

1 **6 Built Environment**

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3 **6.5 Annexation.**

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5 *Vision Statement – Annexation. Dewey Beach has a close, strategic relationships with*
6 *neighboring communities that contribute positively to the viability of the area and protect the*
7 *surrounding natural resources.*

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9 **6.5.1 Current Situation**

10 Map ____ shows possible growth and annexation areas outside the municipal boundaries of
11 Dewey Beach.

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13 **6.2.2 Critical Issues and Plan Objectives and Recommendations**

14 The communities of Tree Tops, Ann Acres, Seabreeze, Country Manor, Spring Lake, Silver Lake
15 Shores, Silver Lake Manor, Silver Lake, North Indian Beach, and Indian Beach are listed as
16 areas of concern for two main reasons. First and foremost is related to the need to create a
17 unified response to pending sea level rise and for the preservation of the surround natural
18 environment. Even if Dewey Beach were to somehow magically protect its ocean and bay
19 shores from flooding, waters would still flood into Dewey Beach from these adjoining
20 communities. And secondly, because the residents, property and business owners, and visitors in
21 these areas utilize the services, infrastructure, and resources of Dewey Beach without directly
22 contribution to the support of these services and facilities. By contributing directly, higher
23 quality services could be provided.

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25 As articulated in the Town’s 2007 Plan, it would be advantageous for the Town to redefine its
26 western boundary so as to extend 300 feet into the Rehoboth Bay where abutting the Town, to
27 permit enforcement of nuisance ordinances along piers and allow local policies to be formulated
28 to protect and preserve the environmental quality of the bay and the valuable views offered by
29 this important natural resource.

30
31 While it is assumed that these aforementioned communities enjoy their unique sense of
32 community and would prefer to remain autonomous, Dewey Beach should find ways to work
33 more closely with them toward mutual interests.

34
35 **Obj. A - 1 Dewey Beach has a close, strategic relationships with neighboring**
36 **communities that contribute positively to the viability of the area and protect the**
37 **surrounding natural resources.**

38 High-priority recommendations to enhance property values, to protect against increased
39 flooding due to global climate change, and to provide for the health safety and welfare of
40 the population include:

- 41 • The Town should engage in studies regarding support for inter-community
42 cooperation so as jointly to protect against the effects of sea level rise and
43 preserve the surrounding natural environment along the Ocean, Bay and lakes;
- 44 • The Town should establish closer working relationships with its neighboring
45 communities, to result in financial support from these communities or the County
46 to support some or all of the services and facilities that the Town provides to their

- 1 community members, e.g., lifeguards, public bathrooms, and evening
2 programming on the beach;
- 3 • The Town should work with the State of Delaware to revise its municipal charter
4 to include a suitable area of the Rehoboth Bay as part of the official municipal
5 jurisdiction;