## ***What Is Happening With Our Residential Boat Landings***

In late summer, 2025, County staff brought forward an ordinance to clarify commercial activity at public boat ramps, responding to growing concerns about congestion, safety, and loss of public access - particularly related to Hilton Head Island.

During the Council committee process, the ordinance was significantly changed. The current version removes limits on commercial use, encourages expanded commercial activity at public ramps, and provides no clear enforcement, liability or safety protections.

## ***Why This Matters to Residents***

Public boat ramps are taxpayer-funded infrastructure. When commercial operators use them to run businesses, residents lose access to facilities they paid for.

Congestion increases, safety risks grow, maintenance costs rise, and taxpayers end up government subsidizing private businesses while assuming increased liability.

Our ask - Residents to speak up and provide input to our County elected officials, before public access, safety, and fairness are further impacted. **We want HHI carved out of this current ordinance.**

**Public Facilities Committee - Tuesday, February 17, 2026 - 4pm**
**Council Room - 100 Ribaut Rd, Beaufort, SC 29902**
**Sign up to speak in person prior to the meeting. Speaking is reserved for first come, first serve so arriving 15 to 20 minutes early is recommended.**
**Or email our HHI Representatives:**

Larry McElynn - lmcelynn@bcgov.net
Paula Brown - paula.brown@bcgov.net
Tom Reitz - thomas.reitz@bcgov.net

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**450 Employees. 40 Small Business Owners. 8 Marinas. One Unified Voice.**

The Lowcountry Waterways Alliance represents licensed and insured businesses operating in full compliance with United States Coast Guard and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources - including the South Carolina Clean Marinas Act - while driving significant contributions to the local economy.