



## **Town of Beaufort, NC**

701 Front St. - P.O. Box 390 - Beaufort, N.C. 28516  
252-728-2141 - 252-728-3982 fax - [www.beaufortnc.org](http://www.beaufortnc.org)

### **Town of Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 6:00 PM Thursday, January 08, 2026 - Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, Beaufort, NC 28516 Monthly Meeting**

---

#### **Call to Order**

#### **Roll Call**

#### **Agenda Approval**

#### **Minutes Approval**

- [1.](#) PRAB Regular Meeting 11.06.25
- [2.](#) PRAB Workshop 12.03.25
- [3.](#) Greenway Executive Team Meeting 12.18.25

#### **Public Comment**

#### **Old Business**

1. December 3, 2025 - Workshop Recap
2. BOC Workshop January 28-29, 2026 - Presentation
3. Eury Park Update

#### **Staff Report**

1. Beaufort Events Master List - To be added to Town website
2. John Newton Park Water Fountain - Working, Winterized
- [3.](#) Beaufort Greenway Update & Signs
4. Rock the Docks 2026 - Planning
- [5.](#) "Project SOP"
6. Ann Street Park Update
7. Beaufort Town Docks - Planters Update

#### **New Business**

- [1.](#) Physical Park Tours "Lunch & Learns" - 1 edule

2. Beaufort Greenways Executive Team - Meetings and Updates (15 minutes)

**Board Comments**

**Staff Comments**

**Adjourn**



**Town of Beaufort, NC**

701 Front St. - P.O. Box 390 - Beaufort, N.C. 28516  
252-728-2141 - 252-728-3982 fax - www.beaufortnc.org

**Town of Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

**6:00 PM Thursday, November 06, 2025 - Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, Beaufort, NC 28516**  
**Monthly Meeting**

**Call to Order**

*The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Ron Dupuis.*

Board Members Present: Chair Ron Dupuis (present until 6:30 PM), Vice Chair Doug Williams (acting Chair from 6:30 to 7:05 PM), Carol Beaird, Lora Fasolino, Bruce Mann, Taylor McCune (arrived at 6:08 PM), and Victoria Sullivan

Staff Present: Community Engagement Director Jennifer Welborn, Town Manager Matt Zapp, and Public Information Officer Rachel Johnson

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Sharon Harker

**Agenda Approval**

The agenda was approved with an amendment to add Public Comment.

**Minutes Approval**

- 1. October 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes

*Minutes from the October 2, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved as presented.*

**Public Comment**

There was one public comment from Christopher Burns inquiring about possible spaces for a dog park.

**Discussion and Consideration**

- 1. Eury Park

Craig Souza, of the Beaufort Community Foundation, presented concepts for improvements to Eury Park, including adding “and Faith” to the Park’s name, unifying landscaping with Grayden Paul Park, beautification efforts, a sundial, a commemorative station, removal of the dated National Park signage,

usage of the park, the importance of maintaining the surrounding natural views, secondary improvements beyond the current fencing, and the history of the land donated by Mr. Eury. It was noted that PRAB board member, Lora Fosolino, is on the Beaufort Community Foundation board and would recuse herself from any voting on the matter. General discussion was held regarding the proper process for Town Park improvements, citizen input, the board's priorities, funding sources, and other current parks projects.

***The Board unanimously approved the concept for the Eury Park improvements, paid for by the Beaufort Community Foundation, with a timeline in question, and to mirror the Ann Street Park process of approval. Lora Fasolino abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.***

2. Ann Street Park Update

An update on the Ann Street Park project was given. The HPC approved Ann Street Park plans on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, with future MINOR permit stipulation for plantings. There was a brief discussion regarding the costs of Ann Street, Eury, and Topsail Parks. The Ann Street Park project is expected to conclude in Summer 2026.

3. Duke University Marine Lab student survey update - John Newton Park

Duke University Marine Lab students Alice Daeschler and Tori Newton presented their findings from surveys taken regarding Beaufort's John Newton Park. The Board thanked the students for their work and recommended that Derwood Landing would be strong option for their next survey topic. Survey presentation attached.

4. December 3, 2025, Workshop agenda

The Board discussed ideas and items they would like to see on their December Workshop agenda. Some items included board member attendance, dog park, Grayden Paul Park concept, Eury Park, priorities for 2026, the Trestle Walk project, Town programming within parks, ADA compliance, updated bike route brochures, metal bike sculptures, grants, budgets, Advisory Board roles and processes. Mayor Harker reminded the Board that the Town's Board of Commissioners are holding their Annual Workshop on January 29-30, 2026 and encouraged PRAB members to attend.

5. January PRAB Meeting

Because the first Thursday in January 2026 falls on New Years Day, the Board agreed to reschedule their PRAB meeting to January 8, 2026, 6 PM at Beaufort Train Depot.

**Board Comments**

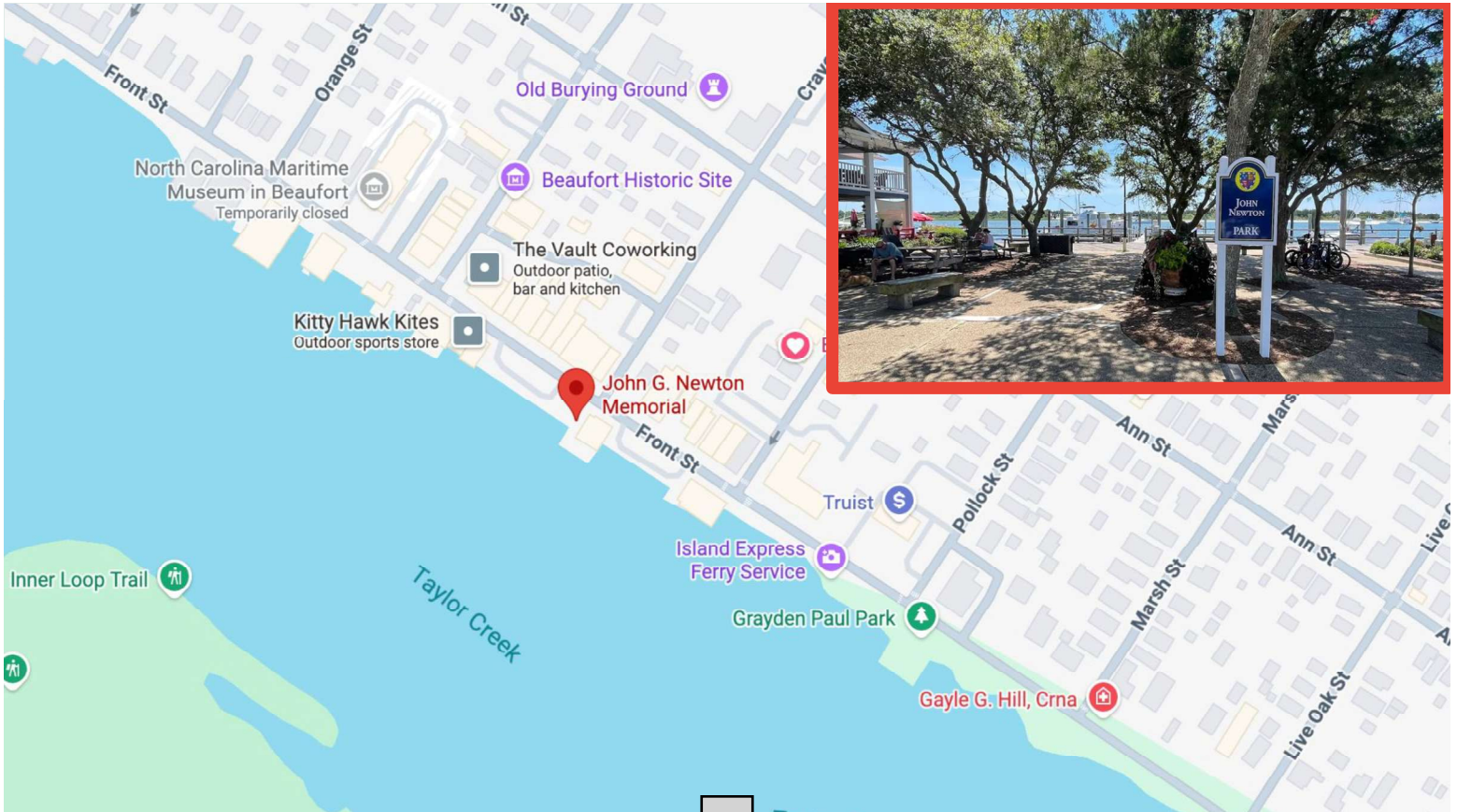
**Adjourn**

*The meeting unanimously adjourned at 7:05 PM.*



# John Newton Park Usage Study

Tori Newton, Alice Daeschler, Meredith Langmuir, Mason Ibrahim, Jeremy Sabol, and Anna Marie Hunt



# Presentation At A Glance

**01 Methods**  
Observational survey, in-person survey, and supplemental data

**03 Recommendations**  
Actions to move forward

**02 Results**  
Data analysis and main findings, including supplemental data


**04 Summary**  
Main takeaways from the project




## Observational Survey

We observed for a total of **58** hours from Friday 10/17 to Thursday 11/13

Data was collected during the:

 **Morning (before 12:00 pm)**

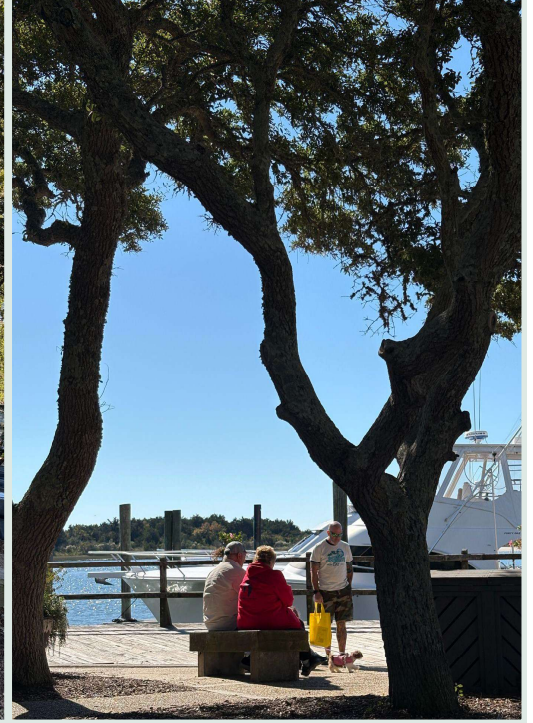
 **Afternoon (12:00 pm-4:30 pm)**

 **Evening (after 4:30 pm)**





# Observational Survey



## In-Person Survey

**01** John Newton Park Saturday 11/1

**02** Beaufort Farmers Market Saturday 11/8

**03** John Newton Park Sunday 11/16

**04** Posted on the **Town website**, on the **Town's Facebook page**, and in the mid-month **Sunshine News blast**





# Supplemental Data

01



Alive at Five Summer Concert Series

02



Town of Beaufort Parking Data



# Results - Observational Survey

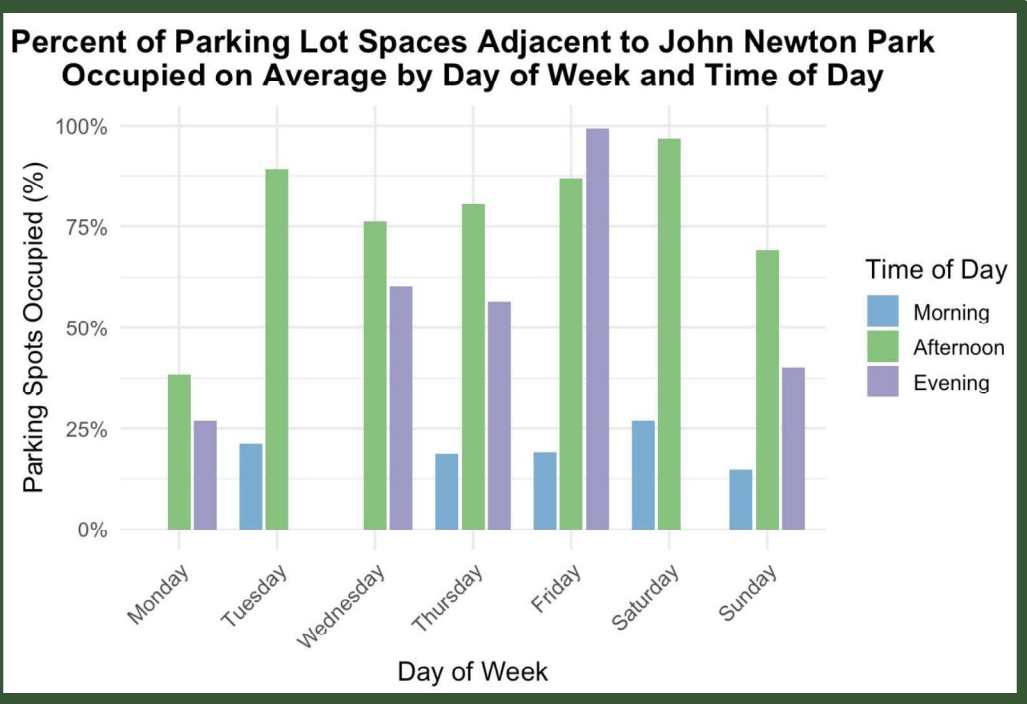
Activities People Did in the Park

Activity	Counts	% of Observations
Passing Through	401	58.9
Sitting Down / Resting	143	21.0
Walking Dog	97	14.2
Looking At The Water	53	7.8
Standing	43	6.3
Under Shade	35	5.1
Other	33	4.8
Looking At Signage	26	3.8
Eating	20	2.9
Playing	15	2.2
Looking At Flowers	11	1.6

