AVIATION AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Daytona Beach International Airport: Airport Director Karen Feaster marked her 30th anniversary at the airport this week. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at jmagley@volusia.org.

Economic Development: Staff attended a lunch and learn event Jan. 19 hosted by the Southeast Volusia Chamber for the Burns Science & Technology Charter School in Oak Hill. The school recently expanded a new building to house high school students.

The division is working with the Corrections Division on a Workforce Re-Entry program to create job opportunities for individuals being released from incarceration. Corrections continuously offers job training and self-improvement courses to increase the chances of a returning citizen's employability and reduce re-offending. Businesses interested in partnering in the program are encouraged to complete an application and work with an economic development business specialist.

Director Helga van Eckert will present economic activity updates as well as information about Volusia Business Resources (VBR) to members of the West Volusia Chamber of Commerce on Jan. 24. The division will host a Volusia Business Resources initiative meeting with VBR affiliated partners and stakeholders Jan. 26. VBR is a countywide public-private partnership that includes government economic development agencies, municipalities, chambers of commerce, universities and colleges, and business support organizations. While initially formed to assist businesses during the pandemic, VBR continues to work collaboratively with economic development stakeholders to help new and existing businesses to grow and thrive in Volusia County. For more information, contact Helga van Eckert at hvaneckert@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resource Stewardship: The ECHO Advisory Committee will meet at 9 a.m. Jan. 26 to conduct site visits of the 2023 grant applicants. At 12:15 p.m., the committee will meet in County Council Chambers to vote on whether each project, as presented, is eligible for ECHO grant funding and further review. The agenda, site tour schedule and abridged grant applications can be accessed at https://bit.ly/3iT4smH. For more information, contact Brad Burbaugh at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

Votran: Several route adjustments will begin Jan. 29 to improve service reliability and efficiency.

- Routes 10, 11, 19, 10S, and 11N will have routing adjustments at the Volusia Mall. These routes will no longer serve the two bus stops on the mall's backside. These routes will be changed to serve the two existing stops at the front side of the mall. Due to anticipated roadwork, minor schedule adjustments for these routes may also occur.
- Route 31, which serves the DeBary SunRail Station, will adjust the afternoon portion of the schedule.
- Route 32, which serves the DeBary SunRail Station, will have a schedule reduction to the morning portion of the schedule.
Flyers have been and continue to be available on all buses announcing the route changes. Votran staff will also be onsite at the DeBary SunRail Station in the mornings and afternoons periodically throughout January to answer riders’ questions regarding these service adjustments. For more information, contact Kelvin Miller at kmiller@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER’S OFFICE
Community Information: Staff continues to post new information to the beach recovery webpage at: volusia.org/beachrecovery. A news release and multiple social media posts were issued to inform residents regarding the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s presence in the county this week to assist with emergency coastal permitting. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

EMERGENCY SERVICES
Emergency Management: The division continues to support the affected areas through the Disaster Recovery Center and provide resources to those areas of need for Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) hosted an Active Shooter Tabletop Exercise Jan. 19. The Communications User Group conducted a meeting at the EOC Jan. 20. The division continues to support beach recovery efforts in collaboration with other divisions. For more information, contact James Judge at jjudge@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Administration: On Jan. 18, the division met with Zoll to discuss data sharing with the hospital. Staff attended state meetings in Daytona Beach from Jan. 17-20. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwilcott@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Services: Staff met with Information Technology Jan. 20 to discuss improving the ambulance network’s connectivity status. Staff also attended the State EMS meetings conducted in Daytona Beach Jan. 17-20. EMS leadership attended an active shooter exercise Jan. 19. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwilcott@volusia.org.

Fire Rescue: The division had staff attend training for firefighters at Fire Rescue East held at the Ocean Center. The application period is now open for recruiting new firefighters. This application process will continue over the next month, with a new hire class tentatively starting in late March or early April. For more information, Chief Joe King at jwking@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Environmental Management: Volusia County Marine Mammal Stranding Coordinators were the first on the scene to assess a stranded Orca as the 9,000-pound animal expired. This older (geriatric) female had no external evidence of why she was stranded. The animal was removed from the beach with heavy machinery and transported to SeaWorld, Orlando, for further investigation. Although rarely seen from this area’s beaches, Orcas have a known geographical range that includes Volusia County and the eastern seaboard of the United States.

