

S.O.S.

REASONS TO SAVE THE ST. SIMONS SURF SAILORS

OBJECTIVE:

TO INFORM THE RESIDENTS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS OF THE VALUE THAT THE ST SIMONS SURF SAILORS HAVE TO THE COMMUNITY AT THE SPECIFIC LOCATION WHERE WE ARE NOW.

- I. THE COAST GUARD BEACH IS THE LOCATION FOR OCEAN SIDE WATER SPORTS ON ST SIMONS
 1. THE ST SIMONS SURF SAILORS FACILITY HAS BEEN THE PRIMARY HUB FOR WIND AND WATER SPORTS AT EAST BEACH SINCE ITS INCEPTION
 2. WE MAINTAIN THE FACILITY, FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS, AT NO EXPENSE TO THE COUNTY
 3. INCLUDED IN THE ACCESS TO OCEAN SPORTS ARE THE SEA SCOUTS, HIGH SCHOOL SAILING TEAMS (CURRENTLY COACHED BY OUR VICE COMMODORE), AND SAILING INSTRUCTION
 4. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL SAILING TEAMS ARE MEMBERS OF THE ST. SIMONS SURF SAILORS
 5. GENERATIONS OF FAMILIES ARE AND HAVE BEEN MEMBERS SINCE 1972
 6. WE ARE AN ESTABLISHED ORGANIZATION WITH OVER 45 YEARS FACILITATING WATERSPORTS

- II. WE ARE AN ICONIC IMAGE VERY FEW OTHER COMMUNITIES HAVE
 1. WE HAVE BEEN AT THE CURRENT LOCATION FOR OVER 30 YEARS
 2. WE INTERACT WITH LOCALS AND TOURIST YEAR ROUND EXCHANGING PHOTOS AND SAILING EXPERIENCES AND ARE CONSISTENTLY ON THE BEACH WITH SAILS RAISED ENGAGED WITH LOCALS AND TOURISTS
 3. TO LOSE THIS IMAGE OF WHAT MAKES THE ST SIMONS BEACH SO UNIQUE AND SPECIAL WOULD BE A DETRIMENT TO ALL, THE COMMUNITY AND TOURISTS ALIKE

- III. THE PROPOSED PLAN IS UNSUSTAINABLE AND IMPRACTICAL
 1. THE PROPOSED PLANS DO NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE SPACE FOR THE FULL TIME MEMBERS, SHORT AND LONG TERM GUESTS AND A POSSIBLE RENTAL FLEET.
 2. IN ORDER FOR US TO MANAGE THE FACILITY AND SUPPORT FUTURE GROWTH, WE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE AMOUNT OF SECURED SPACE WE HAVE
 3. THE PROPOSED PLAN FOR OFFSITE STORAGE AND HAVING TO TRAILER THE BOATS TO THE BEACH WOULD NOT BE PRACTICAL. THIS WOULD ULTIMATELY ELIMINATE SAILING AS WE KNOW IT ON THE ST SIMONS BEACH
 4. IF THESE PLANS ARE IMPLEMENTED AND WITHOUT THE BOATS ON THE BEACH, ALL RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS WOULD LOSE A SPECIAL COMPONENT OF ST SIMONS THAT HAS BECOME AN ICONIC IMAGE OF OUR COLLECTIVE MEMORY