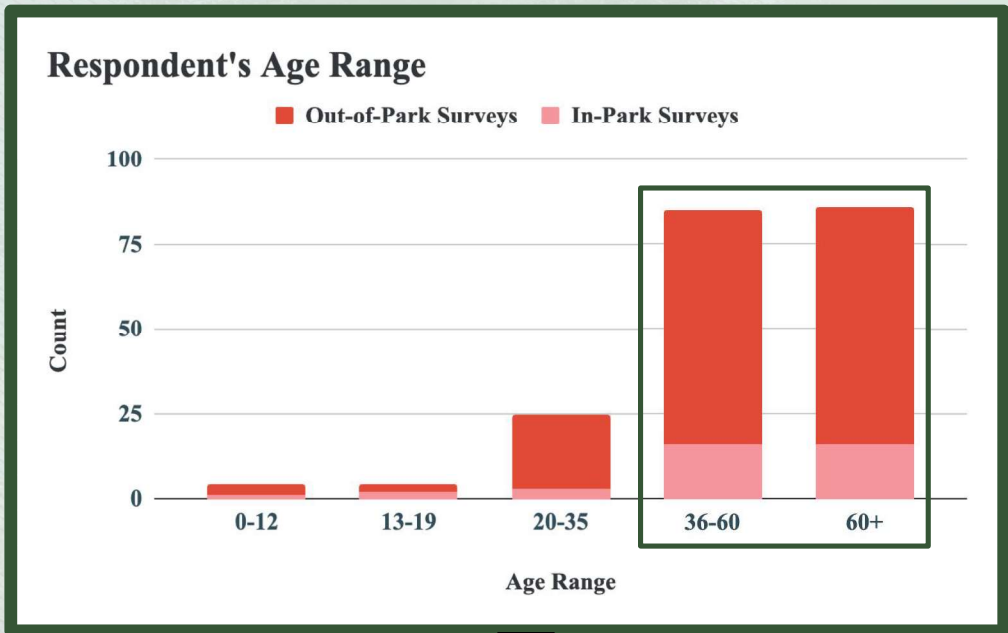


# Results - Observational

## Summary



# Results - In-person Survey Demographics

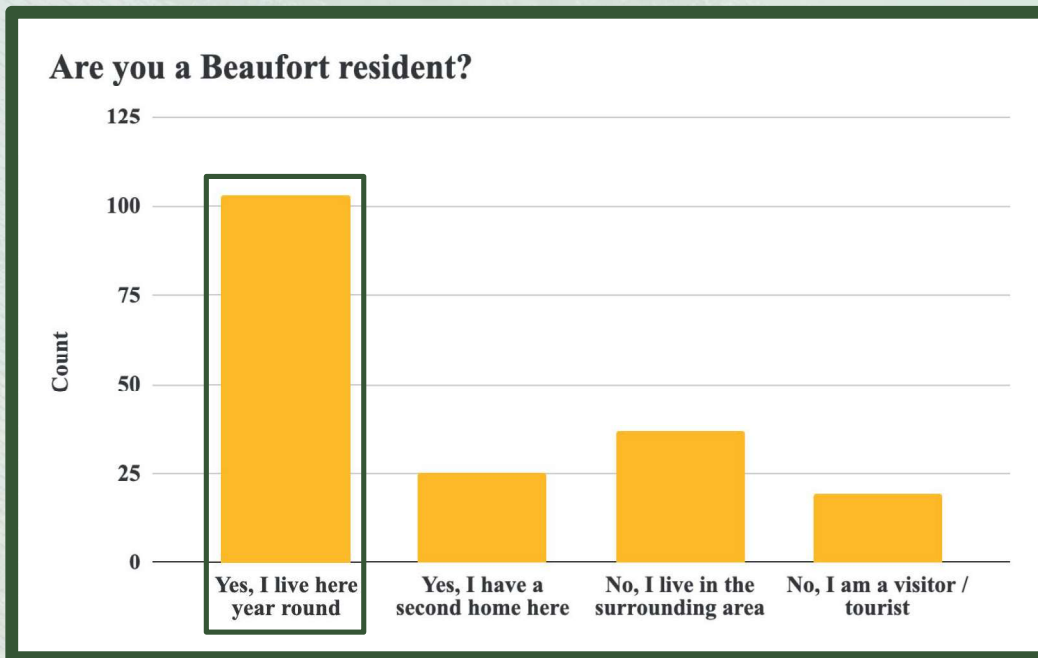


N = 190



# Results - In-person Survey

## Demographics

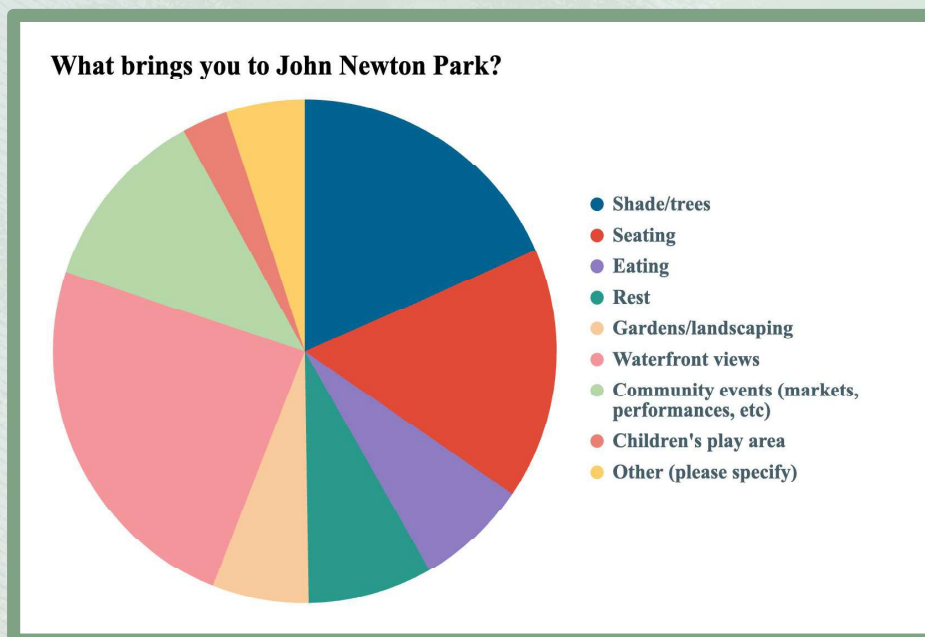


N = 190



# Results - In-person Survey

## Park Usage



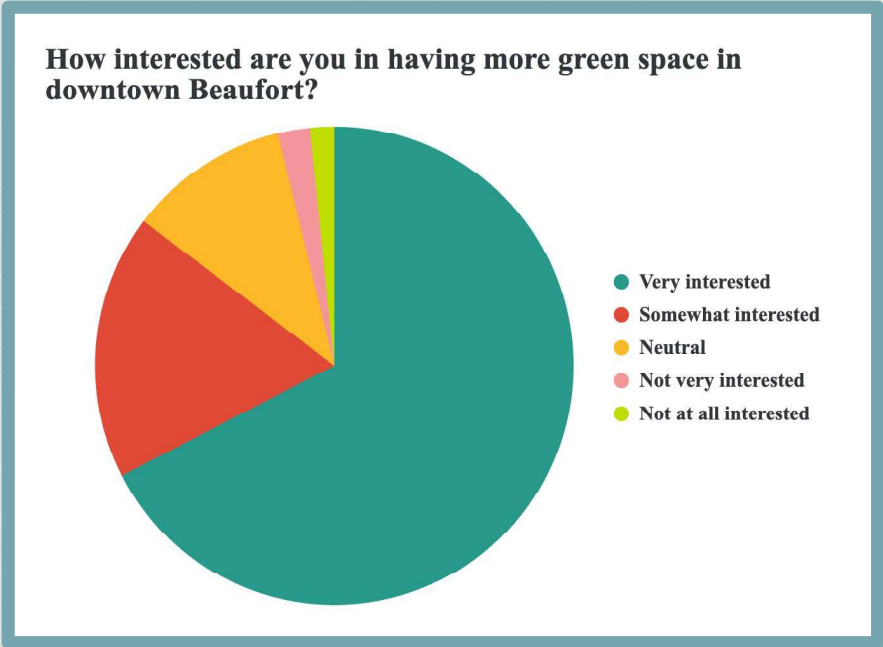
# Results - In-person Survey

## Park Usage



# Results - In-person Survey

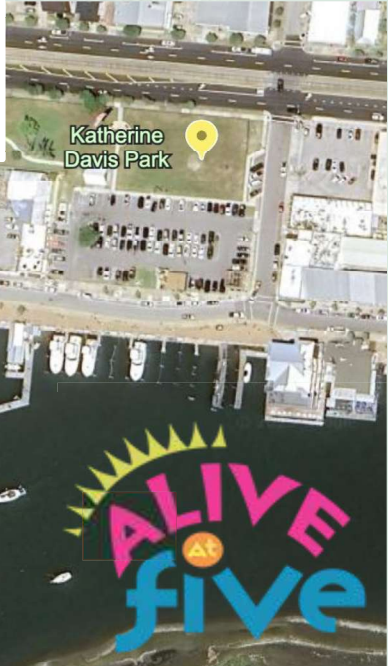
## Green Space





# Alive at 5 Summer Concert Series

“Enjoy free, family-friendly concerts in Katherine Davis Park from 5-8pm during the summer and fall. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and kids to listen to great music!”



## Alive at Five Summer Concert Series

Placer.ai Tracking Data

June 27th

Total Visitors

2,700

August 15th

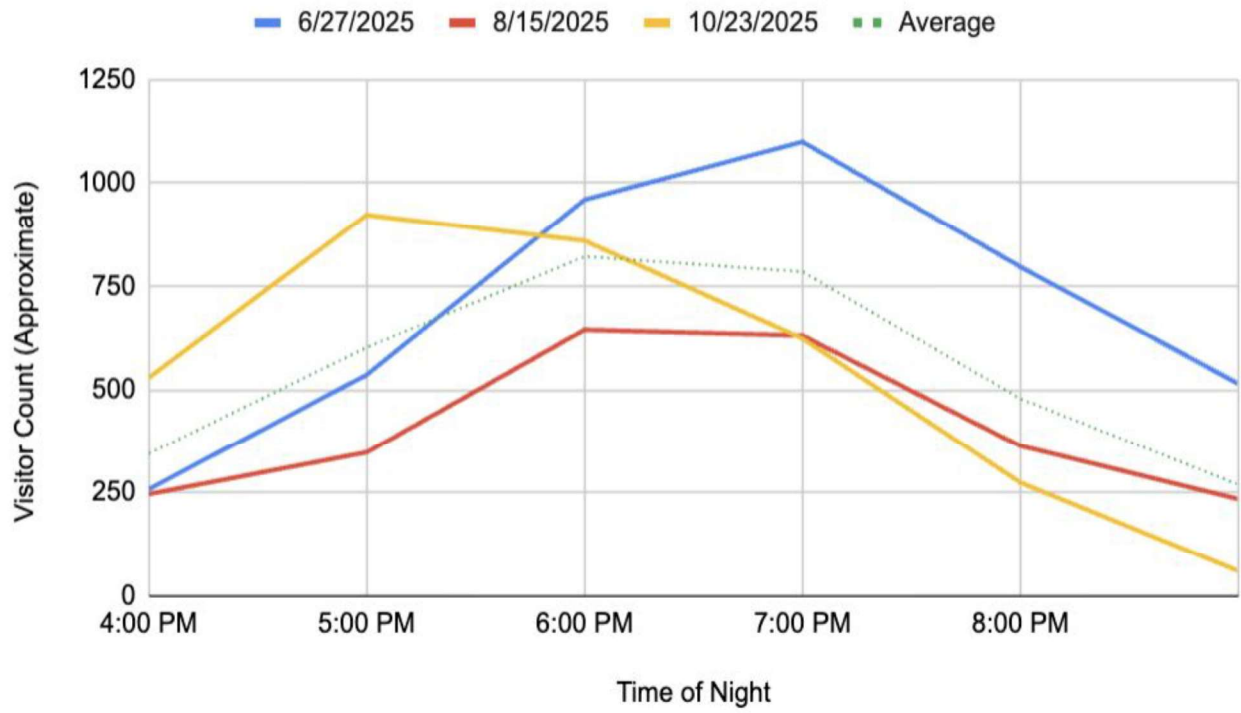
1,800

October 13th

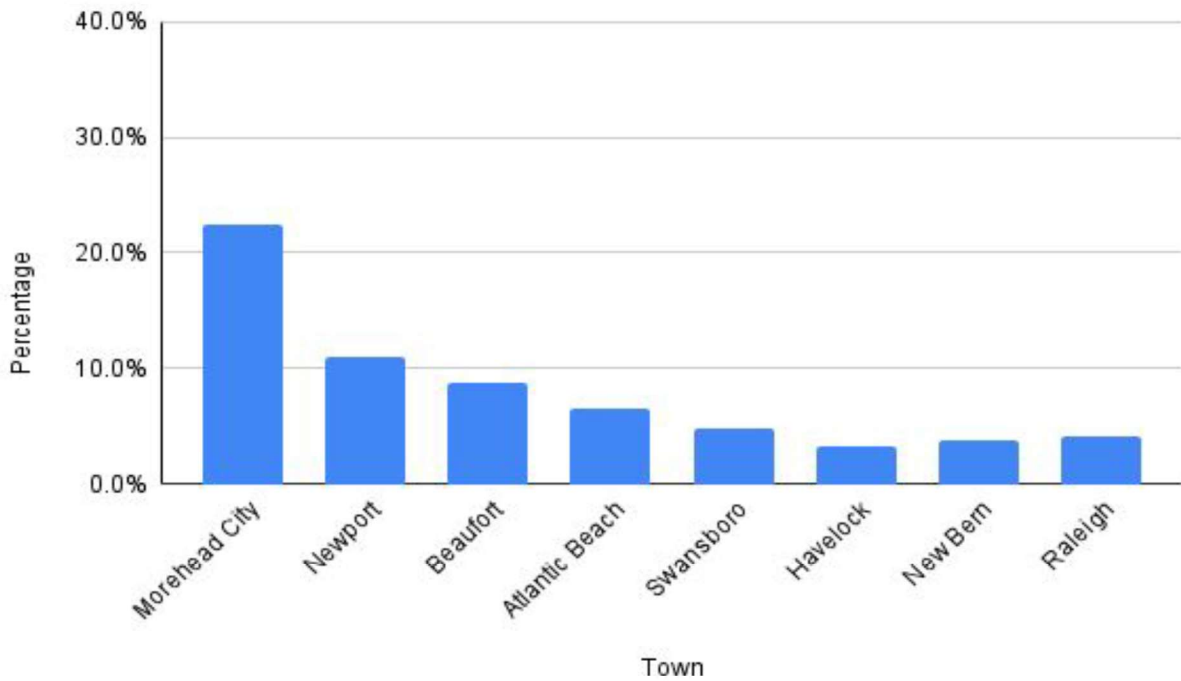
1,300



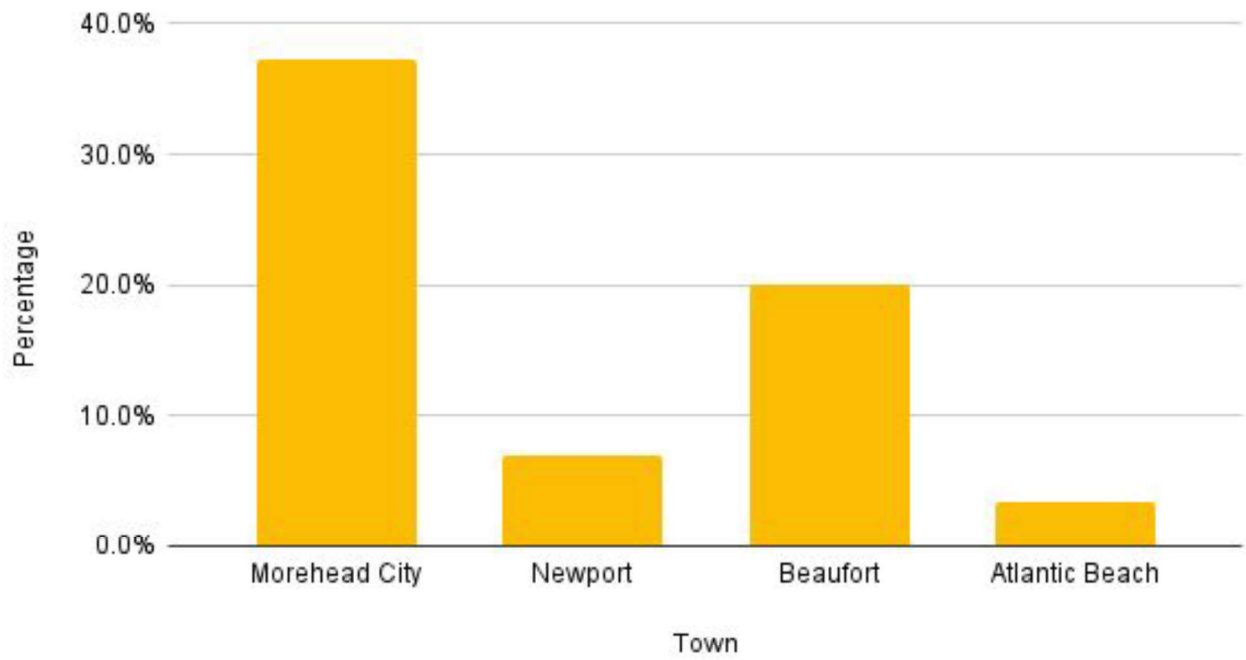
### Morehead Visitor Concentration Over Time



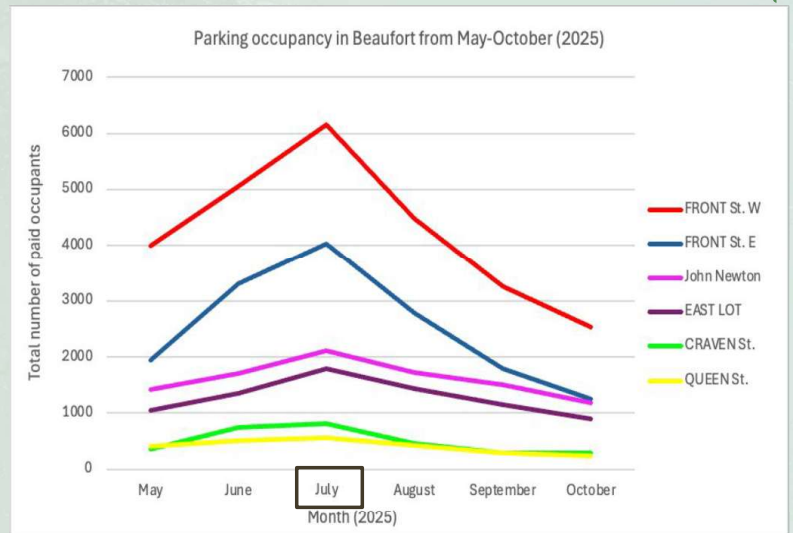
### June 27th Attendee Breakdown



### October 13th Attendee Breakdown

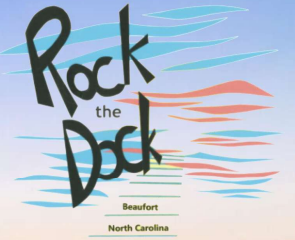


## Town of Beaufort Parking



★ In months with overall lower occupancy, overflow from the loss of West Lot (next to John Newton Park) parking spaces could be mitigated by open spots in larger adjacent zones such as Front Street Parking.

# Recommendations Park Expansion



# Recommendations Children's Amenities

As seen, children are the minority in Beaufort

However, a resounding motif in the surveyed suggestions for "what could make John Newton Park better" included mentions of amenities that promote the presence and enjoyment of children

Young families and community cohesion!



# Recommendations Summary

1. **Extend John Newton Park into the Adjacent Lot**
  - a. Survey results prove that the community wants more green space.
  - b. Supplemental data shows that there may be greater economic opportunities
2. **Consider Hosting Additional Public Events in John Newton Park and the Adjacent Lot**
  - a. Alive at 5 has shown that the community (individuals and businesses) could benefit from additional events on Front Street
  - b. Opportunity for continued collaboration between Duke and the Town of Beaufort



Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Arrival



# Thank You!

## Questions?

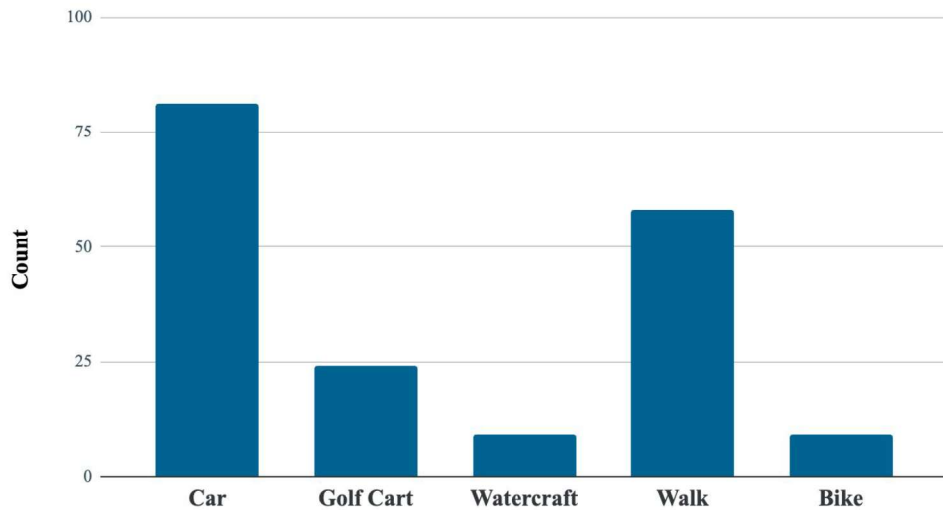


### August 15th Attendee Breakdown

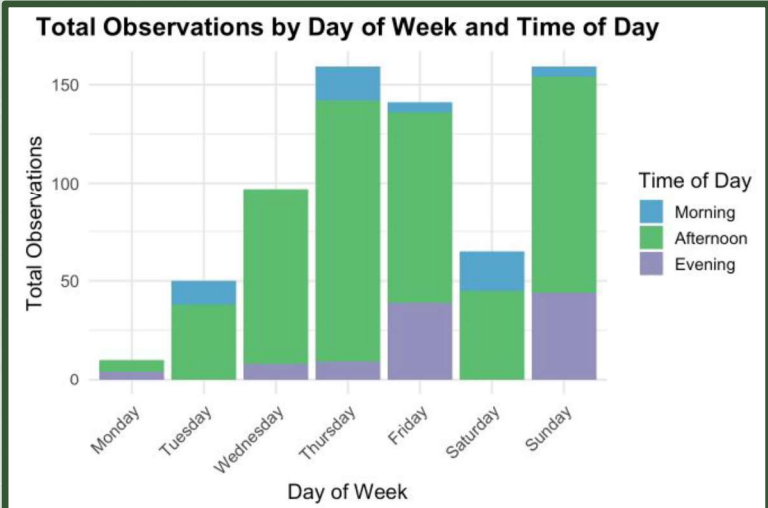
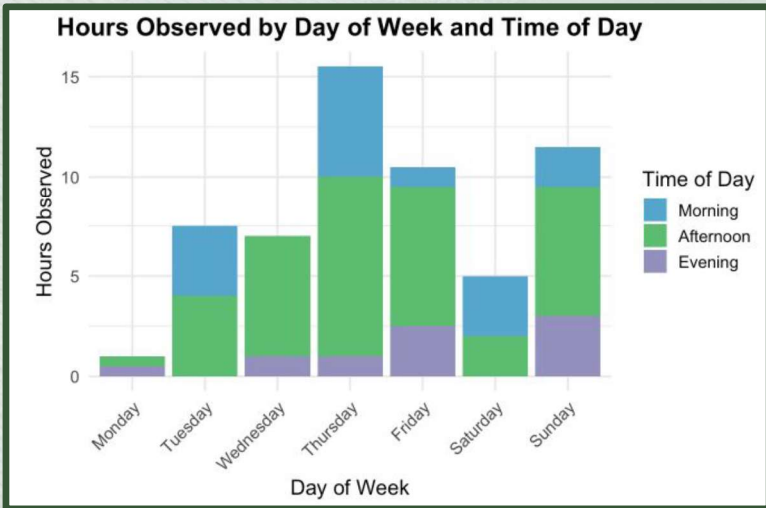


