



# Town of Lake Clarke Shores

Palm Beach County's Premier Lakeside Community Since 1957

## MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Town Council  
From: Daniel P. Clark, P.E., Town Manager  
Date: July 5, 2022  
Subject: Status Report for the July 12, 2022 Town Council Meeting

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### Proposed Upcoming Town Council Meeting Schedule

July 12<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM Budget Workshop, followed by CRA Meeting, and Regular Town Council Meeting  
August 9<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM Regular Town Council Meeting  
September 6<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM First Budget Hearing, CRA Meeting, and Regular Town Council Meeting  
September 27<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM Second Budget Hearing and Regular Town Council Meeting

### Upcoming Town Events

September 17<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 AM Lake Clarke Cleanup in conjunction with the International Coastal Cleanup

### FGFOA Training

I attended the FGFOA conference in Orlando June 25<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. I am required to get 8 hours of fraud training and 8 hours of investment training each year. This conference fulfills that requirement. It also gave me the opportunity to get COVID. Interesting factoids from the Conference...

- Low unemployment historically leads a recession
- Florida is somewhat recession resistant because of its growth
- 24,000 new people per year are moving into Florida; housing, job growth, and innovation will help sustain Florida economy
- There are 2 jobs for every unemployed person, so recruiting is difficult, retaining good staffing critical
- Inflation will be coming down over the next 12-18 months as the FED makes moves in rates, their target is a sustained 2.5% inflation rate
- Energy costs and home pricing will come down with inflation

### More Grant Applications

During the 2022 Legislative Session, the Florida House included a new initiative in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Appropriations Act (State Budget) for a Local Support Grants Program. We submitted two requests to our Representative David Silvers for the monies from Speaker Sprowls' new program. We submitted a request for \$1.7M for Mediterranean Neighborhood Water Quality Improvement Project (#22) with a 100% match. We also submitted a request for \$500,000 for Lake Clarke Aquatic Vegetation Removal (#41) with a 100% match. We got these requests in early. Representative Silvers is working these requests for us in Tallahassee.

## **PBC BCC Environmental General Obligation Bonds**

I attended and spoke at the PBC Board of County Commission Workshop on June 21. I spoke in favor of the Water Bond. After extensive discussions, the Water Bond was set aside to be discussed at a later date. It will not be a referendum discussion for either the Primary or General election dates in 2022.

## **PBC Lawrence Road Widening**

Palm Beach County will be widening Lawrence Road from Lantana Rd. to Hypoluxo Rd. We have significant infrastructure on the east side of Lawrence Rd. PBC Road and Bridge have placed all the drainage for their new roadway on top of or in place of our water distribution system. We have to redesign our system. The redesign has been completed by AECOM and is currently in permitting. We have asked PBC to build the improvements as part of the road widening project to minimize costs. The engineers estimate for our portion of the work is approximately \$650,000. From a budget perspective, I anticipate this to be a multiyear project starting in mid FY2023 and finishing in mid FY2024.

## **Sewer Rates from Lake Worth Beach**

We have been paying Lake Worth Beach (LWB) to pump our sewage to the East Central Regional Sewage Treatment Plant (ECR) since we bought the Utility in 1988. Along the way, the sewage flows through County owned piping. So, in our bill we have LWB operating costs, LWB R&R costs, PBC R&R costs, and ECR R&R costs. The rates fluctuate because of some significant construction issues at ECR. It makes it very hard to budget, because the rates are always changing. In 2013, the Town joined several other small municipalities that do business with LWB and became a member of the Sub-Regional Partners. The Sub-Regional Partners have some oversight and limited authority in the preparation of the LWB sewer budget. However, we have no control over PBC or the ECR. LWB does have a seat on the ECR Board and their City Engineer (who sits on the ECR Board for LWB) has been working to keep out costs as low as can be. I sit as Chair of the Sub-Regional Board and work closely with the LWB Engineer to minimize rate fluctuations, but ECR has been neglected for a long time and they are now trying to make many repairs. Our estimate is that sewer rates for the South Utility Service Area will increase approximately 22% for FY2023.

## **Panel Presentation on Small Cities Doing More @ FLC**

Lake Clarke Shores is seen by our peers as a small community that just seem to make things happen. I have been asked to join a panel of other small cities to discuss how we have been so successful. The session title is Doing More With Less – Solutions for Small Cities. I believe it is on Friday afternoon during the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference (August 12<sup>th</sup>).

## **Florida Resiliency and Energy District**

As you remember, in 2016, we partnered with Fernandina Beach to create a Property Assessed Clean Energy independent special district called FRED. We added the Florida Development Finance Corporation (FDFC) as our limited partner and administrative group. The Executive Director of FDFC is also the Executive Director of FRED. Mr. Bill Spivey was released from his contract as FDFC Executive Director. The FDFC Board then ratified the Chairman's suggestion of Mr. Marc Adler as the new Executive Director of FDFC. The FRED Board has had no contact with the FDFC Board or with Mr. Adler as yet.

## **Pickle Ball Next Steps**

We are working with the State on the funding agreement. Emilie and Karla are taking the lead with the Agency. As soon as the agreement has been executed (by the State and the Town Council), we will begin a design/build selection process to secure the contractor. Once the Town Council has approved the design/build agreement with the contractor, we will issue a notice to proceed and the contractor will start construction.

### **Pine Tree Bridge Next Steps**

We are waiting for the Florida Department of Transportation to send us a funding agreement for the \$600k grant. As soon as the agreement has been executed (by the FDOT and the Town Council), we will publicly bid the Pine Tree Bridge replacement project. Once the Town Council has approved the agreement with the lowest cost responsive and responsible contractor, we will issue a notice to proceed and the contractor will start construction. This project is currently shovel ready.