



TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

Our Seasonal Residents are starting to arrive- Welcome Back!

Town Initiatives – Snapshot

COVID-19. Continued good news! It appears we are past the Delta variant spike. But, we still do have positive infections in the area, so don't let your guard down. Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J booster shots are now available for those 65 and older as well as certain age groups with underlying health conditions & certain occupational categories.

St. Regis Hotel & Residences. On October 20th the Town Commission approved an amendment filed by Unicorp for the St. Regis Hotels and Residences Project. This is now final Commission approval for the 166-room hotel and 69 residential condos project. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 25, 2021. A permit has been issued to allow some initial sitework to commence and the building permit is under review.

Art Exhibit & Artists' Reception – November 18th. Twelve local artists are featured in the 70th Town Hall Art Exhibit! The Exhibit's started in 2003 with rotating installations and new artwork installed every 3 months. Over 104 artists have been featured at Town Hall over the past 18+ years. The event begins at 5:30 with appetizers, beer, and wine provided by local sponsors. Don't worry if you miss the event, exhibits are open to the public each weekday from 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. All artwork is for sale directly from the artists. Call 941-316-1999 to RSVP.

Cell Coverage. The Town has been working with the major cell providers on ways to improve cell coverage on the island. We have received an application from Verizon to install small cell infrastructure to address current coverage gaps that will be heard by the Planning & Zoning Board on November 16th. To facilitate investment by the cell providers, the Town Commission will also consider an amendment to the Telecommunications Ordinance that would update the ancillary equipment standards and small cell pole locations at their November 1st and 15th meetings.

Beach Nourishment. All sand placement is complete and our contractor has demobilized- completing the 2021 nourishment cycle. Approximately 1 million cubic yards of sand has been placed along the beaches and five groins construction on the North end. Next up- The New Pass terminal groin tightening project and a Spit Management Plan for Greer Island at Longboat Pass. Visit <http://olsen-associates.com/lbk2021/> for updates.

Town Center. Get ready for some exciting events this season. So far, we have a tree lighting ceremony November 27, the Kiwanis Lawn Party on December 4, concerts in January, February, and March, an Arts Festival in February, and a Friday Market once a month January- through March. Please enjoy, but pardon our dust- we are working around site construction occurring this year to install walkways, lighting, landscaping, and restrooms. We have also kicked off fundraising efforts with the Longboat Key Foundation for a permanent stage.

Hurricane Season. Almost over- but, the 2021 Hurricane Season doesn't officially end until November 30th. So, continue to pay attention to the weather and tropical forecasts and don't forget to register for "Alert Longboat Key"

Gulfstream & U.S. 41 Roundabout Project. Our seasonal visitors may be surprised by the Gulfstream/US 41 Roundabout project- the temporary traffic plan can be intimidating- they have made some improvements to the flow but we are concerned about how it will perform during peak season. The FDOT has incentivized the contractor to complete the work ahead of schedule, although work will continue through the 2022 season. FDOT has set up the following website to provide current information: Project Website: <http://www.swflroads.com/gulfstreamroundabout/>

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

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| • November 1, 2021 | 1:00 pm | Town Commission Regular Meeting |
| • November 2, 2021 | 7:00 am - 7:00 pm | Longboat Key Election (Referendum) |
| • November 8, 2021 | 1:30 pm | Joint Meeting with City of Sarasota |
| • November 10, 2021 | 10:00 am | Special Magistrate |
| • November 15, 2021 | 1:00 pm | Town Commission Regular Workshop |
| • November 16, 2021 | 9:15 am | Planning & Zoning Board Regular Meeting |
| • November 18, 2021 | 9:30 am | Zoning Board of Adjustment |
| • November 18, 2021 | 5:30 pm | Town Hall Art Exhibit & Artists' Reception |
| • November 19, 2021 | 8:00 am | Consolidated Retirement System Board of Trustees |
| • November 27, 2021 | 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm | Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center |

Fast Fact

35% of all residential properties on the island are homesteaded (Primary Residents)