

2021
JEKYLL
ISLAND
MASTER PLAN UPDATE

APPENDIX B

Town Hall Report



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Jekyll Island Master Plan Update Town Hall Meeting June 16, 2021

The Jekyll Island Master Plan Update Town Hall meeting was conducted using Think Tank software. Small groups provided input via laptop for each question and responses were displayed on screen in real time for all participants to see. Before proceeding to the next question, each response was reviewed with clarification sought if necessary. The initial question, a sample question to ensure the system was working properly, is not included in the reporting below. The responses are included as they were submitted, unedited and unsorted. Approximately 65 people participated in the session.

QUESTION 1

THE JIA HAS HAD NUMEROUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS- WHAT HAS BEEN MOST SIGNIFICANT TO YOU?

1. new shopping area-
2. Convention center
3. convention center
4. Beach Village
5. Moving shops from trailers into beach village
6. bike paths
7. completion of the bike path around entire island
8. Bike Path
9. conservation plan
10. mosaic
11. Conservation director hired
12. Updated Tennis Courts
13. enhancing the conservation department
14. General revitalization of the hotels and restaurants
15. restoration of historic buildings
16. convention center
17. on site education - horton pond
18. resolving the 35/65 issue
19. Improved bike paths (but still needs improvement)
20. grfeat dunes park
21. Revitalization without ruining the character of the island
22. beach access
23. Crossover improvements
24. New Crossovers to protect dunes
25. Beach Patrols
26. Bike path improvements
27. pavilions and beach picnic areas
28. horton pond
29. The fact that linger longer didn't make it and that we could preserve the 65/35 and not have marsh declared part of the land
30. Turtle Center
31. 4-h center
32. soccer complex and 4h center
33. Island protection using Johnson rocks, refurbishing sea grass for dunes retoration
34. bike path renovations
35. Christmas lights
36. protecting the deer
37. the beach erosion control
38. horton pond upgrades
39. landscape architecture and historic preservation
40. Redoing hotels falling aprat, convention center, shopping centers took significant effort.
41. north beach parking lot
42. shrimp and grits festival
43. Great Dunes Park
44. Preserving the character of the island by not allowing overdevelopment
45. arts festival
46. revetment
47. Island treasures
48. Improvement of the bike paths
49. CONVENTION CENTER
50. merry artists show

QUESTION 2

OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE GREATEST ISSUES OR CHALLENGES FOR THE JIA TO ADDRESS?

1. the capacity issues
2. Avoiding overdevelopment
3. OVER DEVELOPMENT
4. Infrastructure concerns
5. Capacity issues
6. No more hotels
7. Traffic Issues
8. infrastructure
9. no overdevelopment
10. Taking away golf courses for development
11. Overcrowding
12. traffic
13. parking/restaurants not adequate
14. overutilization
15. infrastructure
16. enforcing the beach lighting ordinance
17. improving and adding restaurants
18. traffic back up at gate
19. transportation to and from the island
20. more restaurants
21. Balancing visitation with amenities
22. DEDICATED pass lane
23. No more subdivisions
24. labor achievement with less turnover
25. listening to the residents
26. Developing without understanding what has already been done, and what needs to be done to support it like sewage and traffic
27. CAPACITY ISSUES
28. Need an on-island pharmacy
29. managing/ upgrading infrastructure
30. The trend towards moving away from a community minded place to live to one that is only targeting
31. good restaurants open to all
32. Pay attention to what the capacity study said and develop in light of that
33. Fitness facility
34. protecting the character of the island
35. keeping water clean
36. pause in development to see where we are with capacity
37. protecting the natural resources
38. protecting the wildlife
39. maximum density and preserving the ingress egress of vehicles
40. Protecting the natural assets of the islands
41. No longer sense of community. Opportunities to come together like volunteering to put up xmas d
42. thinning out the deer
43. climate change
44. no downsizing of the number of golf holes
45. debris on the beach
46. Resident access to restaurants, a pool, without access restricted
47. capacity the vehicles are bulging at the seams
48. rising sea level
49. upgrade bylaws of JIA board- citizens need a voice
50. climate change
51. Sea level and climate change

52. people on the beach are not respecting our beaches, turtles and wildlife. trash is significant
53. Managing safety of private golf carts coming to the island
54. citizen advisory board
55. up grading the water infrastructure
56. ebikes
57. providing opportunities for community to come together like volunteering to put up xmas decorations and helping with the georgia floriday
58. better communication with public
59. slow speed vehicles and golf carts
60. motorized bikes and scooters
61. actually listen to the residents concerns
62. too many hotels
63. Over crowded bike paths that are safety issues