## Appendix - Transportation Downtown

### How do you typically get to downtown Beaufort?



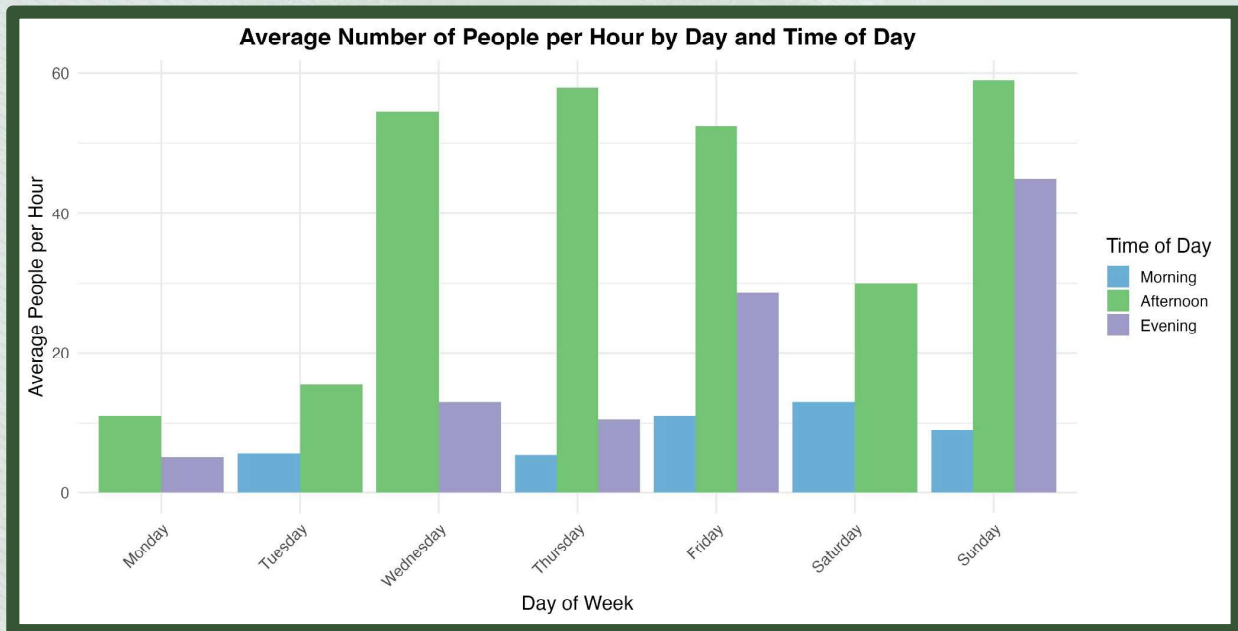
# Appendix - Hours Observed and Total Observations



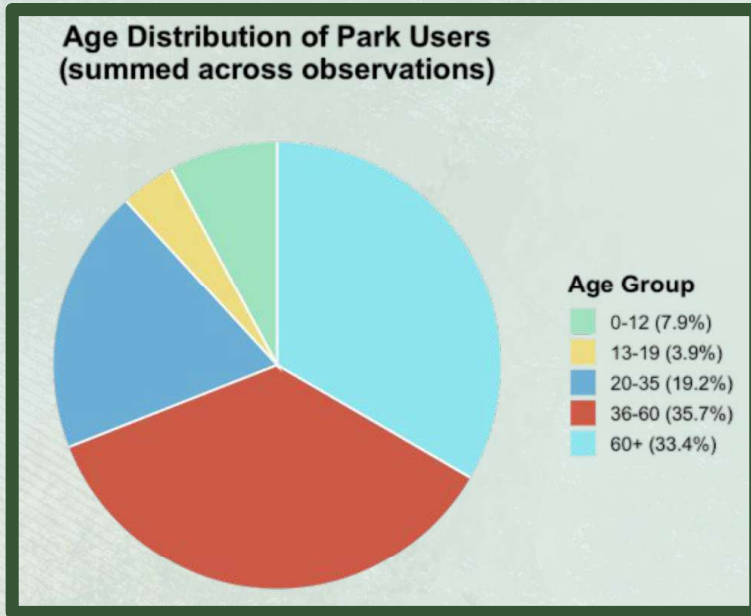
Note: Three out of five Saturday mornings/afternoons were spent conducting surveys. Additionally, our class met Monday and Wednesday mornings, and five out of six students had classes from the morning through the evening on Mondays.



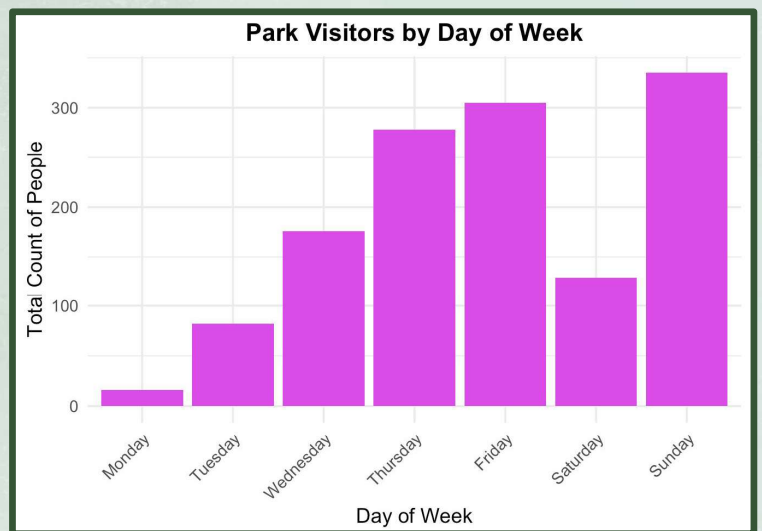
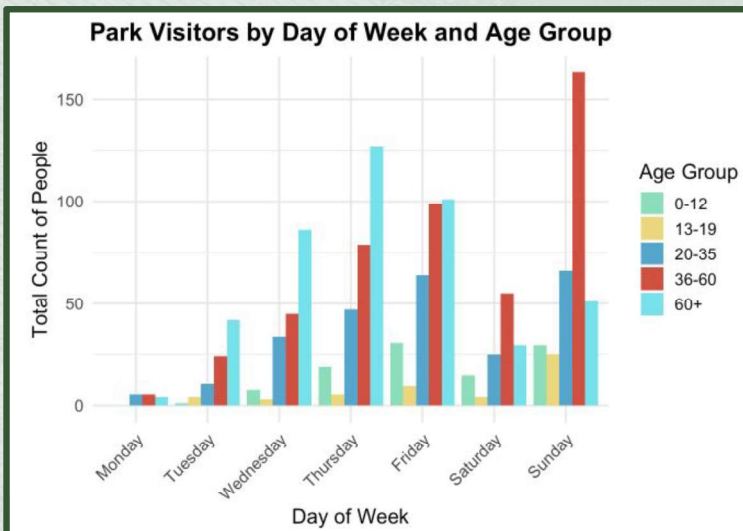
# Appendix - Average # of People Observed Per Hour



# Appendix - Estimated Age Distribution of Observed Park Users



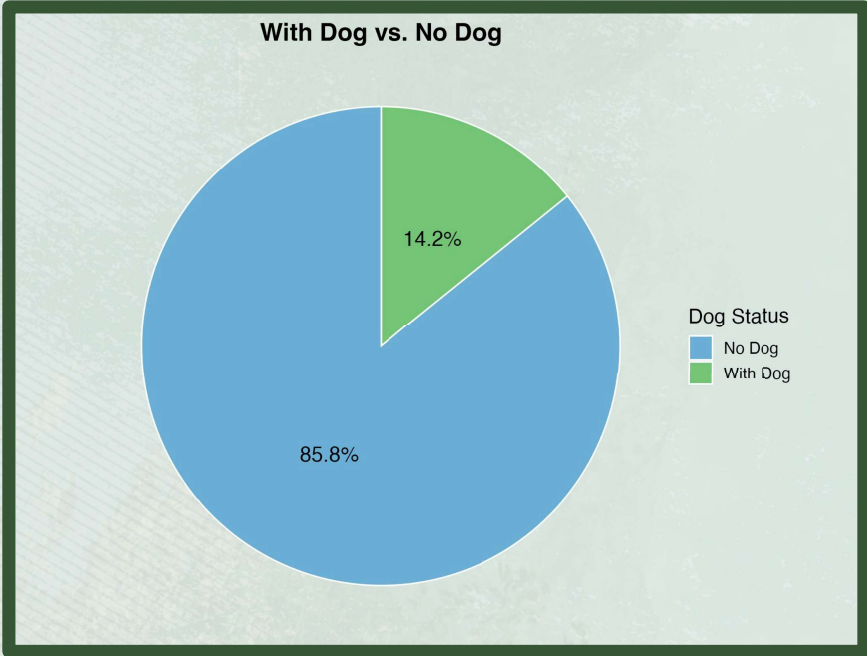
# Appendix - Park Visitors by Day and Age



Note: Three out of five Saturday mornings/afternoons were spent conducting surveys. Additionally, our class met Monday and Wednesday mornings, and five out of six students had classes from the morning through the evening on Mondays.



# Appendix - Groups with Dogs





**Town of Beaufort, NC**

701 Front St. - P.O. Box 390 - Beaufort, N.C. 28516  
252-728-2141 - 252-728-3982 fax - www.beaufortnc.org

**Town of Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board  
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Wednesday, December 03, 2025  
Beaufort Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, Beaufort, NC 28516  
2026 STRATEGIC RETREAT MEETING MINUTES**

---

---

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8 AM by Chair Ron Dupuis

Board Members Present: Chair Ron Dupuis, Vice Chair Doug Williams, Carol Beard, Lora Fasolino, Bruce Mann, Taylor McCune, and Victoria Sullivan

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Town Manager Matt Zapp

Staff Absent: Jennifer Welborn, Community Engagement Director

Elected Officials present: Mayor Sharon Harker

Guests Present: Alesia Sanderson, Parks & Recreation Subject Matter Expert

**8:00 – 8:30 AM**

Facilitator Matt Zapp welcomed the group and opened the retreat. He discussed the retreat’s focus, basic operation goals for the PRAB and what “excellent” would look like at the conclusion of the day. Unfortunately, Community Engagement Director Jen Welborn was unable to attend due to illness.

**8:30 AM – 9:00 AM**

Dr. Liz DeMattia and a group of Duke University Marine Lab students presented findings from John Newton Park Surveys. They covered topics including results of the public engagement findings, community surveys, and feedback from Beaufort locals.

**9:00 – 9:30 AM**

**State of Parks & Recreation – 2025 Snapshot**

Facilitator Matt Zapp led an open conversation surrounding active Town projects, including the USDA funded utility construction, the status of Ann Street Park, and the Eury Park concept. A review of the latest 10- Year Plan (2015 – 2025) also took place.

**9:30 – 9:45 AM**

**Break**

**9:45 – 10:45 AM**

**Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan Review**

Facilitator Matt Zapp led an open conversation of the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan (adopted 04/08/24). A full-time Community Engagement Coordinator now in place for Beaufort. The team discussed Project Priorities (page 68), the Moore Street Water Access project (page 73), Trestle Walk/ Greenway (page 81), Dog Paks (pages 82-83), Community Garden (pages 84-85).

**10:45 – 11:00 AM**

**Break**

Subject Matter Guest/Expert Alesia Sanderson arrived to the retreat.

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Facilitator Matt Zapp welcomed Alesia Sanderson. She introduced herself and shared her 3-plus decades of local Parks & Recreation Management experience. Facilitator Matt Zapp then led an open conversation surrounding Events Programing in Beaufort. The strengths of local volunteers and opportunities for consistency were addressed.

**12:00 – 12:50 PM**

**Working Lunch**

Food catered by Turner Street Market

**12:50 – 1:00 PM**

**Break**

**1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Project Identification and Ranking**

The group identified three top goals for 2026:

- 1. Beaufort Greenway
- 2. Moore Street Water Access
- 3. Events

**2:30 – 2:45 PM**

**Break**

**2:45 PM – 3:50 PM**

The group agreed to perform a deeper dive into special events held in Beaufort: concepts, partners, existing programming, SWOT analysis, and idea generation.

**3:50 – 4:00 PM**

**Closing, Next Steps, and Adjournment**

**What worked well?**

Three top goals were identified.

A clear path forward has been established for the PRAB in 2026.

PRAB will diagnose and update a 10-year plan (in the next year).

PRAB Chair Ronald Dupuis adjourned exactly at 4:00 PM.

**MINUTES PRODUCED BY MATT ZAPP**

**See attachments.**

**Event Notes:**

**PRAB 2026 “Green Light” PRIORITIES**

**1. Beaufort Greenway**

- a. Funding for this project will be widely variable and likely phased.
- b. A small group of PRAB team members agreed to focus on this area:
  - Ronald Dupuis – Chair
  - Bruce Mann
  - Lora Fasolino

**2. Moore Street Water Access**

- a. Costs for this project will be reviewed by town staff
- b. Funding Ideas Include
  - RCCP, CAMA, Beaufort Community Development Foundation which may include a (50/50 match with Parks Reserve Funds.

**3. Events (PRAB)**

- a. A desire to reestablish Rock the Docks in 2026
- b. A small group of PRAB team members agreed to focus on this area:
  - Carol Beaird
  - Taylor McCune
  - Victoria Sullivan
- c. Jen Welborn will be asked to develop a non-government organization (NGO) event evaluation list and report for the PRAB (January or February 2026).

**4. Research All Recreation Programs in the Beaufort Area**

**5. Replace Water Fountain at John Newton Park**

- a. Both fountains are working as designed.
- b. Water was shut off for the winter 2025/2026 to avoid issues with freezing.

**6. Research/Assign a Volunteer Coordinator**

- a. Community Engagement Director Jen Welborn will serve as the Beaufort Volunteer Coordinator

**7. ToB/PRAB Town Operation Calendar (to help educate PRAB team)**

- a. “Project SOP”
- b. Matt Zapp and Jen Welborn will work on this task.

**8. PRAB to Develop a Fresh 10-Year Plan (in 2026)**

**9. Celebrate Ann Street**

**10. Access to PRAB Data**

- a. Enhance the town’s online data and search bar capability
- b. Consider a drop box or single location for all Parks related data

**11. Add the PRAB January 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting to ToB Calendar**

- a. Done per Jen Welborn

**12. Physical Park Tours**

- a. Tuesday tours to local parks for members of the PRAB
- b. Matt Zapp and Jen Welborn will attend

**13. Invite Guests to Visit PRAB meetings in 2026**

- a. BHA, BHA, F3, Boys & Girls Club, BES, BMS...

**PRAB IDEAS**

**1. Moore Street Water Access**

**2. Trestle Walk**

**3. Dog Park**

- Questions/Options:
  - Help Freedom Park?
  - New ToB Dog Park?
  - Partner with private entity?

**4. Community Garden**

- Identify a new partner that will consistently support the Community Garden
  - Enhance existing community gardens
  - Potential Partners: BES, BHA, Garden Club, Boys & Girls Club, Lynn Hurley.

