

# FORWARDTHINKING. FUTURE FOCUSED.



## GO for the gold!

### G.O. Bond Information:

There's a whole lot to look forward to.

- WELLNESS CENTER CONSTRUCTION · PARK IMPROVEMENTS
- LIGHTING BEACH PAVILION ENHANCEMENTS
- SIGNAGE & FOUNTAINS

We're looking to make improvements that will make Golden Beach even better. To take the Town's services to the next level, we will need to secure funding. Details on these exciting new proposed projects are included in this guide. To allocate funds towards these projects Residents would need to vote on the GO Bond question that will appear on the August 23, 2022 election ballot.

## Golden Beach looks to make improvements without increasing taxes

In 2022, the Town Council has a new vision, to bring Residents improved amenities and facilities that would complement our community and provide additional services. The Town Administration is proud of their history of delivering projects without creating financial burden on Residents, and its continued goal is not to waver from that course. With the dollars secured from the \$14 million GO (General Obligation) Bond issued in 2008, the Town was able to create \$58 million worth of improvements to the Town through the Capital Improvements Project.

#### What is a GO Bond?

General Obligation Bonds (or GO Bonds) are a type of municipal bonds. In the event a municipality decides to launch a new project, but it does not have sufficient capital on-hand to finance the initiative, the municipality can issue general obligation bonds to fund the project, instead of raising tax millage rates.

At the Golden Beach Town Council Meeting held on May 17, 2022, the Mayor and Council approved Resolution #2811.22, which laid out the bond question that is being presented for your approval (The bond question is included in its entirety on the back of this informational guide).

In this case, the bond would be issued for an amount not to exceed \$7 million dollars, see details below for the scope of the proposed projects that would be funded by the GO Bond.

#### What would the funds be used for?

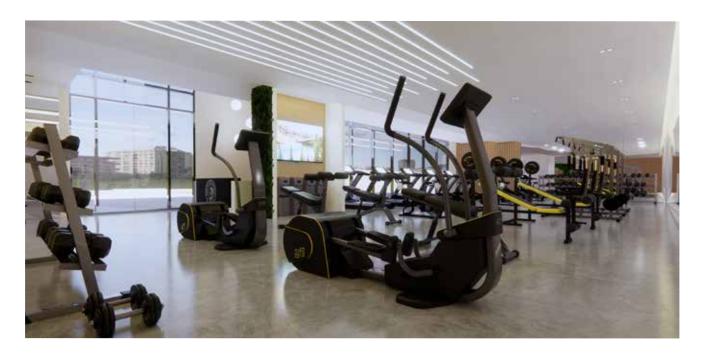
Funds for a GO bond could be applied towards various proposed upcoming projects, including: Wellness Center, Tweddle Park Improvements, Park Restrooms, A1A Beautification, Beach Pavilion Enhancements, Updated Entrance Signage & Fountains.





# Funding from the project will go towards expanded development of surrounding areas at the Civic Center Complex. We have BIG plans for our small Town.

A brand new state-of-the-art Wellness Center with community exercise facilities and recreation spaces. Features would include gym, yoga studio and quiet study/meditative space. The facility would also house youth-designated areas and a multipurpose activity space, which would create a hub for hosting events and guest speakers as a way to foster community engagement.



## Parks & Rec.



## We're making Tweddle Park even better, these new amenities are "game-changers" for sure.

A new creative Tot Lot complete with accessible restrooms, concession room and stroller track. The proposed Tot-lot would be double the size of the existing lot and would feature a modern, picturesque design.

The reimagined Tweddle Park would contain:

- (2) Pickleball courts
- (2) Hard Surface Tennis courts
- (1) Clay Tennis Court
- (1) Full Jr. Basketball court
- (3) New dog park areas including separate sections for large and small dogs
- New parking layout
- New site lighting, furnishings & landscape design

## And that's not all...

We're looking to improve other amenities throughout Town



#### SIGNS OF THE TIMES:

Projects would include AIA beautification, updating signage and fountains for a real refresher.

#### LIGHTING THE WAY ON A1A:

Taking sustainability into account, the Town would implement energy-efficient lighting for Medjool Palms on AIA, which would be both easy on the eyes and easy on the Planet.

#### **BE A PAVILION-AIRE:**

Want to feel like a million bucks at the Beach? Further enhancements would come to the Beach Pavilion giving you an even better experience while enjoying the Town's beach.

#### WHEN NATURE CALLS:

No need to rush home while enjoying your time in North or South Park, new inconspicuous restroom facilities will have you covered, should nature call. Each park would feature a single unisex, ADA compliant restroom which would be artfully designed to blend with the scenery.

#### What type of funding would be needed?

While considering projects the Town Administration believes that a GO bond not to exceed \$7 million would cover expenditures and carry the financial burden of such projects in a fair and proportionate manner for all residents.

Since the Town is a strictly residential community it has limited resources of revenue, relying heavily on ad valorem taxes. A GO bond would allow the Town to borrow funds to deliver these projects.

### Why apply for a GO Bond now when some project costs have not yet been determined?

With interest rates at their current standings, the Town does not want to hesitate and potentially lose an advantageous window of opportunity.

