



CAMA LAND USE PLAN TOWN OF DUCK

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT 2017

I. All local, state, federal, and joint actions that have been undertaken successfully to implement its certified CAMA land use plan

CAMA Management Topics

Public Access – strategies for maximizing community access to beaches and public trust areas.

1. Partnered with Dare County and several other towns on the Outer Banks on a beach/dune nourishment project covering approximately 1.7 miles of the beach and dune system in Duck.
2. Annually contracted to provide lifeguard services at eight strategic locations along the public beach.
3. Acquired and developed nearly 9.4 acres of land on the Currituck Sound with a Town administration building, meeting hall, entertainment facilities, parking area, and public park.
4. Constructed three phases of a soundside boardwalk (totaling 0.8 mile) providing public views and access to the Currituck Sound. The boardwalk includes a boat dock, kayak launch, and crabbing dock.

Land Use Compatibility – management of land use and development in a way that minimizes its primary and secondary impacts on natural and man-made resources.

1. Adopted a 2027 Vision outlining the Town's goal of maintaining its small-town atmosphere, low density neighborhoods, and commercial village with a mix of independent shops and restaurants.
2. Amended Town development standards in keeping with the goal of maintaining the community's relatively low density, residential scale of development.
3. Evaluated and referenced the compatibility the CAMA Land Use Plan during the review of every development project, rezoning, and text amendment considered by the Town.
4. Adopted standards to ensure the village scale, pedestrian orientation, and compatibility of development within Duck Village.
5. Adopted standards for filling and grading activities that limit the amount of fill, stormwater runoff, and erosion/sedimentation.

Infrastructure Carrying Capacity – strategies to ensure that infrastructure is available to support anticipated and planned development and that it is managed to protect areas of environmental concern and other fragile areas.

1. Coordinated with local and State agencies on the review and approval of proposed development projects to ensure that infrastructure standards are met and capacity is not exceeded.
2. Established relatively low density residential zoning and relatively large minimum lot sizes to ensure capacity for individual wastewater (septic) systems.
3. Adopted standards limiting the maximum size of residences depending on lot sizes to limit development density and its impacts on local infrastructure.
4. Conducted a thorough study and adopted standards permitting solar and wind energy facilities as renewable energy sources.
5. Completed five significant projects to address recurring stormwater management issues along Duck Road (N.C. Highway 12) and the Duck Trail shared use path.
6. Developed and adopted a Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan for the Town of Duck.
7. Participated in the creation and adoption of the Dare County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.
8. Served as an active member of the Albemarle Regional Planning Organization on regional transportation issues.
9. Constructed a 0.8 mile soundside boardwalk over three phases as a transportation alternative and recreational amenity for the Town.
10. Maintained and repaired sections of the existing Duck Trail shared use path along Duck Road.
11. Designed and permitted a planned project involving the construction of sidewalks, crosswalks, and other pedestrian improvements throughout Duck Village. This project will be constructed in three phases beginning in Fall 2017.

Natural Hazard Areas – policies to reduce the community’s vulnerability to natural hazards.

1. Adopted and enforced FEMA flood maps and a flood damage prevention ordinance meeting all requirements of State and federal agencies.
2. Adopted a multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan in cooperation with other communities in Dare County and the Albemarle Region identifying solutions to reduce the risks to human life and property from natural hazards.
3. Initiated a project with the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and N.C. Division of Coastal Management to develop a resiliency plan for the Town of Duck.
4. Adopted a Public Information Strategy outlining many projects and activities to educate residents, visitors, and businesses about the risks of flooding and other natural hazards, as well as opportunities to prevent or minimize damage during these events.
5. Prepared and reviewed an Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Plan on an annual basis.
6. Adopted and enforced policies and regulations that limit the scale and intensity of development in hazard prone areas.
7. Required a land disturbance permit regulating vegetation removal, grading, erosion, and stormwater issues on developing properties.
8. Adopted stormwater management standards to minimize the impacts of commercial and other higher intensity development on the surrounding environment.
9. Adopted ordinances requiring greater setbacks for beachfront accessory structures and prohibiting the use of sandbags to artificially stabilize dunes or structures.
10. Partnered with Dare County and several other towns on the Outer Banks on a beach/dune nourishment project covering approximately 1.7 miles of the beach and dune system in Duck.

