

Ken Combs Pier

Gulfport, Mississippi



Location: Gulfport, Mississippi
Type: Infill
Year Design: 2008
Status: Planned
Size: 1/8 Acre
Contact: Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company or the City of Gulfport



Renamed for a former mayor of Gulfport, the Ken Combs Pier is located to the south of US Route 90 (Beach Boulevard) at the southern terminus of Courthouse Road. Prior to Hurricane Katrina, the neighborhoods north of Beach Boulevard featured a mixture of single-family homes, apartments, and businesses. Approximately 1/4 of a mile to the west lies the Veterans Administration Medical Complex.

In 2005, the wind and storm surge from Hurricane Katrina destroyed the Pier. Post-Katrina reconstruction prioritized its reconstruction, which is now complete. Other improvements include landscaping, a new visitor/boat trailer parking lot and the designation of a small triangular development parcel, located between the new boat launch and the entrance to the pier. Today, as before the storm, the pier remains a popular destination for boating and fishing.

The Ken Combs Master Plan proposes the diversification of an already active and well-loved Gulfport recreation area with the development of a destination restaurant. Located between the west side of the pier and the east side of the improved boat launch, the proposed restaurant will offer pleasing views of the Mississippi Sound and the recreational activity it invites.

The master plan also calls for the addition of a large salt water, family-oriented swimming pool. Given the site's proximity to the Veteran's Administration Medical Complex campus, its family and recreational orientation and adjacency to the beach, Ken Combs Pier will only continue to attract Gulfport residents and visitors from near and far.