

OCT. 5, 2022

City Manager's Update



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City prepares and responds to historic Hurricane Ian

Storm caused widespread flooding throughout core area of city

As Hurricane Ian left a path of destruction when it barreled across Florida with its relentless winds, rain and storm surge, our community was significantly impacted. There were wind gusts of up to 81 mph reported at the Daytona Beach International Airport and more than 17 inches of rainfall was measured at the Bethune Point Wastewater Treatment Plant. Damage assessments are continuing; however, Chief Building Official Glen Urquhart estimates “thousands” of residents were affected by damage ranging from minor incidents like downed trees, branches and fences and cars flooded to homes with all of their contents ruined by water intrusion.

Public Works distributed 39,000 sandbags over a three-day period before the storm.

Police Department personnel worked throughout the storm to respond to 2,707 calls for service from Wednesday through Sunday with all fulltime officers, who were not on previously approved leave, mandated to work. Staffing at the city’s

seven fire stations was doubled during and after the storm to respond to increased calls for service. Public safety workers evacuated 269 residents and 13 pets from flooded neighborhoods. The Midtown Community Center was quickly opened by Parks & Recreation staff during the storm as a temporary shelter for about 70 evacuees until they could be moved to the Ocean Center, a shelter opened by the county in cooperation with the Red Cross.

Utilities crews worked prior to the storm to clean storm inlets and stormwater lines, pump down retention areas and place temporary pumps in strategic locations. During the storm, 100 employees worked 2,900 hours to keep water, sewer and stormwater operations running in spite of not having power at some point at all three treatment plants.

City parks, with the exception of Tuscaquilla Park, have reopened. The city’s community centers will reopen Thursday, with the exception of Schnebly Recreation Center. Cypress Aquatic Center will reopen Friday.

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Public safety personnel used boats and a high-water vehicle to evacuate 269 people and 13 pets from rising water during the storm.

Nova Canal Flood Mitigation update

Low-lying areas south of International Speedway Boulevard between Nova Road and Ridgewood Avenue experienced significant flooding during the storm with 269 people needing to be evacuated from rising waters. Mostly located within FEMA's floodplain and directly influenced by the Nova Canal, this area has historically flooded during severe storms due, in part, to canal breaching. Drainage issues in this area are complex and challenging to mitigate because roadways and private properties are so low compared to the elevation of Nova Road, Nova Canal and Ridgewood Avenue, referred to as the "bowl effect."

Working with local, state and federal partners, the City of Daytona Beach has pursued short and long-term solutions for significant stormwater remediation in Midtown.

A preliminary design report was conducted following the major rain event in 2009, where 790 structures were damaged by more than 20 inches of rainfall over a six-day period. The report recommended a regional solution with costs up to \$100 million.

As a result of the large cost, the city submitted a request to Congress to approve funding of a feasibility study and design solutions by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Congress approved Daytona Beach's project under the Water Authorization Bill in 2016; however, now the city is waiting on Congress to appropriate funding. The study is extremely significant because it is a prerequisite for federal funding.

While awaiting assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the city completed components of the overall plan to immediately address the flooding potential of this low-lying area including installing 15 "backflow preventers" in the banks of the Nova Canal, upgrading aged stormwater pipes in outfalls, building stormwater capacity at North and Mark streets and installing pump stations.

Mayor Derrick L. Henry, several commissioners and city staff have contacted local delegation representatives to share photos and videos of the extensive damage from Hurricane Ian.



Communicating vital storm-related information

Social Media Posts: 201 | Reach: 2.4 Million
Engagement: 509,727 | Shares: 19,240



City, Fire and Police Pages
Reach: 2.2 Million | Followers: 135,901



City, Fire and Police Pages
Reach: 117,356 | Followers: 12,305



City, Fire and Police Pages
Reach: 173,182 | Followers: 12,397



City of Daytona Beach
Reach: 16,322 | Followers: 12,906

Biketoberfest planned for Oct. 13-16

Organizers for the 30th annual Biketoberfest® motorcycle rally, scheduled for Oct. 13-16, have announced that the countywide event will proceed as scheduled. "Our community has been greatly impacted



by the storm, some areas more than others," said Lori Campbell Baker, executive director for the Daytona Beach Area Convention & Visitors Area (CVB). "We are encouraged by the daily progress made by our local citizens and municipalities in the recovery. The destination has been working around the clock."

Many local businesses are already up and running, with more coming online daily. Venues such as Main Street, Destination Daytona in Ormond Beach and Daytona International Speedway will be moving forward with planned events. By continuing to host this event, it will support many small business owners who were affected by the storm and employ thousands of residents.

