



TOWN OF
Kiawah Island®



JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

WWW.KIAWAHISLAND.ORG

WHO ARE WE

ABOUT US



Jack Kotz

Town Mission

To protect and preserve the residential character of the community and the Island's unique natural environment while supporting the economic vitality of the resort and other commercial enterprise.

Elected Officials

- John Labriola, Mayor
- Dan Prickett, Mayor Pro Tem/Council
- Maryanne Connelly, Council Member
- John Moffitt, Council Member
- Dr. Scott Parker, Council Member

Other Officials

- Stephanie Tillerson, Town Administrator
- Dorota Szubert, Town Treasurer



Statistics




3657
Households

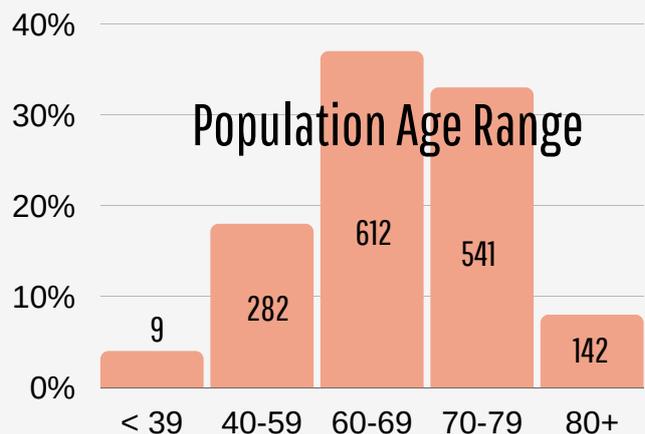


\$2.0 M Median Home Price Single-family 2021

\$350K Median Lot Sales Price



2065 Registered Voters
(full-time residents)



Median Age 67.6

KIAWAH ISLAND

HOME OF



Ten miles of wide, pristine, unspoiled, oceanfront beach



Five Star, Five Diamond Sanctuary Hotel at the Kiawah Island Golf Resort



The Ocean Course host of the 1991 Ryder Cup; 1997 and 2003 World Cups; 2001 UBS Warburg Cup; 2007 Senior PGA Championship; 2012 and 2021 PGA Championship

Jim Jordan



The longest-running bobcat GPS Study in the world. Kiawah's historically healthy bobcat population has been sharply declining. More at www.savekiawahbobcats.com



A vital nesting ground for loggerhead turtles with over 300 turtle nests on average per year and one of the largest volunteer turtle patrol programs in the U.S.



Bob Hill

One of the few select areas in the world where dolphins strand feed.



Bob Hill

Approximately 700 white-tailed deer



A critical staging area for Red Knots during spring migration as they undertake an incredible journey from South America to the Arctic traveling over 9,000 miles.



A healthy population of American alligators which can be seen in all of the 150 brackish and freshwater ponds interspersed throughout the island. Never feed, harass, or approach alligators.



A healthy population of Painted Buntings, one of the most beautiful songbirds in North America. Kiawah's coastal maritime forest provides critical breeding habitat for these birds.

TOWN SERVICES

TOWN COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

Establishment of Town policies

MUNICIPAL COURT

Jurisdiction to try all cases arising due to the violation of Town ordinances and has powers and authority in criminal cases made under state law and conferred upon magistrates.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Island-wide law enforcement provided by Charleston County Sheriffs Office, Beach Patrol, Code Enforcement, Emergency Response, Disaster Planning and Recovery.

PUBLIC WORKS

Island beautification and maintenance of Beachwalker Drive, Kiawah Island Parkway from the roundabout at Betsy Kerrison Parkway to the front gate and the Municipal Center.

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Island-wide garbage, recycling, yard debris, brown trash and household hazardous waste collection and disposal.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Zoning permits, subdivision of land, re-zonings, planned developments, variance requests, special exception requests, site plan review, zoning & land development regulations, and appeals of administrative decisions.

BUILDING SERVICES & BUSINESS LICENSES

Responsible for accountable business practices through licensing and building permit and inspection process for all commercial and residential projects within the Town. It has an express goal of maintaining a safe building environment for our residents through quality plan review and inspections.



ENVIRONMENTAL

Beach management, wildlife population monitoring and research, habitat management, nuisance/injured wildlife response, Turtle Patrol education and outreach efforts.

