

AUGUST 7, 2024

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE



Photo of City Manager Deric C. Feacher, Deputy City Manager Dru Driscoll and Mayor Derrick L. Henry.

Daytona Beach city team makes compelling pitch to develop a new museum at Jackie Robinson Ballpark

Mayor Derrick L. Henry, accompanied by City Manager Deric C. Feacher and Deputy City Manager Dru Driscoll, recently traveled to New York City on a mission to forge a partnership with the Jackie Robinson Foundation to develop a museum at the historic Jackie Robinson Ballpark, where the color barrier in Major League Baseball was famously broken in 1946.

Their preliminary meeting was productive, and the next steps are to continue conversations, with the hope of ultimately reaching an agreement between the foundation's board and the City Commission.

During their visit, the delegation was given a guided tour of the Jackie Robinson Museum, which opened in 2022. The tour underscored Robinson's off-the-field contributions, which extended far beyond his Hall of Fame athletic achievements. The city aspires to continue Rachel Robinson's mission of preserving and sharing her husband's legacy through establishing a museum. The envisioned museum would serve as a conservatory of Robinson's invaluable legacy and an educational resource for residents.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once acknowledged Robinson's influence by stating, **"The founder of the civil rights movement was Jackie Robinson."**

In addition to meeting with the foundation, Mayor Henry and the team engaged with executives from Major League Baseball (MLB). Discussions centered around Daytona Beach's commitment to renovating the historic Jackie Robinson Ballpark. The ballpark is set to undergo a nearly \$30 million renovation to meet MLB facility standards and enhance various fan amenities. **A groundbreaking ceremony is Thursday, Aug. 15 at 5:30 p.m. on the field.**

Mayor Henry seized the opportunity to propose that MLB consider hosting a regular season game at the downtown ballpark on Jackie Robinson Day, April 15, once renovations are complete. Drawing inspiration from the success of MLB's annual *Field of Dreams* game, Mayor Henry suggested hosting a game at this historic site to draw national attention and further honor Robinson's legacy. Although still an ardent proposition, hosting such a game would further spotlight the ballpark where Robinson's groundbreaking professional debut took place.





NEW PROGRAM INTEREST-FREE LOAN

New interest-free loan programs announced for businesses in CRAs

The City of Daytona Beach launched a new program to improve the aesthetics and functionality of properties in its commercial districts in redevelopment areas. The Commercial Property Improvement & Professional Design Assistance Program offers interest-free, forgivable loans to businesses for interior and exterior improvements to meet building codes, increase occupancy and improve the overall business climate.

Property Improvements

Business owners can receive up to \$50,000, or 80% of the project's total cost, for interior and exterior improvements. Loans are forgivable after two years, encouraging long-term investments in our community.

Professional Design Assistance

The program offers a 50% match for design costs, up to \$20,000, for eligible projects. Loans have a 0% interest rate and are forgivable after two years.

Eligibility

Commercial properties in any of the five Community Redevelopment Areas (CRAs) can apply, provided the business is a conforming use and holds a valid Business Tax Receipt (BTR).

For more information, visit www.DaytonaBeach.gov/Redevelopment or call (386) 671-8124.



City's IT Department wins statewide award

Congratulations are in order for the city's Information Technology Systems Department for receiving the 2024 Florida Local Government Information Systems Association (FLGISA) Technology Achievement Award for "Innovative Use of Technology to Service the Public." Every two years, FLGISA presents the award to a member city to recognize leadership and innovation in a community. The award, presented to Chief Information Officer Hossam Reziqa, recognized the city's program to allow residents to schedule virtual meetings with staff.

To schedule a virtual meeting, visit www.DaytonaBeach.gov/VirtualMeeting.

Seeking volunteers to serve on advisory boards

Active residents are a key component of healthy and prosperous neighborhoods. They provide guidance, expertise and recommendations, from a citizen's perspective, to the City Commission on important issues and projects in Daytona Beach.

We are actively looking for volunteers to serve on the following boards:

- Affordable Housing Advisory Board
- Beautification/Tree Advisory Board
- Board of Adjustment
- Board of Building Codes
- Downtown Redevelopment Board
- Historic Preservation Board
- Midtown Redevelopment Board
- Nuisance Abatement Board
- Parks and Recreation Board
- Peabody Auditorium Advisory Board
- Personnel Board

Please consider applying for a seat on one of our boards! For more information, contact Anita Pologa in the City Clerk's Office by calling (386) 671-8028, emailing PologaAnita@codb.us or visiting www.DaytonaBeach.gov/AdvisoryBoards.

