Bertie County - Tall Glass of Water (TGOW) Phase I Development

Description
Referred to locally as "Tall Glass of Water" (TGOW) until a name and logo have been selected, the site’s most stunning feature is its 2,200 linear feet of sand beach and shallow calm waters overlooked by impressive high cliffs on the Albemarle Sound where the Chowan River begins.

The recreational facilities for Phase I of the TGOW project were selected to meet the expressed needs of the community – open access to the water and close-to-home outdoor recreation activities that both young and old can enjoy. A key element of Phase I is an ADA-accessible ramp and walkway from the parking area to the beach. Connected to the walkway at the upper level will be solar-powered restrooms, outdoor showers, and a picnic shelter fitting up to 6 family-sized picnic tables. A kayak kiosk at the beach will house the Bertie County Parks and Recreation kayaks and life preservers. Upon completion of the walkway, clean up along the shore is necessary to complete the public swim beach. Two of seven miles of hiking trail are to be completed in Phase I. The meandering trail loop will explore meadows, forest area, and stream beds. Part of the loop will include an overlook along the cliffs. Primitive campsites with picnic tables and steel fire rings will be provided on naturally flat and open areas to minimize tree cutting. To transform the farmed fields, Phase I will also include several acres of natural meadow restoration.

Justification
The Bertie Commissioners' goal for TGOW is three-fold: to provide the people of Bertie with free and open access to the water, and outdoor recreation activities to open new paths towards improved quality of life. These are recorded in Blueprint for Bertie: A Community Economic Development Plan (2012), the Bertie County Comprehensive Recreation Plan (2018-2028), and the CAMA Land Use Plan (adopted in 2016).

The acquisition of the property was made possible by a 2016 grant from NC PARTF and Bertie County. Bordering the TGOW property are two parcels; a 300-acre and 995-acre tract conveyed by the NC Coastal Land Trust to NC Division of Parks and Recreation, to become the Salmon Creek State Natural Area, further ensuring permanent protection of the significant natural, historical, archaeological and cultural resources that border the Albemarle Sound. See photo at right. Bertie County Commissioners and the TGOW Design Team look forward to offering shared outdoor recreation experiences throughout the entire 1,442 acres. The Board of Commissioners is committed to improving the quality of life for all Bertie County citizens and recognizes the importance of recreational activities to promote health and wellness. Likewise, the governing body supports conserving our natural resources and connecting children to nature, as evidenced by the County's investment in the "Tall Glass of Water" project, by acquiring a 137-acre tract of land, to provide public access to the beach and waterfront recreational opportunities afforded by the pristine waters of the Albemarle Sound.

Most importantly, programming through the lens of social equity to ensure that all people have access to the benefits of local parks and recreational facilities is a top priority for the Bertie County Board of Commissioners.
## Tall Glass of Water Project - Phase 1

**May 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Elements</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Total Item Cost</th>
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<tr>
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## Bertie County

### Matching Funds for
PARTF 2019-20 Application

### TGOW Project

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