



City Manager's Update

Police Department moves forward to remove eyesores from Halifax River

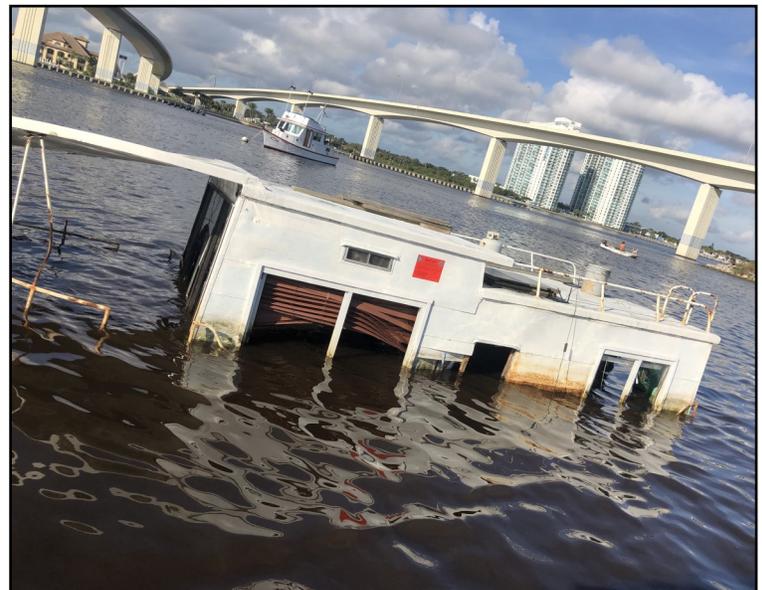
Abandoned and derelict boats are more than unsightly nuisances in our local waterways. They can also be hazards to navigation and create environmental impacts from leaking oil, fuel or sewage from the boat's waste tank. To mitigate these concerns, the Daytona Beach Police Department is looking to partner with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to remove derelict vessels from the Halifax River.

Currently there are about 10 inoperable vessels – from a small 7-foot boat to a large, 43-foot fully submerged watercraft – in the waterway within the city limits from Wilder Blvd. to Plaza Blvd. Of the 10 vessels, at least two are completely submerged and four can be seen with just their masts or cabins sticking out of the water. Many were abandoned by their owners following Hurricane Dorian last September.

The city is in the process of submitting a grant application to the FWC in the amount of \$57,000, which will pay 100% of the removal and demolition cost. The grant is based on cost estimates for contracting with a specialty company to safely remove and dispose of each vessel. If the grant is awarded, city commissioners will be asked to formally accept the funds, and the removal process will begin within 60 days.

The city's derelict vessel process consists of the following steps:

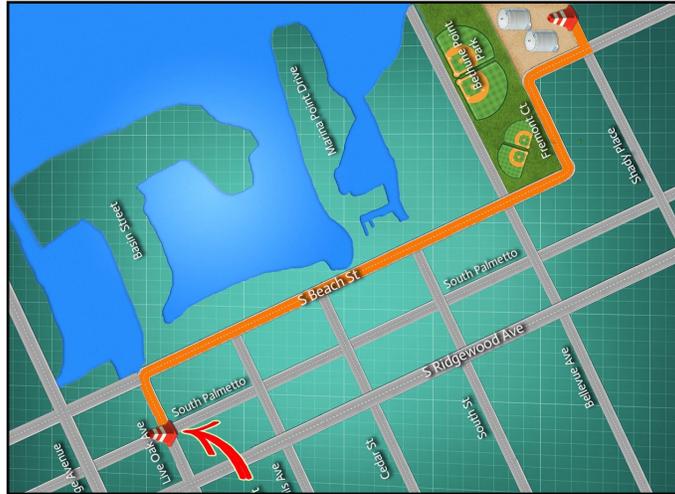
- ◆ Once a vessel is identified as being at-risk or derelict, the boat's owners are notified in writing of the condition and location of their vessel. The information will explain the reasons why the vessel was deemed at-risk or derelict and the rights of the boat's owners.
- ◆ The vessel's owners have the right to appeal the boat's status determination and request a special magistrate hearing.
- ◆ If owners fail to respond to the written notification, the process will continue until the vessel is brought into compliance or removed.
- ◆ Boat owners are responsible for removal and demolition costs. A letter will be sent to the state requesting a hold be placed on the owners' ability to renew any vehicle registrations in Florida. (If the owner brings the vessel into compliance or pays for its removal, the registration hold is removed.) If the city removes the vessel, the hold will continue until the costs have been recouped. Criminal charges may be filed seeking restitution of funds spent on the vessel's removal.