QUESTION 3

WHAT ARE THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE JEKYLL ISLAND AUTHORITY OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

1. Preservation of environment and nature
2. amtheater
3. Control development
4. pickle ball courts
5. eco-tourism
6. dog park
7. Focus on preservation of natural resources
8. support residents with food access
9. improve water quality- remove clam creek from impaired stream
10. Education of public of the biodiversity and develop ecotourism, create attractions not just entertainment but that have educational value
11. better food choices
12. ampitheather
13. upgrade golf course
14. use residents as volunteers
15. Manage what we have don't add to it.
16. a pharmacy
17. MAINTAIN LOW KEY ISLAND VIBE
18. Development of blind/lookout/overlook areas in the island
19. Dog park
20. Pharmacy
21. the Island could be more of an educational experience and reinforcing the natural attributes and historical character
22. develop sense of community again
23. to take a pause in development to see where capacity is at
24. better signage
25. Upgrade facilities regularly.
26. Teaching precolonial history not just the millionaires history
27. improving the golf courses witout losing any holes
28. A better understanding by the board of the true character of the island and how to preserve
29. more nature education
30. Upgrade intelligently by focusing on protecting the character
31. expand bike paths
32. a plan/rules for gems and golf carts
33. Governor should appoint a Jekyll Island resident to the board
34. Accept input from knowledgeable island residents who understand the history and character
35. 5 star resturant
36. listen to the residents.....
37. Internal transportation like a trolley system and have visitors park and leave their car for the duration of stay
38. better tree removal of dangerous situations
39. enforcing present rules and ordinances
40. Put a sandwich shop in the beach pavillion
41. Develop pickle ball on the island
42. infrastructure
43. no more building
44. Develop second croquet court
45. Keep Jekyll affordable for families
46. pickle ball courts
47. protect and take care of what we have
48. Reinstate the Citizens adavisory council
49. summer concerts
50. High end restaurant that residents can access

QUESTION 4

WHAT ELSE DO WE NEED TO KNOW?

1. underground electrical system
2. We do not want development in place of golf courses
3. Who's on the external review committee
4. independent audit of the Jekyll Island Authority annually
5. The survey was unbalanced, didn't provide answers that were not in support of development
6. Life Guards and rip-tide flags are needed.
7. transparency of the JIA board decisions
8. does this survey have any teeth?
9. The survey was biased in how it was presented, biased towards development
10. Understand what i
11. residents can only make statements at Board Meetings--we should be able to ask questions and get answers
12. Understand what the charter and community really means and do something to get it back
13. Explain the conservation designation of the Golf Course....would like open spaces managed for conservation purpose
14. Survey only addressed restaurants and hotels, not infrastructure
15. LNWA has a foot in the door and have become monopoly developers That should stop
16. Will you really listen to us residents?
17. Do not have Jekyll become St. Simons.
18. parking only in specified areas
19. what is the public engagement beyond this survey?
20. Affordable hotels
21. Bike path or lane to get pier
22. the large corporations that make money off our island should sponsor a golf course for example, or other island amenity or natural asset. give back
23. Do not block bike path with parking
24. better waste management for public spaces- busy weekends!!
25. jekyll island became n no. 1 destination in travel magazine due the fact we have clean beaches, 63 golf holes, tennis center, a lot of natural beauty why spoil it with more development
26. staff should equal capacity
27. Marketing and actual island development is incompatible with the capacity study
28. Bigger is not always better, more income is not a sign of success.
29. Why are the residents going to pay for a new ladder truck when it is only required for the high rise hotels
30. Market golf and tennis more to increase use
31. hotels should have impact fees -- impact of visitation should not be on the residents
32. Fund maintenance for golf courses and tennis to insure they stay in good shape
33. Attract biodiversity investors, not development investors
34. more town hall meetings
35. improve cell phone service (no bars on the south end)
36. Stop focusing on palm trees and plant more variety and shade giving trees
37. more interactive and town hall resident JIA meetings
38. add elected persons, resident hopefully, to JIA
39. This is a state park not a resort destination. It is meant for the average person not the well to do resort guest.
40. Better budgeting for ongoing maintenance of all amenities
41. quarterly town halls
42. too much advertising
43. Put money into our natural resources and conservation
44. urgent care center
45. No state park has an assisted living facility, Jekyll should not.
46. All homes, especially rentals should be encouraged to plant trees
47. No party houses
48. do your REALLY care what the residents think. I dont think you do
49. no party houses.
50. monitor the number of people in rentals