

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

Heart of Navarre Tourism Corridor – September 27, 2016





Seaside for Weddings
1000 Highway 17
Seaside, NC 28584
Tel: 252-751-1111



WHEELY
WHEELY
WHEELY

SALE & SEA FOOD
Coke
ATM

Salon
ATM

SPEED
LIMIT
40

BREAKFAST
BELGIUM WAFFLES
BEST OMELETTES
ICE CREAM

Meeting Overview

- What is the Heart of Navarre Tourism Corridor?
 - Highway 98 from Ortega to Andorra Street
 - County-owned portion of Santa Rosa Island
- Five projects for discussion and feedback
- What we will cover tonight:
 - What are we doing?
 - Why are we doing this?
 - What can you expect as a result?





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Heart of Navarre Tourism Corridor



Heart of Navarre Tourist Corridor

Navarre Beach Area Chamber of Commerce

1. Lighting in Navarre Park along the nature walk and sidewalks.
2. Banners to hang on the light poles along 98 and possibly attach to the bridges over the water. The banners can be changed out based on an event or seasonal.
3. New breaker boxes in the pier parking lot with an assessment to see if we need additional poles/boxes.
4. Pedestrian lighting at various locations along 98, which may help eliminate the need for officers. This would be the flashing lights on the ground like at Pensacola Beach. (In addition, put a few designated lit crosswalks on Gulf Blvd)
5. Repair/replace the board walk running from the park under the bridge.
6. Paint the restrooms at VIC and upgrade flooring in park restrooms.
7. Signage on 98 showing entering & exiting Navarre
8. Beach accesses on Gulf Blvd adapted for handicap accessibility.
9. Items from Christmas in the Park Committee already which includes several electrical upgrades to the existing electrical panels. (see attached list for more details)
 - a. Nice to have - Add electrical power to the Palm Trees on the East side of the Pond.
10. My personal wish list.....Purchase the property between Santa Rosa RV and East River...approximately 10 lots. You have property on the beach that could be sold to purchase. In addition, some of the owners of those lots might want to be an investor in the project. Build a shopping center. Connect the properties with a boardwalk from RV or further East...going west through the park, under the bridge, as far east as possible, cross 98 and bring it west on 98 to Public's. CONNECT NAVARRE!

TDO Staff

1. Pedestrian crossing signals (2 of them)
2. Unified signage
3. Landscaping at the intersections of Gulf Blvd. and Bridge Road
4. Better showers/bathrooms at pier
5. Sidewalk or multiuse path Southside of Gulf Blvd.
6. Better entrance into Navarre Park VIC Bldg.
7. Improved landscaped islands that are currently in place on Gulf Blvd.
8. More palms planted after you cross the bridge on each side of the causeway leading up to the stop sign at Gulf Blvd. (Before you get to Juana's)

Navarre High School NJROTC

1. Dog Park
2. Expanded Parking
3. More sand at the end of boardwalks
4. More boardwalks
5. Kid Park/Skate Park
6. Outside Gym

Navarre Beach Leaseholders and Residents Association Beach Beautification Liaison Committee

1. Removal of power lines on Gulf Blvd and White Sands Dr.
2. Removal of abandoned houses.
3. Irrigation System from Tom Thumb to National Seashore/Island wide landscaping enhancement package.
4. Additional street lights on Gulf Blvd/ Bike Path and White Sands Dr.
5. Replace stop sign with yield sign on southbound Navarre Causeway as you reach Gulf Blvd West Bound.
6. Consolation of Existing/Removal of unnecessary signage along Gulf BLVD and Highway 98 from about Publix to the Winn-Dixie.
7. Sidewalks on south side of Gulf Blvd.
8. Roundabout at intersection of Navarre Causeway and Gulf Blvd.
9. Solar powered flashing crosswalk over Gulf Blvd in front of the pier parking lot.
10. Paved White Sands Blvd.

