

MAY 19, 2021

City Manager's Update



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Progress made to remove neglected vessels in waterway

New marine boat covers more than 800 miles in two months

Significant progress has been made to remove unsightly and dangerous boats from the Halifax River. Since the Police Department initiated the program last summer, 20 watercrafts have been extricated and demolished and an additional nine are pending removal.

These abandoned or derelict vessels can be hazardous to navigation and create environmental impacts from leaking oil, fuel or sewage from the boat's waste tank.



City's new marine unit helps recover stolen car and assists entangled dolphins

Launched in March, the new boat has patrolled approximately 800 miles within the city's jurisdictional boundaries.

The marine unit was able to recover a submerged, stolen vehicle with the assistance of the Volusia Sheriff's Office dive team. Recovered in eight feet of water near the Orange Avenue boat ramp, the 2013 Infinity Q37 was reported stolen in 2015.

The marine unit also worked alongside the U.S. Coast Guard Aids and Navigation Division to add more public education signage to the waterways. Recently, the marine unit was instrumental in assisting Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission biologists with investigations in the deaths of eight manatees.

The unit also helped SeaWorld Orlando with the rescue and safe release of two entangled dolphins trapped in a large fishing net.

The 24-foot watercraft is shared by the Police Department and the Permits & Licensing division for marine emergencies, law enforcement and building code enforcement.



Florida COVID-19 #s

Positive cases: 2,299,596
Hospitalizations: 93,598
Deaths: 36,271
Daily positivity rate: 4.16%
People vaccinated: 9,749,726

Volusia County COVID-19 #s

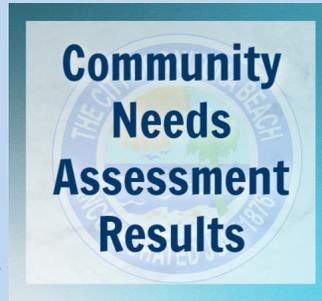
Positive cases: 44,193
Hospitalizations: 2,378
Deaths: 823
Daily positivity rate: 5.59%
People vaccinated: 230,169

Questions?

For updates about the vaccine and distribution, call the county's hotline at (866) 345-0345 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or visit www.volusia.org/coronavirus.

City receives community needs feedback

Recently the city asked the public for its feedback on a range of topics from affordable housing to youth mentoring. Data gathered from the survey's 116 respondents, of which 90% indicated they were city residents, is included in the city's 5-Year Consolidated Plan prepared by the Community Development Department for 2021-2025. The following are the topics and percentages of respondents who labeled them as "very relevant" in descending order:



- Mental Health Services – 53%
- Affordable/Decent Rental Housing—48%
- Health Services – 45%
- Street/Sidewalk Improvements – 43%
- Youth Mentoring Programs – 43%
- Water/Sewer/Drainage Improvements – 43%
- Affordable Homes for Purchase – 41%
- Housing Repair Assistance/Homeowner – 38%
- Down Payment/Closing Cost Assistance – 37%
- Assistance for Homeless Persons – 37%
- Employment Training – 37%
- Economic Development (Small Business) – 36%
- Community Park/Playground Improvements – 33%
- Recreation Facilities Improvements – 32%
- Homeless Shelters – 27%

Grant improves restrooms and usability of Rose Room at Peabody Auditorium

A remodeling project to expand and update outdated restrooms and increase usability of the Rose Room is in the design phase.

Due to the volume of attendees for shows, the women's restrooms are generally problematic with long lines, which creates poor traffic flow in the lobby. A 2015 survey indicated that the Peabody patrons are 67% female and the Roberts Group indicates that 75% of the Broadway Series patrons are female.

Improvements will reconfigure existing interior restroom space for the women's lobby restrooms and the existing men's and women's restrooms accessed from the Rose Room. Once the remodeling is complete, access to the women's restroom will only be from the Peabody lobby. As a result, there will no longer be access to the restrooms from the Rose Room, which will enable that room to be used for banquets, weddings and other special events. The new access for the men's restroom will be behind the south wall of the Rose Room patio. This area was previously used for restrooms and will have new counters, sinks, urinals and an ADA-compliant toilet installed.

