

Introduction

A charrette is an intense effort to solve any design or planning problem within a limited time. There are two main advantages to working in the context of a charrette. The first is that a charrette operates in a highly collaborative atmosphere. A charrette allows for the participation of everyone involved with the project, resulting in a highly charged and creative atmosphere. The inclusion of many points of view results in well-rounded and realistic proposals, with everyone satisfied that they were able to contribute. The second advantage of a charrette is the production of useful results in a very short timeframe, which can be easily translated into physical results or actions.

The South Beach Business District Design Charrette focused on the South Beach Business District. The study area is shown on the study area map. The charrette was held over a three day period from September 15-17, 2004. The draft charrette recommendations were presented in a public open house held on November 11, 2004.

The charrette process included intense sessions to receive input from City staff, the general public and area stakeholders. Input was assimilated into design sketches and implementation strategies during the charrette process. The results of the charrette process are presented in this document and include the following:

- Existing Conditions Inventory
- Issues & Needs
- Opportunities & Constraints
- Vision Statement
- Conceptual Design Vision
- Recommendations
- Implementation Strategies

This document is intended to convey the design concept that was derived for the South Beach Business District through an intensive public visioning process. The design concept should be viewed as a starting point—a big picture idea for future actions. Details will change and adjustments will be made as the vision becomes a reality, however, future decision-making should be made in the spirit of the design concept and its underlying principles.

Tybee Island

South Beach Business District Design Charrette

"The Strand Is Back!"

