Future Land Use

Character Areas

Residential

The residential designation is characterized by neighborhoods with mostly single family detached homes, including year-round and seasonal residences as well as short-term rentals.

Typical Uses

Detached single family homes, occasional duplexes, accessory structures, associated community recreational facilities, civic association owned beach access, and occasional institutional uses (e.g., – church).

Recreational

The recreational designation includes privately-owned active and passive recreational facilities that serve the residents of the community. This designation also includes existing environmentally sensitive areas that are currently being used for active and/ or passive recreation.

Typical Uses

Marinas, recreational paths, beach/ sound access areas, and community recreational facilities.

Municipal/Educational

The municipal/education designation includes community serving town facilities and an elementary school. Other governmental uses, like utilities, police, or emergency response, are also appropriate.

Typical Uses

Government support uses, cemeteries, open space areas, and schools.

Commercial

The commercial designation focuses on small-medium scale, neighborhood serving commercial development that is compatible with the existing coastal character of the community. This designation is located along US 158 and at the Ocean Boulevard and Duck Road intersection. Pedestrian friendly uses and interconnectivity with surrounding businesses and neighborhoods is encouraged. It may be appropriate to have buildings pulled up to the street with parking in the rear.

Typical Uses

Commercial, retail, services, or offices. Attached multi-family residences and upper story residential uses are possible if context appropriate.

Conservation/Open Space

The conservation/open space designation focuses on preserving environmentally sensitive natural areas and existing open spaces. These natural areas are comprised of wetlands, community open spaces, wildlife habitat, beaches and dunes, and/or existing forested areas. Development is not encouraged in this designation.

Typical Uses

Utility related uses, recreational paths, passive recreation, habitat preservation.

Wetlands

Wetlands provide habitat for many diverse species and are natural buffers between uplands and waterways. These areas were delineated using National Wetlands Inventory data; on the ground field survey is needed to identify accurate wetlands location.

