



Cape Hatteras National Seashore

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Repair and Landscaping Improvements and Multi-Use Pathway



Public Meeting
June 2022



Welcome!

- Introductions
- Presentation
 - Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Repair and Landscape
 - Environmental Assessment Public Review
 - Construct Multi-use Pathway
 - Public Scoping for the development of an environmental assessment
- Question and Answer Session



Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Repair and Landscaping Background

- Originally built in 1870
- Tallest lighthouse in the US
- National Historic Landmark
- In 1999, the lighthouse was moved 2,900 ft. SW from its original location, due to shoreline erosion
- The route used during this transition is known as the “move corridor”



Cape Hatteras Lighthouse



Background

- Associated with the lighthouse are the Keeper's Quarters and other support buildings/features
- Keepers of the Light Amphitheater incorporates stones from the original lighthouse foundation and now serves as outdoor seating
- Much of the landscape surrounding the lighthouse has been worn bare by high visitation





Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to

- rehabilitate and restore the National Historic Landmark lighthouse and its character-defining features,
- to repair deteriorated materials and finishes, and
- to selectively reverse modern, unsympathetic treatments added after the period of significance.

The project purpose also includes providing a more immersive experience of the light station and considering ways to improve the resiliency of the light station and grounds.



Project Need

This project is needed because

- Elements of the interior and exterior of the lighthouse have deteriorated over time



Exterior peeling paint

Broken floor tiles

Corroded door



Project Need

This project is needed because

- Some character-defining features of the lighthouse are missing



Missing window hoods



Missing fence around the Keepers' Quarters



Project Need

This project is needed because

- Some modern features have been added that are not consistent with the historic nature of the site (in other words, they are “non-sympathetic”)



Modern beacon



Modern door and
shade canopy at the
oil house



Grates installed over
some windows



Project Need

This project is needed because

- The site is visited heavily but limited formal pedestrian walkways often lead to a brief visit and landscape degradation.





Alternatives

- Alternative A: No Action
- Alternative B: Circulation Modified and Lens Restored
- Alternative C: NPS Preferred-
Circulation Enhanced and Lens
Replicated





Alternative A: No Action

- No changes or repairs would be made to the lighthouse, site circulation, or landscape elements/vegetation.
- The existing rotating light beacon remains (may be replaced by the USCG with a modern beacon in the foreseeable future).





Common to all Action Alternatives

- Rehabilitation and restoration of the lighthouse, for example
 - Repair, repoint, and repaint existing masonry
 - Restore missing doors
 - Repair or replace all damaged metal components
 - Remove and salvage windows and associated elements
 - Repair elements in Watch Room Balcony
 - Clean and repair Lantern and Lantern Balcony area
 - Clean, polish and repair marble floor
- Oil house structural stabilization and restoration
 - Brick up windows, remove metal awning, install bronze door
- Add stockade fencing around both Keeper's Quarters



Alternative B: Circulation Modified and Lens Restored

Circulation improvements are light on the landscape.
Lighthouse is rehabilitated and restored.

Key elements include:

- New circular walkway between Lighthouse and keeper's quarters
- "Pull-off" areas with interpretive signs
- Native plantings in strategic areas to encourage use of the new paths
- New interpretive elements for the lighthouse move and other area resources
- Restoration and reinstallation of the original Fresnel lens in the Lighthouse.
- Removal of vinyl perimeter fencing around Lighthouse and install replica decorative metal octagonal fence



LEGEND

- Enlarged NHL Boundary (approximate)
- 1 Retain Keeper's Memorial
- 2 Retain Concrete Walkway
- 3 Retain 4.5' Wide Paver Walkway
- 4 12' Concrete Walkway
- 5 Visitor Interpretive Station (Typical)
- 6 Emergency/ Maintenance Access
- 7 Maintain Staff Parking
- 8 6' Min. Pervious Paving
- 9 Reconstructed Wood Fence
- 10 Reconstructed Metal Fence
- 11 Emergency/ Maintenance Access to Remain
- 12 Lens Restoration

Note

Location and scale of all improvements are approximate and subject to refinement during future design phases.

