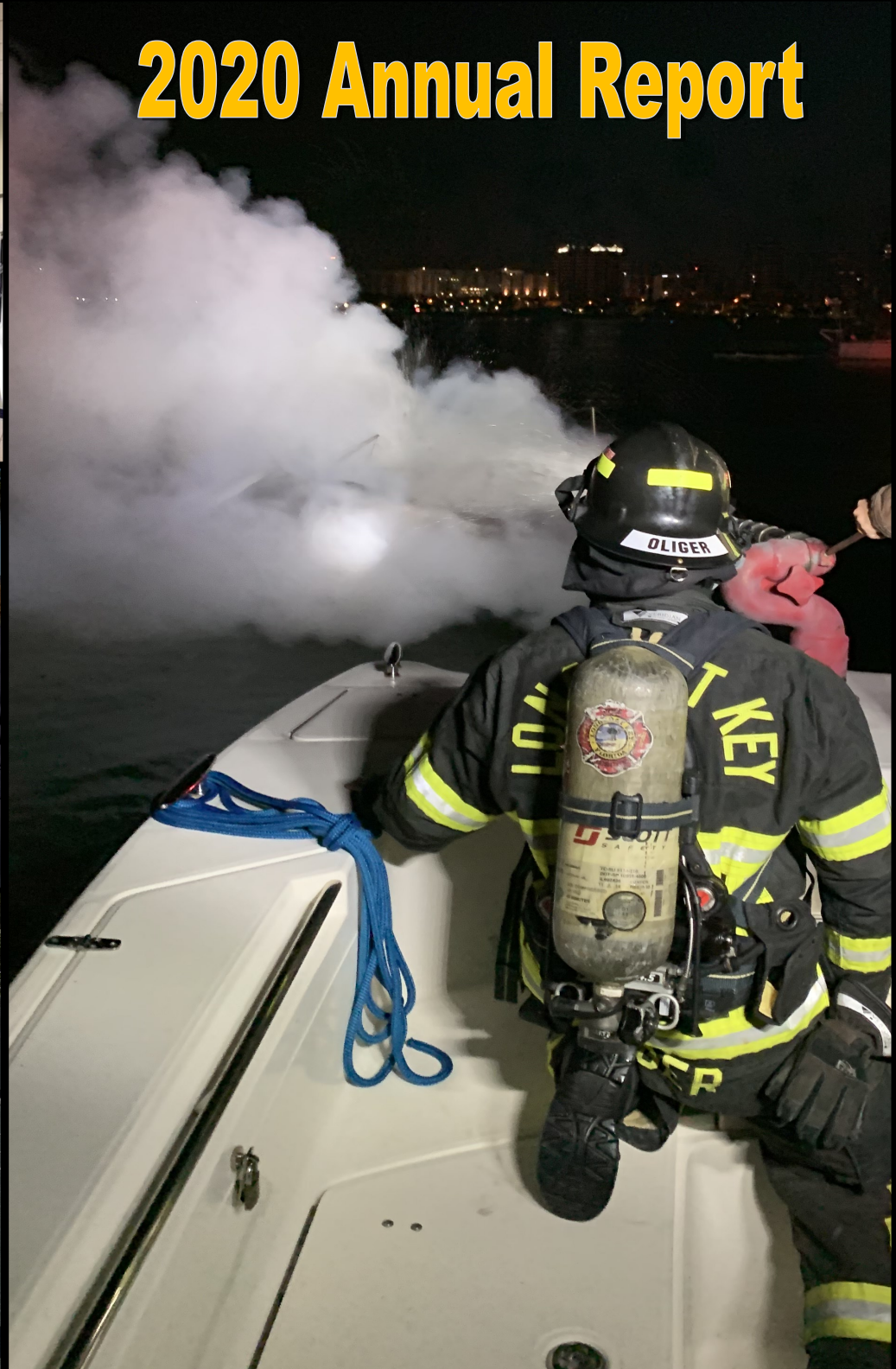


# 2020 Annual Report



**Premier Community, Exceptional Service**



# Town of Longboat Key



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# The 2020 Town Commission

The Town has a Commission/Manager form of government. Seven Commissioners are elected for three-year terms. The appointed Mayor is the Commission's presiding officer. Elections are held annually as terms expire. The Town has five Commission districts and two At-Large Commission seats. The Town Manager is appointed by the Commission and administers the daily operations of the Town through appointed department heads.



