

TIDE COMMITTEE
December 3, 2025
3:00 p.m.
Edisto Beach Town Hall

Minutes

Present: Gary Cantrell, Chair; Edye Graves, Vice-Chair; Allen Bridwell, Lynne Grout, Ron Johnson, Camille Lemon, Lisa White, Members

Others Present: Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Assistant Town Administrator Dee Stalvey, Municipal Clerk Donna Rizer

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cantrell at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Cantrell welcomed new member Allen Bridwell and welcomed Edye Graves and Lisa White back for their second terms on the committee. Introductions were made by all members.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Johnson moved to approve the TIDE Committee meeting minutes of October 1, 2025. The motion was seconded by Ms. White and approved unanimously.

Town Administrator Updates

Town Administrator Mark Aakhus reported on the following items:

- Signage has been installed on the Jungles Shore Bike Path Project. Committee members noted increased use of the new bike path over the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Yellow pavement markings have been painted at the curbs along Palmetto Boulevard.
- Christmas decorations have been installed. This was a joint effort by the Town and Dominion Energy. Mr. Cantrell noted there have been many positive comments; residents seem thrilled about the nautical-themed Christmas lights. Committee members expressed appreciation for the installation.
- Vegetation has been cleared from the Lybrand Street bike path.
- South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has indicated the repaving of Jungle Road will take place in February/March 2026.

Old Business

Speed Limit Recommendation

At its November meeting, Town Council considered the TIDE Committee's recommendation to reduce the speed limit to 20 miles per hour on Jungle Shores Drive, on all other unpaved roads, and all side streets in the Town. After discussion, including the South Carolina Department of Transportation's (SCDOT) required traffic studies, SCDOT's willingness to only reduce the speed limit to 25 mph, and the inconsistency in speed limits throughout the town this would create, a motion was passed to take no action on the recommendation. The current speed limits will remain in effect.

Jungle Road Park: Butterfly Garden RFP

The Town sought proposals for the installation and maintenance of an integrated butterfly garden at Jungle Road Park. Two interested parties attended the site visit, and one company, Attract & Adore, submitted a bid. The selection committee, comprised of Mr. Jerome Kizer, Mr. Aakhush, and Mr. Cantrell, will meet to discuss the bid. Funding for this project is undetermined; Mr. Aakhush indicated Accommodations Tax (ATAx) funding may be considered.

New Business

Turtle Sign

Mr. Cantrell shared a photograph of a turtle sign provided by Mr. Johnson. The sign is posted at the beach accesses at Edisto Beach State Park. The sign is turtle-shaped and notes that sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act. The sign lists six rules to follow during turtle nesting season. Committee members indicated a similar sign would be beneficial to visitors to the Town beach. Ms. Lemon will contact Stacey Mobley, the permit holder for the Town of Edisto Beach, and Mr. Aakhush will contact the state park and Jay Watts, Town Councilman and Edisto Beach Loggerhead Turtle Project volunteer, for more information. The committee will review this matter at its next meeting.

Christmas Tree

Ms. Graves, Ms. White, and Phyllis McElveen, Special Projects Coordinator, set up a Christmas tree at Beach Access 10. The tree will be decorated with lights and natural ornaments, many of which were created by Ms. Graves, her family, and friends. Committee members will convene at the tree following the meeting to complete the decoration.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Grout made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Lemon seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

APPROVED BY TIDE COMMITTEE



Donna Rizer, Municipal Clerk
February 4, 2026