

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Town Commission
FROM: Tom Harmer, Town Manager
REPORT DATE: January 5, 2022
MEETING DATE: January 10, 2022
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 Omicron variant has caused a spike in local active transmissions and is anticipated to peak over the new 10 -14 days. Cases are seen in both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals, with symptoms typically milder than the original virus, and the Delta variant. We encourage everyone to stay vigilant and follow CDC protective measures. Good news is recent FDA approval of COVID treatment pills and other options such as monoclonal antibodies for those who require medical intervention.

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 of which remain open to the public. 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, and convenience, as well as the safety of Town staff. Each request for use of Town property for events are reviewed on a case-by case basis for appropriate CDC and COVID-19 safety measures. We are closely monitoring the current trends and will adjust our precautions if conditions change.

We continue to monitor COVID-19 case trends, as we see increasing numbers of seasonal visitors to the island. As you know, the Florida Department of Health Dashboard discontinued tracking active cases by zip code and only 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