Free COVID-19 vaccines available

Halifax Health

Persons age 12 and older can receive the Pfizer vaccine at Halifax Health in Daytona Beach. Appointments can be made online or by calling 386-425-VACC (8222). For more details and to make an appointment, visit www.halifaxhealth.org/covidvaccination.



Health Department

The Health Department will offer a vaccination clinic from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. this Saturday at their location at 1845 Holsonback Drive. No appointment is needed for Saturday's vaccination clinic.

Free COVID-19 vaccines are available weekly at the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County's two Daytona Beach locations:

- 421 Keech St.
Monday & Wednesday
8 to 11:30 a.m. & 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- 1845 Holsonback Drive
Tuesday: 8 to 11:30 a.m. & 1 to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8 to 11:30 a.m. & 1 to 6 p.m.

For information and appointments, call (386) 274-0500, press #.



The Rose Room is also having an awning, lighting and ceiling fans installed over its patio area. Access to the patio will be managed by gated access from N. Wild Olive Avenue, with parking available in the Ocean Center's parking lot located west of that roadway.

The project is estimated to be complete in early 2022. The improvements are funded in part by a \$287,000 grant from the Daytona Beach Racing and Recreational Facilities District.

City featured in relocation publication

The city and surrounding area are featured in a 58-page print publication and digital publication, which showcases this region's favorable business climate, enviable quality of place and tourism attractions. Sponsored by Team Volusia Economic Development Corporation and produced by Livability.com, the publication highlights the area's dynamic economy, higher education options, competitive cost of living and recreational and cultural opportunities. The city's full-color, full-page ad with the tagline of "Come Grow With Us" is strategically placed on the inside back cover. Visit www.livability.com/greater-daytona-region for a digital copy of the publication.



Assistance remains available for people negatively impacted by pandemic

City Rental Assistance

The city is continuing to offer rental assistance to residents impacted with a financial hardship due to the pandemic. Since the program began a year ago, 1,739 households have been assisted for a total expenditure of \$2,596,475. The city has \$175,000 in grant funds remaining for rental assistance.



Daytona Beach residents who previously received rental assistance and continue to experience a pandemic-related financial hardship, may still qualify and be eligible for additional assistance.

Appointments must be made to submit completed applications and provide documentation. Appointments can be made by calling:

- Central Florida Community Development Corporation (386) 226-1216
- Housing Authority of the City of Daytona Beach (386) 777-2588
- Mid-Florida Housing Partnership Corporation (386) 274-4441, ext. 301 and 304

County Utility Assistance

Financial assistance for electric and water is available to eligible low-income households who need assistance with their utility bill or past-due balance.

County Housing Assistance

Low-income households who have fallen behind on their monthly housing obligation may qualify for financial assistance to be provided to their landlord or mortgage.

How to apply

Households may apply online at www.volusia.org/hsapply for electric assistance. Persons may schedule an appointment with a case worker for electric, water or housing assistance by calling (386) 239-7757.

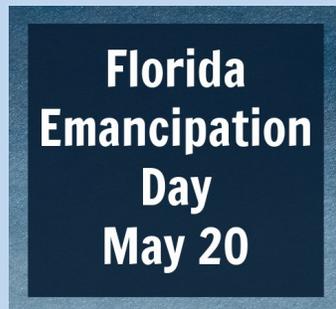
Waiving of late fees discontinued on city utility bills

The city's emergency declaration due to the pandemic has been lifted. Businesses or individuals who are behind with their bill, can make payment arrangements by calling (386) 671-8100 to avoid late fees or disconnection.

Assistance may be available through United Way by calling 2-1-1 or going online to their website at www.211live.org.

