



Cape Charles Gazette Special Edition

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We hope that you will enjoy reading the Cape Charles Gazette which is the electronic newsletter published from time to time on behalf of the municipal government of the Town of Cape Charles. The Gazette provides a variety of information that we believe will be useful to the citizens and businesses of Cape Charles as well as those who plan to travel to Cape Charles or have any interest in our Town or the Town's government. The Gazette provides information on actions being undertaken or being considered by the Town government, upcoming activities in the Town, important public safety and security issues and emergency announcements.

We welcome your responses which may be sent to gazette@capecharles.org, by regular mail to 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310 or by calling (757) 331-3259.

We also encourage you to visit the Town's website at www.capecharles.org where you will find up-to-date information about the operation of the Town government.



CAPE CHARLES COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Town of Cape Charles Community Enhancement Program is based on the Virginia Main Street Program. The Virginia Main Street Program is a preservation-based economic and community development program that follows the National Main Street Center's Main Street Approach™. Virginia Main Street offers a range of services and assistance to meet the variety of needs of communities interested in revitalization.

The focal point of the program is assistance to competitively selected communities that are working in traditional downtown settings and meet certain threshold criteria. Communities with a population of 75,000 or less with a high degree of commitment and readiness that wish to use the Main Street Approach™ in a traditional downtown setting may apply for formal Virginia Main Street designation. For communities that are just getting started, do not want full Main Street designation, or for communities that wish to use the Main Street Approach™ in compact, pedestrian-oriented commercial settings, there is an Affiliate Program. Communities of any size, counties, and cities with neighborhood commercial districts may participate in the Affiliate Program.

The Cape Charles Town Council supports the Virginia Main Street initiative and the town joining the program as a Community Affiliate member. The goal of a Community Affiliate is to employ the Main Street Approach in the development of the organizational stability and public-private partnerships necessary for successful administration of a downtown revitalization program. Community Affiliate core services include: access to training by state and national downtown development experts; organizational structure development assistance; and eligibility for grants through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) as available. Affiliates have the opportunity to learn about best practices in the field and to network with peers from around the state.

The town will be accepting applications for volunteers to serve on the Cape Charles Community Enhancement Board. The Community Enhancement Board Application with information regarding the duties of the Board of Directors is available by clicking the link below.

[Cape Charles Community Enhancement Board Application](#)

Additional information from previous town meetings and presentations is available below:

January 7, 2016 - Town Council Work Session regarding Virginia Main Street - [VMS Presentation](#)

June 22, 2016 - Virginia Main Street Presentation with Ms. Jane Beasley - [Video](#) / [Presentation](#)

September 8, 2016 - Virginia Main Street Presentation with Ms. Felicia Hart - [Presentation](#)

For more information regarding the Virginia Main Street Program, below are other Useful Links from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development:

- [Virginia Main Street Program Guidelines](#)
- [Designated Virginia Main Street Communities](#)
- [Virginia Main Street Travel Guide](#)

TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTS TOURISM ZONE ORDINANCE

The Town Council adopted the Tourism Zone Ordinance by unanimous vote at their November 17th regular monthly meeting. The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide certain tax and fee credit incentives to qualified tourism businesses that develop, maintain, and expand operations and create full and part time jobs. The Tourism Zone Ordinance document can be found on the Town website www.capecharles.org. You will notice that in several sections the Tourism Zone Ordinance text mirrors language found in the Town's adopted Technology Zone Ordinance. The Technology Zone Ordinance is Chapter 23 of the Town Code, and can be found on the Town website as well.

As a brief overview, the Tourism Zone Ordinance does the following: 1) establishes a Tourism Zone footprint as the entire Town of Cape Charles; 2) creates an administrative process to implement the Ordinance; 3) defines qualified businesses and establishes eligibility criteria for participation; 4) makes no distinction between seasonal and all year business operations; and 5) defines economic stimulus credits available to qualified businesses.

Please note the economic stimulus credits proposed in the Tourism Zone Ordinance involve reimbursements to the applicant for taxes and fees already paid to the Town. Applications, from qualified businesses to reimburse covered expenses incurred after **January 1, 2016**, will be available at Town Hall and online by mid-January 2017.

Please contact Town Planner Larry DiRe by email at planner@capecharles.org or by phone at (757) 331-3259 ext. 15.

SIGN UP FOR THE GAZETTE & E-NOTIFICATIONS!

The Cape Charles Gazette is available by subscribing to [e-Notifications](#). With [e-Notifications](#) you can sign up to get the Gazette and regular updates on Agendas & Minutes, Alerts, Bids, Calendar Items, Job Postings and other News & Information.

With [e-Notifications](#), you control the information you receive and can cancel the notifications at any time.

We encourage you to browse the Town's website and if there is something that you would like to see added to the site, please submit your comments in writing by sending us an email at info@capecharles.org or send a note to the Town Clerk at 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310, and we'll see what we can do to get your requested information online.

We hope you are enjoying our site and we welcome your comments! We look forward to hearing from you!

Please send comments to info@capecharles.org.



For more information regarding events, please visit our website and take a look at the [Calendar!](#)

We welcome your feedback. Please send your comments to gazette@capecharles.org.

Any reference to an external website is for public information only and does not constitute an endorsement of that website.

Municipal Corporation of Cape Charles
2 Plum Street
Cape Charles, VA 23310
Email: gazette@capecharles.org
www.capecharles.org