

Town Times Newsletter

October – December 2021. Volume 28, issue 4.

Town Council & CRA Corner: Recent Policy Actions

Below is a summary of some of the approvals and decisions made by the Town Council and the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) during recent meetings. To see items coming up on agendas for future meetings, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Agendas. To watch meetings live, or to watch recorded meetings on-demand, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Live.

- **Preliminary Tax Rate:** Approved the preliminary tax or millage rate (TRIM) for Fiscal Year 2022, which begins Friday, October 1, 2021. The preliminary tax rate is the rate that the Property Tax Collector's Office will include for the Jupiter portion of the preliminary property tax notices mailed out in August. The proposed tax rate for Fiscal Year 2022 is equal to the 2021 millage rate of 2.4633 mills (excluding the debt service millage of 0.1693 mills).
- **Olympian Zion Wright:** Issued a proclamation recognizing Jupiter's Zion Wright for qualifying for the Tokyo Olympics in skateboarding.
- **FAU John D. Mac Arthur Campus Development Agreement:** Approved an amendment to the existing campus development agreement with the FAU Board of Trustees to extend the expiration date to June 1, 2022.
- **JHS Criminal Justice Academy:** Approved the use of state forfeiture funds for a donation to the Jupiter Community High School Criminal Justice Academy in the amount of \$1,500.
- **Longshore Drive and Northfork Drive:** Approved the transfer of jurisdictional control and right-of-way ownership of Longshore Drive and Northfork Drive from Palm Beach County to the Town of Jupiter.
- **General Obligation and 2021 Land Acquisition Bond Financing:** Approved the lender for the refinancing of the Town's Series 2005 General Obligation Bonds and issuing of Original Issue 2021 Land Acquisition financing, which will be used for the purchase of the Taylor Property.
- **Indiantown Road from U.S. Highway 1 to A1A:** Approved a Local Agency Program (LAP) agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for Indiantown Road from U.S. Highway 1 to A1A.
- **Security Camera Replacement:** Approved a contract with Accelerated Technologies for security camera replacement and upgrades at the Jupiter Community Center in the amount of \$68,198.
- **Indiantown Road Raw Water Main Construction:** Approved a contract for \$699,679 with Accurate Drilling Systems, Inc. for the construction of a raw water main that will cross under Indiantown Road.
- **Water Utilities Storage and Dosing System:** Approved a contract with Car Eric Johnson Inc. (CEJCO) for the supply and installation of a sodium hypochlorite storage and dosing system in the amount of \$131,988.
- **Police Department Radio Pole:** Approved a Special Exception and Site Plan application for a radio pole with a waiver to setbacks located on a 0.8 acre property on the northwest corner of

the public parking lot at Marcinski Road and A1A. The pole will improve radio communication coverage for first responders in the area.

- **322 Center Street (The Sims House) Historic Preservation Grant:** Approved a Historic Preservation Grant Program application request in the amount of \$50,000 for partial reimbursement of the acquisition price of the house with no conditions.
- **Generation Church Historic Preservation Grant:** Approved a Historic Preservation Grant Program application request in the amount of \$98,890 for partial reimbursement of the acquisition price of the circa 1924 historically designated People's Congregational Church at 430 Center Street with no conditions.
- **New Town Hall Construction Management Services Contract:** Approved a contract amendment for \$1,357,457 with Kaufman Lynn to include construction management services for the proposed new Town Hall project.
- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds:** Accepted ARPA funds in the amount of \$3,795,479 and approved the use of the funds for the Seminole Avenue Stormwater Basin Improvements project.

