# Leland 2045 planning for generations

# Implementation Update 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2023-2024



Welcome to our second newsletter of the fiscal year highlighting some of the work Leland is doing to bring us closer to the goals and vision of our Comprehensive Plan, Leland 2045. You can find more on the <u>Leland 2045</u>: <u>Planning for Generations</u> webpage.

### **Protection for our Natural and Cultural Resources!**

The Town was awarded \$1,000 from North Carolina Recreation and Park Association (NCPRA) towards the Town's first 'Leland a Hand in Leland' event. This event was created to bring the community together to help better our beautiful parks through volunteer service efforts. The funds were used to procure bat boxes and bird houses at Cypress Cove Park. Numerous volunteers attended the event on October 7<sup>th</sup> to construct the birdhouses, paint curbs, rebuild a firepit, and build railings at Cypress Cove Park.



The NC Department of Environmental Quality conducted a Brownfields Assessment for the future Sturgeon Creek Park. The EPA's Brownfields and Land Revitalization program is designed to empower states, tribes, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields.

# **Supporting Our Resilient Economy!**

It was a great quarter for the Resilient Economy Theme! Emergency Management finalized a debris management plan and procedures to help the community recover following a natural disaster. The Town was awarded \$100,000 from the Leland Tourism Development Authority (LTDA) towards the construction of the amphitheater at Founder's Park.



The Communications Department worked with each department across the Town to produce three recruitment videos that emphasize the Town's culture to attract prospective employees.

Lastly, Town Staff presented the completed Feasibility Analysis and Economic Impact Study for the Proposed Baseball and Jackeys Creek Development.

### **Livable Neighborhoods Accommodating Growth!**

The Town's application to join FEMA's Community Rating System program has been accepted as a Class 7 community. Once verified by FEMA, Leland residents with flood insurance will save 15% off their flood policies.

### **Inclusivity, Health, and Safety!**

The Town was awarded \$2,500 from the Wal-Mart Community Grant Program to purchase medical bags for Police vehicles. The Town was also awarded \$3,300 from the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program towards the reimbursement of the cost of body armor vests for law enforcement officers.

The Town Police Department hosted National Night Out to engage and educate the community on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The event occurred within Founders Park and was attended by Town staff and members of the community.



On October 6<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department Hosted National Coffee with a Cop to meet and engage with the community.

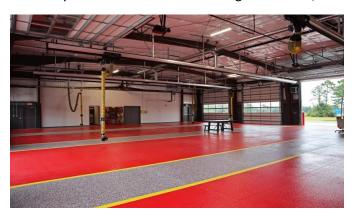
Leland Fire and Rescue conducted fire safety educational programs at area schools in October, which is National Fire Prevention Month.

In this quarter, regulations were adopted permitting wireless facilities towers in PUD districts which will expand and improve internet broadband services.

### The Key is Infrastructure!

In August, the Town closed on the purchase of approximately 190 acres of land (tax parcels 04600004 and 04600005). While there is no committed future use, potential future uses include roadway connections and public safety facilities.

The Town of Leland Fire and Rescue has a new hub to serve the community! In September, the Town opened the newly located Fire Station 51 along US HWY 74/76.



# **Cooperating in the Region!**

The Planning and Economic and Development Departments participated in an after work social with members of AARP and We Live Here, Leland, a community group, to discuss some the Town initiatives and hear citizen concerns.

On September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Department hosted the Town's first Parking Day, a global participatory event promoting safe and equitable access to public spaces and streets.



Also in this quarter, the Town partnered with the WMPO, Town of Navassa, and the Town of Belville to host the 4th annual Brunswick Heritage Riverside Ride.

### **Our Planning Themes**



HIGHLY VALUED AND PROTECTED NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES



LIVABLE, DIVERSE,
AND CONNECTED
NEIGHBORHOODS THAT
ACCOMMODATE GROWTH



A RESILIENT AND STABLE ECONOMY



AN INCLUSIVE, SUPPORTED, HEALTHY, SAFE, AND EDUCATED COMMUNITY



INFRASTRUCTURE THAT SUPPORTS COMMUNITY LIFE



AN ACTIVE
PARTICIPANT IN
A COOPERATIVE
REGION

Leland's natural resources are fundamental to our lifestyle, economy, well-being, and resilience. Protecting and maintaining its health and ecological function are a primary objective within planning for growth.

Leland's neighborhoods and communities promote connectivity, sense of place, character, and quality of life. This is done by providing walkable and bikeable places for living, working, shopping, recreation, and interacting for diverse age groups, income levels, and abilities.

Leland has the programs, plans, strategies, and a workforce that is prepared to capitalize on regional opportunities that diversify and expand its tax base and stabilize its vulnerability to economic cycles.

Public health, safety, and education are valued and provided for with access to housing choices, high quality schools, libraries, healthy foods, parks and recreation, health care, safe neighborhoods, art, and culture.

Leland plans and provides for efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly infrastructure service, walking and biking, safe and complete streets, and opportunities for potential future transit connectivity.

Leland's plans and the plans of adjacent jurisdictions complement each other's vision, goals, and opportunities for success. We collaborate with our neighbors to elevate both Leland and the region.

### **Our Vision**

Leland is prosperous, inclusive, and resilient. It is a healthy, safe, equitable, and accessible community built upon our strong values for the natural environment; inclusivity; walking and biking; social, economic, and physical connectivity; the quality of our neighborhoods; access to services, facilities, and places to gather; and the unique image and sense of place we have nurtured together as a community.

