Volusia County Government Activities
May 20 – May 26, 2023

OCEAN CENTER
Events: The Ocean Center has been preparing to host 13 high school graduation ceremonies this week. Events begin May 30 with rehearsals for Volusia County schools and graduation ceremonies for Flagler/Palm Coast’s two high schools. The rehearsals and ceremonies will occur between May 31 and June 2 before concluding with four ceremonies June 3 and 4. For more information, contact Tim Buckley at tbuckley@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER’S OFFICE
Community Information: On May 22, staff provided audiovisual and photography services at the Florida Department of Transportation’s groundbreaking ceremony for the DeLand SunRail station. On May 23, staff hosted a Public Information Network (PIN) meet and greet in preparation for the upcoming hurricane season at the Emergency Operations Center. Over 40 communications staff from the county, municipalities, state agencies and the private sector developed plans for information dissemination for this year’s hurricane season. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

EMERGENCY SERVICES
Emergency Management: The division will collaborate with other county divisions to host a disaster shelter awareness event from 9 a.m. to noon on June 3 at the Emergency Operations Center. The event will inform people what to bring to a shelter and what to expect. Also, attendees will learn how their pets will be cared for in the shelter. For more information, contact James Judge at jjudge@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Administration: Staff attended the quarterly Trauma Quality Management meeting with Halifax on May 23. Staff also met with ZOLL to discuss the implementation of ZOLL EMS charts. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Services: The division celebrated 2023 EMS Week, May 21-27. Two EMS Awards ceremonies were held at the Volusia County Historic Courthouse on May 24 and May 26. Interviews have begun for new field training officer positions, and the interview process for three battalion chief positions is underway. The division conducted hurricane season strike team leader training and is finishing the quarterly in-service training sessions. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

Fire Rescue: The division conducted the skills evaluation process of the new hire testing, with 13 candidates being evaluated. On May 22, the new Engine 12 apparatus arrived at fleet services, which should be in service over the next few weeks. For more information, contact Chief Joe King at jwking@volusia.org.
GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: Staff hosted the state-wide North American Hazardous Material Management Association (NAHMMMA) conference in Daytona Beach May 15-19. As a volunteer-run, non-profit organization, NAHMMMA is committed to pollution prevention, product stewardship and safe and effective handling of hazardous materials from households and small businesses.

Marine Science Center's Food Preparation Commissary project has completed the rough-in stage with electrical, HVAC, plumbing, roof and foundation. Substantial completion is scheduled for mid-July. The second phase of separating critical spaces of animal care functions is renovating the sea turtle hospital. The design of this renovation is 90% complete, and construction is estimated to begin in the fall. As of May 25, 208 sea turtle nests have been laid on county-managed beaches. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Animal Services: Animal Control Officer Dylan Wulf represented the division at the Volusia Pines Elementary School career fair on May 25. In collaboration with the Volusia County Emergency Management Division, Officer Toni Moriarty participated in walk-throughs of the Special Needs Shelter locations for the upcoming hurricane season to assess pet care options. For more information, contact Alicia Dease at adease@volusia.org.

Beach Safety: Throughout the week, staff was interviewed by multiple media outlets providing tips on how to stay safe while enjoying the beach, such as always swimming near lifeguards and downloading the Volusia Beaches app. For more information, contact Andy Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: The county’s TrapBag installation and debris removal crews continued efforts last week in Daytona Beach, Wilbur-by-the-Sea, Daytona Beach Shores and both the unincorporated and incorporated areas of New Smyrna Beach. As of May 23, approximately 7,033 cubic yards of debris have been removed, and 12,680 linear feet of TrapBags have been installed. A total of 61 beach accesses remain closed. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at jfentress@volusia.org.

Engineering & Construction: The demolition of the old elections building in DeLand was completed last week. Debris removal and cleanup will continue this week, followed by foundation removal and staging for site work the next week. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at tkasbeer@volusia.org.

Traffic Engineering: Staff is reviewing the Traffic Impact Analysis for the Waterstone Subdivision on the west side of Old Dixie Highway, approximately 0.6 miles north of Plantation Oaks Boulevard in Ormond Beach. The development will consist of 144 single-family homes. For more information, contact Jay Williams at jwilliams@volusia.org.