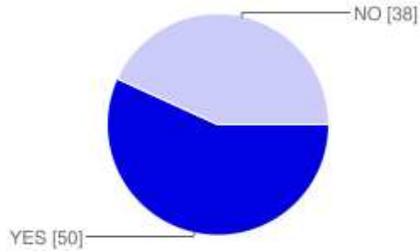
What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head? - Sheet1

Timestamp	Do you live in Nags Head?	What is your age?	If you are older than 19, do you have children?	If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?	What is your sex?	What do you enjoy doing?	Please check the things you do in Nags Head.	What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?	What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?	How would you like to get information from the town?
6/24/2011 11:58:22	NO	Under 13	NO	5/10/2011	Male	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates)		skate boarding, more parks		Website (www.townofnagshead.net), Mail
6/24/2011 11:58:57	NO	Under 13	NO	5/10/2011	Male	Football/soccer/lacrosse, Boating/sailing, Fishing/crabbing, Going to the beach, Going to the sound		more beaches		Social network (Facebook, Twitter), Printed Materials
6/24/2011 11:59:57	NO	Under 13	NO		Female	Softball/baseball, Tennis, Golf, Hiking, Running/walking/Roller Skating, Skateboarding, Roller Skating, Swimming, Kiteboarding / windsurfing		ice skating rinks		Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
6/24/2011 12:20:20	NO	Under 13	YES	5/10/2011	Male	Softball/baseball, Roller Skating				Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
6/24/2011 12:20:57	NO	Under 13			Female	Softball/baseball		ice skating		Email, Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
6/24/2011 12:24:32	NO	Under 13	NO		Female	Football/soccer/lacrosse, Basketball		more shopping		
6/24/2011 12:24:51	NO	Under 13			Female	Football/soccer/lacrosse		more shopping		
6/24/2011 12:26:06	NO	Under 13	NO		Female	Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates)		more parks		

88 responses

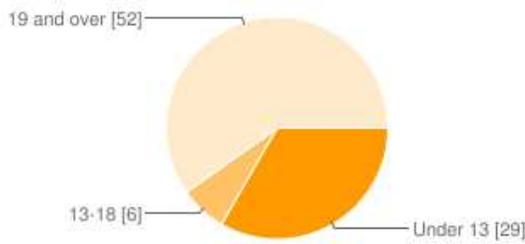
Summary [See complete responses](#)

Do you live in Nags Head?



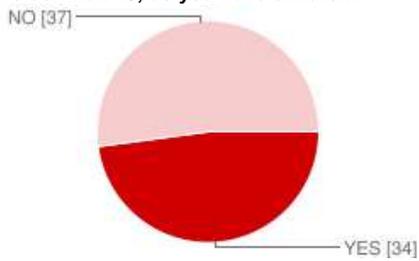
YES	50
NO	38

What is your age?



Under 13	29
13-18	6
19 and over	52

If you are older than 19, do you have children?

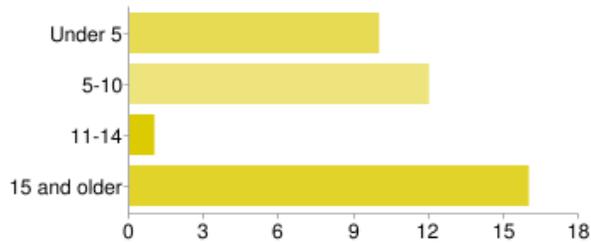


YES	34
NO	37

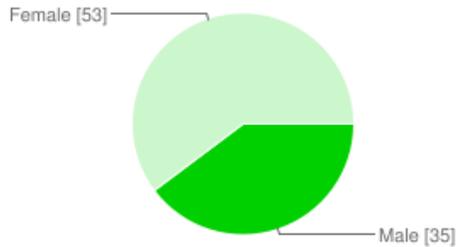
If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?

Under 5	10
5-10	12
11-14	1
15 and older	16

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.



What is your sex?



Male	35
Female	53

What do you enjoy doing?

Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates)	28
Softball/baseball	21
Football/soccer/lacrosse	24
Basketball	13
Tennis	16
Golf	12
Hiking	26
Paddling	28
Running/walking/Rollerblading	36
Skateboarding	13
Roller Skating	7
Bicycling on bike paths	41
Swimming	49
Kiteboarding / windsurfing	11
Jet-Skiing	13
Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard	32
Boating/sailing	29
Fishing/crabbing	34
Going to the beach	65
Going to the sound	43
Pool swimming	37
Dance	13
Arts and crafts	21
Live music performances	36
Music lessons	7
Gaming/video games	13
Playgrounds and parks	33
Visiting museums	29
Hanging out with friends	32

Dare County Parks and Rec activities	20
Other	5

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?

watch movies on an outdoor screenfestivals - art, food, entertainmentvisit art museums walk to meals-drive less, walk more. Very scary crossing 45 mph bypassNorth Ridge has no light to get across bypass, so we have to go through Jockey's Ridge or Ark Church...need a sidewalk to Hollowell or Bonnett to get across bypass.

Anything cultural (Diverse live music performances; nightclubs; concert venues with independent or underground music; art movies; fine arts theaters; Shakespeare.) Also enjoy eating with friends at vegetarian and other interesting restaurants and going to water parks.

Ice s ...

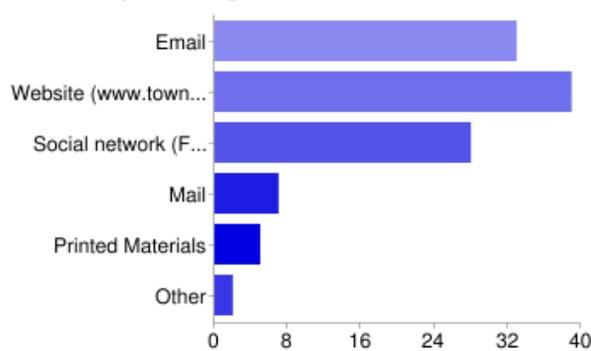
What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?

More things to do. A music festival with good music would be popular with young people.

A cheap bus system that can bring people to Virginia Beach for something like \$5.Also, a good ice skating rink would be great because it would be a year round activity, and it would be a good place to hang out when it's hot outside. It would let young people do something different and all the high schools could have teams--- since hockey is a fast-growing sport in the state --- and compete against other teams in the region. Instead of dance, you could have young kids do figure skating, and offer hockey

...

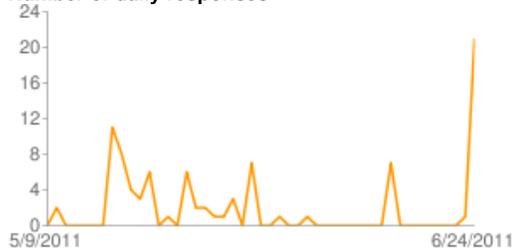
How would you like to get information from the town?



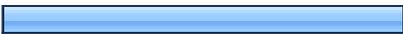
Email	33
Website (www.townofnagshead.net)	39
Social network (Facebook, Twitter)	28
Mail	7
Printed Materials	5
Other	2

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

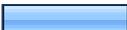
Number of daily responses



1. Gender

		Response Percent	Response Count
Male		60.4%	446
Female		39.9%	295
answered question			739
skipped question			5

2. What is your age?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Under 18		0.3%	2
18-34		2.2%	16
35-49		18.5%	137
50-64		48.4%	358
Over 64		30.8%	228
answered question			740
skipped question			4

3. Which of the following best describes your occupation?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Professional/Technical		30.1%	223
Manager/Proprietor		15.5%	115
Clerical/Sales/Service		3.4%	25
Craftsperson		1.6%	12
Laborer		0.1%	1
Government		5.5%	41
Homemaker		4.1%	30
Student		0.1%	1
Retired		33.5%	248
Unemployed		0.5%	4
Real Estate		4.1%	30
Tourism		0.8%	6
Fishing		0.5%	4
Other		2.7%	20
		answered question	740
		skipped question	4

4. Identify the importance of each location to you as a designated open space or natural area.

	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Not important	No opinion	Response Count
Along the ocean beaches	83.5% (597)	11.6% (83)	3.1% (22)	1.5% (11)	0.3% (2)	715
Along the shore and sound	69.3% (487)	21.9% (154)	6.8% (48)	1.7% (12)	0.3% (2)	703
In forested and vegetated areas	40.2% (276)	34.1% (234)	17.9% (123)	6.4% (44)	1.5% (10)	687
In designated wetlands	42.9% (298)	26.1% (181)	16.3% (113)	12.2% (85)	2.4% (17)	694
Nags Head Woods	45.9% (310)	28.0% (189)	14.4% (97)	7.9% (53)	3.9% (26)	675
	answered question					722
	skipped question					22

5. What soundside activities and recreational facilities should the Town support or enhance?

	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Not important	No opinion	Response Count
Nature Park with trails	47.5% (329)	36.6% (253)	11.0% (76)	3.9% (27)	1.0% (7)	692
Public windsurfing/kite boarding area	17.3% (119)	30.2% (207)	30.8% (211)	18.4% (126)	3.4% (23)	686
Motorized beach access	18.2% (123)	18.0% (122)	25.4% (172)	36.8% (249)	1.6% (11)	677
Swimming and wading areas	48.7% (344)	34.7% (245)	11.3% (80)	4.7% (33)	0.7% (5)	707
Fishing/crabbing opportunities	42.5% (293)	37.7% (260)	14.8% (102)	4.3% (30)	0.7% (5)	690
Public restroom facilities	40.3% (279)	39.0% (270)	14.6% (101)	5.1% (35)	1.0% (7)	692
Public shower facilities	18.0% (118)	28.9% (190)	31.4% (206)	20.1% (132)	1.7% (11)	657
	answered question					727
	skipped question					17

