

Town of Surfside

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT October 2013

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Town of Surfside Town Hall Commission Chambers - 9293 Harding Ave, 2nd Fl Surfside, FL 33154

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT October 2013

A. COMMUNITY PROGRAMS/INITIATIVES/ENHANCEMENTS

1. Sister Cities: Mayor Daniel Dietch

Current Status: The concept of Surfside entering into Sister City relationships with other towns/cities was first discussed within the Administration due to the success of such programs in Surfside's neighboring communities of Miami Beach and Sunny Isles Beach. The idea was recently proposed at the August, 2013Town Commission meeting by resident Peter Neville as an initiative the Tourist Board might consider given the advent of the revitalization of the Town's tourism economy. Becoming a Sister City (or Town Twinning) creates a broad-based relationship and partnership between two communities nationally or internationally. Traditionally this relationship requires a cooperative agreement between the two towns that often promotes cultural and commercial ties. Possible programs could be established with communities such as Newtown, CT, given the established relationship created by the gift of Ruth the Turtle, with those that have an historical tourism connection (i.e. Canada), as well as with towns based on the heritage of Surfside's population (e.g. those in Israel, Latin and South America). The Tourist Board only briefly discussed this concept at their September 10, 2013 meeting due to lack of time. The item is set for their October 7, 2013 meeting and a speaker from the program on Miami Beach will be presenting their perspective. The Town Commission will be provided more details on this concept for review and discussion as Staff researches the details and pros/cons of establishing such relationships.

2. Electric Car Charging Station: Mayor Daniel Dietch

Current Status: The Parking Division of the Police Department is working with Car Charging on the installation of the station. Arrangements have been made with FPL to install a separate meter at the station's location - an expense to be incurred by Car Charging. The vendor has coordinated an install date with their chosen electrical firm for the first week of October 2013 and will liaise with the Town's Parking Division. The station will be installed at the Town Hall parking lot. The Commission will be notified upon receipt of notice of the actual installation date and information on the station will be in the next available Gazette and posted to the Town's website.

3. Bullying Program: Commissioner Michelle Kligman

Current Status: The bullying program was held on January 16, 2013 in the Community Center. The event consisted of an informative session that included an expert panel in the control of bullying with a question and answer session and a showing of the movie *Bully*. The event was a great success with

approximately 100 people in attendance. Commissioner Kligman proposed a robust program that incorporates surrounding communities and the School Board to further this program. A resolution defining this effort was approved by the Town Commission during the February 12, 2013 Commission meeting. The resolution along with an outline for implementing the program was introduced to the Parks and Recreation Committee during their March 18, 2013 meeting. Summer camp staff received the bully training during the summer camp in-service training on June 8, 2013. Staff is currently working with the same agency to provide a workshop on anti-bullying for all part time and full time Parks and Recreation staff. The bully training program was held September 19, 2013 in the Community Center. Staff will also work on holding a youth anti-bully program this winter, date to be announced. This will be an ongoing process and updates will be provided monthly.

4. Mt. Sinai Bus Route: Commissioner Michelle Kligman

Current Status: Following the Town Manager and TEDACS Director meeting with the Jewish Community Services (JCS) team on May 30, 2013 regarding transportation options and related costs, JCS staff prepared a bus proposal. This information will be presented to the Town Commission in the FY 13/14 budget process. A subsequent meeting on June 24, 2013 explored further partnership options to mutually benefit Town residents and JCS clients. A Program Modification addressing transportation to Mount Sinai in conjunction with JCS has been included in the proposed FY 13/14 budget. In the interim, JCS conducted outreach meetings with all Police Department shifts to inform them of their services available to seniors. Being aware of the benefits of the Surf-Bal-Bay Program, police officers can pass on information to residents/seniors that they interact with during their daily community involvement/activities. The Town will continue to inform Surfside residents of the program through the Gazette. The FY 13/14 Budget includes up to \$7500 to address this transportation need. Staff continues working toward identifying the level of need and transportation options. Possible partnership with JCS is continuing to be explored. Once the FY 13/14 budget is adopted and level of funding availability is known, Staff will prepare proposals for the Commission's consideration. Prior to incurring transportation costs, authorization of the Town Commission will be received.

5. Joint Skate Park with City of Miami Beach

Current Status: Initial contact was made with Miami Beach officials on May 31, 2013 regarding a joint skate park project located south of the Tennis Center and discussions have begun with the Town's Parks and Recreation Committee. A meeting with Miami Beach officials and Town Representatives was held on July 11, 2013 and September 13, 2013. The meeting was positive in nature and Miami Beach is on board with the Town researching the possibility of building a skate park as a joint venture between Miami Beach and the Town of Surfside. At this time Miami Beach has a possible \$400,000 for the project along with the 2 lots of land. The project was presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee during the July 15, 2013 meeting and was supported by the Committee. Staff work on the project continues including finalizing a proposal for partnership with Miami Beach; options for park development and operation; and community outreach. Also, Bay Harbor Islands officials have expressed an initial interest in the skate park partnership and possible participation. A meeting was held on September 13 with Miami Beach representatives (Assistant Manager and Recreation Director)

to discuss the status of the project. They identified an additional site (the "log cabin" site approximately 5 blocks south of 87th Terrace lot) which they are also considering. Miami Beach staff will present skate park options at a Neighborhood meeting in mid-October.



Approximate 9000 sqft site identified as a possible location for a joint partnership with Miami Beach for developing a skate park located south of the Town's tennis facility (87th Terrace).

6. MAST Academy – Miami-Dade County Public Schools Maritime and Science Technology Academy (FIU Biscayne Bay Campus)

Current Status: Miami-Dade County Public School District is currently in the process of finalizing the startup of a District operated secondary program in environmental sciences at the FIU Biscayne Bay Campus (3000 NE 151st Street, North Miami) for School Year 13/14.

Mayor Daniel Dietch and the Town Manager received a briefing on June 18, 2013 from County School District officials on the start-up of the Environmental Science Program and longer range plans to fund and permanently establish a facility. Commissioner Michelle Kligman also received a briefing from the Superintendent's Office on the proposal.

