



Town Manager Brief – September 2024

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

September is Florida Dept of Emergency Management's Disaster Preparedness Month!

Pre-Storm Sandbag Operation for Longboat Key on September 3 @ Broadway Beach Access to help residents prepare in advance for storms that could impact Longboat as we reach the peak of hurricane season. The Town will staff a sandbag station at Broadway Beach Access on Tuesday, September 3 from 9 am until 12 pm. There will be 2 sandbag filler stations to make it easier and more efficient for residents to fill their bags. These sandbag stations are to serve Longboat Key residents, property owners, and our commercial interests only, to help address potential flooding events. Please bring proof of residency (a driver's license, utility bill, etc.) in order to obtain bags. Please note, there is a limit of 10 bags per household. Residents may bring their own bags if more are needed.

Did you watch the Tip Talk YouTube video about Hurricane Preparedness and Re-Entry Decision-Making with Town Manager Howard Tipton and Public Works Director Isaac Brownman? It's still available on the Town's YouTube channel! It's great and very informative video about hurricane preparedness. They also explain all the decision-making regarding utilities restoration for the island, post-storm damage assessment of facilities and infrastructure, road clearing, and debris management! Visit the Town's YouTube Channel at [Longboat Key - YouTube](#) for this video and other Longboat topics!

The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (FY25) Budget Process wraps up with September Public Hearings to adopt the FY25 Budget. Budget Workshops were held on May 20, 2024, and June 17th to identify the Commissioners strategic priorities and funding sources, then on June 28th the Commission set a maximum millage rate for FY25. Commission meetings will be held on September 9 & 23 (both at 5:01 pm) for public hearings to approve the Town's millage rate, and formally adopt the FY25 Budget.

Utilities Undergrounding Update Phases 1 and 2 are complete. For Phase 3 all transformers are energized and 95% of the service conversions, and 97% of the switch orders are complete. For Phase 4, all feeder lines and feeder cabinets are energized. 82% of the transformers are energized as well as 53% of the switch orders. The service conversions are scheduled to begin the week of September 1. The overall project is still tracking to complete under budget.

The Gulfside Interim Nourishment project includes placing ~80,000 cubic yards of fill, starting at the Gulfside Road Public Beach Access and working north to the Ohana seawall. This project also includes dune planting to revegetate the depleted dune system. The project was bid in June with bid opening in August with two bids received. Atlantic & Gulf Dredge & Marine was the lowest responsive, responsible bidder at \$2,554,968. This is well within the Town's established budget of \$2.9 million and a recommendation of award has been issued. We are currently seeking a quote for Construction Engineering Inspection Services to ensure the project runs smoothly and remains within budget.

Sea Turtle Nesting & Shorebird Nesting Season continues Remember that *dogs are not allowed on Longboat Key beaches!* – only trained service animals with leashes, not therapy or emotional support animals. No matter how well-behaved your dog is, to wildlife on our beaches, dogs are seen as predators and their presence on the beach causes stress, and often results in disrupted nesting for both shorebirds and turtles. Please remove furniture from the beach, and cover holes. More at www.longboatkey.org

Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

- September 9, 2024 1:00 pm Town Commission Regular Meeting
- September 9, 2024 5:01 pm Town Commission Special Meeting (Budget)
- September 11, 2024 10:00 am Special Magistrate
- September 17, 2024 9:15 am Planning & Zoning Board Regular Meeting
- September 23, 2024 1:00 pm Town Commissioner Regular Workshop Meeting
- September 23, 2024 5:01 pm Town Commission Special Meeting (Budget adoption)

Fast Fact!

This Labor Day holiday is the 130th year of celebrating the contributions from our workers.