

Friends of Indian River



**Founded
2012**



<http://friendsofindianriver.org> e-mail:info@friendsofindianriver.org

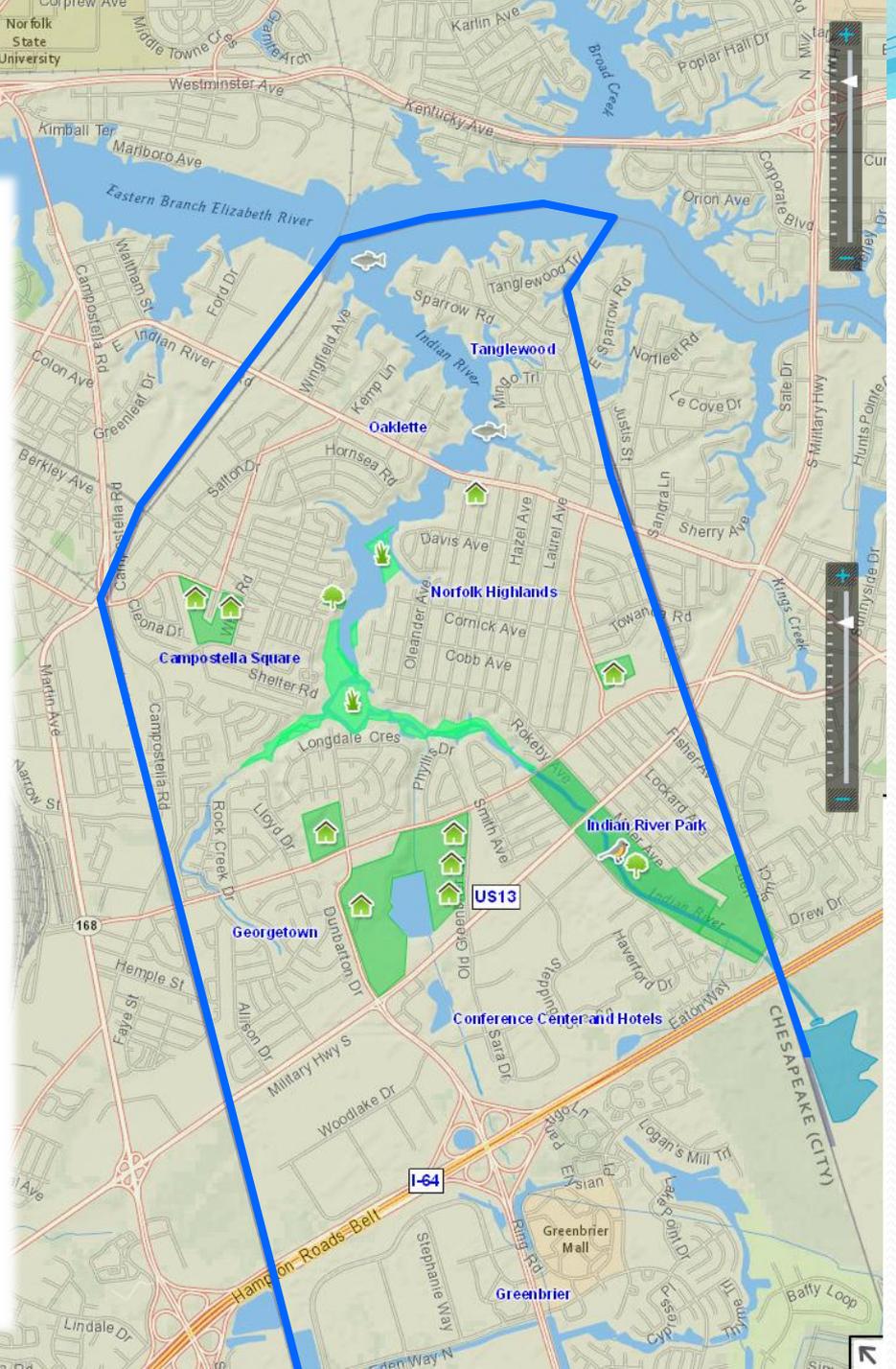
Striving to improve the quality of life for all the residents of the Indian River neighborhoods of Chesapeake, Virginia, by promoting and preserving a healthy and clean river, shorelines, parks, and green spaces connected to the surrounding community.

