



Traffic continues to be the #1 issue this season

Town Initiatives - Snapshot

Traffic Congestion. There have been a number of conversations with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the City of Sarasota regarding their projects that impact traffic flow on and off the island. A follow-up meeting with the Mayors, Managers, and FDOT is scheduled for mid-March. Pedestrian managers will be working St. Armand's Circle from March 13th – April 19th this year. That is the result of the Town's push, and offer to pay, for a third of the cost. The Town has also requested that the Gulfstream/US 41 Roundabout be paused and reconsidered. The third left lane at Gulfstream and US 41 is scheduled to be restored early March, but westbound Fruitville Road at US 41 will be shut down as part of that transition and construction detours. We have also discussed impacts related to the North end of the island with both FDOT and Manatee County. Please continue to check your map apps (Google maps, Waze, etc.) to gauge current traffic conditions.

New Commissioners. Commissioners Clair and Pastor are completing their terms of office this month. On March 23rd two new commissioners will be sworn in to replace those departing Commissioners. Please join us in welcoming Commissioner B.J. Bishop, and Commissioner Sherry Dominik to the Town Commission.

Pickleball Courts Expansion at Bayfront Park. The new pickleball courts are installed, the basketball court has been reconfigured into a half-court play area, and includes two youth backboards.

Outdoor Venue at Town Center. Please join the Town on March 11th at 9am at Temple Beth Israel on Bay Isles Parkway for a public input session on future of the Town Center Property adjacent to Publix. The second "Savor the Sounds" concert is scheduled for March 28th. Tickets can be purchased through the Chamber of Commerce.

Annual Citizens' Survey. Thank you for participating the Town's first citizen survey. The University of South Florida will be compiling and analyzing the results and reporting back to the Commission in April as part of our 2021 goal setting process.

Beach Management Plan. Great News! Manatee County has committed to assist the Town in funding a portion of our North end nourishment project in the amount of \$2.69 million dollars. Their funding is subject to approval of the Town's ballot initiative for the next cycle of beach re-nourishment. On the March 17th, the Town's Beach Management bonding authorization will be on the General Municipal Election ballot. Information regarding this initiative can be found on the Town's website. We encourage all registered voters to vote on this important issue.

Village Traffic Enforcement. Town staff will be meeting with residents again this month to discuss traffic calming/resident parking within the Village. A public update is scheduled for the March 23rd Commission Meeting.

Undergrounding. The Utilities Undergrounding Project continues full steam ahead! We are working in the Phase 1 Neighborhood area (Country Club Shores) installing electrical and fiber conduit. The next public update is scheduled as part of the March 23rd Commission Meeting. The project status is also available on our website.

New Development. The new owners of several platted lots just North of Broadway along GMD have met with the Town staff and are considering the installation of docks and parking on the individual lots. They are currently clearing invasive species from the property.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

March 2, 2020	1pm, Town Hall, Town Commission Regular Meeting
March 11, 2020	9am, Temple Beth Israel, Open House on Outdoor Venue
March 23, 2020	1pm, Town Hall, Town Commission Special Meeting/Workshop
March 24, 2020	5:30pm, Town Hall, Annual Town Hall Art Exhibit/ Artists' Reception
March 26, 2020	1:30pm, Manatee County Convention Center, Jt. Mtg with County Commission
March 28, 2020	5:30pm, Savor the Sounds Concert at Town Center Green
March 31, 2020	9:15am, Town Hall, Planning & Zoning Board

Fast Fact

"100% of our Firefighters are also Certified Paramedics"