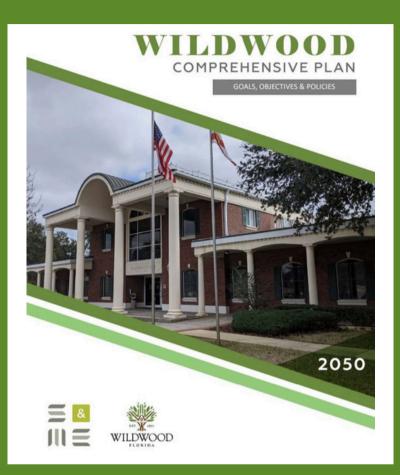
Citizens Newsletter

VILDWOOD CONNECTION



Find the City of Wildwood's comprehensive plan at <u>https://tinyurl.com/Wildwood2050CompPlan</u>

GOAL 4 - PUBLIC FACILITIES

NEEDED PUBLIC FACILITIES SHALL BE PROVIDED IN A MANNER WHICH PROTECTS INVESTMENTS IN EXISTING FACILITIES AND PROMOTES ORDERLY, COMPACT URBAN GROWTH.

Objective 4.1.	PUBLIC SERVICE AVAILABILITY The City shall ensure adequate public facility capacity is available to serve the current and future City population.
Objective 4.2.	SANITARY SEWER SERVICE The City shall provide sanitary sewer service to meet existing and projected demands identified in this Comprehensive Plan.

WILDWOOD OFFICIALS TO REDUCE DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

Comprehensive Plan Amendments Subject to Delays

At the commission's May 20, 2024, special meeting, Wildwood City Manager Jason McHugh updated elected officials on current and projected wastewater treatment capacity, reporting that new comprehensive plan amendment applications will be subject to delays.

McHugh assured commissioners that projects approved to date will not jeopardize the city's ability to process flows generated by the new development. He explained planning staff will abstain from recommending any further comprehensive plan amendments, however, until the wastewater treatment facility upgrade project adds significant additional capacity.

"I want to be clear that we have not and will not exceed permitted capacity with projects the commission has approved," McHugh said. "And I want to maintain that level of assurance, rather than threaten the city's capability to continue delivering high-quality service to all residents."

Properties already incorporated into the city's comprehensive plan will not be affected and are already considered in capacity analysis. Only property outside the city's limits and/or joint planning area would be subject to the change.

In a memo to the commission, McHugh explained staff will continue to monitor wastewater flows and scrutinize demand while the wastewater treatment plant project proceeds. That project is expected to bring the city's total treatment capacity to 5.5 million gallons per day upon completion, scheduled for early 2027.

"Wildwood prides itself on its level of service in all areas," McHugh said. "As the city grows, it is essential we manage our growth in a way that does not compromise that service. I am confident in our proactive approach to planning and development and applaud the commission's thoughtfulness and consideration of long-term consequences when balancing the wants and needs of both current and future residents and businesses."

To read the memo presented at the meeting, visit <u>https://tinyurl.com/052024Memo</u>.

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WILDWOOD CELEBRATES DEPARTMENT DURING NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

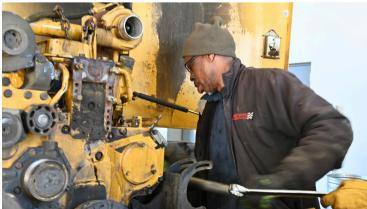
Wildwood's commission proclaimed May 19-25, 2024, as National Public Works Week in the City of Wildwood, celebrating its public works teams and the work they do.

The city's public works department encompasses streets and sidewalk maintenance, pothole repair, utility service and stormwater management, facilities maintenance, and fleet operations.

According to the proclamation, "recognizing the oftenoverlooked unsung heroes of our society, this year's theme, 'Advancing Quality of Life for All,' seeks to enhance the recognition of the dedicated professionals who diligently serve the public with quiet resolve and unwavering commitment."







