



December Cheer for End of Another Year – Happy Holidays to All!

Town Initiatives – Snapshot

COVID-19. Continued good news! It appears we are past the Delta variant spike and are paying close attention to the Omicron variant. Although we still do have positive infections in the area, our positivity rates and active case numbers are very low. Remain vigilant, and don't let your guard down. Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J booster shots are now available at local pharmacies and retail outlets.

Town Center Stage. Big news- at the December 6, 2021 Regular Meeting the Town Commission will consider a Naming Rights agreement with Paul and Sarah Karon for their generous offer of a major donation to the Longboat Key Foundation to fund the design and construction of a stage at the Town Center Green. The donation will allow the Town to finish the design, engage a contractor, and construct the improvements in advance of next season. We continue to work with the Longboat Key Foundation for other long-term improvements on the site.

Town Center Green Events. On November 27th the Annual Tree Lighting ceremony kicked off the activities this season on the Town Center property. Next up is the Kiwanis Lawn Party on December 4, followed by 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 this year to install walkways, lighting, landscaping, and restrooms.

Drainage/Flooding. The Town is implementing improvements on Lyon's Lane to address localized flooding in that area. Public drainage studies are also being initiated in the Sleepy Lagoon and Buttonwood neighborhoods to evaluate ways to mitigate flooding issues. The Commission heard from the Town's Sea Level Rise Consultant in November and they are scheduled to complete their study with suggested recommendations by this Summer.

Turtle Season. The 2021 Turtle Season ended on October 31st and the data is in. 1,032 nests on the island, 97 disorientations and a disorientation rate of 9.45%. The number of nests is greater than our average and the disorientations are down- all good news. The Town's updated Turtle Protection Ordinance goes into effect January 1 in advance of the 2022 Turtle Season. Check calendar below for the 1st of a series of public outreach sessions.

Beach Management. 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.

Hurricane Season - officially over! This year's 21 named storms are the third-most since 1851 – seven were hurricanes and 4 of those were major hurricanes. (2020 set the new record with 30 named storms.) Our good news is that no hurricanes impacted Florida in 2021! Despite hurricane season's end, don't forget - it is still important to have an all-hazards disaster plan for disaster events and winter storms. So, continue to pay attention to the weather 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. Check out the FDOT website for current information: Project Website: <http://www.swflroads.com/gulfstreamroundabout/>

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

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| • December 1, 2021 | 1:30 pm | Joint Meeting with Manatee County (M Co Admin) |
| • December 6, 2021 | 9:30 am | ManaSota League of Cities Regular Meeting |
| • December 6, 2021 | 1:00 pm | Town Commission Regular Meeting |
| • December 8, 2021 | 10:00 am | Special Magistrate |
| • December 13, 2021 | 1:00 pm | Town Commission Regular Workshop Meeting |
| • December 14, 2021 | 9:15 am | Planning & Zoning Board Regular Meeting |
| • December 16, 2021 | 9:30 am | Zoning Board of Adjustment |
| • December 20, 2021 | 12:30 pm | Community Meeting - Marine Turtle Protection |
| • December 24 & 27, 2021 | | Town Hall Closed for Holiday Observance |

Fast Fact

Updated population numbers for 2021 Longboat Key is +14 or 7,519 total year round residents!