



# City of Mexico Beach

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## Weekly Report August 22, 2025



### **World Plant Milk Day Edition**

(My Opinion – If it comes from a plant, it's not milk)

#### **City Administrator Mell Smigielski**

#### Meetings Next Week

Tuesday                      August 26    9:00 am                      Regular City Council

#### HR

We passed out a one-page form to the employees from Prosper HR. It explains how to make a complaint. It mentions the best way is to email, but a phone number was also provided. It also mentioned that they don't replace our own procedures. For instance, a complaint should be first directed to their supervisor. If the complaint is with the supervisor, then the complaint should go to the City Administrator. If the complaint is with the City Administrator, then contacting them directly is ok. The examples of issues to report:

Harassment, discrimination or retaliation.

Safety concerns or workplace violence.

Unethical, fraudulent or illegal activity.

Serious violations of city policy.

#### Boat ramp

Draft set of drawings were sent but not yet reviewed.

## Water Quality Testing

The city used to have Florida Department of Health monitor water quality (Gulf of America water), but funding ran out, so they ceased the service for Mexico Beach. A new source of funding from the Healthy Beaches Program is available, so they plan to monitor four locations in the city at no cost to the city. The four locations will be around 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Sunset Park, 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Street. There will be a need for a pole installed for signage that will alert the public if any testing of the water indicated if unsafe. They will work with our public works to better secure the locations. The testing will happen predominately during March through October. Though late in the testing season, they should begin in September.

## Food Trailers/Trucks

Just one food establishment to go. The appointment was scheduled but I was stood up. Will work on rescheduling. But here is a common theme: every trailer would prefer a brick and mortar building, but the cost is too much. Some hope to make a transition by building a roof structure to start, then add sides to the structure when funding is available.

## 15<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge

Duke should have relocated the power pole this week. Anchor's structural engineer reviewed and provided comments back to Bridge Brothers regarding the bridge shop drawings.

## Dune Walkovers

Anchor was promised that the survey would be done by the end of the week.

## Access Mats

The public works department installed the Mobi mats at the end of Canal Parkway. I was surprised at how solid the surface was and not spongy.

## Amphitheater

Anchor reviewed the drawings from RPC Structures. BGN's design team is finalizing their structural (foundation) and electrical drawings.

## Nanook and 14<sup>th</sup> Street Lift Stations

Work continues on site at 14<sup>th</sup> Street lift station. Mainline is trying to salvage the existing control panel and save the city some money. To do this, the pump would be much smaller.

## Street Assessment

Anchor is working on a proposal to perform a street and sidewalk assessment for CASUNA and Ocean Plantation.

## Water Tank Aeration System

Cyber Electric is finalizing the proposal this week and will send his proposal this week.

## HWY 98 and 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Anchor is finalizing Addendum #2 and drawing revision. Will send later this week to be posted to the City's website.

## Pier

We plan to have the City Council award the bid at the September 9 regular meeting.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### Beach Projects

- Routine beach raking operations are ongoing.
- Public Works continues to collaborate with the Turtle Research Team to support the "Leave No Trace" initiative.
- Bird nesting still remains active on the west and east sides of the canal.
- Turtle nesting is active along the beach with approximately three to four confirmed nesting sites.
- Daily inspections and cleaning of the beach are being conducted by the department.
- Maintenance and monitoring of the 8th Street Canal are ongoing.
- Emergency Vehicle entrance signs were stolen from the post on U.S. Highway 98 and County Road 386.

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### Traffic and Safety Improvements

- We continued to work with FDOT regarding U.S. Highway 98 improvements, with progress expected in the coming weeks. These are the projects pending:
  - Two crosswalks are undergoing necessary repairs:
    - One crosswalk button is being relocated to the appropriate side to meet ADA compliance.
    - A second button is being retrofitted with an extender due to its excessive distance from the sidewalk and gaining ADA compliance.
  - Signal issues at a separate crosswalk are being addressed, including a faulty radio connection on the northbound side.
  - Shoulder repair efforts are underway, including permit review for additional improvements along the south side of the highway.
  - FDOT is monitoring grass growth along the shoulders; if it fails, the contractor is responsible for replacement.
- We continue to put up new speed limit and "No Outlet" signs throughout the city streets.
- Public Works is scheduling the continued repairs at the end other streets are being scheduled, including updated signage, sand removal, and asphalt resurfacing.
- Bridge repairs are underway and being assessed for the next steps.

