



TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

Happy New Year! “I can’t believe it is 2020 already....”

Town Initiatives- Snapshot

Traffic Safety on Gulf of Mexico Drive (GMD). In accordance with State Law, vehicle transport trucks are not permitted to unload vehicles on GMD. If you are utilizing a car carrier to deliver your vehicle to Longboat Key, please advise them to not unload on or along Gulf of Mexico Drive. The Police Department is ticketing the drivers for failure to comply. If you notice a transport vehicle unloading or any other obstructions impacting the roadway, please contact the Police Department non-emergency number at 941-316-1977.

Roadway Construction Impacts in Sarasota. The Fruitville Road/US 41 Roundabout is under construction. As part of that project they have removed one of the three turn lanes leaving the island and heading North on US41. They have advised that they will be reopening that lane sometime in January but will be closing westbound Fruitville Road at US41 in mid-January for about 5-6 months. Check your traffic app (Google Maps, Waze, etc.) when planning your trips to minimize delays.

Bayfront Park. The addition of the two new Pickleball courts in Bayfront Park is scheduled to be completed this month. The work includes adding two dedicated courts just to the east of the existing court and shifting the basketball court to the north. After the installation of the two new Pickleball courts there will still be a regulation size half basketball court with multiple baskets for open play. Sarasota County is in the process of replacing the fence this month that runs along the southern edge of the property line adjacent to Longboat Key Estates.

Outdoor Venue/Town Center. The Chamber of Commerce has scheduled the first Savor the Sounds 2020 concert on the Town Center property. It will be on Saturday, January 25 from 5:30pm to 7pm. Information and tickets are available through the Chamber. This is the first of four scheduled concerts this season.

Citizens’ Survey. Residents will receive information regarding an on-line survey later this month seeking feedback on the Town’s priorities and services. We are working with the University of South Florida’s Institute of Government on this annual survey that will help provide valuable input to the Town staff and Commission as we allocate resources and continue to provide the highest level of services that we can.

Beach Management Plan. The funding for the next cycle of beach projects will be on the March 17th Ballot. The Town staff will be starting their public outreach efforts in January to educate the voters about the initiative.

Village Traffic Enforcement. A continued reminder that the speed limit on Broadway Street has been reduced to 20 mph. Be aware, there is a lot of traffic in the area and the Police Department has increased speed and parking enforcement. Drive carefully and respect the residential neighborhood.

Undergrounding. The Utilities Undergrounding Project continues full steam ahead. Our work is currently focusing on Gulf of Mexico Drive both on the South and North ends of the Key. Later this month we anticipate starting in the Phase 1 Neighborhood (South end). Project status is available on our website.

New Development. In December the owner of MarVista received Town approval to build a small office and parking lot on the vacant lot just North of Whitney Plaza. The lot will include 98 spaces and also provides an opportunity for their restaurant employees to park. The new restaurant, Whitney’s Roadside, at Gulf of Mexico Drive and Broadway is scheduled to open later this month. The Aria condominium has submitted a site plan amendment application for an additional building on their site at 2251 Gulf of Mexico Drive. Their plan includes a new 2-story, residential caretaker unit and condominium office building adjacent to their circular entry drive.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- January 6, 2020 1pm, Town Hall, Town Commission Regular Meeting
- January 13, 2020 10am, Town Hall, Code Enforcement Special Magistrate
- January 16, 2020 9:30am, Town Hall, Zoning Board of Adjustments Meeting
- January 20, 2020 Town Holiday- Town Hall Closed
- January 21, 2020 9:15am, Town Hall, Planning & Zoning Board
- January 21, 2020 1pm, Town Hall, Town Commission Regular Workshop Meeting

Fast Fact

“Of the 9,580 residential units on the island, 1,821 are single family homes”