6. I would be willing to pay higher taxes for:

	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Not important	No opinion	Response Count
Preservation or acquisition of open spaces	30.6% (186)	30.8% (187)	18.6% (113)	17.3% (105)	2.8% (17)	608
Expansion of Town recreation areas	16.9% (102)	25.9% (156)	32.2% (194)	22.2% (134)	2.8% (17)	603
Ocean beach access areas	30.6% (185)	30.4% (184)	18.8% (114)	18.2% (110)	2.0% (12)	605
Soundside access areas	21.4% (129)	31.2% (188)	25.2% (152)	19.4% (117)	2.8% (17)	603
Curbside collection of recyclables	25.9% (157)	24.4% (148)	22.1% (134)	24.4% (148)	3.3% (20)	607
Bikeways and multi-use paths	29.5% (181)	35.2% (216)	18.6% (114)	14.8% (91)	1.8% (11)	613
None of the above	47.4% (65)	5.8% (8)	4.4% (6)	21.9% (30)	20.4% (28)	137
answered question						704
skipped question						40

7. What types of recreation do you participate in on a regular basis?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Basketball		4.5%	32
Bicycling		48.3%	340
Tennis		9.7%	68
Swimming		54.0%	380
Aerobics		11.1%	78
Camping		7.5%	53
Walking		79.5%	560
Baseball		3.1%	22
Softball		3.1%	22
Fishing		45.6%	321
Football		2.7%	19
Golf		24.4%	172
Picnicing		15.8%	111
Soccer		4.0%	28
Hiking		22.7%	160
Fishing		12.5%	88
Motorized boating		23.4%	165
Non-motorized boating		14.6%	103
	Other (please specify)		29
answered question			704
skipped question			40

8. Based on your knowledge of Nags Head, the growth rate of the town over the last 5 years has been:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Much too slow		1.6%	12
A little too slow		2.7%	20
Just about right		35.2%	258
A little too fast		36.5%	267
Much too fast		24.0%	176
answered question			732
skipped question			12

9. Have recreational facilities kept up with the growth rate from question # 8 above?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		61.1%	422
No		39.1%	270
answered question			691
skipped question			53

10. Do you use school or private facilities for recreation? If so, which facilities?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Nags Head Elementary		12.3%	37
YMCA		56.3%	170
Nags Head Woods		62.3%	188
Other (please specify)			28
		answered question	302
		skipped question	442

11. Besides the ocean and sound, how close do you live to a park or recreational facility in Nags Head?

		Response Percent	Response Count
0-1 miles		39.9%	280
1.5-2.5 miles		31.0%	217
3-4 miles		15.0%	105
Over 4 miles		14.3%	100
		answered question	701
		skipped question	43

12. Overall, how would you rate the recreational facilities offered by the Town?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent		17.4%	119
Good		61.3%	419
Fair		18.3%	125
Poor		2.9%	20
answered question			683
skipped question			61

13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

	Response Count
	143
answered question	143
skipped question	601

14. Which of the following best describes your residential status in Nags Head?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Year round resident renter		3.8%	28
Year round resident property owner		36.8%	274
Non-resident property owner		59.4%	442
answered question			744
skipped question			0

15. If you are a resident of Nags Head, how long have you lived here?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 3 years		11.5%	37
3-5 years		12.4%	40
6-10 years		21.4%	69
11-20 years		22.3%	72
Over 20 years		32.5%	105
answered question			323
skipped question			421

Q7. What types of recreation do you participate in on a regular basis?

1	running	Nov 2, 2009 7:25 PM
2	beach use,(cook outs , surf fishing , beach driving)	Nov 2, 2009 3:51 AM
3	fitness - exercise	Nov 1, 2009 2:56 PM
4	indoor swimming	Oct 30, 2009 9:38 AM
5	bird watching	Oct 27, 2009 5:39 AM
6	running	Oct 26, 2009 10:56 AM
7	jogging	Oct 26, 2009 9:43 AM
8	photography/nature wildlife	Oct 24, 2009 9:38 AM
9	Running	Oct 21, 2009 3:25 PM
10	horses	Oct 16, 2009 9:25 AM
11	kayaking	Oct 15, 2009 11:40 AM
12	Volleyball	Oct 13, 2009 8:33 AM
13	surfing, kiteboarding	Oct 12, 2009 6:24 PM
14	surfing	Oct 10, 2009 3:47 PM
15	crabbing	Oct 10, 2009 3:30 PM

Q7. What types of recreation do you participate in on a regular basis?

16	none. 90 years old and unable to do these things	Oct 10, 2009 2:55 PM
17	too commercial	Oct 10, 2009 2:45 PM
18	surfing kiteboarding	Oct 10, 2009 2:21 PM
19	more tennis courts	Oct 10, 2009 2:19 PM
20	running/surfing/kayaking	Oct 10, 2009 2:16 PM
21	we need reefs for surfing	Oct 10, 2009 1:50 PM
22	paddling	Oct 10, 2009 1:45 PM
23	windsurfing/surfing	Oct 10, 2009 1:38 PM
24	Snorkeling	Oct 9, 2009 10:12 AM
25	Gardening, Photography, Computer	Oct 3, 2009 11:15 AM
26	running, walking the dog, surfing, boogieboarding, snorkeling/spearfishing, kayaking, birdwatching, gardening, pilates, yoga, weightlifting	Oct 3, 2009 8:13 AM
27	Hunting	Oct 2, 2009 4:21 PM
28	kayaking	Oct 2, 2009 1:49 PM
29	Running / Jogging	Oct 2, 2009 9:21 AM

Q10. Do you use school or private facilities for recreation? If so, which facilities?

1	beach nourishment	Nov 2, 2009 10:55 AM
2	Nags Head Golf Links, OBX Sports Club	Oct 27, 2009 9:12 PM
3	They are often closed when I am visiting my beach house over a holiday. And they can be expensive.	Oct 27, 2009 5:39 AM
4	Nagshead Village facilities	Oct 26, 2009 9:43 AM
5	no	Oct 24, 2009 8:47 PM
6	jockeys ridge	Oct 24, 2009 9:38 AM
7	None	Oct 21, 2009 8:31 PM
8	Jockey's Ridge State Park	Oct 21, 2009 3:25 PM
9	kill devil hills high school tennis courts	Oct 20, 2009 5:39 PM
10	dog park	Oct 20, 2009 4:30 PM
11	public bathrooms should stay open year around	Oct 20, 2009 2:10 PM

Q10. Do you use school or private facilities for recreation? If so, which facilities?

12	beach nourishment	Oct 19, 2009 2:22 PM
13	none	Oct 16, 2009 9:25 AM
14	golf links, beach club	Oct 15, 2009 3:52 PM
15	no	Oct 10, 2009 2:14 PM
16	no	Oct 10, 2009 2:00 PM
17	i use them in KDH	Oct 10, 2009 1:50 PM
18	no	Oct 10, 2009 1:30 PM
19	new food lion should have preserved woods instead.	Oct 10, 2009 1:15 PM
20	none	Oct 10, 2009 1:13 PM
21	none	Oct 7, 2009 6:00 PM
22	KDH playgrounds, Dare County Youth Center	Oct 7, 2009 12:09 AM
23	None	Oct 6, 2009 4:55 PM
24	Dare County Schools	Oct 4, 2009 8:41 PM
25	Multi use path	Oct 3, 2009 8:13 AM
26	Baum Center, Elizabethan Gardens	Oct 2, 2009 10:56 AM
27	Run in Nags Head Woods... YMCA too crowded, too expensive	Oct 2, 2009 9:21 AM
28	the beach	Oct 1, 2009 6:00 PM

Q13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

1	public tennis courts	Nov 9, 2009 12:50 PM
2	public multi-use park on windmill point property	Nov 9, 2009 10:17 AM
3	more beach access and parking. more sand	Nov 6, 2009 10:17 AM
4	amusement park	Nov 6, 2009 9:58 AM
5	beach nourishment	Nov 3, 2009 12:18 PM
6	convention center	Nov 3, 2009 12:16 PM
7	beach nourishment	Nov 3, 2009 10:41 AM
8	dog park, playgrounds, extend multi-use path along 158	Nov 3, 2009 10:37 AM
9	conference center	Nov 2, 2009 3:17 PM

Q13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

10	More walking trails	Nov 2, 2009 9:52 AM
11	Public pool and picnic area.	Nov 2, 2009 9:40 AM
12	Dog free beaches until after 4:30 pm in the summer !!!	Nov 2, 2009 3:51 AM
13	Years ago (1990?) when S. Va. Dare Tr. was repaved, there were markings every 100' with numbers maybe every 500'. That made it mighty nice for us joggers to keep up with mileage. Re-marking the street, or maybe the multi-use path (which is a wonderful benefit), in 100' increments would be good for joggers or walkers.	Nov 2, 2009 1:12 AM
14	Would like to see a municipal fitness center, more bike trails	Nov 1, 2009 2:56 PM
15	More dedicated open space, more soundside access	Oct 30, 2009 8:27 AM
16	FISHING PIER	Oct 29, 2009 3:19 PM
17	we need a convention center	Oct 28, 2009 3:50 PM
18	sound access	Oct 28, 2009 3:49 PM
19	I like what is available.	Oct 28, 2009 1:41 PM
20	Dog park	Oct 28, 2009 12:02 PM
21	beach nourishment	Oct 28, 2009 10:15 AM
22	more areas along the lines of Nags Head Woods.	Oct 28, 2009 10:10 AM
23	Nags Head does a good job, but maybe some more bike paths around the sound.	Oct 27, 2009 9:59 PM
24	More bike / walking paths. Driving Range	Oct 27, 2009 9:12 PM
25	-skateboarding park -strengthening of bike paths already in existence along S. Old Oregon Inlet -bowling alley -a place to put in a kayak in the sound without going over a bridge -a pier on the sound -a bigger & better defined place to pull over and maybe hike & birdwatch in the sound off Rt 12 between 16 and 20 mile posts. Beautiful to look at, but there is no access.	Oct 27, 2009 5:39 AM
26	better sound access for launching sail boats	Oct 26, 2009 4:14 PM
27	beach nourishment	Oct 26, 2009 4:13 PM
28	crosswalk at june access	Oct 26, 2009 4:04 PM
29	skate park	Oct 26, 2009 12:58 PM
30	Wetland/nature centers with focus on educating young children and their families...protecting the environment.. 2. VIRTUAL dune buggies....save the dunes and ozone.	Oct 26, 2009 12:12 PM
31	beach nourishment, more crabbing in the sound	Oct 26, 2009 10:22 AM
32	tennis courts (both har-true and hard surfaced), lighted par 3 golf course	Oct 25, 2009 9:48 PM