In a number of locations through the County, municipalities partner with the School District to invest in educational opportunities for its residents particularly as it relates to MAST academies. On September 9th, Surfside and Miami-Dade County School District will host an information meeting at Town Hall regarding the Environmental Sciences at Florida International University (FIU), located at 3000 NE 151 Street in North Miami. The meeting will take place in the Commission Chambers. The agenda and meeting information has been posted on the Town's website under Town News. Elected Officials and staff from Bal Harbour and Bay Harbor Islands were invited to attend the September 9th meeting to hear about this opportunity to expand educational opportunities for local students. The Commission has been provided with a written report on the September 9th Community meeting. An open house tour of the MAST Academy at FIU is scheduled for Thursday, October 17 at 9:30 am. Information on the open house tour was reported in the October Gazette and is on the Town's website.

7. Town-wide Traffic Study Public Outreach

Current Status: The proposal for the outreach/education process on the Town-wide Traffic Study was presented to the Commission at the May 15, 2013 meeting. The first outreach meeting was held June 25, 2013 in the Commission Chambers. Approximately 10 residents attended. Another outreach meeting is planned; however, in order to receive more input, a different approach is necessary. Staff will work with the traffic engineer to consider such a meeting following the budget hearings. Also, this subject might be better addressed as the Town considers the use of citizen surveys.

8. Turtles Project – Art in Public Places

Current Status: On March 13, 2012 the Town Commission supported this two year Tourist Board initiative paid for out of the Resort Tax Fund. The potential to attract visitors to Surfside, knowing the affinity that people express for similar temporary installations elsewhere and the lasting memories they create, is the driving force behind the project. The public relations and marketing exposure continues to be invaluable and the visitor, resident and business community feedback has been overwhelmingly supportive. By locating the majority of the Turtles in the business district, a sense of excitement and novelty was created - not to mention a reason to visit and walk the district. The Tourist Board has incorporated the turtle theme to the maximum level possible in all other events and promotions it has undertaken since inception. The Parks and Recreation Department have conducted events and activities around community environmental awareness and education. Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 Center embraced this program wholeheartedly by including their own educational and environmental awareness components into their curriculum. Their Ruth the Turtle became part of a national healing process.

The program now enters its final phase with just six months to go. A year and a half ago it would have been difficult to predict the amount of construction that is now occurring in such a small area of Town and its implications on this initiative. Recently it has been necessary to move Turtles from the 96th St Park entrance as well as the 95th and 94th Street beach ends in order to ensure their protection from adjacent construction projects. These sculptures are now temporarily stored around the Town's municipal complex in multiple locations due to lack of space. The recently approved Harding Avenue Streetscape Project is now in its construction/implementation phase and this requires the movement of several Turtles.

The dilemma over moving the Turtles and where to place them is impacted by the Tourist Board's decision to sell some of the Turtles and allow the new owners to receive them prior to the program's end next year. This management and logistical challenge, that created a vacuum in the overall location and placement of the sculptures, required a new approach, even if it is only a temporary one, to successfully manage the initiative.

At their September 25, 2013 additional monthly meeting, the Tourist Board approved a plan to relocate the remaining Turtles to 93rd Street between Collins and Harding Avenues while directing the continuation of their sale and removal from Town (dependent on the new owners' requirements). The new location will at least ensure the continuation of the program by recreating a critical mass of sculptures for people to visit, view and appreciate. This street is also a more efficient place for monitoring their safety. In effect this stretch leading to the Community Center becomes Surfside's "Turtle Walk" and the marketing effort can take on a whole new dimension and fresh direction. However it is important to note that the continued sale of the sculptures will translate to a diminishing number of sculptures being in the Town and all marketing efforts will be less and less effective.

The Board will continue to address their plan for the remaining Turtles at their monthly meetings through the end of this year with direction sought on the following:

- Where to place the Turtles after the streetscape project is completed
- Should there be a charity collection while the sculptures are in place
- Should the remaining Turtles next year be sold as originally intended
- What marketing efforts does the Tourist Board envision for the remaining six months or longer (an item identified in the Five Year Tourism Strategic Plan)

Finally, Staff will implement the change of location and continue to manage the program under the stewardship of the Tourist Board.

B. DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT AND TOURISM

1. Harding Avenue Streetscape Plan

Current Status: We have received our permits for the project from FDOT and Miami-Dade County Regulatory Tree Permit. A pre-con meeting was held with FDOT on September 27, on site to review the project in depth to ensure compliance with our permit requirements. FDOT was satisfied and we received the go ahead to continue from their inspector. Tree and shrub removal started on September 23, working the hours from 10 pm to 5 am to avoid traffic. Because downtown businesses are not open during this time, this timeframe allows for little disruption. The majority of the project will be conducted during the night hours for this reason. Larger trees being removed will be loaded onto trailers at night and re-planted the following day in designated locations throughout Town. Locations were mapped out ahead of time which was beneficial for the FDOT permit approval process, thanks in part to Commissioner Olchyk's request to do so in the early stages of the project. We are continuing to have bi weekly meetings with the engineers and contractor to discuss updates and any potential problems.



Harding Avenue streetscape improvements (94th and 96th Streets):

2. Abbott and 94th Street Lot Improvements

Current Status: 94th Street Parking lot is complete. The final task was seal coating and striping which was done on September 21 and 22.

The Abbott Parking lot is about 80% complete with all trees and plantings in, as well as the irrigation. The wall has been patched, fixed, primed and painted. The seal coating, stripping, and painting of the sidewalks are scheduled for the weekends of September 28 and October 5.



Pictured: Completed 94th Street Parking lot

3. Downtown Vision Project: Commissioner Michelle Kligman

Current Status: DVAC met on September 10 and recommended proceeding with allowing veterinary clinics under certain conditions in the downtown district. An update on the BID

process; Streetscape, Police Chief report on establishment of 2 hour parking and related issues was presented.

