



## TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

### Town Initiatives – Snapshot

**Hurricane Idalia.** This storm was mostly a surge event with some wind and rain. Thank you to all of our residents who evacuated, especially those in the lowing lying areas. The flooding on the bay side in low areas was significant. So that the Town can collect damage data that may help in receiving public assistance funding, please report any damage (water intrusion, structural damage) to [permitdesk@longboatkey.org](mailto:permitdesk@longboatkey.org) or you may call (941) 316-1966 to report it. Idalia was a great reminder to be prepared and have a plan!

**Greer Island Spit Removal and Canal 1A Dredging.** Coastal Dredging and their subcontractor are completing the final dredging of the spit. The contractors are preparing to de-mobilizing the dredge equipment. The dune planting is complete. The contractor will work through the punch list items and submit final surveys for acceptance in the coming weeks.

**FDOT Crosswalk work now underway on Longboat Key.** FDOT has started construction of their crosswalk safety upgrade project. The project begins at the South end of Longboat Key and works its way North through Holmes Beach. The crosswalks included within the Town are Country Club Shores mid-block pedestrian crossing; Bayfront Park mid-block pedestrian crossing; near Banyan Bay Club; near Companion Way; and South of Broadway Street.

**The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY24) Budget to be adopted in September.** The Commission will meet September 11 and September 26 (both at 5:01pm) to hold public hearings to set the millage rate for the Town, and formally adopt the FY24 Budget. The FY24 Budget was developed during Budget Workshops on May 15, 2023, and June 20<sup>th</sup> during which the Commission identified funding for their priority projects for FY24, and on June 30 when the maximum millage rate was set.

**Longboat Key has hit a growth spurt!!** The State's draft official 2023 permanent population estimate has increased by 18 people over the last year (and by 32 since the 2020 Census). The Sarasota County portion of the Town increased by 15 from last year's estimate and Manatee County portion of the island increased by 3 during that same period. Out total population is 7,537!

**Just in case you thought it was really hot outside...!** The Sarasota area has smashed its record, clinching its hottest Summer on record through end of August. Remember – stay safe in the heat... schedule outdoor work, exercise, and sports during morning and later afternoon hours. Also – hydrate! – Drink water even if you don't feel thirsty! Never leave kids, older people, or pets in cars as temperatures inside parked cars can double within minutes.

**Town Center Project, Phase 2 is nearing completion!** Jon F Swift has completed the majority of site work, and final touches are being made to the Karon Family Pavilion. Mark your calendar with a "Save the Date" for November 11, 2023 @ 3:00 PM for our Veterans' Day Celebration and Karon Family Pavilion Ribbon Cutting!

**It's Sea Turtle Nesting & Shorebird Nesting Season!** Beach-fronting lights are yellow or red this time of year to minimize disorientations when turtles are nesting or hatching. Also remember that pets are not allowed on Longboat Key beaches – only trained service animals with leashes. Please remove furniture from the beach, cover holes, and leave only your footprints. More at [www.longboatkey.org](http://www.longboatkey.org)

**June 1 – Sept 30 ban on use of fertilizers containing nitrogen & phosphorous.** June 1 - September 30, at least 50% slow-release fertilizer is required. The stormwater runoff during rainy season can wash fertilizers from our lawns into Sarasota Bay & Gulf waters. The fertilizer's nitrogen & phosphorous runoff can cause harmful algal blooms such as red tide. Check out Town Code Chapter 102, Fertilizer Management for more information.

### Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

- September 11, 2023 1:00 pm Town Commission Regular Meeting
- September 11, 2023 5:01 pm Town Commission Special Meeting (Budget)
- September 13, 2023 10:00 am Special Magistrate
- September 18, 2023 1:00 pm Town Commission Special Meeting (St. Regis)
- September 19, 2023 9:15 am Planning & Zoning Board Regular Meeting
- September 26, 2023 1:00 pm Town Commission Regular Workshop Meeting
- September 26, 2023 5:01 pm Town Commission Special Meeting (Budget)

### Fast Fact!

Since 2017 the Town has only evacuated for 3 storms – All were "I" named – Irma, Ian and Idalia.