



Happy New Year! Town Initiatives – Snapshot

New Town Manager. On January 30th Howard Tipton will report for duty as the new Town Manager. He has already met with all of the department directors and has been briefed on the major initiatives. I will be working with him until February 6th to help make sure the transition is as smooth as possible. Thanks to the Town Commission, the employees, and the community for the opportunity to serve as your Town Manager for the past five years.

Annual Report. We have produced the Town's 5th Annual Report for 2022 highlighting financial data, accomplishments, and a look at our projects going into the next year. A digital copy is available on the Town website and limited hard copies are available at Town Hall.

Citizen Survey. The Town's Annual Citizen Survey will be mailed out the second week of January. This will be the fourth year that the Town has conducted the survey in partnership with USF Institute of Government. It provides great feedback on Town services and priorities for the future. The results will be presented to the Commission in advance of their April Strategic Planning Retreat. Look for more info when the notice goes out.

Town Center. Construction is full steam ahead on Phase 2 of the Town Center. Site work is well underway and you can start to see the privately funded stage go up. Project completion is scheduled for the Summer of 2023. Even though the site is under construction, a series of events are planned this season. We appreciate the contractor working with the Town to accommodate the events during construction. Three concerts are planned for February, March, and April and the Howard Allen Art Show is back again in February. In March the Town will hold our Annual Community Open House in conjunction with a Market. Stay tuned and feel free to check our website for more details.

Gulf of Mexico Drive (GMD) Corridor Study. The Town completed work on the GMD Corridor Study. It sets a standard template for future road improvements along the entire stretch of GMD, including enhanced bike lanes, landscaped medians, and a wider multiuse pathway on the East side of the road. The Town will be coordinating with the FDOT on future improvements to the State roadway. The Commission requested FDOT to conduct a study to consider lowering the speed limit to 35mph for a segment of the GMD that runs in front of the mobile home parks and Bayport Condominiums.

Drainage Studies. The Town also completed two major drainage studies in December for the Sleepy Lagoon and Buttonwood neighborhoods. The recommendations will now be folded into the Town's capital project planning and the staff will be seeking grant opportunities to help leverage existing funding to facilitate advancement of the projects.

Construction Noise. A reminder that the Town has a Sound Ordinance in place that limits the work times for construction noise. Generally, work must be performed between 8am and 5pm Monday through Saturday (no work on Sundays or observed holidays). Extended work hour permits must be approved by the Town Manager. Contractors that fail to comply and/or are repeat offenders are subject to Code Citations.

Utilities Undergrounding Project. All underground electrical infrastructure is in place. Switching and energizing is expected to continue for Phases 2, 3, & 4 into Spring 2023 followed by final FPL removal of poles and aerial wires.

Verizon Wireless Coverage. The Verizon 9 small cell pole placement is complete and operational. Coverage on the North end has been noticeably improved. Thanks to Verizon for quickly installing and activating the new poles! Conversations continue with AT&T on the enhancement of their service and coverage on the island.

Gulfstream & U.S. 41 Roundabout Project is Open! The roundabout is now open with final completion of all related construction projected for the Spring of 2023. Check out their progress at FDOT Project Website:

<http://www.swflroads.com/gulfstreamroundabout/>

Holiday hours. Town Hall will be closed on Monday, January 2nd and Monday, January 16th.

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

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| • January 9, 2023 | 1:00 pm | Town Commission Regular Meeting |
| • January 17, 2023 | 9:15 am | Planning & Zoning Board Regular Meeting |
| • January 19, 2023 | 10:00 am | Special Magistrate |
| • January 23, 2023 | 1:00 pm | Town Commission Regular Workshop Meeting |

Fast Fact(s)

The Town of Longboat Key has had 10 Town Managers in 64 years – Howard Tipton becomes #11!