Q13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

33	Volleyball Horse Shoes	Oct 25, 2009 9:11 PM
34	water park	Oct 25, 2009 2:14 PM
35	We recently purchased a home near St. Andrews Episcopal Church. The Beach Access is a major problem. We have to walk or drive a half a mile to the nearest beach access when we live on Beach Rd. It would be great if we could get better access to the beach. Otherwise, I think you do a great job with the services you provide.	Oct 25, 2009 10:00 AM
36	water access for ocean/sound use, including boat ramps of varying types at specific areas. continued addition/improvement of parking/restroom/bathhouse facilities at water access sites.	Oct 25, 2009 8:31 AM
37	fenced dog park	Oct 24, 2009 8:47 PM
38	any thing that would educate and offer conservation along with recreation	Oct 24, 2009 9:38 AM
39	We need no more public rec facilities	Oct 22, 2009 5:22 PM
40	1. Horrible beach access for older people and people with disabilities or baby joggers (too steep and too many steps at the end of the ramp)- better public beach access 2. More PRIVATE pools like the YMCA or some sort of PRIVATE swim clubs with membership open to the public needed or encouraged (not public--taxes already too high)	Oct 22, 2009 4:53 PM
41	Additional shower and bathroom facilities near beach	Oct 21, 2009 2:22 PM
42	A Dog Park	Oct 21, 2009 12:23 PM
43	Boat ramps to the sound.	Oct 21, 2009 9:29 AM
44	picnic areas	Oct 20, 2009 2:27 PM
45	open	Oct 19, 2009 10:24 PM
46	Town Rec facility vs. the YMCA...Town of Nags Head property owners have a reduced rate.	Oct 19, 2009 7:27 PM
47	dancing, skating	Oct 19, 2009 3:44 PM
48	demolish "wings" and create open space	Oct 19, 2009 2:27 PM
49	park next to the elementary school	Oct 19, 2009 2:13 PM
50	park and playground	Oct 19, 2009 11:35 AM
51	improve playground at Barnes Street park and add playground to Whalebone park	Oct 19, 2009 11:28 AM
52	sound access, piers on soundside	Oct 19, 2009 10:56 AM
53	picnic pavillions with bbq's	Oct 19, 2009 10:52 AM
54	town pool	Oct 19, 2009 10:00 AM

Q13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

55	more public parking	Oct 19, 2009 9:59 AM
56	west side bike paths and sidewalk	Oct 19, 2009 9:58 AM
57	There is a good selection, but there isn't one place where you can get everything. You might have a park with a great playground, but not enough picnic or open space. If you have a picnic area, the playground is limited. There's a soccer field here and a baseball field there. It might be nice to have a skatepark similar to the one in Manteo as well.	Oct 18, 2009 11:45 AM
58	more natural areas	Oct 15, 2009 7:26 PM
59	I do not feel like we have that many tax payer to pay for addition facilities(nags Head has a lot of people who work in restaurants and make good money and pay not TAX (tips))	Oct 15, 2009 3:58 PM
60	thank you for asking non resident input, maybe a little more stuff on the sound side	Oct 15, 2009 1:55 PM
61	thank you for asking non resident input, maybe a little more stuff on the sound side	Oct 15, 2009 1:55 PM
62	dog park	Oct 15, 2009 1:45 PM
63	dog park	Oct 15, 2009 1:24 PM
64	More picnic table along sound / nags head wood with open fire pits or charcoal grills.	Oct 15, 2009 12:43 PM
65	skate park. bike path	Oct 15, 2009 12:41 PM
66	beach nourishment	Oct 15, 2009 12:40 PM
67	public swimming pool	Oct 15, 2009 12:28 PM
68	picnic pavillions	Oct 15, 2009 12:27 PM
69	childrens playground	Oct 15, 2009 12:20 PM
70	amusement park to replace dowdy's	Oct 15, 2009 12:13 PM
71	dog park	Oct 15, 2009 12:08 PM
72	childrens playground	Oct 15, 2009 12:04 PM
73	tennis courts	Oct 15, 2009 12:03 PM
74	walking path along the sound	Oct 15, 2009 12:02 PM
75	Town to purchase Dowdy's and turn it into ballfields and open space	Oct 15, 2009 11:41 AM
76	N/A	Oct 14, 2009 12:25 PM
77	Curren facilities are very nice. However, in the current environment the town should focus on productivity and efficiency improvements and forgo this type of development until the economy improves.	Oct 13, 2009 12:12 PM

Q13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

78	More sound access	Oct 13, 2009 12:10 PM
79	Beach Replenishment with multiple groins to help save the beaches from getting replenished sooner than 10 years. Also, look into putting in an artificial reef maybe a mile off shore to try to reduce the power of the waves hitting the beach. The beach is the number one tourist attraction and economic driver of the town and should be maintained. It brings in taxes and jobs such as real estate, retail, craftsman (i.e. carpenter, painter, plumbers, AC repairmen).	Oct 13, 2009 11:53 AM
80	none	Oct 13, 2009 11:10 AM
81	More designated green areas/parks. Ocean and soundside kiteboard launch areas.	Oct 12, 2009 6:24 PM
82	Walking trails in the woods; along the Sound.	Oct 12, 2009 3:41 PM
83	More public sound access for boats, a dog park, sidewalks or bike path on the bypass. Growth rate too high and traffic is bad on bypass, need a path for walkers and bike riders. DO NOT SUPPORT A CONVENTION CENTER	Oct 11, 2009 11:57 AM
84	a new Dowdy's	Oct 10, 2009 4:00 PM
85	leave it natural	Oct 10, 2009 3:47 PM
86	soundside multi use path	Oct 10, 2009 3:44 PM
87	beach nourishment	Oct 10, 2009 3:38 PM
88	dog park	Oct 10, 2009 3:37 PM
89	more spots for sound fishing	Oct 10, 2009 3:36 PM
90	outdoor entertainment area like Duck	Oct 10, 2009 3:35 PM
91	beach nourishment	Oct 10, 2009 3:34 PM
92	beach access for handicapped	Oct 10, 2009 3:33 PM
93	golf course	Oct 10, 2009 3:30 PM
94	beach nourishment	Oct 10, 2009 3:29 PM
95	stuff for children and teens	Oct 10, 2009 3:28 PM
96	public boat launching or docking. tennis	Oct 10, 2009 3:26 PM
97	tennis courts. stop beach driving	Oct 10, 2009 3:24 PM
98	more open space and beach and soundside access	Oct 10, 2009 3:23 PM
99	a place to ride 4 wheelers year around	Oct 10, 2009 3:21 PM
100	tennis courts like KDH	Oct 10, 2009 3:12 PM
101	park like the town of duck has	Oct 10, 2009 3:06 PM

