

Volusia County Government Activities

Aug. 15 – 21, 2020

AVIATION & ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Daytona Beach International Airport: *Marketing & Customer Experience*

The airport's paper airplane contest culminated Aug. 19, National Aviation Day, with entries judged on accuracy, distance and creativity. The ERAU Flight team served as judges. Community Information filmed and edited a feature for social media, and did a video news release. The news release about the contest kick-off garnered news articles in the News Journal, Orlando Sentinel and Sun Sentinel. The news release and social post about the contest results resulted in multiple media hits. As of 8-20-20, there were 9 broadcast TV segments aired, reaching an approximate 115,608+ viewers and garnering an earned media value of \$3,198.

Operations

The airport sustained damage to the pavement and runway edge lighting due to strong thunderstorms that passed through the area on Tuesday, Aug. 18. Runways 16/34 and 7L/25R were closed limiting air carrier traffic for approximately three hours.

Economic Development

This week the team continues to work on small business grant and home based business grant. Over \$7 million has been distributed. The second round of PPE distribution is set for 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Aug. 25 - 27. Locations are the Ocean Center, Deland Elks Lodge #1463 and the Marine Discovery Center in New Smyrna Beach. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at 386-248-8030 ext: 18309 or jmagley@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance

Volusia County will accept emergency repair applications from homeowners who have been impacted by COVID-19. Applications for necessary septic tank pump outs and A/C repair or replacement will be accepted from Aug. 20 to Sept. 2. The program is funded with \$482,400 in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CARES Act) and will help residents maintain the safety of their home. To be eligible homeowners must currently have income at or below 120% of the area median income level. Applications will be available at www.volusia.org/C19ER. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

Votran

Votran welcomed Kelvin Miller and First Transit as the new General Manager and management company for Votran. As of Aug. 14, Votran staff have distributed 103,600 masks to the public. For more information, contact Edie Biro at ebiro@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information

Staff continues to promote COVID-19 testing at the fairgrounds, provided rapid public information following Tuesday's tornado, and took part in a news conference with the City of DeLand on Aug. 19. Staff coordinated the unveiling of the historic panel at Argosy Park, is working with the Marine Science Center to develop a bird fundraising brochure, and will work with Fire Rescue to develop a postcard mailer for a survey of unincorporated residents and businesses. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

FINANCE

Information Technology

In order to enhance protection from cyber attacks, Information Technology has implemented a new email security gateway. This application provides enhanced malware, phishing, and spam filtering for the GroupWise email system. GIS staff have begun training on a new redistricting application available from the County's GIS software vendor (Esri). This application will prove valuable in the upcoming redistricting effort that results from Census2020. GIS staff have updated the fire insurance ratings map for Volusia, Seminole, Flagler, Brevard, and Lake Counties. This map uses guidelines from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to determine fire insurance rates based on a property's proximity to fire stations and/or fire hydrants. GIS staff assisted in a multiagency effort to create an ArcGIS Online mapping application to assist with planning and recovery efforts resulting from the EF-2 tornado which hit DeLand on Aug. 19. This map combines damage assessment information from the Property Appraiser's Office with aerial imagery provided by Beach Safety's drone. A variety of software upgrades and improvements are underway, including the CJIS interagency messaging system, the reporting software used by Court Services, and the Billmaster water billing system.

OCEAN CENTER

Events

The professional boxing event, Battle at the Beach III, was a success. The numbers for the night were double that of last year for Christy Martin Productions. The COVID policies and procedures for the arena were followed well and can be used as an example for future events. As we move forward with events, our attendees and clients can be re-assured that our building is safe and ready for future shows and business. Aug. 22-23, the Ocean Center will greet the 31 Annual National Reptile Breeders' Expo, billed as the largest reptile meeting in the world. We expect over 6,000 attendees with this event over the course of two days and 1,100 room nights. There will be hundreds of captive-born snakes, spiders, lizards, amphibians, and turtles, along with herpetology memorabilia, books, and supplies. We continue to partner with Halifax Urban Ministries and Public Protection to provide space for assembling and distribution of resources and food for the public and PPE for businesses and frontline workers.



PUBLIC WORKS

Multiple divisions from Public Works have been intensely working on the clean up from the tornado that struck North DeLand on Aug. 18. From tree trimming and clean up—which included both ground and ariel work—to road clearing and waste removal, Public Works staff have flexed a great deal of their collective muscles in this effort. It has been said that Public Works staff are the “hidden heros” after a natural disaster. The speedy recovery seen this week casts no doubt that Public Works are, in fact, *Hidden Heros!*

Coastal

The Coastal Division hosted an Interpretive phenolic panel unveiling at Argosy Park in Ormond-by-the-Sea on Aug 19. The phenolic panel highlights the community's rich coastal history of mom-and-pop motels along the Florida coastline, including the Argosy Motel that was built on the property in 1953 and operated by the Clark family for 61 years. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

Engineering & Construction

Williamson Blvd Widening: In addition to the ongoing clearing and grubbing operations and pond excavations, the contractor has begun the installation of the stormwater system. Demolition for the Highbridge Pier replacement resumed on August 3, and the drive guide template for the piles is being set up on the north side of Highbridge Road. Once the piles on the north side have been driven, the process will be repeated on the south side. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control

Mosquito Control inspectors are distributing mosquito fish (*Gambusia*) to flooded areas after recent heavy rainfall for a biological control of mosquito larvae. Requests for fish may be submitted online at Volusia.org/mosquito. For more information, contact Suzanne Bartlett at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.

Road & Bridge

Drainage crews are installing a stormwater drainage system along Seabreeze Drive in Ormond-By-The-Sea. The project is one of several targeted project locations within the North Peninsula area that will improve stormwater drainage conveyance and water quality before its discharge into the Halifax River. The Division has been receiving positive resident feedback about the work. For more information, contact Benjamin Bartlett at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20470.

Solid Waste

Solid Waste Management Compliance Officers routinely patrol and investigate illegal dumpsites in Volusia County. While on active patrol, a compliance officer found bags of illegally dumped debris in the woods off S. Spring Garden Ave in DeLand. The officer found evidence identifying where the debris came from, educated the associated business on the proper guidelines for waste disposal, and issued a warning notice requiring proper disposal at the West Volusia Transfer Station. For more information, contact Solid Waste Director Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering

The River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (R2CTPO) is currently developing their 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). County staff is assisting by providing a list of local county projects. The list of local county projects provided is based on the roadway improvements list from the recent ½¢ sales surtax initiative. The R2CTPO is planning to adopt the 2045 LRTP later this summer or early this fall. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

Water Resources and Utilities

Utilities engineering and field operations staff members have been providing technical assistance to contractors during the construction of the new Amazon facility in Deltona to ensure the successful relocation of water, wastewater, and reclaimed mains along Normandy Blvd and Graves Ave. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.