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Repair and Landscape Improvement Project
Environmental Assessment

Figure 4. Alternative B:
Circulation Modified and Lens Restored



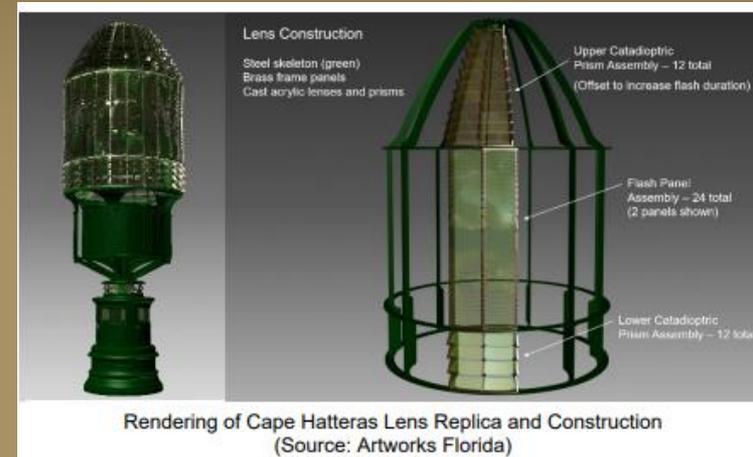


Alternative C: Preferred Alternative

Circulation improvements are comprehensive.
The lighthouse is rehabilitated and restored.

Key elements include:

- New pedestrian loop connects site features, encouraging visitors to enter the site from a new northern path
- Contoured landscape with native vegetation to encourage visitors to stay on paths
- New shade pavilion in the trees to accommodate waiting tour groups.
- New interpretive elements for the lighthouse move and other area resources
- Produce a replica of the original lens and install in Lighthouse with a new light source.



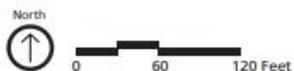


LEGEND

- Enlarged NHL Boundary (approximate)
- 1 Re-purpose Keeper's Stones
- 2 Replace Concrete Walkway (Colored)
- 3 Widen Paver Walkway to 7'
- 4 Lighthouse Tour Shade Structure
- 5 12' Colored Concrete Walkway
- 6 Visitor Interpretive Station (Typical)
- 7 Contoured Landforms (Typical)
- 8 New Visitor Entrance
- 9 Pedestrian Connection
- 10 Reconstructed Wood Fence
- 11 Reconstructed Metal Fence
- 12 Visitor Exit
- 13 Emergency/ Maintenance Access to Remain
- 14 Lens Replica

Note

Location and scale of all improvements are approximate and subject to refinement during future design phases.



Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Repair and
Landscape Improvement Project
Environmental Assessment

Figure 5. Alternative C:
Circulation Enhanced and Lens Replicated



Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Repair and Landscaping Planning Process and Timeline

Milestone	Targeted Schedule	Planning Effort
Public Scoping	Fall 2021 	Public meetings to review project purpose, issues, and preliminary alternatives. Public to provide comments at: https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_lighthouse
Develop Environmental Assessment (EA)	Winter/Spring 2021 	NPS staff review public comments, and develop and analyze the impacts of possible improvements
Public Review of EA	Early Summer 2022 	EA released for public comment. Public can provide comments at: https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_lighthouse
Decision Document	Late Summer 2022	NPS selects the actions or alternative to be implemented and prepares decision document.