4. Sidewalk Ordinance Implementation

Current Status: The Town Commission approved (September 17, 2013 meeting) amended FDOT sidewalk lease agreement has been forwarded on to them. This agreement, as well as the accompanying resolution, will need to be vetted through their system and processes. The ordinance has started to be rolled out as part of the Town's Fall business licensing process and will coincide and complement the Harding Avenue Business District Streetscape.

5. Parking Structure Feasibility Study

Current Status: The completed study was issued to the DVAC Parking Subcommittee (which includes members appointed by the Town Commission and the Town Manager) on March 8, 2013 for the March 20, 2013 meeting. Rich and Associates and C3TS/Stantec presented to the committee and public in attendance and the meeting was broadcast over Channel 77. The committee unanimously voted in favor of moving the study on to the Planning and Zoning Board (April 3, 2013) and Town Commission (April 9, 2013).

At the April 9, 2013 meeting, the Commission acknowledged receipt of the March, 2013 Parking Structure Feasibility Study. The Commission tasked Staff to develop a public outreach and educational process to move the Study forward in order to ensure all stakeholders have been informed and involved prior to the Commission proceeding with its action on the Study.

Staff began the outreach/education process on the Parking Structure Feasibility Study. At the May, 2013 DVAC meeting, the committee members were asked to be prepared to share their ideas/suggestions on the community outreach/vision process. At the June 24, 2013 DVAC meeting, the committee members provided ideas/suggestions on the community outreach/vision process. The item was also discussed at the two BID Property Owners/Business Operators meetings held on June 26, 2013. As reported in the Town Manager's memo summarizing the first 120 days of employment, the October 8 Commission agenda will include a report on the outreach strategy regarding the Parking Structure Feasibility Study and the critical deficiency in parking in the Business District. Report will contain recommendations to the Commission including formally accepting the Parking Structure Feasibility Study; acknowledging the parking deficiencies identified in the study; directing Staff to initiate actions necessary to complete outreach and authorize Staff to prepare a report no later than April 1, 2014, containing detailed recommendations on parking facility improvements to address deficiencies including location; financing options and construction timeframes.

6. Five Year Tourism Strategic Plan

Current Status: The Tourist Board accepted the report at their meeting on August 5, 2013. This report will be presented to the Town Commission with the minutes from that meeting at the

November 2013 meeting. Also, an initial proposal will be presented for the Commission's consideration on including the strategic partners in implementing the Five Year Plan and their role going forward.

C. INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

1. 95th Street End Project

Current Status: The project started on August 22, 2013 with the installation of the storm drain and infiltration ditch along the north side of 95th Street with a connection to the FDOT storm drain. A permit was issued by Miami-Dade County to relocate two 35 ft. Madjool palms from the south side of 95th which will be replanted at the end of the project. Eight new Madjool palms will be planted. The existing trees were a different height so all of the new plantings will now match. The two Madjool palms were relocated to the 94th Street Parking lot area which is at the southern end of the Harding Avenue Street Scape project. The trees were moved on August 12, 2013. The finalization of the paver colors and manufacturer should be complete by September 11, 2013. Curbing for the north side of 95th is scheduled for the week of September 9th. Construction meetings are held with 9501 and Spiaggia representatives to keep them informed of the progress and to discuss and concerns or problems they may have during this project.

The permit process is moving forward for the second phase which entails work from the bulkhead east to the hard-pack.



Pictured is 95th and Collins to bulkhead

2. North Force Main/Building Better Communities Bond Program

Current Status: There is both progress and pushback on this effort to obtain funding for this critically important second sewage disposal alternative for Surfside, Bal Harbour and Bay Harbor Islands. Miami-Dade County WASD has retained the firm of Hazen and Sawyer to study the situation at the North Dade Regional Plant and the 163rd Street force main. This is recognition that something needs to be done that will resolve the issue which we keep top of their minds. The negatives are that specific projects which would facilitate acceptance of our sewage are not listed in the draft settlement agreement with EPA and FDEP. Surfside was represented in a community meeting held by WASD September 27, 2012 and our concerns were placed on the record, Mayor Daniel Dietch, Donald Nelson and the former Town Manager also attended a meeting held at WASD on October 25, 2012 in which the draft settlement agreement was further discussed. A new resolution was approved by the Board of County Commissioners that gave specific direction to the County Administration to consider innovative municipal projects as they prioritized the Building Better Communities bond funding. This amendment was written by the former Town Manager and supported by County Commissioner Sally Heyman. Finally, the risks inherent in the Virginia Key plant (where our sewage is treated) and the new force main under Government Cut have been documented in the Miami Herald.

In a conversation with Doug Yoder, Assistant WASD Director who is handling the negotiations with EPA and DEP, it was learned that an environmental group has filed a lawsuit which questions the advisability of upgrading shoreline sewer plants that may go underwater if global warming raises sea level. Therefore WASD is looking at the alternative of an inland plant at a higher elevation. There is a long way to go on this issue.

At the May 21, 2013 County Commission meeting, the County adopted a resolution regarding the Federal Consent Decree. Commissioner Heyman again expressed support for recognition of funding efforts of municipal governments in upgrading sanitary facilities. Bob McSweeney, PE of CGA represented the Town at this meeting. However, since the County Commission action on the Consent Decree was a resolution, no public comment was received. The following is a summary of the long established Town talking points on this issue which were to be presented:

- There should be recognition for communities that have made substantial investment to combat I&I. Rate increases should be discounted for communities which took initiative to reduce the I&I utilizing their own funds. Surfside has expended \$23 million on their utilities with the goal of reducing the I&I by 90%.
- 2. Lift stations Surfside has fixed its own, as has Miami Beach. Surfside's sewage flows through upgraded lift stations with acceptable NAPOT reports. Again, communities which showed initiative should not be punished by these rate increases.
- 3. Support for Commissioner Heyman's position: "Any Building Better Communities water and/or sewer project in which a municipality has put forth an innovative financing plan shall not be adjusted as to priority in this analysis and in fact, shall be accelerated if possible. Further, the analysis requested of the Mayor shall include the implication for any recommended adjustments

in dollars or timing in the Building Better Communities Bonds as to allocation of water and sewer permits for new or updated construction projects. Said analysis shall be done in a format the clearly demonstrates how the proposed adjustments impact the construction industry and job creation."

