

## **Dear Ward 3 Neighbor,**

My name is Steve DeSimone, a 38-year resident of North Forest Beach. My wife, Tracy, and I raised our three daughters on the island. Through hard work, technical skills and strong business acumen, I built a successful construction company that specializes in land and marine projects. I know every inch of our 42 square mile island, its beauty, its diverse communities and its challenges.

I'm humbly asking for your vote to be your town council representative, because the future of our island is at stake.

### **I'm the living memory of what makes Hilton Head Island great**

In 1986, after graduating Engineering school I accepted an assistant engineering position with the then-newly organized Town of Hilton Head.

One of my first assignments was to support the design of the original (LMO) Land Management Ordinance that would memorialize Charles Fraser's vision of blending nature with infrastructure, where "the roads are deliberately and delicately curved to hold the look of the woods... The light is subdued to hold the night, to give the stars a chance to be seen."

The first town LMO established a blueprint to preserve our island and its ecosystems.

### **I'm proud of my contribution to keep Hilton Head a world-class destination**

I was elected to serve as the Ward 4 representative on town council from 1995 to 2002, I worked closely with Mayor Peebles on multiple projects to improve the island's infrastructure and protect its natural environment, including:

- Acquisition of land for preservation purposes
- Conversion to underground powerlines and utilities for hurricane protection
- Paved roads throughout North and South Forest Beach
- Major drainage projects across the island
- Beach renourishment for the town
- The Cross Island Expressway to facilitate intra-island traffic flow

### **I'm uniquely qualified to take on the challenges**

Your new town council will vote on two significant agenda items that will impact our island: An overhaul of the LMO and the 278 corridor/traffic final design. My background uniquely qualifies me to represent the town effectively on these issues and many the town will face.

When supporting my candidacy, **Senator Tom Davis** stated, "[Steve's] skills as an engineer will be especially important in the coming years as the plans for the new Highway 278 bridge corridor are finalized."

### **I'll serve the needs of long-term residents and establish a community that's resilient for future generations**

My opponent was endorsed and financially supported by the local **Democratic Party**. The council race is nonpartisan for a specific reason: we are here to serve the community at large, not special interest groups.

In addition, my opponent has received donations from sitting town council members. I did NOT seek any support from other council members because I don't want to be beholden to a certain voting bloc. I have a track record of working constructively and cordially with other ward representatives while maintaining an independent voice for my constituents.

I did obtain endorsements from our state legislative delegates **Jeff Bradley, Weston Newton and Bill Herbkersman**, in addition to **Senator Tom Davis**. I will work closely with our state representatives to obtain SCDOT and SCTIB's funds for our roadway improvement projects.

**When elected, I will focus on:**

- Correcting issues in the 2014 LMO that increased density and decreased setbacks
- Participating in the 278 corridor/bridge traffic design to improve efficiency and efficacy
- Promoting private initiatives to convert dilapidated office buildings into workforce housing with proper government incentives
- Ensuring that Hilton Head Island's celebrated beaches remain clean, safe, and always renourished
- Controlling the growth of government by promoting transparency and accountability

I'm asking you to vote for someone who has the experience serving on town council, who has in-depth knowledge of our island, who has the technical expertise to provide proper oversight of the town's LMO, capital investments and overall town budget, and most importantly, who will be your voice on the dais.

I'm humbly asking for your vote.

Sincerely yours,

*Steve DeSimone*

Steve DeSimone

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**PRESS RELEASE**

***Summary:** Steve DeSimone, a local businessman and community leader since the 1990s has announced his candidacy to represent Ward 3 on Hilton Head Island's Town Council. DeSimone aims to help bring positive change by upgrading blighted commercial areas, finding solutions for traffic and parking problems between Coligny and Sea Pines Circle, plus ensuring the island's beachfront protection.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

From Committee to Elect Steve DeSimone  
July 23, 2024

**Former Hilton Head Town Councilman Steve DeSimone**

## Announces Candidacy for HHI Representing Ward 3



Hilton Head Island, SC – July 23, 2024 – Steve DeSimone, a seasoned professional with deep ties to the Hilton Head Island community, is excited to announce his new candidacy for the Hilton Head Island Town Council representing Ward 3.

DeSimone is a man of energy and experience uniquely qualified to serve on Town Council.

Previously DeSimone served on the island's town council from 1996 to 2002 representing Ward 4. During that time he helped spearhead significant

advancements in conjunction with Mayor Tom Peeples. He led efforts to secure paved roads throughout both north and south Forest Beach, major drainage projects across the island, and a re-nourishment program for the town's beachfront.

DeSimone also actively pursued the completion of the Cross Island Parkway and several land acquisition programs. These improvements reflect his commitment to the overall quality of life for residents by balancing the island's economic growth with environmental protection.

"I am committed to working tirelessly for the betterment of our island," said DeSimone. "I'm focused on long-term resident needs and establishing a community that will be resilient for future generations."

A graduate of the University of Kentucky with a BS degree in civil engineering, DeSimone relocated to Hilton Head Island in 1986 to accept an assistant engineering position with the then-newly organized town government. Today, he owns a multi-faceted construction company that specializes in land and marine projects, plus a firm that builds and internationally markets the "Elongator Tailgate," a unique device he invented for easily loading small trucks.

DeSimone and his wife Tracy have raised three daughters on Hilton Head Island. He currently serves on the Town's Board of Zoning Appeals. He is an active member of Holy Family Catholic Church, and for 10 years volunteered as volleyball coach at Hilton Head Christian Academy.

“If elected I am fully committed to working closely with the council and the town manager to diligently protect our renowned natural environment while continuing to foster a balanced, sustainable economy that prioritizes the needs of local residents,” said DeSimone.

Ward 3 was re-shaped by re-districting this past year and now includes North and South Forest Beach, the gated communities of Shipyard, Wexford, Long Cove, and Spanish Wells as well as other nearby neighborhoods including Yacht

**DeSimone's priorities as a candidate include:**

- **Community Resilience:** Promoting sustainable redevelopment of blighted areas with a focus on environmental stewardship and transforming them into vibrant spaces that benefit residents.
- **Beach Protection:** Ensuring Hilton Head Island’s celebrated beaches remain clean, safe, and always re-nourished.
- **Infrastructure Improvement:** Enhancing commercial areas, including roadways to meet the needs of both visitors and residents.
- **Economic Support:** Helping establish a more balanced economic environment that makes our community a good place to do business.
- **Transparent Governance:** Maintaining transparency and accountability. I pledge to keep the community informed and involved in decision-making processes.

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