Florida Emancipation Day is May 20

Mayor Derrick Henry has proclaimed **Thursday, May 20**, as "Florida Emancipation Day" in the city of Daytona Beach. It is the day in 1865 when tens of thousands of enslaved people were freed after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was formally announced from the steps of the Knott House in Tallahassee. In the 1860 census, Florida counted 140,424 people, of whom 44% were enslaved. It's earlier than the Juneteenth date in which slaves in Texas were informed on June 19, 1865 that they were free.



Annual fire hydrant maintenance starts

Annual maintenance on the city's 2,635 fire hydrants has started and will continue through Sept. 30. The process of "flushing" fire hydrants is part of a citywide maintenance program to test each hydrant and maintain the integrity of the water system to ensure the highest quality water possible to our customers. Flushing the water system on a regular basis removes sediment from lines and keeps the entire distribution system refreshed. Hydromax USA is the company performing the maintenance and will be working 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Residents with concerns about their water can call (386) 671-8815.



Public can help children learn to swim

Mayor Derrick Henry is launching an initiative to encourage children to learn to swim. Lessons are for youth ages 4 and older and last 30 minutes with two classes per week, totaling eight classes per session. The lessons are \$30 for the four-week session.

Businesses and individuals are able to sponsor a child in the learn-to-swim program. To sponsor a youth, checks or other form of payment can be made to the City of Daytona Beach, 301 S. Ridgewood Ave., Daytona Beach, Florida, 32114, Attention: Leisure Services, Room 165. In the memo/notes section specify "Swimming Program."



Hurricane season starts June 1

Do you have an emergency plan?
www.codb.us/preparedness

Hurricane season starts June 1 and residents are encouraged to make sure they are prepared before a tropical storm threatens. This year's Florida Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday is proposed for May 28 to June 6. If Florida Governor Ron DeSantis approves the legislation, tax-free items will include flashlights and lanterns (\$40 or less), radios (\$50 or less), tarps (\$100 or less), coolers (\$60 or less), batteries (\$50 or less) and generators (\$1,000 or less).

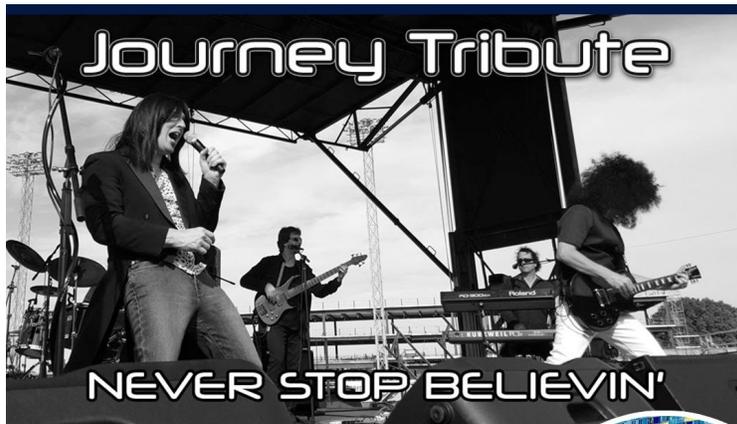
Brews & Burgers Walk this Saturday

Tickets are on sale for the Brews & Burgers Walk in historic Downtown Daytona Beach! Enjoy sampling unique craft beer flavors from local breweries from 1 to 5 p.m.

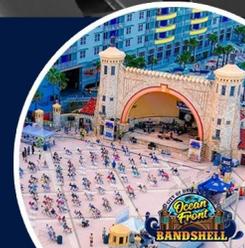
Saturday, May 22, on Beach Street.



Tickets are \$20 per person and are limited. Visit www.RiverfrontShopsOfDaytona.com for details and tickets.



SATURDAY
MAY 29 - 7:15 PM
FIREWORKS TO FOLLOW AT 9:45 PM



Friends of the Bandshell and Boardwalk Merchants are kicking off the Star Spangled Summer Concert Series Saturday, May 29, with a performance by Never Stop Believin' - A Tribute to Journey.

