

Status for Gullah Geechee Top Priority Project Recommendations

	Recommendations	Strategies	Resources			Status		
			Departments/Organizations	Funding Sources	Funding Amount	Date Started	Scope of Work	Percentage Completed
1	PP-4 Designate Historic Gullah Neighborhoods Conservation Overlay District	In establishing a Historic Gullah Neighborhoods Conservation Overlay District, the listed departments will work to reassess zoning, buffers, setbacks, etc. within the identified boundaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Department (Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead) Infrastructure Services 	N/A	N/A	1/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted LMO Amendments Reviewed and forwarded by Gullah Task Force, LMO Committee, Planning Commission including Public Hearing Public Planning Committee only moved forward the Family Compound and Family Subdivision portion of the amendments Additional discussion required related to density increase, land uses, and home occupations 	25%
2	PP-6 Provide greater flexibility for ROWs and drainage easements	This project is a part of PP-5. Flexibility in buffers, setbacks, and access easement widths are proposed for the Family Compound and Family Subdivision Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Department (Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead) Infrastructure Services Fire Rescue Department 	N/A	N/A	1/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted and Revised LMO Amendments Letters sent and signs posted Q&A website established Correspondence with public Reviewed with Gullah Task Force, LMO Committee, and Planning Commission including 2 Public Hearings, Public Planning Committee in multiple meetings, Town Council First Reading, and Town Council Revised First Reading. Recommended for approval by Task Force, LMO Committee, Planning Commission, Public Planning Committee, and Town Council First Reading Town Council Second Reading and Ordinance Adoption on 7/20/2021 	100%
3	PP-2 “Fast Track” Development Review Process	This project is a part of PP-5. To alleviate the financial hardship of a lengthy waiting period, upon completion of development review, Family Compound and Family Subdivision applications will be processed first.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Department (Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead) Infrastructure Services Palmetto Electric Water and Sewer 	N/A	N/A	1/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted and Revised LMO Amendments Letters sent and signs posted Q&A website established Correspondence with public Reviewed with Gullah Task Force, LMO Committee, and Planning Commission including 2 Public Hearings, Public Planning Committee in multiple meetings, Town Council First Reading, and Town Council Revised First Reading. Recommended for approval by Task Force, LMO Committee, Planning Commission, Public Planning Committee, and Town Council First Reading Town Council Second Reading and Ordinance Adoption on 7/20/2021 	100%
4	PP-5 Add Family Compound Provisions to Land Management Ordinance	Family Compound and Family Subdivision Amendments are proposed for properties within the Historic Neighborhoods. The Historic Neighborhoods are delineated in a map, which has also been proposed to be added to the LMO.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Department (Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead) Infrastructure Services 	N/A	N/A	1/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted and Revised LMO Amendments Letters sent and signs posted Q&A website established Correspondence with public Reviewed with Gullah Task Force, LMO Committee, and Planning Commission including 2 Public Hearings, Public Planning Committee in multiple meetings, Town Council First Reading, and Town Council Revised First Reading. Recommended for approval by Task Force, LMO Committee, Planning Commission, Public Planning Committee, and Town Council First Reading Town Council Second Reading and Ordinance Adoption on 7/20/2021 	100%

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5	CP-17 Recognize Gullah Churches to be Source of Leadership and Communication	Outreach with Gullah churches will be conducted to gather information, assess needs, and disseminate information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator Church Leadership Church Parishioners 	N/A	N/A	4/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared and sent introduction letter regarding role and availability of Historic Neighborhood Preservation Administrator Provide updates via email regarding Gullah Geechee affairs and topical issues such as where to find information about the Covid vaccine and where to obtain it 	Ongoing
6	CP-14 Establish Open-Air Market for Gullah Products	The identified organizations will work together to establish an open air market that will work to promote Gullah Culture and create economic development opportunities for participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator Native Island Business and Community Affairs Association (NIBCAA) Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) 	N/A	N/A	4/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathered Input from Local Vendors Met with Staff, NIBCAA, and Gullah Task Force Representative Legal Review from Staff and Town Attorneys Drafted business plan Drafted layout of proposed site Squire Pope Community Park (Rowing and Sailing Center) has been considered for the location and will be presented at the Community Services and Public Safety Committee tentatively scheduled for 9/27/2021 	75%
7	CP-7 Program to educate Town officials, teachers, and others on Gullah history and culture	A historical and cultural training module will be developed for new hires and newly elected positions for the Town of Hilton Head Island. This program will also work towards the appeal to include Gullah Geechee history and culture in the South Carolina state standards for social studies K-12 school curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator Town of Hilton Head Human Resources Gullah Museum Penn Center Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission Hilton Head Island Historians Office of Cultural Affairs South Carolina State Department of Education Other education resources 	Town of Hilton Head Island	+/- \$600	2/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Getting to Know the Gullah Geechee Community</i> Recording created 5/25/2021 Record <i>Resilience in Vulnerable Communities: The Preservation of Gullah Geechee Communities in Hilton Head, South Carolina</i> for new Town staff. Presentation to Staff on Family Compound and Family Subdivision requirements and application process scheduled for 8/25/2021 Town Manager has tentatively scheduled a tour with Gullah Heritage Tours for the Mayor and Senior Staff but the timing is contingent on Covid numbers 	25%
8	HP-4 NIBCAA to work with the Community Foundation of the Low Country (CFL) to create a	The identified departments and organizations will work together to organize fund-raising efforts purposed to clear property titles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead NIBCAA CFL 	Local Donors Grants	+/- \$5000	8/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff working with CFL to investigate Farm Service Administration (FSA) Heirs' Property Relending Program as possible funding source. 	10%

