



“Intro LBK 2021” Coming in March!

Town Initiatives – Snapshot

No 2021 Citizen’s Academy... No Worries – Sign Up For “Intro LBK 2021”. With the pandemic still challenging us for in-person events, we didn’t want to miss the opportunity to engage citizens interested in learning more about their Town government and services. Watch for an opportunity to register for a virtual series hosted by the Town Manager and key staff. March 23, 24, and 25 from 9:00 – 10:30am we’ll host a series of Zoom sessions providing a high-level overview of Town Government, services, operations, and opportunities for citizens to engage. Watch for registration info coming out soon!

Utilities Undergrounding Project. The first light poles have been installed in Phase 1, and WOW! they look great, especially compared to the existing tall, cement, and wooden FPL utility poles. This is part of the final work in Phase 1. As they work through energizing the new underground equipment for Gulf of Mexico Drive feeders and extend the switch orders into the neighborhoods, the actual aerial to underground conversions for individual homes in these areas can be completed. Phase 2 work progresses on the North end of the island in the Village areas installing the conduits for FPL, Comcast, and Town fiber and street lights.

New Pass Bridge Maintenance Project Continues. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is performing a maintenance project on the New Pass Bridge. Lanes of traffic and existing speed limit will be maintained during the project with marginal inconvenience anticipated for drivers, boaters, pedestrians, bikers, or island mobility. The project schedule anticipates completion by Summer 2021.

COVID-19 & Vaccine. March finds us reaching the 12-month mark operating under a State of Emergency (343 days!). The good news is the supply of vaccines coming into the area is increasing weekly. The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) is adding to the number of vaccination sites and also expanding into retail pharmacies making it easier to get shots closer to home. Eligibility for the vaccine at State and County sites remain limited to long-term care facilities, front line health care workers, and persons 65+. The Governor signed an Executive Order late Friday that allows physicians, nurses and pharmacists to vaccinate people who “they deem extremely vulnerable to COVID-19.” Register through Sarasota County and Manatee County Health Departments, the FDOH website, or directly through participating retail pharmacies. Don’t forget, the Town’s Mandatory Face Coverings Ordinance remains in place. Please wear a mask and continue following CDC recommended precautions.

Canal 1A and Greer Island Emergency Dredge Project is Complete. This was a quick project for the access channel dredging with additional material removal permitted, dredged and now complete. Our contractor has demobilized and left the site. The project re-established limited boat access and flushing of the Greer Island lagoon. Permitting for the Spit Management Plan is on-going.

Beach Projects. The nourishment of high erosion areas and the North end groin structures projects are full steam ahead. Most of the work is scheduled to occur between March and August of this year. Some activity will occur later related to work on the very South end of the island associated with the dredging of New Pass.

Village Parking Permits. The Longbeach Village Residents-Only Parking Permit program has been in effect since January 1. We have sold permits to 67 distinct Village residents, with 102 decals and 86 guest passes sold to date. Requests for permits should be directed to the Police Department’s non-emergency number 941-316-1201 or by e-mail through the Town’s website. Public parking remains at the Town Dock and adjacent to the two restaurants at the end of Broadway.

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

- March 1, 2021 1:00pm Town Commission Regular Meeting (In-person/Hybrid format)
- March 8, 2021 10:00am Special Magistrate (In-Person)
- March 16, 2021 9:15am Regular Meeting Planning & Zoning Board (In-person/Hybrid)
- March 18, 2021 9:30am Zoning Board of Adjustment (In-person/Hybrid)
- March 22, 2021 9:00am Town Commission Statutory Meeting (In-person/Hybrid)
- March 22, 2021 10:00am Town Commission Emergency Meeting (Emergency Mask Ordinance)
- March 22, 2021 1:00 pm Regular Workshop Meeting (In-person/Hybrid format)

Fast Fact

As of March 1st over 3,500 Longboat Key residents have received the vaccine!