PAVEMENT PRESERVATION CONTINUES

Wildwood's city commission approved the next round of pavement treatments at its May 20, 2024, special meeting.

City maintained streets are evaluated regularly, with their surface and subsurface conditions analyzed to determine the best timing of various treatments to enhance quality and extend lifespan.

In addition to saving taxpayer resources, the proactive approach maintains a higher level of roadway quality for all to enjoy.

Portions of the streets listed below are scheduled for preservation treatments this summer and fall. As the city's contractor determines specific schedules for each geographic area, residents will be notified directly before work begins.

Check <u>https://tinyurl.com/WildwoodPavement</u> for updates and <u>https://www.pavetechinc.com/roadway-</u> <u>pavement-maintenance-faq/</u> for treatment information.

Milling and Overlay:

- CR 203
- Florida St.
- Georgia St.
- Hall St.
- Huron St.
- Kilgore St.
- Michigan St.
- Mill St.
- Ontario Ave.
- Parks St.
- Pennsylvania St.
- Ross St.
- Webster St.
- York St.

HUEY STREET RECONSTRUCTION SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN JUNE

At its May 20, 2024, special meeting, Wildwood's city commission approved a contract award to Art Walker Construction, Inc. for improvements to Huey Street.

The project is part of the city's approved capital improvement program and includes drainage and utility improvements along with roadway reconstruction of Huey Street from St. Clair Street to Gamble Street.

Work is planned to coincide with the 2024 summer recess at Wildwood Middle High and Wildwood Elementary schools so as not to disrupt travel during the academic year.

Drainage and utility work will begin in early June. Through traffic will be temporarily detoured. Motorists planning to travel through the area should allow extra time and follow detour signage accordingly.

Huey Street residents will have access to and from their properties throughout the duration of the project.

- Double Micro-Surfacing:
 - Barwick St.
 - Grant St.
 - Maddox St.
 - Stanley Ave.
 - W. Clarke St.
- Webster St.

Citizens Newsletter

UTILITIES TEAM SAVES NEARLY HALF A MILLION DOLLARS IN RATEPAYER FUNDS

Assistant Utility Director Jason Martin recently reported to city commissioners that his team saved \$495,000 on a \$1 million project through a decision to perform work in house rather than contract out.

The Osceola Force Main project is part of the city's initiative to reroute sanitary sewer flow away from Huey Street's gravity system to the Trailwinds force main. The project also will replace/upgrade the pumps, panel, and generator at the St. Clair Street lift station to accommodate the increased flows from the central part of town.

Originally bid as a single construction contract, the utilities team scrutinized the details and identified specific components of the work that could be done with tools, equipment, human resources, and local vendors accessible to the city, rather than working through a new contractor.

After removing and replacing with new upsized lift station pumps, a new control panel, new riser pipes, a new upgraded generator, and interior coating of the wet well, a savings of \$495,087 was achieved.

Mayor Ed Wolf applauded the decision made by Martin and recognized the importance of finding ways to limit rate increases whenever possible.

"I appreciate your diligence and attention to every detail," he told Martin. "I truly believe and like to brag we have the best employees and the best managers here in Wildwood. You are demonstrating that in a big way."

FIRST EMPLOYEE HEALTH FAIR A SUCCESS

In conjunction with its healthcare provider, Wildwood's human resources team recently hosted its first employee health fair to provide wellness information and encourage healthy habits.

Participants had access to a free biometrics assessment, free health screenings, and free vaccinations.

Health experts in a variety of specialties were on site to answer attendee questions about specific topics and to provide nutrition, diet, and fitness tips.

The event was well attended and participants provided positive feedback to organizers, who look forward to building on the successful launch to offer enhanced programming in the future.

WILDWOOD TO RECEIVE \$113,000 HEALTHCARE REBATE FOR LOWER-THAN-EXPECTED CLAIMS

FloridaBlue has notified the City of Wildwood it will refund \$113,065 in healthcare premiums as part of its Proshare cost-savings agreement.

