



Message From The Mayor

Jon Netts



What began one year ago as a formidable, elaborate road project is now about 65% complete. The first phase of widening eastbound Palm Coast Parkway to six lanes is finally in our rearview mirror and residents can now focus on the road ahead. Phase Two, the westbound lanes, is presently in progress, to be finished in early summer. Phase Three will extend until December, 2015 when all six-lanes will be open, renovation complete and the construction equipment and orange cones will vanish!

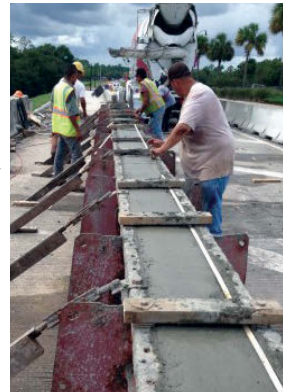
Here's a summary of the final improvements:

- Three lanes of traffic will be constructed and paved both east and westbound, along the 1.23 miles of roadway between Cypress Point Pkwy/Boulder Rock Dr. and Florida Park Dr.
- Bike and pedestrian paths, curbs, gutters and sidewalks will be added along the entire project.
- Irrigation, stormwater retention, signals and signage will be upgraded.

- Landscaping will add 458 new trees and shrubs. Many existing trees have already been transplanted to other Palm Coast locations.

To help reassure you that movement on Palm Coast Parkway will not drive you too crazy, vehicle traffic will continue on two lanes running both east and westbound for as long as possible during the remainder of reconstruction. While it may seem that the new lanes are ready to open, crews are still working on elements of the project that are not always obvious to the naked eye. To ensure evenness of the finished roadway, all six lanes and median cuts will be paved at the same time. Residents and visitors who enter Palm Coast at I-95 and Palm Coast Parkway will soon experience our signature landscape identity, a reminder that our City truly takes pride in our quality of life.

On behalf of your City Council and City staff, please know that we truly appreciate your patience as we upgrade Palm Coast Parkway to better serve our community's transportation needs. Updated information about this project is available at www.palmcoastpkwy.com. or 1-800-515-9194.



PICKLED & Paddled

With the purchase of specially-designed paddles, perforated balls and dropped nets, Palm Coast Parks and Recreation staff has helped to advocate playing Pickleball as the new craze in our town.

Just a few months ago, staff assembled temporary Pickleball courts in Belle Terre Park to accommodate requests from players who wanted to play right here rather than travel outside the city. Immediately, a core group of Pickleballers continued to show up and the enthusiasm keeps growing every week.

Owen and Joey McKechnie are two of our really enthusiastic players. Dividing their time between Palm Coast and Canada, the healthy outdoor lifestyle in our City attracted them to stay here a bit longer. When Owen heard about our new Pickleball program, he went to the park to meet other players and he's now become a team member every Monday and Wednesday.

"If you want to meet some really great people, have a lot of fun and still break a sweat, this is your game," he says. He and several of his Pickleball buddies have become local ambassadors for the game, helping to teach new players who stop by at Belle Terre Park and making them feel comfortable with the regulars.

Pickleball is a simple game to learn, combining the elements of badminton, tennis and ping pong. To win, singles, doubles and mixed-doubles teams must be first to score eleven points.

Compared to tennis, the court is smaller and the net is shorter. The actual game gives players a reasonable workout without the

brisk velocity of tennis' abrupt starts and stops or the less active volleys in badminton.

The game was developed in 1965 on Bainbridge Island in Washington where Joel and Joan Pritchard attempted to improvise new entertainment for their family. Pulling together components of their favorite games, they came up with Pickleball, named after a pickle boat tradition of choosing leftover oarsmen to staff a rowing vessel. In 1984, a USAPA (US Pickleball Association) was organized and by 1990, the game became so popular, it was played in all fifty states. Pickleball was recognized in 2014 as a world-class sport with 2,500 places to play, 8,000 courts and over 200,000 registered players in the United States alone.

"Palm Coast is doing a great thing by getting behind Pickleball and offering it at no cost to their residents, Owen adds. "They're demonstrating how much they value an active quality of life in the community. I'm really proud to be part of this City's Pickleball explosion."

You can join the fun at Belle Terre Park, 339 Parkview Dr., Mondays from 1:30 - 3:30pm and Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30pm. For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 386-986-2323.