Left to right: Commissioner George Spoll, Commissioner Ed Zunz, Commissioner Sherry Dominick, Commissioner B.J. Bishop, Mayor Ken Schneier, Vice Mayor Mike Haycock, Commissioner Jack Daly.

## Vision

Longboat Key is a beautiful place to live, work, and visit where the natural assets of a barrier island combine with cultural and recreational amenities, visionary planning, and proactive leadership to enhance your way of life.

## Mission

To vigorously maintain and preserve Longboat Key's status as a premier residential and visitor destination that supports the historic balance between residential, recreational, tourism, and commercial attributes, through a commitment to long-term and short-term planning excellence and measurable results.



# Message from the Town Manager

I am pleased to provide the 2020 Town of Longboat Key Annual Report. This year has been anything but business as usual. It's been a time of unprecedented events and uncertainty. We quickly responded, appropriately set protocols, and put policies and safeguards in place to limit the exposure of COVID-19 to our citizens and employees. Yet despite the on-going impacts of the pandemic crisis, it did not stop us from moving forward with a variety of projects and initiatives while keeping our core services at the usual high level of service.



Tom Harmer

In January of 2020, we initiated our first Citizen Satisfaction survey. The overall results indicated that 97% of respondents rated the overall quality of life on Longboat Key as “excellent” or “good.”

The Utilities Undergrounding Project continued. We completed the work necessary to begin the switch order process in Phase 1 (South end - Country Club Shores area) with FPL to convert to underground service. Overall the project remains on schedule and under budget.

We also completed work on Phase 1 of the Outdoor Venue at Town Center. This included bringing in fill, installation of grass and shell pathways, parking lot resurfacing, sidewalk installation and water and sewer connections and advancing design for the Phase 2 Outdoor Work in 2021.

We successfully negotiated contracts for the renovation of Fire Station 91 and new construction of Fire Station 92. A groundbreaking ceremony was held, and construction began on both projects.

The Commission adopted an updated Beach Management Plan and voters approved a \$34.5 million Beach Bond authorization for the North end stabilization project and the overall beach nourishment plan.

Financially, we received an excellent AA+ rating from S&P Global Ratings, financed the new beach bonds for under 1%, and were awarded a Certificate of Excellence for our annual audit for the 39<sup>th</sup> year.

These and other accomplishments are highlighted in this report in addition to a high-level snapshot of the fiscal year from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020 (FY20) revenue, expenses, and the capital improvement plan (CIP). Finally, the report also provides a look out at our 2021 initiatives.

My thanks and appreciation go out to the Town Commission, Department Heads, and all Town staff for the efforts toward maintaining and safeguarding the outstanding quality of life that the citizens of Longboat Key have come to enjoy. As we contemplate the upcoming year, we are hopeful for the return to normalcy infused with optimism and focus toward the goals and objectives outlined in the Town's strategic plan. I hope you enjoy looking back on 2020. I welcome your suggestions and input for how we may best serve you in the coming year.



# Strategic Plan

# Capital Improvement Program

## Strategic Plan Goals



Community Character, Fiscal Sustainability, Environmental / Resiliency, Infrastructure, Services

## Top Commission Priorities

- ✦ Advance outdoor Town Center Venue Phase 2 Improvements
- ✦ Permit and Construction of groins project - North End
- ✦ Manage construction of Undergrounding Project (FY23)
- ✦ Advocate for priorities associated with Barrier Island Traffic Study (BITS) Implementation
- ✦ Canal Dredging - permit next phase, initiate construction

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the Town of Longboat Key is a community plan for short- and long-range physical development. It is intended to link the community's comprehensive vision plan with a fiscal plan and provide a mechanism for estimating capital requirements; planning, prioritizing, scheduling, and implementing projects; developing revenue policies for proposed improvements; budgeting high priority projects and keeping the public informed. Capital project funds are multi-year budgets. Amounts unexpended and open Purchase Orders are carried over to the following year budgets.

