



MEMORANDUM

To: City Commissioners

From: Alex Rey
City Manager

Date: March 1, 2021

At the request of the City Commission, I have updated the accomplishments that we have made over the last 12 months. I am very proud of the effort that the team has made, as you can see below, in spite of the challenges that we faced with the pandemic over the last 12 months.

MOST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Implementation of approved Strategic plan and Mission/Vision Statement
- Merry Pier: Successfully came to terms on a renewed agreement with Merry Pier Partners in January 2021
- Created a new City website and resident reporting app
- Hurley Park: Completed for Ballfield, new fencing and field lights, painted dugout, new dog park, irrigation, park sodding, resurfaced basketball court that added one permanent pickleball court and blended lines on the full court for pickleball, resurfaced tennis court (should be done by end of March), created Freebee parking area, replaced basketball and tennis court lights with LED (by end of March) and replaced pavilion (Ribbon Cutting Feb 20, 2021). Completed for \$452,200.00 by managing the project in-house versus a consultant estimate of over \$2 million
- Worked with Duke Energy and consultant to revisit the binding cost estimate for the electrical undergrounding project bringing a savings of about \$500,000 over the prior binding cost agreement in 2019
- Completed Resurfacing Program which included:
 - Vina Del Mar basketball courts that converted a half-court basketball court into a pickleball court and added blended pickleball lines on the full court. Completed December 2020
 - Lazarillo – All courts were resurfaced
 - Egan Park – All courts were re-surfaced and pick-ball lines were added
- Procurement Ordinance updated and re-written
- Personnel Rules and Regulations updated and re-written
- Completed Parking Ordinance with new parking permit system and new parking signage

- Adopted Code of Ordinance revisions relating to Substantial Improvements and 5-year cumulative cost for improvements, effective 1 July 2021
- Adopting Code of Ordinance revisions relating to Seawall Height Datum
- Refinanced wastewater loan, total savings approximately \$700,000
- Miramar Resort, 4200 Gulf Blvd., review for redevelopment of a 1.15-acre site for the construction of a seven-level, 54-unit transient accommodation hotel. The proposed building consists of five stories of transient units, 6,790 SF of amenity space and pool deck on the rooftop level. The requested project density is 54 units, 39 units from base density (50 du/acre) with 15 units (20 du/acre) request from the density pool. Total proposed density is 69.2 du/acre
- Created a city-wide Parklet program

OTHER MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE:

Operational

- Completed Freebee Storage Facility
- Implemented real time parking sensors on 9th Avenue for enforcement
- Implementing Cashless parking system by removing city meters and converting areas to pay by phone zones by the end of March except for Pass-A-Grille way which will align with License Plate Recognition enforcement completion will be end of May
- Implementing License Plate Recognition parking enforcement completion end of May
- Rebranding parking signage and pay stations for uniformity and improve aesthetics
- Upgrade Pay Stations with touch screen display
- Updating parking enforcement maps and creating online interactive public parking information guide
- Successful organized a holiday decorating contest for resident in December 2020
- Completed a new MOU with Suntan that gives the city more monthly rent and control over the Don Vista Building for rentals and programs.
- Transition of software applications to the cloud complete
- Began the transition to an electric fleet
- Implemented a Financial and Performance Quarter Report
- Initiated an electronic tracking program (PSTrax) for daily/weekly apparatus checks, equipment inventories, supply ordering, and controlled substance tracking
- Developed a major equipment inventory and replacement plan based on national standards and best practices.
- Replacement of all front-line AED's and added AED's at Upham and Pass-a-Grille concession areas.
- Completion of numerous employee-initiated station improvement projects (interior and exterior paint, patch display project, T-shirt cabinets, storage room, lieutenant office, organization, etc.).
- Hosted several Mid-County training events for surrounding departments (St. Pete Beach, South Pasadena, Gulfport, Madeira Beach, and Treasure Island).
- Moving Code Enforcement under Parking, cross training with Parking and being proactive enforcement more so than reactive.

