



Ok- it really is hurricane season...

Town Initiatives - Snapshot

Hurricane Preparedness. We are starting to see a lot of activity in the tropics. Most importantly, everyone needs to have a plan in place in advance and remember that public sheltering is a last resort. Sheltering is further complicated this year with COVID 19. Please have a place to go if for some reason an evacuation order is issued. Check out the Town's website at www.longboatkey.org for information about hurricane preparedness and pay close attention to the weather forecasts.

COVID 19. Yes, it has been almost 5 months since the pandemic started to impact our area and we are still under a National, State, and Local State of Emergency. Over the past 30 days there have been increases in the number of positives in the State and in Southwest Florida. We have acted to minimize gathers of groups on the island, continue to keep our beach access parking closed, and our mandatory mask ordinance remains in effect. We do not plan to remove any existing restrictions until after we see some consistent improvements in the data. As we continue to respond to and monitor the impacts of COVID 19, please check our website for the latest info.

Wastewater Leak. The Town discovered a leak on June 29th in the subaqueous wastewater pipe that sends all of the island's sewer effluent to the mainland for treatment. The leak was repaired on June 30th. This is the same pipe that was assessed back in 2016/2017 and found to be in good condition with a recommendation to reassess every 4-5 years. Even though the pipe was determined to be in good condition, the Town was in the process of planning for and permitting a redundant pipe when the leak occurred. There has been a lot of information and misinformation reported in the media regarding the leak. The Town did notify the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) the day the leak was discovered and continues to cooperate with them on any required corrective action. Fortunately, the leak did not occur in the section of the pipe under the Bay. The leak occurred on undeveloped land on the mainland side about 350-450' from the shoreline. The water quality testing in the area around the pipeline and shoreline has been favorable. The amount of the leak is unknown- an early estimate was provided to the State by our Public Works staff based on meter discrepancies but believe it may be lower than originally estimated. A third-party firm has been engaged to do forensic work to update the estimate and to investigate the cause of the leak. This was an unfortunate incident and the Town is looking forward to the results of our investigation into the cause of the leak and working both short term and long term to mitigate impacts and help prevent future releases. Information will continue to be posted on the Town's website.

Town Facilities and Public Meetings. Town Hall remains closed for walk-ins. If you need to meet in person please contact the appropriate Department for an appointment. Our next Town Commission Regular Meeting is September 14, 2020 at 1pm. The format of the September Commission Meetings will be determined as we get closer to those dates.

Fire Stations Project. Demo is complete on Station 92 and we are officially under construction. The residents should not expect any service impacts during construction.

Outdoor Venue at Town Center. Phase 1 of the outdoor venue site work is substantially complete. The parking lot was repaved the last week of July. The funding for the Phase 2 outdoor venue work is included in the FY21 Budget to be adopted in September.

Undergrounding. The Utilities Undergrounding Project remains on schedule. Phase 1 undergrounding is scheduled to be completed over the next two months. Public updates are available on the Town's website.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

August 5, 2020

10am, Floodplain Management Committee (Virtual)

Fast Facts

This is the first hurricane season in recorded history that nine tropical storms have formed before August 1st.