



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

Office of the Town Manager

To: Honorable Mayor Glenn Singer &
Town Council Members

From: Alexander Diaz,
Town Manager

Date: September 20, 2016

Subject: **2016-Significant Accomplishments and Performance Review**

This coming March will mark my ten year anniversary as your Town Manager. This past decade we have collectively accomplished the transformation of a community with many needs, to a “new” community with great promise. Having completed a number of capital projects has helped build a sense of community and put Golden Beach on the map as the premier community to reside in.

We now enter the next phase of our journey together and what lies ahead will be as challenging as that which we have just celebrated. Maintaining the \$43-million dollars of improvements will be complex and draw on our already taxing budget. I also remain concerned with the outstanding needs that remain on our Capital Plan (Canal Maintenance, Civic Center Master Plan, Street Lighting Improvements and the Massini Wall). We remain focused on our mission, vision and strategic priorities though, as we push forward.

While every aspect of the Town’s Services is important, this coming year we will focus on three core areas: Open Spaces/Landscaping, Public Safety/Security and Capital Projects.

- We will focus on initiatives that continue the Town’s objective to provide high standards of parks and infrastructure including: increased operating hours at the Beach Pavilion, painting and maintaining all curbs, sidewalks and gutters throughout the Town, landscape improvements at all nine (9) parks and open spaces, beautification projects along the Strand and Ocean Boulevard, and re-sealing select sections of the streets throughout the Town.
- Initiative to grow upon the progress we have made at the Town’s Beach Pavilion will continue (i.e. additional recreational programming, possibility of adding artificial turf and additional lounge areas). We expect to remodel the

men's and women's restrooms at the Pavilion and add additional paved area for lounges and storage.

- Initiative that improves the amount and variety of arts and culture in the Town to provide opportunities for community interaction and enrichment.

Our Capital Projects goals are never quite finished, and this is why we will continue to look for the necessary resources to meet future projects. Left on our list (in no particular order):

- Maintenance of our Canals and Waterways
- Replacement of Towns Street Lights
- Civic Center Master Plan (New Town Hall; Expansion of Tweddle Park)

Although these projects are lofty, if there is one thing that we have learned in the last few years, it is that we will work to identify funds for these projects without raising taxes, looking for grants, and minimizing costs

Looking back at FY 2015/2016, it was a year full of milestones and accomplishments for the Town. Here is what it looked like:

- ✓ Perhaps the most important accomplishment this fiscal year was the implementation of a living wage for all of the employees of the Town, with a special focus on the Public Works department, bringing each employee to a minimum annual salary amount of \$32,000.00.
- ✓ Negotiated a contract with Financial Advisors setting the stage for a refinancing of our Bonds.
- ✓ Delivered an Operating savings of over \$400k.
- ✓ The Town applied for and attained the Tree City USA designation because of the Town's lush landscaping and ample open spaces.
- ✓ The Town implemented an aggressive curb and gutter replacement project worth \$+300,000.
- ✓ Implemented a strong response plan to ensure that Zika does not spread to this area.
- ✓ Bollards were erected at the entrance of Town.
- ✓ The Town's Police Department held a boating safety class for residents for the third year in a row.

- ✓ Initiative that improves the standard of police service and enhanced safety for all residents, employees and guest. Hire a full-time Marine Patrol Officer which will increase our presence on the Intercoastal.
- ✓ The budget as a business plan, outlining goals and measures that govern Town affairs, has attained the esteemed “Distinguished Budget Award” for the seventh year in a row.
- ✓ The Town continued to provide residents with a number of free-of-charge services, the most recent of which being the food trucks at the beach pavilion every weekend during the months of August and September.
- ✓ The Town saw added residential growth issuing 8 residential certificates of occupancy and completion (“CCs & Cos”) and 11 Temporary Certificates of Occupancy (“TCOs”).
- ✓ Commenced the redesign of the interior of the Police Sub-Station
- ✓ Commenced the design for the renovation of the Beach Pavilion Restrooms.
- ✓ Commenced the design for new amenities at the Beach Pavilion.

The Town has been able to accomplish a number of goals both personal and Town-wide, with very limited and at times very little resources. We will continue to provide the high quality of service the residents have become accustomed to while maintaining the highest level of efficiency and professionalism. We are well on our way to becoming the premier residential community in which to visit, live, and raise a family.

I would like to thank you for your policy guidance and your support of the administration’s planning, proposals and creative projects. Thank you for your unselfish service to the Town government and its long term future. You also have my personal commitment that we will make the Town proud of our continued dedication to the heritage and tradition of Golden Beach; that we are an organization you can trust and believe in, and one you can admire for the good that we do and the future direction towards which we steer.

By working together, we once again have been able to end the fiscal year accomplishing the priorities you have set for our Town.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Town Manager.