Our Community

- Indian River area in northeast corner of Chesapeake
- 25,000 residents
- 9 miles of shoreline
- 60 acres of marsh
- 90 acre Indian River Park

Challenges

- Watershed drains all of Greenbrier and Indian River
- 52% Impervious Surface
- Failing Water Quality Grade
 - Nitrogen & Phosphorus
 - Bacteria
- Aging Infrastructure from 50's, 60's, 70's
- Lack of public awareness



Indian River Road

Adopt-A-Spot Gardens – Tree Planting
Cleanups - Business Outreach – Litter Campaign



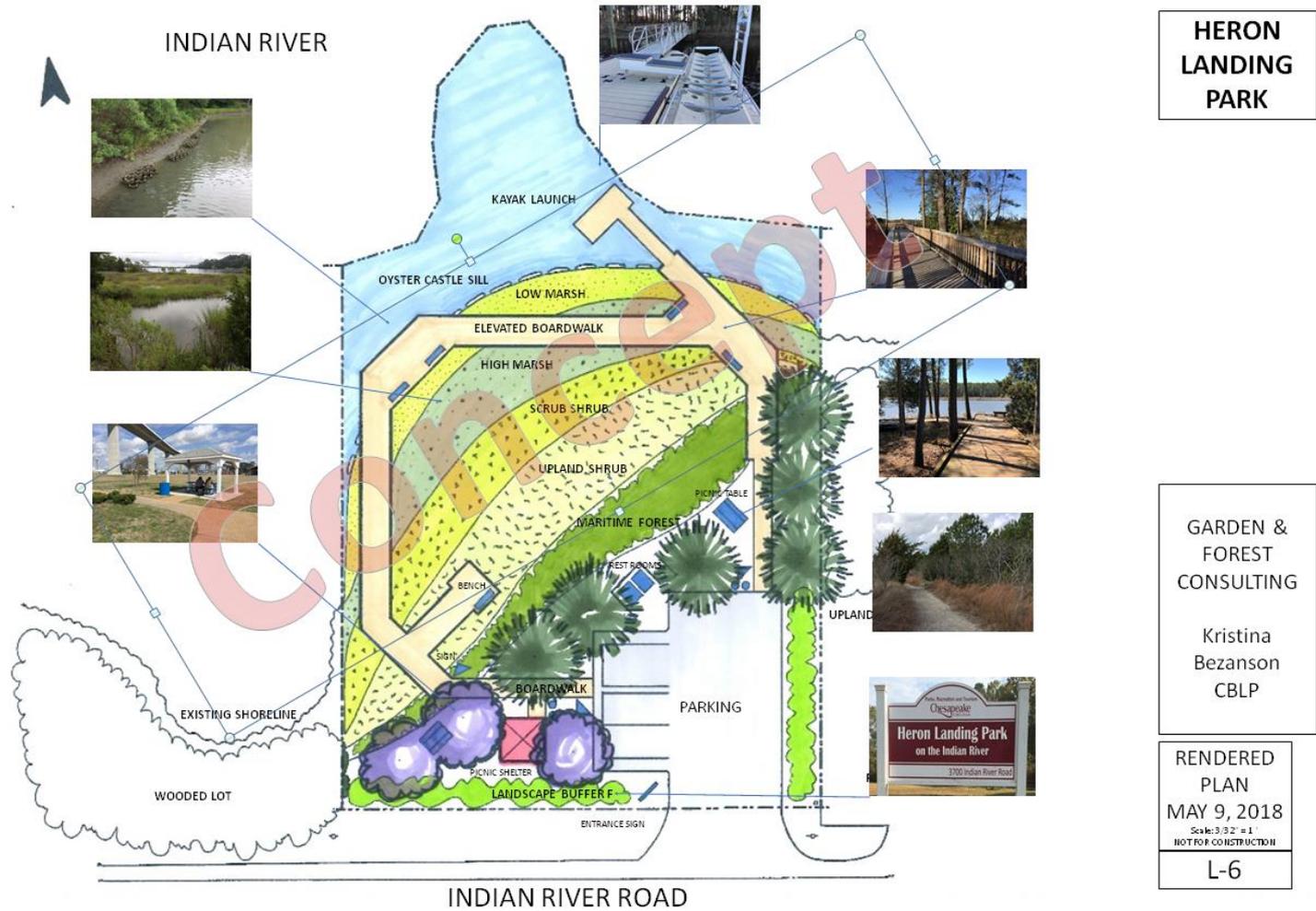
Indian River Restoration

Working with ERP and CBF on
Oyster and Shoreline Restoration ... “Scoop The Poop”
Yard Makeover ...Less Lawns ... More Native Plants



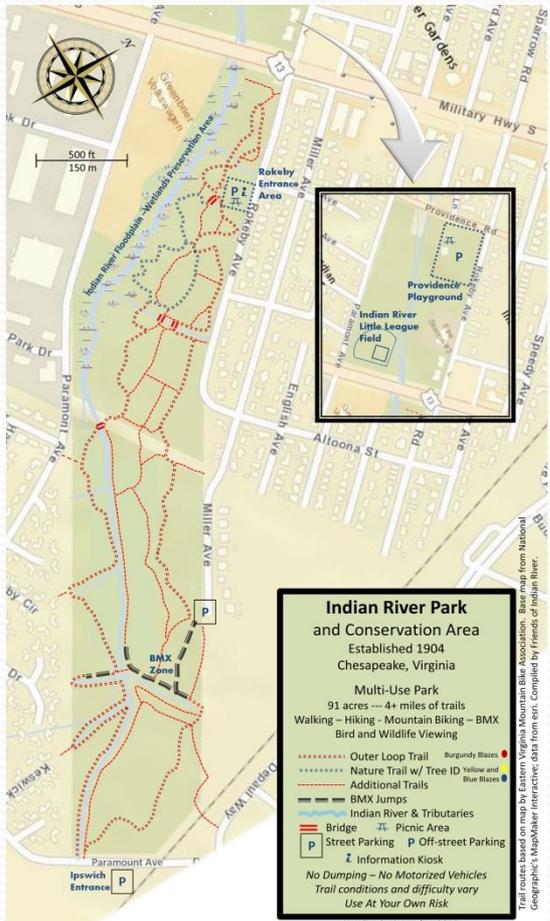
Indian River Canoe Launch

City, Friends, ERP, Kristina Bezanson (GWU Grad Student)



Indian River Park

Nature Trail... BioBlitz ...Native Plant Garden ...Trail Hikes
 Invasive Species Removal ... Clean the Bay Days



Plymouth Park

5 acre City Park

Clean the Bay Day ... Public Access Opportunity

Picnic Tables & Signage ... Pathway, Trees, Playground



Civic Engagement

Monthly Meetings ... Tabling and Outreach Input at Town Halls ... Planning Commission ... City Council Participate in City Committees ... Input on Zoning and Permitting

April 18, 2016

Michael D. Barber,
Director,
Parks, Recreation and Tourism
1224 Progressive Drive,
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Dear Mr. Barber,

