

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Town Commission
FROM: Tom Harmer, Town Manager
REPORT DATE: October 1, 2021
MEETING DATE: October 4, 2021
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update

Recommended Action

None, informational only.

Background

At each Town Commission Regular Meeting the Town Manager provides a review of the latest information related to COVID-19 on Longboat Key.

The good news is that the current September numbers reflect that the most recent spike appears to have peaked in August. Positive case numbers are still higher than in earlier Summer but are trending downward. Local hospitals are seeing fewer COVID ICU patients which also provides optimism for local conditions.

In order to ensure a safe working environment for staff, and maintain in-person services for residents and visitors we continue COVID-19 precautions in all Town facilities. All facilities remain open but masks are required by staff and visitors when entering, and moving about in common areas. When at their work stations, employees are allowed to remove their masks. Plexiglass partitions are being used at work stations that deal with the public. We continue to urge individuals doing business with the Town to utilize our virtual customer service via e-mail, website, and phone for their own safety as well as the safety of Town staff. Each request for use of Town property for events are reviewed for appropriate CDC and COVID-19 safety measures, on a case-by-case basis. We are closely monitoring the current trends and will adjust our precautions as conditions may change.

We continue to monitor the current trends, as we see increasing numbers of seasonal visitors to the island. The Florida Department of Health Dashboard has discontinued tracking active cases by zip code and now issues a weekly summary update each Friday afternoon.

We receive weekly information from Chuck Henry, Sarasota County office of Florida Department of Health regarding local positive cases on the island and the status of vaccination efforts by our residents. I will provide an update regarding the latest trends in COVID transmission, availability of vaccine boosters, and answer questions from the Commission.

Staff Recommendation

None, informational only.

End of Agenda Item