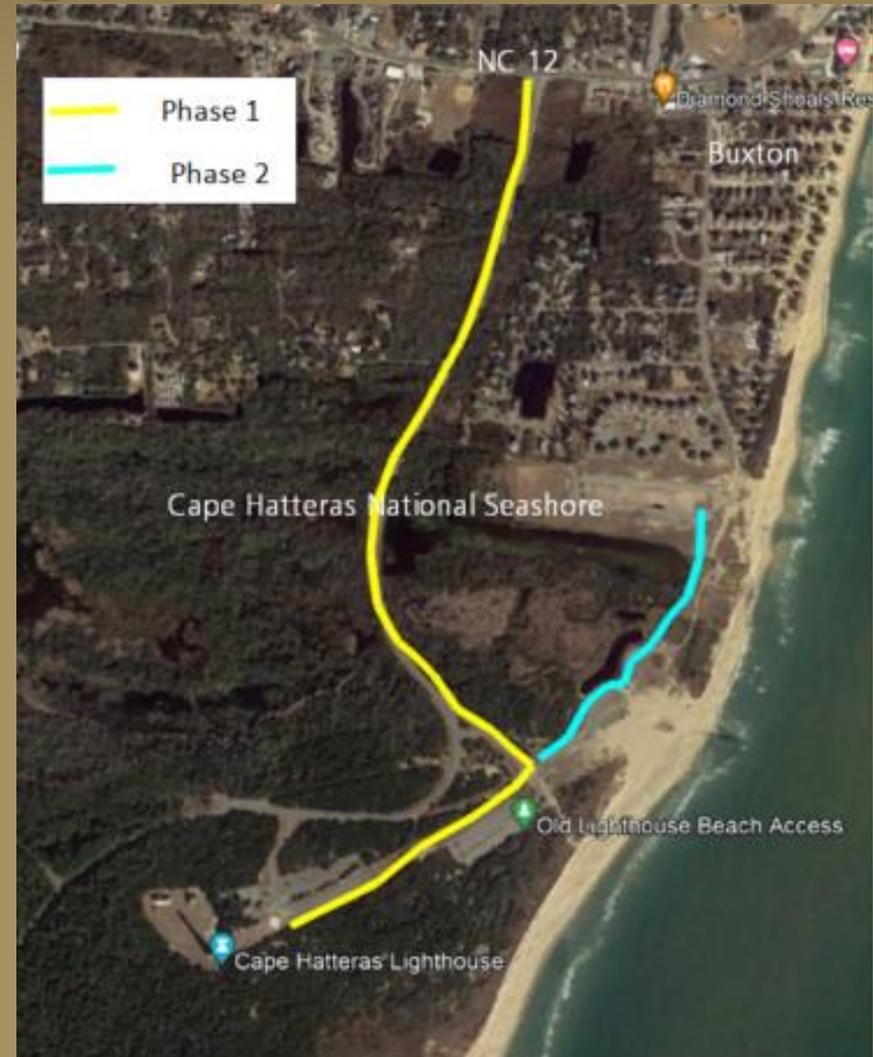
We are here



Multi-Use Pathway along Lighthouse Road

Background

- Identified in 1984 General Management Plan
- High volume of vehicle and pedestrian traffic
- No safe path for non-motorized traffic.





Buxton Multi-Use Pathway Project Purposes

The purposes of this project are to:

- Enhance visitor's experience while traveling Lighthouse Road,
- Provide a resilient, safe and accessible route to many of Hatteras Island key visitor use areas,
- Provide a non-motorized connection into the Seashore from paved pathways originating in the village of Buxton.
- Accommodate different types of non-motorized uses including biking and reduce maintenance by using sustainable construction techniques and minimizing facility operations.
- Address the 2015 Bike Rule (36 CFR § 4.30) which requires a special regulation in the Federal Register to authorize bicycle use on new trails within national park system units.



Preliminary Alternatives

The NPS has developed three **preliminary** alternatives for the construction of a pathway for non-motorized traffic.

- **Alternative 1:** Construction of a 4' wide path on each side of Lighthouse Road as approved in the 1984 General Management Plan.
- **Alternative 2:** Construction of a separated 8-10' wide multi-use pathway with a 3-5' vegetative buffer parallel to Lighthouse Road.
- **Alternative 3:** Expand Lighthouse Road to create an 8' wide bicycle lane on the existing road from NC12 only to the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and Old Lighthouse parking area. There would be no vegetative buffer.