4. There should be recognition for building permits issuance and utilization of County capacity to offset County costs/ burden by developers. This burden should not be placed solely on the wholesale customers such as the Town of Surfside.

On May 29, 2013, Town Manager Michael Crotty discussed with Commissioner Heyman establishing a meeting to follow-up on sanitary sewer issues identified in this POL. The Commission will be provided updates.

On July 11, 2013, Town representatives met with Miami Beach officials regarding the agreement with Miami Beach on sanitary sewer services they provide to the Town. Issues identified during the preparation of the new agreement with Miami Beach may identify additional issues to assist in the Town's discussions with Miami-Dade. Miami Beach will be encouraged to partner with the Town and our adjoining communities as we approach Miami-Dade regarding the possibility of a north force main. This enhancement would be a significant "back-up" for Miami Beach. Once the negotiations are concluded with Miami Beach, Bob McSweeney, CGA Director of Engineering Construction, will prepare a report outlining the Town's efforts in upgrades/improvements to its sanitary sewer system and issues in support of our talking points listed above which will serve as the basis for discussions with the County.

Finally, a meeting was held with DERM on August 29th to discuss the Town's successful compliance with the terms of the 2007 Consent Agreement as a result of the Town's \$23.6M Water/Sewer/Storm Drainage Project. Town staff discussed with DERM representatives the contemplated north force main project; benefits to be derived and possible approaches to achieve this objective. Miami Beach officials have been initially approached to discuss the north force main project and determine their interest in participating with the County in this dialogue. Additional dialogue will occur with the Manager's Office, Utilities and Economic Development staff.

3. Water/Sewer/Storm Drainage Project and Collins Avenue Force Main Project

Current Status: The following report on the Water/Sewer/Storm Drainage Project is a compilation of CGA and Staff input:

The Water/Sewer/Storm Drainage Project commenced on August 15, 2011 in the southern sector of the Town (Phase I). The project involves water main/water service replacements, lining or replacement of the gravity sewer mains and sewer lateral replacements, rehabilitation of the sewer pump stations, and improvements to the stormwater collection system including three (3) new storm drainage pump stations. Phase I-III are now all substantially complete. All of the sewer mains have been lined and the TV crews have now completed the post construction video which is being reviewed for approval by Town staff and CGA Engineers. The final lift of asphalt installation commenced

February 25, 2013. The paving subcontractor began in the south end of Town and has completed all available areas (Town is working with FDOT for the required restoration on FDOT roadways). The permanent pavement marking and stripping is now complete. The Contractor has completed all punch list items within private property and is now finalizing the pump station and roadway punch list. Sanitary pump stations are substantially complete and off of the bypass pumps. The drainage pump stations have passed all electrical inspections and FPL has provided power. The Contractor has substantially completed all work on the drainage pump stations and passed structural and electrical inspection, they are now all up and running automatically. The close-out of all pump stations will include completing punch list items, full training of Town staff on operation and maintenance (O&M) and the contractor will provide O&M manuals. A project close out meeting was held on July 8, 2013.

Both Surfside and the Village of Bal Harbour are currently utilizing the newly installed Collins Avenue force main with no operational issues. CGA continues to assist the Town Manager in negotiating with Bal Harbour a resolution of the design costs for the force main.

Partial refinancing of the project has been completed to reduce the interest costs and provide funding for additional utility main replacements, and other costs within the original scope. A comprehensive status report for the project was provided in the August 14, 2012 Commission agenda package and authority was granted to complete the project within a total budget of \$23.635M. Retainage will continue to be held and will only be released after all work is completed including the punch list.

| <u>Funding Status:</u> | Amount | Amount Received | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| FDEP Grant | \$873,500 | \$873,500 | | | |
| FDEP Grant | \$125,000 | \$125,000 ** | | | |
| FDEP Grant | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | | | |
| FDEP State Revolving Fund Loan* | \$9,312,881 | \$7,339,928 *** | | | |
| BBC Bond | \$859,000 | \$787,335 | | | |
| TOTAL | \$11,270,381 | \$9,225,763 | | | |

<u> Funding Summary</u> –

*This loan has the potential of \$2-\$3 Million being forgiven by the State

***The State of Florida has reduced the interest rate from 2.12% to 1.87% fixed over the life of the loan. This will save approximately \$200,000 of interest cost

Sanitary Pump Station Outreach Meetings

Meetings were held on May 20, 2013 with neighbors in the area of the 89th and 93rd Street Pump Stations. Based on input received, the final restoration/landscaping plans have been modified to incorporate suggestions received - primarily landscaping suggestions to provide enhanced buffering. Finally, this was an opportunity to express the Town's appreciation to the residents for their incredible patience as this challenging project draws to conclusion.

Project Closeout Meeting

The community meeting on the closeout of the Water/Sewer/Storm Drainage Project was held on July 8, 2013. The meeting included:

* Report by the consulting engineers on the scope of the project; benefits to be derived from the improvements including operational, financial and environmental; and what the project will mean long-term for the Town and residents.

* Response to the inquiries and concerns expressed by residents regarding the functioning of the drainage system following the recent three major rainfalls which occurred prior to the new system pumps being operational and the contributing factor of the limited functioning of the FDOT 's drainage system along Harding Avenue.

* Opportunity for residents to identify any remedial action or restorations to property/right-ofways still to be accomplished as the Town closes out the project.

The CGA Projects Report in the Commission agenda packet contains additional information on the water/sewer/storm drainage project and the Commission was provided a report on September 6th containing a "punch list" of unresolved items and issues relating to sewer agreements/regulatory issues.

4. Seawall Project

Current Status:

Emergency Seawall Repair at 88th & Carlyle - Miami Dade County RER (Formerly DERM) has completed the Biological Opinion (BO). The results of the BO were submitted to the Town and CGA has incorporated the BO permit requirements into our final plans. The final plans have been submitted for final permits. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit was obtained in late February 2013 and the FDEP permit was obtained in April 2013. The SFWMD and RER final permits have been received. FIND has received all permits and the Town should expect to receive final authorization of funding in October 2013.

