



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

An Update from Interim Town Manager Josh Gruber 1/21/2021

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

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

Town of Hilton Head Island Mask Ordinance

This week, Town Council extended its emergency ordinance pertaining to face masks for another 61 days. It will be in effect through March 21st. The Ordinance requires individuals to wear face coverings in certain circumstances and locations in the municipal limits of the Town. Although the vaccine is now available, DHEC and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention still encourage people to wear face coverings to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities and follow other precautions, including watching their distance and washing their hands frequently.

Workforce Housing Incentive Offered for Property Owners

At its meeting this week, Town Council gave first reading to an ordinance that would offer an additional incentive for the development of workforce housing on the island. The bonus density incentive is an opportunity for property owners to receive up to 100% bonus density if 50% of all units within the development are workforce housing and participate in the Workforce Housing Program. This incentive is currently only proposed for properties that meet certain criteria including being at least three acres in size and located in the RM-4 zoning district. Second reading of the ordinance is set for February 16. Adoption of the ordinance allows Town staff to begin reviewing workforce housing projects that may be using bonus density incentives. For more information on this ordinance, contact Jayme Lopko, Senior Planner, at jaymel@hiltonheadislandsc.gov or 843-341-4695.

There's Still time to Share Your Input on Town Code Section 2-5-70, Appearance by Citizens

[Section 2-5-70 of the Municipal Code](#) of the Town of Hilton Head Island provides for citizens to appear and address the members of Town Council at any regular meeting. Town Council is seeking the community's input on this section of the Municipal Code as currently written. We invite you to complete a survey on this topic through our Open Town Hall Portal, accessible through the home page of our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov. The survey will be open through January 27.

2020 Was a Busy Year for Town's Design Review Board

Our Design Review Board provided an annual report outlining the scope of work board members completed in 2020. The Design Review Board, which consist of seven members, provides architectural and landscape design review for various projects



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

and signs throughout the community. We appreciate the time and commitment members took to continue their review process, especially during the pandemic. In 2020, members reviewed and approved the following:

- Nine new developments including the Cordillo tennis courts, the Smokehouse, the Harris Teeter Fuel Station, the Hilton Head Go Kart, Palmetto Bay Lodges, Parker's, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Mitchelville Lot 11 and the airport terminal.
- 29 requests for alterations or additions for various businesses, villas and other units including Circle K Lagoon Road, Sunset Pavilion, Scott's Fish Market, Northridge Plaza, Boathouse Storage, the old Sam's Club building and the old Bi-Lo building at Port Royal Plaza, Smokehouse, Piggly Wiggly and many others
- Nine sign requests for various businesses.

Following the Design Review Board's consideration, projects move to other committees such as the Planning Commission and Town Council for their consideration.

When You're Stuck in the Mud, Who You Gonna Call? Mud Busters!

From time to time, Fire Rescue is called upon to assist victims stuck in mud in and around Hilton Head Island. To aid rescuers in getting to the victims, the rescuers- which I describe as mud busters - use special mud boots. These boots overcome the two difficulties of mud travel: sinking and suction. As you step down and place pressure on the boot it expands and overcomes sinking. As you release pressure during your step, the boot retracts and overcomes suction. These boots have proven to be valuable tools in these type rescues. In a recent incident this week, a victim became stuck in pluff mud during a morning walk at Fish Haul Beach. The victim called 911 for help. Rescuers – our Mud Busters - arrived on the scene. Thanks to their action and the use of the special boots, the victim was pulled to safety.

Resources for COVID-19 Information and Vaccine Availability:

Hilton Head Regional Healthcare COVID Vaccine Information Call Center 843-689-7282

The Call Center (843-689-7282) is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day to address your questions regarding registration, appointments, and scheduling. You can also visit the hospital's website at www.hiltonheadregional.com for more information.

S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) Vaccination Locator Map

scdhec.gov/vaxlocator

DHEC's online map shows locations currently accepting appointments for COVID-19 vaccine. The map itself is not a way to schedule an appointment; it only provides the



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

contact information for appointments at those locations. The map will be updated often so you will need to monitor it regularly for information.

DHEC Care Line

1-855-472-3432

If you have COVID-19 or vaccine related questions, please call the DHEC Care Line.

DHEC Vaccine Information

scdhec.gov/COVID19vaccine

This site provides the latest updates on COVID-19 vaccines.

COVID-19 Case Information

scdhec.gov/COVID19

This website has extensive reporting on county-level information, demographics and more about coronavirus cases. The website is updated between 1 p.m.-3 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. weekends.

Town of Hilton Head Island COVID-19 Hub Page

hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19

Our COVID-19 Hub page includes links to information DHEC has compiled about COVID-19 cases, vaccines, the state's vaccine distribution plan, and the vaccine locator map. You can also find information on community resources.

COVID-19 Drive-thru Testing

hiltonheadregional.com

8 a.m. to noon at Hilton Head Hospital (25 Hospital Center Blvd. on Hilton Head Island) and Coastal Carolina Hospital (1000 Medical Center Drive in Hardeeville). The test is free. No appointment or doctor referral is needed.