



# City Manager's Update

## Abandoned and derelict vessels removed from Halifax/Indian River

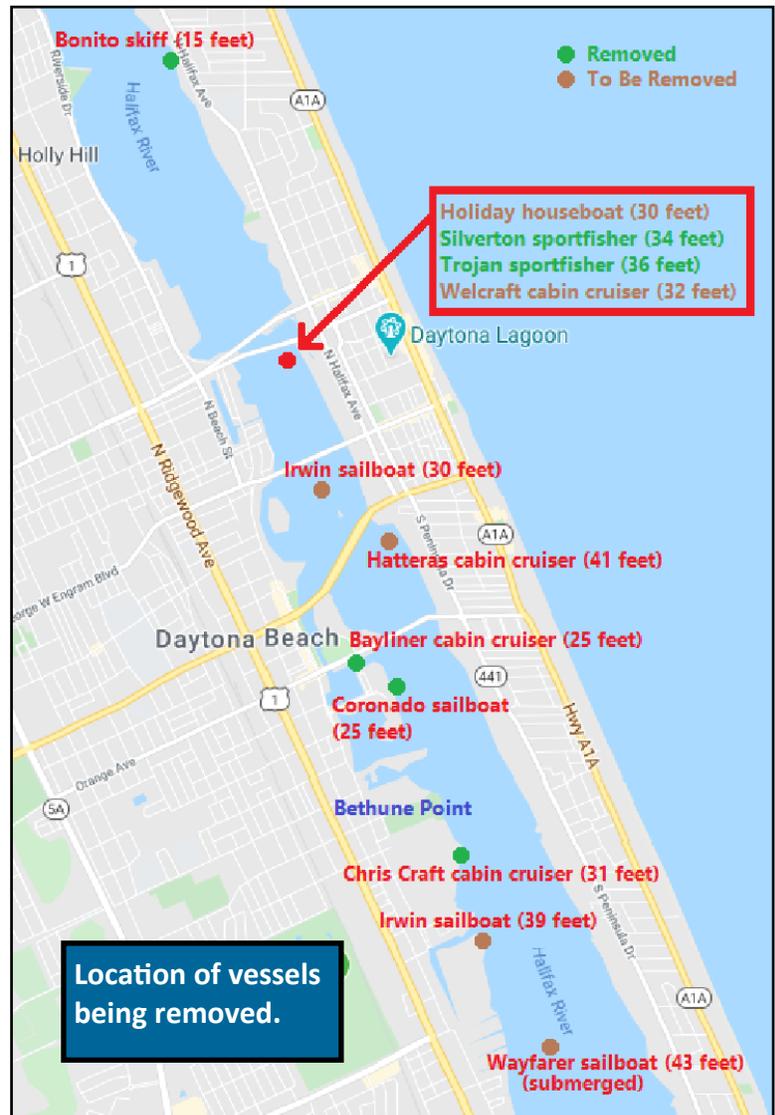
*Effort funded by grant from Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission*

Efforts continue by the Daytona Beach Police Department to oversee the removal of 12 abandoned and derelict marine vessels from our local waterways, some of which have been left abandoned for years by their owners. In addition to being an eyesore, these vessels can be hazardous to navigation and create environmental impacts from leaking oil, fuel or sewage from the boat's waste tank.

Since July 22, six vessels have been removed by Sea Tow, a local company hired to remove the vessels. The remaining six watercraft will require a barge with a crane or more extensive work to be removed. Some of the vessels are completely or mostly underwater, and some had struck the bottom of the river or must be removed during high tide.

The police department continues to exhaust all efforts to have the owners of these abandoned vessels pay for the costs of removal and demolition. Owners have been notified that their watercraft was derelict and given time to resolve the issue. Holds have been placed with the Florida Department of Motor Vehicles on these owners' ability to renew any vehicle registrations until they pay fees. Some have also been charged criminally with abandoning a vessel in public waters.

The police department will be reimbursed \$107,829 through two grants issued by the State of Florida in partnership with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to have the boats hauled away in the next 60 days.



Location of vessels being removed.



### Early voting begins Saturday

Early voting for the Aug. 18 Primary Election will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, through Saturday, Aug. 15, at the Daytona Beach Regional Library located at 105 E. Magnolia Ave. For more information, visit [www.VolusiaElections.org](http://www.VolusiaElections.org) or call (386) 736-5930.

## Application deadline approaching for new Citizens' Police Review Board

Applications are being accepted to serve on the city's new Citizens' Police Review Board, which is being formed to add an extra layer of accountability and transparency between the police department and the public they serve.

