



Town of Hilton Head Island **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

An Update from Deputy Town Manager Josh Gruber 10/23/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Here's an update on what's happening around Town:

Parking Master Plan

We continue to move forward with our parking master plan, stemming from a need to address parking issues at our beach park access points across the Island. Coming up at 9 a.m. Tuesday, October 27, we will have a Town Council workshop to hear from Walker Consultants, the firm hired to develop the parking master plan for our Town. The workshop will be held virtually. The agenda for the workshop, which includes a copy of the master plan, is available on our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov. The master plan provides recommendations on how to address parking in at our beach park access points and community parks. It was developed with feedback the consultants gathered from Town staff, Town Council and community stakeholders. Consultants also made site visits to the access points and parks. If you wish to address Town Council during the workshop by phone, you must contact the Town Clerk at 843-341-4701 no later than 12 p.m. Monday, October 26. Additionally, public comments on this agenda item will be accepted through our Open Town Hall portal until 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 26. The meeting will be live streamed on the Town's Facebook page.

Channel Your Thoughts Through Open Town Hall

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, our Open Town Hall portal has been critical for public engagement. We have used this online platform to gather your comments on agenda items for nearly every meeting we've held virtually as well as for specific surveys. We appreciate those who have used this platform to express their thoughts. Because of the volume of items on Open Town Hall, you may have to stroll down the page a bit to get to some of the specific topics for which we are soliciting comments and survey feedback. Your input helps Town staff with their work on specific projects and gives our Town Council an idea of what's on your mind. Some of the topics we want to hear from you on are our parks and recreation master plan and our overhead street lights along William Hilton Parkway (US 278 Bus.) at the crosswalk near Yacht Cove Drive and the Circle K convenience store. If you have some time over the weekend, please take a moment to share your thoughts on these and other topics. You can access the portal from our homepage at hiltonheadislandsc.gov.

Park Your Thoughts Here

We invite you to weigh in on the parks and recreation recommendations and action items presented in our recently approved Comprehensive Plan. We will host our third virtual Town Hall from 2 to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28. This is an opportunity for



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you to hear about the recommendations and participate in live polling. Save the date and time on your calendar and RSVP for this meeting.

Registration Link: <https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/register/hjtrkhcp>

Landing page Link: hiltonheadislandsc.gov/projects/parksrecreation/

If you can't make the meeting, take the survey. It is available now through November 11 on Open Town Hall at <https://www.opentownhall.com/9830>

Parade-in-Place for 2020 Hilton Head Island Lantern Parade

Our Office of Cultural Affairs is getting geared up for our second Lantern Parade that will take place over the course of three nights this year, November 5-7. Instead of being on the beach this year, we will be parading in place – a COVID-19 friendly alternative for the parade. During the three nights, Islanders are encouraged to light up their driveways, yards, balconies or doorsteps with their homemade lanterns. You can register your lanterns for our online map so your neighbors can know where to view lanterns. Lantern making kits are available now at the Coastal Discovery Museum gift shop and the Art League of Hilton Head Gallery at the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina. Flying lanterns are prohibited in the state of South Carolina. For more information and logistics about the Lantern Parade, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs at 843-341-4703 or visit culturehhi.org/lanternparade. Also, check out Facebook at @CultureHHI.

BJWSA and Broad Creek and Hilton Head PSDs to conduct annual water main flushing program

Beaufort-Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA), Hilton Head Public Service District (HHPSD) and Broad Creek Public Service District (BCPSD) will temporarily change the drinking water treatment method and flush water lines throughout their service areas for a two-week period starting October 29. The change is part of the routine maintenance program for the utilities' water distribution systems. There will be no interruption in service as a result of the work.

Customers can use their water as normal, but may notice a slight chlorine taste or odor in the tap water beginning Thursday, October 29 through Friday, November 13. Customers in some areas may notice brief discoloration in the tap water as a result of lines being flushed. If water appears discolored, customers should run cold water for a few minutes. If discoloration persists, BJWSA customers can call (843) 987-9200, Hilton Head PSD customers can call (843) 681-5525 and for Broad Creek PSD, customers can call (843) 785-7582. Customers who are especially sensitive to the taste and odor of chlorine can keep an open container of drinking water in their refrigerators. This will reduce the chlorine taste. Water stored in refrigerated containers should be changed weekly.



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Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, Oct. 24

It's that time of year again to responsibly dispose of expired medications. Residents are encouraged to drop off unused, expired or unwanted prescription drugs in honor of the 10th anniversary of National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Hosted by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), this nationwide event provides a responsible way for the public to dispose of prescription drugs that might otherwise be stolen or abused or fall into the wrong hands.

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 16.3 million people reported misusing psychotherapeutic drugs — prescription pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants and sedatives — in the past year. The majority of these prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, oftentimes from home medicine cabinets. As it has in every city and county nationally, the prescription drug crisis has affected us here in Beaufort County.

To address the prescription drug crisis locally, the Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department, the Lowcountry Alliance for Healthy Youth and the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office have jointly coordinated Drug Take back events from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 24. The closest location for Island residents to dispose of medications as part of this event is Beaufort County's Bluffton Government Center parking lot, 4819 Bluffton Parkway, Bluffton. Liquid medications, sharps, medical waste or inventory from medical practices accepted will not be accepted. If you are unable to participate on Saturday, you can dispose of unused and potential dangerous medications in the prescription drug drop-off box at the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, 70 Shelter Cove Lane, Hilton Head Island.

COVID-19 Updates

Manage through Halloween this year with Halloween safety tips from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. With our mask ordinance in place, we want to make sure you know about the use of costume masks. Tips for masks, trick treating and handing out candy can be found at <https://scdhec.gov/covid19/holiday-tips-covid-19>.

Free COVID-19 drive-thru testing is available 8 a.m. to noon, Monday thru Friday at Hilton Head Hospital, 25 Hospital Center Blvd. No appointment or doctor's order is needed.

Recent data on COVID-19 cases in our community can be found at www.scdhec.gov or on our COVID-19 hub page at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19.

The top three ways to slow the spread of the coronavirus is to wear a face covering, physical distance yourself from others and wash your hands regularly.