Town-Owned Seawall Repair - The 90% plans were submitted to the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Commissioner Spencer Crowley, III, who represents Miami Dade County on the FIND Board. The project received a favorable response from the Commissioner and we submitted our project for funding. CGA presented the project to FIND on June 21, 2013. FIND has published the rankings and the presentation was awarded 41.09 points (required 35 to obtain funding). The environmental survey for benthic resources was performed in May and August 2013, the plans have been finalized to reflect the findings. Simultaneously, while we are applying for the FIND funding we have obtained the FDEP permit and expect the USACE permit to come the week of September 16, 2013. The SFWMD and RER final permits have been received. FIND has received all permits and the Town should expect to receive final authorization of funding in October 2013.

5. Beach Management

Current Status: Hurricane Sandy and high full moon tides and wind caused significant erosion on our beach. Due to the storm, Surfside lost up to 75 feet of beach (with nearly 25 feet returning by natural drift of sand) and was one of the least damaged segments of beach countywide. Staff has begun work on many fronts to ensure that various agencies with authority and funding initiate a re-nourishment program. A meeting was held with Miami Dade County staff on December 20, 2012 and the County accepted responsibility for coordinating the renourishment. Town Staff will be kept updated as Miami-Dade County moves forward with any re-nourishment project.

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Shultz sponsored a Coastal Community Roundtable on April 4, 2013. Governmental representatives from Miami-Dade and Broward Counties heard presentations from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Jacksonville, Florida. Of local interest, Corps representatives presented an overview of the sand re-nourishment project scheduled in Bal Harbour (Contract G: August, 2013 Award and start date at the conclusion of Sea Turtle Season). After this project, compatible sand sources for re-nourishment will be depleted.

The Corps will begin an outreach through the summer pertaining to their planned sand source study (Contract J: tentative date August, 2014). The study will attempt to locate compatible sand (non-County borrow area) for future projects.

Discussions were held on the long delayed Bypass project at Port Everglades and the legal issues and challenges associated with the use of foreign sand (i.e. Bahamas) for domestic projects. Also, the Town has been approached about possible coordination with Miami Beach on their dune restoration initiative.

A presentation on beach re-nourishment and the sand source study was scheduled for the September 17, 2013 Commission meeting. Unfortunately, Brian Flynn Special Projects Administrator, Miami-Dade County DERM (responsible for sand/beach re-nourishment) is still unable to attend due to a medical reason which has him on leave for an undetermined return time. Brian will be rescheduled as soon as he is available.

Plans for the dune re-nourishment project in April, 2014 are still a work in progress. Public Works staff continues to coordinate this effort with Lee Gotlieb.

6. Collins Avenue Sidewalk Utility Box Repairs: Commissioner Marta Olchyk

Current Status: Public Works met with FDOT on September 27, 2013 to discuss the remaining trip hazards on the Collins Avenue pedestrian walkway (sidewalks). The FDOT is meeting with FPL to discuss their many different locations along the Collins Avenue walkway that have FPL boxes that are subject to trip and fall. FDOT is requesting that FPL expedite and fix these locations. Note, many other cities and towns are having the same concerns.

7. Pedestrian Crosswalk at Harding Avenue and 96th Street

Current Status: This FDOT experiment in modifying pedestrian behavior by requiring a three light alternative has been an issue of concern. A meeting was held with FDOT District Engineer Gus Pego and he agreed to study going back to the original crosswalk. This will slow eastbound traffic on 96th Street making a right turn to Harding Avenue southbound, however, that is a more desirable consequence than leaving the current dangerous unauthorized pedestrian movement. A meeting was held with Mr. Pego on July 3, 2013 regarding the history of the pedestrian crossing at 96th/Harding.

Public Works Director Joseph Kroll, also met with the Town's Traffic Consultant, Jeff Maxwell of Calvin, Giordano, and Associates to discuss the aforementioned traffic issue. Mr. Maxwell was able to provide his findings for Harding Avenue and 96th Street crosswalk as follows:

Potential Crosswalk at 96th Street/Harding Avenue – South Leg of the Intersection: The intersection of Harding Avenue/96th Street currently provides pedestrian crosswalks on the north, east, and west approaches. The south leg of the intersection does not provide a pedestrian crosswalk. Westbound traffic is prohibited from turning left onto Harding Avenue (southbound) and would therefore not present a conflict with the proposed pedestrian crosswalk. Eastbound traffic allows for dual eastbound to southbound right-turn movements. This will present a conflict with the proposed pedestrian during the eastbound through movement green phase. For this reason, it will be necessary to provide a dedicated pedestrian phase for the proposed pedestrian movement on the south side of the intersection. It will very likely result in the deterioration of the intersection traffic Levels of Service since the cycle time will need to be allocated for an exclusive pedestrian phase. This will be the primary disadvantage of the proposed crosswalk facility. If a pedestrian crosswalk is installed on the south leg of the intersection, pedestrians on the south side of 96th Street. This will be the primary advantage of the proposed crosswalk facility.

[Note: In the July 3, 2013 meeting with FDOT District Secretary Gus Pego, Mr. Pego essentially reiterated the comments provided by Traffic Engineer Jeff Maxwell. He further indicated that installing the crosswalk in the south crosswalk, the traffic would backup substantially on 96th Street increasing the likelihood of turns onto Abbott Avenue thus increasing traffic into the residential areas].

A follow-up meeting with FDOT will be scheduled.

8. Town Hall Parking Lot(s) and Parking Solutions

Current Status: At the April 9, 2013 Commission meeting, issues associated with Town Hall Parking Lot(s) and parking issues/solutions were discussed.

In order to understand the magnitude of improvements to the existing conditions, a design build proposal was requested from Lynx Construction Management for discussion purposes. This proposal included design, surveying, permitting, construction, etc. The cost estimate was based on a design to

accommodate existing operations (Town Hall, Public Works and Police needs). The design build proposal was \$425,441.

