



# Town of Hilton Head Island TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

## An Update from Town Manager Steve Riley 11/18/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Here's an update on what's happening around Town:

### **Thank You Councilman Marc Grant**

On behalf of my staff here at the Town, I want to thank Councilman Marc Grant for his service on Town Council and for his representation of Ward 1 and the entire community for the last eight years. Yesterday was his last Town Council meeting, as he decided not to seek re-election for another term. Thank you Marc for your time and your dedication. We truly appreciated the wisdom and insight you brought to the Town and numerous issues. You helped make us a better community and ensured that we addressed the needs of everyone who lives on this Island. We wish you well in your future endeavors.

### **Town Council Meeting Highlights**

Our Town Council met on Tuesday, November 17. Here is a brief summary of some key actions taken at the meeting:

- Approved a recommendation for an Independent Engineering Review of the U.S. 278 Gateway Corridor Project. We are working with Beaufort County on this matter and have had several discussions pertaining to the independent engineer. This review is being pursued in order to respond to a number of public questions and concerns that have arisen regarding the currently identified preferred alternatives for bridge and road improvements and the processes that were used to identify these alternatives
- As we continue to fight COVID-19, it's important that we continue to take all precautions to keep the public safe. Thus, the Council approved first reading of an ordinance reducing the threshold requirement for events requiring a Special Event Permit from five hundred (500) attendees to two hundred fifty (250) attendees; and adding a requirement that Special Event applicants include a public health plan as part of the application process. We suggest event organizers use the CDC's readiness and planning tool for events and gatherings. A link to this tool is available on our website at <https://www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/publicsafety/coronavirus/specialevents.cfm>
- Approved a recommendation for realignment of Summit Drive for the Hilton Head Island Convenience Center Operations. This project will become an immediate priority in the fiscal year 2021 Capital Improvement Program. To clear up any



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misconceptions, this realignment has nothing to do with the current situation regarding Arbor Nature. This work is related to the new decal system Beaufort County will be implementing next year at the convenience center.

- Approved an Accessible Covered Overlook at Islanders' Beach Park. This too will be a priority project in our fiscal year 2021 Capital Improvements Program. We will keep you updated as work on this covered facility progresses.
- Granted us the authority to issue a request for proposals soliciting a developer to purchase Town-owned property in the Palmetto Bay Road area. It is our hope that the property will be used in a manner consistent with the Town's adopted Comprehensive Plan, initial acquisition goals, and related Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions.

### **Construction Work Proceeding on Cordillo Tennis Courts Restroom Building**

Construction work on a restroom and storage building at the Cordillo Tennis Courts on Cordillo Parkway will begin this week. This is the second phase of our redevelopment project for Cordillo Tennis Courts, a 1.47-acre parcel with four courts and several parking spaces. Improvements will also be made to the parking area.

The Town Council approved the conceptual redevelopment plan for this project in December 2017. The first phase of the project, which was completed in September 2019, involved replacing the tennis courts and fence. The FWA Group, a local architecture firm, designed the project. We issued an invitation for bids for the second phase of the project on August 12, and awarded the contract for construction work to Suncoast Contractors on October 20. The project is expected to be completed in February 2021.

### **Open Park Day is Thursday, November 19**

Open Park Day for our Parks and Recreation Master Plan is tomorrow, November 19, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Shelter Cove Community Park. Please come check out our park maps and chat with our staff about the recommendations and action items included in the master plan. Because your safety is important to us, we'll adhere to social distancing and other guidelines to limit the spread of COVID-19 while we gather public input.

Now, you may ask, what happens after we have gathered all of this information from you? It will be used for the next level of conceptual planning for three major parks this winter and spring 2021: Chaplin Community Park, Crossings Park and Mid Island Tract (Town-owned portion of the former Planters Row Golf Course). It will also give us guidance on where to focus our Capital Improvements Plan and policy for parks and recreation over the next several years. We hope that you will continue to follow our activities on the Parks + Recreation project page of the Town's [website](#).



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## **COVID-19 Testing**

Free COVID-19 drive-thru testing is available 8 a.m. to noon, Monday thru Friday at Hilton Head Hospital, 25 Hospital Center Blvd. No appointment or doctor's order is needed.

SC DHEC will also be hosting a mobile testing clinic for COVID-19 this Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the USCB Campus, 1 University Blvd. in Bluffton. The mobile clinic will offer free drive-thru testing. Prescreening is not required. If you're under 18 years of age, please bring your parent or legal guardian with you. They'll need to give their consent before you can be tested. Residents will be contacted within 48-72 hours with the results of their test.

## **COVID-19 Cases**

Extensive reporting on county-level information, demographics, the number of local coronavirus cases and more is available at [scdhec.gov/COVID19](https://scdhec.gov/COVID19). The website is updated between 1 p.m.-3 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. weekends. You can also find case data on our website at [hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19](https://hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19).

## **Give Help if You Can**

As we head into the holiday season, please consider supporting those individuals that need help and organizations that are assisting families and individuals with food, toys, shelter, rent and other needs. Our COVID-19 hub page will be updated this week with information on where you can find support during the holidays.