**5. Events (General Ideas)**

- BBA, BHA, Chamber
- Kids/Teens
- Volunteers/Ambassadors
- Rock the Docks is of HIGH INTEREST to the PRAB
- Art Walk

**6. Welcome Desk/ Visitors Center**

- Manned by volunteers at Town Hall

**7. West Beaufort – Natural Trails, Kayak**

- Kayak storage + launch

**8. Trail Around Airport**

- Bike/Walk Connection from Beaufort Club to Downtown

**9. Research All Rec Programming availability in/around Beaufort**

- Jen Welborn to lead this activity; seek input from Commissioner LoPiccolo
- Review & compile what's available

**10. Multi-Modal Lanes**

- Live Oak & Cedar to connect North & South

**ANN STREET PARK- Take Aways of the Process**

- **Town Staff Expertise is a POSITIVE**
  - Engineer, Public Works, PIO, etc.
- **Drop-ins / Community Conversations are working well**
  - Represented the Town of Beaufort vision
- **Town Leaders’ Vision**
  - “Keep it Public.”
- **Volunteer Group Representative Participated**

**EVENTS**

1. **Develop a Master Calendar ✓**
2. **Rock the Docks ✓**
3. **Jen Welborn to evaluate existing Beaufort Area events**
  - Assess: **POC, Status, Risk**
  - Includes: small chart sketch with green/yellow/red shading
4. **PRAB to review event analysis in Q1 2026**
  - Months: **January, February, March**

**BEAUFORT EVENTS**

**Annual / Recurring Events**

- Christmas Parade
- Mardi Gras
- Pirate Drop (12/31) — *Becky & Kris (The Wink)*
- Pirate Invasion

- Rock the Docks
- Train Show
- Candlelight Tour
- July 4 Parade
- July 4 Ice Cream Social
- Chander — NCMM Friends
- BHA Events (box):
  - Summer Party
  - Fall
  - Volunteer Picnic
  - Old Homes
  - Jumble Sale
  - CCA(?) Show
  - Easter Egg

**Other Events**

- Flotilla
- Wine & Food
- Crabcake Cookoff (NCMM Friends)
- Wooden Boat Show
- Oyster Roast (BBHF)
- Music Festival — *May '26*
- Art Walk
- Ice Rink @ BFT Hotel?
- OBFM Christmas Market
- Business After Hours & Wing-Off (NCMM Friends) — *Oct*
- Pet Photos w/ Santa — Lions Club
- **Fireworks** — *Gallants Channel*
- **Easter Egg Hunt '26**

**An Excellent Retreat...**

- Clear path forward
- Activities / Action Steps
- Diagnose the **2015–2025 Plan**
- New Ideas
- Narrow Focus / Funnel
- Start to Finish (Plan / SOP)
  - Noted: “0–18 months”
- Measurable Goals / Assignments
- Municipal Cycle / Timeline
- Team Strengths

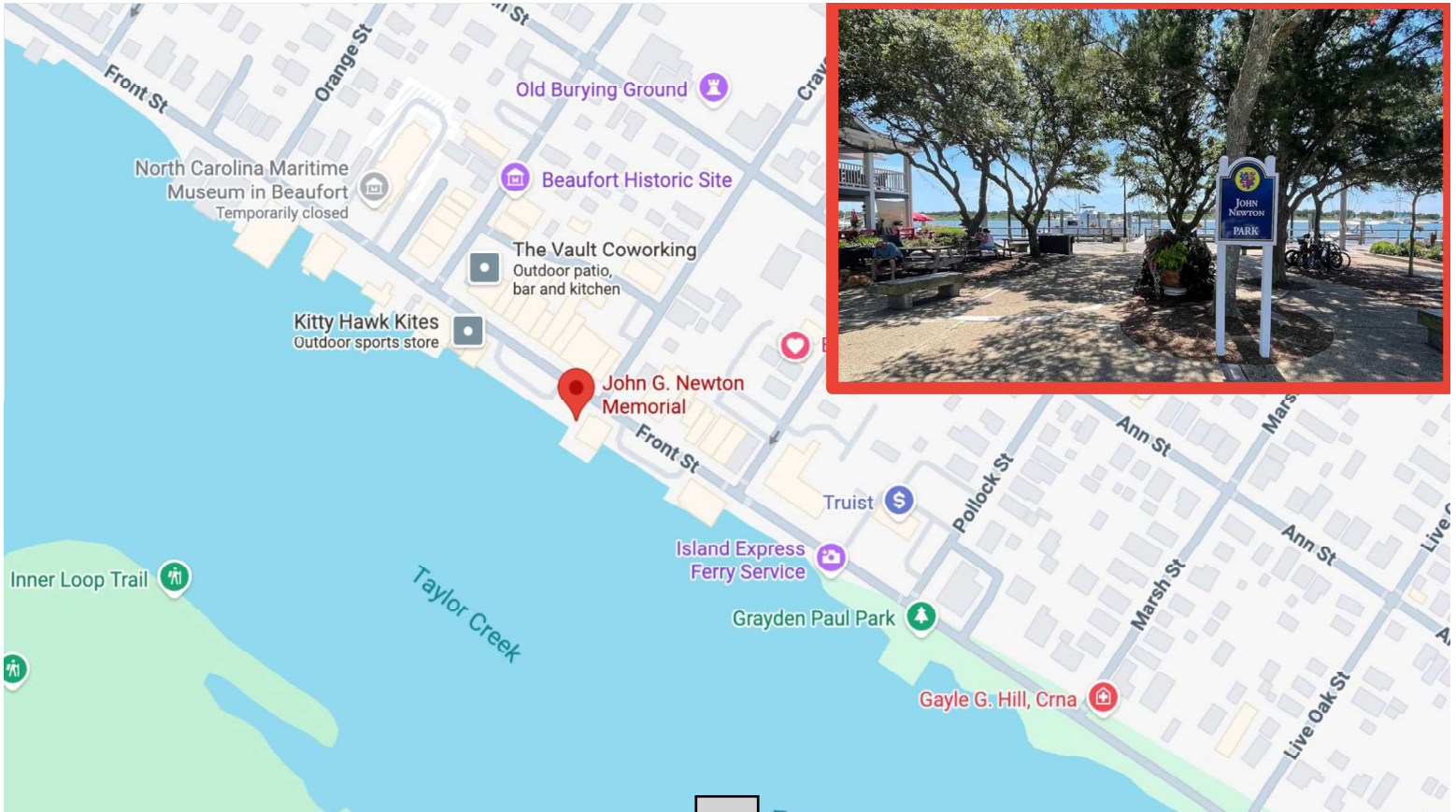
**PARKING LOT ITEMS**

- **Placer.ai** – Tracking tool
- **Rock the Docks (Food)** – Partner with brick & mortar
- **Communication Enhancements:**
  - Porch Talks
  - App
  - Text
  - Email list
- **Donated/Grant Funds = Process?**
- **Community Garden**
- **Update Bike Route (& Signage)** – “Rogue?”
- **Private Donor Funding**
- **Volunteer Coordinator**
- **Community Calendar – Filter by Category**



# John Newton Park Usage Study

Tori Newton, Alice Daeschler, Meredith Langmuir, Mason Ibrahim, Jeremy Sabol, and Anna Marie Hunt



# Presentation At A Glance

**01 Methods**  
Observational survey, in-person survey, and supplemental data

**03 Recommendations**  
Actions to move forward

**02 Results**  
Data analysis and main findings, including supplemental data


**04 Summary**  
Main takeaways from the project




## Observational Survey

We observed for a total of **58** hours from Friday 10/17 to Thursday 11/13

Data was collected during the:

 **Morning (before 12:00 pm)**

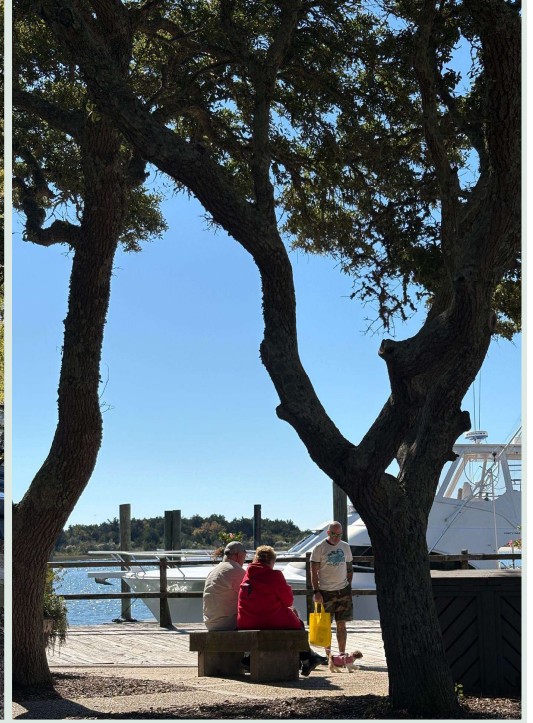
 **Afternoon (12:00 pm-4:30 pm)**

 **Evening (after 4:30 pm)**





# Observational Survey



# In-Person Survey

**01** John Newton Park Saturday 11/1

**02** Beaufort Farmers Market Saturday 11/8

**03** John Newton Park Sunday 11/16

**04** Posted on the **Town website**, on the **Town's Facebook page**, and in the mid-month **Sunshine News blast**





# Supplemental Data

01



Alive at Five Summer Concert Series

02



Town of Beaufort Parking Data



# Results - Observational Survey

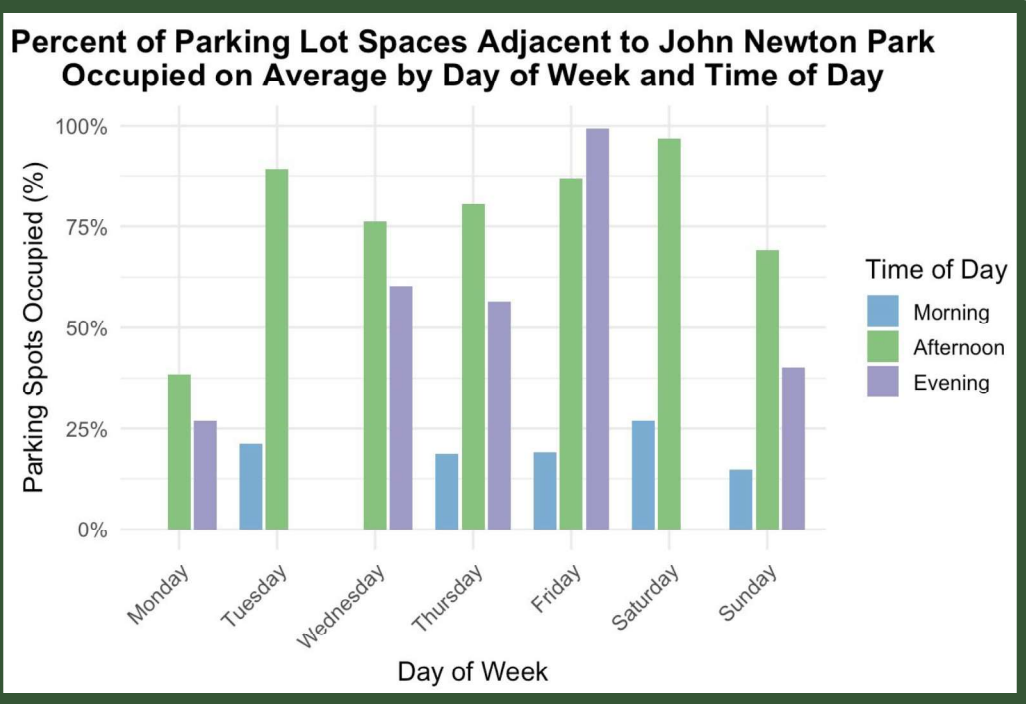
Activities People Did in the Park

Activity	Counts	% of Observations
Passing Through	401	58.9
Sitting Down / Resting	143	21.0
Walking Dog	97	14.2
Looking At The Water	53	7.8
Standing	43	6.3
Under Shade	35	5.1
Other	33	4.8
Looking At Signage	26	3.8
Eating	20	2.9
Playing	15	2.2
Looking At Flowers	11	1.6



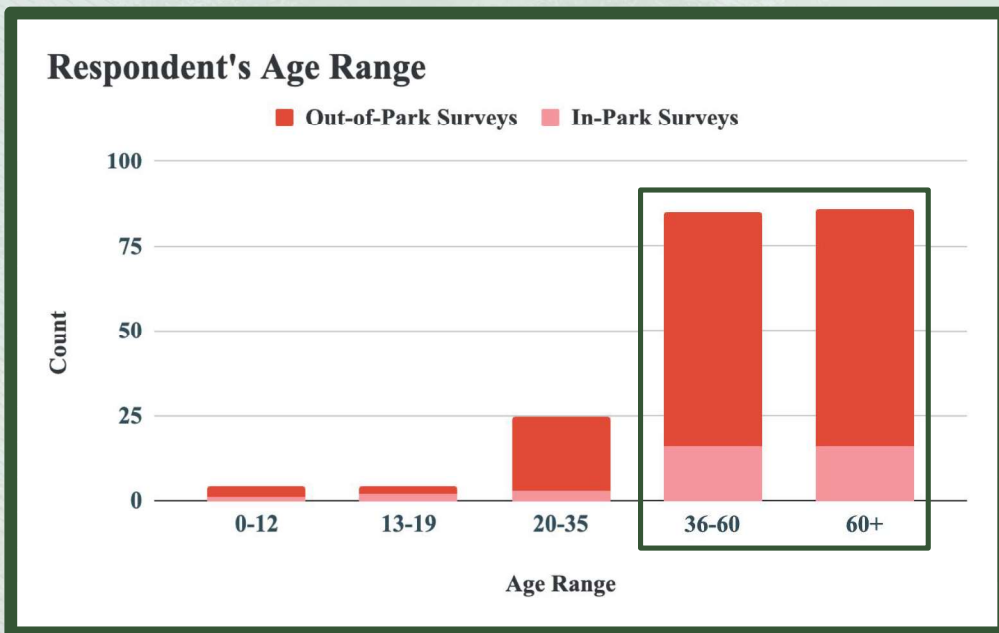
# Results - Observational

## Summary



# Results - In-person Survey

## Demographics

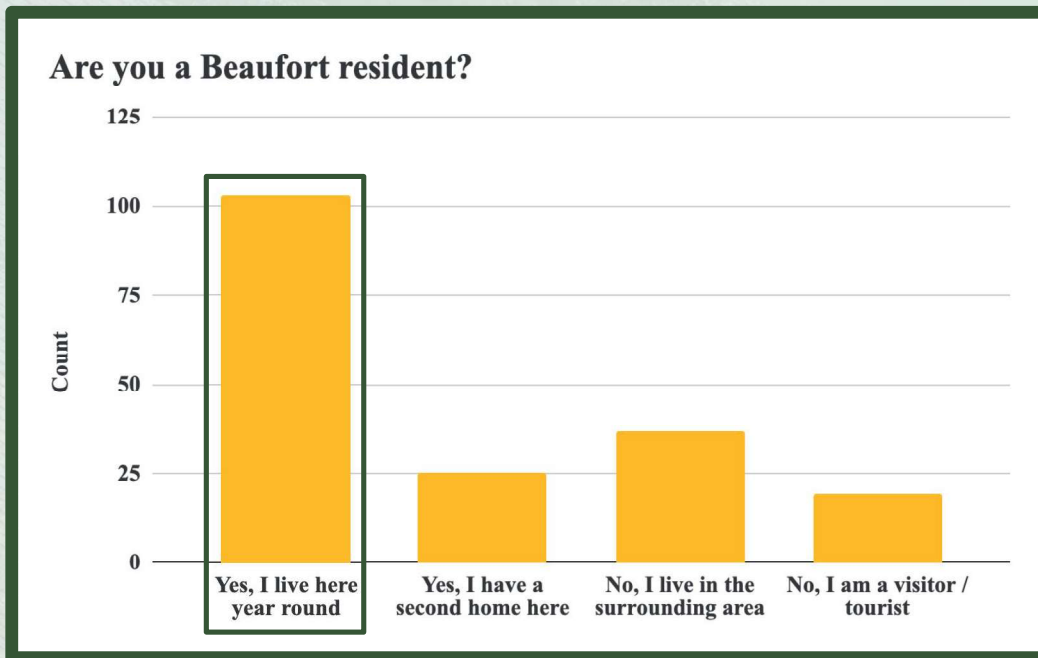


N = 190



# Results - In-person Survey

## Demographics

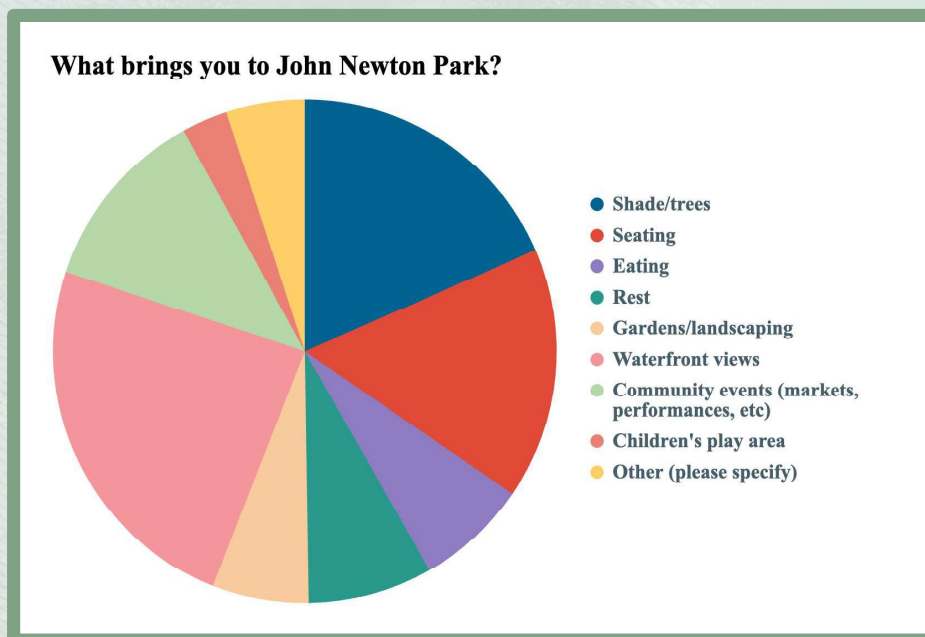


N = 190



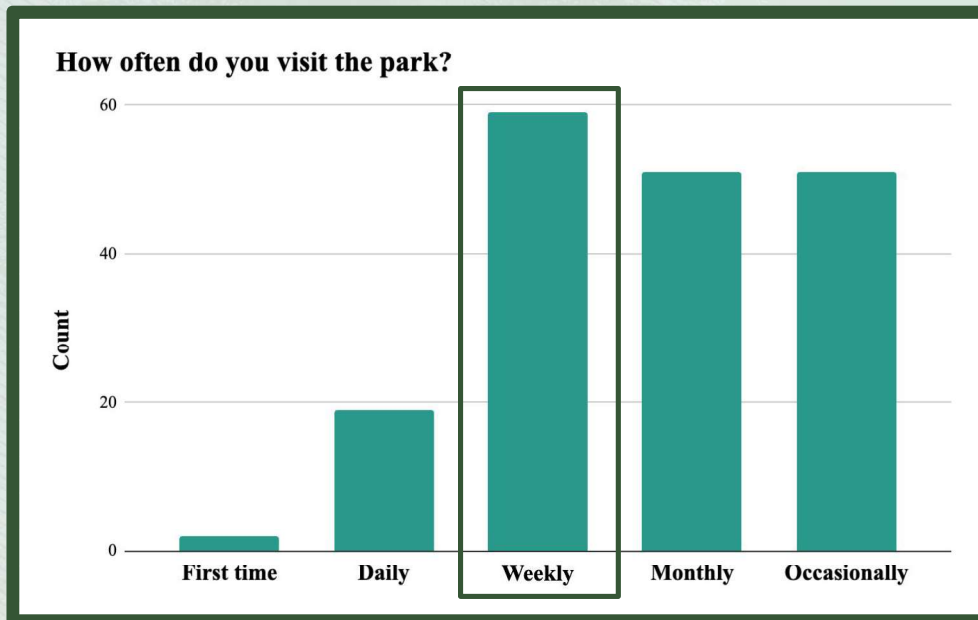
# Results - In-person Survey

## Park Usage



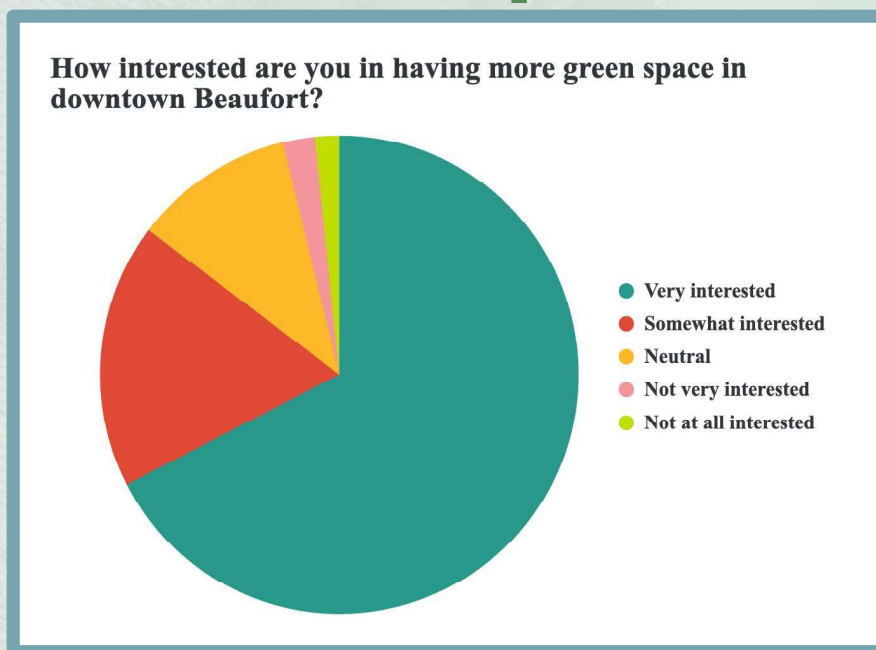
# Results - In-person Survey

## Park Usage



# Results - In-person Survey

## Green Space





# Alive at 5 Summer Concert Series

“Enjoy free, family-friendly concerts in Katherine Davis Park from 5-8pm during the summer and fall. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and kids to listen to great music!”



