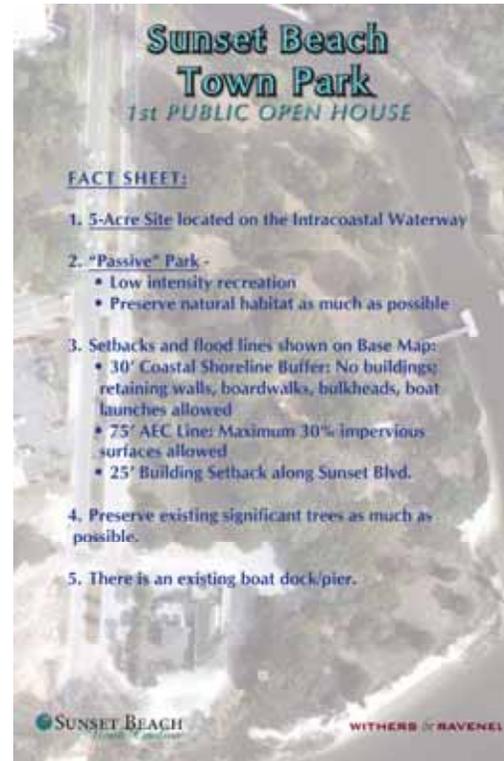


Town of Sunset Beach Survey Results & Concept Plans

September 18, 2012

- Mass Questionnaire Distribution
- Public Meeting Stations
 - Welcome
 - Facilitated Discussion
 - Image Preference Ranking
 - Mapping Workshop
 - Comment Card



Public Input – Questionnaire (1859)



TOWN PARK SURVEY

The Town of Sunset Beach is undertaking a park master plan for a five-acre site located on the Intracoastal Waterway between Crabby Oddwaters and Twin Lakes. This passive park will be the Town's first public park and is located in a prominent location with views of the waterway, marshes, and the barrier island. A boat launching facility is located across the street from the property. You can learn more about the park site on the Town website: <http://www.sunsetbeachnc.gov> by clicking on "Town News" and "Proposed Park".

Public input is an important part of the master plan development process. *Your input is important!* Please take a few minutes to complete this survey questionnaire. There will also be 2 public meetings for additional public input opportunities. *Please only fill out one survey per household.*

Survey responses will be accepted by the Town of Sunset Beach until **August 15, 2012**. They may be dropped off at Town Hall or mailed to the following address:

Town Park Survey
Town Hall
700 Sunset Blvd. N.
Sunset Beach, NC 28468

1. Is your primary residence in the Sunset Beach Town limits? Yes No
Please provide your address (optional):

2. For each member of your household, please indicate:

Age	# in Household
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 and under	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 6-12	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 13-18	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 19-24	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 25-44	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 45-54	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 55-64	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 65 and above	_____

3. Which existing recreation facilities do you visit in the area?
 Oak Island facilities:

- Brunswick County facilities:

- Other:

4. What parks and/or park elements have you enjoyed in places you have visited?

5. The following list of activities often occur in a passive public park. Please check which activities are of most importance to you for this park.
(Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor performances | <input type="checkbox"/> Viewing the water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Playing cards/games | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking pets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throwing a ball/Frisbee | <input type="checkbox"/> Festivals/events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's play |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reading outdoors | <input type="checkbox"/> Boating (non-motorized) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking/jogging | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Group outing/party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Viewing Wildlife | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

6. The following list of facilities/amenities could be located in a passive public park. Please check which facilities/amenities are of most importance to you for this park.
(Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seating/benches | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic shelter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Shaded space |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restrooms | <input type="checkbox"/> Open play space |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic tables | <input type="checkbox"/> Amphitheater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat launch area (non-motorized) | <input type="checkbox"/> Public art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor exercise stations | <input type="checkbox"/> Dock/pier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's play area | <input type="checkbox"/> Public art |

7. Are there any of the above activities or facilities you would **not** like to see in the park?

Thank you for your participation!