IN THE WORKS



Annual Road Resurfacing Program

In the last four years, more than 140 lane miles of residential streets have been resurfaced through the city's popular repaving program. In this fiscal year, 28.8 lane miles have been completed. Parking lots in the Daytona Beach Golf Club and Daisy Stocking Park have also been resurfaced. Later this month, the parking lot in the Public Works facility on Bellevue Avenue will be repaved.

In addition to improving streets and parking lots, the program upgraded 30 ADA sidewalk ramps this fiscal year, with more expected to be completed by September. The total number of ramps finished since the program's beginning is 167.

Plans for fiscal year 2024-2025 include procuring a vendor to conduct an updated road condition survey and resurfacing about 32 lane miles of streets, depending on the program's budget.

Sunnyland Park Basketball Court

The basketball court at Sunnyland Park is closed to the public while it's being resurfaced. The \$10,000 project is expected to take about three weeks. Residents wanting to play basketball can use outdoor courts at several facilities.

Visit DaytonaBeach.gov/Parks for a complete list.



Dickerson Recreation Center Restrooms

The Dickerson Recreation Center's restroom renovations are complete. Upgrades include ADA features for the restrooms at the center's entrance, which have been transformed into single-occupant unisex stalls. Work on the restrooms in the Mickel Brown Building is nearly complete.

Electric Vehicle Chargers

A new EV charging station has been installed at the Florida Tennis Center, 1 Deuce Court. This location joins City Hall and the intersection of Beach Street and Magnolia Avenue as sites for Blink EV charging units. Once additional electrical panels are installed, Breakers Oceanfront Park and Cherry Cultural & Educational Center will be the next two locations where the charging units will be mounted.



Purple Heart Day Parking Spaces

With support from Mayor Derrick L. Henry and City Commissioners Stacy Cantu and Ken Strickland, two reserved parking spaces for Purple Heart recipients were unveiled in the Peabody Auditorium's parking lot. These spaces are in addition to the two veteran parking spaces dedicated earlier this year.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony with community leaders and local veteran organizations was held last Saturday.

UPCOMING EVENTS



End of SUMMER SPLASH

END OF SUMMER SPLASH PARTY

 Friday, Aug. 9 at 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

 Campbell Aquatic Center
400 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

SPONSORED BY ZONE 3 CITY COMMISSIONER QUANITA MAY



DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY, VOL. 3 | PG-13

 Friday, Aug. 9, starting at 8:30 p.m.

 Daytona Stadium on 3917 LPGA Blvd.

*SPONSORED BY ZONE 4 CITY COMMISSIONER STACY CANTU
AND ZONE 5 CITY COMMISSIONER DANNETTE HENRY.*

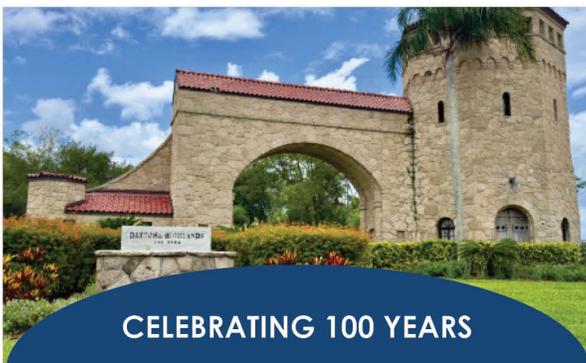


MIDTOWN MUSIC | ARTIST: STR8UP

 Saturday, Aug. 17 at 7 p.m.

 Daisy Stocking Park
555 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Blvd.

*SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF DAYTONA BEACH, HUMANA AND
THE VITAMIN SHOPPE*



DAYTONA HIGHLANDS TURNS 100

 Tuesday, Aug. 20 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

 Museum of Arts and Sciences
352 S. Nova Rd.

Reception and presentation about the city's oldest subdivision.

SPONSORED BY ZONE 6 CITY COMMISSIONER PAULA R. REED

For a complete list of events, visit www.DaytonaBeach.gov/CivicAlerts.