



New Town Manager Takes The Helm! **Town Initiatives – Snapshot**

Town Manager Howard Tipton. On January 30th, I began service as your new Town Manager. I've met with all Commissioners, Department Directors and have been briefed on the major initiatives and priorities moving forward. Tom Harmer remains through February 6th to help with the transition. Many thanks to Tom for his outstanding leadership over the years and I look forward to serving you as the 11th Longboat Key Town Manager!

Annual Citizen Survey. The Town's Annual Citizen Survey was mailed out the second week of January. This will be the fourth year that we've conducted this 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. The survey closes on February 11. If you did not receive your access code via letter from the Town, contact cbrown@longboatkey.org or call Carolyn at 941-316-1999.

Town Center. Construction is full steam ahead on Phase 2 of the Town Center. You can definitely see the privately funded stage shaping 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 these events during construction. Three concerts are planned for February, March, and April and the Howard Allen Art Show is back again in February. Stay tuned and feel free to check our website for more details.

Green Workshop February 22nd at 10 am in Town Hall Commission Chamber. Join Instructor Sara Kane as she discusses electric vehicles and the infrastructure needed to support them. Sara will cover the basics of how various types of electric vehicles work, considerations for those interested in buying one, and the different types of charging stations available. This session will also include discussion of solar energy, and battery back-up opportunities.

Sub-Aqueous Force Main- Mainland Rehabilitation. The Town is currently working on relining the existing 20" force main on the mainland side of the Bay to the Manatee County Water Treatment Plant. The relining project is supported by two different State of Florida appropriations that have been awarded to the Town, totaling \$2,050,000. We are still advancing plans and options related to the installation of a redundant line under the Bay. As part of the redundant pipe project the Town was recently notified that we will be awarded \$3M from the Federal government to offset those project costs.

Greer Island Spit Management Plan. This is the project that will remove sand from the East side of Greer Island and relocate it back on the Gulf fronting beaches. All permits have been issued and the project is currently being advertised for bids. Once a bid is awarded, the project is anticipated to take 120 days to complete.

Sea Level Rise Study. The Town's consultant is scheduled to finalize the Sea Level Rise Study and staff is planning to present their findings and recommendations at the Commission's February 21, 2023 Regular Workshop. The Town received a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$131,000 to fund completion of the study.

Utilities Undergrounding Project. All underground electrical infrastructure is in place. Individual property conversions are underway in Phase 2 (North end of the island) and is expected to continue for Phases 3 & 4 into Spring 2023 followed by final FPL removal of poles and aerial wires.

Gulfstream & U.S. 41 Roundabout Project is open, *but still not complete.* Check traffic congestion before you leave for the mainland and plan your commute time accordingly. Final completion of all construction projected for the Spring of 2023. Check out FDOT's Project Website: <http://www.swflroads.com/gulfstreamroundabout/>

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

- February 6, 2023 1:00 pm Town Commission Regular Meeting
- February 8, 2023 10:00 am Special Magistrate
- February 17, 2023 9:00 am Consolidated Retirement System Board Meeting
- February 21, 2023 1:00 pm Town Commission Regular Workshop Meeting
- February 28, 2023 9:15 am Planning & Zoning Board Regular Meeting

Fast Fact – Tipton comes from a family with more than 100 years of Florida local government experience!