	fund to clear property titles.							
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9	HP-2 Leverage local, state, and national organizations to address Heirs' Property	Contact will be established to maintain awareness of information and programs that are related to Heirs' Property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator Pan African Family Empowerment and Land Preservation Network (PAFEN) South Carolina Legal Services (SCLS) Heirs' Property Retention Coalition (HPRC) South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center (SCALJC) Black Family Land Trust (BFLT) Black Belt Justice Center (BBJC) 	N/A	N/A	8/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted initial letter 	25%
10	PP-14 Program for temporary or seasonal signs to promote economic opportunities for Gullah businesses and residents	Temporary or seasonal signs that are compliant with the Town LMO will be established and distributed upon request to Gullah businesses and residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Department (Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead) Town Staff NIBCAA OCA 	Town of Hilton Head Island	TBD based on sign cost and the number of signs needed.	4/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff coordinated with NIBCAA on proposed program Staff prepared initial sign design and cost estimates Proposed program introduced at the Public Planning Committee meeting on 6/2/2021 Staff coordinated with Town and Staff Attorneys to determine proposed sign regulations Additional detail about proposed program was presented to the Public Planning Committee on 7/21/2021 	50%
11	HP-1 Utilize Heritage Library as a first step to clear land title	This project will be implemented in conjunction with CP-1. The identified departments and organizations will work together to research strategies to clear land titles for Heirs' Property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator Heritage Library Additional resources related to clearing land titles 	Heritage Library Charitable Foundations	Project Start-up: \$4,600 First 3 Years of Service: \$2,500	9/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held initial meetings regarding the creation of a genealogy clinic to aid in clearing property titles Equipment and Software priced and ordered Heritage Library began public communications announcing clinic availability Office setup week of 5/31/2021 First Test Clients 6/15/2021 Genealogy Heirs' Property Event 8/12/2021 	100%

12	PP-12 Program to Educate Gullah Residents on Policy – Taxes, Land Use, Development	Meetings and workshops will be held with the identified departments and organizations to provide education on different issues that impact Gullah residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town of Hilton Head Island Staff (Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead) Beaufort County 	Town of Hilton Head Island	+/- \$1000	2/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with The Links, Inc. to promote education from the Center from Heirs' Property Preservation on Heirs' Property, Forestry, and Wills Staff will provide training on Family Compounds and Family Subdivisions tentatively scheduled for 9/2021 	50%
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13	HP-3 Encourage Center for Heirs' Property Preservation (CHPP) to Open Satellite Office	<p>This project will be implemented in two parts. Part 1 - Information and assistance will be provided to land owners with Heirs' Property that meet the income requirements.</p> <p>Part 2 – Creation of a local Heirs' Property resource center that benefits citizens of all income levels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead Staff Attorney/Town Attorney CHPP Outside Legal Services 	CFL Charitable Foundations Grants	TBD based on staff and facility needs	5/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held initial conversation with request for CHPP to open satellite office Staff followed up in 5/2020 to reopen conversation for satellite office and was informed that client assistance is currently virtual due to COVID 	10%
14	CP-1 Promote Heritage Library to research history and genealogy	This project will be implemented in conjunction with HP-1. The identified departments and organizations will work together to research strategies to clear land titles for Heirs' Property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator Heritage Library Additional resources related to history and genealogy research 	Heritage Library Charitable Foundations	See HP-1	9/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held initial meetings regarding the creation of a genealogy clinic to aid in clearing property titles Equipment and Software were priced and ordered Heritage Library began public communications announcing clinic availability Office setup week of 5/31/2021 First Test Clients 6/15/2021 Genealogy Heirs' Property Event 8/12/2021 	100%
15	PP-11 Fund for Delinquent Taxes	The identified departments and organizations will work together to organize fund-raising efforts purposed to assist land owners who are delinquent and unable to pay their property taxes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator NIBCAA Beaufort County Tax Office CFL Pan African Family Empowerment & Land Preservation Network (PAFEN) 	Charitable Foundations Grants Local Donors	+/- \$1000	2/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared press release for Penn Center's Land Preservation Assistance Program to aid Beaufort County property owners Lowcountry Gullah assists property owners with paying delinquent taxes PAFEN assists property owners with redeeming properties sold at Beaufort County Tax Auction 	50%

16	PP-3 HNPA to work with Gullah property and business owners to assist with Town Regulations	“Walk ins” are currently being assisted by the named departments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Development Department (Historic Neighborhoods Preservation Administrator – Project Lead) • Infrastructure Services • Fire Rescue Department 	N/A	N/A	6/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared and presented to Gullah Geechee Land & Cultural Preservation Task Force case studies related to assistance requested • Examples of assistance requested by Native Islanders are addressing, property access, and dirt roads • Staff is setting up a One-Stop Shop Permitting Assistance Center and Gullah Geechee Site Design Studio 	100%
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