The city is seeking five, at-large members who are residents of Daytona Beach and two additional members, who are residents or business owners in Daytona Beach, and have experience or training in criminal justice, law enforcement, defensive tactics, law or the military.

### Citizens' Police Review Board



To be considered for the initial appointments, applications are due by **Friday, Aug. 14**. The application and more details about the board are on the city's website at [www.codb.us](http://www.codb.us). For more information, contact Assistant City Manager Betty Goodman at (386) 671-8203 or [goodmanb@codb.us](mailto:goodmanb@codb.us).

## Veterans Memorial Bridge reopens

Volusia County officials have announced that the new Tom Staed Veterans Memorial Bridge over the Halifax River will reopen **Thursday, Aug. 6**. This new, high-level bridge is Florida's first concrete arch bridge. Design elements of the new two-lane bridge include handicap accessibility, 8-foot sidewalks, fishing piers on both sides, and plaques at 28 scenic overlooks commemorating conflicts in America's military history. Visit [www.VeteransMemorialBridge.com](http://www.VeteransMemorialBridge.com) for more information about the new bridge.



## DBPD passes reaccreditation

Following a rigorous assessment process, which was put on hold for months, the police department has now been reaccredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation for the next three years. The police department's reaccreditation until the year 2023 came with no conditions after the process was formally completed July 29.



To be reaccredited, the police department had to comply with approximately 260 standards, many of which are critical to life, health and safety issues. Assessors completed the process virtually and examined all aspects of the department's policies, procedures, administration, operations and support services. The voluntary reaccreditation process is confirmation that the police department's policies and practices are consistent with progressive professional standards.

The police department was initially accredited by CFA in 1999 and has received reaccreditation every third year since its first accreditation.

## Riverfront Park seawall work begins

The project to construct a new seawall along the east side of Riverfront Park between Orange Avenue and International Speedway Boulevard (ISB) started this week. The \$3.1 million project with Poseidon Dredge & Marine Inc. removes and replaces about 1,400 linear feet of coquina seawall and will take about six months to be completed. Crews will remove and replace the observation decks, backfill the shoreline, restore the pedestrian bridge, construct multiple stormwater pipe outfalls and install new manholes, stormwater pipes and stormwater backflow preventers. Crews are starting at ISB and will work south toward Orange Avenue.



## Free testing & face masks available

**Free COVID-19 testing** by appointment and face masks are available at the health department's two locations:

- 1845 Holsonback Drive, (386) 274-0500, press #
- 421 S. Keech St., (386) 871-3364

Appointments for free COVID-19 testing are being made through Friday, Aug. 21, and anyone may be tested regardless of



symptoms. Residents should make an appointment by calling the location where they would like to be tested. Since early July, the health department has conducted 3,293 tests at these locations. Face masks are also available while supplies last at the health department.

**Face masks** are available from Volusia County during regular operating hours at these locations:

- Hope Place Public Library, 1310 Wright St.
- Daytona Beach Regional Library, 105 E. Magnolia Ave.
- John H. Dickerson Heritage Library, 411 S. Keech St.

Face masks are also available on Votran buses and at the Transfer Plaza at 207 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Blvd.

## Back-to-School Supply Drive

The Daytona Beach Police Department is hosting a Back-to-School Supply Drive to benefit underprivileged students in our community. Donated items should be dropped off by **Friday, Aug. 14**, at one of the following locations:



- Gary Yeoman's Ford, 1420 N. Tomoka Farms Road
- Realty Pros Assured, 900 W. Granada Blvd. and 840 Dunlawton Ave.
- Tijuana Flats, 2280 W. International Speedway Blvd.
- Police Department, 129 Valor Blvd.

## Be prepared this storm season

Public Works crews provided 8,000 sandbags and 108 cubic yards of sand this past week as residents prepared for Tropical Storm Isaias.



Residents should sign up to receive emergency alerts on the city's website at [www.codb.us](http://www.codb.us), and follow the city on social media.

## Code Enforcement opens record # of cases

Code Enforcement staff have been busy working to improve the neighborhoods this year. There has been an increase of 35% in code enforcement cases during the first part of this calendar year. From Jan. 1 through July 16, Code Enforcement staff have processed 3,430 cases as compared to 2,546 cases in 2019.



In recent months (May 1 through July 31), staff opened 1,314 cases and closed 991. The top three types of cases were maintenance (1,268), rental inspection (587), parking (220) and operating without a permit (220).