Question #1 – Results

Sunset Beach Town Park Survey



1. Is your primary residence in the Sunset Beach Town limits?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		50.3%	905
No		49.7%	893
	Please provide your address (optional)		615
		answered question	1,798
		skipped question	61

Question #2 – Results

2. For each member of your household, please indicate:

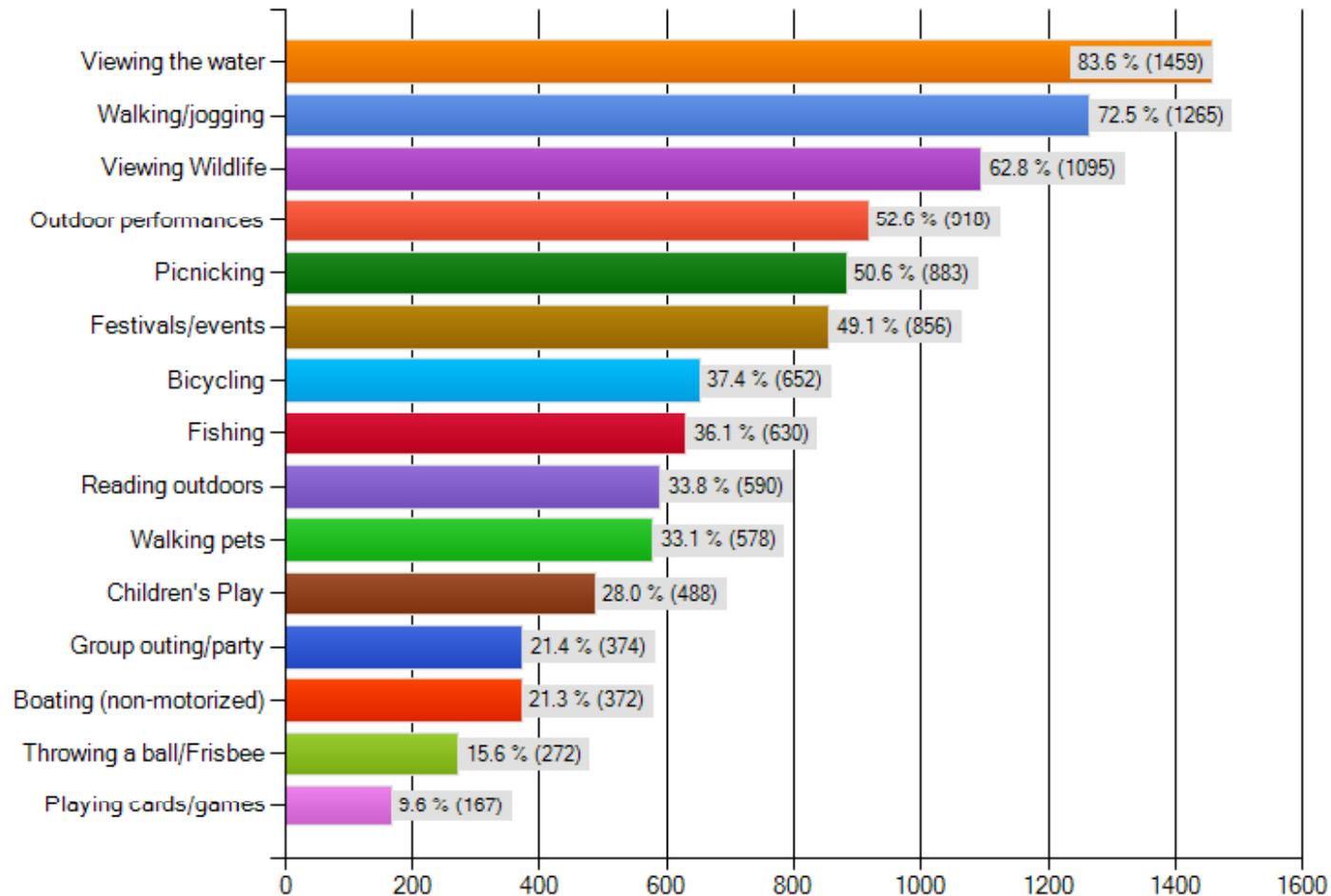
In Household

	0	1	2	3	4	5	more than 5	Response Count
5 and under	1.3% (1)	51.3% (40)	30.8% (24)	10.3% (8)	3.8% (3)	1.3% (1)	1.3% (1)	78
6-12	0.0% (0)	57.1% (60)	28.6% (30)	11.4% (12)	1.9% (2)	0.0% (0)	1.0% (1)	105
13-18	0.0% (0)	64.0% (71)	27.0% (30)	9.0% (10)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	111
19-24	0.0% (0)	67.3% (101)	26.7% (40)	3.3% (5)	0.7% (1)	0.7% (1)	1.3% (2)	150
25-44	0.0% (0)	41.7% (78)	36.4% (68)	8.0% (15)	10.7% (20)	1.6% (3)	1.6% (3)	187
45-54	0.0% (0)	49.7% (172)	45.4% (157)	2.0% (7)	1.4% (5)	0.6% (2)	0.9% (3)	346
55-64	0.0% (0)	46.7% (329)	52.3% (369)	0.3% (2)	0.4% (3)	0.0% (0)	0.3% (2)	705
65 and above	0.0% (0)	38.5% (413)	61.2% (657)	0.2% (2)	0.1% (1)	0.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	1,074
answered question								1,831
skipped question								28