COMMUNICATIONS

Public information in normal and emergency operations is provided through various mediums, including the Town website, quarterly newsletter (Town Notes), bi-weekly e-blasts, social media, and specialty publications.

TOURISM PROMOTION

Allocation of tourism funds, collaboration with island entities to promote tourism activities, and hosts a Charleston Visitors Bureau office.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Charitable Contributions, Arts & Cultural Events.

Total Revenue Summary

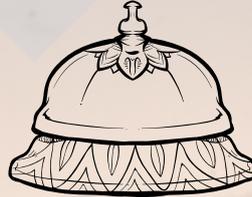
46%



Charges for Services

Business Licenses
Building Permits
Solid Waste Fees

43%



Accommodation & Hospitality Taxes

9%



Franchise Fees

2%



Other

Court Fines
Investments Income
Misc.



Property Tax (No Town of Kiawah Island Property Tax)

Property taxes paid to
Charleston County do
not include any taxes for
the Town.

\$9.3 Million

Restricted and
Unrestricted Funds

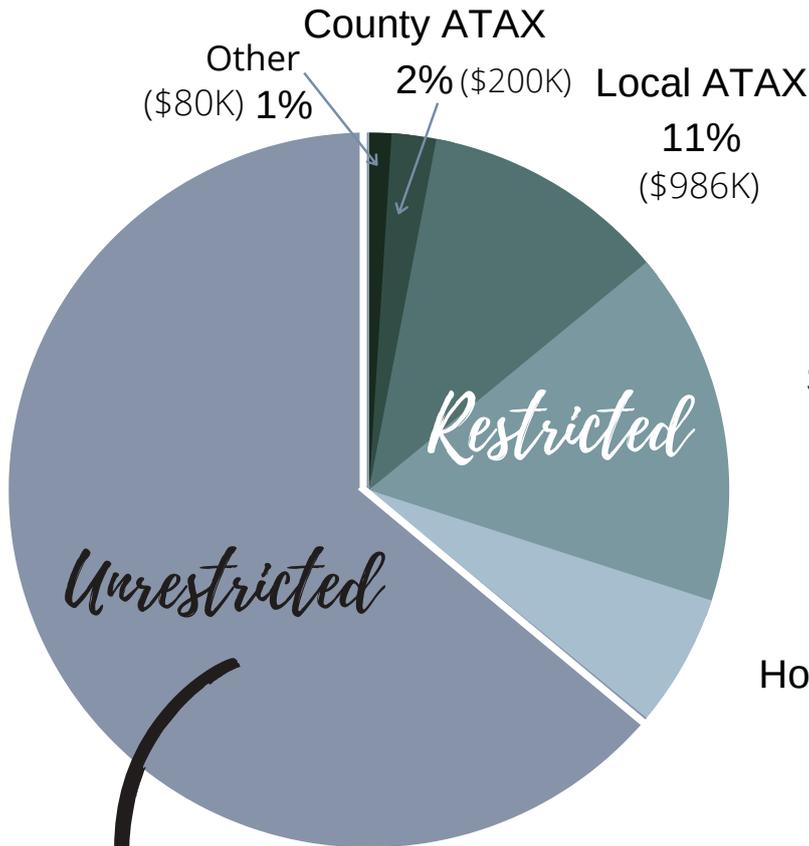
Where the
revenue
comes
from



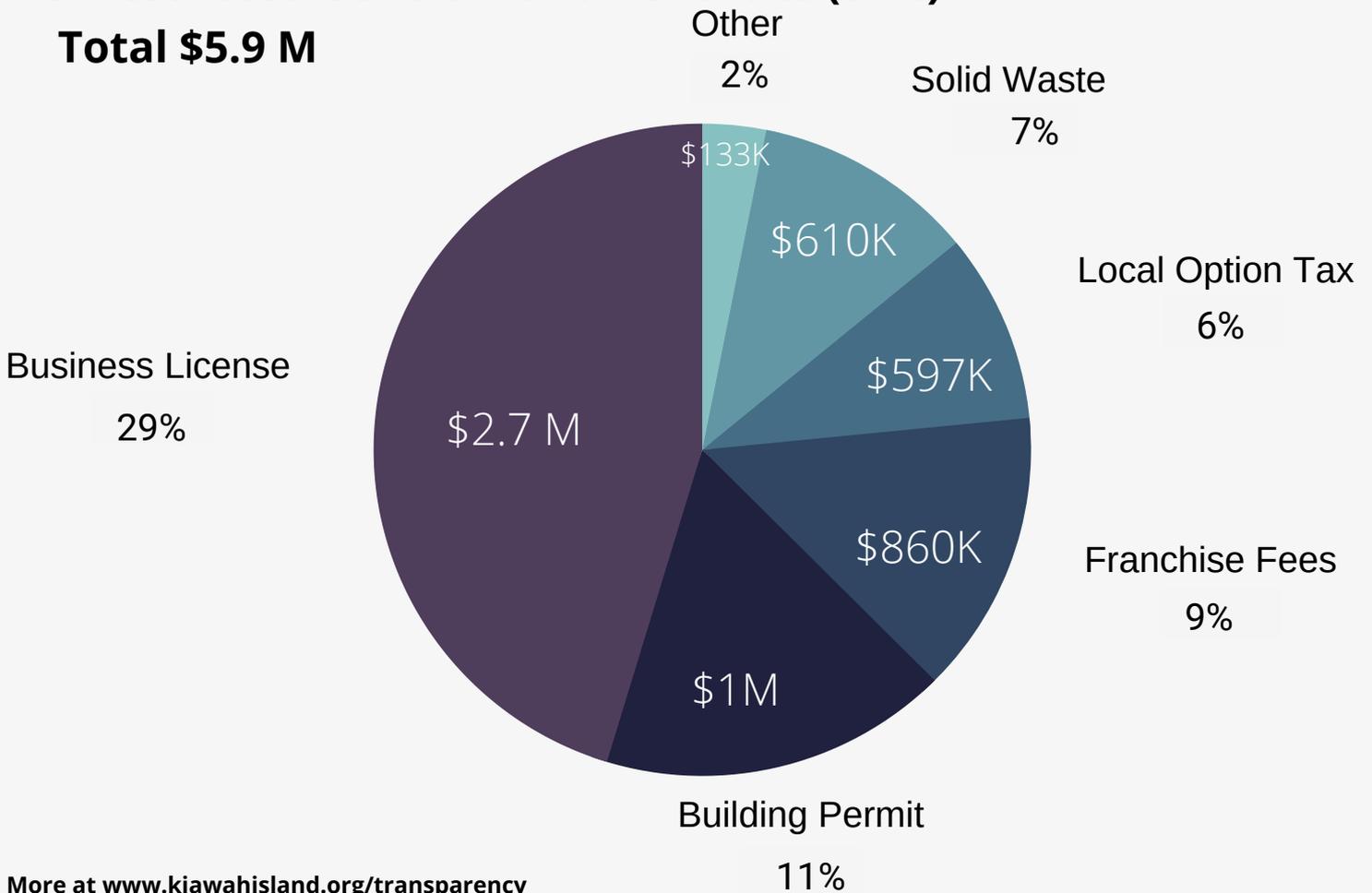
Total Revenues Budgeted

Total \$9.3 Million

**Restricted Fund Revenues (36%)
Total \$3.4 M**



**Unrestricted General Fund Revenues (64%)
Total \$5.9 M**



Revenue Sources Detailed

\$0 Property Tax - Property Taxes paid to Charleston County do not include any taxes from the Town

Unrestricted Funds

Sources not required to be used for specific purposes. Listed below:



Business Licenses

Fees charged to businesses to be able to operate within the limits of the Town.



Building Permits

Fees charged to contractors for all construction projects, whether done by a licensed contractor or property owner.



Solid Waste Collection

Fees for collection and disposal of residential garbage, recycling, and yard debris.



Franchise Fees

Fees for the rights of specific companies to provide services within the Town, such as electricity, cable, and beach chair rentals.



Local Option Tax

A uniform 1% tax on the taxable sale. The state collects this tax and distributes a percent to municipalities in the county.

Other



- **Beverage Tax:** The state levies this tax for alcohol beverage permits sold to businesses, of which a portion is distributed to the municipality.



- **Fines and Forfeitures:** The Town keeps a small percentage of fees collected through Municipal Court for tickets issued within the Town limits. The majority of these fees go to the state.



- **Aid to Subdivision:** State aid to local governments from several tax sources annually.

