
2024 Advocate Goals

State Goals:

- A. Advocate for recurring funding for the Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation Fund
 - B. Continue to ensure funding for the Shallow Draft Inlet Dredging Fund
 - C. Advocate for 3-5 years of funding for Vitex removal in dunes and beach grass replanting
 - D. Protect state match reserve for local costs of the Surf City Federal 50-Year Project
 - E. Advocate for Shellfish lease management controls that provides public access to state waters
 - F. Work to keep home insurance rates at an affordable cost
 - G. Notify TISPC of pending legislation and regulations that impacts Topsail Island
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Federal Goals

- A. Obtain legislation to allow use of sand from CBRA zones for non-CBRA zone beach nourishment when federal funds are involved – support for HS 524, also continue to push for administrative change
 - B. Continue to pursue legislation to amend the NTB CBRA Map Unit L06
 - C. Continue to support the 50-yr Surf City Coastal Storm Risk Management Project
 - D. Support an island-wide FEMA team who uses the latest technology to determine losses when making disaster recovery recommendations, appeal process for homeowners, one representative for island
 - E. Notify TISPC of pending legislation and regulations that impacts Topsail Island
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Local Commission Goals

- A. Promote adoption of the 'Beach Clean' initiative by businesses and educate the public
- B. Promote a public Vitex education and eradication program for Topsail Island
- C. Work to increase understanding and cooperation between TISPC and environmental groups locally as well as regionally
- D. Network through NC BIWA and other groups to promote minimal environmental impact for inlet maintenance projects that complement beach nourishment
- E. Move to use of mats versus permanent structures over new dune systems
- F. Stay abreast of studies on sea-level rise particularly as it relates to coastal and sound-side flooding then integrate into state and federal goals as appropriate
- G. Understand and monitor CRC regulations and proposed rulemaking for integration into state and federal goals as appropriate
- H. Be involved with efforts to find solutions for the disposal of non-federal dredge materials

Opportunity List – these items have long-term implications for the island & towns

STATE

- **Resilience Projects** - Continue to advocate for funding addressing island-wide resiliency projects identified under the Topsail Island RCCP.
- **No Wake Zone** – Support of Surf City’s No Wake Zone request surrounding areas of the old Swing Bridge to include Sear’s Landing, Soundside Park, and Topsail Creek. – Enforcement of established no wake zone on island waterways.
- **Creek Cleanout** – Identify state assistance to fund creek/tributary clean out (i.e. Virginia Creek, Becky’s Creek, Batts Mill Creek)
- **Living Shorelines** – Support developing a study to identify areas of high erosion to assist local governments in targeting new locations for living shoreline development.
- **Marsh Protection** – with sea level rise we need to determine possible solutions that protect this valuable resource – nursery habit, water sink and mainland storm protection.
- **Resilience Funding** – when we consider grant opportunities our towns do not qualify – per capita income to high, not a disadvantaged community – need to have programs that support our needs – living shoreline, road improvements, drainage systems, etc.

FEDERAL

- **Surf City Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) Project - Support authorization of Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2024**
Passing the Water Resources Development Act, or WRDA as it is commonly referred to, on a biannual basis has provided the nation’s coastal engineering community with the reliability and certainty that it needs to advance critical resilience projects like the one at Surf City. Authorization for the “Surf City only” project to be eligible is necessary through WRDA 24. – continue to request monies to keep connecting waterways navigable
- **Ensure the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has Sufficient Resources to Support Post-Disaster Activities**
Under its Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) authority, USACE may assist impacted communities with post-disaster recovery and conduct repairs to the critical infrastructure that they are responsible for maintaining.

Recognizing how budgetary constraints can limit timely disaster recovery operations, the Town of Surf City supports Congress directing USACE to conduct a full review of its past FCCE expenditures and, using forward-looking data, provide an estimate of likely future FCCE expenditures. This review should be submitted to Congress along with any recommended changes to the FCCE authorization that may be necessary to ensure USACE has the budgetary flexibility and resources to deliver timely, efficient post-disaster recovery support wherever and whenever it is needed.

- **Offshore Wind** – What studies are being conducted with the impact of offshore wind production (noise) and commercial fishing? <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/offshore-wind-energy/fishing-community-impacts>
- **Use of offshore wind proceeds** – Assist local communities in providing local matching funds for federal or other beach nourishment projects. – Risee Act is a possible solution on how to distribute proceeds back to coastal towns
- **Red Knot** – impact on island if US Fish & Wildlife determines full island is a habit.