Capital Projects

- Completed the Egan Park Boat Ramp.
- Upham Beach Parking Lot Phase 1 repaved and complete
- Completed Restrooms Renovations at Pass-A-Grille, Hurley Park and Upham Beach
- FY2021 Street Paving Program Completed 2.96 Miles paved
- Completed Sanitary Sewer Lift Stations 7, 11, and 15 rehabilitation
- Completion of library construction, building renovation projects
- Completed Library landscaping in February 2021
- McKenney Park: New playground installed in the fall of 2020. Ribbon Cutting was December 21, 2020
- Completed tree installation on the 300 block of Corey, entrance by Gulf Blvd and Blind Pass from Gulf Blvd to Corey Ave. Completed in October 2020

Regulatory

- Completed update to One-Way Street Ordinance
- Adopted Outdoor Dining and Drinking Ordinance
- Updated and adopted Truck and Bus Route Ordinance
- Draft e-bike and e-scooter ordinance
- Developing Code and Parking SOP to establish procedures for better proactive and routine enforcement
- Initiated Off-Street Parking Requirement Study
- Adopted Code of Ordinance revisions relating to Substantial Improvements and 5-year cumulative cost for improvements, effective 1 July 2021
- Adopted Guidelines to grant units from density pools
- Adopting Code of Ordinance revisions relating to Seawall Height Datum Change
- Adopting Comp Plan and LDC revisions for the Upham Beach Village Density Pool
- In process of adopting revisions to height standards and new base flood elevations

Economic Development

St. Pete Beach has many large hotels that have invested in improvements, renovations and upkeep. Below is a summary the more than \$36 million in improvements:

- Howard Johnsons (Hilton Gardens), Interior/exterior renovations / new lobby / beach bar - \$13,254,680
- Grand Plaza Hotel, Interior room renovations, public spaces & Spinners renovations - 10,101,929
- The Beachcomber, Interior room renovations - \$2,325,000
- The Don Cesar, 277 guest rooms renovations, public spaces & restaurant renovations - \$11,208,087
- Miramar Resort, 4200 Gulf Blvd., review for redevelopment of a 1.15-acre site for the construction of a seven-level, 54-unit transient accommodation hotel. The proposed building consists of five stories of transient units, 6,790 SF of amenity space and pool deck on the rooftop level. The requested project density is 54 units, 39 units from base density (50 du/acre) with 15 units (20 du/acre) request from the density pool. Total proposed density is 69.2 du/acre.
- Sunset Suites, conceptual site plan review completed for a 56 transient unit development in the Upham Beach Village for the southeast corner of Sunset Way and 73rd Ave. This is contingent upon the adopting revisions to the Comp Plan and LDC for the Upham Beach Village Density Pool.

Strategic Plan

- Replaced benches on Corey Ave in October 2020
- Parklet Program was approved for applicants in January 2020.
- Entered into an agreement with the Don Cesar Resort in building an entrance wall for the Bayway entrance. Work should begin March 2021
- Entered into an agreement with Buoys/Toasted Monkey on building a fishing pier at the west end of Corey (hope to have accomplished by end of March)
- Completed placemaking sign design and ready for bid (hopefully by March 2021)
- Began the process of water conservation for the city of St Pete Beach. March 2021
- Progress on the strategic plan setting timelines and budgetary items in place to accomplish in the next 3-5 years
- Developed marketing program for Freebee services to increase ridership and community awareness
- Community Services Enhancements which includes hosting several community events such as Operation Halloween Safety, Breast Cancer Awareness, Back to School Safety Awareness, Water Safety Life Jacket Drive Through, Hurricane Preparedness Walk-Through, and Yellow Dot Vial Life Program
- Installed baskets at Upham for garbage pickup
- Replaced the Pass-A-Grille Lights

Financial

- Reached 3-year agreement with IAFF union
- Purchased Marine 23 (26' Metal Shark) (100% Pinellas County funded)
- Replaced Rescue 23 (100% Pinellas County funded)
- Replaced Engine 22
- Awarded FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for extractor/dryer purchase (\$15,000.00)
- Obtained medical PPE fit testing equipment saving the city \$35 per each personnel, \$1,190 annually (100% funded by Pinellas County)
- Purchased Ward Diesel Filter Systems to all front-line apparatus
- Purchased the departments first bunker gear extractor and dryer

In Response to Covid19 we:

- Adopted County's event policy regarding outdoor events
- Offered blended classes both virtual and in person with over 100 attending virtually
- Created a Drive-by Christmas parade, one by the fire department and one with the mayor
- Re-scheduled July 4 fireworks for New Year's Eve
- Created COVID Hold Harmless Agreement for all events taking place in the city for the organizers to sign (Jan 2021) that was approved by city attorneys
- Offered virtual learning program for students that chose the virtual option in the fall with 7 kids enrolled
- Managed Covid related challenges with a \$1.9M budgetary gain
- Relaxed requirements for outdoor dining approvals
- Successfully maintained City operations throughout 2020 and did not furlough any employees 490