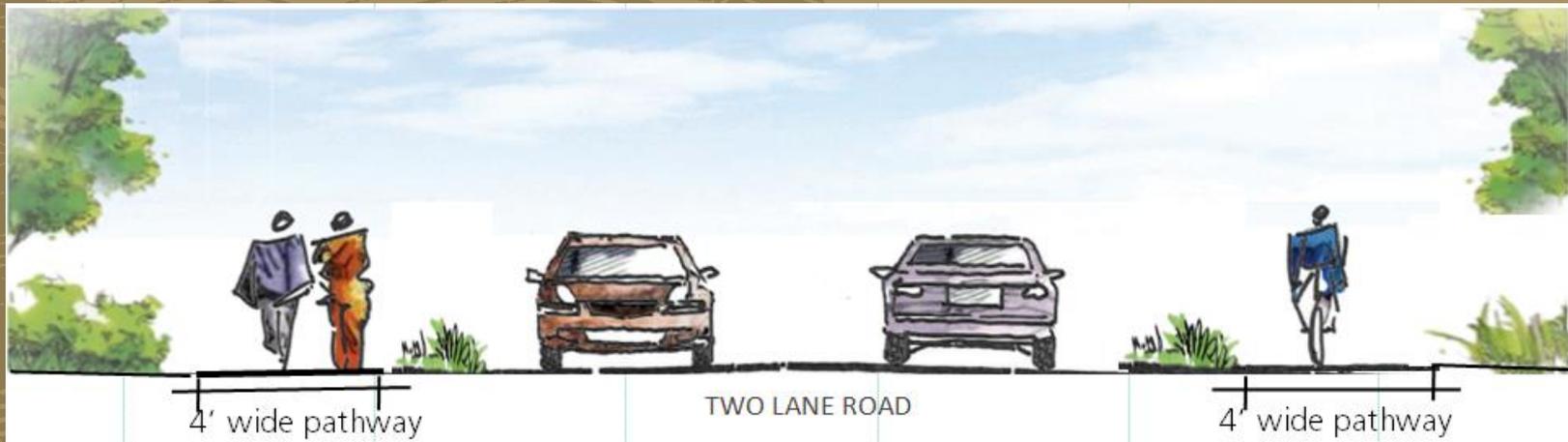




Preliminary Alternative 1

Construction of a 4-foot-wide path

- 1984 General Management Plan
- Sidewalk
- Vegetative buffer

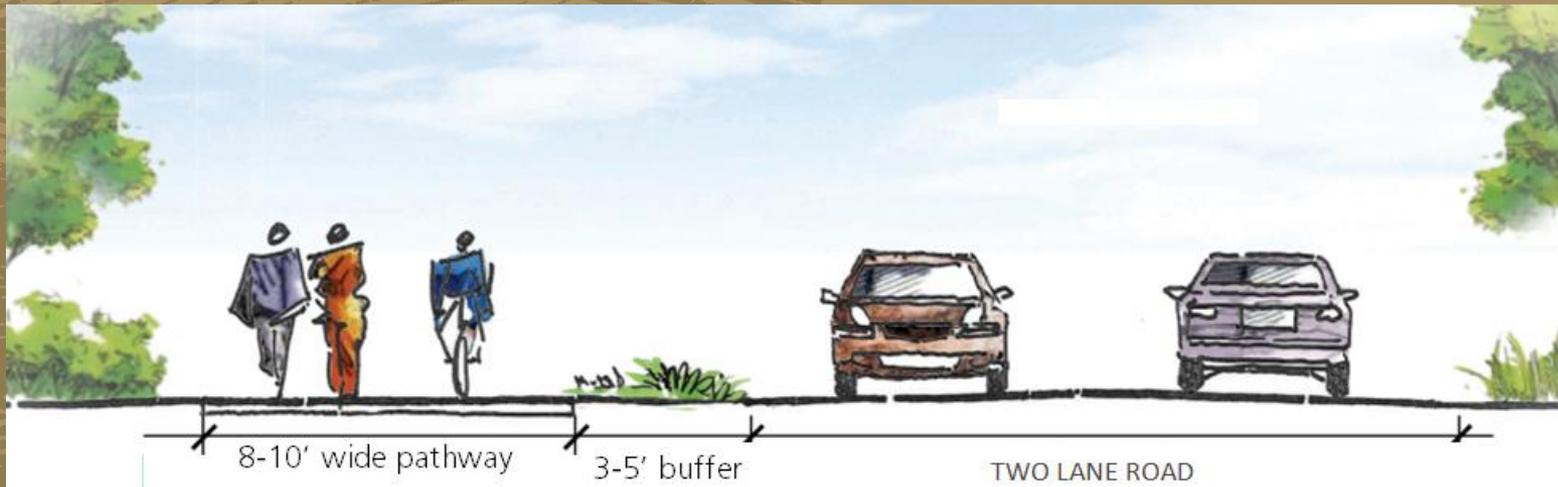




Preliminary Alternative 2

Construction of a separated 8-10' wide

- Multi-use pathway
 - Pedestrians and bicycles
- 3-5' vegetative buffer parallel to Lighthouse Road.

