



## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT MAY 2016**

### **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS / INITIATIVES / ENHANCEMENTS**

1. **See Click Fix** -- Report attached.

### **PLANNING, ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT**

#### **2. Development Applications**

A. 9133-9149 Collins Avenue – A site plan application for the Surf Club II has been received and a Development Review meeting was held on September 4, 2015. The plans include restoring a 16 dwelling unit historic building (the Seaway Villas) and adding a 34 unit, 12 story building immediately north of the Surf Club I. The plans were resubmitted on March 18. The second Development Review meeting was held on April 18, 2016. A DIC meeting will be scheduled after the plans are resubmitted and all comments are addressed.

B. 9011 Collins Avenue – A site plan amendment application for the northwest building at the Surf Club has been received. A Development Review meeting has not been scheduled at this time.

C. 9011 Collins Avenue – A site plan amendment application to add one pool and modify the landscaping at the rear of the Surf Club site has been received. A Development Impact Committee meeting was held on February 11, 2016. The Planning and Zoning Board is expected to hear this application in May.

D. 9300 Collins Avenue – A site plan application for 68 townhouse units, replacing 101 multifamily units, has been submitted. A Development Review meeting was held on March 10, 2016. A second Development Review meeting was held on April 27, 2016. A DIC meeting will be scheduled after the plans are resubmitted and all comments are addressed.

E. 8851 Harding Avenue – A site plan application for 23 units was submitted in 2014. A Development Review meeting was held in January 2015. No resubmittal has been received to date.

### **TOWN DEPARTMENTS**

#### **Code Compliance**

#### **3. Commercial Property Maintenance**

The Town of Surfside held a Commercial Property Maintenance Standards Workshop on January 28, 2016. Commercial property owners, their lessees and Town staff members were in attendance.

Following the Workshop, the Code Compliance Director mailed out an informational letter to each Harding Avenue property owner to advise them that the Town will begin strict enforcement activities in the business district beginning the week of March 15, 2016.

On March 22, 2016, the Code Compliance Unit and a Surfside Police Department Neighborhood Resource Officer conducted a Harding Avenue Alleyways commercial property inspection. The Officers noted and photographed many code violations, and issued thirty (30) code violation notices to the property owners and to their tenants.

As of April 21, 2016, 24 cases remain open. The original violation notices gave property owners 30 days to comply. Some property owners have requested extensions, and some cases are scheduled for a hearing before the Town's Special Master.

#### **4. Payments on Code Compliance Cases**

Unresolved Code Compliance cases accrue fines until the code violation is resolved. After the violation is abated, then the property owners are notified to remit the fine amount due. In many cases, the fine amount is either paid, settled via a settlement agreement, or referred to the Town's Special Master for a hearing and ruling on the fine amount due.

The following is a summary by Fiscal Year:

FY 15/16: 81 cases have submitted payments totaling \$103,500 (thru April 21, 2016)  
FY 14/15: 26 cases paid/settled for a total of \$86,869  
FY 13/14: 6 cases paid/settled for a total of \$67,293  
FY 12/13: 9 cases paid/settled for a total of \$15,750  
FY 11/12: 8 cases paid/settled for a total of \$16,875

### **Parks and Recreation**

#### **5. Programs**

- The Town of Surfside hosted the annual Baynanza Shoreline Clean-Up on April 16, 2016. The event had 140 volunteers on the beach.
- The Town of Surfside Parks and Recreation Department was presented a first place award in the Great Park Summit "The Power of Parks" Photo Contest for 2016. The award was in the category for Place Making (Parks/Facilities), an aerial photo of the Community Center was submitted along with a description of the Community Center and its amenities. The award was presented to the Parks and Recreation Department at the Miami Dade County Great Parks Summit on April 15, 2016.
- Town of Surfside Parks and Recreation Teen Scene members created the Town's second Sea Level Awareness Project (S.L.A.P) Pole as a community service project to help bring awareness of the effects of climate change on rising sea levels. The S.L.A.P Pole was unveiled during the Earth Day event on April 17 and has found a permanent home on the green space behind the Community Center.

## **Police Department**

### **6. April Significant Arrests**

Grand Theft Arrests- April 4, 2016: The Grand Beach Hotel management reported to detectives that they suspected four employees who were stealing cash payments made by the guests upon their check-out at the hotel. Detectives gathered evidence provided by the hotel, interviewed four employees, and obtained confessions from all four. They were arrested and each was charged with Grand Theft and Making False Entry on Books of Corporation.

