

CASTLE STREET COLLECTIVE

*The mission of CSC is to foster
the growth and prosperity of Castle Street businesses through dedicated initiatives in
beautification, safety, and events.*



April 2026 Newsletter

Spring in full force! Here is the news from The Castle Street Collective!

April Community Meeting on April 15th at [Craft Cabana](#),
located at 1124 Castle Street.



Meet Danielle: [Craft Cabana](#) is a do-it-yourself Craft Studio where people can come hang out, get crafty, and try something new. Danielle loves bringing the community together through fun, easygoing workshops and events - all ages welcome. Whether it's painting door hangers or junk journaling, Danielle's goal is to make sure everyone leaves with something they love (and had a great time making). Craft Cabana is all about good vibes, creativity, and a space where anyone can feel comfortable getting a little artsy.

April Community Meeting

Next meeting is April 15th at The Craft Cabana! This is located on the corner of 12th and Castle (1124 Castle St, Unit 101) from 6:30 -7:30. If there is something you would like to discuss, please reach out!

Agenda

Code Enforcement, City of Wilmington
Business Survey Endeavor Results
Update on History of Castle Street Project

April 18th: Castle Street Clean Up

April 25th: Independent Bookstore Day

May 4th - 10th: SBA National Small Business Week

June 18th: Movie Night / Muppets From Space @ 810 Castle Street (8:30 pm)

2026 Member window stickers available at meeting.

Become a Member

Street Cleanup

Join us on April 18th to help spruce up Castle Street! We will meet at the 902 Castle Street parking lot and work from 9-12. Come for the whole time or a bit. Every little bit helps! Please make sure you sign the waiver online or in person. We would love for you to let us know you are coming. RSVP below!

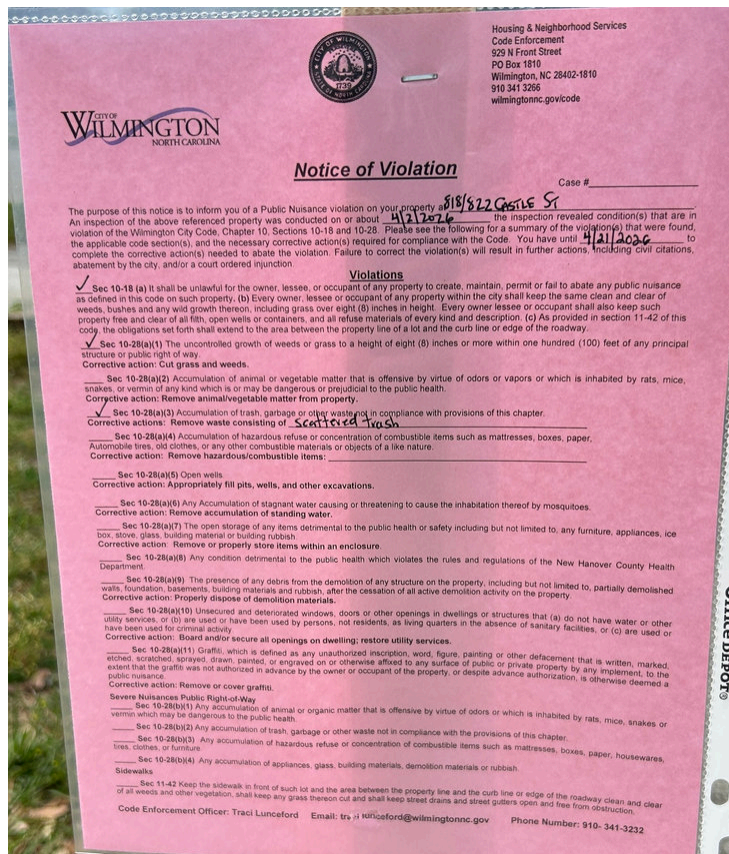
Waiver form (print and bring along): <https://bit.ly/4t3ZLF4>

RSVP

Abandoned Building Update

The abandoned building located at 822 Castle Street still hasn't been removed, as promised by Joe Garnett of the City of Wilmington, Code Enforcement at our February Community Meeting. He indicated a removal by February 27th.