Q13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

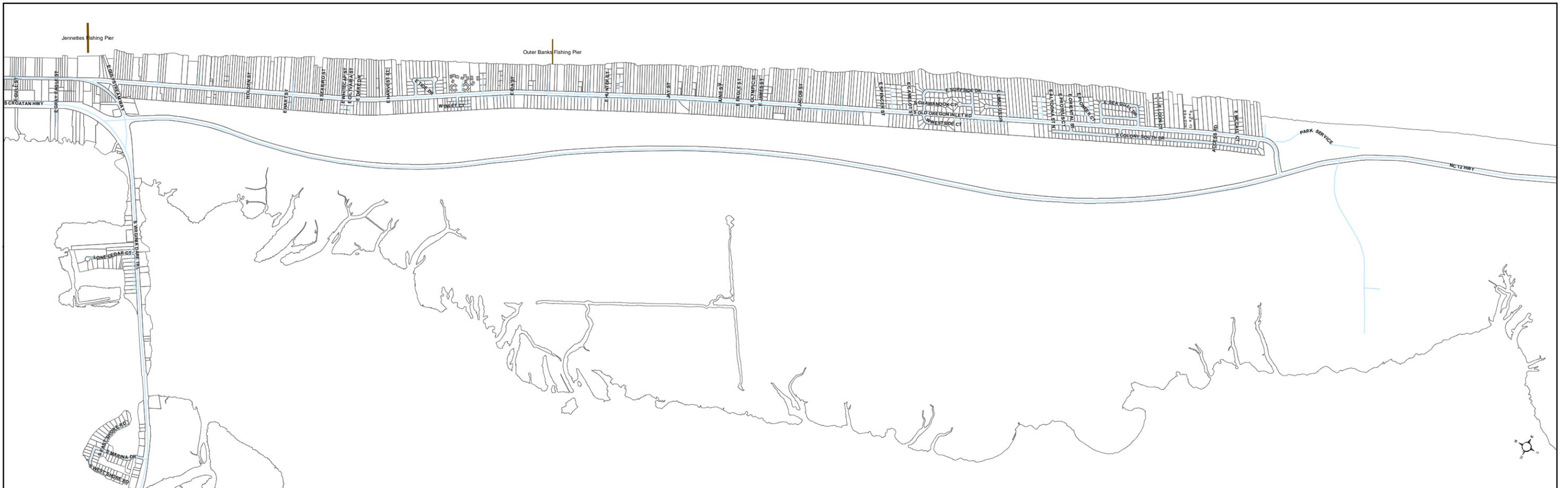
102	sound access	Oct 10, 2009 3:00 PM
103	west side bike trails	Oct 10, 2009 2:59 PM
104	more sound access	Oct 10, 2009 2:54 PM
105	bike trail and pool	Oct 10, 2009 2:52 PM
106	soundside boat ramp and pier	Oct 10, 2009 2:50 PM
107	indoor pool. handicapped access to sound	Oct 10, 2009 2:49 PM
108	jennette's pier	Oct 10, 2009 2:48 PM
109	whalebone park needs childrens play equipment.	Oct 10, 2009 2:45 PM
110	more lifeguarded areas. small picnic areas and beach accesses with facilities	Oct 10, 2009 2:23 PM
111	expand beach acceses with bathroom showers and vendors	Oct 10, 2009 2:21 PM
112	fishing/crabbing areas. kiteboarding areas. more multi use paths	Oct 10, 2009 2:16 PM
113	public boat ramps, more public fishing, crab and boating areas on sound and beach	Oct 10, 2009 2:14 PM
114	walking trails	Oct 10, 2009 2:03 PM
115	bike path along US 158	Oct 10, 2009 2:02 PM
116	hiking areas. town pool	Oct 10, 2009 1:57 PM
117	open spaces for kids to play	Oct 10, 2009 1:56 PM
118	more showers and beach access	Oct 10, 2009 1:50 PM
119	amusement park	Oct 10, 2009 1:48 PM
120	tennis courts	Oct 10, 2009 1:40 PM
121	multi use path on west side of bypass from northern town line to kitty hawk kites.	Oct 10, 2009 1:38 PM
122	sound front boating with docks	Oct 10, 2009 1:36 PM
123	us 158 multi use path	Oct 10, 2009 1:28 PM
124	more trash cans on beaches	Oct 10, 2009 1:26 PM
125	tennis courts for residents and guests. curbside collection of reyclables should be included in our taxes. it would decrease the town's fees at the landfills	Oct 10, 2009 1:25 PM
126	public pool and tennis courts by Dowdy's	Oct 10, 2009 1:15 PM
127	Bathroom needed at 21.5 mp beach access	Oct 10, 2009 1:10 PM
128	Artificial Reef for snorkeling, scuba, etc Disc Golf Course Beach Access Showers	Oct 9, 2009 10:12 AM

Q13. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in the Nags Head?

129	Beaches that are somewhat deeper	Oct 7, 2009 6:00 PM
130	Playgrounds, tennis courts, a bike path that is not on the busy bypass.	Oct 7, 2009 12:09 AM
131	Expand/upkeep multiuse path	Oct 4, 2009 8:41 PM
132	Sound side opportunities	Oct 3, 2009 11:53 AM
133	Public golf courses that residents can afford.	Oct 3, 2009 11:15 AM
134	Public Boat Ramp, Community Garden, Expanded hiking trails in Nags Head Woods, underwater wreck for snorkeling/spearfishing, dog park,west side multi use path.	Oct 3, 2009 8:13 AM
135	More open fields. And a dog park.	Oct 2, 2009 6:45 PM
136	Soundside park instead of a convention center.	Oct 2, 2009 4:21 PM
137	More parking at Jockey's Ridge or other sound beach access. Paved boat ramp to put boat into sound	Oct 2, 2009 1:49 PM
138	more sound access	Oct 2, 2009 11:56 AM
139	paved walking path behind west side neighborhoods	Oct 2, 2009 10:59 AM
140	Showers and toilets at beach accesses	Oct 2, 2009 10:56 AM
141	Dog Park... Running trails with accompanying exercise stations Expand the multi-use path along the bypass (even though it will be right behind my house) Create a bike-path / running route along the west side / soundside incorporating Old Nags Head Woods Rd from the town line to Whalebone and south We NEED to have roadside of NC12 widened to the OI Bridge to enhance bicycling safety and also same along Old Oregon Inlet Road; the "sidewalk" is not "cycling-friendly" for someone trying to pound out some cycling miles... it's great for walkers and casual bike riders but NOT if you want to get up to speed We DO NOT NEED more ballparks We DO NOT NEED more facilities geared toward tourists but need to enhance the offerings for locals; exception is more beach & sound accesses with adequate parking.	Oct 2, 2009 9:21 AM
142	Baseball/Softball fields Golf Course/Driving range Basketball courts	Oct 1, 2009 9:55 PM
143	A swimming pool	Oct 1, 2009 3:52 PM

Appendix B







Appendix C

Parks and Recreation facilities sub-committee facility tour report
June 9, 2011

Sub-committee members Mark Cornwell, Bobby Gentry, Ralph Buxton, Brendan Strum
Planning staff: Elizabeth Teague, Angela Welsh

Site	Issue or Recommendation
Satterfield Landing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field development in empty space • Replace with Synthetic fields • Dumpster for special events • Parking “maxed out” • Restroom expansion • Outdoor basketball courts • Frisbee golf • Possible Dog park space • Playground area
Town Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve or replace playground equipment • Disc golf • Water fountain does not work • New grills • Grass field irrigated or made into volleyball court • Possible Dog park space • Partner with YMCA for yoga • Festivals/concerts
Harvey Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soap in bathrooms
Windmill Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop fields in interim to Master Plan
Causeway Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevated boardwalk for kayak access • Better signage on causeway • Message board had no events posted • Water fountain does not work
Cause way access (little bridge)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water fountain does not work • Loose boards • Pressure wash decks and building • 1 more picnic table • Window screen ripped in bathroom
Multi-use paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix existing paths • Expand Westside path
Jockeys Ridge sound access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public bathroom • More parking

Staff notes regarding this summary:

Not included in this tour was Whalebone Park which is not yet developed. This Committee toured all of the Town Parks to identify needs and make recommendations for improvements in June. Since that time, several items of concern have been addressed by the Town Public Works Department. Some specific items to note:

- Water fountains at causeway parks have been removed because corrosive environmental conditions at those sites.
- Hurricane Irene caused extensive damage after the facilities tour. Public Works will be making repairs to the causeway sites and the Harvey Access.
- Public Works is working on improving several beach accesses for ADA access and other amenities in current CIP.
- Public Works is working on improving several beach accesses for ADA access and other amenities in current CIP.

After the Tour the Committee made several recommendations that are reflected in the Plan. These include:

- Signage be installed to direct people to parks – especially Town recreation Park at Barnes Street and Satterfield Park off of Lark.
- Committee supports Town's efforts to incrementally extend the multi-use trail along US158.
- NC12 and South Oregon Inlet multi-use trail has some problem areas with cracking and drainage. The Committee feels like where repairs are being made that the town should use asphalt instead of concrete (better for jogging), and consider elevation of the trail and/or additional drainage where appropriate.

June 20, 2011 Community Interaction Sub-Committee Report

Present: Elizabeth Teague, Cliff Ogburn, Cate Kozak, Ralph Buxton, Bob Oakes.

The sub-committee met on June 20, just days after the Carnival left town. Members all commented on overwhelmingly positive response to the Nags Head 50th anniversary event, which had cost taxpayers nothing and benefited the town.

Some said the carnival had the feeling of community and camaraderie that reminded them of the old Casino. All ages, all colors, tourists and locals, fit and fat, mingled happily. The atmosphere was festive and fun and seemingly problem-free.

In an informal survey conducted with random town residents at the carnival, everyone wanted the carnival to be held again, even several times a year.

Suggested improvements for future carnivals include rides for younger children and cheaper ticket prices.

Here are other suggestions offered for the survey that people said they'd like to have in the town:

A water park that small children could enjoy (similar to Diamond Shoals), Roller rink, Ice skating rink (including for hockey), Soccer tournaments, Volley ball tournaments, Shag dancing events, Seafood festival, Wine festival, Beer festival, Band concerts (family oriented), Something free (teen suggestion), Lacrosse tournaments, "Better bowling alley", Water slides, Taste of the Beach, held outside, Food vendor carts at beach accesses

Overall, people said the town should focus on events that can be held outdoors and tap into the Nags Head identity (low key, beachy, family oriented, not try to be like Va. Beach).

In other discussion, Elizabeth said that in a tour of parks with the facilities sub-committee, the parks looked good, with grass mowed and garbage handled properly. It was agreed that directional signage would be helpful. Also, it would be good to have more elements integrated into parks --- i.e., playground at Satterfield, disco golf at Rec Park.

Windmill Point was mentioned several times as a great location for a number of possible events, including music performances and Taste of the Beach. The town will have to program in coordination with the Tourism Board and the Windmill Point committee.

All agreed that the town needs to investigate the possibility of acquiring other property while it is available and cheap: Dowdy's, Sonny Cobb's land north of the post office, Gillian Wood property.

