

To: Beaufort County Council, via Sarah Brock

From: Daufuskie Island Council

Re: Public Acquisition of Melrose Dock

Date: Aug 5, 2022

The Daufuskie Island Council, along with its immediate predecessor organizations, has served as the elected voice of Daufuskie Island since 1962, when an islander rode his Marsh Tacky horse door to door to encourage residents to speak to various governmental agencies in a single voice. Sixty years later, the Daufuskie Island Council continues in this proud tradition.

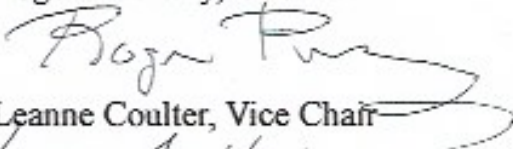
In 2021, Daufuskie Island hosted over 200,000 visitors resulting in an estimated \$50,000,000 of economic activity. The majority of these visitors accessed the island via the county-subsidized ferry system landing at the Melrose dock. Recent changes, or proposed changes, in the ownership of the Melrose dock have left the use of that facility, or the terms of its use, in doubt.

The Daufuskie Island Council believes that allowing a third party to control this strategic access point is extremely unwise and the Island Council hereby supports Beaufort County's efforts to obtain ownership of the Melrose dock in any manner it deems most efficient and expedient, as well as a permanent embarkation site on Hilton Head so this vital transportation link may continue and be enhanced.

Thank you for your consideration.

For the Island Council:

Roger Pinckney, Chair



Leanne Coulter, Vice Chair



Members:

