



24 April 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CITY OF SOUTHPORT
KAYAK LAUNCH GROUNDBREAKING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DAY**

Southport, NC – The City of Southport will be hosting a groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 10:00 am at the end of W. West Street in Southport. This event, involving City of Southport Parks & Recreation and Morningstar Marinas Southport is a highly anticipated and exciting step towards bringing a top-of-the-line kayak launch and access to Southport.

After the groundbreaking, community members are invited to Morningstar Marinas Southport, located at 606 W. West Street, for a Community Safety Day. This event includes golf cart safety by City of Southport Police Department, boating safety by Morningstar Marinas Southport, representatives from Brunswick County Sheriff's Office, Atlantic Marine, Anglers Marine, J&J Boat Services, and more. There will also be a food truck and DJ on site. Additionally, a contest will be held for the golf cart with the best nautical-themed decorations, with a winner selected at 2:00 pm.

We invite the media to join us at the Kayak Launch Groundbreaking at 10:00 am, as well as the Community Safety Day shortly after. Media are also invited to speak with individual City and/or Marina representatives at 11:00 am. Please gather outside the Marina's front office.

On October 25, 2022, the City of Southport was awarded a public access grant of \$141,000 through the North Carolina Coastal Management Program. The City is using this grant to fund the ADA-accessible kayak launch that will be at the end of West West Street.

Parks and Recreation Director Heather Hemphill states that she is excited about the new kayak launch and is grateful for our wonderful partnership with Morningstar Marinas Southport so that we can bring this much-desired amenity to our residents and community members.

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