Restricted Funds

Sources that can only be used for specific purposes. Listed below:



State Accommodation Tax (SATAX)

A tax tourists pay from the rental charges for accommodations when staying on the island. Revenues from this tax must be spent on tourism-related expenditures except for the first \$25K plus 5% of the remaining total revenues which are allocated to the Town's general fund and not restricted. The allocation of SATAX funds is recommended by the Town's SATAX Committee and approved by Town Council. The major areas where the money is allocated include enhanced police protection, Beach Patrol, and promotion of community events.



Local Accommodation Fund

SC state law allows the Town to levy 1% municipal local accommodation tax. These fees are remitted to the Town by Charleston County monthly. Revenues must be spent exclusively for things such as tourism, cultural events, and beach access roads providing access to tourist destinations.



County Accommodation

Charleston County levies 2% accommodation tax of which a portion is distributed to municipalities where they were earned. The Town receives approximately 25% of the fees collected, contingent on the use of the money on capital projects or services that promote tourism.



Hospitality Tax

A tax paid by patrons of restaurants, grocery stores and any other establishments that sell and prepare food and beverages. The 1% tax is remitted to the Town by these businesses monthly.



\$0 Property Tax - Property taxes paid to Charleston County do not include any taxes for the Town.

Total Expenditures Summary

\$8.8 Million

Restricted and
Unrestricted Funds

How the
budget
dollars are
distributed



2021 - 2022 Expenditures

\$8.8 million

Below is how general & restricted funds are budgeted to be spent.

