



# Town of Hilton Head Island TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

## An Update from Assistant Town Manager Josh Gruber 7/6/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Together we can slow the spread of the coronavirus by wearing our masks. As you know, we passed an Ordinance requiring masks be worn in commercial establishments. Likewise, our neighbors in the Town of Bluffton and Beaufort County have passed similar Ordinances requiring masks be worn. Many other cities and towns across South Carolina have also asked that people put on a mask in certain circumstances. Not everyone agrees, but this is a simple step to slow down the spread of the coronavirus in our community.

Even BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, South Carolina Hospital Association (SCHA) and South Carolina Medical Association (SCMA) have gotten in on the action to persuade the public to limit potential exposure to COVID-19 even as coronavirus cases are on the rise in South Carolina, hospital beds are filling and deaths are currently numbering in the high hundreds. They have developed a “Slow the Spread” public service campaign, which includes a very informative website, <https://slowthespreadsc.com/>. It provides information on a lot of rumors around COVID-19 and counters those with the facts supported with information from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/>.

You can also check out our campaign, Mask Up Hilton Head Island, on our COVID-19 hub page at [www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19](http://www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19). You can find the latest figures on COVID-19 cases in our community on our hub page or at [SCDHEC.gov](http://SCDHEC.gov).

### **Beach Clean-Up Thank You**

We hope everyone had a safe July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. We had a lot of beachgoers as we anticipated, but we also had a lot of Islanders who spent the morning of July 5<sup>th</sup> cleaning up our beach so visitors could continue to enjoy them. Our thanks to the 39 Deep Well volunteers who cleaned a three-to-four mile stretch and collected about 59 bags of litter, as well as broken beach chairs, boogie boards, large cartons of fireworks and over 30 hotel towels; they started at Coligny Beach and worked their way north to the folly. There were other organized groups of volunteers who helped clean up. We want to publicly thank everyone who took on this enormous task of making sure the beach was safe and clean. You demonstrated what being community is all about.

### **Coligny Area and Beach Access Parking Study [Open Town Hall HHI Survey](#)**

The Town of Hilton Head Island has engaged Walker Consultants to develop a strategic plan that will enable the Town to best meet the needs of its residents in the Coligny Beach Area and its public beach access parking areas. As part of this study, Walker Consultants



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would like to hear from you, a valuable stakeholder in this process. We want to learn more about the parking and mobility patterns of current residents, business owners, employees, and visitors, with a goal toward understanding attitudes defined by parking and mobility-related issues. You can share your opinions on our survey accessible on our website at <https://hiltonheadislandsc.gov/opentownhall/>. The survey will take about five to seven minutes to complete. We realize that your parking and mobility choices may change from day to day, however we are asking that you tell us about your experiences on a typical day.

Inclusive of the Coligny Beach Area, the public beach access parking areas considered as part of this study include the following:

- Alder Lane Beach Access (2 Woodward Avenue)
- Burkes Beach (60 Burkes Beach Road)
- Coligny Beach Park Access (102 Pope Avenue)
- Driessen Beach Park (64 Bradley Beach Road)
- Fish Haul Beach Park/Barker Field Expansion (124 Mitchelville Road)
- Folly Field Beach Park (55 Starfish Road)
- Islanders Beach Park (94 Folly Field Road)

### **Temporary Signs and Single Use Plastic Bags**

Please be reminded that all temporary signage businesses have put in place must be removed by Tuesday, July 7, 2020. Also, Tuesday, July 7 is the last day businesses can use single-use plastic bags.

### **Leadership Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Sunscreen Project**

Thanks to a class project by Leadership Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Class of 2020, complimentary sunscreen is available for the public at some of the Town's community parks. Inspired by a similar project in Bluffton, the class initiated a project called Sunshine Stand to educate the public about skin cancer and protect people from excessive sun exposure. Sunshine Stands provide environmentally-friendly sunscreen stations at heavily-trafficked Hilton Head Island parks and recreation centers, and give everyone the opportunity to protect themselves from sun exposure in the event they have forgotten sunscreen. Ten dispensers were recently installed in restrooms (one in each the men's and women's) at the Sailing and Rowing Center, Jarvis Creek Park, Crossings Park, Shelter Cove Community Park and Chaplin Community Park. For more information on the Sunshine Stand Project, visit <https://hhisunshinestand.wordpress.com/>. Our thanks to this class of leaders for their effort to help protect our community.