



CITY OF DELRAY BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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City Commission Information Letter

June 28, 2024

Have an Enjoyable and Safe Independence Day Holiday!

External Grant Opportunities and Availability for Residents and Stakeholders

As the Office of the City Manager is currently working with various departments and external state, federal, and non-profit agencies to assemble an organizational inventory of existing grant awards, opportunities, and respective commitments, please be advised that outcomes to this effect now include opportunities for residents and stakeholders of our community.

As referenced in the attached excerpt from a presentation provided by Sustainability and Resiliency Officer Kent Edwards (via his attendance and participation in Commissioner Angela Burn's June 12th 'Burning Conversations' community engagement meeting), this includes programs such as My Safe Florida Home, whereby eligible homeowners can directly apply for home inspection services that may ultimately enable financial resources for identified improvements.

While other listed programs involve engagement and collaboration with community-based organizations that are the intended recipients for such opportunities, an ancillary function of daily operations for both the Office of Sustainability and Resiliency and the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services now includes applicable external communication and outreach efforts to inform residents and stakeholders as noted.

Florida Power & Light Drone Presence Implementation at Delray Beach Electric Substations

Both the Office of the City Manager and that of Director of Public Works Missie Barletto were recently advised by leadership of the Florida Power & Light

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Company (FPL) of its plans to cultivate a drone presence to help support operations at Delray Beach substations.

While the City of Delray Beach is not involved in FPL's daily operations, we remain committed to collaborating to help ensure reasonable responsiveness and attentiveness expectations.

As noted in the attached fact sheet from FPL, the application of drone technology as outlined is expected to augment and expedite service restoration activities, via the collection of real-time information that would otherwise be inaccessible, as well as to expand routine inspections to more proactively respond to any irregularities in service delivery that may be experienced at any given time.

With electric substation facilities located on Northeast 3rd Avenue and Linton Boulevard, my office is being asked to host an initial meeting to outline applicable coordination details, as well as to possibly help foster awareness of this effort accordingly.

Evaluation of Parks and Recreation Programming Fees and Charges

While engaging revenue and expenditure analysis exercises associated with the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Proposed Budget process, an observation that potentially supports that some fees and user charges for various parks and recreation services are significantly less than those of other South Florida municipalities.

As referenced in the attached electronic mail message from Director of Parks and Recreation Sam Metott, a benchmarking comparison to this effect was initiated earlier this year, revealing that some adjustments could be implemented to better align with the fee structures of neighboring communities.

Recommendations for City Commission review and consideration will likewise be forthcoming.

Administration of Caron Foundation Grant Award Commitments

Given recent clarity offered contractually relative to Caron Foundation funding and approvals offered by the previous City Commission to Delray Beach Public Schools, please be advised that respective commitments are presently contractually obligated. Such is specifically the result of City Commission approval for the coming academic year first ratified back in February.

As referenced in the attached electronic mail message from Education and External Opportunities Manager Janai Bowens, direction to this effect involves \$15,000 grants to Carver Community Middle School, Orchard View Elementary School, Pine Grove Elementary School, SD Spady Elementary School, Plumosa School of the Arts, and Village Academy, as well as \$1,090 to Atlantic Community High School.

However, with an estimated remaining Caron Foundation fund balance of \$1,064,000 the current City Commission will now have an opportunity to offer policy direction relative to future support for area non-profit organizations and/or other partnerships.

Calendar of Meetings, Activities and Functions

This afternoon, the City of Delray Beach will serve as host community for this month's session of the Palm Beach County City Management Association.

A primary benefit for serving as host to this effect involves an opportunity for our staff to showcase excellent work that is being achieved on behalf of the City Commission to improve quality of life for residents and stakeholders.

Given the current trajectory involving development and construction of the new water treatment plant facility, I've invited Director of Utilities Hassan Hadjimiry to join us to provide an overview presentation of progress and direction to date, to include specific financing and contractual services strategies being executed, as

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well as points to underscore technical features to support PFAS regulatory requirements and how this operation will ultimately reduce impacts accordingly.

Given that the coming business week is abbreviated due to the Independence Day holiday, no information letter will be issued next Friday. Weekly reporting as noted will likewise resume Friday, July 12th.

Enclosures:

PowerPoint Presentation Excerpts from Kent Edwards – External Grant Opportunities for Residents and Stakeholders

FPL Fact Sheet – FPL Air Drone-in-a-Box

Electronic Mail Message from Sam Metott – Parks & Recreation Fee Schedule(s)

Electronic Mail Message from Janai Bowens – Caron Foundation Grant Clarifications and Opportunities

Calendar for Business Week of June 24, 2024

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