Loitering and Prowling Arrest - April 5, 2016: Officers responded to a call of a suspicious male in a backyard in the 600 block of 94<sup>th</sup> Street. Officers located the male on the property, who stated he was homeless and looking for a place to sleep. The subject was arrested.

Loitering and Prowling Arrest- April 17, 2016: While on patrol an officer observed a bicycle laying on the roadway in the middle of the 9200 block of Abbott Avenue. The officer began checking houses in the area. The subject attempted to conceal himself as he was crouched down between the tree and a wall. The subject failed to dispel the alarm of the officer and was subsequently arrested for loitering and prowling.

### **7. Traffic/Parking Improvement Recommendation Meeting**

The Town of Surfside hosted a Traffic/Parking Improvement Recommendation meeting for residents on April 19, 2016 in the Commission Chambers.

The meeting included a presentation on the current traffic mitigation systems, traffic calming devices and enhanced loading zones. Recommendations were also discussed about modified traffic patterns between Collins Avenue and Harding Avenue and expanding the use of on-street parking. The goal of the meeting was to present considerations for these topics and allow for needed feedback from the public.

Approximately seventy (70) residents attended the meeting. Florida Department of Transportation representatives were also in attendance. Staff made a presentation of the traffic and parking mitigation actions that have been implemented. Those actions include the following:

The 9500 block of Byron Avenue was improved by reducing the traffic circle and adding four curb extensions (two at the beginning of the block and two midblock). A speed bump was installed between the two midblock curb extensions.

Additional Speed Bumps have been ordered and others have been installed at the following locations:

- 9300 block of Byron Avenue
- 9400 block of Byron Avenue
- 9100 block of Bay Drive
- 9200 block of Bay Drive
- 9000 block of Byron Avenue
- 9000 block of Abbott Avenue

Stop Bar Reflectors were installed at the following locations:

- 95 Street & Byron Avenue
- 94 Street & Byron Avenue
- 93 Street & Byron Avenue
- 91 Street & Byron Avenue
- 91 Street & Dickens Avenue
- 91 Street & Froude Avenue
- 88 Street & Carlyle Avenue
- 88 Street & Froude Avenue

New stops signs were installed for east / west traffic at 93rd Street & Byron Avenue, making it a four way stop intersection.

#### Loading Zones

To reduce double parking occurrences on Harding Avenue in the Business District and reduce the associated noise in the residential areas additional Loading Zones were created and became effective on 03-04-2016. The Loading Zones are active Monday-Friday, 6am-10am, at the following locations:

- 9500 Block of Harding Avenue (West-side)
- 9400 Block of Harding Avenue (West-side)
- 95th Street between Harding Ave. and Abbott Ave. (South-side)

#### Taxi Stand Relocation

The Taxi Stand in the 300 Block of 95th Street (between Harding Ave, and Abbott Ave.) was turned into a Loading Zone.

A new Taxi Stand area was created in the 9400 block of Collins Avenue on the West-side of the street by the Grand Beach Hotel West.

In addition to presenting the actions taken to date, Staff presented some recommendations and potential projects planned regarding further traffic and parking mitigation efforts. Included in the proposed projects are Loop Detectors for intersections at 93<sup>rd</sup>, 94<sup>th</sup>, and 95<sup>th</sup>, Street on Harding Avenue. Triangular Islands that can be installed on the west side of Harding Avenue in order to prevent drivers from entering the residential neighborhoods from east of Harding Avenue. Those islands would allow for vehicles traveling south on Harding Avenue to turn right into the residential neighborhoods. Vehicles exiting the residential neighborhood traveling east on 92<sup>nd</sup> Street for example would be directed to turn right and go south on Harding Avenue. Modified traffic patterns of one-way roads on the corridor streets between Collins and Harding Avenues were discussed. Crosswalks with Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons (RRFB's) were discussed for the Business District and several other locations on Collins Avenue and Harding Avenue. Ideas such as making every intersection in the residential area a four way stop intersection and even creating a Special Taxing District / Gated Community were mentioned and debated. Moving the traffic signal from Byron Avenue & 96 Street to Abbott Avenue & 96 Street was also discussed. FDOT representatives made a brief presentation that included a traffic flow model animation with the light at 96 Street & Abbott Avenue. The model presented displayed the 9500 block of Abbott Avenue with a single traffic

lane for northbound travel and a single traffic lane for vehicles traveling southbound. The FDOT representatives explained moving this traffic signal to Abbott Avenue would not work due to the proximity of that traffic signal with the Harding Avenue signal and the potential for backups generating block the box issues at the Abbott intersection.