4.25%
 5.73%
 6.06%
 8.19%
 10.21%
 18.89%
 38.50%
58.65%

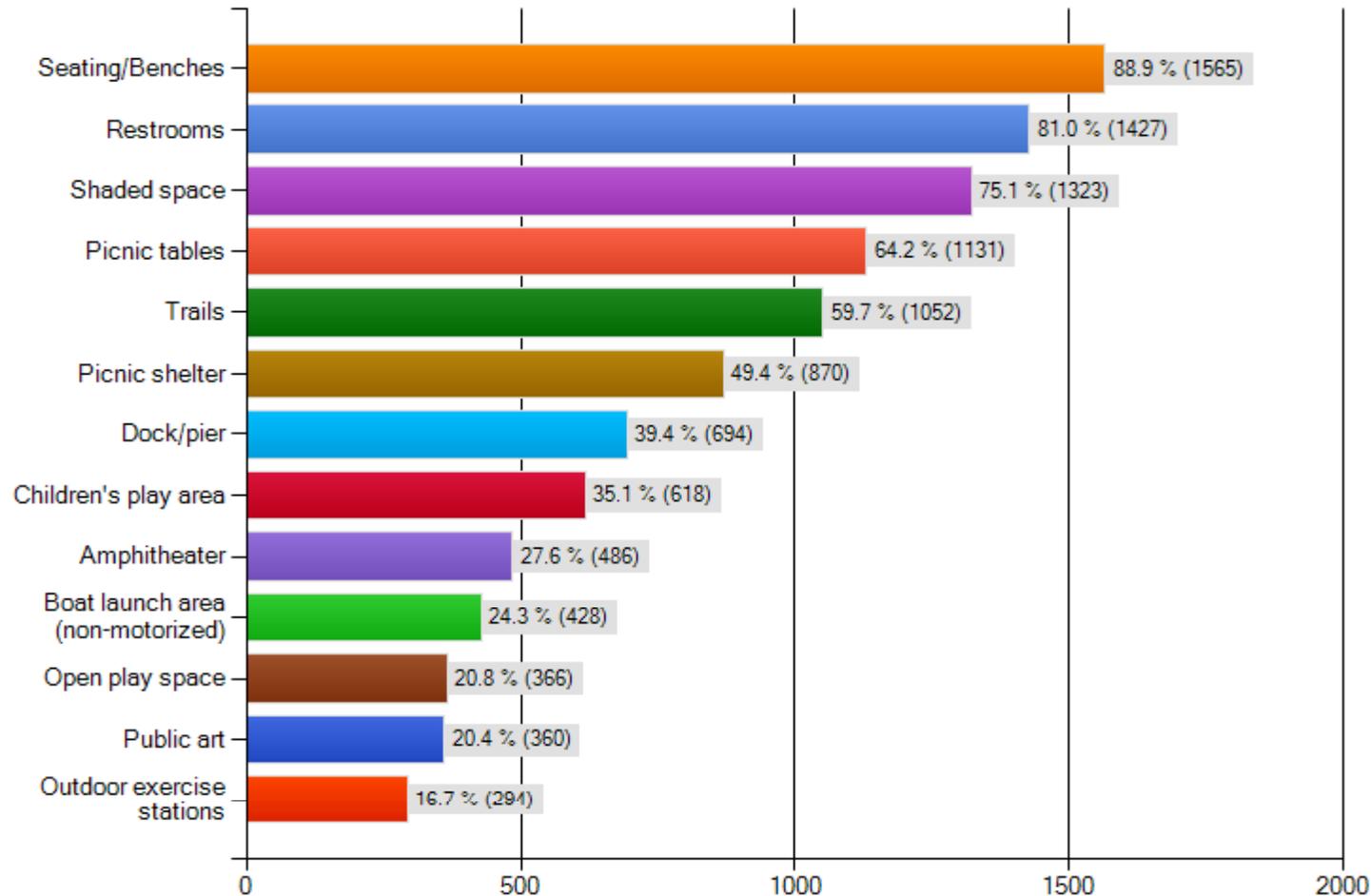
Question #5 – Results

The following list of activities often occur in a "passive public park." Please check which activities are of most importance to you for this park. (Check all that apply.)



Question #6 – Results

The following list of facilities/amenities could be located in a "passive public park." Please check which facilities/amenities are of most importance to you for this park. (Check all that apply.)



Public Workshop – Welcome

Sunset Beach Town Park
1st PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Program:

1. Welcome Station
2. Image Preference Ranking Station
3. Facilitated Discussion Station
4. Mapping Workshop Station
5. Comment Card Station



Thank you for coming!

SUNSET BEACH Town & Country WITHERS & RAVENEL

Sunset Beach Town Park
1st PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

FACT SHEET:

1. 5-Acre Site located on the Intracoastal Waterway
2. "Passive" Park -
 - Low intensity recreation
 - Preserve natural habitat as much as possible
3. Setbacks and flood lines shown on Base Map:
 - 30' Coastal Shoreline Buffer: No buildings; retaining walls, boardwalks, bulkheads, boat launches allowed
 - 75' AEC Line: Maximum 30% impervious surfaces allowed
 - 25' Building Setback along Sunset Blvd.
4. Preserve existing significant trees as much as possible.
5. There is an existing boat dock/pier.

SUNSET BEACH Town & Country WITHERS & RAVENEL



- Over 50 Town Participants

Public Workshop – Facilitated Discussion

Sunset Beach Town Park
1st PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

TALKING POINTS:

1. What are some of your favorite parks? What do you like about them?