Recommendations:

-Improve Parks we have to make them more user friendly, Improve park visibility with better directional signs, programming (lessons, etc. work with Dare Co), need more space, Plan for Town gathering spaces, one with an outdoor pavilion, Ped and bike connectivity to parks, Find out about Dowdy's – get information on listing, Develop community events, Sky Festival, Sea Food festival, July 12 Wine Festival, develop predictable event that people can look forward to and schedule around, Start Art Festival @ Gallery Row – block off street, have music, invite artists, Sand sports on new beach – sand soccer and other events...have a sand sport festival, Marathon great – people come back and back, Bring back Carnival

---Cate Kozak

June 28, 2011

Memorandum For: Chairman, Nags Head Parks and Recreation Committee--2011

From: Older Adults Subcommittee:

Marvin Demers
Elizabeth Demers
Katie Burgus

Subject: Report of Actions by the Older Adults Subcommittee

Background: The Parks and Recreation Committee (hereafter termed the Committee) was established by the Town of Nags Head to examine the Town's recreational opportunities, desires, and needs, and to develop a Parks and Recreation Plan to guide subsequent Town development and funding decisions. The Committee was apportioned into several subcommittees, among which was the Older Adults Subcommittee comprised of the above named individuals. The subcommittee has individually and collectively used a variety of means to identify and assess the existing recreation opportunities, desires, and needs of the Nags Head population (to include transients). This report summarizes that body of work to include providing backup documentation, identifying findings, drawing conclusions, and making recommendations. This report is the result of work from all members of the subcommittee, who together wish to thank the other members of the entire Committee, particularly the Chairman, Ralph Buxton, for their input and direction.

Methodology: The members used a wide variety of sources to gather and identify information related to the Nags Head seniors' recreational environment. That included informal discussions directly with seniors, interviews with Town and County Commissioners and recreation centers' staff and management, literature collection, commercial offerings, Town and County public information, survey results, conference reports, personal experience, etc. Documentation obtained in this effort is provided in attachments to this report (provided as Tabs as indicated below,) to form a complete record for use by the Committee.

Findings:

There is a large need for recreational opportunities for seniors in Nags Head. An unusually large proportion of citizens are over the age of 50, and the group as a whole seems to be very active physically. (Tab A: Survey; Tab B: Governor's Conference on Aging; and Tab C: Dare County Conference on State of the Older Adult.) The Town provides a multitude of opportunities for recreational activity through its natural resources as well as other Town and County programmed services and commercial offerings. (Tab D: Baum Center; and Tab E: Dare County Center.)

The natural resources include ocean and sound sites and activities, Jockey's Ridge, Nags Head Woods, multiuse pathways, park/playgrounds, etc. Available services include the Dare County Center and the Northern Dare Center (Baum Center) which offer a plethora of

predominantly free services including cards and games, library, tap and jazz dance, tai chi, yoga, aerobics, arts and crafts, wii games, drama, bingo, chairrobics, dance with Parkinson's, billiards, shuffleboard, ping pong, exercise equipment, singles luncheons, day trips, overnight trips, bridge, pilates, zumba, piano, scrapbooking, quilting, coin club, lunches and dinners, etc. to name some but not all activities. Transportation is available for free or at very reasonable rates. Other services include ball fields, gymnasiums, senior games competitions, tournaments, theater, arts events, concerts, forums, and the list goes on.

Additionally there are the commercially based activities such as golf, mini-golf, tennis, bowling, swimming, myriad YMCA programs, church activities, dining, shopping, dance clubs, etc. This list is not all inclusive, in fact, the more one looks, the longer the list becomes.

However, some desires are not being met to everyone's satisfaction. The most common request was for more meals, followed by additional swimming pool facilities and socialization programs. Though swimming is currently available, it is at a cost to the individual.

Most of the activities are oriented toward the physically active and mobile. This does not accommodate many of the reclusive, shut-in, or physically debilitated. Steps have been taken to make many of the resources more available to the physically handicapped. Examples include nature trail walks which are more easily traversible and ocean accesses which are specially constructed, but those are in fact minimal. (Tab F: Visitor's Guide.)

Collaboration amongst the recreation providers exists, but is difficult to expand or broaden into new programs. Nonetheless, competition, duplication of efforts, or significant voids seem rare. There are good examples of private/public cooperation and mutual support of special programs or activities. There is no collaborative public oversight body which would serve to positively influence the communal activities in the best interests of the older adults. Across the local municipalities, some communities have recreation plans and some do not.

Conclusions:

The local communities (at all levels) and nongovernmental organizations have consciously developed, instituted, and widely advertised a vast network of older adult recreational opportunities. The programs are truly praiseworthy and undoubtedly compare extremely well to the offerings of any other locale.

An extensive number and variety of recreational opportunities for older adults are available within and nearby Nags Head. Many of those opportunities are provided by the Town or are inherent to the rich natural resource environment of the area. However, a significant number of opportunities are made available from other sources such as County, State, and Federal organizations, private organizations, commercial facilities, religious groups, etc. (Tab G: Newsletter, Outer Banks Senior Fellowship.) The sheer variety and availability are remarkable.

Nonetheless, there are additional desires which have been identified. These include lunches/meals, swimming pool, improved ocean/sound accesses, and support to shut-ins for general socialization. This list raises two questions: "Where do recreation and social services begin and end?", and "How much recreational opportunity is the public community obliged to

provide for free as opposed to that which the private or commercial communities make available for reasonable compensation?" For comparison, Dare County categorizes socialization of shut-ins into their Social Services programs, not into Recreation. Also, it was expressed that the importance of free services is subordinate to the actual availability of services, i.e., if the services are available commercially at a reasonable cost, it is unnecessary, and probably undesirable, for the Town to attempt to develop and provide those same services for free.

The completion of the beach nourishment program should create an entirely new set of possibilities for ocean/beach recreation activities for residents, tourists, and spectators. (Tab H: Beach Nourishment.)

Recommendations:

The Town of Nags Head should overtly continue to support existing Town recreational programs and encourage continuation of programs provided by County, State, and Federal entities as well as private, religious, and commercial organizations.

The Town should actively pursue expansion of existing opportunities where certain segments of the older adult population are being overlooked or excluded, e.g., shut-ins, handicapped, or restricted mobility individuals.

The Town should encourage collaboration with other governmental and nongovernmental organizations by taking a leadership role in exploring mutually beneficial recreational opportunities for older adults.

The Town should pledge financial support to private/public partnerships which would be more economical than purely public programs (e.g., subsidized swimming programs with the YMCA.)

The Town should make a determination and establish a policy on the extent to which the Town will provide recreational opportunities vis a vis socialization support. This policy should be consistent with County and State policies and programs.

The Town should establish a policy in regards to the extent to which the Town will provide free recreational opportunities, and establish a corresponding budget line to support the establishment and continuation of newly identified recreational facilities and services.

The Town should establish a policy on the extent to which it will establish and provide recreational opportunities specifically considering tourists/transients.

The Town should incorporate/consolidate recreation-related policies into a separate section of the Town Code of Ordinances.

The Town should establish a comprehensive campaign plan to capitalize on the recreational opportunities created by the beach nourishment project. The plan should then be developed and implemented in collaboration with neighbor municipalities, the County, and private/commercial organizations.

The Town should specifically consider improving beach accesses for the physically challenged.

The Town should establish a permanent Recreation Committee, with at least one member being an older adult specifically representing older adult recreational needs.

Respectfully submitted:

Marvin T. Demers

Elizabeth A. Demers

Katie Burgus

Youth sub-committee report

Members: Dave Elder, Brian Wehner, Molly Harrison

The Youth sub-committee was tasked with developing an outreach project to find out what recreational activities were important to the Town's youth. Their efforts resulted in a survey entitled "What do you like to do in Nags Head", which is attached.

The survey was available on the Town's website and was open to both residents and visitors. Several Parks and Recreation Committee members attended the Town's 50th Anniversary Carnival at Windmill Point to solicit responses from people attending the carnival as well. Results of the survey can be found in Appendix A of this plan.

Several respondents also stated that the Town needs to better communicate the recreational facilities it has available as well as let younger people be involved in making decisions regarding recreational facilities.

What Do You Like to Do in Nags Head?

The Town of Nags Head's Parks & Recreation Committee needs your help so that we can come up with a recreation plan for youth in the town. Please fill out the survey.

Do you live in Nags Head? *

- YES
 NO

What is your age?

Under 13

If you are older than 19, do you have children?

- YES
 NO

If you are an adult with children, what are your children's ages?

- Under 5
 5-10
 11-14
 15 and older

What is your sex?

- Male
 Female

What do you enjoy doing?

- Exercise classes (yoga, Tai Chi, aerobics, Pilates)
 Softball/baseball
 Football/soccer/lacrosse
 Basketball
 Tennis
 Golf

- Hiking
- Paddling
- Running/walking/Rollerblading
- Skateboarding
- Roller Skating
- Bicycling on bike paths
- Swimming
- Kiteboarding / windsurfing
- Jet-Skiing
- Surf / skim/ standup paddleboard
- Boating/sailing
- Fishing/crabbing
- Going to the beach
- Going to the sound
- Pool swimming
- Dance
- Arts and crafts
- Live music performances
- Music lessons
- Gaming/video games
- Playgrounds and parks
- Visiting museums
- Hanging out with friends
- Dare County Parks and Rec activities
- Other:

What do you like to do that is not available in Nags Head?

What could the town do to make this a better place for its young people?

How would you like to get information from the town?

