

Volusia County Government Activities July 18 – 24, 2020

Aviation and Economic Resources

Airport

Projects & Facilities: DAB was the host airport for the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Continuing Florida Aviation System Planning Process (CFASPP) East Central Florida Metropolitan Area committee meeting. Several airports participated via teleconference and we were excited to provide updates on all of our projects. Other local airports also provided input on how they are dealing with COVID-19.

Operations: The airport recently entered into Phase 3 of the Taxiway November rehab project. This is the final phase and will include taxiway and partial runway closures for the next 120 working days.

Marketing & Customer Experience: While our ambassadors are still staying safe at home, our team is finalizing orders for new ambassador uniforms, which include blue blazers, white shirts and decorative neck scarves. Delta and American are adding flights for the month of August and on Aug. 16, American will add a fourth daily flight to bring the total to eight departures daily, (up from 5 in July) except Tuesday and Wednesday. Delta is adding flights this week, and starting Aug. 18, American will add a flight bringing total flights on those days to six departures and six arrivals daily, (up from 4 in July). For more information, contact Joanne Magley at 386-248-8030 ext: 18309 or jmagley@volusia.org.

Budget and Administrative Services

Management & Budget

Management & Budget completed the recommended budget book that was presented to the County Council on 7/21/2020. At the Council meeting, the tentative millage rates were set as part of the TRIM process and the first public hearing was set for September 15, 2020 at 6:00 PM. The division also began capital improvement plan (CIP) training as part of the first steps for creating the annual CIP document. For more information, contact Tammy Bong at tbong@volusia.org.

Community Services

Community Assistance

Volusia County's Community Assistance Division, Housing Choice Voucher Program will accept 250 pre-applications for the Mainstream Voucher Program beginning at 12 p.m. on July 30. Applications must be submitted online at <https://section8.vcgov.org>. Interested persons can apply from a personal computer, mobile phone or tablet. The Housing Choice Voucher Program waiting list is being reopened for non-elderly disabled individuals/families who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless. To qualify for the available preferences, individuals and families must provide supportive documentation of age and disability. Persons with a disability or limited English proficiency who need assistance to complete a pre-application must contact the Section 8 office by July 27 to schedule an appointment. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org

Votran

Mask distribution is going strong. Masks have been handed out to fixed route and paratransit customers. Citizens that don't ride the bus have been picking up masks at the transfer plaza and the Votran office in South Daytona. For more information, contact Edie Biro at 386-756-7496.

County Manager's Office

Community Information

Production coordinators continue to explore new ways with enhancing the audio-visual presentation of the County Council meetings. Staff are collaborating with Economic Development in coordinating a future panel discussion with businesses who have been recipients of the COVID-19 grant program. Staff continue to work closely with the county's two main hospital systems: AdventHealth and Halifax Health, whose practitioners are gracious partners demonstrating a unified approach with information dissemination surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Advertisements are running for the county's rental, mortgage and business grant programs, which include print, digital, video and social media platforms. Community Information created a flyer focused toward our senior population—which, along with the rental/mortgage flyer and information about food assistance—was sent to our county PIO group, requesting they forward the flyers/information onto their area ALFs and other pertinent senior groups. Albeit most senior centers are provisionally closed, the Council on Aging also received the flyers/information. Community Information will continue to collaborate with Community Assistance with forward efforts to message our senior/vulnerable population(s).

Community Assistance collaborated with Community Information on a postcard mailer that will be sent to rental/mortgage applicants whose applications are incomplete and in need of additional information. Subsequent to the phone calls and emails initiated to reach the affected applicant, should they remain unresponsive, this postcard will serve as the concluding endeavor to reach out to the applicant before their application gets placed in holding. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.



Finance

Information Technology

The GIS team attended the Esri International User Conference. Due to COVID-19, this year's conference is online, with streaming sessions and virtual meeting spaces. Over 84,000 users from around the world took the opportunity to network, learn, and confer with Esri staff and vendors regarding issues, software enhancements, and time-saving practices. Session videos have been made available to GIS users throughout the County. Added new maps to the County's interactive map gallery for Lyonia Preserve and COVID-19 testing sites. Began sharing web services with the City of South Daytona for their use in web maps and an internal Code Enforcement application. Currently testing technology for establishing remote connectivity using cellular data networks, for use during network outages. For more information, contact Kevin Bengé at kbenge@volusia.org or Brian Whiting at bwhiting@volusia.org.

Growth and Resource Management

Environmental Management

Sea Turtle HCP Program: As of Tuesday morning, there were a total of 788 sea turtle nests laid on County-managed beaches this year. That is a little lower than the previous year, which was the highest season to date. Nest hatching season also just began, but started off to a little bit slow, with nests incubating longer than normal, likely because of frequent cooling rain storms earlier in the nesting season. However, we're starting to pick up the pace now, with around 5-10 nests emerging per day. The end of July through August is "peak" hatching season, so sea turtle hatchlings should be hitting the beach in force during the next few weeks.

Manatee Protection Plan: A few months ago, Volusia County Marine Mammal Stranding Team assisted with the rescue of a pregnant manatee identified as "Faye" after she was struck by a boat. Just last week, her rehabilitation process was complete and some of those same Stranding Team members were able to help release all 1,300 lbs of her. Truly a good day. Many thanks to Stacy Burke, Sami McCorkle and Alyse Howell for their teamwork and professionalism during the release. For more information, contact Clay Ervin at cervin@volusia.org.



Human Resources

Human Resources worked with Public Protection to begin an on-site testing program for County employees who are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 or they themselves are exhibiting symptoms. Testing is by appointment only and kicked-off on July 20.