

Greenies Community Discussion

On March 11, 2019, City staff was joined by 158 residents to discuss the future reuse of the Greenies site (196 W. Ocean View Avenue). Councilman Smigiel made welcoming remarks and was joined by Councilwoman McClellan. Planning staff made a presentation with basic information about the 1 acre site, planning history for the area, and a few images of possibilities for the site. *One given that was stressed by staff is that the dune will be restored.* The community was invited to provide input on what they would like to see on the site. Following is a summary of what was shared, summarized by use or feature:



USES

- Boardwalk
- Park
 - Native vegetation to stabilize environment
 - Fitness equipment/fitness park
 - Playground
 - Gazebo at end of 1st View
 - Could be used as focal point
 - Weddings
 - Event space/live entertainment
 - Archway to introduce neighborhood/area
 - Grills
 - Public patio and seating
 - Farmers market
 - Food trucks
- Waterfront eatery/restaurant
 - Outdoor deck
 - Upper level dining to see view
 - Independently-owned
 - Healthy options
- Create a destination such as a pop-up beer garden

SUGGESTED FEATURES (could be tied to any use)

- Beach View or Vista
- Access to beach
- Family friendly
- Fully accessible for all users

- Safe for pedestrians
- Historic markers (Lincoln visited here, Greenies)
- Bike racks
- Bike lanes and golf carts

OTHER COMMENTS

- Need a market study to determine feasibility of a restaurant
- Needs to generate tax dollars
- Get rid of laundromat—make a part of this parcel
- Do something to the storm drains that are visible on the beach—maybe paint
- City needs to better utilize existing park and open space
- Areas on the south side of Ocean View Avenue should be evaluated for potential parking

KEY TAKEAWAYS

While there was no consensus, there were a few key takeaways:

- Community does not want residential uses on the site
- Community does not want the site used for parking, either on a permanent or temporary basis
- Community supports expanding the boardwalk
- Community is split between a park option and a restaurant option

NEXT STEPS

Information will be sent to all attendees and be posted on the City's website at www.norfolk.gov/planforgreenies. Follow up information will be presented at the next Ocean View Advisory Committee Meeting in May.