2. What elements do you particularly like or use at these parks?
3. What would you like to do at the Sunset Beach Town Park?
4. What would make you want to bring a visitor to this park?
5. What parks do you currently use in the area? Why?
6. Is there anything you do NOT think this park should be used for?
7. Any additional comments?

SUNSET BEACH Health & Recreation WITHERS & RAVENEL

NEED RESTROOMS
 TRAILS, BENCHES, GREEN SPACE
 PAD ON SITE BUILT BY ~~EXISTING~~ BUILDING (MAYBE)
 (HYDRANT)
 LARGE SWINGS OVERLOOKING WATERWAY
 TABLES (EATING, CHECKERS)
 TREE PRESERVATION
 TOWN HALL MORE APPROPRIATE LOCATION FOR VETERAN'S MEMORIAL
 NATURAL AS POSSIBLE
 TRAILS AND ACCESS TO DESTINATIONS WITHIN PARK
 ADA CONSIDERATIONS
 TURF AREAS
 NATURAL GRASSES & PLANTS
 INCLUDE BANDSHELL
 ALLOW GOLF CART ACCESS ON STREETS AROUND PARK TO GET TO PARK
 INCLUDE KAYAK/CANOE ACCESS
 MORE KID FISHING AREA
 ALLOW COMMUNITY EVENTS
 PROVIDE SCOUT PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES



Public Workshop – Image Preference Ranking

**Sunset Beach
Town Park**
1st PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

GROUND RULES:

1. Everyone has a right to speak.
2. Listen actively – respect others when they are talking
3. Speak from your own experience instead of generalizing (“I” instead of “they,” “we,” and “you”).
4. Do not be afraid to respectfully challenge one another by asking questions, but refrain from personal attacks – focus on ideas. Direct challenging comments or questions to the facilitator or the entire group, not an individual.
5. Participate to the fullest of your ability – community growth depends on the inclusion of every individual voice.
6. No more than one person should speak at the same time.