The series, which brings the best tribute bands to the area, continues every Saturday night through Sept. 25. Performances start at 7:15 p.m. and are followed by fireworks. For more information, including the list of scheduled performances, visit www.DaytonaBandshell.com.

world famous **DAYTONA** **BEACH**

CELEBRATING CITY MANAGER JIM CHISHOLM



City Manager Chisholm served Aug. 1, 2004 to May 31, 2021

During Jim Chisholm's nearly 17-year tenure as city manager, he greatly improved municipal services while achieving operational efficiencies; upgraded critical infrastructure, recreational opportunities and public spaces and ushered in a digital age by offering online services for residents.

Chisholm, a native Floridian, began his management career 47 years ago as the assistant county administrator of Leon County, Florida, in 1974. From 1982 until 2004, he worked as a county administrator for St. Lucie and Desoto counties and as city manager in St. Cloud, South Padre Island, Texas, and Islamorada Village of Islands, Florida.

City positioned for the future

Today, the city is financially sound and its workforce is diverse. City Manager Chisholm positioned the city to attract billions of dollars in private investment, which spurred thousands of jobs, enhanced entertainment opportunities for residents and visitors and created a multitude of housing and retail options. In spite of the pandemic and the worst economic period since the Great Depression, the city is vibrant with unprecedented economic development opportunities.



Aquatic centers built and improved

Opened in 2008 in the heart of Daytona Beach, the Cypress Aquatic Center is the city's premier public swimming facility. Recent improvements to Campbell Aquatic Center, which include a new entry pavilion on the north side, an ADA-compliant access ramp and additional shaded, seating areas, are almost complete.



Yvonne Scarlett-Golden Community Center

Built Midtown and YSG Community Centers

Built two, multi-million dollar community centers in underserved communities. Several new parks were created while existing recreational facilities were improved. The city's Sweetheart Trail was created.



Midtown Cultural and Educational Center



New Police Department Headquarters

Relocated police headquarters to Mason Avenue. Transformed the city's law enforcement and technology efforts becoming a state and nationally recognized leader in public safety.

Created the city's first Emergency Operational Center following the 2004 hurricane season where the city saw the effects of three major hurricanes.



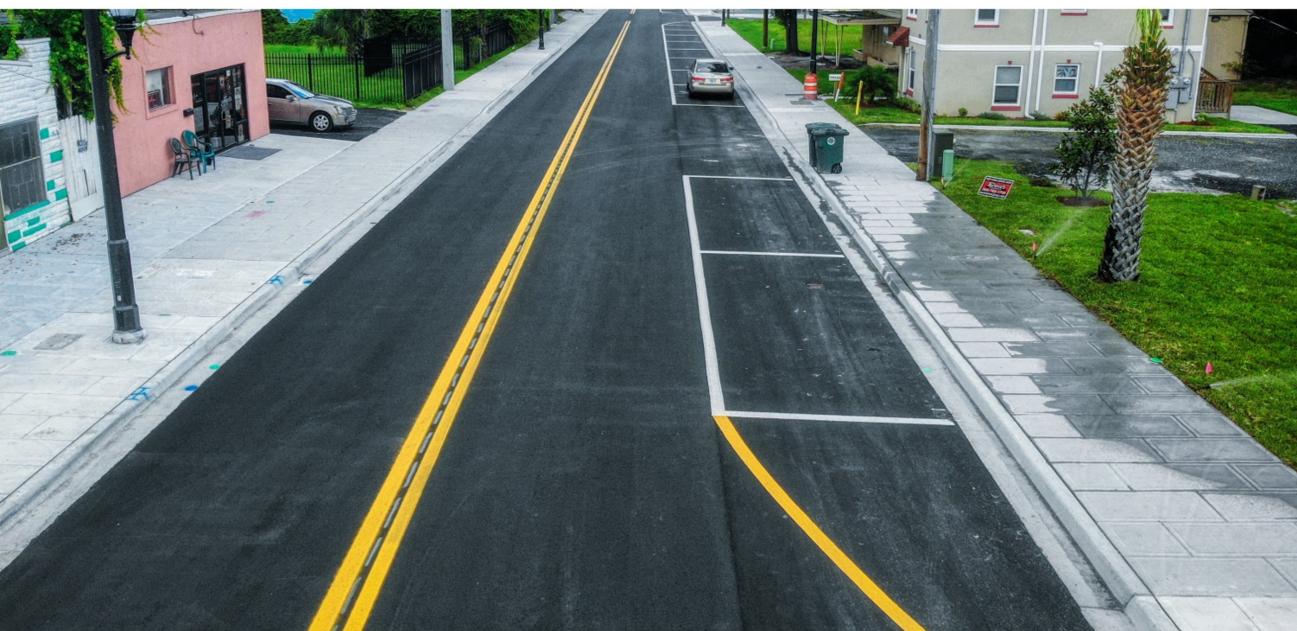
Instrumental in First Step Shelter being built