It is recommended that no action be taken on this design build proposal. The ultimate parking solution for this area needs to be part of the overall analysis going forward as the Town considers the proposed improvements to the Community Center (second floor option). Also, there has been discussion on relocating all or a portion of the Public Works operation and/or vehicles.

The proposed FY 13/14 budget presented to the Commission provides a proposal/funding to initiate the planning of Community Center improvements.

Staff will determine appropriate maintenance actions to minimize the impacts of the dirt parking areas in the parking area south of Town Hall until permanent improvements are made.

9. Community Center Expansion: Second Floor Addition: Vice Mayor Karukin

Current Status: During the December 17, 2012 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting, the second floor of the Community Center was listed by the Committee as the top priority for the Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Plan. The FY 13/14 proposed budget contains \$100,000 funding from voluntary proffers to undertake conceptual planning and design of projects including the second story addition to the Community Center. This funding is subject to the Commission approving a Five Year Capital Parks and Recreation Plan. The Resolution adopting the Five Year Capital Parks and Recreation Plan was approved at the September 17 Commission meeting. Also, the resolutions authorizing engineering and architectural services have sunset and will need to be reviewed.

Finally, since this project contains varied components (structural analysis of an existing facility to determine expansion capability; public outreach to determine features to be included; design and permitting, bidding and construction services) the option of competitively selecting a firm which would be retained for "design build" or "best value".

10. Tennis Facility

Current Status: At the July 15, 2013 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting, the Committee recommended that the improvements to the tennis facility be ranked as the #2 priority with implementation beginning in FY 13/14, (#1 priority being the second floor addition to the Community Center). The improvements (court surface, lighting and fencing) are estimated to cost \$255,000. The Committee moved up the tennis facility on its priority list due to the deteriorating condition of the court surface and overall condition of the supporting infrastructure including lights.



Photos of the existing condition of tennis court surface, light poles and fence/screening to be addressed in FY 13/14:

The Commission approved the Five Year Parks and Recreation Capital Plan during the September 17, 2013 Commission Meeting. The Town will receive in excess of \$400,000 during FY 13/14 from voluntary proffers. A proposal for the total renovation of the Tennis Center will be an agenda item for the October 8, 2013 Commission meeting.

11. Biscaya Drainage Investigation

Current Status: Around the same time of the completion of the Water/Sewer/Storm Drainage Upgrade Project, Surfside experienced a two week period of high intensity short duration rainstorms in conjunction with spring high tides. A result of the newly sealed sanitary sewer system which did not allow excess rainfall to flow into the sanitary sewer system, the flooding during these high tide-high intensity storms increased the duration of temporary flooding on Biscaya Island.

A neighborhood meeting was held at Town Hall on June 5, 2013 to discuss the drainage issues on Biscaya Island. The meeting began with a discussion regarding the current Water/Sewer/Storm Drainage Project and an explanation that the drainage portion of the project was being funded by FDEP in order to improve water quality entering Biscayne Bay, and was not solely a service/performance project. It was also explained that the added work performed on Biscaya Island with regard to improving the existing drainage conditions was the correction of major deficiencies in curb and driveway elevations, improve the roadway profile, and service and clean the existing storm water catch basins. Also, the drainage system (catch basins and culverts) was again inspected the week of June 5, 2013 to ensure that the system was not damaged during construction. The residents provided input from and discussions regarding potential solutions including the construction of a drainage pump station, outfall upsizing and other alternatives ensued. At the conclusion of the meeting, Staff directed the Town/CGA to schedule meetings with the permitting agencies having jurisdiction to discuss possible modifications which would increase the level of drainage service to the island.

The Town held one meeting and one teleconference to date with Miami Dade RER (DERM) and SFWMD, respectively. The outcome of the Town's meeting with the County resulted in the County agreeing to be receptive to SFWMD's decision on waiving water quality treatment, and if so the County would most likely recommend a variance to the County's requirement to provide water quality as well. This is promising news should the Town decide to move forward with the design, permitting and construction required to upsize the current drainage outfall(s) on Biscaya Island.

On July 12, correspondence was delivered to Biscaya Drive residents informing them of the status of the Town's efforts/investigation of drainage conditions and solutions. CGA has presented cost estimates and awaits direction from the Commission.

A Staff/Engineering report will be presented to the Commission at its October 8 meeting outlining cost estimates and options.

12. Street Signs Replacement

Current Status: This item has been deferred until the final costs of the water/sewer/storm drainage project are known. It does not appear that enough funds will be available for this project. A final report will be provided to the Commission upon closeout of the project.

D. PLANNING, ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT

1. The Shul Project

Current Status: An application in sufficient form to start the Design Review Group (DRG) process was received and the first meeting was held on August 22, 2012. A second Design Review Group meeting was held on February 13, 2013 and a third was held on March 28, 2013. A meeting took place with Stanley Price representing the Shul, former Town Manager and Town Attorney Linda Miller on March 1, 2013 to further refine the voluntary proffers including an alternative to a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). A DRG meeting occurred on July 18, 2013 and additional comments were discussed. A meeting was held on September 12, 2013 between the Shul and Town representatives to continue the dialogue. A Development Impact Committee meeting is scheduled on October 17, 2013 pending timely submittal of required documents/plans.

2. Tracking Development Orders

Current Status: Project management tracking will be an integral part of obtaining software for project tracking, departmental interfacing/sharing of critical information (i.e. Code Department and Building Department) and overall management of special/development projects and asset management. On May 30, 2013, a meeting was held to identify and discuss Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP – systems integration of internal and external management of information across the entire Town organization) requirements for upgrades for FY 13/14. This will include a project tracking component. A follow-up meeting was held with Staff on June 7, 2013. Funds are included in the FY 13/14 budget to move ERP forward. Also, four project management tracking schedules have been completed and the remaining tracking schedules will be completed prior to FY 13/14 budget adoption. Thanks to Sarah Sinatra for undertaking this effort. Staff will continue to review and update the status.

