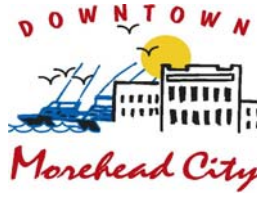


1001 Arendell Street  
Morehead City, NC 28557



Located in the restored  
1905 Train Depot

Downtown Morehead City Revitalization Association, Inc.  
[www.downtownmoreheadcity.com](http://www.downtownmoreheadcity.com)

January 6, 2009

Dear Friend of Downtown Morehead City:

The Board of Directors and the staff of Downtown Morehead City Revitalization ask for your support in 2009. Downtown Morehead City is a great place to be right now with many exciting projects underway or just over the horizon. If you live or work or just love to play in Morehead City's historic waterfront district, we rely on your energy, ideas, and support for our continued success.

In 2008, DMCRA set out an ambitious agenda for projects in Downtown Morehead City. We thought we would take this opportunity to let you know how much of that agenda we were able to accomplish. In 2008, the following were our priorities and our progress in accomplishing them:

- 1) 2008--Transient Docks: Make your reservations and tell your friends about Morehead City's new transient docks. DMCRA received North Carolina's first ever US Fish & Wildlife Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG Grant) of \$310,000 and a NC Division of Water Resources grant of \$48,000 to engineer, dredge, and construct ten new docks at Jaycee Park. The Grand Opening for the docks was May 16, 2008 and more than 600 people attended!! These docks will help bring touring boaters to downtown and increase commerce for downtown businesses. Call 252-726-2457 to make reservations or visit <http://www.townofmorehead.com/MHC%20Docks.html> to learn more.
- 1) 2008—Establish A Cultural Attraction for the Municipal Building: We spent 2008 exploring many different ideas with a variety of people about an appropriate and exciting cultural attraction for the municipal building (currently the police department) when it is vacated. The consensus is that the best fit with Morehead City's cultural identity is a North Carolina Salt Water Fishing Resource Center/Hall of Fame.
- 1) 2008--Harbor Line Realignment: DMCRA facilitated a partnership between Morehead City and Carteret County and secured grant funding from NC Division of Water Resources to study the feasibility of relocating the Morehead City internal harbor line. The harbor line is the furthest point structures can project from shore in order to prevent channel intrusion. The internal Morehead City harbor line (between the waterfront and Sugarloaf Island) comes so close to shore that, often, the construction of new docks is not possible. Moving the harbor line will facilitate an increase in dock space for waterfront businesses and more transient boat docks as well. The study will be complete later this month and we'll schedule another public information session about the project as soon as we have the study results. Stay tuned.
- 1) 2008--Morehead City Family Boating and In-Water Boat Show: The first use of the new downtown transient docks was the first annual Morehead City Family Boating and In-Water Boat Show—a big success. More than 50 boats were exhibited in the water and on shore, with seminars and entertainment, and a variety of product displays. The Boat Show was attended by 1500 people and 14 boats (or almost \$1 million in inventory) sold during the show. So—we'll be doing it again.

For 2009, we have established an equally ambitious agenda and hope we can count on your continued interest in downtown Morehead City. For 2009, we have established the following priorities:

- ⌘ 2009—More Docks: Our plan for 2009 is to add more downtown transient docks, and we are already working on grants for that purpose.
- ⌘ 2009—Boaters Comfort Station: In partnership with Morehead City, DMCRA received a \$75,000 US Department of Agriculture grant to build a Boaters Comfort Station and public rest room facility in Jaycee Park. The comfort station will be for the use of visiting boaters with key card access. Any of our downtown businesses that allow overnight stays at their docks will have key cards for their customers. We anticipate that the new facility will be built in time for the 2009 Boat Show.
- ⌘ 2009 Morehead City Family Boating and In-Water Boat Show: This year's Boat Show will take place on May 16, & 17 with a Gala on May 15. Join us with a sponsorship, buy tickets to the gala, or come and tour the large variety of boats in the show—this year it will be even bigger and more exciting than last. And everyone agrees that the Gala is the place to be on May 15. Call us for more information: 252.808.0440
- ⌘ 2009—North Carolina Salt Water Fishing Center in the Municipal Building: DMCRA will continue working on an exciting, family friendly Resource Center/Hall of Fame, celebrating our state's legends of salt water fishing with interactive exhibits and resource conservation programs. Initial estimates are that the facility and exhibits will cost between \$3.5 and \$5 million and take 3-5 years to complete. This is the biggest project that DMCRA has ever undertaken. We will need a lot of support to pull this off so you'll be hearing lots more about this project in the future.
- ⌘ 2009--Harbor Line Relocation: Once the engineering study is complete and Morehead City receives citizen input about this important project, we will begin advocating for a change in the location of the harbor line. This is another project that will require a lot of public support. Whatever the outcome, dredging the existing or relocated channel is a necessity, and we will be working on securing grant funding to dredge as soon as possible.
- ⌘ 2009--North Side of Arendell Street: DMCRA has just begun exploring ideas for revitalizing some of the areas on the north side of Arendell Street. As a first step, we are hoping to get an Urban Land Institute Community Action Grant to help the downtown community begin visualizing and planning for revitalization of some of our north side neighborhoods. We'll keep you posted.

DMCRA exists to make the downtown area of Morehead City a vital community. Most important to our success, our supporters and our Board of Directors have shown a commitment and willingness to give time, talents, and resources to a wide array of projects that enhance the downtown's viability and visibility. The future is full of big ideas for the downtown area, and DMCRA will be part of all these exciting projects. We invite you to be also.

A partnership form along with a return envelope is included in this package. Partnerships are for a calendar year beginning in January 2009. We hope we can count on your support and participation in Morehead City's Downtown Revitalization Association.

Sincerely,

*Connie Asero*

Connie Asero  
Executive Director