SUNSET BEACH *Truth • Envision* WITHERS & RAVENEL

TRAILS AND PATHS

PLACE STICKERS HERE

WATER RELATED ACTIVITIES

PLACE STICKERS HERE

SUNSET BEACH WITHERS & RAVENEL IMAGE PREFERENCE RANKING



OUTDOOR GATHERING SPACE

PLACE STICKERS HERE

OPEN PLAY SPACE

PLACE STICKERS HERE

SUNSET BEACH WITHERS & RAVENEL IMAGE PREFERENCE RANKING

Public Workshop – Comment Cards

Comment Cards

Purpose of Activity

- Offer the participants the opportunity to include any additional comments.

Description of Activity

Blank index cards along with writing pens were available on a table. Participants placed comment cards in a comment card box.

Comments Received

- I'm very happy to see the open methodology being used to capture the thoughts of the town. I feel very comfortable that the wishes of the town will be respected.
- No VA Memorial → put at Town Hall. Simple Paths. Benches. No activities that would draw large crowds (and require parking—example amphitheatre/arts)
- #1 priority is Veteran's Memorial
- No amphitheatre, no pavement, no large groups (no parking)
- No amphitheatre/stage, no playground equipment (slides, swings, gym), no exercise stations, no public restrooms like at beach, no Veteran's Memorial, very limited parking, no BBQ grills. Yes walking path, yes benches.
- Leave park "as-is". Don't waste any additional tax money which is better spent on other town "needs".
- This entire process is biased toward development of an urban park, which is both not needed and inappropriate for Sunset Beach. The administration and council should have worked through the park design either before or immediately after purchase of the property.
- Let the citizens of Sunset utilize this space in a low impact facility. Walking, sitting, viewing, visiting, and gathering with neighbors, to enjoy the outside.
- I believe the park should be left in its natural state as much as possible. As it is now, it is a great place to view deer, wading birds and other wildlife. I would hate to see that disrupted. I'd like to see hiking trails and a few benches and picnic tables, but no grills. Perhaps 2 or 3 swings like they have in Vereen Park over looking the intercostals would be nice. I would also like to see a non-motorized boat launch.
- Thanks for listening to us and giving us a chance to express our issues.
- Please make sure that the park is designed to improve the quality of life here in Sunset Beach. You should use the land to remain beautiful and develop around the natural beauty.
- Open/passive, park benches, gravel trails only, no taxpayer money on War Memorial, no restrooms, no structures, no additional boat docks
- Thank you for your thoughtful approach to giving everyone a platform for input. Comments—sod in select areas.
- We can't satisfy all the ideas. The focus in my view is how to utilize the land to facilitate "green space" and allow for Sunset Beach to be able to set itself apart from the other towns in the area. No trees should fall! A gazebo is a necessity for some of the weather we have and it should have seating. Water fountains are a must!
- Canoe/Kayak Launch Comments: The ability to launch a canoe or kayak from the park would be a great addition to our town and provide non-motorized boaters convenient access to our waterways. A well designed paddling launch facility could be a feature attracting paddlers to visit our town and patronize local businesses (lodging, restaurants, etc.). Engaging experienced paddlers in the design will help ensure the launch is well thought out. The park's location is subject to tides that creates some issues for building a launch facility. At low tides the ground is muddy (could be knee deep) and oyster beds are revealed. Oyster beds are hazards-their shells are razor sharp and can injure people walking over them or falling into them. The existing dock at the park is useful to power boats, but far too high for canoes and kayaks. Even if the dock could be lowered to suit canoes it would still be too high for all but well experienced kayakers. Fortunately Brunswick County built a paddling launch facility in Brunswick Nature Park that is useful in thinking out what might built. It is on Town Creek, a tributary of the Cape Fear River and Town Creek is tidal at that location. Attached are photos of what the county installed. The photos show how the dock can rise and fall with the tide and how the paddlers roll down an incline to the water. Upon their return they use the low handrails to pull themselves back up onto the dock. One can launch and return from this facility without ever having to deal with muddy ground or the hazards of oyster beds. There may well be other ways to design a launch facility, but they must overcome the low tide issues of mud and oyster beds. If the existing dock is to remain as is then power boats parking there will be present use conflicts for canoe/kayak launches if that location is intended to be used for paddle craft. Paddle craft only launch and return-they do not "park" and occupy the launch area for extended periods. Power boats "parking" could very well render the launch area useless for paddlers unless there is a clear physical separation of the differing uses



Concept "A"



Concept "B"