3. Massing and Zoning Discussion: Vice Mayor Karukin

Current Status: At its May 15, 2013 meeting, the Town Commission directed the Town Manager to set up a Joint Workshop with the Planning and Zoning Board to discuss zoning issues. Those issues were clarified at the July 25, 2013 Planning and Zoning Board meeting and the Manager announced that the public is encouraged to provide comments regarding the zoning code on a form provided on the website.

Vice Mayor Karukin clarified his concerns in a July meeting with the Town Attorney and Staff and these specific issues have been discussed at the August Planning and Zoning Board meeting. The Planning and Zoning Board has asked staff to look at side setbacks as a percentage of the lot width to increase the current setbacks, removing the side stepback requirement, require parking below grade, requiring building lengths to be no greater than 150 with 30 feet of separation, explore breezeways and consider building platforms no greater than 30 or 40 feet in height without a break similar to the conditions at the Surf Club. These issues will be discussed again at the September Planning and Zoning Board meeting which has been rescheduled to Wednesday, October 2.

4. Solar Panels and TV Antennas (Dishes)

Current Status: Solar panels are becoming less expensive to install and more cost effective as technology advances. TV antennas (dishes) are proliferating where some buildings have as many as ten facing main streets causing visual clutter and excess wiring. Both devices are a part of urban life, however, guidelines need to be developed. Therefore this matter was sent to the Planning and Zoning Board for discussion during their January 31, 2013 meeting. This item is scheduled as an agenda item for the Joint Meeting of the Town Commission and Planning and Zoning Board on September 30.

E. TOWN COMMISSION

1. Legislative Priorities

Current Status: The Legislative Session ended on May 3, 2013. Fausto Gomez updated the Commission at the July 16, 2013 Commission meeting on the session pertaining to new legislation affecting municipalities and the status of the Town's legislative priorities adopted on January 15, 2013. His written report was submitted to the Commission on June 4, 2013.

In the Fall, the Commission will begin to prepare its list of legislative priorities for 2014.

2. Charter Amendment Schedule

Current Status: The Town Commission during the February 12, 2013 meeting determined to initiate the Charter review process no later than August, 2013. On January 15, 2013, the Town Commission adopted Resolution No. 2013-2126 which certified and declared the results of the election held on November 6, 2012 wherein all three Charter Amendments were adopted by the voters. Per the ballot language, the Town must commence Charter Review within the first (12) months after adoption of the Resolution. A resolution on the proposed Charter Review Board is included on the agenda for the October 8 Commission meeting.

3. Town Commission/Planning and Zoning Board Joint Meetings

Current Status: The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on September 30, 2013 in the Commission Chambers.

F. TOWN DEPARTMENTS

1. Town Attorney

a. Options to Mitigate Inadequate Number of Parking Spaces at Multi-family Establishments along the Collins Avenue Corridor: Mayor Daniel Dietch

Current Status: Staff is finalizing information necessary to resolve this issue. Follow-up will be coordinated with the Town Attorney.

2. Building Department

a. FEMA National Flood Insurance Program

Current Status: The final house slated for remedial work is presently under contract and the required flood vents have been ordered. This particular structure, 1355 Biscaya Drive, had presented some unexpected challenges for both the design professionals as well as the contractor which created considerable time delays. The principal challenge of this project is the way in which the supporting

structure was designed and built. In order to accommodate the additions, the substructure created virtually inaccessible pockets that need to be opened to allow the free flow exit of flood water from under the house. All of those pending issues have been addressed. Completion of this project will officially close the present CAV.

The resolution presented to the Commission at its September, 2013 meeting to retain the services of CRS Max a consulting firm that specializes in maximizing the potential of a community's application to the CRS program was not approved due to a 2-2 vote. The Resolution will be brought back and included on the October 8 Commission agenda. Their services revolve around identifying the existing conditions of each community and thereby providing programmatic solutions needed to attain the highest possible entry score into the CRS program. CRS Max references have been contacted and the return responses have been overwhelmingly favorable.

Ross Prieto successfully completed the CFM certification exam on August 23 and is presently licensed as the Town's certified flood manager. This certification will allow Ross to manage the Town's flood hazard program under the NFIP.

b. Imaging Town Documents

Current Status: The Building Department continues its daily scanning of current documents during the day and at the end of each day. Document files are being reviewed and organized on an ongoing daily basis.

c. Forty Year Building Certification - Collins and Harding Avenues

Current Status: Collins Avenue mailings have been completed and the focus has been turned to Harding Avenue. To date three properties have been issued letters of violation for non-compliance, four properties have had their letters of violation placed on temporary hold awaiting response. In these cases the owners have responded and requested a short extension. One code sanctioned exemption was granted and one property has come into full compliance including final payment. At this time there are six total properties under the ninety day notice for which we are awaiting response. Steady progress is being made in the area of 40 year building certification.

3. Code Compliance Department

a. Code Compliance Priorities Workshop

Current Status: A workshop was held on April 17, 2013 with the Mayor and Town Commission at which time Staff provided a presentation, including historical information on the prior Ad-Hoc Code Enforcement Committee's recommendations. The report included commonly occurring or reported violations in the single-family, multi-family residential districts, and business district. Recommendations were provided on priorities in each district and discussion was held, including public comments. Each Elected Official was provided a priority worksheet to be submitted to Staff in order to assist in establishing priority and policy direction for code enforcement. Staff analyzed the

information submitted by the Commission and included a written report, along with a Commission Communication in the June 11, 2013, Commission meeting agenda packet. Due to the number of items on the agenda and the anticipated length of the meeting to discuss code enforcement issues, this item was deferred. At the August 13, 2013, Town Commission meeting, the Administration received direction to present their updated report and recommendations at the November, 2013 Town Commission meeting. At the September 17th, 2013, Commission Meeting a report was provided comparing the currently used Civil Citation process provided in the Town Code and an alternative Notice of Violation process available in the State Statutes. A matrix detailing and comparing the specifics of each process will be provided at the October 8 Commission meeting and the second workshop is still planned for November 2013.