Town and CRA adopt millage rate, operating budgets and 5-year Community Investment Programs (CIP)

Fiscal Year 2022 begins October 1, 2021 and ends September 30, 2022

On September 23, the Town Council adopted the millage (property tax) rate, operating budget, pay plan for FY2022, and the five-year Community Investment Program (CIP) for FY2022- 2026. The millage rate for FY2022 is 2.4633, not including debt; including voter- approved debt service, the total millage rate for FY2022 is 2.6326. The FY2022 millage rate, which is stated in terms of dollars per \$1,000 of taxable property value, is 0.0198 mills less than the combined rate for FY2021. The FY2022 Operating Budget and Pay Plan for all Town of Jupiter funds for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022 totals \$135 million including debt service funds. This represents a \$26 million increase from the prior fiscal year, which had a total budget of \$108 million. The primary reason for this increase is restrictions in state shared revenue reductions from the COVID- 19 pandemic in FY2021. The FY2022- 2026 five-year CIP expenditures total \$32 million compared to \$7.2 million for fiscal years 2021-2025. This represents a \$24.7 million increase in the current proposed CIP from the prior year adopted total. This increase is predominately made up of \$18.1 million for the construction of the new Town Hall facility, and \$1.9 million for beach renourishment funds.

On September 7, the CRA Commission adopted the FY2022 operating budget and five-year CIP for the Community Redevelopment Agency. The CRA operating budget for FY2022 totals \$2,437,622, a decrease of \$240,747 over FY2021. The five-year CIP for FY2022-2026 totals \$250,000. Major capital projects in the CIP include improvements to the intersection of A1A and Beach Road.

Mark Your Calendars for TOWN OF JUPITER ELECTIONS

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Polls will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, for the following seats:

- **Mayor:** Three-year term (candidate must live in Jupiter)

- **First District Seat:** Three-year term (candidate must live in the First District)
- **Second District Seat:** Three-year term (candidate must live in the Second District)

All candidates shall be elected by the voters of the Town at large. If a run-off election is necessary, it will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

To access the district map and election information, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Election or contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 561-741-2352.

Candidate Qualifying

Candidate qualifying for the March 8, 2022, Town of Jupiter election will be held from noon on Tuesday, November 2 through noon on Tuesday, November 16 the Town Clerk’s Office located in Town Hall, 210 Military Trail.

Florida Voter Registration Applications are available via the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections website, www.votePALMBEACH.gov. The registration books close Monday, February 7, 2022.

Stormwater Fee Increase Beginning October 1

On Friday, October 1, residents will see a 1.1 percent increase in their stormwater fee included on their monthly utility bill. The increase is based on the U.S. Department of Labor’s Consumer Price Index (CPI) and ensures adequate funding for rehabilitation and replacement of utility assets and capital improvements intended to enhance runoff water quality to the Loxahatchee River. The typical residential customer’s monthly stormwater utility fee will increase from \$6.10 to \$6.17, an increase of \$0.07.

Waste Management Services Rate Increases Beginning October 1

Effective Friday, October 1, rates for waste management will increase by 5 percent over the previous fiscal year (see rates comparison in the table below). Residents will see the slight increase reflected in their October utility bill statement.

October bills will be prorated with the number of days in the cycle from the previous September bill date through September 30 billed at the previous rate, and from October 1 to the current date in October billed at the new rate. The

November bill will reflect a full month of the new rate. These adjustments are intended to maintain fees consistent with industry-wide rates in accordance with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Please call 561-741-2467 with any questions.

Residential Waste Management Services	Oct. 1, 2020	Oct. 1, 2021
Residential curbside and multi-family collection of solid waste, vegetation removal and recycling collection.	\$13.70/mo.	\$14.38/mo.
Commercial Waste Management Services	Oct. 1, 2020	Oct. 1, 2021
Container collection rate (per cubic yard)	\$8.54/mo.	\$8.97/mo.
Compactor collection rate (12 cubic yards or less; 1.25 times the container collection rate)	\$10.67/mo.	\$11.20/mo.
Compactor collection rate (greater than 12 cubic yards) per pull	\$247.73/mo.	\$260.12/mo.

Residential Waste Management Services	Oct. 1, 2020	Oct. 1, 2021
Roll-off collection rate (large roll-off dumpster containers typically used for construction debris collection)	\$264.54/mo.	\$277.77/mo.