City Desk News From City Departments

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

RECREATION & PARKS

FINANCE



About hours of operation at the Frieda Zamba Pool:

Welcome to the 2015 swim season at the Frieda Zamba Pool at 339 Parkview Dr. The pool opens on Monday, Apr. 13. Through May 22, hours are Mon-Fri, 2-7:30pm. Summer hours begin May 23: Mon-Fri, 10:30am-7:30pm and Sat/Sun, noon-6pm. Daily admission and memberships are available at www.palmcoastgov.com/pool. Call 386-986-4741 for details.



About our Find Your Florida Photo Contest:

Our 2015 Find Your Florida Photo Contest is underway, inviting people to share their Palm Coast photographs illustrating our high quality lifestyle. Examples are festivals, events, parks, waterways, trails, biking, fishing or boating. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place gift certificates will be awarded to winners. Victorious photos will be promoted online and honored at a City Council meeting. Entrance to the contest is free and photos must be submitted by midnight, May 31. For guidelines and entry forms, visit www.palmcoastgov.com/photocontest.



About Recreation Options While Holland Park is closed:

As James Holland Park continues its transformation, here are the alternative locations for your favorite activities:

Playgrounds – Linear Park, Palm Coast Community Center, Waterfront Park

Tennis – Belle Terre Park, Palm Coast Tennis Center, Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park

Bocce Ball & Shuffleboard – Linear Park

Pavilions – Waterfront Park, Linear Park, Herschel King Park

Dog Park – Wadsworth Park in Flagler Beach



About Construction Updates:

Activity at the City Hall site in Central Park is moving forward steadily. Approximately 30% of the project has been completed, with the actual structure beginning to take form. Visit www.palmcoastgov.com/cityhall for more info.

About Tennis Summer Camp for Kids:

6-13 year olds can learn tennis skills, make new friends and develop a life-long love for tennis at camp this summer. Sessions are 6/22 and 7/13 at Belle Terre Park (8:30-11:30am) and 6/29, 7/6, 7/20, 8/3 at the Palm Coast Tennis Center (9am-1pm). Register at 305 Palm Coast Pkwy. NE or 1290 Belle Terre Pkwy. 386-986-2550.



About Spring Recreation Events:

Sat., Apr. 25 – **Free Annual Bike Rodeo** – Join a skills obstacle course, safety check, clinic and a helmet raffle from 9am-1pm at the Flagler County Sheriff PAL office, 5400 E. SR100. 386-986-2323.

Sat., May 17 – **Pool Makeover Celebration** – The Frieda Zamba Pool, 339 Parkview Dr., shows off its new look on this fun day, 1-4pm. Reduced admission. 386-986-4741.

Sun., May 31 – **Pool Safety Day** – Basic first aid, safety games and a mini-swim lesson at the Frieda Zamba Swimming Pool, 339 Parkview Dr., 1-4pm. \$1 for youths; \$2 for adults. 386-986-4741.

About Summer Camp for Your Kids:

K-8th graders will have lots of fun this summer at the City's summer camp, from June 8-Aug. 7. Crafts, sports, theme-day activities and swimming, Mon-Fri, 9am to 4:30pm at the Palm Coast Community Center. Early drop off and after hours pick up are also available. 386-986-2323.



Contact Information

Mayor Jon Netts
jnetts@palmcoastgov.com

Council Members

Vice Mayor - Bill McGuire
bmcguire@palmcoastgov.com

Jason DeLorenzo
jdelorenzo@palmcoastgov.com

Heidi Shipley
hshipley@palmcoastgov.com

Steve Nobile
snobile@palmcoastgov.com

City Manager's Office
386-986-3702

Jim Landon City Manager
jlandon@palmcoastgov.com

Customer Service
386-986-2360

Utility billing, garbage pick-up, streets, maintenance for city signs, street lights, sidewalks, potholes; swales and drainage, driveways/culverts, resurfacing; Code Enforcement, mowing, tree/fire mitigation, property maintenance, vehicle parking, trash on private property, irrigation ordinance, noise/pet issues.

Community Development

Planning 386-986-3736

Building Permits . . 386-986-3780

Fire & Rescue 386-986-2300

Parks & Recreation . 386-986-2323

Finance/Budget 386-986-3723

City Clerk 386-986-3713

Communications/
Newsletter 386-986-3708

www.palmcoastgov.com

Published by the City of Palm Coast
Design by CurleyTailDesign.com



Red, Bright & Blue

All fire trucks are not painted RED...