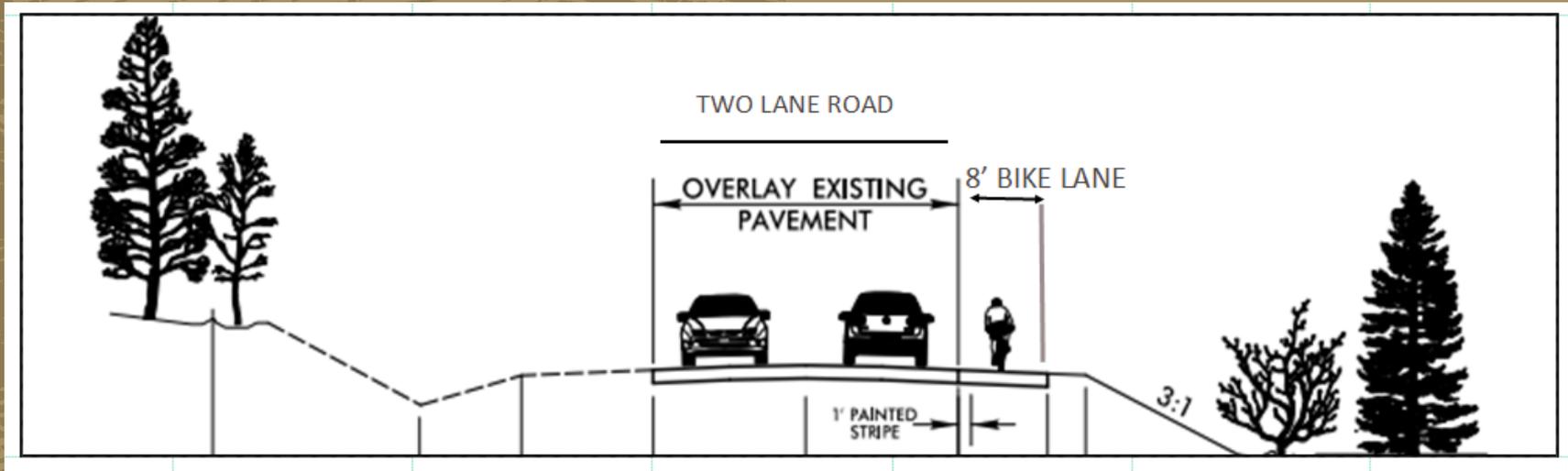




Preliminary Alternative 3

Expand Lighthouse Road to create an 8' wide bicycle lane

- On the existing road beginning at NC12
- Only to the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and Old Lighthouse parking area.
- No vegetative buffer.





Impact Topics Considered

- Wetlands
- Vegetation
- Cultural Landscapes
- Archeological Resources
- Visitor Use and Experience
- Gateway Communities



INTERPRETIVE PLAZA AT CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE



PHASE 1 WETLAND OVERLOOK



Multi-Use Pathway Planning Process and Timeline

Milestone	Targeted Schedule	Planning Effort
Public Scoping	Summer 2022 	Public meetings to review project purpose, issues, and preliminary alternatives. Public to provide comments at: https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_multiuse_pathway
Initiate Environmental Assessment (EA)	Summer 2022 	NPS staff review public comments, and develop and analyze the impacts of possible improvements
Public Review of EA	Fall 2022 	EA released for public comment. Public can provide comments at: https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_multiuse_pathway
Decision Document	Winter 2022	NPS selects the actions or alternative to be implemented and prepares decision document.

We are here



How to Comment

1. Submit comments electronically at: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/CAHA>
 1. **Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Repair and Landscaping Improvements**
https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_lighthouse
 2. **Buxton Multi-use Pathway**
https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_multiuse_pathway
2. Mail or hand-deliver written comments to Seashore Headquarters:
Superintendent
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
1401 National Park Drive
Manteo, NC 27954

Comments must be
submitted by
June 22, 2022



How To Provide Useful Feedback

- Comments should be clear, concise, and relevant to the issues.
- Comments that contribute to developing alternatives that address the purpose and need for the action are also effective.
- Commenting is not a form of “voting” on an alternative.
- Project website has instructions for submitting comments:

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/CAHA>



Thank You!

- We will now do our best to answer your questions about the project and planning and compliance process for each project.