Homestead Exemption Outreach

October 13 • November 10 • December 8

Floridians know that something unique about living in a state where so many people love to vacation is the Homestead Exemption that is filed with residents' property taxes. Although this exemption only needs to be filed once for a permanent residence and will then carry over annually, it is important for first-time filers to know the requirements and deadlines for this tax exemption that can significantly reduce their property tax.

Staff from the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office, will be on-hand at the Jupiter Community Center (210 Military Trail) from 2:00 to 3:00 pm on October 13, November 10 and December 8 to help residents submit their Homestead Exemption application and answer any property valuation questions residents may have.

Please contact Mike Pratt at 561-355-4021 or mpratt@pbcgov.org with any questions.

Additional Homestead Exemption Approved for Income-Qualified Senior Citizens
 During a Special Meeting on August 5, the Town Council authorized Ordinance 12-21, which allows for an additional homestead exemption to certain income-qualified senior citizens living in the Town of Jupiter. The maximum additional homestead exemption is up to \$50,000. The exemption would apply to fiscal year 2023 taxes.

Become an Election Poll Worker

Are you civic minded and interested in serving your community? Apply now with the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Office to become a poll worker in upcoming elections. Visit www.votepalmbeach.gov or call 561-656-6200, option 3, to apply. Training provided!

Poll Worker Requirements:

- Must be a registered or pre-registered voter.
- Must be able to read, write and speak English fluently.
- Must attend a poll worker orientation session.
- Must attend training prior to each election.

Jupiter Celebrates Florida City Government Week

October 18-24 is Florida City Government Week, celebrating, showcasing and engaging citizens in the work of municipal government. Jupiter will celebrate what makes the Town unique with a proclamation at the regular Town Council meeting on Tuesday, October 19, and on social media leading up to and during the week. Posts will feature information and photos celebrating Town services and departments. Join in on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with likes, shares and comments about what makes Jupiter "uniquely Jupiter."

Town Code Occupancy Limitations

There are many multigenerational and multi-family homes throughout Jupiter. As more people start to occupy a dwelling, it is important to remember and follow Town Code Section 21-171 relating to occupancy limitations.

- A single-person bedroom must have at least 70 square feet of space, and a shared bedroom must have at least 50 square feet of space per adult. The Town's goal is not to displace any families, so this portion of the code is not required for minors.
- Only bedrooms should be used as permanent sleeping spaces in a home.
- Every home should be equipped with at least one toilet and tub or shower for every six adults that live there.
- Accessory structures, such as sheds, must not be used as dwellings unless the use is permitted and approved by the town.
- Vehicles, boats and recreational vehicles also can't be used as dwellings.

The failure of any of these code requirements can lead to the dwelling unit being deemed a public health, safety and general welfare threat.

Code Complaints Can No Longer Be Anonymous

In July, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 60, which prohibits municipal code enforcement from initiating investigations of potential violations of codes and ordinances through anonymous complaints. Under the bill, the complainant must provide his or her name and address before an investigation occurs. The new law doesn't apply to code compliance officers if they have a reason to believe that the violation presents an imminent threat to public health, safety or welfare of individuals; or an imminent destruction of habitat or sensitive resources.

Business Tax Receipt Eliminated

During its August 17 meeting, the Town Council voted to repeal the section of the Town Code that established the Town's Business Tax Receipts. With this repeal, businesses in the Town of Jupiter are no longer required to apply for or renew their business licenses with the Town.

Palm Beach County Local Business Tax Receipts will still be required of all current and new businesses located within the Town of Jupiter. Existing businesses should renew with the County by September 30 of each year and new businesses should submit applications online at www.pbctax.com under the "Local Business Tax" button.

For more information about Palm Beach County Tax Receipts, call the Palm Beach County Tax Collector's Office at 561-355-2264.

New Roundabout Coming to Jupiter Beach Road and A1A

Construction of a new roundabout at Jupiter Beach Road and A1A will begin soon after the start of 2022. During construction, access to existing driveways and Jupiter Beach Road will be maintained. Detours to local traffic are anticipated, but will be limited to a period of construction for an underground storm water pipe. Access for residents, fire rescue and the Town's Police will be maintained throughout the construction.