- Repaving decisions are underway and being scheduled.
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### Stormwater Management

- Stormwater canals are under inspection to ensure proper flow and functionality.
  - The department is still actively looking into solutions for stormwater improvements at Highway 98 and 15th Street, with plans to initiate the project in the next fiscal year.
  - Reviews are underway to better drain the ends of the streets along the beach.
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### Parks and Recreation

- All City restrooms will be locked at 10:00 pm and reopened at 7:00 am.
  - Additional staffing is in place at the fish cooler and restrooms during weekends; coolers are checked nightly.
  - Routine maintenance and updates are ongoing across all park facilities.
  - Landscape updates are underway at Sunset Park.
  - The packing of the parking areas for the boat ramp, captain's lot, and pickleball courts are still underway and being completed.
  - The City Lot on 37<sup>th</sup> Street is being prepared as a secondary parking area for visitors.
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### Routine Operations and Maintenance

- Restrooms at all public facilities are being cleaned and maintained regularly.
  - Roadway and landscape maintenance activities, including mowing and weeding, are ongoing.
  - Fleet maintenance and preventive servicing continue.
  - Working on the removal of the northwest footer from the old water tower are moving along. The two footers have been successfully removed.
  - Work at the Public Works compound is still underway and in progress.
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### Sanitation

- Weekend sanitation service remains active for commercial dumpsters and beach receptacles throughout the season.
  - Sanitation meeting is planned to determine the operational plans of the department.
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Administrative

- Budget and CIP evaluations are nearly complete for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Employee evaluations are underway and will be presented for the department head and administrator review.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Permit Issued Date: 08/15/2025 - 08/21/2025

Permit Issued Date	Property Address	Permit Number	Contractor	Category	Valuation	Subdivision
Permit Type			Demolition			
Permit Status			In Progress			
08/20/2025	104 32ND ST, Mexico Beach	25MB-DEM0002		One Stop		MEXICO BEACH UNIT 4 (14.2)
<b>Count: 1</b>			<b>Total:</b>			
<b>Count: 1</b>			<b>Total:</b>			
Permit Type			Mechanical Permit			
Permit Status			In Progress			
08/21/2025	200 HWY 98, Mexico Beach	25MB-M0045	Air Conditioning & Heating Inc	One Stop	\$900,000.00	MEXICO BEACH UNIT #1
08/21/2025	205 3RD ST, Mexico Beach	25MB-M0046	Miller Heating & Air - CAC1817359	One Stop	\$500,000.00	MEXICO BEACH UNIT # 12
08/20/2025	109 26TH ST, Mexico Beach	25MB-M0044	Miller Heating & Air - CAC1817359	One Stop	\$700,000.00	MEXICO BEACH UNIT 4 235C2
<b>Count: 3</b>			<b>Total: \$2,100,000.00</b>			
<b>Count: 3</b>			<b>Total: \$2,100,000.00</b>			
Permit Type			Pole Barn / Shed			
Permit Status			In Progress			
08/18/2025	304 BAILEY LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0111	Jerrys Framing Crew Inc	Residential Alteration	\$35,000.00	23 6S 12W -23-MAP 235C4
<b>Count: 1</b>			<b>Total: \$35,000.00</b>			
<b>Count: 1</b>			<b>Total: \$35,000.00</b>			
Permit Type			Residential Addition			
Permit Status			In Progress			
08/18/2025	304 BAILEY LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0112	Jerrys Framing Crew Inc	Residential Alteration	\$130,000.00	23 6S 12W -23-MAP 235C4
<b>Count: 1</b>			<b>Total: \$130,000.00</b>			
<b>Count: 1</b>			<b>Total: \$130,000.00</b>			
<b>Total Permits: 6</b>			<b>Valuation Total: \$2,265,000.00</b>			

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Here are a few code adventures from this past week:

1. Received a call - person wants to buy a lot and place an RV until they build. City does not allow RV's on vacant lots to be lived in.
2. Lien search came in for 104 Ocean View Dr.
3. Received complaint 2 lots need mowing, 1 on Virginia, the other on 7<sup>th</sup> St. Notice of Violation sent to owners.
4. Received call dogs running on beach behind The Vue, went and checked area no dogs found.
5. Boat Launch issued Citation and Courtesy Violation.
6. Received call person complaining that Duke Energy dug a ditch across his lot to run electric to garage behind his lot. This is not a city function, please contact Duke Energy.
7. Camper on Magnolia full hook-up, spoke to owner of camper he will disconnect water and sanitation. Wasn't aware of the RV ordinance.