



Administrative
727/595-2517
727/596-4759 (Fax)

Library
727/596-1822

Public Services
727/595-6889
727/593-5137(Fax)

***For immediate release
November 6, 2020***

City of Indian Rocks Beach City Manager Releases WORKING TOGETHER UPDATE

Today, the City of Indian Rocks Beach City Manager released a **WORKING TOGETHER** update from July 2013 to November 2020. The update and map reflect the successes of the City Administration, City Commission, Civic Organizations, City Employees and the general public in moving IRB forward.

"It is a tremendous testament to our successful partnership that we are able to celebrate the many accomplishments of the City of Indian Rocks Beach Team. None of this is possible without the proactive, transparent operation of our city. We have accomplished so much while remaining debt-free and retaining our low millage rate. Our city employees are the backbone of city operations and are appreciated by all" said City Manager Brently Gregg Mims.

**CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH
727/595-2517**

WORKING TOGETHER
Annual Update
July 2013 – November 2020
Submitted by:
Brently Gregg Mims, City Manager

Administration

- City Hall Renovations;
- City street banner program including an official IRB City flag;
- Successful RFP and negotiation for a new City Attorney;
- Successful settlement of the BP lawsuit @ \$982,110;
- Extension of the MSL Annual Audit Contract;
- Sale of the City's Sewer System providing a benefit to all residents of the city for capital improvement projects of \$3.9 million dollars;
- Updated City Reserve Policy;
- Grants totaling an excess of 1,203,130;
- Recovery from the Public Services Warehouse Fire and successful negotiations with various insurance providers;
- Reduction in flood insurance rating 7 to a 6 (savings to IRB Homeowners \$597,353);
- Secured donation of \$22,000 for City Hall landscaping;
- City Hall Art Projects – Funded by A2K & the IRB Homeowners Assoc.;
- Enhanced parking fines and related fees to deter illegal parking;
- Elimination of a private bank courier for City deposits (\$3,000 per year savings);
- Payment of city permit fees & other items by credit card;
- Government Finance Officers Association, Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019);
- Reduction of printers;

City Commission

- Elimination of requirement that all City Commission Agenda items, that were not city ordinances, were listed as resolutions on Commission agenda;
- Approval of an annual Calendar of Events authorizing events for the year thus eliminating the need to come before the City Commission for a second time;
- Elimination of municipal code books to various city boards, employees and elected officials resulting in substantial savings to the city;

Code Enforcement

- Part-time weekend code inspector to patrol the beach, public relations, monitor parking and general code enforcement;
- Full-time Code Enforcement Inspector position created;

Communications

- Recording IRB City Commission Meetings; placement on the city's website and IRB YouTube Channel;
- Establishment of IRB SECLICKFIX;
- Quarterly City Newsletter;
- Regular Press Releases;
- Post Card routinely mailed to residents as a reminder of various work sessions, ordinances and events;
- More information posted on the City's website;
- Re-imaged city events (IRB BeachFest (resulting from merger of IRB Biggest Beach Party and Beauty & the Beach), Halloween, IRB Holiday Lighted Boat Parade);

Library

- New computers;
- Library Book boxes at beach accesses;
- Children's Programming (music, story time, summer reading);
- Enhanced children's area including play table;
- Update integrated library system;
- Book Club;
- Additional volunteers;
- Curbside service;
- Electronic books;

Municipal Code

- Adoption of an ordinance to permit micro-breweries;
- Elimination of Community Impact Statement provision that reduces development review times and eliminate duplicate reviews;
- Elimination of need for a variance for property owners to extend/renovate wall down same building line;
- Elimination of need to apply for a variance on legally existing substandard lots for single family and two family homes;
- Adoption of Vacation Rental Ordinance;
- PUD section update;

Parks

- Construction of the IRB Pocket Park;
- Tennis/Basketball courts rehab;
- Campalong Field restoration;
- Rubberized safety material on all city playgrounds;
- IRB Dog Park renovation;
- Elimination of permitting requirement to visit the IRB Dog Park;
- Elimination of IRB Skate Park permitting requirement for out of town guests to use the skate park. Clarified state requirement that anyone under age secure a permit from City Hall;
- Elimination of stand-alone decal requirement to use the IRB Boat Ramp;
- Additional waste pickup from the beach during holiday and peak times;
- Striping for Pickle Ball play on all tennis courts to encourage multi-use of the tennis courts;

- Removal of locks from both tennis locations to allow free play;
- Beach Chair Vendor Contract;
- Keegan Clair Park reconstruction;
- Construction of Pickle Ball Courts;
- Construction of new Bocce Ball Court;
- Renovation of the Kolb Park Gazebo;
- Baseball Field LED Lighting Project;

Drainage

- Completed drainage projects; a total of \$434,494 funded by grants:
 - ✓ 306 – 308 6th Avenue
 - ✓ 327 – 328 6th Avenue
 - ✓ 482 20th Avenue
 - ✓ 519 20th Avenue
 - ✓ 456 20th Avenue
 - ✓ 2038 20th Avenue Parkway
 - ✓ 317/319 Harbor Drive
 - ✓ 360 La Hacienda Drive
- Annual cleaning/jetting of ALL outfall lines & boxes;

Parking

- Large vacant lot owners along Gulf Boulevard required to eliminate illegal parking;
- Designated "No Parking" areas immediately adjacent to Gulf Boulevard; installation of 230+ "No Parking" signs;
- Addition of three (3) resident parking spaces at each beach access, with the exception of 3rd Avenue, where two additional spaces were added;
- Addition of three (3) resident parking spaces at Keegan Clair Park;

Personnel

- Elimination of the full-time Planning & Zoning Director netting an average savings to the City of \$75,000 annual salary (+ benefits);
- Elimination of supervisory positions in Public Services (Ass't. Public Services Director, Public Services Supervisor, Parks Lead Worker);
- Uniform change and elimination of private uniform contract; provide professional, beach-friendly attire for employees;
- \$15.00 per hour base pay for all city workers;
- Elimination of the Building Department and two (2) related positions;

PCSO

- Relocation of PCSO office to the Civic Auditorium area;
- Elimination of the provision in the PCSO contract for a Community Policing Deputy;
- Coffee with a Cop;
- Proactive fireworks enforcement during holiday periods;
- Meet With A Deputy Program prior to each City Commission Meeting;

Public Services

- Relocation of the IRB Solid Waste Facility to Largo;
- 2016-17 APWA Project of the Year: Transportation, Gulf Boulevard/ Walsingham Road Intersection & Landscaping Project;
- 2018-19 APWA Project of the Year: Structure-IRB Pocket Park;
- IRB LED Residential Street Light Project;
- Street Rehabilitation Projects (various streets, ongoing);
- Proactive planning/recovery from Hurricane Hermine;
- Proactive planning/recovery from Hurricane Irma;
- Decorative Street Signage Project;
- Decorative signs at all beach accesses to encourage the public to leave only foot prints;
- Whitehurst Beach Access upgrade;
- Narrows Business District upgrades - \$500,000 project of which \$300,000 was derived from grant funding;
- New Christmas decorations: tree, entrance signs, pole;
- Gulf Boulevard Undergrounding Project – Phase I

Energy/Reduction of Carbon Footprint

- Installation of solar bollard lights at all beach accesses; ongoing;
- Installation of solar panels at City Hall Complex;
- Installation of solar panels at IRB Historical Museum;
- Gulf Boulevard LED Street Light Project;
- IRB Residential Street Light LED Project;
- LED lights at City Hall, motion activated sensors;