## Alive at Five Summer Concert Series

Placer.ai Tracking Data

June 27th

Total Visitors

2,700

August 15th

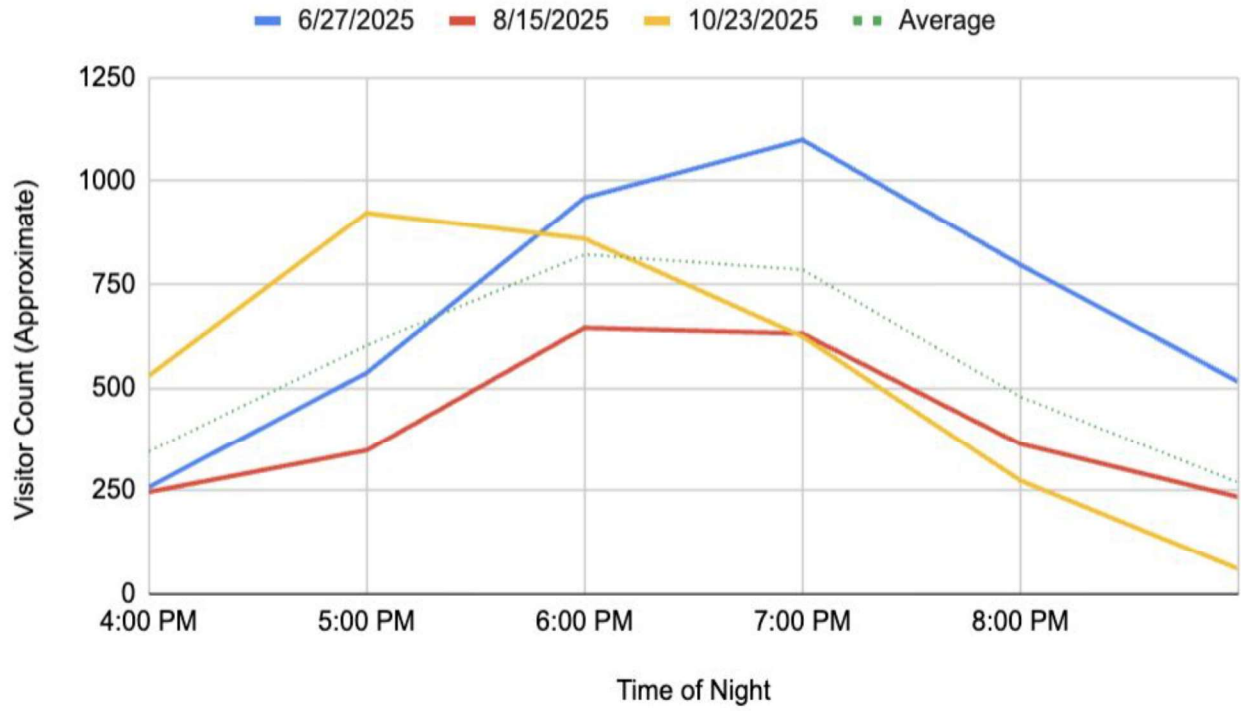
1,800

October 13th

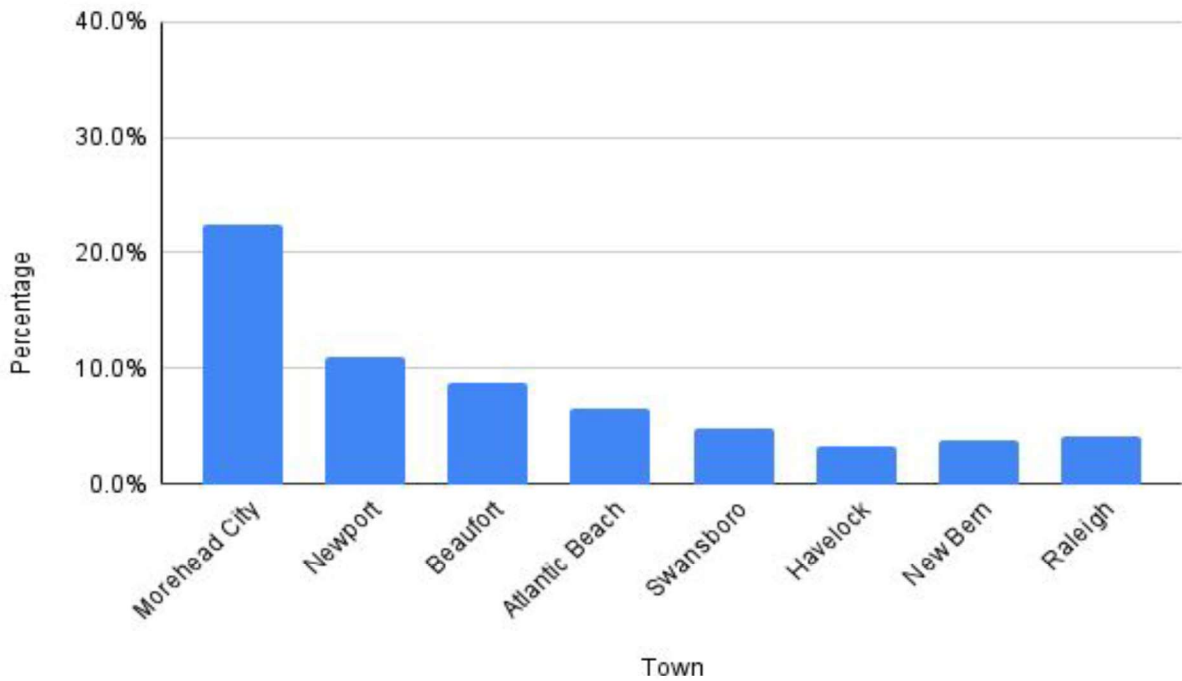
1,300



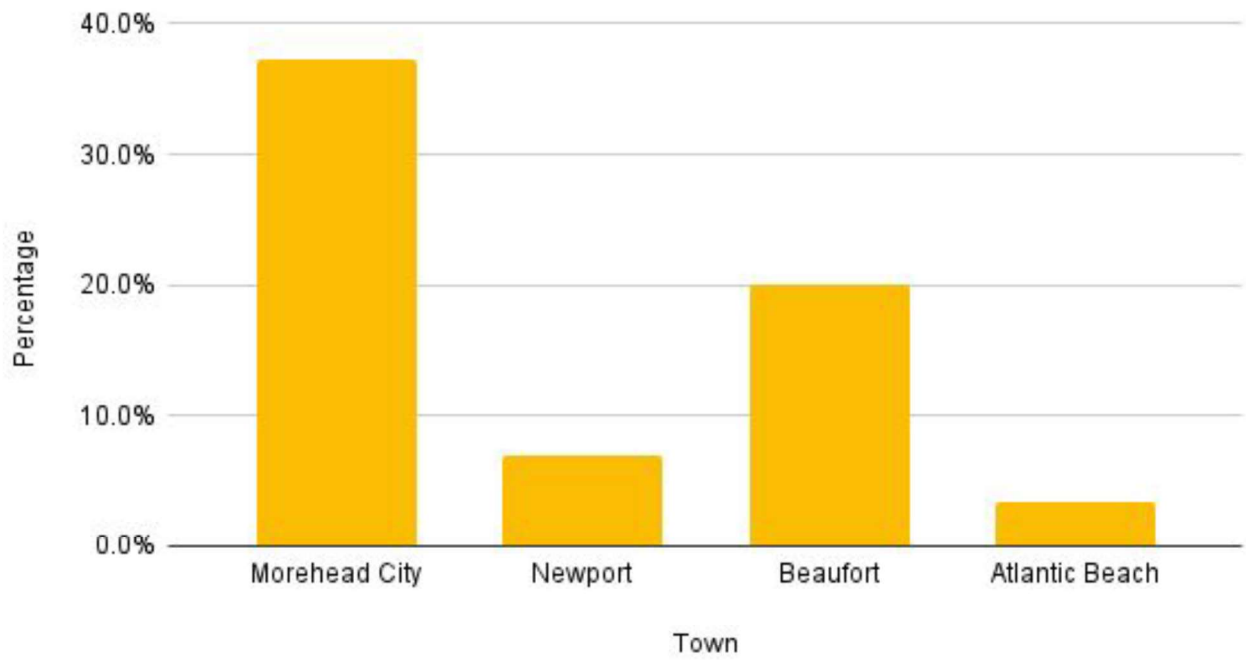
### Morehead Visitor Concentration Over Time



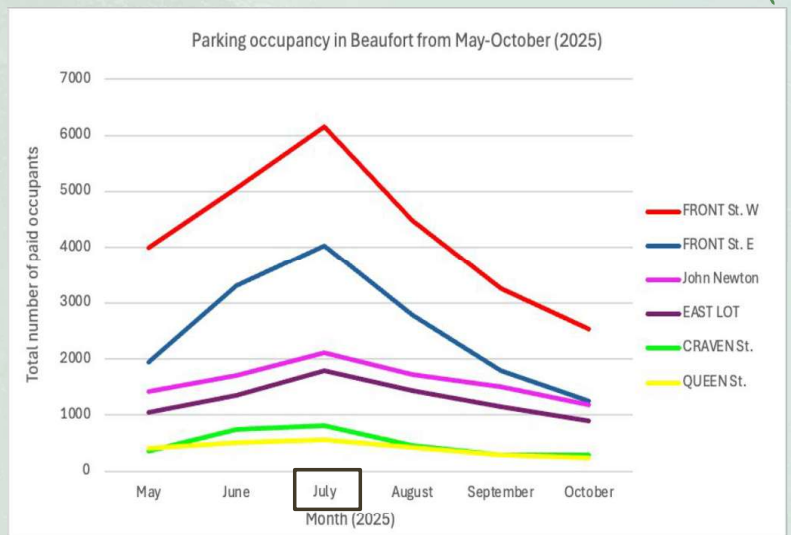
### June 27th Attendee Breakdown



### October 13th Attendee Breakdown

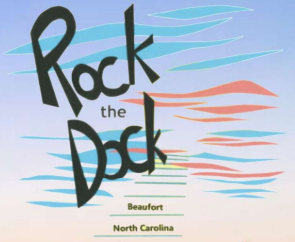


## Town of Beaufort Parking



★ In months with overall lower occupancy, overflow from the loss of West Lot (next to John Newton Park) parking spaces could be mitigated by open spots in larger adjacent zones such as Front Street Parking.

# Recommendations Park Expansion



# Recommendations Children's Amenities

As seen, children are the minority in Beaufort

However, a resounding motif in the surveyed suggestions for "what could make John Newton Park better" included mentions of amenities that promote the presence and enjoyment of children

Young families and community cohesion!



# Recommendations Summary

1. **Extend John Newton Park into the Adjacent Lot**
  - a. Survey results prove that the community wants more green space.
  - b. Supplemental data shows that there may be greater economic opportunities
2. **Consider Hosting Additional Public Events in John Newton Park and the Adjacent Lot**
  - a. Alive at 5 has shown that the community (individuals and businesses) could benefit from additional events on Front Street
  - b. Opportunity for continued collaboration between Duke and the Town of Beaufort



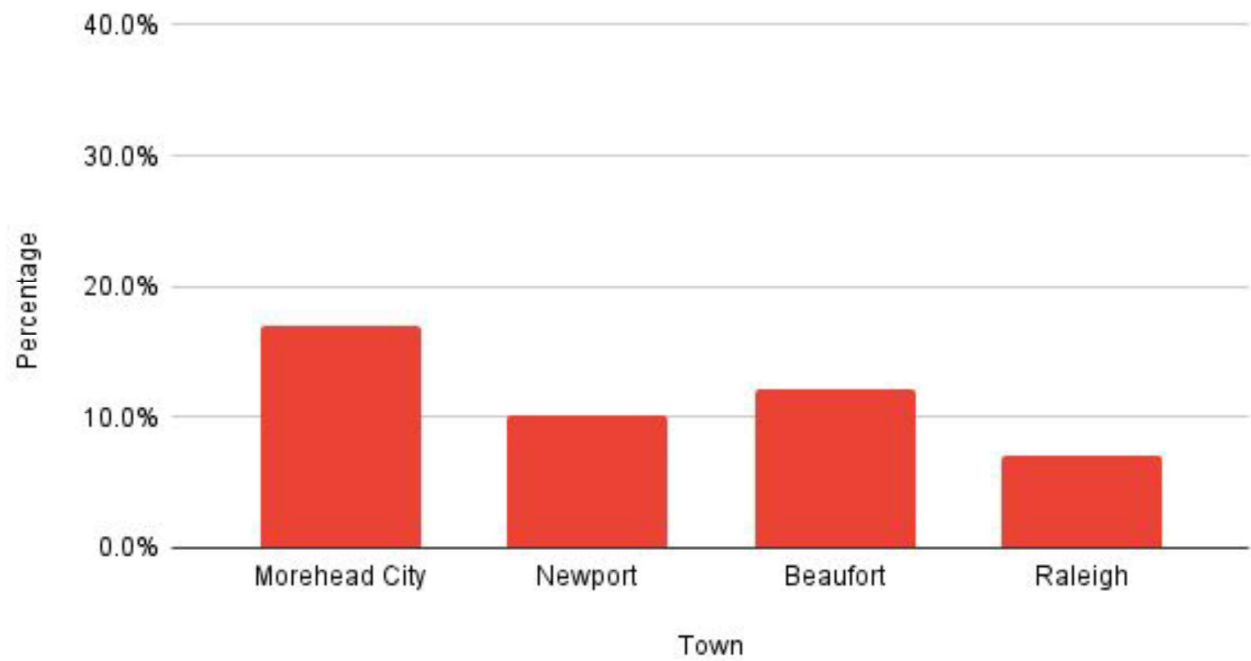
Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Arrival

# Thank You!

## Questions?

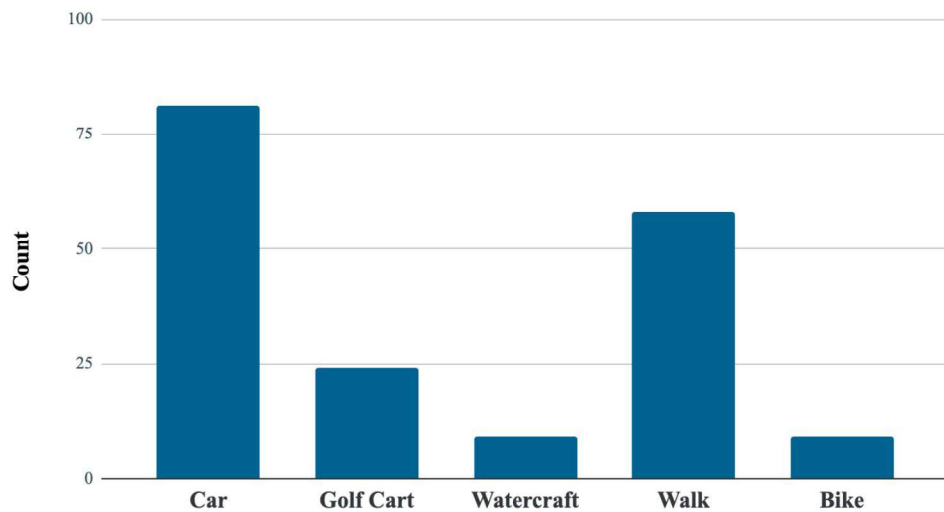


### August 15th Attendee Breakdown

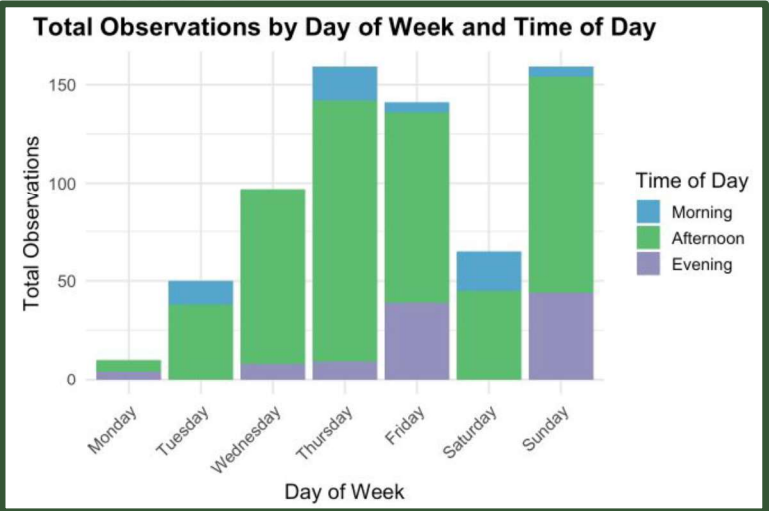
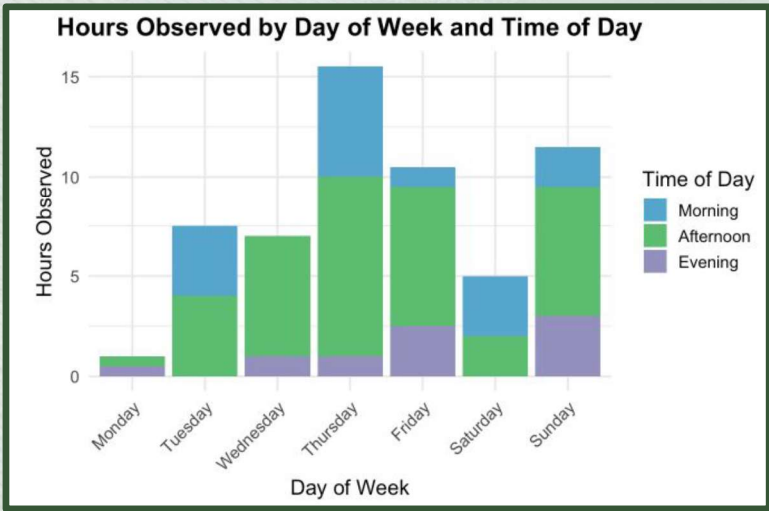