Navarre Beach Staff

1. New Restroom Complex to replace old restrooms in pavilion parking lot.
2. Upgrade and enlarge existing Pier Restrooms
3. Navarre Beach Boat Ramp entrance upgrade
4. Navarre pier entrance upgrade with new sign
5. Southbound turn lane at Tom Thumb
6. Beach Beautification.

Commissioner Rob Williamson

1. Navarre Park renovation
2. Renovate Entrances to Pier, Boat launch and Navarre Marine Park. Include consistent signage, landscaping and protected pedestrian features.
3. Reconfigure four way stop at Gulf Blvd.
4. Soundside Dog Park
5. New Public Restrooms for Beach
 - a. an endless supply of doggie bags

Marine Science Station

1. Gulf Coast Discovery Center (see attachment for more detail)
2. Improved pedestrian walkways, specifically between the main beach parking lot and the Navarre Beach Marine Park. A round about is needed at the four way stop in front of Tom Thumb to help with traffic flow.
3. Consistent signage (wood, not metal) throughout the Navarre Beach Marine Park.
4. A covered sail shade area with a large concrete slab near the Navarre Beach Science Station that would be used for movies in the park, community picnics, and larger presentations
5. Natural vegetation along the causeway will make a great first impression.
6. Reconsider a food truck group of airstreams similar to the one in Pensacola. This will provide a variety of options for visitors to stay in the area for lunch or dinner.

7. Work with local groups to do possible eco boat tours. We would consider working with the East River marina to do daily (pontoon) boat tours of the sound to include bird watching, marine conservation talks, and possible otter trawl tows to introduce marine life to visitors of all ages.
8. Innovative programs and changing exhibits will keep visitors coming back. That is what we do at the station and if given the opportunity, will create one of a kind experiences that will keep families active and continue to give 5 stars to Navarre Beach.

Tourist Development Council

Jack Sanborn

1. Re-forestation on Navarre Beach

Kyle Holley

1. A turning circle at the first intersection onto the beach. (See attached for more detail)
2. Paint the Navarre Beach water towers in a way that is easy to maintain but that adds refinement to the impression the overall beach gives to residents and visitors
3. A small building further down Gulf Blvd that can serve as an information outpost for visitors, provide bathrooms for walk/joggers.
4. Regarding Navarre Beach Marine Science Park...better signage that brands the whole area as more of an attraction.
5. Regarding Navarre Park, a completed boardwalk to expand capacity for events but also daily traffic
6. Regarding the Hwy 98 corridor...noticeably different native landscaping to carve out autonomy from neighboring beach areas.

Vernon Compton

1. Implement Sidewalk/Bike Path plan for entire Tourism Corridor. (See attached for more detail)
2. Install water fountains in selected locations that support sidewalk, paths and trail use.
3. Explore the potential of installation of a side installed bicycle/pedestrian path on the Navarre Bridge to better serve tourists desiring to explore and/or use the tourism corridor by foot or bicycle.
4. Expand on the waterfront trail concept from Navarre Park and the Butterfly House eastward and westward.
5. Plant native trees along the corridor, including along roads, sidewalks, and paths, and any areas where benches are installed. (See attached for more detail)
6. Pedestrian crossings and actuated signals in selected areas.
7. Benches and gazebos that offer additional places for tourists to sit and view the water, wildlife, sunrise and sunsets. Design in a way that honors local architecture but also reduces long term maintenance and costs. Shade in the form of trees and/or roofs important.
8. Directional signage to major attractions along corridor using design specific to the Heart of Navarre Tourism Corridor.
9. Educational signage/kiosks describing beaches, dunes, natural areas, wildlife, plants and emphasizing the diversity of natural resources found in the corridor.
10. Support the growth of local festivals and events highlighting local arts, culture, music, and food.

