

LOCAL NEWS

Plans approved for 600-unit car free town

DEVELOPERS have been given approval in principle for an idyllic new car-free "town" in south Abaco which could create hundreds of jobs.

The 220-acre Schooner Bay project 30 miles south of Marsh Harbour will, if given the final go-ahead, be a major economic boost for an isolated area near Bahama Palm Beach and Crossing Rocks.

"It's in the middle of nowhere near one of the most pristine pieces of coastline on the island," a source said yesterday. "If it goes ahead, it will probably be bigger than Winding Bay and Baker's Bay combined."

The idea is to build 600 condo and homes units in a self-contained community with its own fire station, public clinic, restau-

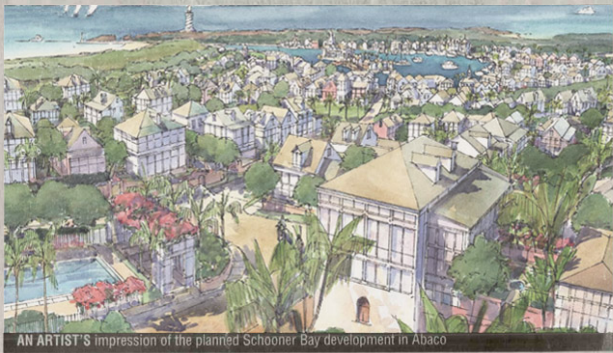
rants, shops and even organic gardens.

The community has been designed by the same architects behind the acclaimed Seaside Village development in Florida.

Golf carts and pedestrians will dictate the pace in the proposed community, with cars being marginalised. There is even a stretch of "greenway" designed for Abaco parrots to fly through.

An Abaco source told *The Tribune*: "It seems the community will have roadways for golf carts and areas for walkers only. It will be a self-contained small town consisting of two separate villages with attractive green areas and forested woodlands."

The developers are listed as Lindroth of Lyford Cay.



AN ARTIST'S impression of the planned Schooner Bay development in Abaco