Don't be surprised if sometime soon you see our brand new pumper truck rush by you, flashing a vivid Palm Coast blue. This striking new vehicle gives Palm Coast citizens an engine that will increase our ability to meet the high level of service care our community needs and expects.

The truck has the capacity to:

- Pump 1,250 gallons of water per minute
- Carry EMS life-saving emergency equipment
- House a foam tank for wildfires

Palm Coast blue isn't the only exceptional feature of our new fire truck. A new logo is painted on the side, reminding residents that our Fire Department is steadily "Protect-

ing Our Florida," a phrase that defines the identity of Palm Coast's firefighters and EMTs. "Protecting our citizens speaks to the soul of our department," says Fire Chief Mike Beadle. "We put out fires, we rescue people in terrible accidents, we provide advance life support in medical emergencies and we fight wildfires. Protecting our Florida - in every aspect of their lives - has always been our primary focus."

Hopefully, you can stop by to see our new red and blue fire truck at Fire Station #22 on Clubhouse Dr/Palm Coast Pkwy. Unless it is on call, Protecting Our Florida.

Do You KNOW the TOP TWO CAUSES of Wildfires?

Florida wildfires can be devastating, considering the potential loss of lives, homes, wildlife and foliage. Spring is our most vulnerable season, so it's crucial to know that the chief causes of wildfires are lightning and burning debris. There's nothing you can do to prevent lightning, but there IS something you can do to prevent burning flames from spreading:

- Ensure that your property's trees and shrubs are trimmed and that pine needles are removed from your roof and gutters.
- Be cautious when you are grilling. Don't dump used charcoal anywhere at any time - soak used charcoal in a bucket of water and dispose of it properly.
- Observe the City's Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Ordinance: a Palm Coast homeowner has a responsibility to mow any vegetation to the ground that is

considered a wildfire hazard, for a distance of 30-feet from the wall of their home to an adjacent empty lot.

You also need to be prepared to immediately evacuate your home in case of an emergency. Keep copies of insurance policies, medical records, social security numbers, birth certificates and all irreplaceable documents in a separate folder, ready to grab in a moment's notice. Have a pre-determined plan for where you would go to stay. Contact out-of-state relatives to let them know you are safe. Keep a note card in your car with specific directions for driving out of your neighborhood (smoke can easily disorient drivers).



Arbor Day Who's Ready to Celebrate?



There's a wholesome trace of green in the air - it's spring in Palm Coast and time again for our annual Arbor Day celebration. City staff is busy preparing for Saturday, May 2, the 10th tree-friendly event in Central Park at Town Center. New this year is our 'How Have They Grown?' Tree Contest, plus get ready for these really awesome activities:



Of course, you can't 'leave' the event without picking out your free tree! Visitors who donate a non-perishable food item or pet food will receive a free 3-gallon tree to take home.

HOW HAVE THEY GROWN? Leading up to Arbor Day, we're having a new contest related to trees received at past Arbor Day celebrations. Do you have the Tallest Past Arbor Day Tree or the one with the Best Overall Appearance? Email a photo, name, address, phone, and tree details to Carol Mini at cjmini@palmcoastgov.com by April 17.

Plan to join us for a day filled with eco-friendly family fun. You'll be glad you did.



5K ROOT RUN & Flutter Fun Run: The shotgun fires at 8am for this energetic sprint, one of Palm Coast's more popular runs in its Running Series. This year, prizes will be awarded not only for the Root Run, but also for the overall winners of the entire 2014-15 Palm Coast Running Series. To register to run, go to www.palmcoastgov.com/ArborDay. Palm Coast was recently honored by the Florida Surgeon General as a 2015 Healthy Weight Community Champion, recognizing the Running Series for the good health and well-being of its residents.

ARBOR DAY EVENT: Spend a wonderful May 2 at our Feed a Mouth...Get a Tree...Grow a Community event, from 9am-2pm. With a grassroots focus on nourishing nature, guests will enjoy green crafts, environmental vendor booths, wildlife exhibits, Kids Zone and live entertainment. New to Arbor Day this year will be kite activities with 'Flagler Beach's 'We Kite.' The celebrated Native Butterfly Release will send hundreds of fluttering little creatures into the air at 11am.