



Town of Nags Head Project Scope Whalebone Park - Phase 1

Introduction & Goals

The intent of the Whalebone Park - Phase 1 project is to evaluate the need for renovations and/or improvement of Whalebone Park. This project would serve as a continued implementation of the Town's *Comprehensive Plan*, *Town of Nags Head Parks and Recreation Plan*, and the *Nags Head Pedestrian Plan*.

The Park is located in the Whalebone Junction Character Area, a busy commercial, recreational, and seasonal lodging node that serves as both a welcome point and destination for visitors into the Town of Nags Head. The primary goals of this project are to:

1. Identify current issues and constraints that prevent the Park from being utilized as intended or limit the Park's opportunities as a resource.
2. Identify opportunities to improve the active/passive recreational and cultural use of the Park; and
3. Determine what connections to amenities outside of the Park should be prioritized and improved, and what amenities can be provided in the Park that would be resources to the Whalebone Junction Character Area.

Through achieving these goals, recommendations would be developed that would inform design and construction under a future implementation phase.

Funding

Funds allocated in the FY21-22 budget: NA; the adopted budget indicates that Phase 1 involves a study to determine opportunities for the improvement of Whalebone Park, a precursor to the FY22-23 programmed project (Phase 2; \$250,000 in grant funding to be sought) for renovation and improvement of amenities at the Park.

Resources

Michael Zehner, Director of Planning & Development, and Kate Jones, Senior Environmental Planner will serve as the primary Town Staff assigned to this project, and coordinate management of the project. Additionally, Staff expects to engage the members of the Town's Planning Board and Committee for Arts and Culture through the duration of the project.

Scope

The scope for the project, including the primary tasks, are as follows:

Tasks

- Inventory Whalebone Park existing conditions and assess existing use.
- Coordinate stakeholder input and public input from the broader community with regard to the use and redevelopment of the park.
- Identify constraints that impact the use of the park.
- Identify opportunities to improve the use and function of the Park for both tourists and year-round residents.
- Identify potential funding options for improvements.
- Develop and present findings and recommendations to Board of Commissioners for acceptance/agreement.

Tasks under future Phases are anticipated to include:

Park Program Recommendations and Feasibility

Tasks

- Based on findings from Phase 1 and input/action by Board of Commissioners, develop a request for proposals for conceptual design development by a consultant.
- Identify and investigate opportunities for partnerships in the renovation of the Park.
- Present findings to Board of Commissioners for acceptance/agreement and/or prioritization before preceding to next phase.

Conceptual Design Development

Tasks

- Select consultant to develop a conceptual plan(s) for the Park. This may include multiple plans that are developed with varying degrees of improvements and modifications.
- Gather public and stakeholder feedback for the conceptual designs.
- If applicable, identify budgetary needs for design and construction costs, work to formalize identified partnerships, and/or make initial preparations for procurement efforts.
- Present findings and final report to Board of Commissioners for acceptance/adoption.