TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

TOWN MANAGER BRIEF

Celebrate America's 250th Birthday at Freedom Fest!
Join us for Longboat Key's 23rd Freedom Fest as we celebrate America's 250th birthday at Bicentennial Park on Bay Isles Road on July 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Enjoy a patriotic parade, family-friendly activities, and a morning of community celebration. Visit the Town's website (www.longboatkey.org) or the Longboat Key Chamber of Commerce website (www.longboatkeychamber.com) for event details.

Summer Recess is Here!
School may be out for summer, and now the Town Commission is taking a well-deserved summer recess following their June 29th Special Meeting. The Commission will reconvene on September 14, 2026, for a Budget Workshop, Regular Meeting, and a Special Meeting as we begin the final stretch of the FY27 budget process.

Sandbag Filling Event – July 2
Hurricane season is underway, and preparation is key. The Town's Public Works Department will be onsite at the Broadway Beach Access on Thursday, July 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to assist residents with filling sandbags. This service is intended to help residents prepare for potential flooding and storm-related impacts.

Stay Informed on the Property Tax Amendment
You may have seen recent news regarding the Governor's proposed property tax initiative, which would increase homestead exemption levels from $50,000 to as much as $250,000 and could potentially eliminate property taxes altogether. The proposed constitutional amendment is expected to appear on the November ballot. Residents are encouraged to learn more and review available information by visiting the Town's website.

Sea Turtle Nesting Season Continues
Sea turtle nesting season runs from May 1 through October 31. You can help protect these remarkable animals by ensuring beachfront lighting is turtle-friendly and by removing all beach furniture, umbrellas, tents, and recreational equipment each evening. If your property is visible from the beach, please turn off, shield, or modify lighting to reduce impacts on nesting turtles and hatchlings. Learn more on the Town's website.

2026 Post-Disaster Re-Entry Program
Now is the time to make sure you're prepared for hurricane season. Longboat Key utilizes a tiered re-entry decal system that prioritizes emergency responders and essential personnel before residents return when conditions are safe. Residents can pick up their 2026 Re-Entry Decals at Town Hall or the Police Department.

FY27 Budget Process Resumes in September
The Town Commission will resume budget discussions on September 14 with a Budget Workshop and Special Meeting. Final budget adoption is scheduled for September 28. Residents are encouraged to attend and learn more about how Town resources are allocated and invested in services, infrastructure, and public safety.

Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

- **July 3, 2026** – Independence Day Observed, Town Administrative Offices Closed
- **July 4, 2026** – Independence Day
- **July 14, 2026** – Let's Talk Longboat, 3:00 p.m., Bayfront Park Recreation Center

As we settle into the heart of summer, we encourage everyone to stay prepared, stay informed, support our local businesses, and most importantly, enjoy all that makes Longboat Key such a special place to call home.

Fun Fact: America turns 250 this year! That's more than three times the age of Longboat Key, which was incorporated as a Town in 1955 and celebrated its 70th anniversary last year.