

## Volusia County Government Activities March 13 – 19, 2021

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Community Assistance:** Community Assistance will hold a virtual public meeting to review the accomplishments of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funded Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership Program, and Emergency Solutions Grant. The accomplishments are detailed in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), an annual report of expenditures and numbers served that is submitted to the HUD annually. The meeting will be held at 3:00p.m. on March 24. Interested parties can register to attend through the following link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6005389987765318671>. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at [chall@volusia.org](mailto:chall@volusia.org).

**Votran:** Votran is continuing to make masks available to our customers. More than 300,000 have been distributed. Votran Gold is providing trips to the Covid-19 vaccination site at the Volusia County Fairgrounds for residents who need transportation. For more information, contact Kelvin Miller at [kmiller@volusia.com](mailto:kmiller@volusia.com).

### COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

**Community Information:** Staff continues to work with Public Protection and the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County on COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Community Information increased promotions for the Spring Hill Community Survey with an advertisement in the West Volusia Beacon as well as preparing a direct mail piece that will be sent to 2,500 homes in the *Strive to Thrive* area. Staff is working with Community Services to create a PowerPoint and video presentation for the upcoming ECHO Listening sessions. As part of continued production improvements, a new high-fidelity camera was permanently installed in the County Council Chambers (in the center of the dias just below the jumbotron screen); this camera now better captures speakers at the lectern. Production staff will soon be working with Beach Safety in creating a series of recruitment videos. Efforts continue with the Feed the Need Public Employess Fund Drive, as well as continued planning for April's State of the County event. Though still in embryonic stage, staff are collaborating with Emergency Management and the Volusia COAD with the coordination of a Hurricane Expo for early summer. Staff collaborated with Animal Services in telling the story about Miracle, a Belgian Malinois rescued and rehabilitated by Animal Services after being thrown over a hotel balcony earlier this year; check out the final video on Facebook: <https://tinyurl.com/bybb8fbu>. In its maiden deployment, our webmaster has built and published the "Help & Info" page on Volusia.org, which will be developed further (screenshot below). For more information, contact Kevin Captain at [kcaptain@volusia.org](mailto:kcaptain@volusia.org).



### GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**Environmental Management:** Green Volusia hosted a Low Impact Development (LID) virtual forum on March 18, with speakers from the Soils and Water Conservation District, Volusia County Association of Responsible Developers and Volusia County Growth and Resource Management. Staff from the County Attorney's office, Community Services and Growth & Resource Management held an educational meeting with the newly appointed members of the Volusia Forever Advisory Board. This was a live meeting held live in the County Council chambers with a virtual option available to the public. This is the first step in the public outreach process for the update to the operational requirements of the program. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at [gadair@volusia.org](mailto:gadair@volusia.org).

## OCEAN CENTER

**Events:** March 19-21, the Ocean Center hosts the *News-Journal's 32<sup>nd</sup> Spring Home Show* providing attendees with a variety of exhibitors to help jump start home improvements, remodeling, or even buying a new home. Daily stages include experts sharing tips and trends for inside and outside of your home. This event is free to the public March 19-21. On March 20, the Ocean Center hosts the *Reach the Beach Daytona National*, a cheer and dance competition, with an anticipated 2,000 attendees with 500 room nights, and is free to the public. On March 21, preparations begin for the *College Basketball Invitational (CBI)*, an NCAA Division I Men's basketball tournament. Spectators will watch Army West Point, Coastal Carolina, Bowling Green, Bryant, Longwood, Pepperdine, Bellarmine and DeLand's own Stetson Hatters compete for the 2021 title. This year's tournament takes place March 22 - 24 and consists of an eight-team bracket, with single-elimination to determine the 2021 champion. Admission is \$20 per person / per day (cash only at our Box Office). With all events, masks are required and social distancing is enforced.

## PUBLIC WORKS

**Coastal:** Coastal Tradesworkers repaired the existing ADA accessible timber beach access structure at Mary McLeod Bethune Beach Park in Bethune Beach. This repair will provide public ADA access until the dune walkover can be completely replaced and improved in Nov. 2021. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

**Engineering & Construction:** The county's Orange Camp widening project continues to progress. The project scope includes the construction of a round-a-bout at the intersection of Orange Camp Road and Martin Luther King Jr. as well as widening of Orange Camp Road. Utility relocations are underway along with storm drain placement. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

**Mosquito Control:** Staff are installing educational signage at the field sentinel chicken coop locations. These signs explain how the chickens are used to monitor arbovirus transmission and who to contact for more information. For more information, contact Suzanne Bartlett at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.

**Road & Bridge:** The first day of spring is March 20, and marks the time of year when routine mowing begins. Road & Bridge staff are tasked with mowing 1,485 acres of thoroughfare road right-of-way eight times per year and 1,270 acres of local road right-of-way four times per year. Stormwater staff are tasked for mowing 471 acres of retention pond areas six times per year. Mowing is a scheduled task within the Division's annual work plan and its productivity is monitored to ensure levels of service are being met. For more information, contact Benjamin Bartlett at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20470.

**Solid Waste:** Solid Waste Management Compliance Officers and Road & Bridge maintenance crews, in cooperation with the Volusia County Sheriff's Office, were able to work together to open and clean up a section of Parsons Avenue from Green Street to West Lisbon Parkway and Carroll Avenue from South Clara Avenue to Parsons Avenue. This area has been blocked with illegally dumped debris, making it difficult for foot or vehicle pursuits through this area. Road & Bridge maintenance crews cleaned and hauled seven loads of debris and mowed and trimmed the 50' public easements. Solid Waste compliance officers will continue to actively patrol the area. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

**Traffic Engineering:** Staff are preparing new traffic signal timing plans for implementation along LPGA Blvd with the opening of the Buc-ee's gas station. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

**Water Resources and Utilities:** Engineering and operations staff members are currently conducting final walk-thru and inspection of water and wastewater mains within Section O, Phase I of Halifax Plantation. The utility infrastructure, which will serve 58 new residential units, is expected to be placed into operation by the end of the month. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.