Navigating the “Peanut” Roundabout at Central and University

In May, Palm Beach County finished construction on the new roundabout at the intersection of University Boulevard and Central Boulevard. The new traffic pattern gets its “peanut” name from its elongated, figure-eight shape. It was constructed to help improve traffic flow, reduce accidents, and make a safer environment for pedestrians and bicyclists. But as with any new traffic pattern, this roundabout can confuse even the most seasoned driver.

Despite this intersection’s unique shape, it operates the same as a circular roundabout. There are four entrances into the roundabout – north and southbound lanes on Central Boulevard and east and westbound lanes on University Boulevard. When cars approach the intersection from any of these entrances, they must yield to vehicles already in the peanut-shaped loop. Each of the entrances also has a yield sign to direct drivers. Vehicles then travel in a counter-clockwise direction until they reach their exit.

Quick tips for navigating the roundabout:

- Do turn right to enter the roundabout. The roundabout is one way.
- Do yield to traffic that is already in the roundabout.
- Do travel around the roundabout counter-clockwise.
- Do use your turn signal before exiting the roundabout.
- Do exit the roundabout from the right lane.
- Don’t stop when you are in the roundabout.

Community Development Block Grant Program

Each year, the Town of Jupiter receives approximately \$300,000 in federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The funds are meant to help address the community development and housing needs within the municipal limits of the Town by achieving the overall goal of decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic development opportunities primarily for low- and moderate-income persons.

The Town hosted two public meetings this past summer to seek input from residents for projects and is proposing to utilize the 2021-22 funds to improve safety, including but not limited to enhanced pedestrian crossings, on South Loxahatchee Drive in the Pine Gardens South neighborhood.

In the past, the Town of Jupiter has used these funds for capital improvement projects (water mains and drainage improvements), park and playground renovations, athletic scholarships for youth, rehabilitation of homes, and emergency financial assistance.

If you would like to discuss the Town’s CDBG Program and provide input for future Action Plans, please contact Neighborhood Services at 561-741-2524 or email satuo@jupiter.fl.us.

Charter Neighborhood Coalition Meeting October 20 at 6:30 pm

The Charter Neighborhood Coalition will host its next meeting on Wednesday, October 20 at 6:30 pm at the Jupiter Community Center. This coalition is composed of the Pine Gardens North and South, Jupiter River Estates, and Eastview Manor neighborhoods. The Coalition meets quarterly on the third

Wednesday of the month to discuss issues pertinent to the quality of life in those neighborhoods. Any resident can attend. Come on out and meet town staff, neighborhood police officers and some neighbors. Next quarter's meeting will be held Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Neighborhoods for more information.

Jupiter Jubilee is Back

February 5, 2022 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Free family event • Abacoa Community Park

Jupiter Jubilee is coming back next February, so make sure to save the date! This classic community event will include food, live music, kid activities and more! For more details, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Jubilee.

Jupiter Police Safety Reminder

The Jupiter Police Department reminds you to secure your vehicles, gifts and homes this holiday season by following these simple tips:

- Don't leave gifts and purchases visible in your car.
- Lock ALL of your vehicle's doors, even while you are fueling.
- Keep doors and windows closed and locked while you are away from home and when you sleep.

Report suspicious activity: Call 911 in an emergency, or call 561-799-4445 for a non-emergency.

Adopt with a Cop

The Jupiter Police Department is helping its four- legged friends find a home through its Adopt with a Cop program. Every other Wednesday, in partnership with Furry Friends Adoption, Clinic & Ranch, a Jupiter Police Officer highlights a dog or cat that is looking for a "forever" family. Visit the Police Department's Facebook page, @JupiterPolice, to see the adorable furry friends looking to be a part of your family.