## Appendix - Transportation Downtown

### How do you typically get to downtown Beaufort?



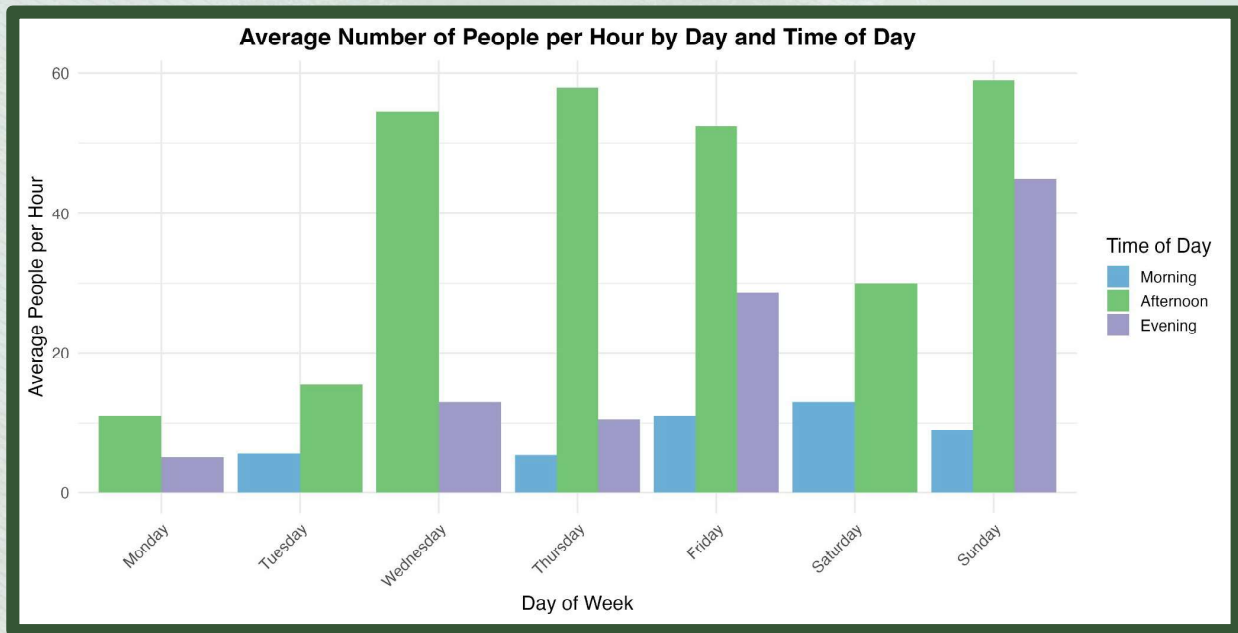
# Appendix - Hours Observed and Total Observations



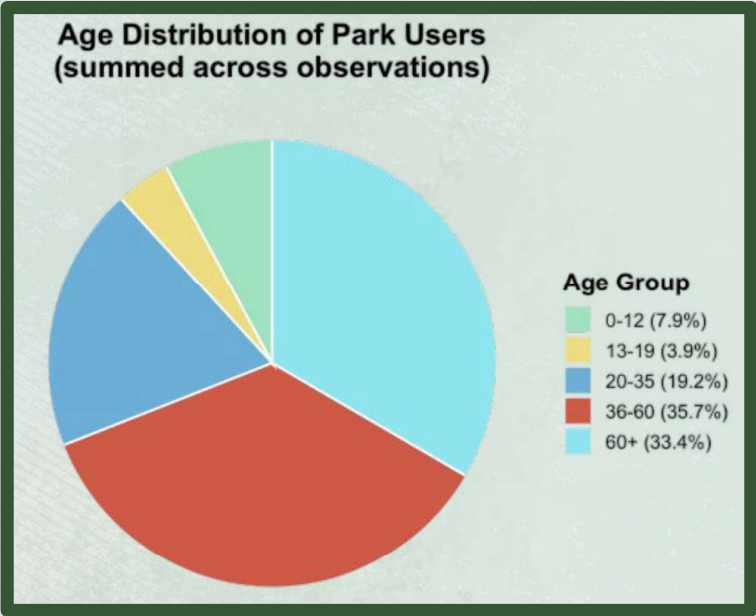
Note: Three out of five Saturday mornings/afternoons were spent conducting surveys. Additionally, our class met Monday and Wednesday mornings, and five out of six students had classes from the morning through the evening on Mondays.



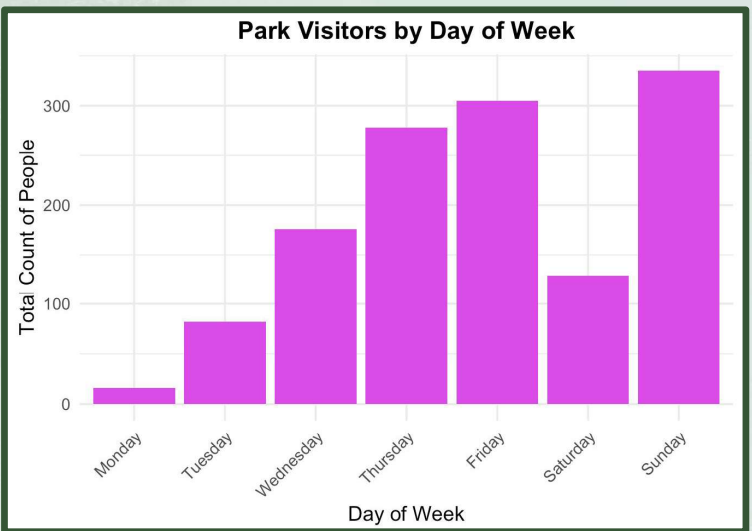
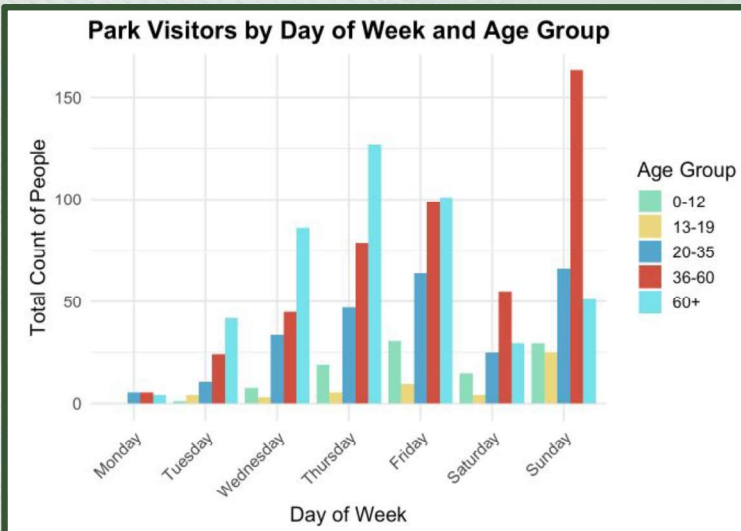
# Appendix - Average # of People Observed Per Hour



# Appendix - Estimated Age Distribution of Observed Park Users



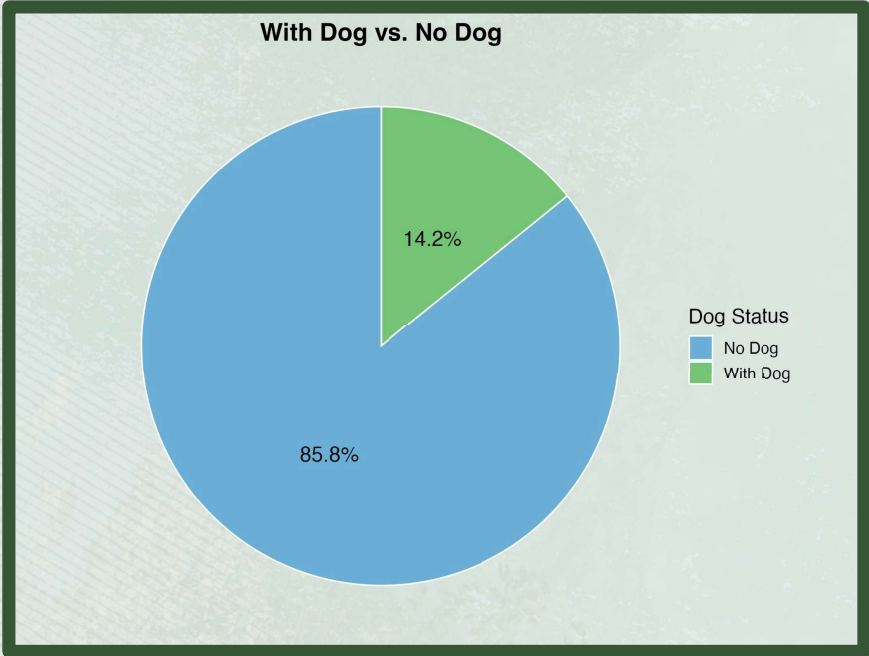
# Appendix - Park Visitors by Day and Age



Note: Three out of five Saturday mornings/afternoons were spent conducting surveys. Additionally, our class met Monday and Wednesday mornings, and five out of six students had classes from the morning through the evening on Mondays.

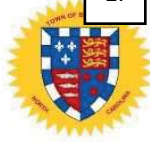


# Appendix - Groups with Dogs





# Beaufort Parks and Recreation Advisory Board 10-Year Planning



## “Beaufort has never been better!”

### Objectives



- Enhance current Beaufort parks
- Develop plans for future Beaufort parks
- Increase Beaufort walkability and bike-ability
- Improve Beaufort water access capabilities
- Identify and resolve safety concerns
- Develop policy to make Beaufort a world-class town for citizens, visitors and commerce

### Objectives



- Enhance current Beaufort parks
- Develop plans for future Beaufort parks
- **Increase Beaufort walkability and bike-ability**
- Improve Beaufort water access capabilities
- Identify and resolve safety concerns
- Develop policy to make Beaufort a world-class town for citizens, visitors and commerce

### Objective



- Make town more walkable and bike-able by
  - Fully understanding connectivity challenges
  - Exploring funding requirements and options
  - Identifying low-cost projects that can have high impact in the near term
  - Prioritizing projects in ten-year plan through 2025

### Why?



- Beaufort transportation infrastructure is currently tailored toward motorized transit
- Walking from one section of town to another section can be challenging and/or risky
- Making Beaufort more walkable and bike-able
  - Makes the town a more attractive destination
  - Expands commerce potential
  - Provides additional fitness opportunities
  - **Enhances community safety**

# Assumptions



- Planning is based on an FY2018 projection to consider new traffic patterns
- Limited revenue demands a thoughtful plan over a ten-year period

# What is Walkable?



- A community culture that embraces walking
- Enhanced transit with sidewalks and/or paths that are obstruction free and ADA compliant
- Safe crosswalks at all major intersections
- Safe routes to school
- Safe routes between residential, commercial and recreational sectors

# What is Bike-able?



- A community culture that fully embraces bikes for commerce, leisure and recreation
- Safe paths and designated routes to enhance transit