- Email
- Website (www.townofnagshead.net)
- Social network (Facebook, Twitter)
- Mail
- Printed Materials
- Other:

Appendix D

Physical Activity, Nutrition and Obesity in North Carolina

Quick Facts

Updated December 2010

For more information visit www.EatSmartMoveMoreNC.com/Data/Data.html

Overweight and Obesity Facts

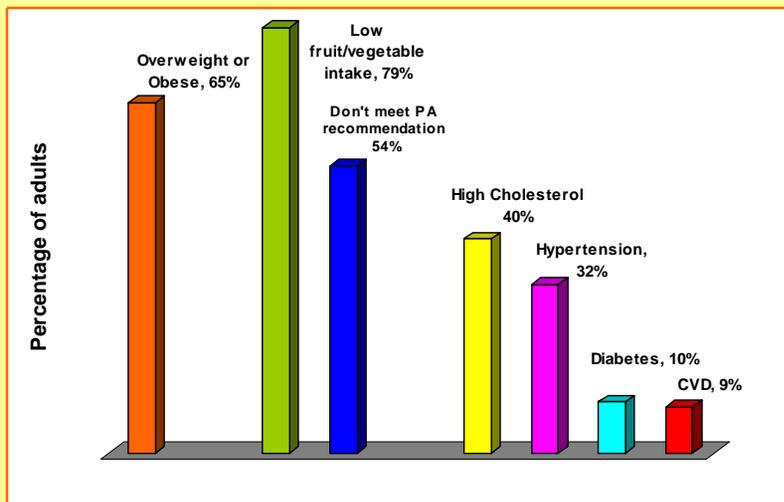
Adults

- North Carolina has the **10th highest** adult obesity rate in the nation. ¹
- **Two-thirds** (65%) of adults in North Carolina are overweight or obese. ²
- The percentage of North Carolina adults who are obese has more than **doubled** in the last two decades, from approximately 13% in 1990 to 30% percent in 2009. ² This is an increase of more than **1.9 million** ³ adults or enough adults to fill the Carolina Panther's Stadium **26** times. ⁴
- Being obese or overweight is a major factor in increasing one's risk for chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease.

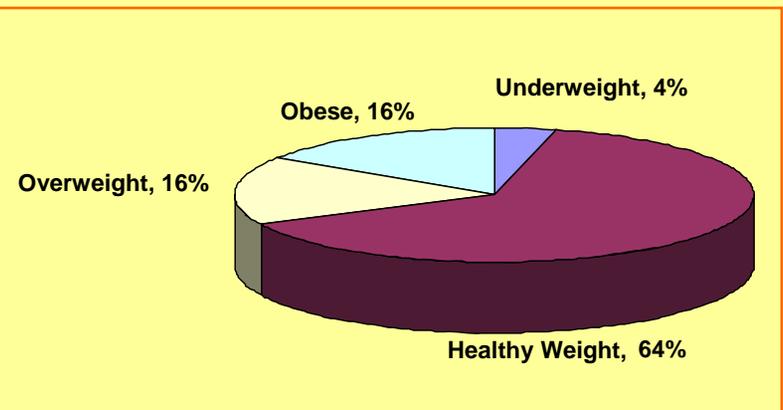
Children and Youth

- Childhood obesity is putting today's youth on a course to potentially be the first generation to live shorter, less healthy lives than their parents.
- North Carolina has the **11th highest** childhood obesity rate in the nation. ^{1,5}
- Nearly **one out of three** (32%) children ages 10-17 in North Carolina is overweight or obese. ⁵
- Nearly **one out of three** (31%) children ages 2-4 who participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) in North Carolina is overweight or obese. ⁶

North Carolina Adult Obesity Related Risk Factors and Chronic Diseases ²



North Carolina Children, by Weight Status ⁵



Weight status based on BMI-for-age percentile

Comparison of North Carolina to the United States (2009)

		<u>N.C.</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
Adults	Overweight and Obesity Overweight and obese adults ^{2,7}	65.3%	63.1%
	Physical Activity Adults getting the recommended* amount of physical activity ^{2,7}	46.4%	50.9%
Youth	Overweight and Obesity Overweight and obese youth** ^{8,9}	28.0%	27.8%
	Screen Time High school students who watch television 3+ hours on an average school day ^{8,9}	36.2%	32.8%
	Nutrition High school students getting 5+ servings of fruits and vegetables per day ^{8,9}	16.9%	22.3%

*Recommended is defined in the 2009 BRFSS as moderate physical activity for 30 or more minutes per day, five or more days per week OR vigorous physical activity for 20 or more minutes per day, three or more days per week.

**Youth refer to high school students surveyed in the 2009 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey

North Carolina Adults: Past, Present and Future

- Since 2001 there has been a statistically significant increase in the percentage of North Carolina adults getting the recommended amount of physical activity. As of 2009, over 46% of adults engaged in the recommended level of physical activity compared to 42% in 2001.²
- One out of every two North Carolina adults (56%) drinks one or more sugar sweetened beverages, such as sweet tea or soda, on a typical day.²



- If the adult obesity rate remained at the 2008 rate of 29.5%² rather than increasing, North Carolina would save an estimated \$851 per adult in health care costs by 2018 – a savings of \$6 billion dollars.¹⁰
- North Carolina is ranked 43rd for fruit and vegetable consumption among adults.¹ In 2001, approximately 25% of adults consumed the recommended 5+ servings of fruits and vegetables per day. As of 2009, there had been a statistically significant decrease to slightly over 20% of adults.²

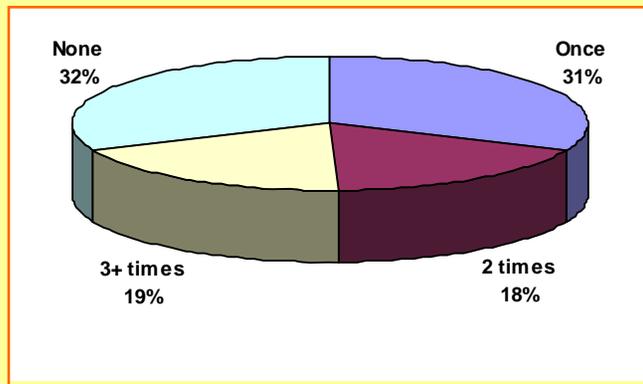


Obesity Risk Factors in North Carolina Children and Youth

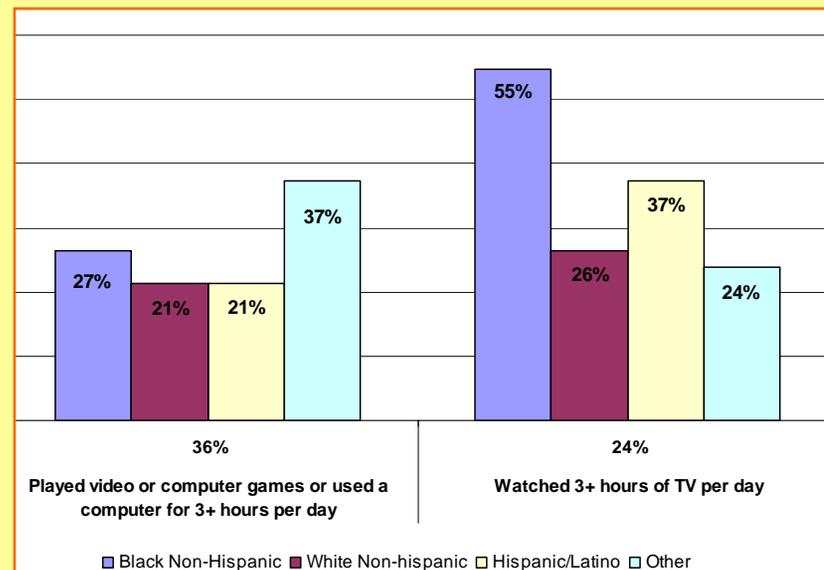
- In North Carolina, 43% of mothers of children under age five report that they breastfed their child for more than six months. ⁵
- The percentage of children (ages 5-10) getting 5+ servings of fruits and vegetables (including 100% fruit juice) per day has declined by 8% since 2005, with 58% currently getting the recommended daily servings of fruits and vegetables. ⁵
- 19% of North Carolina children and youth (ages 1-17) consume three or more sugar sweetened beverages on a typical day. ⁵
- Over 45% of children under age 10 in North Carolina watch at least two hours of television on a typical day. ⁵
- Approximately 24% of North Carolina high school students spend three hours or more watching TV on a typical school day. ⁸
- 36% of North Carolina high school students spend three hours or more of their time playing video/computer games or using a computer for non-school related interests. ⁸
- Over 91% of North Carolina children ages 5-10 engage in 60 minutes or more of physically active play on a typical day. ⁵
- 46% of North Carolina high school students engage in 60 minutes or more of physical activity on five or more days per week. ⁸



Sugar Sweetened Beverage Consumption among Children (ages 1-17) On a Typical Day ⁵



High School Students' Screen Time, by Race & Ethnicity ⁸



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Appendix E

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INVESTMENTS IN BICYCLE FACILITIES

Study Overview



A Case Study of the North Carolina Northern Outer Banks
The NCDOT, Division of Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation



April 2004

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INVESTMENTS IN BICYCLE FACILITIES: A CASE STUDY OF THE NORTHERN OUTER BANKS

Study Overview

Produced for the
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation

by

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Institute for Transportation Research and Education
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April 2004

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INVESTMENTS IN BICYCLE FACILITIES: A CASE STUDY IN THE NORTHERN OUTER BANKS

Bicycle Facilities Are a Significant Attraction for Tourists

Tourism is an important economic resource for North Carolina, as tourists spend money that benefits local economies. The economic impact of such expenditures is large and varied, and it benefits businesses, workers and local governments. Because of this favorable economic impact, competition for tourist dollars is strong. Tourists are drawn to visit an area by specific attractions, such as beaches, but also by a complex mix of activities and attractions that offer a variety of things to see and do. The richer the mix, the stronger the draw. For bicycling to be a significant ingredient in the mix, an area must be considered “bicycle-friendly”. This means, among other things, providing special bicycle facilities such as bicycle paths, bicycle lanes or wide paved shoulders and other amenities that make the overall cycling experience convenient, pleasurable and safe.