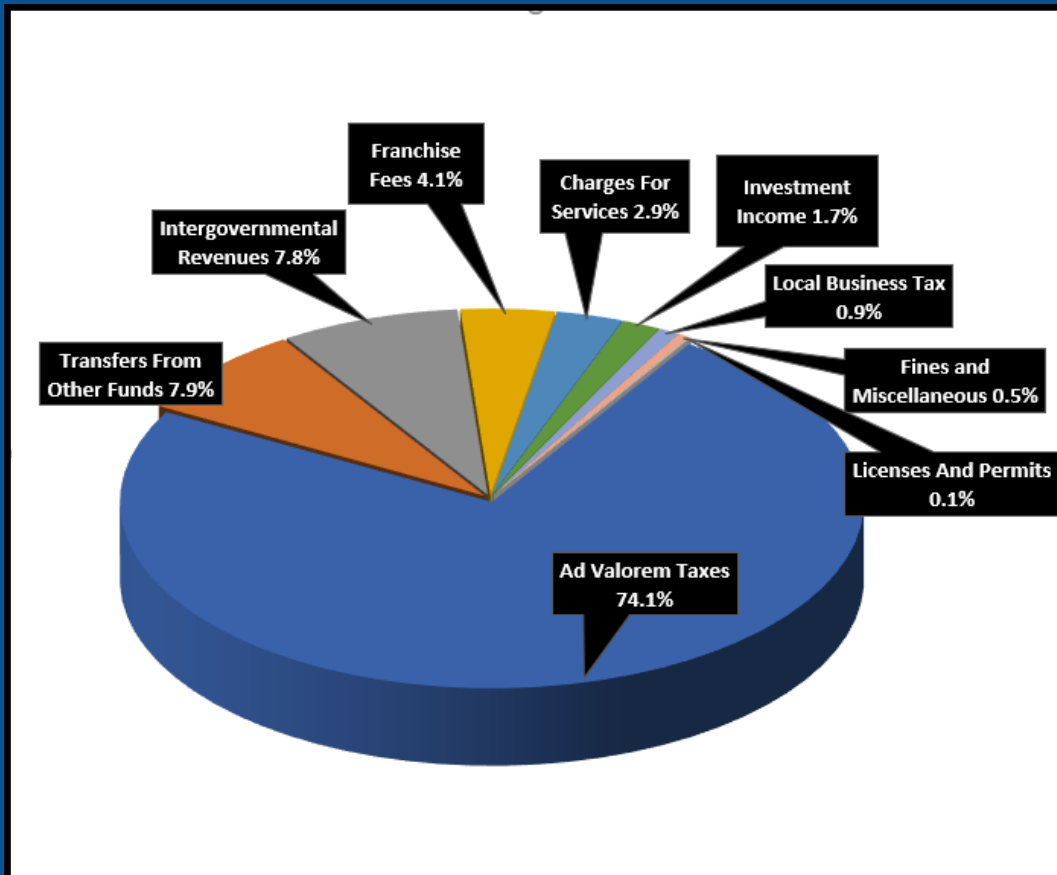
<i><b>Description</b></i>	<i><b>FY20 Budget</b></i>
General Fund Ad Valorem Tax	\$ 684,718
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 107,500
Sarasota Infrastructure Fund	\$ 1,669,086
Law Enforcement Fund (LETF)	\$ 18,000
Manatee Infrastructure Fund	\$ 242,925
Facilities (Firestation) Capital Fund	\$ 5,481,638
Streets Capital Fund	\$ 1,604,783
Land Acquisiton Fund	\$ 420,046
Beach Capital Fund (Option 3)	\$ 2,559,741
Canal Fund	\$ 944,966
Parks & Recreation Capital Fund	\$ 80,424
Building Fund	\$ 67,000
Utility Capital Fund	\$ 5,868,287
GMD Undergrounding	\$ 22,592,193
Neighborhood Undergrounding	\$ 20,187,612
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 62,528,919</b>



# FY20 Financial Information

The charts on the following pages represent General Fund pre-close, unaudited revenue, operating and capital expenditures for FY20. The Town of Longboat Key's fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30.

