AVIATION AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Administration: Airport Director Karen Feaster and Airport Manager Joanne Magley attended the Routes Americas Air service conference March 20-24. They met with route planners from 13 airlines, collaborated on our robust community and presented data supporting the community’s need for additional service. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at jmagley@flydab.com.

Projects & Facilities: The projects team will host a meeting with the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Aviation Central Office and State Aviation Manager, Aaron Smith, and provide a tour of the airport facilities and projects that have or will receive FDOT funding.

Economic Development: Division Director Helga van Eckert will present to the DeLand & Greater West Volusia Chamber of Commerce’s Office Octane Group on economic development business support programs. The presentation will take place April 3 at the Sanborn Center in DeLand. Director Helga van Eckert will participate in the West Volusia Regional Chamber of Commerce 2023 Economic Forum and provide an update on economic trends in the workforce, business programs and permit activity. The event takes place from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. April 5 at The Center at Deltona. Business Manager Brad Harris participated in the Forum on Engineering Technology industry and economic development panel discussion at the Daytona State College Advanced Technology Center in Daytona Beach March 30. The Forum is a semiannual two-day meeting of Florida community college engineering technologies faculty. For more information, contact Helga Van Eckert at hvaneckert@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: The division continues to promote its Hurricane Disaster Recovery program, which offers housing relocation, insurance deductible reimbursement and home repairs to income-eligible residents directly impacted by Hurricanes Ian and/or Nicole. The program's information and application may be found at volusia.org/housing-disaster. Three new Children and Families Advisory Board members will undergo orientation from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. April 3 at the Volusia County West Annex Conference Room, 121 W. Rich Ave., DeLand, FL 32720. Pre-application status verification forms were mailed to the 5,979 applicants on the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) waiting list March 28. Applicants must complete the form and return it to Community Assistance by April 14. If an applicant does not respond by the deadline, they will be removed from the waiting list. For additional information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

Library Services: All branches participated in the Library Snapshot Day March 15. The libraries collected statistics, received comments and took photographs to exhibit how people use library services on any given day. Despite Snapshot Day occurring during spring break, while the kids were out of school, the library had a very successful day serving the residents of Volusia County. Below are some of the highlights from the day.

- 3,748 people visited the library branches
- 815 reference questions were asked
12 students were helped with their homework
113 people learned computer skills
12 job seekers were helped
590 people attended a program
5,715 items were checked out from branches
2,324 e-content items were checked out online
6,960 library website visits
48 new borrowers received library cards
481 computer use sessions
2,672 Wi-Fi sessions

For more information about the event, contact Lucinda Colee at lcolee@volusia.org.

County Manager's Office
Community Information: Staff collaborated with Environmental Management to create outreach materials for Water Conservation Month in April. Staff assisted Community Assistance and Parks, Recreation and Culture with messaging regarding summer camp scholarship availability. Staff also assisted multiple departments with an easement open house that was held March 27 at the Brannon Center in New Smyrna Beach. 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. On March 27, staff attended the FDEM meeting at Beach Safety Headquarters. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) hosted the G2300 Class March 28-30. The division is preparing for the upcoming hurricane season with in-house CIC training and Shelter training at the fairgrounds. The EOC hosted the quarterly Emergency Management Partners Meeting March 31. Division staff conducted Emergency Management Intern interviews this week. The Disaster Recovery Center at the Florida Department of Health-Volusia and the Business Recovery Center at the Daytona Beach Regional Library both permanently closed March 31. Residents with an open case or who would like to file an appeal with FEMA or the U.S. Small Business Administration may continue to contact the agencies using information provided in a county-issued news release and social media post. For more information, contact James Judge at jjudge@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Administration: Staff participated on a selection committee for paratransit services under contract with Votran. The medical director attended the trauma quality management committee at Halifax Health to discuss particulars involving recent trauma cases in a constant effort to improve services. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Services: Division staff attended a meet and greet with Mainland High School’s Fire Science program March 27. The meet and greet gave the Fire Science program an overview of Emergency Medical Services and the roles of EMS. The division conducted an Advanced Medical Life Support Instructor class for paramedics this week. On March 30, EMS staff participated in the
City College Job Fair in Altamonte Springs. For more information, contact Interim Division Director Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

**Fire Rescue:** After several months of coordination, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection will have their consultant, WSP Global, visit the Training Center for a site visit May 9. The site visit may include the consultant taking core samples around the grounds to see if the Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) concentrations have been reduced. Station 12 is nearing completion of its remodel after suffering several feet of water inside their station after Hurricane Ian. The estimated time of completion is early April. For more information, contact Chief Joe King at jwking@volusia.org.

**PUBLIC PROTECTION**

**Animal Services:** Staff attended a disaster shelter training at the Volusia County Fairgrounds on March 28. For more information, contact Adam Leath at aleath@volusia.org.

**Beach Safety:** Division personnel attended a crisis intervention course at Daytona State College, personal watercraft training and a habitat conservation plan training throughout the week. Staff also attended vehicle day at Discovery Elementary School March 31. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**Coastal:** Coastal tradesworkers and maintenance staff repaired the pedestrian beach accesses at 9th Avenue and Starfish Avenue in New Smyrna Beach and opened both to the public. Trades and maintenance staff are continuing repairs at Mallard Street in Wilbur-by-the-Sea, which is anticipated to be completed very soon. Trades staff also began initial site prep in New Smyrna Beach at 13th Avenue and will start the same type of prep at the 5th and 11th avenues later this week. Initial site prep includes preparing structures by cutting back and demolishing damaged segments of the walkovers, allowing for either temporary and/or permanent stair installation in the following weeks. A total of 64 Coastal accesses remain closed. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at jfentress@volusia.org.

**Mosquito Control:** Staff presented to Stetson University’s Environmental Health Course students March 22. Students learned about the biology of mosquitoes, disease transmission cycles and how the division operates and integrated pest management-based program to manage mosquitoes for public health. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcdonough@volusia.org.

**Road and Bridge:** Notice to proceed was issued March 13 for the Main Street Bridge counterweight metalizing professional engineering services contract. Construction plans will be provided to rehabilitate the steel counterweight girders of the bascule bridge in Daytona Beach. The counterweight balances the spans of the bridge that rise to provide clearance for marine traffic. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.
**Solid Waste:** The division offers all Volusia County residents the removal of home fuel oil for free. The goal is to remove abandoned home fuel oil from all known tanks. Staff removed 451 gallons of home fuel oil from five residential properties throughout February and March. Residents needing home fuel oil removed may call the Solid Waste Division at 386.943.7889 to schedule removal. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at rmontgomery@volusia.org.

**Traffic Engineering:** Signal maintenance staff replaced the traffic signal controller cabinet at Plymouth Avenue and Stone Street intersection in DeLand, which was damaged in a crash. Signal maintenance staff also completed biannual signal maintenance for the Daytona Beach, Daytona Beach Shores, DeLand, Holly Hill, Pierson and South Daytona area signals. For more information, contact Jay Williams at jiwilliams@volusia.org.

**Water Resources and Utilities:** Utilities staff joined Environmental Management staff on Volusia Today to promote April as Water Conservation Month. The annual statewide campaign focuses on the importance of conservation and the value of the region’s water supply in terms of our health, economy, and overall quality of life. The broadcast is scheduled to air April 7. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.