North Carolina coastal areas are well-suited for attracting bicycle tourism because of the level terrain, year-round temperate climate and variety of natural and manmade attractions easily accessible by bicycle. Although it is difficult to determine the proportion of tourists who come to an area primarily because of bicycling, it is fair to say that bicycling is one of the important factors in the vacation decisions of many people.

In the summer of 2003, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation (DBPT) commissioned a study to examine the value of public investment in bicycle facilities. The northern Outer Banks region was selected for the study because of existing high levels of bicycling activity and the presence of an extensive system of special bicycle facilities. A map of the study area appears to the right.

The study was conducted by the Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) at North Carolina State University. Researchers surveyed bicyclists riding on the bicycle facilities — paths and wide paved shoulders — and also obtained data from self-administered surveys of tourists at three visitors’ centers in the region.



The study found that the economic impact of bicycling visitors is significant. A conservative estimate of annual economic impact is \$60 million, with 1400 jobs created / supported per year. This compares favorably to the estimated \$6.7 million of federal, state and local funds used to construct the special bicycle facilities in the area.

Significant findings from the study include:

- 17% of visitors to the area report bicycling activity while there; this is approximately 680,000 bicyclists annually.
- A conservative estimate of the annual economic impact of bicyclists is \$60 million.
- The annual economic impact of cyclists is almost nine times as much as the one-time expenditure of public funds to construct special bicycle facilities in the region.
- 1,400 jobs are created or supported annually with the expenditures made by bicyclists.
- Almost half of surveyed bicyclists earn more than \$100,000 annually and 87% earn more than \$50,000. Forty percent have a Masters or Doctoral degree and an additional 38% reported completion of a college degree.
- The quality of bicycling in the region had a positive impact on respondents' vacation planning with 43% reporting that bicycling was an important factor in their decision to come to the area, 53% reported bicycling as a strong influence in their decision to return in the future, and 12% reported staying 3-4 days longer to bicycling in the area.
- Nearly two-thirds of respondents indicated that riding on bicycle facilities made them feel safer.
- Over three-fourths of all survey respondents indicated that additional bicycle paths, paved shoulders and bike lanes should be built.
- Nine out of ten survey respondents strongly agreed that state and/or federal tax dollars should be used to build more bicycle facilities.

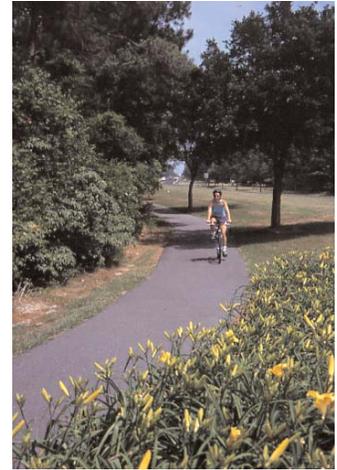
Ten Years of Public Investment in Bicycle Facilities

The northern Outer Banks region of coastal North Carolina is a natural attraction for bicyclists. Looking at a map, the long, thin ribbon of land conjures images of sun and sea that are almost irresistible to those who like to travel on two wheels. In 1974, a group of Dare County citizens and decision-makers who understood that appeal initiated an effort to improve conditions for bicycling. They approached the North Carolina Department of Transportation for assistance; however, at that time, there were neither state nor federal funds available to construct bicycle facilities. It was not until the late 1980's, when DOT



funding was first earmarked for construction of bicycle facilities that the Bicycle Program (now the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation) could begin to plan, fund, design and build bicycle improvements in the region.

Over the past ten years, NCDOT has built an extensive system of special bicycle facilities in the region. Multi-use paths, wide paved shoulders and wide curb lanes now link the towns and villages from Corolla south to Nags Head and west to Manteo. To date, approximately \$5.9 million of federal/state funds have been allocated for these facilities. The towns of Nags Head and Duck and the Dare County Tourist Bureau have contributed approximately \$800,000 toward construction costs bringing the total public investment in dedicated funds to \$6,685,000. In addition, NCDOT has incorporated other improvements such as bicycle-safe accommodations on bridges and additional width on roadways into scheduled highway projects. In some areas, developers have used private funds to build bicycle facilities as well. Combined, these improvements have made bicycling a viable transportation option in the region and have enhanced bicycle recreation opportunities.



The Benefits of Investing in Bicycle Facilities

There are both specific economic benefits and other less tangible benefits of public investments in bicycle facilities. These include:

- **Economic Benefits** – particularly in the case of bicycling travelers, increased retail sales (restaurants, lodging establishments, retail stores), job preservation and creation, and, in the case of dedicated bike paths or trails, enhancement of nearby property values. Also, reduced health care costs resulting from healthier living.
- **Benefits to the Transportation System** – less traffic congestion, improved safety (minimized conflicts between motorists, bicyclists or pedestrians), and preservation of highway infrastructure (e.g., paved shoulders resulting in less damage at the edge of the vehicle lanes).
- **Environmental Benefits** – including improved air quality and energy conservation.
- **Benefits to Health and Fitness** – it is being increasingly recognized that Americans, particularly seniors, would benefit in many ways from a more active lifestyle.
- **Social Benefits** – the quality-of-life benefits that result from living in communities with more open space and greenways, and that provide more opportunities for walking or cycling.



Many of these benefits are very hard to quantify or translate into dollar terms. However, it is possible to estimate the economic impact of such an activity and this is a common tool used to measure the benefits of something that attracts tourists to an area. This is the premise upon which this study was designed.

Measuring Bicycle Usage and Characteristics



The basic intention of an Economic Impact Analysis is to examine the economic activity generated by visitors or tourists that are drawn to an area by a particular attraction or facility. When tourists visit an area, they spend money, and these expenditures benefit the local economy. A particular challenge in this case study was that tourists obviously come to the Outer Banks for a variety of reasons, most of which may have little or nothing to do with bicycling. Although they may do some bicycling while in the area, for most tourists this is not the primary reason for visiting the Outer Banks. Moreover, even if bicycling were an important factor in their decision to visit the area, was it the overall quality of bicycling in the area or was it the availability of specific bicycling amenities such as wide paved shoulders or multi-use paths?

To try and resolve these questions, a variety of surveys and bicycle traffic counts were conducted in the area. The northern Outer Banks region was chosen for this study because of known bicycling in the area and the presence of a system of bicycle facilities. The surveys and counts were as follows:

- Intercept surveys of bicyclists riding by three survey locations over a period of 2 1/2 days in order to develop a “profile” of bicyclists and their perceptions of the quality of cycling in the area.
- Surveys aimed at general visitors (cycling and non-cycling) were made available at three Visitor Centers in the area, primarily to find out what proportion of them engaged in some bicycling activity while in the area.
- Surveys of Bed and Breakfast and campground managers and their guests.
- Surveys at bicycle shops.
- Mechanical traffic counting devices to physically count bicyclists facilities at 11 separate bicycle facility locations over a period of one week.



These efforts provided valuable information about the amount and nature of bicycling activity in the area. Included was information about how long people stayed, where and how often they bicycled, and how much and on what they spent money. This allowed calculation of an average amount spent per day by each visitor. These figures were then fed into an economic impact computer model at North Carolina State University in order to estimate the overall economic impact.

Highlights from the Surveys

Bicyclists who completed the surveys are relatively affluent and well-educated. The typical cyclist was a 45-year old male with a Masters or Doctoral degree who earns \$100,000 or more a year and lives in Virginia or another mid-Atlantic state. His cycling skills are at an intermediate level and he normally rides 10-49 miles/month. While at the northern Outer Banks he rode about 14 miles a day on each of five days.

The average respondent from the Visitors Centers' surveys was slightly different. This person tended to be a 47-year old female with a college degree who makes \$75,000-\$99,000, and lives in Virginia, North Carolina or a mid-Atlantic state. She is an intermediate skill level cyclist who typically rides less than 10 miles per month.



The Visitors Centers' surveys revealed that about 17 percent of tourists, or about 680,000 people annually, engage in some bicycling activity while in the area. Approximately one-third of these bicyclists indicated that it was an important factor in their decision to visit. The quality of bicycling in the area was rated fairly highly by survey respondents, as was the quality of bicycle facilities. Scoring even higher was the perception that the bicycle facilities added to the cyclists' feeling of safety while riding. Finally, many survey respondents indicated that the quality of bicycling would be important in their decision to return to the area.

It should also be recognized that bicycling is important not just for the tourists. Many residents also benefit by the presence of the bicycle facilities and use them for purposes of exercise (46 percent), recreation (32 percent), and personal errands (11 percent). Four percent of residents indicated that their bicycle trip was for the purpose of commuting to work or school.

Another factor that indicates that bicycling is important in terms of visiting the area is that 70 percent of the intercepted respondents and 62 percent of the bicycling tourists stated that they had brought their own bikes. The average intercepted respondent bicycled on 69 percent of the days of his or her trip, with 75 percent bicycling on more than 50 percent of the days of their visit. Finally, 11 percent of the intercepts and 16 percent of the visitor center cyclists stated that their visit duration was longer due to bicycling, by an average of three and four days respectively.

Interestingly, a higher percentage of both intercept and Visitor Center respondents said that bicycling would be more important to their decision to return to the area than it was in their decision to come. This suggests that once exposed to the quality of bicycling in the area, visitors are more likely to return.

A large percentage of bicyclists indicated that additional facilities should be built in the area - 76 percent of intercept respondents, 70 percent of bicycling tourists, and 92 percent of residents. An overwhelming proportion favored the use of state and/or federal funds to build such facilities - 95, 88 and 100 percent respectively.

Analyzing Economic Impact

There are two main types of benefits that result from the presence of bicycle facilities in an area. Each of these has some economic value (i.e., people would be willing to pay something in order to obtain these benefits).