Revenues	2020 Actuals
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$12,588,709
Transfers From Other Funds In	\$1,339,045
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$1,317,320
Franchise Fees	\$693,114
Charges For Services	\$497,719
Investment Income	\$283,138
Local Business Tax	\$144,375
Fines and Miscellaneous	\$89,399
Licenses and Permits	\$15,294
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,968,113</b>



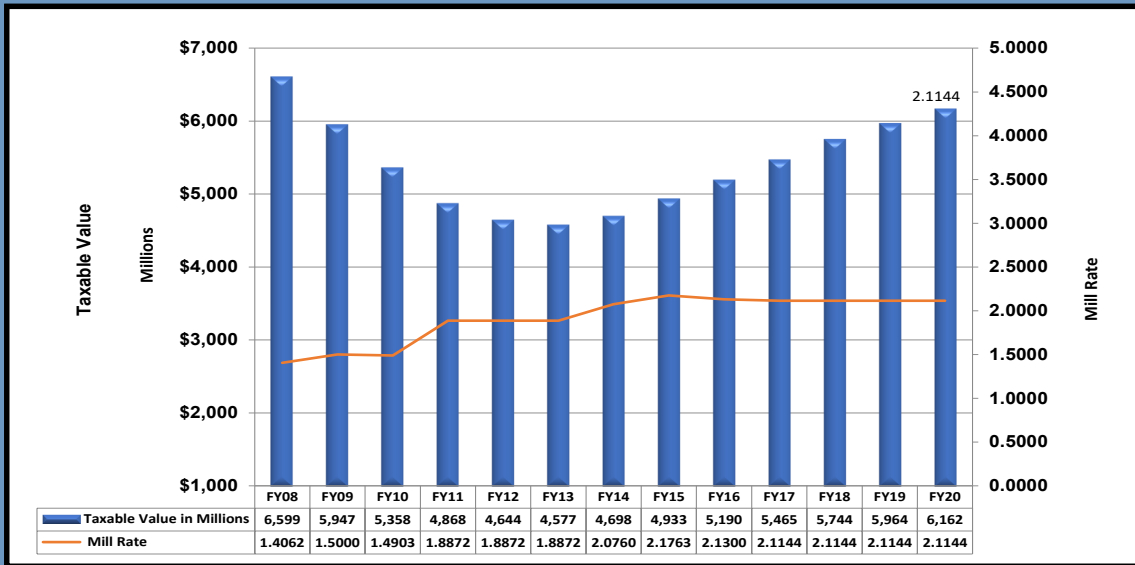
Revenue



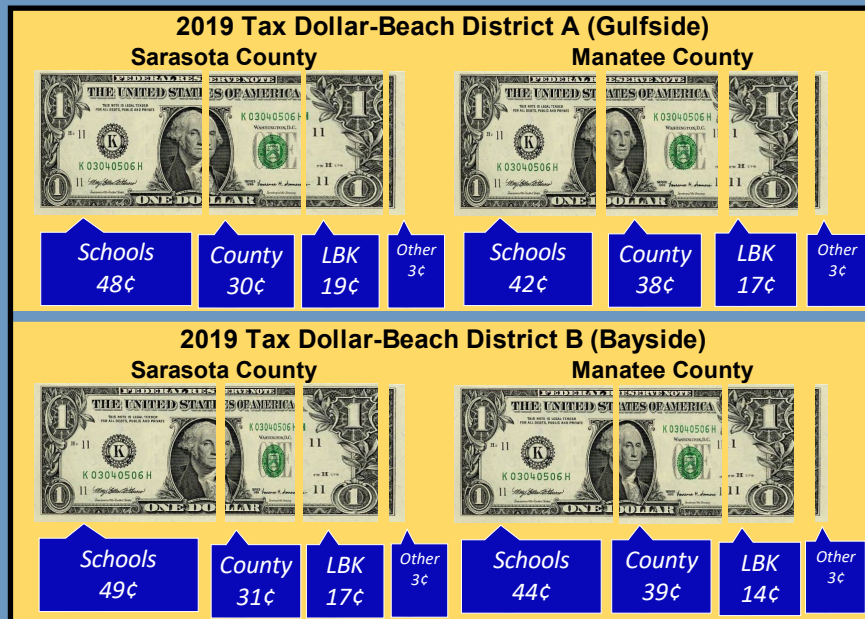
# Your tax dollars at work

## Assessed Valuations / Millage Rates / Property Tax

The value of all taxable property is assessed as of January 1 of each year. Sarasota and Manatee County Property Appraisers provide the Town with preliminary estimates of taxable values on or before June 1 of each year. Certification of the tax rolls occurs on July 1 of each year. Due to the recession, taxable values declined every year from 2009 through 2013 and showed the first sign of improvement in 2014. The combined certified assessed value on July 1 was \$6,162,464,916 increasing 3.32% (3.09% Sarasota County and 3.86% Manatee County).