The program compares the actual claims filed by qualifying members to the insurance premiums paid over the same period. When premiums exceed claims, the nonprofit provider returns 50 percent of the difference.

"We share preventative and safety-oriented information on a regular basis," said Human Resources Director Melissa Tuck. "It's rewarding to know our employees are staying healthy."

SUMMER DRIVING SAFETY REMINDERS

With schools out for summer, more drivers, particularly younger ones, are on the roads. While staying alert and focused behind the wheel is always important, it is especially critical when sharing the roads with less experienced drivers.

According to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV), speed has been the top violation teen drivers have been cited for since 2015, with careless driving coming in at a close second.

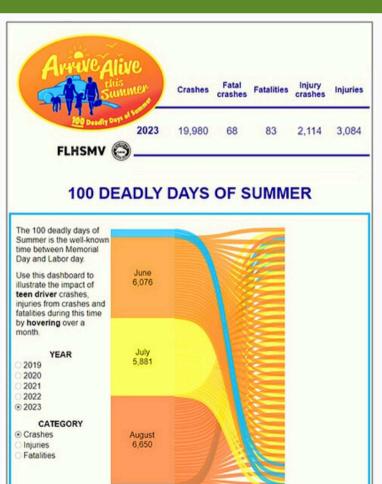
Parents and grandparents should discuss safe driving with teens often, and, just as important, set a good example when operating a motor vehicle.

Driving at the speed limit may still be too fast if weather or other conditions are below optimum. Severe weather, such as the intense rains and storms that frequent Florida skies in summer, pose additional hazards.

Slow down, turn lights and wipers on, be cautious of high winds, and never drive through a flooded area. Turn around instead of trying to go through water.

The interval between Memorial Day and Labor Day is known as the 100 Deadly Days of Summer, due to the increase in traffic crash injuries and fatalities.

Don't be a statistic. Use extra caution when driving in summer, and be sure younger family members are practicing all the same safe habits you model every day.



FLHSMV

www.wildwood-fl.gov

CITY HONORS WILDWOOD MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE TEAMS

Wildwood's city commission recently honored Wildwood Middle High School's debate teams and proclaimed May 19-25, 2024, as Wildwood Middle High School Debate Celebration Week.

Among other accomplishments this year, WMHS won two championships at the state tournament in May.

Students and staff are headed to Des Moines, Iowa, in June for the National Speech and Debate Association's national tournament.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, competitive debate in the United States can be traced back to the earliest American colleges, with "forensic disputations" first introduced at Yale University in 1747; and,

WHEREAS, the National Forensic League, now known as the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA), was established in 1925; and,

WHEREAS, the NSDA provides the infrastructure for speech and debate competitions around the world through a platform for youth voices to be heard and celebrated, culminating with an annual national tournament, regarded as the pinnacle of public speaking; and,

WHEREAS, Florida launched the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI) in 2019 to use debate as a tool to expand and enhance civic knowledge and reinvigorate public debate and civil discourse in Florida classrooms; and,

WHEREAS, the FCDI has developed more than 400 new speech and debate teams in 67 counties, comprising more than 4,200 student competitors; and,

WHEREAS, Wildwood Middle High School's debate teams have earned an impressive array of awards and accolades in competition and in other academic disciplines; and,

WHEREAS, after taking home multiple championships from the 2024 state tournament, these teams will travel to Des Moines, Iowa, next month to participate in the NSDA's national tournament; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Wildwood's commissioners, staff, and citizens now come together to recognize, support, and encourage these exceptional students and faculty for their work and their accomplishments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Commission of the City of Wildwood, Florida, that May 19 through May 25, 2024, be, and is hereby proclaimed as

WILDWOOD MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE CELEBRATION WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have PASSED and DULY ADOPTED this 20th day of May 2024.