A second Special Magistrate to focus on violations of the city's Rental Program was also added this summer. During the first two meetings in June and July, \$56,500 in fines were ordered related to short-term rental cases.

Fines collected have also increased this fiscal year, with a 15.6% increase in the Rental Program, and 19.2% increase in general code enforcement fines.

## Paving progress on Beach Street

The Beach Street Streetscape project is moving forward on schedule as crews continue to add pavers on the storefront side of Beach Street from International Speedway Boulevard (ISB) to Bay Street. To minimize any disruption to the businesses, crews are installing pavers from 4 to 10 a.m. daily before businesses open. New pavers have been installed in the middle crosswalk between ISB to Bay Street.



Crews will be adding sod to the medians and along the east side of Beach Street from Orange Avenue to Bay Street. Additionally, "Yes, we are open! Additional parking available behind businesses" and "Public Parking" directional signs have been added on Beach Street and near parking lots behind the stores. For more information on the Streetscape project, visit [www.BeachStreetStreetscape.com](http://www.BeachStreetStreetscape.com).

## Census takers start visiting homes in August

Be on the lookout! Census takers will start visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census in **mid-August**.

Census takers are hired locally. They will wear face masks and follow local health guidelines when they



visit you. All census takers complete COVID-19 training on social distancing and other health protocols. They will never ask to enter your home, and they will not ask for money.

Make sure they have an ID badge with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark and an expiration date. Census workers may also carry a bag with the Census Bureau logo. If you still have questions about their identity, call (800) 923-8282 to speak with a Census Bureau representative.

Don't want a knock on your door? If you respond online or by phone today, a census taker is less likely to visit your home to collect your response. Complete the census at [www.My2020census.gov](http://www.My2020census.gov) or by calling (844) 330-2020.

## Registration open for beach and river cleanups

Registration is open for the International Coastal Cleanup and Halifax/Indian River Cleanup. The cleanup will be the weekend of **Sept. 18-20** and will be held independently with no site captains or check-ins due to social distancing requirements.

Participants will choose a location when registering for the cleanup online, download the data collection app to their phone and show up at their desired time to conduct a cleanup.

Groups of 10 or less are encouraged, with sites being closed for registration when they reach capacity. The first 1,500 registered participants will receive a promotional item with the 2020 ICC logo; however, registration is not required to participate.

Cleanup supplies will be available for pick up in advance of the event. Cleanup efforts can be recorded directly through the Ocean Conservancy's Clean Swell app. Registration is open until **Friday, Aug. 28**. For more information, to register and a list of locations, visit [www.volusia.org/cleanup](http://www.volusia.org/cleanup).



## Show your civic pride for City Hall Selfie Day, Aug. 14

Residents can show their civic spirit by participating in City Hall Selfie Day, which is **Friday, Aug. 14**. To participate, residents should snap a selfie photo at City Hall located at 301 S. Ridgewood Ave., or at any city-owned park or facility using a Facebook story filter that can be accessed from the city's Facebook page—[www.facebook.com/DBCityNews](http://www.facebook.com/DBCityNews).



#CityHallSelfie

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For ideas of places to take a photo, view a list of city parks and Leisure Services facilities, visit [www.codb.us](http://www.codb.us), and click on "Leisure Services" under Departments. When taking the selfie, residents should make sure to adhere to social distancing guidelines and the city requirement to wear face masks when indoors and social distancing is not possible.

Residents should send their selfies to the city via Facebook direct message by Wednesday, Aug. 12. Submitted photos will be posted to the city's Facebook page Thursday, Aug. 13, to see which one is the fan favorite. The favorite photo will be announced Friday, Aug. 14.

## Good Sports sponsors youth sports programs

The city's Leisure Services program has a new sponsor — Good Sports, Inc. This national charity has pledged to donate \$2,000 worth of free athletic equipment for the city's Leisure Services youth sports programs over the



next two years. Their donation will provide new basketball uniforms, basketballs and baseball equipment. Annually close to 500 kids participate in the city's youth sports programs, which also includes football, gymnastics, swimming and summer camps.

To learn more about the youth programs offered by the city, visit [www.codb.us](http://www.codb.us) and click on "Leisure Services" under Departments. For city sponsorship information, contact John Cameron at (386) 671-8268 or [CameronJohn@codb.us](mailto:CameronJohn@codb.us).

### City Commission September meetings

City Commission meetings in September will be the second and fourth Wednesday due to the state budget hearing requirements. City Commission meeting dates are **Wednesday, Sept. 9**, and **Wednesday, Sept. 23**.