The chart above shows a thirteen-year history of taxable values since 2008.

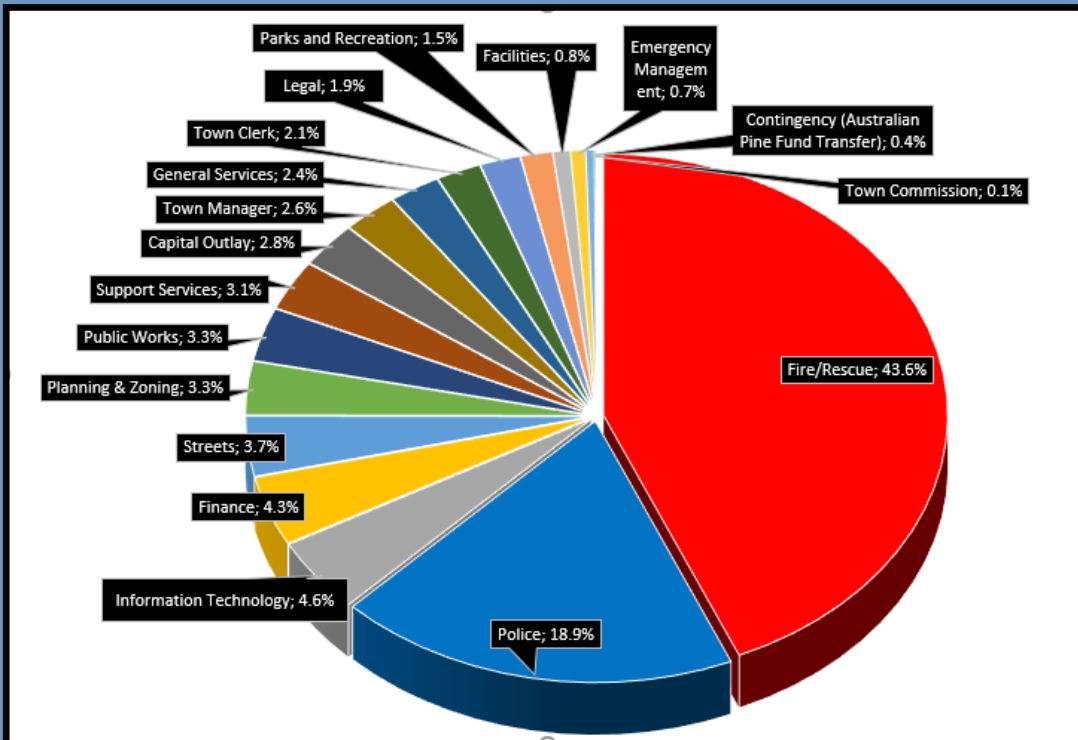


The charts on the left illustrate what your tax dollar supports depending on where you reside on Longboat Key and within which County.



# Your tax dollars at work

Expenditures FY20	2020 Actuals
Fire/Rescue	\$7,121,043
Police	\$3,080,062
Information Technology	\$754,535
Finance	\$702,191
Streets	\$607,699
Planning & Zoning	\$546,588
Public Works	\$539,355
Support Services	\$508,103
Capital Outlay	\$451,000
Town Manager	\$419,656
General Services	\$396,017
Town Clerk	\$336,943
Legal	\$305,015
Parks and Recreation	\$251,420
Facilities	\$128,650
Emergency Management	\$116,816
Contingency (Australian Pine Fund Transfer)	\$60,000
Town Commission	\$14,176
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 16,339,269</b>