11. Conducted numerous public education efforts using educational brochures, website pages, newsletter articles, videos, and other programs to educate property owners about topics such as water quality, stormwater management, flood damage prevention, and dune stabilization.
12. Conducted an annual dune planting project (sea oats and beach grass) to stabilize the primary dune throughout the Town of Duck.
13. Provided “dune care” signs to neighborhoods to post at community beach access walkways along the primary oceanfront dune.

Water Quality – land use and development policies and strategies to protect quality waters and to restore quality in waters that are non-supporting.

1. Constructed five significant stormwater management improvements along Duck Road (N.C. Highway 12) in the areas of Tuckahoe Drive, The Waterfront Shops, South Snow Geese Drive, Sound Sea Village, and Flight Drive.
2. Participated in the Science Panel of the Alliance to Revive the Currituck Sound, seeking ways to improve the water quality and health of the Currituck Sound.
3. Coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct water quality testing in the Currituck Sound.
4. Educated local residents and visitors about the importance of water quality through “Nature on the Boardwalk” tours that included water quality sampling.

Local Issues:

In addition to the CAMA Management Topics, the Town of Duck identified 23 local development issues that were incorporated into the adopted land use plan.

Atlantic Ocean Shoreline

1. Partnered with Dare County and several other towns on the Outer Banks on a beach/dune nourishment project covering approximately 1.7 miles of the beach and dune system in Duck.
2. Planted sea oats and beach grass on an annual basis to help stabilize the dune system.
3. Annually contracted to provide lifeguard services at eight strategic locations along the public beach.
4. Participated in the Dare County Shoreline Management Commission, which oversees and advocates for the preservation and restoration of shorelines.
5. Hired a Local Permit Officer to enforce CAMA regulations and assist the N.C. Division of Coastal Management and local property owners with the CAMA permitting process.
6. Adopted ordinances requiring greater setbacks for beachfront accessory structures and prohibiting the use of sandbags to artificially stabilize dunes or structures.
7. Adopted ordinances that prohibit beach fires, fireworks, and commercial activities on the beach.

Beach Driving

1. Adopted an ordinance setting standards for beach driving and limiting beach driving to the months between October 1st and April 30th every year.

Beach Renourishment and Maintenance

1. Partnered with Dare County and several other towns on the Outer Banks on a beach/dune nourishment project covering approximately 1.7 miles of the beach and dune system in Duck.
2. Planted sea oats and beach grass on an annual basis to help stabilize the dune system.

3. Provided property owners, residents, visitors, and management companies with information about maintaining the constructed beach and dune system.

Commercial Development

1. Adopted standards to ensure the village scale, pedestrian orientation, and compatibility of commercial development within Duck Village.
2. Partnered with the Duck Merchants Association to market and support local businesses in Duck. Such efforts include the development of a website, brochures, and signage.

Community Appearance

1. Adopted design guidelines for commercial buildings, utilities, lighting, and landscaping.
2. Adopted standards to ensure the village scale, pedestrian orientation, and compatibility of commercial development within Duck Village.
3. Adopted standards limiting the maximum size of residences depending on lot sizes to ensure compatible development in residential areas.
4. Adopted development requirements to preserve or plant trees/landscaping on every property.

Currituck Sound Shoreline

1. Hired a Local Permit Officer to enforce CAMA regulations and assist the N.C. Division of Coastal Management and local property owners with the CAMA permitting process.
2. Adopted standards for filling and grading activities that limit the amount of fill, stormwater runoff, and erosion/sedimentation.
3. Designed and engineered a marsh restoration project in the Currituck Sound along the Town Park property to stabilize the shoreline and serve as a pilot project for other soundfront improvements in Duck.
4. Participated in the Science Panel of the Alliance to Revive the Currituck Sound, seeking ways to improve the water quality and health of the Currituck Sound.

