



Gloucester Department of Community Engagement and Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Construction on Tucker Store Park Underway

Construction is underway on Gloucester's newest park, the Tucker Store "Pocket Park," located adjacent to the colonial court circle. The park, which is meant to serve as a historical respite area for visitors to Main Street, is expected to be complete by mid-December.

The site, chosen by Gloucester's Parks, Recreation and Tourism department was previously home to Tucker Store, which was in operation under various names from 1872 to 1980 in a now-demolished building. In August 2017, the Gloucester County Board of Supervisors authorized the pocket park concept to proceed.

The vision of the PR&T department, working alongside the private Park Partners group, is to create a welcoming and attractive spot on Main Street where visitors can also learn about local history. The park will include kiosks depicting the history of the daffodil industry, the Daffodil Festival, Main Street, the court circle area and Werowocomoco. It will also include customized bricks featured in a wagon-wheel design around a "town clock," which is already in place. The former building on the site was also once used as a wheelwright's shop. Other landscape design elements will be in place, as well as benches, water fountains and walkways.

"We are so excited to be able to revitalize this historic piece of property with this unique pocket park concept," said Katey Legg, Gloucester's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department director. "We hope this will be a space where our residents and visitors can take a break from their activities along Main Street, while learning a bit about our local history at the same time."

This project is made possible by many civic and personal donations, including the Garden Club of Gloucester, Gloucester Point Rotary Foundation, the Hockaday Family, Harry Corr and many others. A determination on an official ribbon cutting will be made once the park is complete due to COVID-19.

Fundraising continues for the second phase of the project, which will include more landscaping. Personalized bricks are still available for purchase by visiting www.polarengraving.com/parkpartners. For more information, contact Legg at klegg@gloucesterva.info or 804-693-2355.

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