- The Collective then sent a letter on March 24th requesting updates on the matter and indicating that this was affecting the safety and appearance of the neighborhood as well as affecting businesses.
 - The Collective then called and requested an update on March 25th which there was no update.
 - The Collective followed up with a call on April 6th and left a message with Joe Garnett.
 - He has been requested to attend the April Community Meeting with an update.
 - The included photo is a Notice of Violation at the site, posted on April 2nd.
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- Code Enforcement Case #CEPN-014104-2026 (Abandoned Building at 822 Castle Street.)
 - Zoning Case #ZEWWP-010775 (822 Castle Street)
codeenforcement@wilmingtonnc.gov
zoning@wilmingtonnc.gov



Business Survey Results

Thank you businesses! We received 9 responses to the Business Survey issued in late February-March. Below is a graph indicating the desired initiatives for the Collective.

*Please note that these results are from businesses, not from residents.

Extremely Important

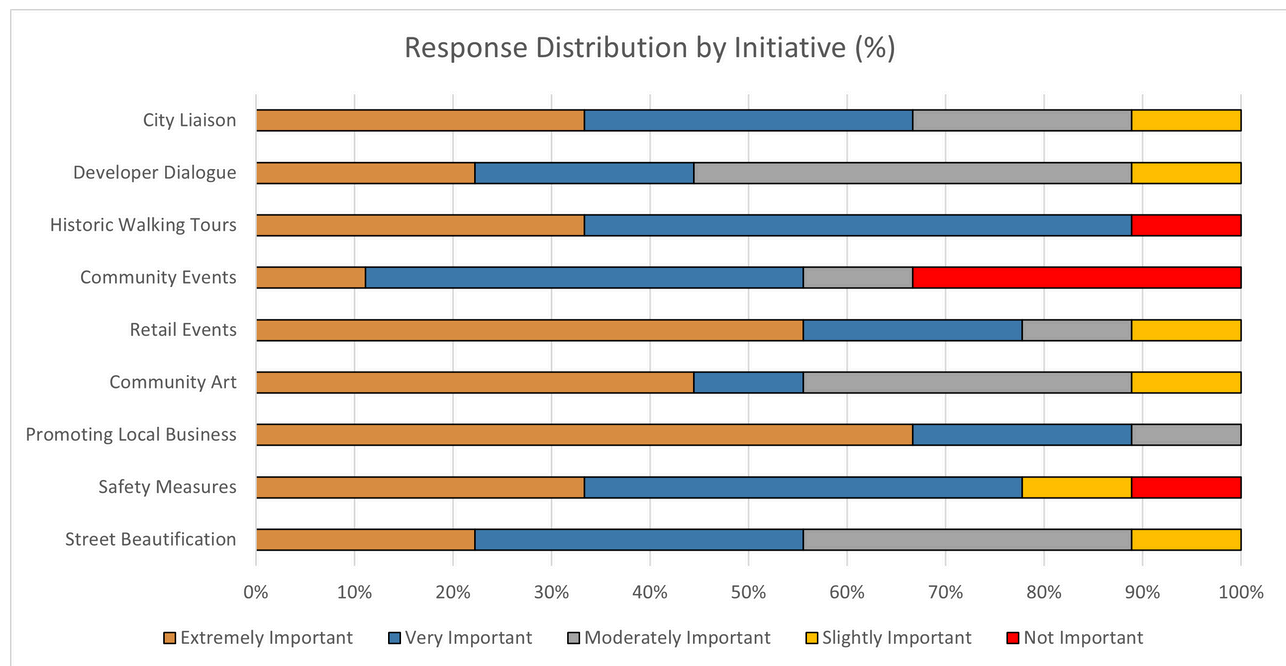
#1 Promoting local businesses and events through social media and coordination with other local districts.

