

Volusia County Government Activities January 8 – 14, 2022

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee's subcommittees, also known as Affinity Groups, have kicked off their monthly meetings. Each Affinity Group will meet one Wednesday a month and work to help develop an Affordable Housing Plan, which will be brought to the County Council once complete. These meetings will be held at the Emergency Operations Center in Daytona Beach and virtual participation is available. For more information, please visit, www.volusia.org/affordable-housing-summit.

Resource Stewardship: UF/IFAS Extension Services kicked off their annual master gardener volunteer training program with 30 new participants. After completing the 14-week training course, these volunteers will strengthen our community by mentoring youth, teaching residents sustainable landscaping and gardening, and sharing their expertise through tours, field visits, and plant clinics at libraries. The Volusia Forever Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on Jan. 26. Individuals can register to participate virtually and access the agenda package at www.volusia.org/forever-advisory.

Parks, Recreation and Culture: The Spring-to-Spring Trail in west Volusia County is one step closer to completion. The ribbon cutting for the newest segment will be held at 11 a.m. on Jan. 21. The St. Johns River to Sea Loop Alliance is planning a 20-mile round-trip bike ride beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Gemini Springs Park. For more information about the bike ride, visit river2sealoop.org or contact Maggie Ardito at info@river2sealoop.org. For more information on the ribbon cutting, contact Tim Baylie, tbaylie@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff will be creating public and media messaging in support of two upcoming Animal Services events, an animal fighting training workshop on Feb. 4 at the Volusia County Fire Training Center and a free microchip, rabies vaccination and pet food event on Feb. 12, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Animal Services headquarters, 1250 Indian Lake Road, Daytona Beach. Staff continues preparations for the State of the County on Feb. 8 at the Ocean Center. The online portal for the public to reserve a seat will open on Jan. 18. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

OCEAN CENTER

Events: Jan. 13-17, we will be hosting for the State Cheer and Dance Championships. We are expecting attendance to be about 5,000 people, generating approximately 1,300 room nights. On Jan. 17-21, we welcome the Florida Fire Chiefs Foundation for their Fire-Rescue East Conference. This conference will bring about 1,000 guests, and approximately 1,500 room nights. Both of these annual events will utilize the entire Ocean Center facility. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Animal Services: Animal Services and staff from Community Information will be attending a virtual meeting with AGI this week to discuss graphics for the new mobile spay/neuter unit. For more information, contact Division Director Adam Leath, 386-822-3506.

Beach Safety: Beach Safety has completed their seasonal lifeguard recruitment flier and has begun planning their 2022 recruitment efforts. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Ethridge, (386) 239-6414.

Corrections: Work inmate crews assisted with the setup of the COVID-19 testing site at the Volusia County Fairgrounds. In collaboration with Family Health Source, Corrections will once again offer COVID-19 vaccines. The Corrections Division was successful in getting five inmates certified and licensed to operate forklifts; this is a new program implemented in order to assist inmates with finding successful employment after being released from custody. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Flowers, 386-254-1568.

Emergency Management: Emergency Management, in partnership with the cities continues to support COVID-19 testing at the four mobile testing sites in Daytona Beach at City Island (formerly the Speedway location), Deltona at Dewey O. Boster Park, the New Smyrna Beach City Gym, and at the Volusia County Fairgrounds. On Jan. 19, Emergency Support Function 8 Health



and Medical Services will be hosting a community partners meeting at the EOC. For more information please, contact Division Director Helene Wetherington, (386) 254-1500.

Emergency Medical Administration: On Jan. 12, EMA staff met with DeLand Fire to finalize their Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) application for advanced life support and non-transport. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Wolcott, (386) 561-8087.

Emergency Medical Services: On Jan. 8 and 9, EMS employees attended Prehospital Trauma Life Support Skills Training. EMS reviewed their first Patient Satisfaction Survey results this week. For more information, contact Division Director Michael Colman, (386) 236-3511.

Fire Rescue: VCFR will be applying for two grants during the month of January and February. The two grants are the SAFER grant for staffing and the Fire Prevention Grant for Community Risk Reduction projects. For more information, contact Fire Chief Howard Bailey, (386) 736-5940 ext. 12918.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Coastal Tradesworkers completed renovations of the timber staircase at 6th Ave and recently began renovations on the staircase at 7th Ave in New Smyrna Beach. This is part of the Coastal Division's ongoing effort to improve pedestrian beach access by replacing damaged and/or weathered walkovers and staircases with new timber and composite materials extending their life in the beach environment. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.



Engineering & Construction: Lemon Bluff Marina is approaching completion. Paving of the east side boat ramp and west side parking area is scheduled to be completed this week. Next week, the final finishes will be completed and a preliminary final walk through is scheduled for Jan. 21. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control is coordinating with Road and Bridge for the relocation of a sentinel chicken coop in Ormond Beach. As part of our integrated pest management (IPM) program, sentinel chickens are used for surveillance of mosquito-transmitted viruses. Sentinel chickens are placed at locations throughout the county and a small blood sample is taken from each chicken weekly. The blood samples are shipped to the state lab and tested for antibodies to West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and St. Louis Encephalitis. The mosquitoes that transmit these viruses primarily feed on birds. Chickens do not become sick from these viruses and the chickens cannot spread the virus to other mosquitoes. For more information, contact Tim MacHardy at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20273.



Road & Bridge: Road & Bridge traffic operation crews provided message signing along SR-44 and Prevatt Avenue to assist the traveling public with the drive-thru COVID-19 testing and vaccination site at the Fairgrounds that opened on Jan. 10. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

Solid Waste: Solid Waste team members will be staffing the recycling education trailer at the Orange City Blue Springs Manatee Festival on Jan. 22 and 23, providing how to recycle right, anti-littering, Keep Volusia County Beautiful information and giveaway items. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Public Works Administration and Traffic Engineering gave a presentation to the Victoria Gardens Men's Club on the County's 5-Year Road Program, with an emphasis on the current Orange Camp Road widening project and the proposed new traffic signal at Orange Camp Road & Garden Club Drive/Victoria Commons Boulevard. Over 75 residents attended the meeting. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

Water Resources and Utilities: Utilities staff finalized terms and conditions of a utility services agreement for Phase I of the Junction subdivision in DeBary. The agreement provides for water, wastewater, and reclaimed services for up to 86 residential lots. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.