Jupiter Police Department Citizen Survey

The Jupiter Police Department's citizen survey is part of a continuing effort to provide professional and efficient police services to residents of the Town of Jupiter. Responses will be used to evaluate the service residents have received, recognize positive performance and identify opportunities for improvement. Community feedback will also provide valuable insight into how JPD might improve community relations and better serve residents. To participate in the survey, please visit

www.jupiter.fl.us/JPDSurvey.

Walk-n-Talk

October 21 • November 18 • December 16

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Every third Thursday of the month from 6:00 to 7:00 pm officers visit a different neighborhood to walk and talk with the community members. Residents are invited to come meet their JPD officers and

neighbors in an effort to enhance communication with the local police department while also promoting physical fitness. For more information, visit www.jupiter.fl.us/WalknTalk.

Coffee with A Cop

9:00 – 10:00 am

- **October 14** at Crux Coffee Roasters
- **December 9** at The Lokomotive

Meet your local police officers and enjoy a cup of coffee from a local coffee shop. This event provides residents the opportunity to discuss crime trends, local incidents and other topics related to protecting the Town. Visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Coffee or the Police Department's Facebook, @JupiterPolice, for additional information.

DEA National Take Back Day

October 23, 2021 • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Jupiter Police Department Lobby

Help prevent accidental poisoning, overdose and drug abuse by disposing of unused or expired prescription drugs during the DEA National Take Back Day on Saturday, October 23. Bring any unwanted medications to the Jupiter Police Department lobby between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm for quick, safe disposal. For more information, please visit Facebook @JupiterPolice.

Palm Beach Holiday Boat Parade

Saturday, December 4

This festive parade, featuring holiday decorated boats and hosted by the Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County, will be held on Saturday, December 4 starting at 6:00 pm and should finish its route around 8:30 pm. The parade will be in the Jupiter area around 8:00 pm. Make sure to mark your calendars for this beloved holiday tradition! For more information, visit www.palmbeachboatparade.com.

Gallery of Art

Art Showcase December 3 • 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Jupiter Community Center

The Gallery of Art is hosting an art showcase on Friday, December 3 at the Jupiter Community Center in the Jupiter Art Gallery. The theme for this year's art gallery showcase is "Jupiter Through Your Eyes." Light refreshments will be served.

Seminole Avenue Stormwater Basin Improvements Set to Begin

On September 9, the Town Council approved the use of \$3,499,869 of the Town's allotment from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the construction of the Juno Street Stormwater Pump Station. The project is part of the Town's Seminole Avenue Stormwater Basin Improvement Capital Investment Plan (CIP). The new stormwater pump station will be located on Old Dixie Highway between Juno Street and

Venus Street with an outfall to the FEC Canal on the east side of Alternate A1A. The Seminole Basin is located in an older, low-lying section of Town made up of predominantly commercial-industrial land use with small residential areas. The existing pump station that currently serves the Seminole Basin is located on Seminole Avenue, north of Center Street, and is unable to meet the demand of the Basin during heavy storms, which often times results in significant flooding on Center Street and the surrounding areas. The Juno Street Pump Station will alleviate flooding in the Seminole Basin by reducing load placed on the Seminole Avenue Pump Station, which discharges to the Loxahatchee River. Enhancement of stormwater quality discharged to the Loxahatchee River and the Intracoastal Waterway will also be provided by this project.

Ask the Expert: U.S. Highway 1 Bridge Replacement Project

The U.S. 1 Bridge Replacement Project began in late September with improvements to various intersections in Town. Over the last couple years, residents may have heard about this project, which is aimed at replacing the current bridge over the Jupiter Inlet. We spoke with Angel Streeter Gardner, the Community Outreach Specialist for the project, to discuss an upcoming timeline.

Q: What work relating to the U.S. 1 Bridge Replacement Project is ongoing? And what work is expected in the near future?