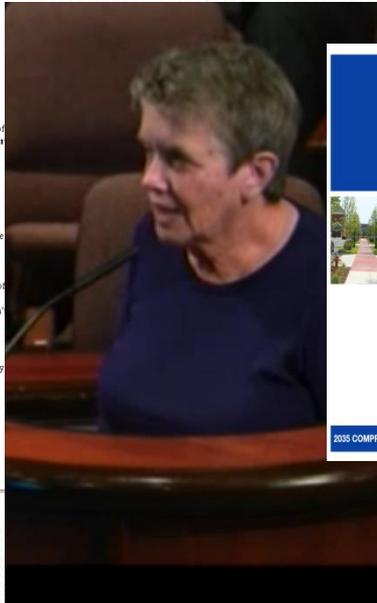
I am writing you on behalf of the Friends of Indian River to support efforts by the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism to acquire a site along the Indian River, just off Indian River Road near the Oakhatche Bridge for a canoe and kayak launch. The goal of the Friends of Indian River is to improve the quality of life for all the residents of the Indian River neighborhoods of Chesapeake, Virginia, by promoting and preserving a healthy and clean river, shorelines, parks, and green spaces connected to the surrounding community. Improved access to our river is a key element of that goal.

The lower Indian River watershed in Chesapeake is home to 25,000 citizens. It has nearly 9 miles of shoreline and 60 acres of marsh in which you can find a diverse cross-section of wildlife including over a hundred documented species of birds, fish, crabs, oysters, fawns, otters, and more. The River has great potential as an asset to the region, for recreation, environmental buffer, and quality of life opportunities. However, there is no public canoe/kayak access point along the Indian River, and none along the entire southern shore of the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River. Citizens living a block or two away from the river hardly know that the river exists and have no opportunity for the recreational enjoyment of the river. And if they can see or enjoy the river, they have no incentive to protect the river.

In the most recent evaluation of the health of this watershed in the 2014 State of the River Report, the Indian River got a failing grade, literally an "F", for both nutrient and bacterial contamination. Much of the source of this pollution is the surrounding community and the only way we are going to reverse this problem is by involving the whole community in stormwater management efforts. Successful restoration efforts in the Lafayette River in Norfolk demonstrate that the river can recover, but for this to be successful, residents must have stakes in the river.



Friends of Indian River
1 of 2
<http://friendsofindianriver.org>
PO Box 13772, Chesapeake, VA 23325



Adopted February 25, 2014

Prepared by The Chesapeake Planning Department

2016 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

**CITY OF CHESAPEAKE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

AGENDA
January 16, 2016
6:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber
306 Cedar Road

**** ALL PRESENTATION MATERIALS MUST BE REVIEWED BY THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING ****

NOTE: COPIES OF BACKUP MATERIALS FOR ALL AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDING THE APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS FOR PLANNING PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS MAY BE VIEWED IN THE OFFICE OR THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT AT ANY TIME DURING BUSINESS HOURS OF 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

REMINDER: 4:30 PM Work Session – 4th Floor Human Resources Training
Topics: 1. Upcoming Agenda Items
2. Regional Broadband Initiative and Mainframe Modernization Project

5:45 PM Council Member Reports

The City Council Work Sessions and Meetings can be viewed live on WCTV Television (Cox Cable channel 48 and Verizon Cable channel 43) and at City/CCDC Council meetings, but not Work Sessions, may be heard on WFOS-88.7FM broadcast on WCTV-Chesapeake Television (Cox Cable Channel 48 and Verizon Cable Channel 43) as well as CityofChesapeake.net at the following times: Tuesday - Work Session at 12:30 a.m., Wednesday - Work Session at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and Saturday - Work Session at 6:00 p.m. and Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Speaker Cards will not be accepted for the Council Meeting. Citizens who wish to speak may register on the date of the City Council Chamber before 6:30 p.m. Citizens may also pre-register by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 382-6151, Monday through Friday, (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) including the date of the Council meeting.

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD AT HEARING. Council meetings are telecast live on WCTV-Chesapeake Television (Cox Cable channel 48 and Verizon Cable channel 43) as well as CityofChesapeake.net, WFOS-88.7FM. The City of Chesapeake will attempt to make reasonable accommodations necessary for sensory impaired and disabled citizens. Citizens who wish accommodations must contact Mr. Tim Winslow (382-6273), within three working days of the meeting.