Development Design Standards

1. Adopted design guidelines for commercial buildings, utilities, lighting, and landscaping.

Duck Trail

1. Maintained and repaired sections of the existing Duck Trail shared use path along Duck Road on an annual basis.
2. Completed five projects to address recurring stormwater management issues along the Duck Trail shared use path.
3. Designed and permitted a planned project involving the construction of sidewalks, crosswalks, and other pedestrian improvements throughout Duck Village. This project connecting the northern and southern sections of the Duck Trail will be constructed in three phases beginning in Fall 2017.

Federal Properties

1. Coordinated projects and improvements with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Field Research Facility.
2. Negotiated with the USACE to lease additional property to house an expansion of the existing public safety (Fire/Police) building on the USACE Field Research Facility property.

Intergovernmental Relations

1. Entered into a mutual aid agreement between the Duck Fire Department and surrounding communities on the Outer Banks including all of the towns, Dare County, and several departments in Currituck County.
2. Entered into a mutual aid agreement between the Duck Police Department, other town departments, and the Dare County Sheriff's Department.
3. Established a reciprocal agreement with the towns of Kitty Hawk and Kill Devil Hills to provide building inspection services.
4. Participated in a statewide mutual aid agreement with communities across North Carolina for disaster assistance and recovery.
5. Partnered with other local and regional governments on a variety of planning efforts – solid waste, hazard mitigation, transportation, etc.
6. Partnered with Dare County and several other towns on the Outer Banks on construction of a beach/dune nourishment project covering all or parts of four towns.

Overhead Utility Lines

1. Successfully negotiated with Dominion Power to remove several sections of overhead utility lines along Currituck Sound.

Parking and Loading/Off-Loading Areas

1. Constructed a large public parking area adjoining the Town Park and boardwalk access.
2. Adopted standards in the Village Commercial district permitting flexible parking layouts and shared parking arrangements.

Public Safety

1. Added full-time and part-time staff to the Duck Fire Department, most recently with the addition of three new firefighters in 2016.
2. Added full-time and part-time staff to the Duck Police Department, most recently with the addition of a Police Officer and Community Resource Officer positions in the FY 2017-18 budget.
3. Increased the staffing for contracted life guard services during the summer months.
4. Conducted a space needs study and conceptual plan for the construction of a new, larger Public Safety Building housing the Fire, Police, and Ocean Safety departments. Funding has been approved to complete the design and engineering for this project.

Redevelopment

1. Adopted standards to ensure that redevelopment is consistent with the scale and character of existing development in the surrounding area.

Residential Development

1. Amended Town development standards in keeping with the goal of maintaining the community's relatively low density, residential scale of development.
2. Adopted relatively large minimum lot size standards to maintain the existing character of the Town and ensure capacity for individual wastewater (septic) systems.
3. Adopted standards limiting the maximum occupancy of residences depending on lot sizes to maintain the existing character of the Town and limit development density.
4. Established provisions for the development of accessory dwelling units to allow housing that can serve moderate income persons.

Septic Tank Use

1. Coordinated all permitting activities with the Dare County Environmental Health Department.
2. Established relatively low density residential zoning and relatively large minimum lot sizes to ensure capacity for individual wastewater (septic) systems.
3. Adopted standards limiting the maximum size of residences depending on lot sizes to limit development density and better accommodate wastewater systems.

Sexually Oriented Businesses

1. Adopted an ordinance limiting potential locations and addressing the community's concerns about sexually oriented businesses.

Solid Waste Management

1. Adopted a ten-year Solid Waste Management Plan in cooperation with other communities in Dare County.
2. Contracted with a private firm to provide curbside trash and recycling pick-up and disposal. Such services are increased as the Town's population increases during the summer months.
3. Entered into a partnership with Dare County and the Town of Kitty Hawk to allow Duck residents to dispose of large waste items at the recycling center in Kitty Hawk.