Sea Turtle Center

1. Changing the entrance/exit onto the beach.
2. Natural Landscaping- not palms entrance to park.
3. Boardwalk from the north side parking area to NBSTCC building so people don't have to walk through sand and boardwalk from building to beach.
4. Outdoor educational center in NE section of NBSTCC parking lot designed for washouts.
5. Water fountains.

Marine Reefs- Mike Sandler

Navarre Beach Marine Park

1. Dune Walkovers additions and improvements to all gulf side accesses
2. Handicapped compliant boardwalk or walkway from sound side parking lot to Sea Turtle Conservation Center
3. Upgrade entry and signage to Marine Park to better identify park and amenities.
4. Additional freshwater showers at all gulf side and sound side pavilions
5. Solar lighting to all restrooms

Navarre Beach Parking Lot

1. Upgrade overall electrical capability to better accommodate festivals and other large scale events
2. Upgrade overall fresh water capability to better accommodate festivals and other large scale events
3. Renovate and expand existing public restrooms
4. Solar lighting to restrooms
5. Additional freshwater showers at restrooms all gulf side pavilions
6. Additional Turtle Friendly lighting for parking lot

Navarre Park and Hwy 98

1. Pedestrian Overpass to Navarre Park as identified in original Town Center Plan to improve pedestrian safety to and from the park
2. Additional freshwater showers at splashpad
3. Additional sidewalks, pedestrian and bicycle lanes to and from all public parks and community gathering locations

Five Projects for Discussion

1. Navarre Park renovation
2. Reconfiguration of Gulf Boulevard intersection
3. Entrance renovations at:
 - County boat launch
 - Navarre Marine Park
 - Navarre Beach public parking area
 - Pier parking area
4. Navarre Beach public restroom
5. Multi-use path improvements





Navarre Beach
FLORIDA'S PLAYGROUND
VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

Beaches To
Woodlands
Tour
Sept. 16 - Nov. 6

Navarre Beach Area
Chamber of Commerce

STOP



Navarre Park Renovation

How did we get here?

Existing facilities reaching end of usable life:

- Toddler area is more than 15 years old
- Youth area is 10 years old

Past three grant submittals

Past improvement efforts by

- Navarre Chamber
- Military Affairs Council
- Navarre Garden Club
- Tourism Development Council
- Navarre Butterfly House
- American Legion
- Leadership Santa Rosa
- More

1. Renovation of Navarre Park

- Why is this project important for Santa Rosa County?
- Respond to needs and repeated requests of the public
- Improve ADA accessibility
- Improve safety
- Reduce maintenance costs
- Equipment at end of usable life



Project Development Status

- Eight public meetings held during Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) and Land and Water Conservation Grant Fund (LWCGF) grant cycles:
 - August 28, 2013 – Parks & Recreation Meeting (FRDAP)
 - September 10, 2013 – Navarre Chamber Meeting (FRDAP)
 - September 12, 2013 – BOCC Public Input Meeting (FRDAP)
 - October 22, 2014 – Parks & Recreation Meeting (FRDAP)
 - October 23, 2014 – BOCC Public Input Meeting at Tiger Point (FRDAP)
 - January 28, 2015 – Parks & Recreation Meeting (LWCGF)
 - February 3, 2015 – Navarre Chamber Meeting (LWCGF)
 - February 12, 2015 – BOCC Public Input Meeting (LWCGF)

Project Development Status (continued)

- Grant submittal
- Receive ranking/score from state
- Awarded \$50k LWCGF
- D4 Commissioner Rob Williamson begins stakeholder meetings
- Solicit priorities and rankings from stakeholders
- RFQ for Navarre Park Master Plan consultant
- Multiple meetings with staff over several months
- Top five priorities selected

Project Development Status (continued)

- Genesis selected to deliver Navarre Park Master Site Plan (NPMSP)
- BOCC approves D4 recreation funds for NPMSP
- Public meeting
- NPMSP estimated completion date - March 2017
- Secure funding and add renovation projects to SRC capital expansion plan
- Determine renovation construction sequencing
- Create construction ready plans
- Begin construction by November 2017

