



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

An Update from Town Manager Steve Riley 8/26/2020

Good afternoon Hilton Head Islanders and Guests,

Here's an update of what's happening around Town.

Beaufort County Uniform Law Enforcement Service Charge

On Monday, August 24, the Beaufort County Council voted to impose a uniform law enforcement service charge for the Town of Hilton Head Island. We've gotten some inquiries today from residents wondering how this would affect them. Thank you for reaching out to us with your questions and concerns. Beaufort County unilaterally undertook action without consultation or approval of the Town. Because of this, I would advise you to reach out to your representative on the Beaufort County Council to find out how this fee would be structured and how it would impact your taxes. Currently Hilton Head Island is the only municipality where this fee would be imposed and as such, we have substantial legal concerns regarding the validity of imposing such a fee.

Special Town Council Meeting

Our Town Council will host a special meeting at 9 a.m. tomorrow, August 27. Once convened, the council will move into executive session to receive legal advice relating to pending, threatened, or potential litigation covered by the attorney-client privilege. The agenda has been posted to our website and contains information about this meeting. If any action is to be taken, it will be done so in open session.

Our Plan Progress

The Planning Commission hosted a workshop this morning with our Town Council to discuss Our Plan, the Town's 2020 to 2040 Comprehensive Plan. No action was taken at this meeting, however staff received comments and input from our elected and appointed officials for consideration to add to the plan. A video recording of the meeting will be available on our website at hiltonheadislandsc.gov. The next Our Plan meeting will be a public hearing with the Planning Commission on September 16 to recommend a resolution for Our Plan to Town Council. The draft copy of Our Plan is available on our website for the public to review.

COVID-19 in Our Community

This morning, Hilton Head Hospital CEO Jeremy Clark gave an update on COVID-19 cases from a hospitalization standpoint. Currently between the hospital on the Island and its sister facility in Hardeeville, there are nine patients with COVID-19 being treated. Hospitalization of patients with COVID-19 are starting to level off from the highs that were seen in mid-July. The hospital remains vigilant and ready to adjust plans as necessary to



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treat patients who present with COVID-19. As for the total number of COVID-19 cases in our community, your best source is the S.C. Department of Health and Environment department. It maintains data on the latest confirmed and estimated COVID-19 cases by ZIP code for our area on its website at scdhec.gov. We also share this data on our COVID-19 hub page at hiltonheadislandsc.gov/COVID19.

COVID-19 Testing

Both Hilton Head Hospital and Coastal Carolina Hospital (Hardeeville) offer free drive-thru testing for COVID-19 from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday thru Friday. No appointment is necessary and, as of Tuesday, September 1, you will not need a doctor's order to get the test at the hospitals. Also, DHEC maintains a list of community pop-up testing sites and dates on its website at scdhec.gov.

Cover – Distance – Clean to Stop the Spread of COVID-19

Help stop the spread of COVID-19 by:

- Wearing a mask in public.
- Distancing yourself physically by six feet and avoiding group gatherings.
- Washing your hands often.
- Getting tested.
- Staying home if you are sick.