- The **benefits to local residents** who use the bicycle facilities for recreation, exercise, commuting, etc. There may also be some benefits from less traffic congestion, increased bicycle and pedestrian safety, and improved air quality. In addition, more and more communities are looking at the ability of a child to safely walk or bicycle to school or to a local store as an important feature of a desirable community.
- The **benefits that result from tourists** drawn to the area due to the bicycle facilities. The tourists spend money that benefits the local economy.

An Economic Impact Analysis (EIA) presumes that the main benefit that occurs from an investment is in attracting visitors or tourists from other areas. For example, a tourist attraction such as the Wright Brothers National Memorial attracts many visitors from across the country. These tourists spend money on food, lodging and a variety of other things while visiting, and this has a direct economic impact on the local restaurants, lodging facilities, and retail merchants. Moreover, these expenditures result in increased public revenues through sales and other local taxes (each travel dollar produces about 6 cents in state tax revenues, and 3 cents in local tax receipts).

There are three types of economic impacts:

- **Direct:** the dollars initially spent by tourists that primarily benefit local commercial establishments such as lodging facilities, restaurants, and retail stores.
- **Indirect:** subsequent purchases by suppliers of materials and services to the primary businesses.
- **Induced:** expenditures by the workers in the direct and indirect businesses on consumer goods and services.



Often it is not too difficult to develop an estimate of how many tourists come to an area because of a particular attraction or event; however, there are a number of reasons to visit the Outer Banks, the obvious ones being beach- or ocean-related, not bicycle-related. Even if tourists come for the purpose of bicycling, are they attracted by the overall quality of bicycling in the area (e.g., flat terrain, scenic views, and temperate climate), or by the quality of the bicycle facilities that are available (wide paved shoulders, multi-use paths, etc.)? The answer is probably not one or the other but some combination of both factors. No matter how scenic or flat, bicyclists are not likely to be attracted to an area where the bicycling is difficult or unsafe.



In order to deal with these issues, several questions were included in the surveys that were designed to help determine the extent to which bicycling in general, and bicycle facilities in particular, were important to the decision to visit the area. This information was used to help assess the degree to which it could reasonably be argued that some of the economic benefits accruing from the tourists are attributed to bicycling, or to bicycle facilities.

Because of the uncertainties mentioned above, and the inherent difficulty of developing a precise estimate in this kind of analysis, a range of estimates was developed to evaluate the number of bicyclists for whom it could reasonably be argued that they were strongly

attracted to the Outer Banks by bicycling. High, mid-range and low estimates were developed as follows:

■ **High Estimate**

It is estimated that at least four million tourists visit the northern Outer Banks each year. Seventeen percent of tourists responding to the general survey indicated that they bicycled while in the area, which translates to about 680,000 annual tourists who bicycle while there.



This number was then adjusted to reflect that most tourists probably did not come to the northern Outer Banks primarily to bicycle. A factor of 15 percent was used, related to the percentage of bicyclists that reported that bicycling was very important in their decision to come to the area. This reduced the number of pertinent annual bicyclists to about 102,000.

■ **Mid-range Estimate**

For a mid-range estimate, the high estimate was reduced by the percentage of respondents who also gave a high rating to the overall quality of bicycling facilities in the area. This reduced the number of pertinent annual cyclists to about 40,800.

■ **Low Estimate**

For the low estimate, the high estimate was reduced by the percentage of the respondents who, in addition to giving a high rating to the overall quality of bicycle facilities in the area also gave a high rating to the importance of bicycling in their decision to return to the area. This reduced the number to about 10,200 pertinent annual cyclists.



This low estimate is similar to the estimate of annual riders developed independently from the bicycle traffic counts. It is likely that the traffic count data represents a very conservative estimate in that there are many cycling locations in the northern Outer Banks where the counting devices were not installed.

To generate an annual expenditure figure, the estimated number of cyclists was multiplied by the average trip expenditures and then fed into an economic impact computer model that estimates both the dollar impact and the number of jobs created by this economic activity. This is summarized below.

Number of Cyclists	Annual Economic Impact	Estimated Number of Riders	Number of Jobs Created
High Estimate	\$149 Million	102,000	3517
Mid-range Estimate	\$60 Million	40,800	1407
Low Estimate	\$15 Million	10,200	352

These benefits compare very favorably to the cost of constructing the special bicycle facilities built in this area by NCDOT and the municipalities. The estimated expenditure of public funds is \$6.7 million. A mid-range estimate of the economic benefits is \$60 million annually. Therefore, the return on the investment in each year equals approximately nine times the initial investment. If the additional \$2 million spent on bicycle improvements built as part of a highway or bridge project is added, the return on the investment is still very high with a sevenfold return each year.

Recommendations

The study suggests that continued investment in bicycle facilities could only be expected to increase the favorable economic impact found in the northern Outer Banks and is therefore recommended by the NCDOT. These investments can also help North Carolina remain competitive with other nearby coastal states for bicycling tourists.

The types of bicycle facility investments found to be most desired in this study are:

- More and/or wider bicycle paths and lanes.
- More and/or wider paved shoulders on roads.

In addition, it is recommended to:

- Pursue opportunities to create linkages between existing bicycle facilities where possible.
- Develop more bicycle lanes or paved shoulders on side streets away from the beach.
- Upgrade existing bicycle facilities where necessary to meet national standards and build new facilities to these standards.
- Increase efforts to promote the use of the bicycle facilities in the area.

Investments in bicycle facilities in other areas would return similar benefits, whether an area already attracts tourists for other reasons, or whether the bicycle facilities are the primary attraction.

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Appendix F

Review of YMCA Skatepark for Nags Head Parks and Recreation Committee
Sam Buxton
October 12, 2011

Skate Park History

The Outer Banks Family YMCA Skatepark was constructed and opened to public around 2003. It was widely accepted as it provided a skate lite surfaced street course, a flow bowl designed and constructed by the renowned Grindline Skateparks, as well as a fresh breath of air to the skateboard community. Even with a pass required, locals and visitors alike enjoyed the park for years and participated in camps, competitions, and after school sessions. However, after years of being weathered by numerous elements and being victim to a certain amount of neglect, this park is in need of a serious facelift. If the YMCA wants its skatepark to be embraced by the community once again, it will require the help and input of the community. In addition to fixing the park immediately due to safety concerns, a new design is desperately needed along with a social rejuvenation which would be accomplished through programming and outreach through local businesses and schools.

Competition and Target Market

After the YMCA's completion in 03, it stood alone as the premiere skatepark on the Outer Banks for years. This was until other towns realized their obligation to fulfill the needs of skateboarders and bikers in their respective towns. Since the opening of free, unsupervised, public concrete skateparks in the towns of Manteo, Kill Devil Hills, Kitty Hawk, and Currituck, the YMCA has stepped out of the limelight and been placed on the backburner. Competing with these parks will require the use of many different tactics. The YMCA's requirement for the use of a helmet for those over 18, and helmet/knee pads/elbow pads for those under 18 has long been a deterrent of those looking for somewhere to ride. Along with having to pay for a pass and trying to figure out when the park is actually open, it's usually

more convenient for someone with transportation to go to one of the public parks close by. The YMCA cannot eliminate the requirement of safety protection, neither can it do away with charging for use, but it can look at populations who actually appreciate what the YMCA has to offer. After looking at these different populations, it was decided that children under 12 should be seen as the targeted group. In addition to the already existing 10 week skate camp, after school programs and collaborations with other skate shops would help give the YMCA a new image; one that shows they care about the skateboard community.

Safety Concerns and Renovations

A quick walk around the existing YMCA park shows that the park needs first to meet standard safety requirements. Protruding screws, uneven seams of skate-lite, oxidized sheet metal and sharp corners are problems that should be addressed immediately. As far as future use is concerned, plans to renovate the street course by using existing elements and a set budget will take the efforts of not only the YMCA, but the town of Nags Head and the skateboard community. It's evident in skateparks around the world that skateparks that exclude input from the skateboard community in the planning and construction phase are automatically a failure. As far as the concrete bowl is concerned, continual observation and maintenance should resume making sure it still meets safety standards. The surface of the bowl has also been weathered by water and sand, which wears off the finish and leaves it grainy to the touch. Paint has been proven as the least expensive and longest lasting solution. It would also add an aesthetic touch to a park that looks worn out.

Revenue/Cost

Costs for day/week/month pass should be re evaluated for YMCA members, Nags Head residents, and visitors. Summer skate camp should also be reviewed as possible collaborations with local businesses

which could lower costs and be beneficial to all parties involved. After school programs in partnership with Nags Head Elementary School utilizing the skate park would also be advantageous.

Shade/Lighting

One aspect the YMCA has struggled to keep consistent is a schedule for hours of operation. One way to influence people into using the park during the hot summer days would be constructing some kind of a shade structure. Most patrons are forced to skate all the way to the maintenance/bathroom building to seek water and a cool place to sit. A roof over the entrance to the park would be most convenient. There is also a viewing platform that would make a more than suitable spot for riders to rest and relax. Another way to extend hours would be installing lights to help attract the market of riders who are occupied during daylight hours with work, school, etc.

Accessibility

Entrance to the park for visitors has long been a hassle seeing that patrons must almost circle the whole park to talk to a supervisor. Installing a different station for a supervisor would be more convenient for newcomers and would also seem more accessible to users of the YMCA facility.

Marketing/Promotion

In previous sections, working with local businesses and schools was mentioned as great way of reaching potential clientele. Through promoting to local schools, it could be seen as another available recreational facility. The skate park's proximity to Nags Head Elementary provides plenty of potential young riders. Along with the school, local shops such as OBBC, 158, and other locally owned shops would be able to spread the word of a rejuvenated facility as well. Through carefully planned competitions, events, and programming, the park could bring the community together and result in a safe and fun skate destination.