Public Works facility floods

The Public Works facility on Bellevue Avenue was inundated with water and all but two buildings were flooded. Divisions impacted include fleet, property maintenance, traffic storage and the occupational nurse's office. Until repairs are made, temporary offices are being created for displaced staff.





Beach suffers major impact of storm

The beach sustained damage from the storm and people should not swim in the ocean as there may be debris. Beach Safety is flying the red flag, which indicates high surf and strong currents. In addition, the beach access ramps and coastal and inlet parks are closed, and people should stay away from walkovers, piers and seawalls.



Boats to be removed from waterway

The Permits and Licensing division surveyed the Halifax River following the storm looking for unmoored and damaged boats. They identified 18 damaged vessels and will begin the removal process next week with sole provider Sea Tow. Their goal is remove the hazards from the waterway and shorelines as quickly as possible.



Fishing section of pier remains closed

The Daytona Beach Pier will be closed until further notice and damage assessment is ongoing. Known damage to the eastern portion of the pier includes 12 broken and displaced pilings as well as missing portions of the substructure and decking. Emergency replacement of the missing pilings is needed to secure the structure to avoid future, catastrophic damage. Joe's Crab Shack will remain closed until railings and a grease trap are replaced.



Golf Course sustains damage

The Daytona Beach Golf Club sustained considerable destruction with major flooding and more than 75 trees and countless limbs downed. There was minor and substantial water and wind damage to several structures including the pro-shop, restaurant, maintenance building and cart barn. The majority of the flooding is adjacent to the Fairway Estates subdivision where rainwater was pumped from the neighborhood onto the golf course to help alleviate flooding in the subdivision. Vegetative debris cannot be removed until flood water recedes to prevent vehicles from getting stuck or breaking underground pipes. The golf course will be closed until further notice.



Recovering from the storm

Disaster recovery assistance

Individuals and households who have sustained losses as a direct result of Hurricane Ian can apply for federal assistance. People can apply at www.DisasterAssistance.gov, call 800-621-3362 or download the FEMA app. People should have the following information available when they are applying for assistance:

- Social security number
- Address of damaged home or apartment
- Description of damage
- Information about insurance coverage
- Telephone number
- Mailing address
- Bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds



FEMA

Residents impacted by the storm should take photos of their damaged home and belongings and make a list of damaged or lost items.

People are able to visit a public library to access a computer to complete FEMA disaster assistance applications. The Daytona Beach Regional Library has reopened. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. The John H. Dickerson Heritage Library is closed.

Storm debris collection starts Oct. 10

The city has contracted with a private company for storm-related debris removal, which will start Monday, Oct. 10. Vegetative debris will be collected first, followed by construction and demolition debris and then appliances.



- Residents must sort debris into three separate piles for vegetative debris (leaves, branches and cut trees), construction and demolition debris (building materials, carpet, furniture, fences, drywall, etc.) and appliances (refrigerators, dishwashers, washing machines, stoves).
- Leaves and limbs should be loose and not be bagged or in containers. Piles not appropriately separated cannot be picked up.
- Electronics and household hazardous waste will not be collected. Those items can be disposed at the Tomoka Landfill free of charge.

Residents should bring storm debris to the public right of way, the area that extends from the street to the sidewalk, ditch, utility pole or easement. Residents should not place debris in the road; this obstructs traffic, hinders cleanup and makes it difficult for emergency vehicles to pass. Keep debris away from drainage ditches, inlets, mailboxes and power lines. Do not cover storm drains and never block fire hydrants.

Volunteer Resources

Individuals and organizations seeking to volunteer may register on the United Way of Volusia and Flagler Counties' website at www.unitedwayvfc.org or call (386) 253-0563.

People who need assistance cleaning up their property can call the county's Citizen Information Center from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at (866) 345-0345 or United Way at (386) 253-0563.

BE MINDFUL WHEN SELECTING A CONTRACTOR TO HELP WITH REPAIRS



Residents should be careful when hiring unknown contractors. The Florida Disaster Contractors Network has officially been activated in an effort to prevent fraud among homeowners affected by Hurricane Ian. The resource is free for Floridians and is provided in part by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. The service offers a list of licensed contractors that can help residents with home repairs at www.DCOnline.org.



Residents should be especially alert for door-to-door solicitors who promise to speed up the permit process or ask for large cash deposits or advance payments in full. Look first to licensed local contractors who have performed well in the past. If they cannot help you, ask them to recommend another reputable contractor.

Residents should also hire contractors who are licensed by the state and/or the county. If a contractor is not properly licensed, the homeowner could be sued if he or she is injured on the job. Most homeowners' insurance policies will not pay a claim if the homeowner has contracted with an unlicensed individual.