

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tom Harmer, Town Manager
FROM: Carolyn Brown, Support Services Director
REPORT DATE: January 10, 2020
MEETING DATE: January 21, 2020
SUBJECT: 2020 Census

Recommended Action

None, informational only.

Background

The Town of Longboat Key has been hard at work getting data ready for Census enumerators to gather a complete count. For almost two years, the Town has coordinated several Census programs (including: Local Update of Census Addresses, Boundary and Annexation Survey, and New Construction), intended to ensure up-to-date and accurate counts can be made.

As we are approximately 2½ months away from the official “Census Day” (April 1, 2020), it’s important to continue getting the word out about this important once-a-decade event. We have been posting information on social media and distributed a 2020 Census Preparations and Information Fact Sheet to neighborhood associations.

A complete and accurate count is important to the Town for many reasons. Responding to the Census is not only everyone’s civic duty, it also affects the amount of funding the Town may receive (including portions of the \$675+ billion the Federal Government distributes annually to states); ensures adequate public services and funding for important facilities like schools, hospitals, and fire departments and; determines how many seats are allocated in the House of Representatives and in other local legislative districts.

In terms of counting the Town’s residents and seasonal-residents, people who live or stay at two or more residences are counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time. If they cannot determine a place where they live most of the time, they are counted where they are staying on Census Day.

Staff recently contacted the Atlanta Regional Census Center requesting that a representative attend a Town Commission meeting. Neal E. Dollar will attend the January 21, 2020 Regular Workshop Meeting to make a presentation and answer any questions you may have.

Staff Recommendation

None, informational only.

Attachments

- A. PowerPoint Presentation (Available in Town Clerk’s Office)
- B. Fact Sheets (Available in the Town Clerk’s Office)

End of Agenda Item