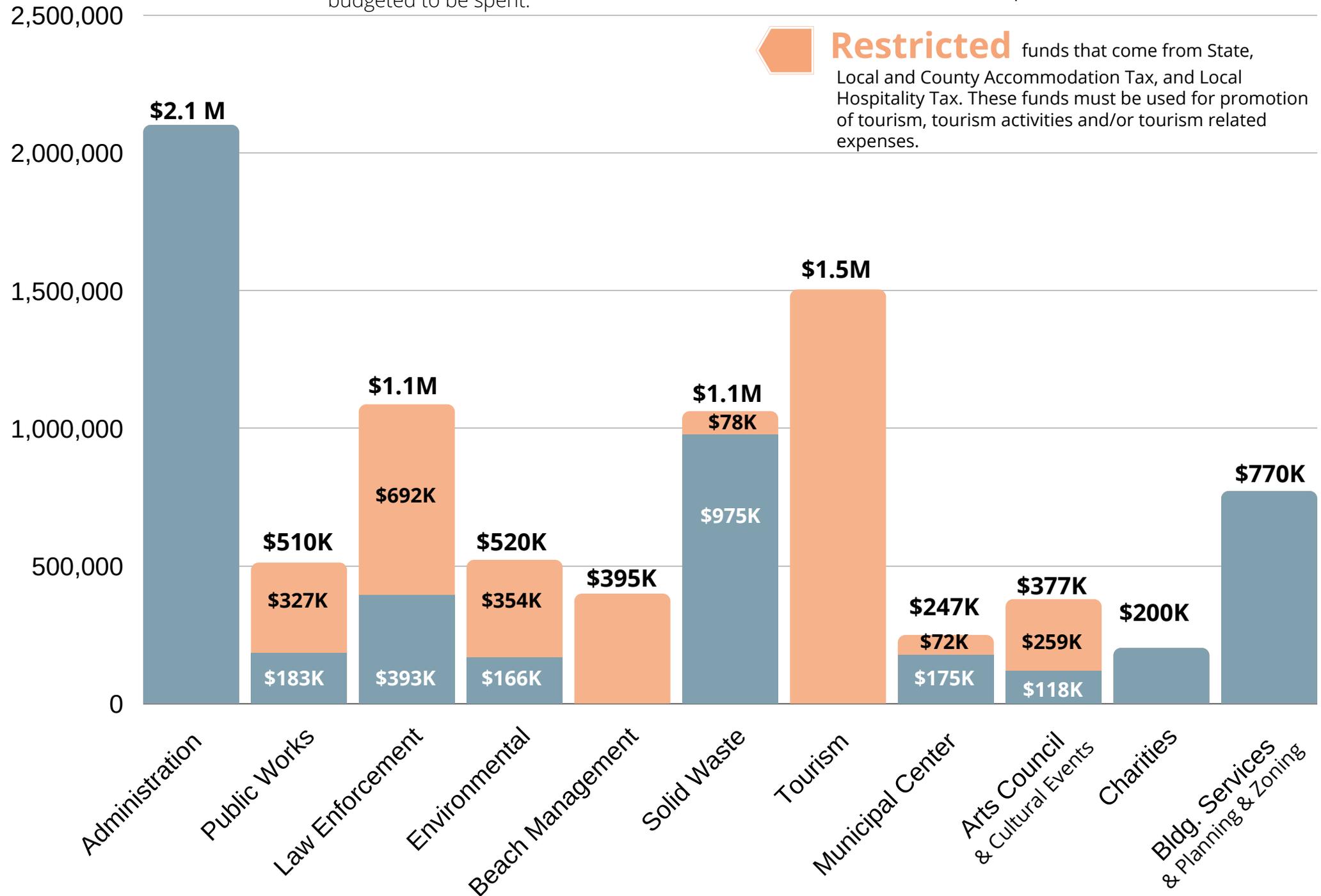


Unrestricted - General Fund

The general fund or unrestricted fund is the Town's primary operating fund. This fund comes from revenue from business license, permit fees, franchise fees, etc.



Restricted funds that come from State, Local and County Accommodation Tax, and Local Hospitality Tax. These funds must be used for promotion of tourism, tourism activities and/or tourism related expenses.



Expenditures Detailed

12% Solid Waste

The Town provides various collection types for its residents and continues to provide curbside service free of charge. Expenditures also include garbage collection on the beach, Kestrel Court Trash and Recycling Center, and the Beachwalker Drive site. This includes future improvements for the Kestrel Court Trash and Recycling Center.

17% Tourism

Distribution of State Accommodation Tax funds back into the community for the advertising and promotion of tourism-related activities and expenditures.

Funds for this fiscal year were allocated to:

- Freshfields Village events marketing/advertising
- Kiawah Island Golf Resort events promotion
- Andell Inn wedding destination marketing/advertising
- Town of Kiawah
 - Beach Patrol coverage
 - Charleston County Sheriff's Deputy coverage (a portion of)
- Charleston Visitors Bureau

9% Public Works

Maintaining Beachwalker Drive, Kiawah Island Parkway from the roundabout at Betsy Kerrison Parkway to the front gate and the Municipal Center.

12% Law Enforcement

Dedicated law enforcement services contracted with the Charleston County Sheriff's Office that entails enhanced coverage and four permanently assigned deputies for Kiawah and additional short-term rental code enforcement officers.

2% Charitable Contributions

The Town supports a variety of charitable organizations through its Charitable Contribution Fund. The Town allocates an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

4% Arts and Cultural

The Town strives to enhance the community and provide residents and visitors access to performing arts events within the Town. More information is available at www.kiawahisland.org/events

4% Beach Management

Beach Monitoring

Annual beach sand volume survey, report, and recommendations (Coastal Science and Engineering). Mitigation for previous beach restoration projects.

Beach Patrol

Contracted with Barrier Island Ocean Rescue for the provision of ocean rescue, life safety, first aid services, and code enforcement on the beach.

6% Environmental

Bobcat GPS Research Project

Analyzes the habitat needs of bobcats and assists in management and conservation—longest, continuous GPS study on bobcats in the world.

Clemson Bobcat Research Study

Collaborative new four-year Ph.D. research project with Clemson University's Wildlife and Fisheries Department to understand better the health and future viability of Kiawah's bobcats and other wildlife, quantify the impacts from rodenticides, and develop long-term solutions.

Bird Banding Projects

Studies on productivity, survivorship, and movements of many bird species that are indicators of the health of the island's ecosystem.

Alligator Behavior and Safety Studies

Studies to understand the behavior and movements of alligators to increase awareness and safety across the island. Cooperative projects with KICA, Clemson University, SCDNR, and the Nemours Wildlife Foundation.

Wildlife Surveys and Monitoring

Variety of wildlife surveys to estimate population size and abundance of many wildlife species to look at population trends over time to understand better how our native wildlife species adapt to Kiawah changes.

Environmental Programs

Funding for educational programs to enhance awareness of Kiawah's wildlife and reduce negative interactions with wildlife. Programs include the Dolphin Education Project (NOAA NMFS, LMMN), Outdoor Wildlife Lessons in Science (KIGR), Grow Native, Kiawah Conservancy education and outreach programs, Shorebird Stewardship program, and more.