Infrastructure project along South Beach Street begins this month

Construction will soon begin on a major infrastructure project in the downtown area, which will increase system reliability and capacity for future growth.

The \$8.1 million project involves installing a 36-inch force main along South Beach Street, adding four backflow preventers in the Halifax River and constructing two segments of the Sweetheart Trail, from Bellevue Ave. to Orange Ave.



Construction is expected to start this month and be completed in summer 2021.

*There will be a public information meeting at 6 p.m. **Tuesday, Jan. 14**, at City Hall in room 149B for residents and business owners so they can learn more about the project.*



FDOT hosts Jan. 30 public meeting for East ISB road improvements

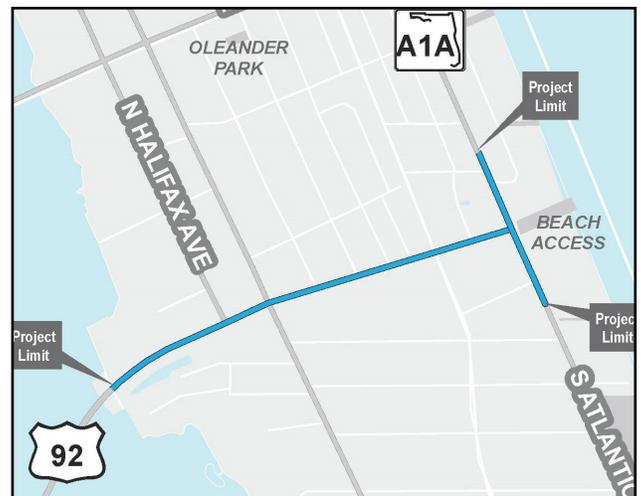
The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is hosting a public meeting about the proposed design plans for U.S 92/East International Speedway Blvd. (ISB) from the ISB Bridge to Atlantic Avenue from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. **Thursday, Jan. 30**, at the Schnebly Recreation Center at 1101 N. Atlantic Ave.

FDOT is seeking input and feedback on the proposed design.

The meeting begins with an open house at 5:30 p.m., when participants can review project information and discuss the project with FDOT staff. There will be a brief presentation at 6 p.m., after which participants can provide their comments.

The proposed improvements include construction of a roundabout to replace the existing signal at the intersection of ISB and S.R. A1A, as well as widening ISB to provide wider travel lanes and a raised median. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalks and curb ramps will be

This design project is scheduled for completion in late 2020. Right-of-way acquisition is currently funded in Fiscal Year 2021, and construction is currently funded in Fiscal Year 2023.



Downtown Farmers Market Workshop Jan. 23

The public is invited to attend a workshop hosted by the Downtown Development Authority at 10 a.m. **Thursday, Jan. 23**, at City Hall in room 149B.

The workshop includes a presentation about the Downtown Farmers Market and a proposal to move the weekly market from Saturday morning to Friday evening, and change the location from City Island to Magnolia Ave. between Palmetto Ave. and Beach Street.

The board is considering moving the Downtown Farmers Market in an effort to attract more patrons and vendors, while also adding live music and other activities to attract more people to the Beach Street area.



Cypress Pool to be resurfaced soon

Before the busy swimming season is here, the Cypress Aquatic Center's pool will be refurbished and resurfaced as part of its overall maintenance schedule. City staff is currently reviewing bids from specialty vendors who responded to a city-issued "invitation to bid." (City Commissioners will be presented a contract for approval in the near future.)