# Step 1: Fully Understanding Connectivity Challenges

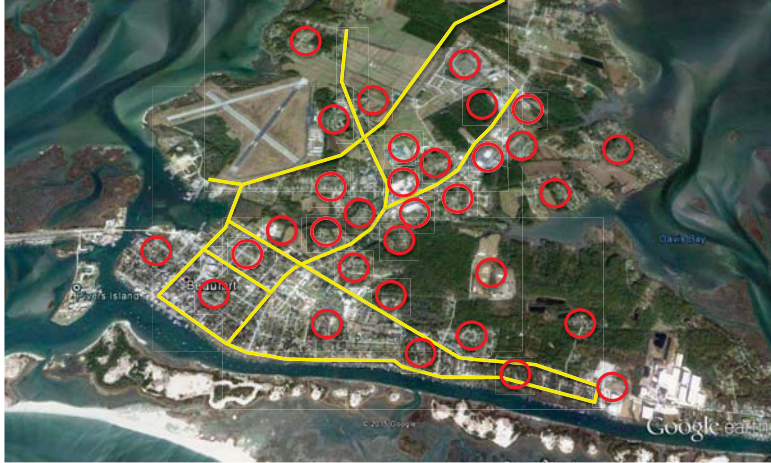
## Major Motorized Arteries



## Who Owns Arteries



### Town Nodes



### Intersections of Interest



### Add Safe Routes to Schools



### Safety Concerns

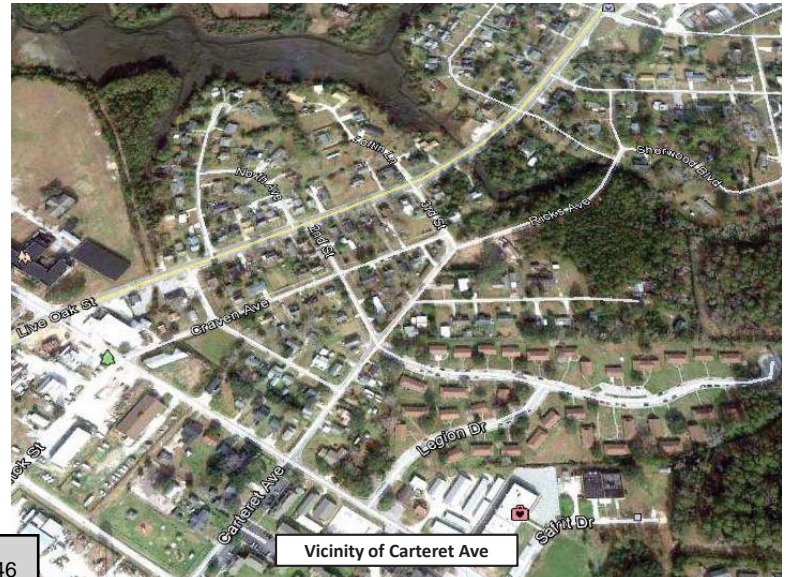


- Corner of Live Oak St and Campen Rd
- Vicinity of Carteret Ave

### CVS Intersection



Corner of Campen Rd and Live Oak St



Vicinity of Carteret Ave



CVS Intersection

Corner of Campen Rd and Live Oak St



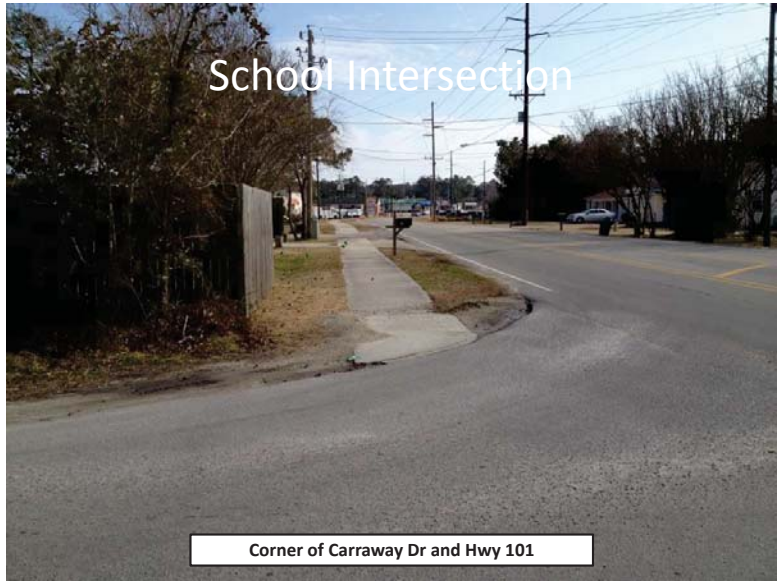
School Intersection

Corner of Carraway Dr and Campen Rd



School Intersection

View in front of Beaufort Elementary School looking west along Carraway Dr



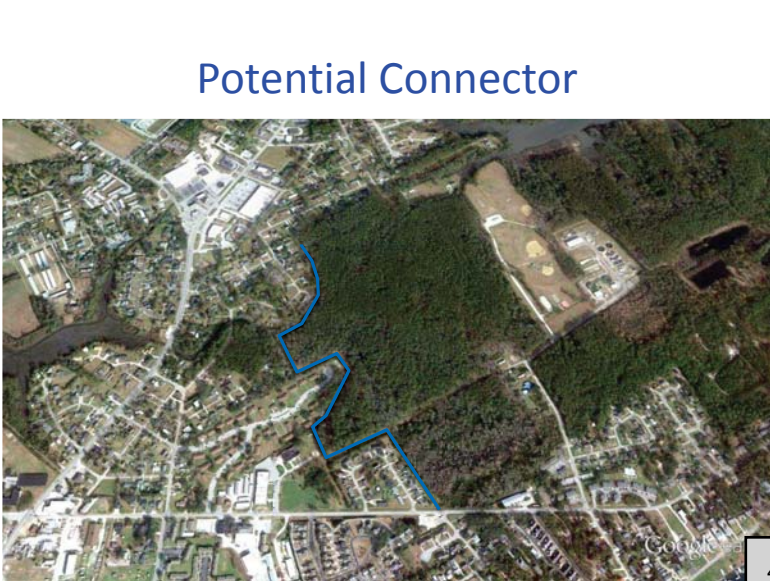
School Intersection

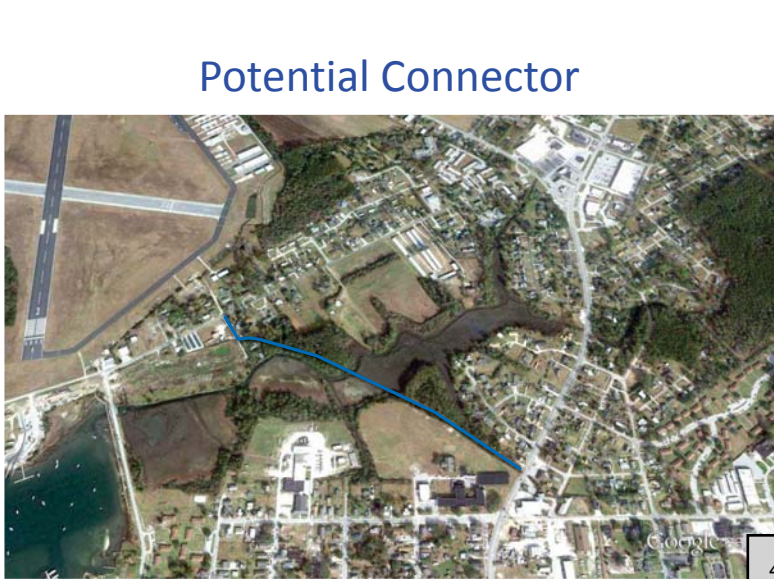
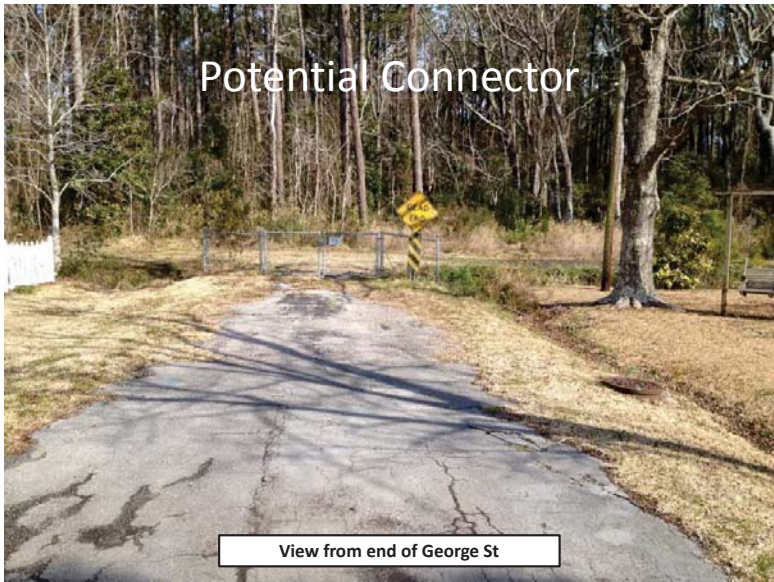
Corner of Carraway Dr and Hwy 101

### Beaufort Sidewalks



No Ramps







Potential Connector

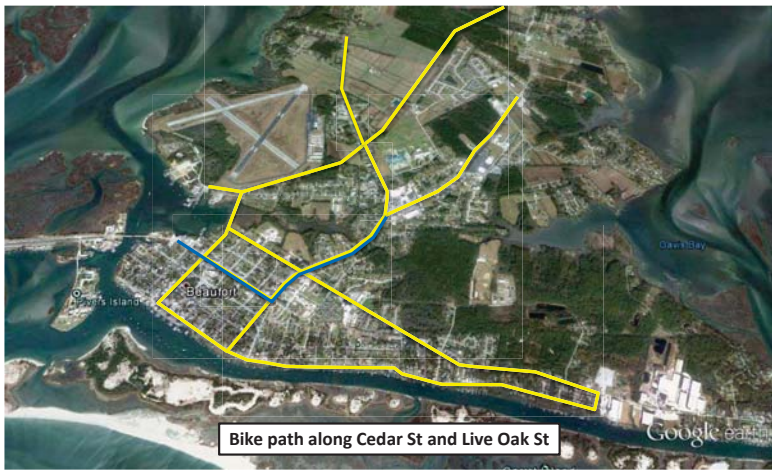
View of old train trestle



Potential Connector

View of Stanton Dr

### Potential Bike Path



Bike path along Cedar St and Live Oak St



Bike Path Start

View from corner of Moore St and Cedar St



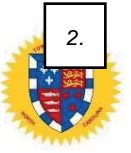
Bike Path Continuation

View of end of sidewalk along Live Oak St



## Step 2: Exploring Funding Requirements and Options

## Approximate Costs



- Length of sidewalk
- Length of asphalt path
- Ramp and crosswalk
- Tactile markings
- Complete intersection (ADA compliant)
- Major intersection with pedestrian signals (ADA compliant)

## Step 3: Identifying Low-Cost Projects That Can Have High Impact in the Near-Term



## Step 4: Prioritizing Projects in a Ten-Year Plan Through 2025

## Ten Year Overview

- FY2016 Policy development
- FY2016-2020 Improve current paths
- FY2017 Improve major intersections
- FY2018-2025 Add walking and bike paths

## FY2016



- Policy development
  - Incorporate best practices from programs like Watch for Me and Complete Streets tailored to the needs and resources of Beaufort
  - Explore requiring home builders to install sidewalks
- Improve current paths
  - Using a thoughtful plan, continue to improve existing infrastructure

## Current Paths



## FY2017



- Improve current paths
- Improve major intersections

## Major Intersections

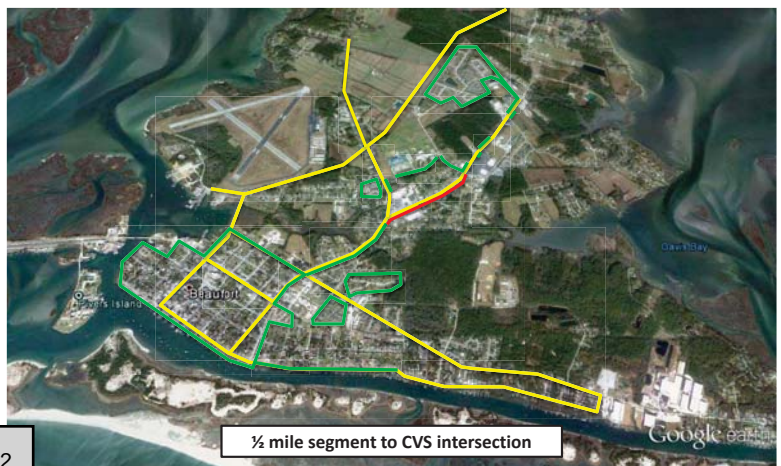


## FY2018-FY2020

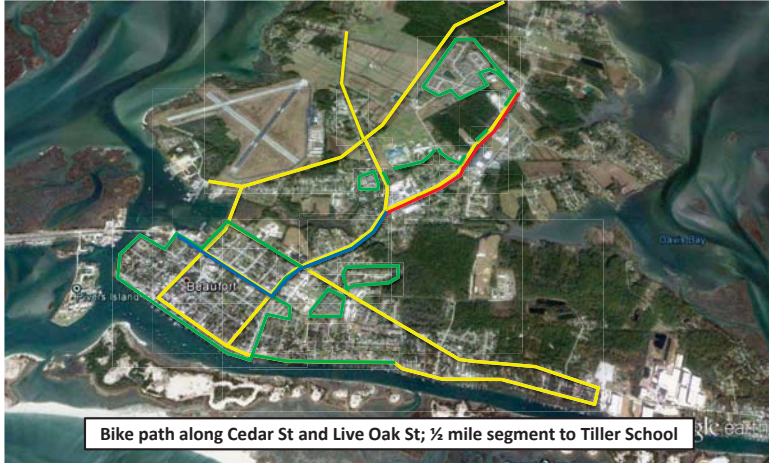


- Improve current paths
- Add walking and bike paths

## FY2018



### FY2019



### FY2020

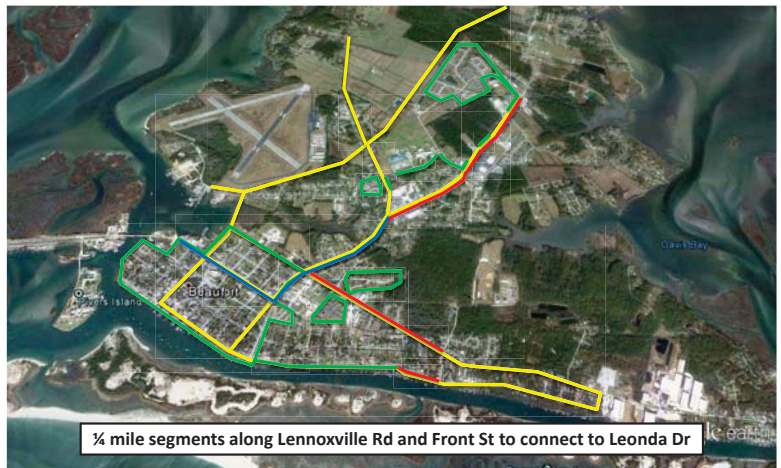


### FY2021-FY2025



- Add walking and bike paths

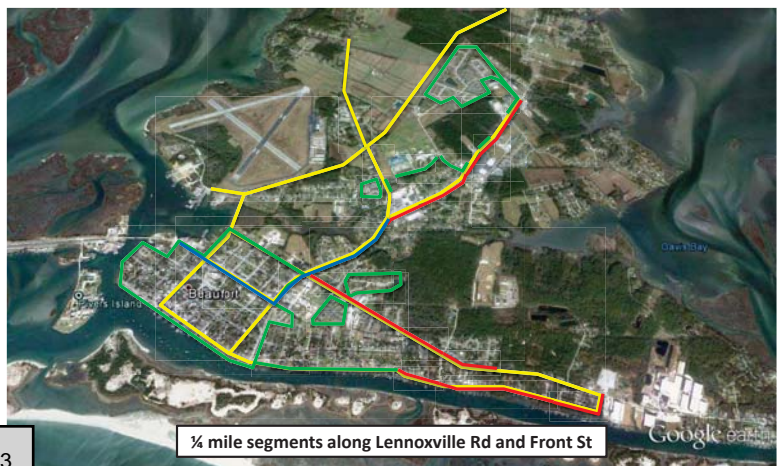
### FY2021



### FY2022

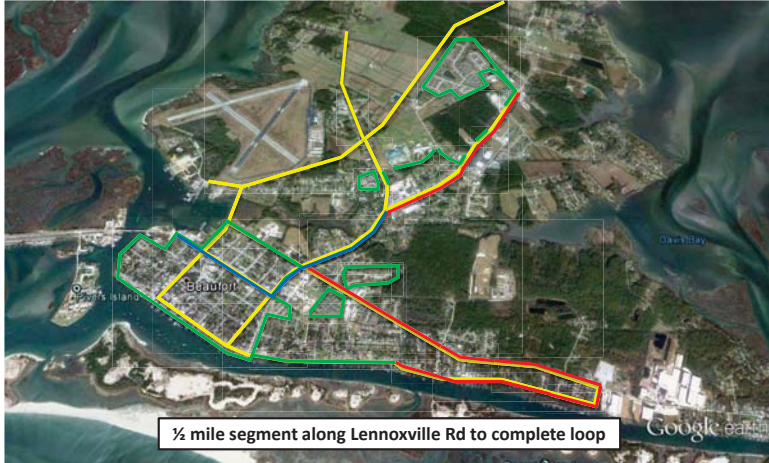


### FY2023



### FY2024

### FY2025



## Summary



- Make town more walkable and bike-able by
  - Fully understanding connectivity challenges
  - Exploring funding requirements and options
  - Identifying low-cost projects that can have high impact in the near term
  - Prioritizing projects in ten-year plan through 2025

## Discussion

#### The Town of Beaufort MISSION, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES & CORE VALUES JANUARY 2013

##### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Town of Beaufort is to foster a scenic and welcoming coastal community that enhances the well-being and prosperity of our citizens, celebrates our diverse culture and heritage, and preserves our natural and historic resources.

##### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

###### INFRASTRUCTURE

- Provide for the essential service needs of our community by funding and maintaining resilient water, sewer, waste disposal, streets, and storm water systems.
- Continuously evaluate and plan for future infrastructure needs.

###### PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE

- Maximize the responsiveness capabilities of our police and fire departments by ensuring they have the necessary personnel, training, and equipment to fulfill their missions.
- Enhance the safety of our neighborhoods through consistent community outreach focusing on education and prevention.
- Monitor our roads, pedestrian areas, and public lands and assume a proactive approach to improving public safety.

###### CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

- Through a citizen-centered approach to communications and recruitment, empower our diverse citizenry to participate in local government activities and decision making.
- Foster a productive and civil discourse between citizens and the Town.
- Maximize the functionality of committees, advisory boards, and other citizen-comprised groups through focused capacity building and dedicated staff support.

###### PARKS/RECREATION/OUTDOORS

- Continue to champion outdoor recreation and scenic beauty as essential components of Beaufort's healthy lifestyle and tourism economy by preserving and increasing people's ability to connect with and enjoy our natural environment.
- Encourage and promote environmental stewardship and preservation.
- Increase the amount of recreational offerings and opportunities in our public spaces.

###### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Increase our tax revenue base and improve citizen employment opportunities by encouraging private enterprise through retention, support of expansion, and recruitment.
- Continue to embrace tourism as our primary economic driver and work to increase visitation by promoting Beaufort as a destination and working to maximize the visitor experience.



#### RESOLUTION RECONSTITUTING THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, parks and recreation services can make a vital contribution to the personal health and well-being of people, and can work to improve the quality of family and community life;

WHEREAS, recreational activities, public open spaces, and public water access are critical components of Beaufort's tourism based economy; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance and programming of Beaufort's park, recreation, and public space resources can benefit from the thoughtful input and oversight from the citizens whose lives and neighborhoods are touched by such resources; and

WHEREAS, the involvement of interested and knowledgeable citizen representatives is of great importance in assessing, evaluating and meeting community park, recreation and public space needs and desires;

AND, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Beaufort Board of Commissioners hereby reconstitutes the Town of Beaufort Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

The Advisory Board shall be advisory to the Board of Commissioners, and in that capacity may make studies, develop recommendations, conduct public meetings and educational programs, hold hearings, prepare reports, and appear before public bodies in furthering the objectives stated above.

The Advisory Board's primary responsibilities shall be to provide the Board of Commissioners with advice and recommendations concerning park and recreation planning, programming, and budgetary matters. The Board shall also make recommendations concerning grants and other funding sources, as well as parks and facilities naming. The Board shall appoint standing and ad hoc committees as needed to successfully carry out these responsibilities.

The Board shall be composed of 10 persons who reside within the Town or its ETJ, with a chairperson to be appointed annually by the Board. Terms shall run for three years, with terms staggered. The Board shall meet on the call of the chairperson.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED, that the functions of the Town of Beaufort Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall include:

1. Review and revision of the Town of Beaufort Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan and its successors. The Board will also work to oversee and ensure implementation of the recommendations contained with the Comprehensive Plan and its successors.
2. Review, and make recommendations concerning the overall distribution and adequacy of park and recreation facilities and opportunities for all Town citizens to include people within the Town having special or under met needs.
3. Hold public hearings, review, analyze, and make recommendations with respect to all parks and recreation plans and issue formal findings on proposed plans.



**Town of Beaufort, NC**

701 Front St. - P.O. Box 390 - Beaufort, N.C. 28516  
252-728-2141 - 252-728-3982 fax - www.beaufortnc.org

**Town of Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

**1:00 PM Thursday, December 18, 2025**

**Cru Wine Bar, Coffee Shop & Wine Store, 120 Turner St, Beaufort, NC 28516**  
**Greenway Executive Committee**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1 PM by Chair Ron Dupuis

Board Members Present: Chair Ron Dupuis, Lora Fasolino, and Bruce Mann

Staff, Elected Officials, Guests Present: None

1. Project Name: Beaufort Greenway
2. The Beaufort Greenway is composed of several sections:
  - a. Trestle Walk: Live Oak St to West Beaufort Rd
    - The PRAB has selected the Trestle Walk as a top project for 2026 Budget year
  - b. West Beaufort Rd to West Beaufort Boat Access
    - Carteret County received \$300K grant to construct sidewalk from Turner St to Boat Access. Grant expires June, 2026. State awards more than \$2.8 million to improve public beach and coastal waterfront access | NC DEQ
  - c. West Beaufort Boat Access to Maritime Museum property
    - Future priority
  - d. Maritime Museum property to Airport greenway
    - Future priority
3. Map (*see attached Beaufort Greenway map*)
4. Trestle Walk Attributes:
  - a. Trail provides multiple water views and access points (Fresh water, saltwater, marsh land)
  - b. Traverses historical train trestle
  - c. Trail connects to town sidewalks that provide easy access to historic district and town parks
  - d. Trail connects to West Beaufort Water Access
  - e. Trail connects to sailing school
  - f. Trail connects to fairgrounds and music venue
  - g. Trail connects to Maritime Museum Gallants Channel Annex
  - h. Trail connects to Beaufort Housing Authority residential property

i. Trail connects to the East Coast Greenway

5. Next Steps:

- a. Present Beaufort Greenway vision with a specific focus on the Trestle Walk project to Board of Commissions and incorporate the Trestle Walk project into the 2026 Town Plan and Budget
- b. Reapply for the US DOT BUILD Grant – Applied in 2025
  - Grant was previously applied for in 2025. The grant was not awarded, but Town received valuable feedback that should be incorporated into next grant application. Applications are due 2/24/26
- c. Identify and apply for additional Grants (this is not a comprehensive list)
  - NC Land & Water Fund – Application Due 3/1/26
  - NCDEQ Beach & Waterfront Pre-Application Due April 2026
  - NC Parks & Recreation Trust Fund Grant – Application Due 5/1/26
  - NC State Parks: NC Trails – Application Due 9/5/26
- d. Present this project to the full PRAB – 1/8/26
- e. Present this project to the Board of Commissioners – 1/29&30/26

**Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.**

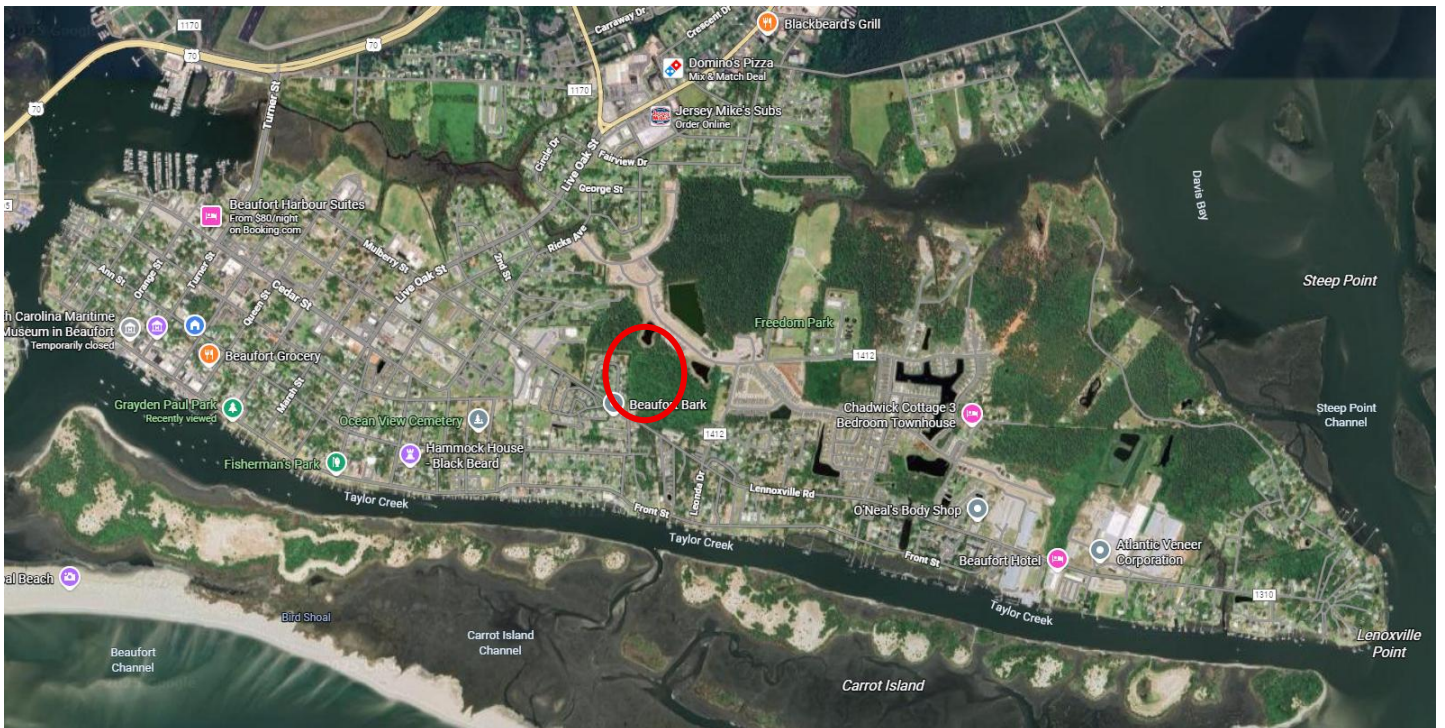
***MINUTES PRODUCED BY BRUCE MANN***  
***See attachment.***



# PROPOSED BEAUFORT WALKING ROUTE



# Beaufort Greenway Update & Signage



# Bike Route & Map

The below "Bicycling in Beaufort" map is the last known bicycle route map. The map and signage was a part of a NCDOT bike route project in Beaufort. The map and few remaining bike route signs were a part of a 1988 Transportation Improvement Plan and predate the construction of the high-rise bridge and the realignment of Cedar Street and Highway 70 that took place in 2018.

**Recommendation:** The Beaufort Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommends updating the map and signage as soon as possible to create a safe and defined bicycle route.

**Recommendation:** Explore how to expand upon the existing connections to the East Coast Greenway which is designed for both bicyclists and pedestrians.

- Outdoor Recreation
- Natural Resources
- Health & Economic Benefits

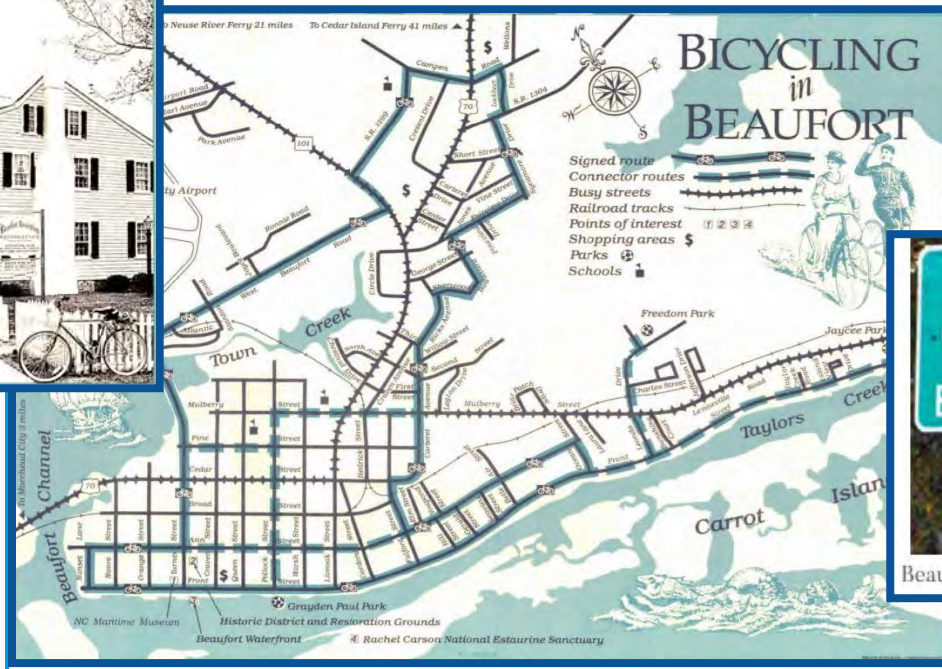
CAMA 6.3

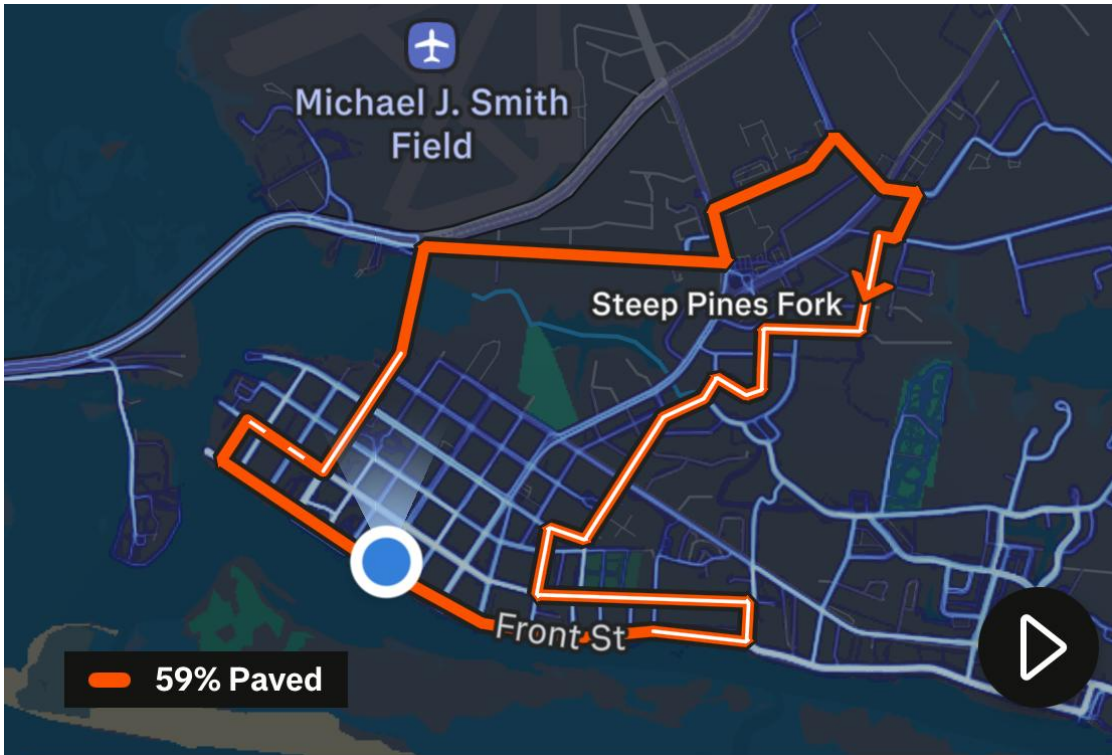
Increase safe cycling facilities and designate primary routes throughout Town.



CAMA 6.3.1

Follow latest NCDOT standards in bike facility design (WalkBikeNC Plan, see Design Toolbox).





**Sam Bell OutsidersNC**

Today

## 1988 Beaufort Bike Route

6.13 mi • 18 ft • 0h 21m - 0h 30m

Ride • Beaufort, North Carolina • 12.2 mi away



Save



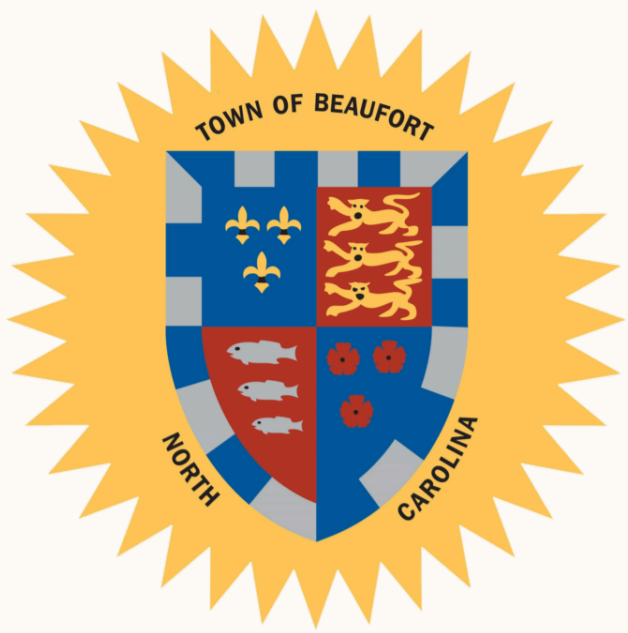
Offline



Edit Route



Start



# A Guide to New Parks Ideas in the Town of Beaufort

## New Park Idea



- Community member or group has a new idea for a Town-owned park, greenway, or property!
- Community member or group conduct initial community outreach for input



## Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

- Community member reaches out to Community Engagement Director or PRAB Chairman
- New idea, including possible funding sources, is presented to the PRAB at a meeting
- (NOTE: PRAB meets on the first Thursday of each month, 6 PM at the Beaufort Train Depot)



## Revisions, Approval

- PRAB either approves the idea to be presented to the Mayor or asks for revisions to be made



## BOC Agenda Approval

- The Mayor either approves the item to be added to a BOC agenda, asks for revisions, or postpones it



## Board of Commissioners

- PRAB, community member, or group present their idea to the Board of Commissioners
- (NOTE: BOC meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month, 6 or 4 PM respectively at the Beaufort Train Depot)



## Revisions, Approval

- BOC approves, asks for revisions, or postpones the initiative



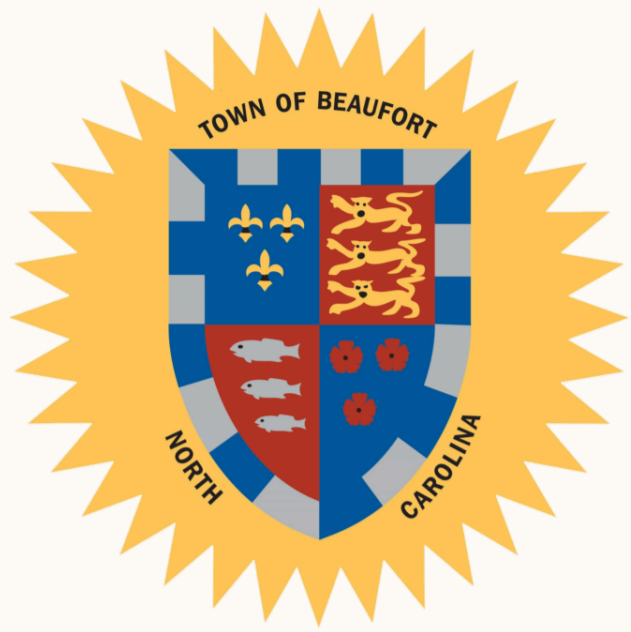
## Community Input

- After BOC approval, Town Staff hosts various community input events and surveys to ensure the BOC considers all community stakeholders' interests



## Board of Commissioners

- Community input results are presented to the BOC
- Town Staff receives directives regarding any new park development and funding sources



# Town of Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

## Mission Statement:

- The Board's mission statement is to provide quality recreational facilities and open spaces which are safe for leisure time activities.

## PRAB Goals:

- The goal of the Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board is to serve as a liaison between the citizens, town staff, and the Town Board of Commissioners, while its vision is to represent the community with the promotion of people-friendly parks, and facilities, while anticipating future needs and trends.

## **The Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board shall consult with and serve as an advisory body for the Town Staff and Town Board of Commissioners in matters affecting recreation.**

- This includes the planning, promotion, and marketing of the same; its own membership and other activities related to its programs.
- The Board will provide input for the long-range planning of resources towards park projects and other indoor/outdoor recreational activities.
- The Board will review, participate, and monitor park planning documents in regards to proposals for park sites and greenway construction in Beaufort.
- The Board will review existing park sites within Beaufort and provide recommendations for future development, considering such factors as park usage, safety, and equipment.
- These recommendations submitted by the Advisory Board, would then need final approval by Town staff and the Town Board of Commissioners.

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

**A) Organization of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

- 1) Board Membership  
The Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (BPRAB) is a standing citizen advisory committee consisting of seven members. All members shall reside within the corporate limits of the Town of Beaufort and be appointed by the Town’s Board of Commissioners.
- 2) Term of Office  
The term of office for members shall be a three-year staggered term made by appointment by the Board of Commissioners (BOC). Vacant seats or unexpired terms shall be filled by the BOC.
- 3) Removal from the Board
  - a) The BOC may remove any member of the BPRAB for neglect of duty or malfeasance while in office.
  - b) BPRAB members may be removed by the BOC at any time for failure to attend three consecutive meetings or for failure to attend seventy-five percent (75%) of the meetings within any twelve month period or for any other good cause related to performance of duties. Such failure will constitute a voluntary resignation of the member. Upon the request of the member proposed for removal, the BOC shall hold a hearing on the removal before it becomes effective.
  - c) If a member moves outside the corporate limits, it shall constitute a resignation of said member from the board.
  - d) If for reasons other than mentioned herein a member resigns from the board, a written notice shall be delivered to the Town Clerk at the member’s earliest convenience.

**B) Meetings of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

- 1) The BPRAB shall establish a regular meeting schedule and shall meet frequently enough so it may take action on the issues for which they are appointed.
- 2) All meetings of the BPRAB are subject to Open Meetings Law and whenever feasible, the agenda for each BPRAB meeting shall be made available to the public at least three business days in advance of the meeting.
- 3) The chairman of the BPRAB shall have the authority to cancel a meeting of the board if the Parks Department advises there is no business to be conducted at the meeting.
- 4) Special meetings may be called by the Chairman or upon written request from a majority of the board.
- 5) Special committees may be appointed for such purposes as deemed necessary and consisting of only members of the BPRAB as appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The Chairman and Town staff liaison shall be ex-officio members of all committees and, as such, notified of all committee meetings.

**C) Quorum and Voting**

- 1) Quorum Requirements
  - a) A majority of the members of the BPRAB in attendance shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the board.
  - b) All actions of the BPRAB shall be taken by majority vote, a quorum being present.

- 2) Withdrawal from Meeting  
Any member who has withdrawn from the meeting without being excused shall be counted as present for the purposes of determining whether or not a quorum is present.
- 3) Roll Call Vote  
A roll call vote shall be taken upon request of any member.
- 4) Notification of Absences  
Members shall promptly notify the board staff liaison if they are unable to attend or participate in for any reason an upcoming meeting.

**D) BPRAB Officers**

- 1) Election of Officers  
Officers will be elected during the September meeting of the BPRAB by majority vote of its membership (excluding vacant seats). One member will be elected to serve as chairperson (chair) and preside over the board’s meetings and one member will be elected to serve as vice-chairperson (vice-chair). The person so designated shall serve in these capacities for a one year term. The newly elected officers will take office at the regular October meeting. The BPRAB shall appoint other officers as it may deem necessary and appropriate. Vacancies and unexpired terms of the chair or vice-chair may be filled by majority vote of the board membership (excluding vacant seats).
- 2) Chairperson’s Rights  
The chair and vice-chair may take part in all deliberations and vote on all issues.
- 3) Rules of Order  
All points of order and procedure shall be determined by the modified version of *Roberts Rules of Order* as updated.

**E) Parks Staff Responsibilities**

- a) Responsible for all financial transactions, grant applications and business dealings. Board members are not authorized to represent the Town of Beaufort in this manner.
- b) Town staff will keep a permanent record of the proceedings of all meetings and will send the board agendas and meetings prior to regularly scheduled meetings.
- c) It is the duty of Town staff to notify the board of all meetings.

**F) Powers and Duties of the BPRAB**

- a) The BPRAB serves as a liaison between the citizens, town staff and town Board of Commissioners while its vision is to represent the community with the promotion of people-friendly parks and facilities, while anticipating future needs and trends.
- b) The BPRAB consults with and serves as an advisory body for the town staff and BOC in matters affecting recreation.
- c) The BPRAB provides input for the long-range planning of resources towards park projects and other indoor/outdoor recreational activities.
- d) The BPRAB reviews, participates and monitors park planning documents in regards to proposals for park sites and greenway construction in Beaufort.
- e) The BPRAB reviews existing park sites within Beaufort and provides recommendations for future development, considering such factors as park usage, safety and equipment.

- f) Perform any other appropriate duties as assigned by the BOC.
- g) The Board's mission statement is to provide quality recreational facilities and open spaces which are safe for leisure time activities.
- h) Recommendations submitted by the Advisory Board, would then need final approval by town staff and BOC.

Bylaws approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 11, 2018.



2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month Winter/Spring 2026!

Lunch 12-1 PM, Parks 1-3 PM

Meet at a designated restaurant for lunch (optional), then visit a set of Beaufort Town Parks!

### Tentative Schedule:

- 1/13
- 2/10
- 3/10
- 4/14 (if needed)

- Learn about the history of each park and area
- Space highlights and assessments
- Photography
- General Discussion

**PRAB ON THE GO!**



# PROPOSED BEAUFORT WALKING ROUTE

