



CITY OF PALMETTO
PO BOX 1209
PALMETTO, FL 34220

Numbers to Know

**Department of
Public Works
723-4580**

Public Works Director
Code Enforcement
Fleet Maintenance
Planning Development
Project Management
Building/Permitting
Sewer, Water, Reclaim
Signs and Markings
Solid Waste
Stormwater & Ditches
Road & Bridge

**City Hall
723-4570**

Mayor's Office
City Clerk
Finance Department
Facilities & Events
Utility Billing

CRA Director - 723-4988
Building/Permitting - 721-2166
Police Department - 723-4587
Toilet Rebate - 417-2890
Treatment Plant - 723-6106

**Commission
Meeting Dates**

All meetings are held in the
Commission Chambers
Meetings start at 7:00 P.M.

**January 3rd & 24th
February 7th & 28th
March 7th & 21st**

The public is encouraged to
attend.

Commissioners

Tamara Cornwell—At Large
Sheldon Jones—At Large
Harold Smith— Ward I
Tambra Varnadore—Ward II
Brian Williams—Ward III

City News In Brief

First Quarter

January 2022

www.palmettofl.org

From the Mayor



Happy 2022!

This has been a challenging time for everyone, to say the least, so a few special words of appreciation should be noted. Our community has been very supportive and co-operative working together through the inconveniences that come with the gains and improvements, as well as dealing with the overriding COVID-19 challenges. Our City staff, Department Heads and Commissioners have done an outstanding job through it all, from modifying operations in order to serve the public to holding public meetings during a pandemic.

In spite of the challenges, let me tell you what is happening in the City:
• Finishing the playground at Sutton Park

- Progress on the Lincoln Street West Park Pool, in which the CRA funded \$1.4M and provided several acres of needed land
- Ground breaking at Connor Park, to help purify water runoff draining over 70 square acres of soil before entering the Manatee River.
- New safety features at the intersection of 23rd St and US41 with an anticipated roundabout in late 2022.

- Goals for the next few years:
- Continued enhancements to Martin Luther King, Jr. Park
 - 17th Street Park revitalization with new playground equipment
 - Continued efforts towards crime prevention/reduction/community outreach
 - Continued coordination and planning with the Florida Department of Transportation for the 10th Avenue Corridor from Riverside Drive to 17th

- Continued revitalization of infrastructure, lines and man-hole covers to prevent future stormwater spills
- Continued utilization of 1/2 cent sales tax funds for City park renovations, resurfacing roads and the new Police Department
- Complete the renovation of the Woman's Club
- A real priority for all of us who are able is to step up and help those that are in need.

As always, I would ask you to shop local and support our community businesses. Again, I thank the residents and businesses of Palmetto for supporting our efforts and initiatives. Wishing you all a very blessed and happy New Year!

Shirley Groover Bryant
Mayor

From the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

Over the past 10 years, the Palmetto CRA has incentivized numerous business additions, such as It Works!, Detwiler's, and the new Palmetto Sheraton Grand Hotel at the Convention Center. The Agency has also redeveloped Sutton Park, the Riverside Park waterfront, including "the Seahorse", created Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park and is creating Connor Park. The Palmetto Boat Ramp was redeveloped by the CRA, as well as 5th Street streetscape, and Haben Blvd. and roundabout landscaping. Most CRA public projects are partnered with other funding agencies like the Florida Dept. of Transportation, West Coast Inland Navigation District, and SW FL Water Mgmt. District. The CRA currently plans to redevelop Old Main Street, continue the multimodal trail, and has purchased the Palmetto Woman's Club and Armory for historic preservation. The Agency also has remediated 5 brownfield redevelopment sites including the old Shell Station, Slick's Auto, and the Edenfield property; provided housing rehabilitation grants; and hosted the Palmetto Fourth of July and Multicultural Festivals.

Jeff Burton, CRA Director

City of Palmetto Movie in the Park

Providing entertainment for Palmetto families to enjoy year around, the City of Palmetto will be showing a movie, free of charge, on the first Friday of every month, weather permitting.

Movie in the Park - where more than 3,000 current and classic movies are at our disposal.

There is no better place to be this season than Sutton Park. Grab a picnic basket and a blanket and enjoy the show. You bring the snacks, we'll bring the stars, thanks to our sponsors.



For more information about Movie in the Park, contact the Facilities and Events Specialist at 941-723-4570

Remember!
Popcorn and sodas provided before the movie starts

Sponsored by
Waste Management

Movie starts at dusk



From Human Resources

The City of Palmetto is currently hiring for Service Worker I and II, Equipment Operator, Crew Leader, Police Officer, Crossing Guard, Purchasing Specialist, Junior Accountant, City Planner, Building Inspector, and Building Official.

If you are interested in joining the City of Palmetto team, please call Terri Dickinson at 941-723-4570, or email tdickinson@palmettofl.org.

Terri Dickinson, Human Resources

From the Public Works Department

Parks Department Projects

Construction activities have commenced at Martin Luther King Jr. Park and Sutton Park. Construction crews have begun to build the restroom facilities at MLK Jr. Park. Interested parties may checkout the progress on our website. www.palmettofl.org/MLK_Timelapse In addition to the restrooms being added to MLK Jr Park, Sutton Park playground equipment has been replaced. Both of these projects are being funded through the City's 1/2-cent sales tax.

Reuse Water - Final Segment

The area including 4th and 5th Avenues West that is north of 17th Street has had reclaimed water pipes installed. With this addition, all residents of the City of Palmetto have re-

claimed water available for use. This is a great way to water your landscaping or plants while conserving both money and drinking water.

Infiltration & Inflow Study

The City is anticipating an engineering study to determine the best use of our resources to combat inflow and infiltration (I & I). I & I evaluates the lining and condition of the pipes to avoid unexpected spikes at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. We look forward to seeing the Engineer's recommendations to rehabilitate the specific areas of the sanitary sewer system that will provide the most improvement for the community.

Mohammed Rayan
Public Works Director

From the Police Department

As we begin a new year, I want to report on the criminal activity in the City of Palmetto for 2021. This past year saw decreases in both violent crimes (murder, sexual assault, robbery) as well as decreases in property crimes (theft, burglary). This is certainly welcomed news, since we had an increase in burglaries during 2020. Part of our success in decreasing the number of thefts and burglaries this year has everything to do with all of you! 1) We have received an increased number of calls this year regarding suspicious activity and 2) I suspect more of you are locking your cars! These seemingly

small steps have been extremely important. Each month, I try to remind folks that if they see something, say something... and you have listened. Your phone calls about suspicious activity help the police officers locate and identify would-be thieves.

Auto burglary is a crime of opportunity: thieves work their way through neighborhoods looking for unlocked cars. Nearly all of our vehicle burglaries this year have involved unlocked cars. Locking your car simply removes the opportunity for these crimes to take place.

Although we had far fewer auto burglaries this year, we

did have six firearms taken during burglaries from unlocked cars. Two of these firearms were recovered locally from robbery suspects. Please, do not leave firearms and other valuables in your unattended vehicle. Theft is one of the leading ways that criminals obtain firearms, and the last thing that a lawful gun owner wants is to provide the weapon that a criminal uses to hurt or kill someone.

Thank you for helping us help you. Continued best wishes in 2022 from the men and women at the Palmetto Police Department!

Scott Tyler
Chief