**NO FOOD OR DRINKS PERMITTED IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES WHILE IN THE CHAMBER**



Vision for “Main Street” Indian River Road

Help us make it a destination where people & business interact



Steps

- Revitalize/Redevelop Indian River Shopping Center
- Encourage businesses to update storefronts and plant more plants and flowers
- Reduce Speeding along Indian River Road
- Improve sidewalks and establish bike lanes and bike routes
- Implement Traffic Calming on side streets
- Eventually move power lines underground

Conceptual view of Indian River Rd and Sparrow Rd intersection



Partnerships

**Chesapeake
Public Works**

**Civic
Leagues**

And More ...

**Chesapeake
Parks, Rec &
Tourism**

**Local Boy
Scouts**

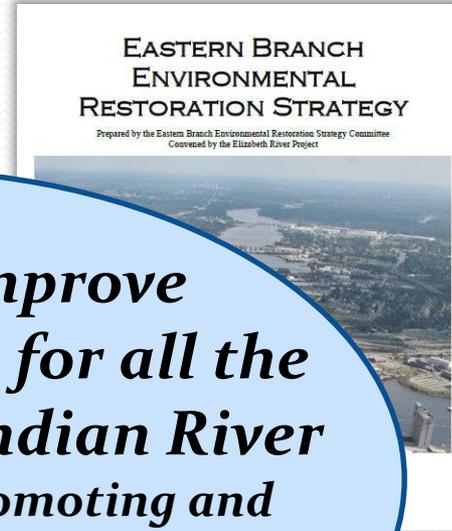
**Chesapeake
Public Utilities**

**Elizabeth
River
Project**

CBF VoiCeS

**Tidewater
Master
Naturalists**

**Chesapeake
Master
Gardeners**



Striving to improve the quality of life for all the residents of the Indian River neighborhoods by promoting and preserving a healthy and clean river, shorelines, parks, and green spaces connected to the surrounding community.



Target Goals for Chesapeake

- Work toward a new balance between New Development vs. Revitalization of Existing Neighborhood
 - Invest in older communities to enable them to accommodate future growth
 - Upgrade and “green” infrastructure to support in-fill development
 - Revitalize aging shopping area with mixed use development
 - Build in connectivity and walkability to reduce dependency on automobiles
 - Adopt architectural standards for attractive and environmental friendly residential housing



Graphic from FormBasedCodes.org

Target Goals for Chesapeake

- Protect Environmental Quality
 - Improve water quality through efforts such as Clean Water Blueprint/TMDLs and the Eastern Branch Restoration Plan
 - Protect and restore our city's wetlands
 - Educate public on environmental protection standards such as Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area, Landscaping Ordinances, living shorelines, and tree care best practices.
 - Implement and fund Urban Forestry Plan to increase the city tree canopy
 - Revitalize city parks and protect existing green spaces
 - Promote efforts on renewable energy and energy efficiency across the city



How We Can Work Together

- Continue focus on partnerships between environmental organizations, community groups, city and state agencies
- Encourage citizen engagement at public meetings, Town Meetings, and City Council Meetings
- Create realistic Small Area Plans for different parts of the city with strong stakeholder involvement AND enact strategies to implement plan recommendations
- Set aside funding to provide incentives for implementing best practices such as conservation landscaping, green infrastructure, and building retrofits



Friends of Indian River



Web: <http://friendsofindianriver.org>
Facebook: Friends of Indian River
E-mail: info@friendsofindianriver.org

Guest speakers at monthly meeting,
third Thursday of month @ 7:00 -8:30 pm
at Oaklette United Methodist Church,
520 Oaklette Drive, just off Indian River

The Friends of Indian River, Inc. is organized and operated exclusively for exempt purposes set forth in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.