Navarre Park Status & Repair Needs

- Normal life expectancy of playground equipment is 15 years (environmental damage from salt air reduces life expectancy)
- Repairs needed at Panhandle Butterfly House
- Resurface and restripe Navarre Park parking lot
- Reconfigure entrance into park
- Resurface and restripe basketball court



**PIER
CLOSED**



Navarre Park Maintenance Costs

	13/14	14/15	15/16	Total
Splash Pad	\$ 9,941.86	\$ 7,792.95	\$ 5,393.52	\$23,128.33
Playgrounds	\$ 3,838.00	\$ 7,526.00	\$ 5,355.95	\$16,719.95
Other maintenance	\$14,448.19	\$17,852.75	\$ 3,606.10	\$35,907.04
Total	\$23,128.33	\$16,719.95	\$35,907.04	\$75,755.32

HONTC Stakeholders

- Panhandle Butterfly House Board of Directors
- Former and Current Beach Beautification Committee
- Navarre Beach Leaseholders and Residents Association
- Navarre High School Junior ROTC
- Navarre Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
- Navarre Area Board of Realtors (NABOR)
- Tourism Development Committee (TDC)
- Tourism Development Office and Navarre Beach staff
- Sea Turtle Conservation Center representatives
- Marine Science Station representatives
- Marine Reefs representatives

2. Gulf Boulevard Intersection Improvements

- Need for dedicated right turn lane
- Wait time at intersection and improved traffic flow, especially during peak season.
- Most cost-feasible way to solve problem now
- No ROW purchase required
- 2013 Volkert study of intersection
- SRC Engineering begins intersection evaluation feasibility
- SRC Engineering developing site plan
- Secure funding

2. Gulf Boulevard Intersection Improvements (continued)

- GOAL - begin construction Feb/March 2017
- Construction plan to be completed by November 1
- BOCC to give approval to advertise for construction during first meeting in November.
- Design is currently ongoing in SRC Engineering Department

3. Renovation of Santa Rosa Island Park Entrances

- Provide consistent signage for all
 - County boat launch
 - Navarre Marine Park
 - Navarre Beach public parking area
 - Pier parking area
- Provide enhanced protective pedestrian features
- Provide landscaping and lighting



4. New NB Public Restroom Facilities and Shower Wash Downs

- Restrooms 25 years old – damaged and repaired multiple times after major storms, remain susceptible to storm over-wash due to non-compliant elevations.
- ADA no-compliant ramps and handrails
- Shower wash down stations improved



5. Multi-use Path Improvements

- RFP to resurface and stripe path
 - Painted distance markers along the path at $\frac{1}{4}$ mile intervals
 - Path resurfacing (one-inch overlay on approximately 3.5 path)
- Select water fountains and fountain locations for path
 - Pet watering stations
- Turtle-friendly lighting
- Irrigation installation
- Secure funding
- Begin project

Reduce Signage on Santa Rosa Island

- Removal of “Closed Until Further Notice” signs at boat ramp parking and Navarre Beach Utilities office
- Removal of excess “No Motor Vehicle signs and smaller signs on back of stop signs
- Removal of “No Motor Vehicles” signs on path at P-1 and P-2 in Marine Park, install sign at path entrance into park
- Removal of all “Hide-Lock-Take” signs
- Removal of “Adopt A Spot” signs



Reduce Signage on Santa Rosa Island

- Removal of “+ intersection ahead” signs from multiuse path
- Removal of “No parking” sign at exist to east entrance of pier parking area
- Removal of “Soundside Park/Public Beach Access” sign on causeway
- “Share the Road” sign is optional
- “Pathway Narrows on Bridge” sign recommended if condition not apparent
- “No Sexual Offenders May Enter Park” signs not required by ordinance or statute. Can be consolidated or removed.



THANK YOU

Rob Williamson, District 4 commissioner
850.983.1877