Stormwater Management

1. Adopted stormwater management standards to minimize the impacts of commercial and other higher intensity development on the surrounding environment.
2. Completed five significant projects to address recurring stormwater management issues along Duck Road (N.C. Highway 12) and the Duck Trail shared use path.

Tourism

1. Adopted standards and added pedestrian improvements to enhance Duck Village as a tourist destination for shopping, eating, and recreation.
2. Hosted approximately 90 public events (concerts, movies, performances, and presentations) a year at the gazebo on the Town Green and in the Amphitheater at the Town Park. These events drew over 23,000 attendees to Duck in 2016.
3. Established the Duck Jazz Festival and 4th of July Parade as major events drawing thousands of visitors to Duck.

Town Commons Area

1. Acquired and developed nearly 9.4 acres of land on the Currituck Sound with a Town administration building, meeting hall, public park, entertainment facilities, and parking area.
2. Hosted approximately 90 public events (concerts, movies, performances, and presentations) a year at the gazebo on the Town Green and in the Amphitheater at the Town Park.

Transportation

1. Developed and adopted a Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan for the Town of Duck.
2. Participated in the creation and adoption of the Dare County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.
3. Participated in the creation and adoption of the Albemarle Regional Bicycle Plan.
4. Served as an active member of the Albemarle Regional Planning Organization prioritizing transportation projects and studying regional transportation issues.

5. Constructed a 0.8 mile soundside boardwalk over three phases as a transportation alternative and recreational amenity for the Town.
6. Maintained and repaired sections of the existing Duck Trail shared use path along Duck Road.
7. Designed and permitted a planned project involving the construction of sidewalks, crosswalks, and other pedestrian improvements throughout Duck Village. This project will be constructed in three phases beginning in Fall 2017.

Uses of and Activities In and On Ocean and Sound Waters

1. Created a special Ocean and Sound overlay zoning district extending 1,000 feet from the shoreline that sets standards for activities within the portions of the Atlantic Ocean and Currituck Sound that abut the Town of Duck.

II. Any actions that have been delayed and reasons for the delay

1. The Town ceased pursuing a marsh restoration project in the Currituck Sound along the Town Park property when concerns were raised about potential impacts on submerged aquatic vegetation (although an invasive species) in the project area.
2. Construction of planned pedestrian improvements throughout Duck Village have been delayed pending funding, but are now ready to proceed.
3. The placement of utility lines underground has been limited due to the significant cost of such improvements that would have to be borne by the Town.

III. Any unforeseen land use issues that have arisen since certification of the CAMA land use plan

1. Pending revisions to FEMA flood insurance rate maps and related amendments to standards in the flood damage prevention ordinance have led to some confusion for local property owners and challenges in defining/redefining appropriate development standards in the areas affected by the changes.
2. Completion of the beach nourishment project and establishment of a static vegetation line within the beach nourishment project area have changed the manner in which the Town regulates development in this area.
3. Establishment of the Duck Merchants Association has provided the Town of Duck with a partner for addressing local business needs and marketing local businesses.

IV. Consistency of existing land use and development ordinances with current CAMA land use plan policies

1. The Town of Duck has closely followed the goals, policies, and objectives of the adopted CAMA Land Use Plan. As mentioned previously, compatibility with the land use plan has been evaluated during the review of every development project, rezoning, and text amendment considered by the Town. Many of the current Town ordinances were adopted in an effort to support the goals, policies, and objectives found in the CAMA Land Use Plan. Among many benefits, these ordinances help preserve the Town's relatively low density residential character, limit development's impact on the environment, and minimize property damage during storms.

ACTION PLAN

ACTION ITEM 1: *Develop, adopt, and implement sound and ocean zoning overlays.*
Complete. Ordinance adopted.

ACTION ITEM 2: *Develop, adopt, and implement village commercial development zoning options.*
Complete. Ordinance adopted.

ACTION ITEM 3: *Develop, adopt, and implement commercial development/building design guidelines and standards.*
Complete. Design standards adopted.

ACTION ITEM 4: *Develop, adopt, and implement tree and vegetation protection ordinance.*
Complete. Ordinance adopted.