If approved, work will begin and the pool, which was opened in 2008, will be closed for about two weeks.



Orange Avenue to Magnolia Avenue reopened as MLK road work continues

Over the holidays, crews were able to reopen the roadway from Orange Ave. to Magnolia Ave. to local traffic.

Sidewalk installation is continuing on the east side of the roadway from Orange Ave. to Magnolia Ave. The new sidewalk is 8-feet wide, compared to the old sidewalk, which was 4 to 6-feet wide. The new pedestrian-friendly surface features a decorative window pane pattern and when installation is complete, it will be fully ADA compliant. It will take several weeks for the concrete to cure, so pedestrians in the area should be careful using the sidewalk.

Crews are back in the Magnolia Ave. and MLK intersection

this week to connect piping that will be installed north of the intersection. Once the pipe is connected, the road will be closed from Magnolia Ave. to Foote Court as the contractor installs the sanitary sewer and then the new reuse pipe system. The new water main has been installed from Magnolia Ave. to ISB.

All businesses along MLK are accessible to pedestrians. The area has detour signage, as well as signs for all businesses.

Customers can park temporarily in the right-of-way on the side streets. Pedestrians should not walk through the work area. If walking around the work site perimeter, pedestrians are urged to use caution.



F.R.E.S.H. Book Festival Jan. 9-11

The City of Daytona Beach is sponsoring the F.R.E.S.H. Book Festival, a 3-day event showcasing film, books, author presentations, focus groups and music.

Thursday, Jan. 9 – Film Festival

7 p.m. at Peabody Auditorium

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and Films begin at 7 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per person

Friday, Jan. 10 – Author Meet and Greet

6:45 p.m. at Midtown Cultural and Educational Center

Meet and Greet features poetry lounges, dinner, books, art and jazz

Cost: \$30 per person

Saturday, Jan. 11 – Book Festival

9:45 a.m. at Midtown Cultural and Educational Center

Book Festival features books, authors, poetry, workshops, live streaming, live music and more

Cost: \$5 per person

Teachers, students with ID and seniors are free.



The F.R.E.S.H. Book Festival was developed to assist young inspiring authors with their marketing and to introduce them to veterans of the book business at the festival. Most first time book writers are eager to learn more about the business, and the F.R.E.S.H. Book Festival gives them the opportunity to receive information from other authors, publishers, script writers and editors. F.R.E.S.H. is a boutique festival that has the ability for authors to interact on a personal level with their fans and host workshops while introducing their books to the community.

For more information about the F.R.E.S.H. Book Festival, visit <https://freshbookfestivals.net/home>.

Weekly Writers' Workshop at YSG

There is a weekly writers' workshop available for those seeking to improve their fiction, non-fiction, poetry, play or screenwriting. The workshops are from 5:30 to 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Yvonne Scarlett-Golden Center, located at 1000 Vine St. There is no cost to attend and the workshop is open to all ages. For more information, call (386) 671-5780.



Youth basketball season underway

The city's Leisure Services basketball program is underway. Youth can enjoy learning the basics of basketball and the importance of teamwork during the season. Practices and games are weekly at the city's Midtown Center, Yvonne Scarlett-Golden Center and the Dickerson Community Center. Registration is still open for the girls' youth basketball team and the beginners team for children ages four through six.

For more information or to register, call (386) 671-8337.



United States[®] Census 2020

Census Bureau ramps up hiring efforts

The U.S. Census Bureau is ramping up its national recruiting efforts to hire up to 500,000 temporary, part-time census takers for the 2020 Census in communities across the country to reach its goal of more than two million applicants. The positions pay \$16 an hour and offer flexible hours, paid training and weekly paychecks. The selection process begins this month, with paid training occurring in March and April. After paid training, most positions work between May and early July. To apply for one of the temporary jobs, visit www.2020census.gov/jobs.