Worked collaboratively and tirelessly to design, fund and build Volusia County's first homeless assistance center.



New fire station built

Built Fire Station #7 on LPGA Boulevard, years before current growth.



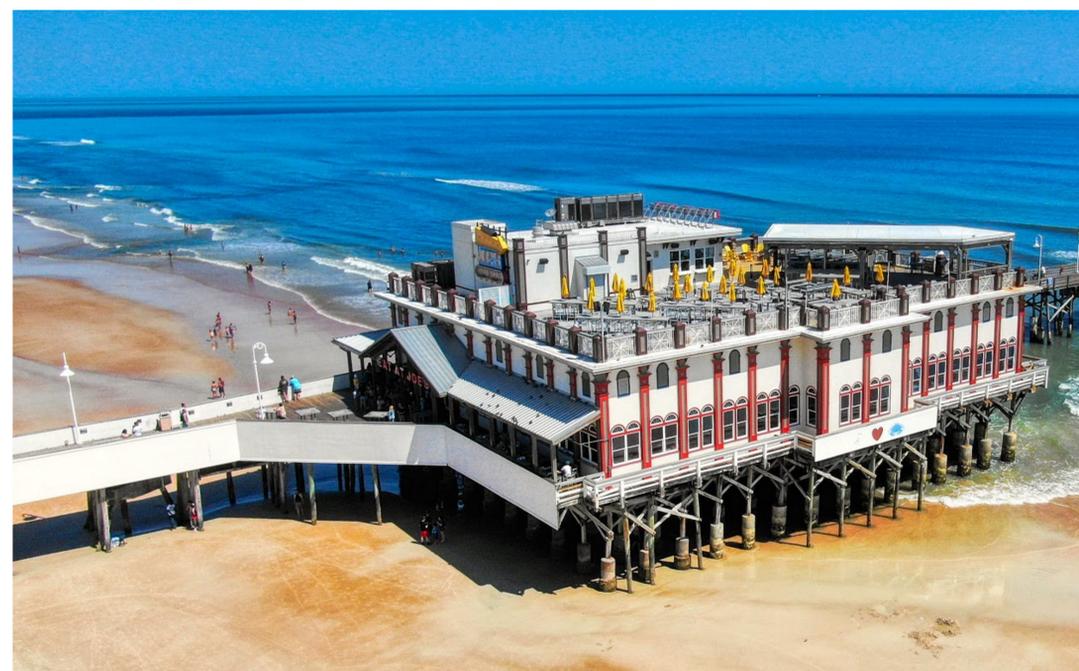
Invested in City's Infrastructure

Addressed serious infrastructure deficiencies in some of the oldest areas of the city including Orange Avenue and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Following the no-name rain event in May 2009, oversaw the development and design of multiple solutions to alleviate flooding issues in the Midtown area.



Bennett Swamp Rehydration & Conservation

Created specific parks to collect additional stormwater to alleviate neighborhood flooding and initiated the Bennett Swamp Rehydration and Conservation Project, which redirects and disperses up to six million gallons per day of reclaimed water.



Historic Daytona Beach Pier Preserved

Redeveloped the historic Daytona Beach Pier and recruited Joe's Crab Shack, a national chain to anchor the structure, which continues to provide positive return on investment.