On Jan. 11, staff coordinated a community conversation meeting in Ponce Inlet regarding the Marine Science Center’s (MSC) five-year capital plan. Marine Science Center Manager Chad Macfee provided a presentation and attendees could visit tables with information about MSC’s programs and
plans. The event was well attended, and the staff is compiling the comments for further review. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

**Planning & Development Services:** Real estate activity involved the sale of three county-owned parcels for a total of $5,300, adding them back on the tax roll. For more information, contact Carol McFarlane at cmcfarlane@volusia.org.

**OCEAN CENTER**

**Events:** Re/Max will host a sales rally in a meeting room Jan. 24. The International Conference and Exposition on Advanced Ceramics and Composites takes place on Jan. 24 and 25 in the arena and ballroom. The private event expects to generate over 1,000 attendee days and 2,200 room nights. The Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools moves into the 100 and 200-level meeting rooms Jan. 25 for their 2023 Brain Bowl, which will be held Jan. 26 and 27. The private event expects 300 attendees and 150 room nights.

ACE Gymnastics begins move-in to the arena Jan. 26 for their Daytona Beach Open, which will be held Jan. 28 and 29. The public event estimates 2,000 attendees and 300 room nights. Tickets can be purchased in advance at acegymnastics.net/daytona-beach-open/ or with cash at the door. Winter Garden Fencing Academy moves into the ballroom Jan. 27 for their Battle at the Beach event to be held Jan. 28 and 29. The first-time event for the Ocean Center expects 500 attendees and 100 room nights.

The Association of Marina Industries (AMI) begins move-in Jan. 27 for its 2023 Conference and Expo Jan. 30 through Feb. 1. The event will utilize the ballroom, exhibit hall and meeting rooms, and expects to generate 2,400 attendee days and 670 room nights. Registration is open to marine industry professionals, with full conference and exhibit hall-only options. The event is available for both AMI members and non-members. To learn more and register, visit marinaassociation.org/conferenceandexpo. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**Coastal:** Coastal tradesworkers and maintenance staff have repaired and reopened the Imperial Heights Drive, Sunny Beach Drive and Sunrise Avenue walkovers in Ormond-by-the-Sea. The Bethune Beach Park walkover has also been reopened temporarily with a set of stairs installed by the Coastal tradesworkers; however, ADA access is not yet available. The Silver Beach and Dunlawton vehicular ramps have also been reopened.

Staff will continue repairing, demoing and coordinating the removal of other damaged segments at repairable walkovers throughout the county in an ongoing effort to regain public beach access at beachfront parks, accesses and off-beach parking lots. A total of 98 coastal accesses remains closed. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at jfentress@volusia.org.

**Engineering & Construction:** The contractor has begun constructing the box culvert along with pond excavation at the Williamson Boulevard/Strickland Range Road intersection. In addition, the contractor is continuing to coordinate lead times for traffic signal equipment along with continued clearing and grubbing. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at tkasbeer@volusia.org.
**Mosquito Control:** The division is collaborating with the Bethune Cookman University Department of Integrated Environmental Science to survey floating aquatic plants in urban stormwater structures. Mansonia mosquitoes lay eggs on these plants and the larvae attach to the plant tissues. This collaborative study will focus on identifying and mapping these mosquito habitats, documenting the abundance of plants and conducting surveillance of Mansonia populations. The data collected from this project will be used to create a targeted larvicide treatment plan to reduce biting adult mosquitoes. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcDonough@volusia.org.

**Road & Bridge:** Several missing handrail sections were recently replaced along the Dunn Avenue sidewalk in Daytona Beach. The division maintains over 280 miles of sidewalk and over 6,200 feet of handrail within the county. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.

**Solid Waste:** Solid Waste team members will be at the recycling education trailer at the Blue Springs Manatee Festival in Orange City Jan. 28 and 29, providing information on how to recycle right, litter prevention, Keep Volusia Beautiful information and giveaway items. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at rmontgomery@volusia.org.

**Traffic Engineering:** Staff is currently reviewing the Traffic Impact Analysis for the DeLand Crossings residential development located on the southeast corner of Cassadaga Road and Martin Luther King, Jr. Beltway in DeLand. This development will consist of 233 multi-family dwelling units. For more information, contact Jay Williams at jiwilliams@volusia.org.

**Water Resources and Utilities:** During December 2022, combined potable water production from eight treatment facilities averaged 4.045 million gallons per day. This represented a 1% increase compared with the previous year. Meanwhile, reclaimed water production for residential and commercial irrigation use averaged 1.493 million gallons per day, representing a 3% decrease compared with the prior year. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.