

FAQ's about the New Riverside Regional Park Plan

1. When is the next meeting?
 - a. A second stakeholder workshop will be scheduled once a draft conceptual plan is ready for discussion.
2. What is the map that is currently online?
 - a. The map that is currently online is called an opportunities and constraints map. It is not the conceptual plan. It is a map of what is currently known about the property and is being used as a base to draft the conceptual park plan.
3. Why didn't anyone come and make a presentation to the residents in Alston Park?
 - a. In September/October 2018, the County advertised a stakeholder workshop online, through the County Facebook page, and by a press release. The Haven HOA specifically requested an additional meeting. If Alston Park residents would like a meeting, their HOA Chair can make such a request.
4. What is the County going to do with the property that has the large red barn?
 - a. The property with the large red barn was not purchased by the County. It was recently purchased by the Town of Bluffton. The County does not have any plans to request the Town to incorporate the barn property into the New Riverside Regional Park plan.
5. A park is going to increase traffic!
 - a. Traffic impact estimates based on State parks does not significantly increase traffic. The New Riverside Regional Park is much smaller and with fewer amenities than a State park and is not anticipated to have much of an increase in traffic.
6. Is the park going to be patrolled?
 - a. Yes. Patrols will be done by the Sheriff's office and the Bluffton PD as they do with any other County/Town park property.
7. Who will clean up if people don't clean up after themselves?
 - a. The County has staff from various departments who currently maintain other County parks as needed. County staff also intend to discuss park maintenance with Town staff once a conceptual plan is ready for further discussion.
8. Who is going to monitor the park?
 - a. The Passive Parks Manager does monthly monitoring of all the County owned passive parks. Additionally, the Sheriff and Town PD regularly patrol and monitor. There is also the possibility of installing a camera that can be monitored by County staff.
9. What will the park hours be?
 - a. Dawn to dusk.
10. Will there be an entrance gate?
 - a. Yes, an electric timed gate will be installed at the entrance.
11. What amenities are going to be at the park?
 - a. A more detailed conceptual plan is currently in progress, but the proposed amenities on the New Riverside property will include an entrance, a parking area, a picnic pavilion near the entrance, an improved ADA trail near the entrance, extended unimproved nature trails throughout the property, a blueway trail accessible from the New River through the old rice fields, and two tent only water accessible camping locations. Proposed amenities on the Garvey Hall property will include an entrance, a parking area,

a picnic pavilion, an improved ADA trail, extended unimproved nature trails, a kayak launch, and a tent only camping area.

12. Where is camping going to be allowed?
 - a. There are two proposed camping locations on the New Riverside property and one proposed camping location on the Garvey Hall property. The New Riverside property locations are proposed to be water access only and would be similar to the type of camping allowed at Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge (GA) and/or the Suwannee River Water Management District (FL).
13. How big would the camping areas be?
 - a. The nature of the properties and the amount of wetlands limit the camping areas to no more than a three tent situation at each location.
14. Who is going to make sure people camping have permits?
 - a. The Passive Parks Manager will be in charge of issuing permits.
15. Would fires be allowed in the camping area?
 - a. If fires are allowed, there would be designated fire rings similar to those at other State and Federal parks. If fires are not allowed, then visitors would bring their own camp stove, similar to what is allowed at Cumberland Island. Regardless of whether fires are allowed for camping, the Passive Parks Manager intends to appropriately manage the properties for the benefit of wildlife, visitors, and residents, which means coordinating with the SC Forestry Commission to conduct prescribed burning where necessary and appropriate.
16. Are residents going to be asked to monitor or patrol the park?
 - a. No. The park will be monitored and patrolled by the appropriate enforcement authorities. If any residents desire to be a Friends group for the park they will work with the Passive Park Manager to discuss roles and responsibilities and enter into an appropriate MOU similar to other County passive park Friends groups.