

Volusia County Government Activities
August 28 – September 3, 2021

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services: Staff will be continuing the Affordable Housing Initiative with an interactive webinar noon to 1:30 p.m., Sept 10. This webinar will continue the initiative's progress until the summit is rescheduled. During this webinar, we will hear from Jaimie Ross, CEO of the Florida Housing Coalition, who will discuss the framework of strategies that make housing affordable in a community and will outline techniques to develop a successful affordable housing plan. This webinar will be interactive and will include a discussion section after the presentation where audience members will be able to ask questions and voice opinions, as time allows. For more information, contact Dona Butler ddbutter@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff distributed a nine-page issue of County Line, the County's employee newsletter. Staff is representing the County on the Mary McLeod Bethune Statuary Committee and the Outreach Subcommittee; at the committee's request, publicity for the tentative Oct. 5 opening will begin Sept. 21. Staff is coordinating with the County's Division of Emergency Management, the Florida Department of Health and the cities of Daytona Beach and Deltona to promote information to the community on two pop-up testing sites. Communication efforts include a news release, updates to the Volusia.org/coronavirus website and social media posts. Staff is coordinating with Public Works to advertise road plan workshops. Efforts include a news release, Volusia County Spotlight on Volusia.org, public notice and social media posts. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: Thanks to a donation from a generous community member, the Marine Science Center replaced the aging x-ray reader used for interpretive signage with a flat screen television. The new signage displays a video loop of digital x-rays that detail how x-rays are used to evaluate sea turtle patients and common reasons they are admitted to the Center. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.



PUBLIC PROTECTION

Beach Safety: Beach Safety is organizing equipment, personnel and collaborating with Community Information on a press release in preparation for the Labor Day weekend. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Etheridge, (386) 239-6414.

Corrections: Beginning Sept. 16, the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine will be offered to inmates. A plan has been developed to provide the second vaccine four weeks after the first vaccine. Inmates released prior to receiving their second vaccine will be provided bus passes to go to the Family Health Services office in DeLand to receive their second vaccine. To date, 1,165 inmates have received the Covid-19 vaccine. Narcan (naloxone), a narcotic antagonist used to reverse opioid overdose, has been delivered to Corrections for distribution to sworn staff. Officers will carry it on their duty belt for administration if needed. Training has been completed. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Flowers, 386-254-1568.

Emergency Management: The Emergency Management Team continues to participate with healthcare partners in COVID vaccine related conference calls three times per week. The Monoclonal Antibody Infusion testing site active in Ormond Beach has conducted the treatment to a total of 2,176 patients in Volusia County. On Sept. 2, the Division will conduct the City Managers Conference Call to provide situational awareness on status of the COVID 19 epidemic in the County, an update on the tropical storm activity, and receive municipal updates. For more information please, contact Division Director Helene Wetherington, (386) 254-1500.

Emergency Medical Administration: The County of Volusia's five-year Medicaid revalidation was approved on Aug. 31. The approval authorizes Volusia County to invoice and to receive reimbursement from Medicaid for EMS transports. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Wolcott, (386) 561-8087.

Emergency Medical Services: EMS Division welcomes one Paramedic and eight EMT new hires effective Aug. 30. They will be starting their in-house training on Aug. 30, which will last for two weeks. EMS is currently conducting pre-delivery inspections on an additional four of the 12 new ambulances ordered from Braun Ambulance Manufactory in Ohio. For more information, contact Interim Division Director Mark Wolcott, (386) 561-8087.

Fire Rescue: Starting in mid Sept. VCFR will be conducting another New Hire Academy. Just prior to the anniversary of 911, VCFR will be placing the new Squad Engine 35 in service. This new apparatus will be placed at Station 35 located in Lake Helen. For more information, contact Fire Chief Howard Bailey, (386) 736-5940 ext. 12918.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Work continues at the Dahlia Ave Beach Park (Daytona Beach Shores). Two pavilions have been installed, the sanitary sewer construction has begun, and the electrical rough-in is finished and fiber-crete siding and doors have been installed in the restrooms. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

Engineering & Construction: Sea Bridge Pier Replacement Project Update: The request for award of the pier replacement has been approved by council and awarded to Tadeos Engineering. The pre-construction meeting was held with the contractor and the Notice to Proceed will be sent next week. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control is educating residents that not all mosquitoes bite. Toxorhynchites mosquitoes can be found in Volusia County and are considered beneficial mosquitoes as they pollinate flowers, eat other mosquito larvae, and do not bite. As part of an integrated pest management program, mosquito populations are monitored by species and quantity to control mosquitoes that impact public health. For more information, contact Suzanne Bartlett at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.

Road & Bridge: Staff is preparing for the upcoming fiscal year by developing the 2022 work plan. A work plan is prepared each year that entails scheduling tasks and allocating workers to ensure productivity and the level of service is being met for activities such as right-of-way mowing, dirt road grading, sidewalk maintenance, litter removal, stormwater system maintenance, street sweeping, sign maintenance, and roadway striping. The work plan is periodically reviewed throughout the year, which provides valuable information to determine if production rates and scheduled maintenance goals are being met. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

Solid Waste: FCC Environmental Services is planning a community bulky item cleanup in the southeast quadrant of the county for Sept. 25. The company will collect up to four bulk items from unincorporated residential households in this area and will begin notifying residents the week of Sept. 13. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Traffic Engineering staff is performing a study that may warrant the installation of a four-way stop at the intersection of West Euclid Avenue and South Ridgewood Avenue in DeLand. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

Water Resources and Utilities: Field operations staff is nearing completion of annual maintenance and annual flow testing of over 1,500 fire hydrants within the county utility service areas. Performed over a period of 11 weeks, preventative maintenance ensures reliable supply and water pressure for fire protection. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.