Parking mitigation ideas included a proposal of adding a total of 44 new parking spaces. There would be 17 parking spaces added in the 100 blocks along the Collins Avenue corridor (beach street ends). 20 parking spaces would be created on the west side of Collins Avenue in the 8800 and 8900 blocks and 7 spaces would be generated on the two streets proposed to be one-way traffic at 89<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> between Collins and Harding Avenues.

At the conclusion of the staff's presentation the meeting was opened to the public. The vast majority of those in attendance spoke. The following is a synopsis of residents' complaints, recommendations and comments:

#### Complaints:

- Several expressed disapproval for placing a red light at 96 Street and Abbott Avenue
- Lack of parking spaces in business district
- Congestion on Collins Avenue
- Too much vehicles traveling in the 9500 block of Byron Avenue
- Prohibit construction workers to park in Town parking lots
- Congestion at Publix
- 90th Street and Harding Avenue – dangerous for anyone crossing by foot or vehicle / against new or additional parking spaces in the area
- Several opposed to making the west side of 8800 and 8900 block of Collins Avenue parking spaces
- Against having extra loading zone spaces on 95th Street
- Against closing / blocking streets due to it is temporary and drivers will figure out an alternate route – offered no solution
- Against the recommendation of making Surfside a “maze”

#### Recommendations:

- Instead of parallel parking in the business district, make it angled parking
- Synchronizing of the traffic lights
- Construction workers should park in Haulover
- Several in favor of a gated community / others against it – recommended a study
- Due to the future construction of Bal Harbour shops, everyone needs to be cognizant before making changes
- Allow left turns from 96 Street and Bay Drive during certain hours (in the morning and afternoon due to school hours)
- Designate 2 lanes an egress and 2 lanes an ingress
- Need a parking structure and a mass transit system because of the lack of parking spaces
- Change the traffic flow going in and out of Publix
- Install stop signs at every intersection
- Reduce the lanes on Collins and Harding Avenue from 3 lanes to 2 lanes

- Create a system of a maze to deter people from coming into the neighborhood – such as one ways and installing sidewalks
- Several in favor of needing a comprehensive plan with the help of traffic engineers and putting more thought into it before making changes – everything is temporary, one has to see the long-term effects
- Installation of sidewalks
- Creating a traffic committee
- Install more flashing lights at the stop sign
- Increase the height of the cement barrier on 88 Street because of all the violators who cross it to make the illegal turn to go west on 88 Street
- Installing a left turning lane at 95 Street and Harding Avenue – the captain addressed this indicating it was in the plan of the Shul expansion

Comments:

- In favor of 92 Street and Harding Avenue recommendation
- Opposed to recommendation of having the 9500 block of Bryon Avenue with Southbound traffic flow
- Byron Avenue has the burden of traffic
- Several in favor of the already existing traffic calming devices
- A couple of people opposed to Indian Creek residents using “their” road (91st Street). Constant high vehicular and commercial traffic, speeders – Town manager addressed that it is a Public Roadway
- Police should start using “quotas” in writing tickets to those who constantly run stops signs and speed in her neighborhood. This will prove a point and will generate a lot of money for the department.
- One resident wants an officer to be parked on her street to enforce the stop sign because of constant violators
- One expressed that she would like a loading zone in front of her condominium building on Collins Avenue
- Every Street has a problem – everyone needs to work together to find a solution
- Several praised the police department for the constant traffic enforcement at 95 Street / Byron Avenue and 88 Street / Byron Avenue

In conclusion, the residents were not in agreement on any of the proposals except installing additional stop bar reflectors and speed calming tables.

## **8. New Parking Enforcement Officer in the Police Department**

Hans Smith is the new Parking Enforcement Officer in the Police Department effective April 26, 2016. Hans worked for the Town of Surfside in the Parks and Recreation Department since June 2015 as a Recreation Leader 1. Hans will be an asset to the Police Department.

## **9. National Police Appreciation Month**

May is the month where the Nation celebrates Memorial Day and National Police Appreciation Month.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. Currently, tens of

thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice. The Memorial Service began in 1982 as a gathering in Senate Park of approximately 120 survivors and supporters of law enforcement. Decades later, the event, more commonly known as National Police Week, has grown to a series of events which attracts thousands of survivors and law enforcement officers to our Nation's Capital each year.

Locally there are several events to honor the men and women of law enforcement.

The Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was established in 1980 to honor fallen officers from every police department and law enforcement agency within Miami- Dade County. In 2001, four black granite walls were erected; etched with the names of the gallant men and women who died serving the citizens of their community. Today, 138 names grace these hallowed walls.