**Expenditures**



# 2020 Accomplishments

- 39th consecutive year- Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Excellence in Annual Financial Reporting.
  - Returned \$629,000 to General Fund (from FY20).
  - Adopted updated Comprehensive Beach Management Plan.
  - Negotiated a \$2.69M commitment from Manatee County for North end beach projects.
  - Voter approval of \$34.5 million Beach Bond authorization.
  - Conducted Town Charrette for Town Center Property.
  - Town Center concept plan adopted.
  - Conducted tree lighting and first concert at outdoor venue at Town Center and 2nd Annual Tree Lighting.
  - Completed Phase 1 of outdoor venue at Town Center.
  - Negotiated revised Maintenance of Traffic Plan for US41/Gulfstream Roundabout.
  - Conversion from CodeRED to Everbridge “Alert Longboat Key”.
  - Added 2 new pickleball courts to Bayfront Park
- 
- Conducted 1st annual Citizen Survey.
  - Published 2nd Annual Report.
  - Conducted a third-party cyber security assessment.
  - Finalized new Strategic Plan and 2020-2021 initiatives.
  - Initiated on-line permitting and inspections program.
  - Received awards of \$103,800 (Police) and \$32,205 (Fire) in WCIND Grant Funding.
  - Received award of \$44,932 from the FDLE for a COVID-19 Grant (2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding).
  - Negotiated new 3-year Police PBA contract.
  - Hosted the Annual Community Open House.
  - Conducted 2nd Annual Citizen’s Academy series.





# 2020 Accomplishments

- Successfully negotiated the Guaranteed Maximum Price (“GMP”) contracts for the renovation of Fire Station 91 and the new construction of Fire Station 92. Held the groundbreaking ceremony and initiated construction.



- Utilities Undergrounding Project: On schedule and within budget. Completing all underground FPL conduits, conductors, and transformer installs in Phase 1 Country Club Shores in preparation for switch orders.
- Kicked-off Redundant Sub-aqueous Wastewater Force Main Permitting project in early 2020.
- Discovered, coordinated and repaired leak in Town’s Sub-aqueous Wastewater Force Main in approximately 30 hours.



- Updated Building and Fire Fees.

- Updated Telecommunications/Smart Pole Ordinance changes related to Undergrounding Project & aesthetics.
- Completed multiple batches of Zoning Text Amendments (Zoning determinations, commercial revitalization parking standards, pickleball, docks, telecommunications/smart poles, swimming pool standards, restaurant parking ratios).
- Adopted Resident Only Parking Permit Program for Longbeach Village.
- Developed and launched new on-line Interactive Zoning Map.
- Launched on-line records request platform to track and expedite public records requests.
- Installed two kiosks in Town Hall: Information Station with digitized documents available to public; and a Sarasota County Library kiosk for residents to utilize digital library services.



- Managed COVID-19 response and implemented virtual meeting format to maintain Commission and advisory board functions during pandemic.



# Looking Ahead

## 2021 Projects and Initiatives

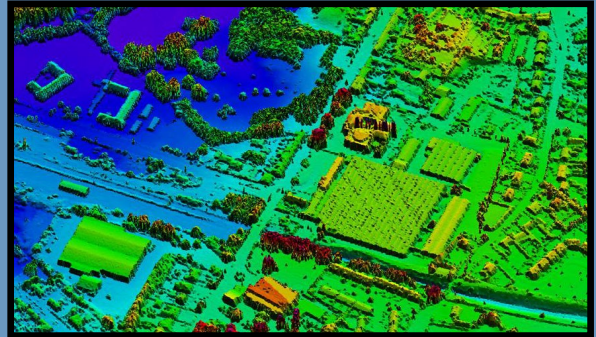
- Town-wide “Hot Spot” Beach Nourishment construction.
- North-end groins and sand fill construction.
- Canal 1A Emergency Dredge construction.
- Fire Stations 91 & 92 – continue construction to completion.
- Utilities Undergrounding Project – continue construction to completion in 2022 (FY23).
- Undergrounding Project – Advance Carrier and Fiber Conduit opportunities to enhance services on the island.
- Complete Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (“HMGP”) project to harden Town Hall Windows, Roof and Replace Generator.
- Town Center Outdoor Venue – Historic Cottage relocation approved and initiate Phase 2 Design & Construction.
- Finalize Lyons Lane Floodwater Management design.
- Complete Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Adaptation Plan for Sea Level Rise mitigation.
- Complete Design and Permitting for Country Club Shores Turn Lane and Complete Streets improvements.
- Engage next steps in Gulf of Mexico Drive (“GMD”)/ SR 789 Complete Streets Corridor concept-to-action plan.
- Approve Methodology, Engage and Complete Sub-aqueous Force Main Re-assessment.
- Acquire Florida Department of Environmental Protection (“FDEP”) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits for Redundant/Replacement Sub-aqueous Force Main.
- Country Club Shores Asbestos Cement (“AC”) Pipe Replacement Project – continue design.
- Finalize Utility Rate Study.
- Develop a long-term program for canal dredging as well as a funding strategy.