#2 Creating and promoting retail events (like small business Saturday.)

Very Important

#1 Creating historic walking tours to highlight the neighborhood to bring more visitors to the area.

#2 (Tie) Working with the City for improved safety measures (such as more crosswalks.) and Creating community events (such as continuing with movie nights.)



Survey Comments:

- I'd love to see Castle Street develop to be a "walking corridor" between downtown and the Cargo district. I think connecting the various districts in a way is important, but I definitely see Castle street as a bridge from DT to Cargo. There's so much potential for growth, community, creativity, and local/small businesses to thrive!
- You guys are doing great work! Thank you so much for all the time and effort.
- We really need crosswalks adjacent to the middle school and playfields at 9th, 10th, and 11th. Plus more community art activation that might better connect the lower end of the street to the upper. More trolley stops, a dedicated art walk, activities up and down, not simply on a single corner.
- I miss when Castle St had a dedicated pride fest and closed the street! We are capable of organizing at that level.
- Creating a dialogue with new developers to understand how their new development will contribute with the community. Developers who build don't care. They historically get what they want. It's textbook....However, The Castle Street District absolutely needs to be developed further and the current exteriors of the commercial buildings need to be restored with paint and possibly murals. The movies on the lawn attracts absolutely no customers at all for most of the businesses. It's a neat idea for the folks that live close by but it doesn't make sense but if we had events that drew other people who are not familiar with Castle Street we could start to cultivate more interest in the district.

SBA National Small Business Week is May 3rd through May 10th. During this time, Castle Street Collective would like to feature all of the businesses on social media with 1-minute video clips. Coordination with marketing is being coordinated with WDI and DBA for a larger reach. We want to support our businesses in any way possible. So if you plan on running any specials or just want us to help with your advertising, please make sure to tag us on Instagram (if you would like us to share in our story) or ask us to collaborate (if you would like us to post on our page AND in our story).

Here is our ask

Produce a 1-minute video answering one or more of the following questions:

- Why did you start a business?
- Why are small businesses are important?
- What makes your small business special?

Please also include in writing your name, location, and a bit about your business (filling out the google form, allows for these).

Not a business owner but want to help promote?

- Send us a video about why you think Castle Street Small Businesses are so important
- Include your name and your favorite Castle Street Business (in writing or in the form)

You can send the Collective your videos through the following options:

- 1) Send your video via Instagram message: [ILMCastleStreetCollective](#)
- 2) You can upload a video to our Google Drive: <https://bit.ly/4vcnWDe>
- 3) Email the Collective a link: admin@castlestreet.org
- 4) If you'd like to set up a face-to-face, please email us: admin@castlestreet.org

Grants

We are constantly on the lookout for grants to help Castle Street develop into the small business district and community everyone wishes. If you have written grants in the past and want to help writing them, we'd love to hear from you! Email us:

admin@castlestreet.org

Our meetings are open to Castle Street Businesses and Castle Street residents. We are currently securing meeting spaces, but all meetings are from 6:30-7:30. We are always learning about city ordinances, events, and happenings on Castle Street. If you would like to host on one of the below dates, please let us know: admin@castlestreet.org

- June 17th - place TBD
- August 19th - place TBD
- October 21st - place TBD
- December – Holiday Potluck, date TBD

Can You Help Us Out?

We are always open to new ideas! If you want to join the collective, please come to one of our meetings, enjoy some snacks and drinks, and see how we can work together to make Castle Street THE place to visit. OR if you'd like to be part of a committee for beautification efforts, grant research, or others, please reach out: admin@castlestreet.org

The Collective needs your membership to keep beautifying the street and creating community events. Please consider updating your membership for 2026!

Membership link

Castle Street Collective
A registered 501(c)(3)
organization
Tax ID: 93-4317054
P.O. Box 386, Wilmington, NC

Visit our social accounts



Check out our website 