Securing the bond does not mean the funds must be spent immediately, or all at once, but delays in applying could come at a cost of higher interest rates.

#### What happens next?

The decision is yours. The Bond Question will be included on the ballot of the August 23, 2022 election primary. You can choose to approve or reject the question.

Make your voice heard by voting in-person at Golden Beach Town Hall on the day of the election from 7:00AM to 7:00PM, you may also choose to vote-by-mail, for details and deadlines please contact Golden Beach Town Clerk, Lissette Perez at (305)932-0744 x238.

### Our proven track record of success.

### A message from the Town Manager

Dear Residents of Golden Beach,

The Town Administration works tirelessly each year to secure funding through grants and direct appropriations to fund projects that benefit our community.

A few months ago the Town applied for two grants: the first to fund much needed improvements to the Tweddle Park Pump Station: the second grant to fund a Resiliency Plan/Study for the Town.

The goal of the project(s) is to create a comprehensive plan that addresses the extraordinary challenges the Town faces now, and in the future. The first grant would make improvements to the Pump Station in Tweddle Park to address flooding in the south side of Town. The second grant is to conduct a community-wide vulnerability assessment. Our Administration and consulting engineers are working closely to identify the highest risks to the town. To date, the Town has been conducting limited analysis including portions of the stormwater system and sea walls.

Recently we learned that the Town was awarded \$500,000 for the Pump Improvements and \$75,000 for a Resiliency Study.

In the past year alone, the Town has secured a total of \$705,000 worth of funds through grants and direct appropriations from Congress and the State. These funds have been used towards flood mitigation through the purchase of portable pumps (\$130,000), the improvements to the Pump Station at Tweddle Park (\$500,000) and for a resiliency study (\$75,000).

It is important to highlight that since 2008, the Town has leveraged our original \$14.5 million GO Bond Issuance into over \$53 million worth of capital improvements for Golden Beach; adding over \$38.5 million in additional Capital, while maintaining our millage rate of a combined 8.4 mills.

We should be proud of the work we continue to provide on behalf of our residents.

Should you have questions about the projects these funds will support, feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

**Alexander Diaz**Town Manager

Town of Golden Beach

## Some major initiatives the Administration has taken during recent years without increasing the tax millage rate include:

Overseeing the Civic Center Complex Master Plan, including financing, oversight of bids and contracts. This project will provide the community with a state-of-the-art government hub and community center with indoor and outdoor event spaces.

**Security and AIA Improvements.** Security cameras were installed on Ocean Boulevard and on the oceanfront. Up-lighting was also installed to illuminate the row of date palms running down the Town's main thoroughfare.

**Developed and Executed a Town-wide Street Lighting Program.** As a safety initiative, and an aesthetic improvement, the Council worked with Florida Power and Light (FPL) on a full renovation of the Town's street lighting.

**Initiated Town-Wide Fiber Internet Project.** This first-of-its-kind partnership with Internet Service Provider (ISP) and telecommunications company, Hotwire Communications, will provide a fully managed, 100% fiber optic/GPON network backbone, and deliver a Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) Wi-Fi solution to residents. Other aspects of the agreement include minimum speeds of 1 Gigabit and offerings of a full suite of services including Voice Over IP (VOIP), Phone, Internet protocol Television (IPTV), CCTV, Network security & monitoring, and more.

**Stormwater Drainage Improvements.** Drainage was addressed to remediate flooding and standing water and aid in the prevention of potential health hazards. Additional flooding remediation includes the recent \$60,000 curbs and gutters replacement program.

**Construction of Pump Station at Center Island.** In an effort to address rising tides and flooding concerns on one of the lowest lying points of Town, the Council oversaw construction of a new pump station at Center Island. This project alleviates flooding and preserves the existing roadway and critical sea-level rise infrastructures.

**Heard and Approved Proposal for Renovations and Enhancements at the Beach Pavilion.** The Town Council oversaw the capital improvement project that included resurfacing and restoration of the Pavilion structure, along with upgraded bathroom facilities and added amenities.

**Upgrading of Park Equipment, playground and exercise equipment in Tweddle Park**. The project included new play equipment and a sun shading structure. Additional improvements were also made to the strength training/exercise areas adjacent to the picnic structure.

Oversaw the project to install an automated transponder-based entry gate system at the Strand and exit gate at Terracina. For safety and security, the Council elected to add an additional level of protection for those wishing to access the interior of Town.

**Undergrounding Electrical Utilities and Security Upgrades.** This project assured reliable power during severe storms, more attractive streetscapes, and improved safety. This project also introduced the Town's initial closed-circuit television (CCTV) system.

**Commissioning and executing an AIA Corridor Study.** The new landscaping plans will help unify the overall aesthetic, giving our community a more polished look.

#### The G.O. bond question:

Shall the Town issue general obligation bonds not exceeding \$7 million in one or more series maturing not later than thirty years from their issuance dates, bearing interest not exceeding the maximum allowable by law, payable from ad valorem taxes levied by the Town for the construction of a wellness center, and one or more of the following; improvements to park(s), lighting, the beach pavilion, signage and fountains?

For more information contact the Town Manager's Office at (305) 932-0744.

## Referendum Bond Election Date: 08.23.22

To learn more about our projects, visit www.goldenbeach.us