The service was held May 5 at Tropical Park in Miami.

## **10. Police Events**

- Community Service Aide Daniel Sanchez and the Intracoastal Police Explorers assisted with a community event at Greynolds Park on May 1, 2016.
- The Police Officer Assistance Trust and the Law Enforcement Officers Under Authority Ministry hosted a Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Prayer Breakfast on May 3, 2016. Diana Hernandez attended.
- The Monthly Crime Stoppers' Board of Directors meeting met May 4, 2016 in Doral. NRO Dianna Hernandez attended.
- The Miami-Dade Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony was May 5. David Allen, Captain Julio Yero, Lieutenant John Bambis and Officer Lesmes Ruiz represented the Surfside Police Department Honor Guard.
- The Southeast Florida Crime Prevention Association will meet May 18, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. The location is to be determined. NRO Dianna Hernandez will attend.
- The Dade County Police Benevolent Association will honor Dade County's finest law enforcement officers at their twenty-third annual Law Enforcement Awards Gala on May 21. Officer Alejandro Lorente will participate as a member of the honor guard in a special tribute to fallen officers.
- The monthly Bike with the Chief will be May 25, 2016 at Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.; Coffee with the Cops will be May 27, 2016 at Starbucks at 10:00 a.m.
- The 31<sup>st</sup> National Conference on Preventing Crime in the Black Community will be from May 25, 2016 - May 27, 2016 in Miami. NRO Dianna Hernandez will represent the Surfside Police Department and assist on May 25.
- The Parks and Recreation Department has their annual Memorial Day Ceremony on May 30, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Veterans Park. Officers Bryant Luke and Alejandro Lorente will participate as members of the Surfside Police Department Honor Guard.

## **Public Works**

### **11. Traffic Calming**

Traffic calming speed bumps were installed in two more areas on Byron Avenue between 90th and 91st and on Abbott Avenue between 90th and 91st. These calming devices are designed to slow cars down creating a safer experience for those residents who walk or bike.

### **12. Parking Lot Restructure**

Public Works finished the restructure of the south parking lot. When the pavement is cured, Public Works will strip the new parking stalls. Quotes are being sought for fencing to enclose the entire parking area for a secure Town employees parking area.

### **13. Hazardous Waste Day**

The annual Public Works Hazardous Waste pickup day is May 14, 2016 at Town Hall. Residents can bring their hazardous waste to Town Hall between the hours of 9 am – 12 pm for proper disposal of their waste. Public Works holds this annual event in an effort to allow for a safe way for residents to dispose of their unwanted, sometimes unsafe chemical products. In addition, it has an environmental effect by not having these products going to the landfill if thrown into the daily collection, which is not allowed. Information is posted in the May Gazette, Channel 77 and Town website.

### **14. New Recycling Program**

Public Works will begin its new recycle program on June 1, 2016 with once a week (Thursday) curb side recycle pick-up for residential single family homes. The commercial and multi-family properties will be on a multi-schedule recycle pick-up. This is a great opportunity for the Town to better promote the importance of recycling by encouraging residents and businesses to recycle more - putting less trash into the landfill. Recycling helps extend landfill life and lowers trash collection and disposal costs. The Town has entered into an agreement with Southern Waste Systems to dispose/sell their recycle material.

### **15. Storm Drain Maintenance**

Public Works has begun to clean out the storm drain lift stations as well as many of the curb inlets. This is very important to ensure the drain system is free from debris before the upcoming rainy season. This will also ensure that the system works properly when needed.

### **16. Dumpster Exchange**

Solid Waste has been exchanging old and rusted commercial dumpsters in the business district and in the condos with new poly-dumpsters. These new dumpsters will resist food acid and corrosion much better than the metal ones, expanding their life span from 3 to 5 years of service. The Town supplies the new poly-dumpster containers, whereas in the past all commercial businesses and condos were responsible for purchasing the containers.



## **PROJECTS PROGRESS UPDATES**

### **17. Information Technology and TV Broadcasts**

IT has replaced all of the cameras at the Community Center with HD cameras to allow for a better image and playback. IT is currently obtaining quotes for portable printers to provide to the Commissioners. IT staff are in the process of renewing an upgraded license for the MailArchiva software system as well as the Microsoft Exchange 2013 licenses. IT is working with the administrative staff to relocate the multifunction machines to a new location on the first floor. Finally, IT staff is working with the administrative staff to complete written policies for internet usage and voicemail greeting procedures.

Respectfully submitted:

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Guillermo Olmedillo, Town Manager