ACTION ITEM 5: *Develop, adopt, and implement property grading and filling regulations.*
Complete. Ordinance adopted.

ACTION ITEM 6: *Develop, adopt, and implement capital improvements plan (CIP).*
Completed annually.

ACTION ITEM 7: *Acquisition of property and/or acceptance of easements on an as needed basis to meet public objectives.*
Complete and ongoing.

- 1. 9.4 acres of land on the Currituck Sound was purchased and developed with a Town administration building, meeting hall, public park, entertainment facilities, and parking area.**
- 2. Dozens of easements were acquired from soundfront property owners to accommodate the construction of the Town's soundside boardwalk.**
- 3. Over 120 easements were acquired from oceanfront property owners to accommodate the construction of the beach nourishment project.**
- 4. The Town is negotiating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to lease additional property to house an expansion of the existing public safety (Fire/Police) building on the USACE Field Research Facility property.**
- 5. The Town will be negotiating easements from a couple dozen property owners to allow for the construction of sidewalk improvements throughout Duck Village.**

ACTION ITEM 8: *Seek State assistance to prepare shoreline access plan.*
Not complete. The Town has not taken any action toward this objective.

ACTION ITEM 9: *Develop and implement a municipal property master plan.*
Complete. The improvements in the master plan have been constructed.

ACTION ITEM 10: *Continue community outreach and public participation programs.*
Complete and ongoing.

1. The Town has added a community outreach/public information position and part-time assistant.
2. The Town engages residents and out-of-town property owners through the use of traditional and social media including videos, newsletters, posters, pamphlets, weekly e-news, Facebook, and Twitter.

ACTION ITEM 11: *Develop program to support/encourage business alliance formation.*

Complete and ongoing.

ACTION ITEM 12: *Develop programs to interact with/through civic groups.*

Complete and ongoing.

1. Important information is often shared with and disseminated through local neighborhood associations.
2. Town employees frequently participate in meetings with the Duck Merchants Association and local neighborhood associations.

ACTION ITEM 13: *Participate in multi-jurisdictional beach management planning.*

Complete and ongoing.

1. The Town is partnering with Dare County and several other towns on the Outer Banks on a beach/dune nourishment project.

ACTION ITEM 14: *Participate in multi-jurisdictional regional transportation.*

Complete and ongoing.

1. The Town participated in the creation and adoption of the Dare County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.
2. The Town participated in the creation and adoption of the Albemarle Regional Bicycle Plan.
3. The Town serves as an active member of the Albemarle Regional Planning Organization prioritizing transportation projects and studying regional transportation issues.

ACTION ITEM 15: *Develop Town-based computer mapping program.*

Complete.

1. The Town purchased and operates its own GIS computer mapping system.

ACTION ITEM 16: *Codify Town ordinances.*

Complete and ongoing.

1. The Town has contracted with American Legal Corporation to codify and update the Town Code.

ACTION ITEM 17: *Conduct annual Town Council retreat.*

Complete and ongoing. The Town's annual retreat is conducted in February each year.

ACTION ITEM 18: *Develop a storm water management plan.*

Complete and ongoing.

1. The Town has retained an engineer to assist with evaluating and prioritizing stormwater improvements.

2. The Town has completed five significant projects to address recurring stormwater management issues along Duck Road (N.C. Highway 12) and the Duck Trail shared use path.
3. The Town now plans to study stormwater drainage issues within several residential neighborhoods.

ACTION ITEM 19: *Develop (in-house) CAMA permitting capability.*

Complete and ongoing.

1. The Town has three employees who are trained and certified as CAMA Local Permit Officers.

ACTION ITEM 20: *Examine potential for an interconnected Duck Trail along the west side of NC 12 and along the Currituck Sound shore line.*

Complete.

1. The Town contracted with an engineering firm to conduct a study of this potential project. Due to the physical constraints and significant costs identified by the study, the Town has not subsequently proceeded with this project.

ACTION ITEM 21: *Prepare land use plan implementation*

Complete and ongoing. The Town prepares these reports when requested.