A: Construction on the U.S. 1 Bridge Replacement Project began September 25. This initial phase includes adding turn lanes at the following intersections along the detour route: U.S. 1 and Indiantown Road, Alternate A1A and Indiantown Road, and U.S. 1 and Alternate A1A/South Beach Road. Improvements will also occur at Alternate A1A and Old Dixie Highway consisting of shifting the intersection to the southwest, adding a traffic signal and lengthening the left-turn lane from northbound Alternate A1A to northbound Old Dixie Highway. In addition, traffic monitoring devices will be installed along these corridors and intersections. Minor bridge repairs will occur on the Alternate A1A Bridge over the Loxahatchee River. Also, work will begin on installing the foundations for the replacement bridge.

Q: How will this first phase of work impact residents?

A: Impact to residents is anticipated to be minimal during the first phase. Nighttime lane closures will occur from 9:30 pm to 6:30 am Sunday through Saturday on U.S. 1, Indiantown Road, Alternate A1A, Old Dixie Highway and South Beach Road. Residents near the bridge should anticipate heightened noise levels during pile driving activities, which will occur during daytime hours.

Q: Why is this work necessary ahead of the U.S. 1 bridge replacement?

A: The initial intersection improvements are designed to keep traffic flowing and lessen impacts to the traveling public when the U.S. 1 bridge is closed and traffic is detoured to Alternate A1A. Traffic monitoring devices will allow the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Palm Beach County to continuously monitor and actively manage the traffic along the detour route.

Q: When will the bridge be closed for construction?

A: The bridge will close for approximately 20 months beginning in spring 2023.

Q: If a resident has any questions about the project, who should they reach out to?

A: They can reach me, Angel Gardner, at 561-886-8773 or angel@valerin-group.com. They may also contact Bodler Barthelemy, FDOT Project Manager, at 561-370-1127 or bodler.barthelemy@dot.state.fl.us; or Virgil Versaggi, Senior Project Engineer, at 813-210-1811 or vversaggi@mehtaeng.com.

Terracycling at the Jupiter Community Center

In order to better protect the beauty of Jupiter and the waterways that surround the Town, residents can now drop off used writing utensils, oral care products, personal care and beauty products at the Terracycle station located at the Jupiter Community Center or at Loggerhead Marinelife Center. Terracycle, a social enterprise aimed at eliminating waste, and its partners will recycle the items into new products, such as park benches.

Below is the full list of items that residents can bring to the Terracycle stations. There are three bins at each station and items will need to be separated and sorted into their corresponding bin.

- All brands of skin care, hair care and cosmetic packaging
- All brands of toothpaste tubes and caps
- Toothbrushes and toothbrush packaging
- Floss containers
- All brands of empty writing instruments
- Glue sticks
- Watercolor Dispensers and paint sets

TOWN HALL PUBLIC MEETINGS

7:00 pm • 561-746-5134 • www.jupiter.fl.us/Agendas

- **Regular Town Council Meeting:** October 5 & 19, November 2 & 16, December 7 & 21
- **Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting:** October 12, November 9, December 14

SPECIAL MAGISTRATE PUBLIC HEARINGS

10:00 am • 561-741-2477 • www.jupiter.fl.us/Code

- **Code Compliance Special Magistrate Hearings:** October 13, November 10, December 8

Please check our website for meeting locations. CRA meetings will be scheduled as needed.

MAJOR TOWN EVENTS & CLOSINGS

- **Trick-or-Treat Bash:** Friday, October 22
- **Halloween Skate Contest:** Saturday, October 30
- **Snow Place Like Jupiter:** Saturday, December 11
- **Veterans Day:** November 11, *Closed*
- **Thanksgiving/ Floating Holiday:** November 25 & 26, *Closed*
- **Christmas Eve/ Christmas Day observed:** December 24 & 27, *Closed*

Visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Calendar for a listing of events and happenings in the Jupiter area.

Visit www.jupiter.fl.us/Live to view live meetings for Town Council, Community Redevelopment Agency Commission and Planning and Zoning Commission.

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Let us Know

Share your voice with the Let Us Know button. Share your suggestions, requests, and comments by using the Let Us Know button on the Town of Jupiter homepage. Get updates and information through Notify Me. Sign up to receive emails about things like Town events, Council meetings, live broadcasts and more! www.jupiter.fl.us

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