

MEMORANDUM

CRC- 17-33

To: Coastal Resources Commission
From: Michael Christenbury, Wilmington District Planner
Date: October 16, 2017
Subject: Certification of the 2017 Ocean Isle Beach Land Use Plan

Recommendation:

Certification of the 2017 Ocean Isle Beach Land Use Plan with the determination that the Town has met the substantive requirements outlined in the 15 NCAC 7B Land Use Plan Guidelines and that there are no conflicts with either state or federal law or the State's Coastal Management Program.

Overview

The Town of Ocean Isle Beach is located within Brunswick County to the south of Shallotte on the Atlantic Ocean. Ocean Isle Beach, like many coastal communities in Southeastern North Carolina, has experienced steady growth and development over the last thirty (30) years.

In 2016, the Town began the process to update and create a new land use plan. As part of the planning process, past policy documents, capital improvement plans, and land use plans were reviewed for significant findings related to the future of the town. Many public meetings were held with citizens, stakeholders and key decision makers to understand the issues and community concerns facing the town. The following issues were identified as a priority to be addressed in the plan.

- Protect the beach and encourage continued storm damage reduction to ensure future enjoyment of the Town's natural resources.
- Prioritize the installation of bicycle and pedestrian facilities to enhance the safety of non-motorized users for permanent and seasonal residents.
- On the island, redevelop existing business centers and limit the construction of strip malls and box stores.
- Manage development density in both residential and commercial areas.
- Increase parking availability and public access to amenities through facility enhancement and land acquisition to support tourism and year-round coastal lifestyle activities.

Ocean Isle Beach held duly advertised public hearing on September 12, 2017 and voted unanimously by resolution to adopt the 2017 Land Use Plan. DCM Staff reviewed the plan and has determined that the Town has met the substantive requirements outlined in the CRC's 15A NCAC 7B Land Use Plan Guidelines and that there are no conflicts with either state or federal law or the State's Coastal Management Program. DCM did not receive any comments from the public, written or otherwise regarding the plan. Staff recommends Certification of the 2017 Ocean Isle Beach Land Use Plan.

The 2017 Ocean Isle Beach Land Use Plan may be viewed at:

<http://www.oibgov.com/files/documents/CAMALandUsePlan2017-FinalDraft1316022421081517PM.pdf>