Aviation and Economic Resources

**Economic Development:** On April 28, Director Helga van Eckert will participate in an economic development panel discussion and present information on business support programs available to the business community at the DeLand & Greater West Volusia Chamber of Commerce’s Growth, Sustainability & Economic Vitality Summit.

Business Manager Brad Harris joined representatives from several Volusia County economic development organizations on April 18 to introduce the 2023 Ormond Beach Chamber Leadership class to business attraction and development resources. The session was facilitated by Daytona State College and scripted as a business recruiting presentation to an out-of-state advanced manufacturing company seeking a new location.

Business Manager Katrina Friel provided a presentation of business support programs to members of the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber of Commerce on April 20. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at jmagley@volusia.org.

**Aviation:** Avelo Airlines, the newest airline partner of the Daytona Beach International Airport (DBIA), announced on April 20 that it is expanding service at DBIA with exclusive nonstop flights to Delaware’s Wilmington Airport. This is a convenient and easy alternative to Philadelphia International Airport. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at jmagley@flydab.org.

**COUNTY MANAGER’S OFFICE**

**Community Information:** The latest biweekly beach recovery newsletter was issued April 21, which may be read at [https://bit.ly/41wD6nk](https://bit.ly/41wD6nk). Staff is also working with the Emergency Management Division to create materials for the upcoming Hurricane Preparedness Week at the beginning of May and the 2023 hurricane season.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**Emergency Management:** The division continues to support beach recovery efforts in collaboration with multiple divisions. On April 17, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) hosted a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Workshop with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for all partners. G400 Modified Classes were held at the EOC April 18 and 20. The EMS Providers Meeting and the Medical Directors Q&A was held at the EOC April 19. Staff attended the F.A.C.T. Fair at New Smyrna Beach High School with brochures and hurricane information April 20. FDEM visited the EOC April 21 in preparation for its continuation of operations planning. For more information, contact James Judge at jjudge@volusia.org.

**Emergency Medical Administration:** The division co-hosted pediatric emergency training for all EMS providers in Volusia County April 18 and 20. Orlando HealthArnold Palmer Hospital for Women and Children provided the presentation at no cost. The division also hosted an EMS providers meeting April 19 to discuss various topics within Volusia County’s EMS agencies. On April 20, division staff, along with EMS staff, attended a neuroscience/stroke meeting at Halifax Health as part of their accreditation process. The division is also working with AdventHealth in support of its
expansion of services. EMS participation is required for hospitals to pursue or maintain this discipline. In collaboration with Information Technology and Revenue, the division is preparing to test the connectivity and interface efficacy of EMS Charts, a new electronic reporting platform, with the billing software. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

**Emergency Medical Services:** In addition to finalizing the most recent new employee orientation class, nine potential new hires are in the queue to fill vacancies within the division. Four paramedics are advancing through the medical director’s credentialing process. Staff is preparing an adjusted schedule to meet service demand. On April 20, the EMS division participated in a tabletop mass casualty incident exercise with Emergency Management and local hospitals. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

**Fire Rescue:** Over the next two weeks, VCFR Fire Officers will attend numerous roundtables on leadership. These roundtables are web-based and involve departments from all over the country that discuss the traits of leaders. This training aims to engage personnel to interact with other fire professionals and develop qualities promoting positivity and growth amongst our members. For more information, contact Chief Joe King at jwking@volusia.org.

**GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

**Environmental Management:** The Sea Turtle Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Program Team has been busy preparing the beach for the sea turtle nesting season. Many conservation zone posts were lost due to the recent high surf weather event and needed to be reset in many areas of the county north of Ponce Inlet between Emelia Avenue and Granada. The marked conservation zone separates the upper section of the beach from the public traffic areas. No parking or driving is permitted in this area except for authorized construction activities that may be accessed after the daily nesting survey is conducted each day.

Proactive nesting surveys of areas undergoing construction started April 15. Daily surveys officially begin May 1, when the public vehicle access time shifts from sunrise to 8 a.m. Two sea turtle nests have already been marked on county beaches. One is located in the Bethune Beach area of New Smyrna Beach, and the other is near the Neptune beach approach right-of-way in Ormond Beach.

HCP training of all staff and contractors who drive on the beach for work is nearly complete. This training is a requirement for HCP compliance. HCP staff is also working closely with all permitted coastal construction projects and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to coordinate in-season work per all applicable regulations and ensure sea turtle protection. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

**PUBLIC PROTECTION**

**Animal Services:** On April 18, staff attended the “Animal Cruelty Workshop: Identification and Documentation of Crimes Against Animals” in Tampa. This workshop was hosted by the University of Florida Veterinary Forensics Sciences Laboratory. For more information, contact Adam Leath at aleath@volusia.org.

**Beach Safety:** On April 18, a training officer conducted a training session at Daytona State College for the medic program. Also, on April 18, staff attended New Smyrna Beach High School’s Safety Fair.
on April 18 and provided a tour for special needs students from Seabreeze High School the following day. Junior Lifeguard tryouts continued on April 18. For more information, contact Andy Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Installation of a new concrete sidewalk at Al Weeks North Shore Park in Ormond-by-the-Sea has been completed. Repairs to the aluminum railing at Mary McLeod Bethune Park in New Smyrna Beach continue and are expected to be finished soon. New turtle-friendly windows have also been installed on the main building at Mary McLeod Bethune Park. Coastal contractors replaced garbage receptacles, port-o-lets and toll booths from the beach after the passing of the recent nor’easter. Seven beach accesses were closed due to damage caused by the storm.

The county’s five TrapBag installation and debris removal crews continued their efforts in Daytona Beach and began work in New Smyrna Beach. As of April 18, approximately 1,450 cubic yards of debris have been removed, and 2,400 linear feet of TrapBags have been installed since the start of the project. The county’s sand haul contractor continues working with FDEM crews to replace the Tiger Dams with Trap Bags by providing them with approximately 30 loads of sand daily. A total of 69 Coastal accesses remains closed. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at jfentress@volusia.org.

Mosquito Control: Staff is reminding residents to protect against mosquito bites by wearing personal protection. This includes protective clothes, and EPA-approved repellents, which are the best way to prevent mosquito bites. Repellents should have active ingredients of DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR3535. Residents can search for a repellent best suited to their needs by visiting https://bit.ly/3H838p3. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcdonough@volusia.org.

Road and Bridge: Eroded beach sand continues to be removed from South Atlantic Avenue and other Bethune Beach area roads. Crew members are also removing derelict fencing in this area in coordination with Environmental Management’s dune revegetation project. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.

Solid Waste: Compliance Officers investigated illegal dumping in Volusia County. On April 4, officers responded to a report of 700 illegally dumped waste tires in the DeLand area. Officers investigated and were able to identify the responsible party. The responsible party was issued a citation, cleaned up the tires and paid for proper disposal at the Tomoka Farms Road Landfill. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at rmontgomery@volusia.org.

Traffic Engineering: Signal staff is performing preventive maintenance on DeLand city assets and those in the New Smyrna Beach and Edgewater areas. In addition, the division will be installing lighted guide signs at Granada Street and Beach Street in Holly Hill. These repairs are in response to recent storm damage. For more information, contact Jay Williams at jiwilliams@volusia.org.
**Water Resources and Utilities:** Contract awards for the planning, designing and permitting of potable water storage and repump facilities within the southwest and southeast utility service areas are scheduled for the May 2 County Council meeting. Additional water storage and pumping facilities will enhance fire flow. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.