



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

Office of the Town Manager

To: Honorable Mayor Glenn Singer &
Town Council Members

From: Alexander Diaz, 
Town Manager

Date: September 27, 2018

Subject: **FY-2018-Significant Accomplishments and Performance Review**

Over my almost 11 years as your manager we have witnessed some rather big accomplishments as a community, and it amazes me how this community continues to grow. This year, we continued to see an increase in home values staying over the Billion Dollar Mark in assessed values for a Town with only 390 buildable lots. We were dealt a hard blow going into the fiscal year, as clean up efforts continued following the Town's first major weather event in over a decade, and we saw the expansion of the Town's CIP projects with the completion of major projects.

We remain focused on our mission, vision and strategic priorities though, as we push forward. During the last year we have worked towards enhancing and enriching the lives of our Residents, and in the proposed budget we take our efforts to another level. We have expanded on the Department of Resident Services providing enhanced services and features that have improved our communication efforts and community engagement.

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.

Our Core Principles for the 2018-2019 fiscal year includes:

- Enhance the security and safety of our residents
- Maintain greater transparency and communication with our Residents
- Embrace the highest standards of service and fiscal stability
- Expand our community engagement through recreational programming
- Strive for an efficient and responsive government

Our Primary Focus during for the 2018-2019 fiscal year includes:

- 90th Anniversary Celebration
- Implement Canal Maintenance Program
- Center Island Pump Station
- Irrigation and Landscape Contract – Bid and Award
- Town Hall Feasibility Study and Recommendation
- Conduct A-1-A Corridor Study

Over the past eleven years, the Town of Golden Beach as an entity has been working towards one goal – change. Looking back at FY 2017/2018, it was a year full of milestones and accomplishments for the Town. Here is what it looked like:

The Town completed the following Capital Improvement Projects consisting of:

- ✓ The Street Lighting Project to expand and modernize the current street lighting system – funded in part through a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Economic Opportunity. The value of the project is in excess of \$3-million.
- ✓ The Town completed the redesign and rebuild of the police gatehouse.
- ✓ The Town completed the redesign of the bathroom and common area of the Beach Pavilion.
- ✓ The Beach Pavilion as a structure was also renovated and upgraded with the resurfacing of columns and resurfacing of the flooring within the structure itself.
- ✓ In addition to the rebuild of the police gatehouse, the Town added on a new Capital Improvement Project with the redesign of the entry features as well as the installation of new pavers at the entrance to Town.

Other Significant Advancements:

- ✓ This year the Town began weekly beach sampling to test the Town’s waters for bacteria – which led to the Town’s timely discovery of contaminated waters in our beach.
- ✓ The Town completed a Preliminary Canal Dredge Design after 4 years of studies.
- ✓ The Town completed a Study to alleviate flooding at Center Island.

- ✓ Enhancements were made at Tweddle Park by way of increased amenities and the installation of shade features
- ✓ Started the conversation to receive input from residents on the Civic Center Master Plan
- ✓ Implemented a new sign system at the South Gate to inform residents of important events and news pertaining to Town as they exit.
- ✓ The Town maintained its Tree City USA designation in recognition of its lush landscaping and ample open spaces
- ✓ The Golden Beach Police held a boating safety class for residents for the fourth year in a row.
- ✓ The budget as a business plan, outlining goals and measures that govern Town affairs, has attained the esteemed “Distinguished Budget Award” for the ninth year in a row.
- ✓ The Town saw added residential growth in F/Y 2017-2018 issuing 5 Residential Certificates of Occupancy (“COs”) , 3 Temporary Certificates of Occupancy (“TCOs”) and 1 (CC’s) Certificate of Completions (Additions and Remodels).
- ✓ The Town currently has 32 Active Projects, 21 of which are New Homes and 11 are Additions/Remodels. In addition to those 32 projects, there are 4 new homes undergoing review and approval, and 3 more homes that have already been approved and are awaiting permitting submittal.
- ✓ The Town reinstated the youth programming initiative providing fun activities for the youth of the Town during Spring break from school as well as adding additional programming during the summer break.
- ✓ The Town continued to provide residents with a number of free-of-charge services, such as food and sodas on the beach during a number of holidays, Valentine’s Day “candy-grams” delivered right to residents’ doorsteps, and fully catered get-to-know your neighbor events.
- ✓ The Town’s Public Works department has also taken on an active role in supplying extra assistance to residents (i.e. spraying the Town for mosquitoes, adding chlorine tablets to all standing water, pumping pooling water out of residences, etc.)
- ✓ As an “end of summer/back to school” program, food and drinks were offered at the Beach Pavilion, every other weekend during the months of July and August.

- ✓ The Police Department once again held its back to school campaign seeing students off on the morning of the first day of school with lunch boxes filled with nutritious treats and other goodies.
- ✓ The Town designed the first ever Town Flag.
- ✓ The website was enhanced with increased information and ease of use, including live streaming of council meetings and the Town's TV channel.
- ✓ Adding to increased communications efforts, the Town also started incorporating email blasts to residents.
- ✓ A new informational LED sign was installed at the South Gate to provide residents with information as they exit Town.
- ✓ In an effort to increase the safety of residents, the Town switched the method it was using for mosquito control to one that uses
- ✓ The Town prepared for the upcoming election year, completed election packets for interested residents to have.
- ✓ Due to the Town's Re-financing of the 2007 General Obligation Bonds – the Town has begun to see the more than \$790,000 savings projected over the next three fiscal years.
- ✓ The Town completed a comprehensive insurance review to make sure the insurance provided by the Town is competitive and in line with surrounding municipalities
- ✓ The Town has continued enforcing the Town's Code(s) through compliance and focused on properties that have been neglected though the years. We have collected over \$26,000 in violations from properties that were deemed blighted.
- ✓ The Town's Police Department successfully completed an extensive and thorough reaccreditation process.
- ✓ The Town reinstated the youth programming initiative providing fun activities for the youth of the Town during Spring break from school as well as adding additional programming during the summer break.
- ✓ Additional summer programming for the whole family to enjoy included the continued food truck initiative – providing residents with free food truck snacks every weekend in July and August.

At the forefront of how we govern is maintaining our capital projects, aesthetic appeal of our open spaces and parks, and the quality of life for our residents and employees.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Mayor and members of the Town Council for your selfless dedication to the Town and continued support of my administration.

A municipal government cannot properly function without a lot of assistance and dedication from the Department Directors and their staffs. I am very proud of the efforts of our employees to continue to offer the highest quality of services. I am fortunate to be a part of a team that is committed to excellence and exemplary public service of the highest ethical standard.

Thank you for trusting me to serve as your Town Manager and allowing me to be a part of your family. And like many families, we may not always agree on things, but the one thing we all share is our love for the Town of Golden Beach.

Know that Golden Beach has always been, and continues to be my priority!