b. Residential Home Based Businesses

Current Status: At the direction of the Mayor and Town Commission, enforcement of the Local Business Tax Receipt and Certificate of Use provisions was stayed for Home Based Businesses for FY12/13, until such time as code compliance priorities are established. A Staff follow-up report from the April 17, 2013 Code Compliance Workshop was provided to the Town Commission on June 11, 2013, but deferred. Additional discussion, recommendations and options will be provided at the November, 2013 Town Commission meeting.

c. Short Term Rentals

Current Status: Options/recommendations on short term rentals have been included in the Code Compliance Report that was provided, but deferred, at the June 11, 2013, Town Commission meeting as part of the follow-up to the April 17, 2013 Code Compliance Workshop. This item should be incorporated in the Code Compliance priorities discussion at the November, 2013 Town Commission meeting.

d. Sight Triangle (Hedges) and Corner Visibility

Current Status: On August 20, 2013, Staff met with Miami-Dade County Traffic Engineer and looked at several intersections in the single family residential neighborhood. After much discussion, the County's position was that the Florida Green Book was the required minimum standard for all municipalities. County staff recommended adoption of same into our Town Code. Based on the discussions, it appears that compliance with Green Book requirements may not be easily attainable Town-wide, as many corner properties (due to limited width of easements and lack of sidewalks) may not be able to meet the minimum standards. These minimum standards include multiple "sight triangle" scenarios, some that address minimum sight clearances immediately after stop signs, as well as others that address visibility clearances that are related to cross traffic which are based on speed limits. It was also confirmed that many property owners have planted hedges and shrubs in the easement (in many cases, right up to the curb) that also hinder visibility. It was recommended that the most easily achievable resolution to compliance was to cut the hedges and shrubs back. Additional issues were also identified by County staff, such as the traffic circle at 95th & Byron, 4-way stop signs, stop sign locations, and speed limit signs, some of which may have been placed without County

review or authorization. A follow-up report will be presented at the October 8 Commission meeting. With regard to the existing cases, as directed, lien releases were provided in all cases where compliance had been attained. A lien release was also provided to one non-compliant case after the administratively mitigated hearing and administrative fees were paid. Only one non-compliant case remains unresolved, as the resident has yet to pay the reduced fees.

4. Finance Department

a. Five Year Financial Plan: Mayor Daniel Dietch

Current Status: The 2013 Five Year Financial Plan has been a priority project for the Town Administration and the Finance Department. The final plan was presented to the Commission at the budget public hearing on September 26. This will be a future Commission agenda item.

b. Online Bill Pay: Vice Mayor Michael Karukin

Current Status: The online payment by credit card of the water, sewer and storm water utility bill by residential and commercial customers was implemented as part of the water bill that was mailed in mid-June, 2013.

The online bill pay went live on the website as of July 1, 2013. Notifications are received from SunTrust Bank Merchant Services every morning for accounts that have been paid. . Finance Staff is working with SunTrust and Municode to implement the e-check payment process on line.

c. Certificate of Use (CU) /Local Business Tax Receipt (LBTR)

Current Status: Only one business did not comply for FY 12/13. Failure to respond resulted in that business being brought before for Special Master processing. This is the highest level of compliance ever achieved in Surfside history. New renewal packages have been mailed and 18 businesses have already renewed for FY 2013-2014.

d. Tourist/Resort Tax Audit

Current Status: Five businesses have not complied. The Finance Director is working with the businesses to ensure compliance with the Auditors' requests so that the audits could continue. These businesses may go through the Code Compliance process in time for the next Special Master hearing. The completed audit reports are in the process of being reviewed by the Finance and TEDACS Departments.

5. Parks and Recreation

a. Beach Concessions

Current Status: The lease agreement with the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County was presented to the County Recreation and Cultural Affairs Committee on September 10, 2012 and moved forward to the Board of County Commissioners on October 2, 2012. The lease application and documents were prepared by Miami-Dade County and submitted to the State for approval. On May 15, 2013 the County received correspondence from by the State regarding to the lease agreement. The State informed the County that Florida Statute 161.201 allows the County to police the beach and enter into a management agreement with the Town of Surfside. The Town Manager, Town Attorney and the Parks and Recreation Director met with John Ripple, Beach Operations and Maintenance Supervisor and Kevin Kirwin, Assistant Director for Operations from Miami Dade County on May 20, 2013 to move the process forward. Currently the County attorney's office is completing a review of the statute. Following legal review, Town and County staff will work to prepare an agreement which would provide the Town with the legal authority to regulate beach concessions. In the interim, the County will be responsible for beach management issues.

b. Pool Tot Lot Repairs - Community Center

Current Status: Funtraptions, the original contractor for the Community Center water playground, is no longer in business and not available for any warranty work or repairs. At the completion of the project, a 10 percent retainer fee was held back by the Town until full satisfaction was met with the water play structure. The retainer (\$22,600) will be utilized to cover the cost of repairs of warranty items that need to be addressed. Naumann Nature Scapes, Inc. has been on site at various times since January 28, 2013 reviewing the water playground operations and the water playground pool blue prints. Naumann Nature Scapes, Inc. has provided an itemized list of work to be completed on a priority level. This proposal was presented to the Town Commission during the May 15, 2013 meeting and a resolution was passed to have the work completed. Phase I of the work began on May 9, 2013 with the removal of the Sand Dollar play feature for repairs. The Sand Dollar has been reinstalled and Phase II of the repairs has been completed to include hardware replacement, rust removal, clear coat repair and solenoid repairs. Work has started on Phase III of the repairs and continues to move forward and the water playground continues to remain open. Progress reports on the work being performed will be updated until the project is completed.

6. Public Works

a. Sidewalk Staining to Match Colors

Current Status: The project is almost complete with the only item being touch-up work on two driveway entrances along Collins Avenue. These drives were scheduled to be addressed the week of September 9th when the contractor (Lynx Construction) works on the Abbott and 94th Street parking lots.

Respectfully submitted

by: _____

Michael P. Crotty Town Manager