## 2021 Projects and Initiatives continued...

- Continued expansion of building permitting submittals and scheduling of inspections, along with broadening the submission and review of electronic plans.
- Implementation of video inspections electronic submission and review process.
- Manage evaluation and appraisal of Town's Comprehensive Plan (7 yr. Cycle).
- Participation in Manatee & Sarasota Counties updating of Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan.
- Support Sarasota County's Surtax IV planning.

- Update Sea Turtle Protection ordinance amendments.
- Evaluate use LiDAR data for 3D modeling of Town buildings.



- Review and update Town's reserve policy.
- Develop a Capital and debt management policy.
- Implement Fuel Management System.
- Submit the annual audit for the 2020 Certificate of Achievement Award.
- Work with Friends of Tennis to develop an agreement recognizing their role in supporting the Tennis Center.
- Present the 2021 Citizen's Academy.



**COMMON CENTS**  
Your penny at **Work.**

**Creating Jobs**







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**Spending Wisely**

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**Improving Your Community**

Learn more at: [sarasotacountysurtax.net](http://sarasotacountysurtax.net)

- Property Maintenance Code - review model code and make recommendations on further enhancements to the Town's regulations.
- Implement Zoning Code graphics enhancements amendments.
- Development of Zoning Code user-guides.



# 2021 Legislative Priorities

1. Seek Grants and Legislative Appropriation Support for funding of a major capital project to install a redundant sub-aqueous wastewater line connecting Longboat Key to the Manatee County treatment plant on the mainland.
2. Support legislation and funding that recognizes and addresses the implementation of comprehensive adaptation strategies related to sea level rise.
3. Support State funding for beach nourishment.
4. Advance funding for implementation of immediate and long-term recommendations identified in the Barrier Island Traffic Study to address significant seasonal traffic issues.
5. Support legislation to protect Evacuation Routes. Proposed transportation projects should protect or enhance timely evacuations, particularly for the State's barrier island residents.
6. Support legislation that provides opportunities for increased and alternative revenue sources for municipal transpor-

tation infrastructure projects.

7. Support legislation and/or action by the Florida Department of Transportation to enhance the existing mid-block crossings on Gulf of Mexico Drive to address serious safety issues experienced with the existing lights and signage.
8. Support a State-wide unified approach to improve water quality with an emphasis on the elimination of harmful algal blooms and improved coordination on monitoring and research efforts.
9. Support changes to existing State law relating to vacation rentals that permit grandfathered local governments to modify existing short-term vacation rental regulations.
10. Support consideration for local control to continue and expand the use of virtual/remote public meetings and related quorum requirements.
11. Support the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government (OPPAGA) conducting an independent evaluation of

the unique impacts (financial, practical and efficiency) of being in two counties.

12. Oppose legislation that pre-empts local governments' home rule authority, including legislation relating to local impact fees.
13. Support the maintenance of local business tax, communications services tax, and tax-exempt municipal bonds.
14. Support legislation to expand usage of collected tourist (bed) taxes for both public safety services and infrastructure maintenance, repair, and replacement in municipalities where substantial portions of a county's tourist taxes are collected.
15. Support clarification on ADA document compliance - the Department of Justice is in the process of developing regulations to provide specific guidance to the entities covered by the ADA, however they have yet to provide a final standard / set of regulations. Organizations are mostly using WCAG 2.0 as a guide.

## Get Involved

The Town of Longboat Key values the participation and input of its residents. You can play a part by checking our website and learning more about our services, attending Commission meetings, volunteering, or by applying for a position on one of our advisory boards or committees.



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