CITY COMMISSION CITY OF WILDWOOD, FLORIDA



WMHS DEBATE TEAM MEMBERS AND FACULTY

Rodney Rocker

Principal

Illiana Miranda

Varsity Debate Coach, Debate Teacher (All Grades)

Andrew Underhill

• Middle School Debate Coach, Head Judge, and Drama Coach

Alexanderia Barron

- 2024 FCDI "JUST TALK" State Champion
- Marching Wildcats, Weightlifting Team, and Softball Team Member

Gerardo Cardoso

- 2024 Middle School Nationals Team Member
- Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu Speaking Competitor

Esly Villeda Castillo

- 2023 NCDC Extemporaneous Debate Champion
- 2024 District Qualifier/NSDA Nationals for Big Questions Debate
- 2024 Bill Gates Scholarship Recipient
- 2022 and 2023 NSDA Nationals Extemporaneous Speaking Competitor
- University of Florida: Fall 2024

- Jacob Clayton
 O School Nationals Team Member
 O School Nationals Team Member
 - 2024 World School Debate Team Member

Oscar Rubio Flores

- 2024 NSDA Nationals Big Questions Qualifier
- 2023 World School Debate Team Member

Jordan Miranda Juarez

- 2023 NSDA Middle School Nationals Team Member
- 2024 World School Debate Team Member

AmandaLesly Miranda

- 2024 FCDI Extemporaneous Debate Champion
- 2024 District World School Debate Team Captain/NSDA Nationals
- 2024 National Speech & Debate Association Honor Society Premier Distinction
- 2024 NSDA Panther District Student of the Year
- 2022, 2023, and 2024 NSDA Nationals for World School **Debate Competitor**
- Florida State University: Fall 2024

Nashaly Soto

- 2024 Middle School Nationals Team Member
- Original Oratory and Declamation Competitor

Joseph Wise

- 2023 NSDA Middle School Nationals Team Member
- 2024 World School Debate Team Member



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Find more activities and events on the city's community calendar at <u>www.wildwood-fl.gov/calendar</u>.



June 2024

Citizens Newsletter

www.wildwood-fl.gov

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Code Compliance

(June meeting canceled) July 9, 2024 1:00 p.m.

Local Planning Agency June 11, 2024 2:00 p.m.

Planning and Zoning June 11, 2024 2:15 p.m.

City Commission

June 10, 2024 9:00 a.m.

June 17, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Project Review Committee June 11, 2024 10:00 a.m.

General Information

Unless otherwise specified, all meetings are held at City Hall, 100 N. Main St.

Agendas and minutes are posted on the city's website. Go to www.wildwood-fl.gov and click on <u>Agenda</u>.

Meetings are open to the public. Attend in person or remotely by going to the city website and clicking on Government > <u>Attend a Meeting Virtually</u>.

Anyone wishing to speak during Public Forum should submit a comment card before the meeting begins.

CHAT WITH A COMMISSIONER MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center 101 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.



Commissioner Bivins will visit with members of the public. Ask questions, socialize, and/or just listen.

Reservations are not required or taken. Attendees are invited to bring their own lunch or refreshments.





A LOOK AT WILDWOOD HISTORY

This photo shows A&P Food Stores on Main St, now the site of Family Dollar. A handwritten note on the back reads "'50s - A.C. Thornton - manager."

The exact date and photographer are unknown.

CITY INFORMATION

Commission

Ed Wolf Mayor ewolf@wildwood-fl.gov

Pamala Harrison-Bivins Mayor Pro Tem pbivins@wildwood-fl.gov

Joe Elliott Commissioner jelliott@wildwood-fl.gov

Marcos Flores Commissioner mflores@wildwood-fl.gov

Julian Green Commissioner jgreen@wildwood-fl.gov

City Hall

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Directory

City Manager Jason McHugh 352-330-1332 jmchugh@wildwood-fl.gov

Development Services 352-330-1334

Human Resources 352-330-1340

Parks and Recreation 352-461-0134

Police (Non-Emergency) 352-330-1355

Police (Emergency) 911

Public Works 352-330-1343

Utilities 352-330-1336