



# TOWN HALL BULLETIN

Important things to know for the week of April 3, 2023

[www.fmbgov.com](http://www.fmbgov.com) / 239-765-0202 / [PUBLICINFO@FMBGOV.COM](mailto:PUBLICINFO@FMBGOV.COM)

This weekly publication covers brief news items related to the Town's recovery from Hurricane Ian. The Town was directly hit on September 28, 2022, by Hurricane Ian, which has been described as the 5<sup>th</sup> worst natural disaster in the history of the United States.



**View Town Council meeting agendas and minutes**

**Sign up** to receive notice of meetings.

Meetings are currently being held at DiamondHead Beach Resort, at 2000 Estero Blvd.

## Watch Town Council meetings live

All Town Council meetings, Local Planning Agency (LPA) meetings, Special Magistrate Hearings and Town advisory committee meetings are broadcast live on the **Town's YouTube channel**

## Meeting dates and times are posted on the Town's website

The calendar section on the home page is one way to keep up with dates and times.

**Sign up to receive email notifications** of meetings and other info as they are posted on the website.

Follow the Town of FMB, including Bay Oaks, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn; Newton Beach Park and Mound House on Facebook and Instagram



The Town Hall temporary complex is on the property next to the Town Hall building that was damaged by Hurricane Ian. Address is 2545 Estero Blvd.

## Questions?

Call 239-765-0202

### GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES \$11.9 MILLION BRIDGE LOAN FOR THE TOWN

Town will receive an \$11.9 million interest free bridge loan for operational expenses due to the impact of Hurricane Ian on the Town's tax revenues and governmental operations. This loan is designed to cover the Town's operational expenses until additional funding from sources, such as FEMA, are received.

### SHOREBIRDS NESTING SEASON HAS STARTED

With Killdeer, Wilson's and Snowy Plovers laying eggs on the beach, the FWC has roped off areas for nests and foraging habitat in and around the Critical Wildlife Area (CWA). It is important to never enter areas with shorebird/seabird signs and to keep dogs on a leash and away from these areas. No dogs are allowed in the CWA, even if they are leashed lap dogs.

How can you help protect beach-nesting birds: <https://myfwc.com/conservation/you-conserve/wildlife/shorebirds/>

### EASTER EGG HUNT APRIL 8

Bay Oaks Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by DiamondHead Beach Resort and the Fort Myers Beach Woman's Club, will be held on Saturday, April 8 at Diamond Head Beach Resort, 2000 Estero Blvd. Registration starts at 9 am with the egg hunt at 10 am. This event is for children age 0-13

### EARTH DAY APRIL 22

Join us for a neighborhood clean up around the Mound House from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, at 451 Connecticut Street. Additional parking available at 216 Connecticut.

### PERMITTING DESK HOURS MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:30AM TO 4:30PM

Effective Wed., March 29, the Town's Permitting Desk returned to regular operational hours and days. These days are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### MOUND HOUSE MUSEUM REOPENED TUESDAY, APRIL 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Mound House Museum and museum store will be open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday's from 9 am to 4 pm. The grounds will continue to be open seven days a week from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

### FORT MYERS BEACH DRC WILL OFFICIALLY CLOSE END OF DAY, THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

This will end all Disaster Recovery Center services on the beach. Residents will still have the option to call FEMA Disaster Assistance 1-800-621-3362, online at DisasterAssistance.gov, or visit the last remaining DRC at Lakes Library, 15290 Bass Rd, Fort Myers, FL 33919 which is scheduled to close May 15, 2023.

### FEMA MITIGATION GRANTS DEADLINE IS MONDAY APRIL 10, 2023

Financial assistance through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) may be available for interested property owners of the Town. The program helps property owners rebuild homes or businesses stronger than they were before Hurricane Ian. Property owners may fill out an application of interest at this link: <https://forms.gle/MxRRKeStN2ja3kh2d9>. Funds would be administered through the Town.

### SIGN UP FOR SHRC - NEW PROGRAM THROUGH FDEP FOR HELP WITH REPAIRS

Sheltering in Home for Recovery Continuation (SHRC) helps homeowners with minor repairs so they can live in their home while completing their recovery. To learn more and apply, visit [ianrecovery.fl.gov/unite](http://ianrecovery.fl.gov/unite) or call the Unite Florida support line at 1-800-892-0948.

### TOWN'S PARTICIPATION IN NFIP ALLOWS PROPERTY OWNERS A 25% DISCOUNT ON FLOOD INSURANCE

The Town has earned a class 5 rating in the National Flood Insurance Program, providing all property owners in Fort Myers Beach a 25% discount on flood insurance rates. Repealing or amending previously compliant floodplain management measures, or failure to enforce its floodplain management regulations, can result in suspension from the NFIP.

### EASEMENTS FOR SAND REPLACEMENT

The Town is asking beachfront property owners to sign a temporary construction easement to place sand on the beach areas that are private property. Signing this easement does not give the Town rights to private property. It only gives permission to place sand on it. The easement document, construction plans, and other information are at [www.fmbgov.com/beach](http://www.fmbgov.com/beach).

### BERM PROJECT

The beach recovery plan over the next year is to place approximately 1.1 million cubic yards of sand on Fort Myers Beach. First, the Town plans to construct an emergency berm in the easement area to provide protection from storm surge in accordance with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) & Florida Division of Environmental Protection (FDEP) guidelines. The goal is to provide a berm along the length of the beach to maximize protection and minimize future scour on upland properties from storms. [www.fmbgov.com/beach](http://www.fmbgov.com/beach)

### NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Next Town Council meeting: Monday, April 17, 2023, at 9 a.m. at DiamondHead Beach Resort, 2000 Estero Blvd.