



# City of Mexico Beach

201 Paradise Path · Mexico Beach, Florida · 32456

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## Weekly Report September 5, 2025



### **National Bring Your Manners to Work Day Edition** (It is a shame to need a day for this)

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

#### Meetings Next Week

Monday	September 8	6:00 pm	Plan & Zoning
Tuesday	September 9	9:00 am	City Council
Wednesday	September 10	5:01 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Budget Hearing

#### Floating Dock

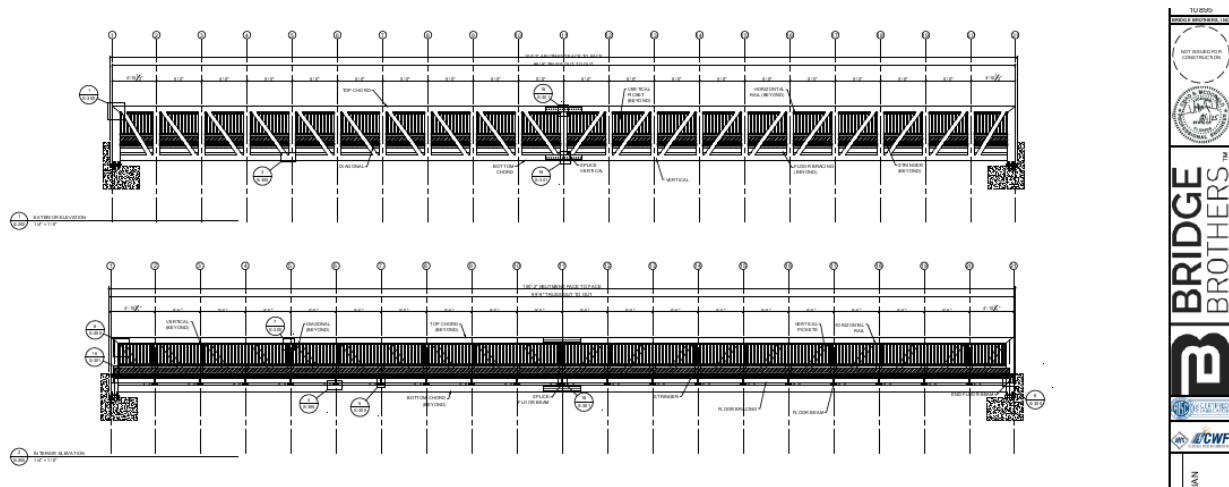
The floating dock will be installed next week.

#### Boat ramp

Structural Engineer to have updated drawing set to Anchor this week. Anchor will finalize our drawings upon receiving the structural drawings. Anchor is working with the Environmental Consultant on permitting.

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

Duke relocated the power pole, but not to the area originally discussed (Anchor will check with consulting engineer about the location). Anchor is looking at options to shift the sidewalk to work with the new power pole location. Anchor's structural engineer is working on revised foundation drawings now that he has been able to review the bridge drawings. Below is a snap shot of the drawings:



## Public Works Water Tank Aeration System

Anchor received contact information for another municipality that has the same mixer system. Anchor will reach out to them to see if system helped reduce their TTHM's

## Dune Walkovers

The surveys were received. Anchor is starting the design drawings. They are making this a priority.

## Nickle Creek

Anchor is working on proposal for the City to review utility needs for the proposed subdivision.

## Amphitheater

BGN's design team is finalizing their structural (foundation) and electrical drawings.

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

Anchor met Duke Energy on site last week and provided them with voltage information for the pumps. Now that they have that, Duke will work up a price for the city. We hope to have it in time for the council meeting next week.

Nanook – Mainline is coordinating with the pump supplier to determine if there is an alternative pump that would work with existing panel on site.

### Cul-de-sac on Canal Parkway

Anchor provided cost estimate for the project, which is part of the September 9 meeting packet

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

Bids to be opened at 2:00 on Friday September 29.

### Update on Sewer leak at Canal Parkway

The repair was completed. The only part unfinished is trying to get some of the pavers to match. When done, we will get the request for reimbursement to Duke Energy.

### Duke Energy

First, Duke Energy Florida customers should anticipate a small rate increase in January and February of 2026.

Second, you will see a significant reduction beginning in March of 2026. Electric rates are expected to drop by approximately \$44 for residential customers using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity when compared to February 2026. Commercial and industrial customers should expect to see bill decreases ranging from 9.6% to 15.8% when compared to February 2026. The specific impact will vary depending on several factors.

This rate reduction is largely due to the removal of the Storm Cost Recovery charge associated with Duke Energy Florida's response to hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton. Please note electric rates can fluctuate during the year based on fuel prices and storm-related costs.

Below are some resources to help you better navigate your bill and energy usage:

- [Reading Your Residential Utility Bill](#)
- [Reading Your Business Utility Bill](#)
- [Monitor your energy use on any device, anytime](#)
- [Fuel Costs & Your Bill](#)

Third, we understand some of our customers face financial challenges, often making difficult decisions regarding which bill they can afford to pay. That's why keeping costs low remains a priority for all of us at Duke Energy. We'll continue looking for creative ways to ease customer costs and connect customers with energy efficiency assistance. We offer tips, tools, and programs to manage energy usage through the summer heat. Reducing energy consumption will help decrease your energy bill.

Here are some residential programs that can provide critical billing assistance.

- [Pick Your Due Date](#) – choose what day you want your bill to be due each month
- [Payment Installment Plan](#) – payment option that makes paying off larger amounts more manageable

- [Share the Light Fund®](#) – funds distributed by participating agencies to help pay electric bills, deposits and connection/reconnection charges
- [Budget Billing](#) – predictable monthly energy bills regardless of changes in your energy usage or the weather
- [EnergyWise® Home Program](#) – annual bill credits for automatically reducing your energy usage during periods of high demand
- [Usage Alerts](#) – avoid surprises by receiving an email notification in the middle of your billing cycle showing how much electricity you're using, the cost at the midpoint in your billing cycle and a cost projection at the end of your billing cycle – in time to adjust your energy usage
- [Home Energy Checks](#) – free in-person, online or phone evaluations of your home's energy efficiency, which qualifies you for up to \$3,850 in rebates through the [Home Improvement Rebate Program](#)
- [Income-Qualified Weatherization Program](#) – free installation of energy efficiency upgrades around your home (only if you have an income less than 200% of federal poverty guidelines)

More information can be found by visiting [duke-energy.com/HereToHelp](http://duke-energy.com/HereToHelp). Business customers can visit [duke-energy.com/resource-hub/business](http://duke-energy.com/resource-hub/business).

#### Sanitation Meeting

Here is a quick summary of today's sanitation meeting:

The city will purchase 96-gallon cans.

Each customer will either pay \$50.00 up front or pay \$5.00 per month for a year for each can.

Rentals have a 2-can minimum.

Current residential rates (backdoor service included) will stay the same (\$35.03 per month).

Rentals will pay \$52.55 per month plus a \$10.00 charge (for 2 cans) for backdoor service. \$5.00 for each additional can.

Trash placed outside of the can will face an extra charge.

Still no charge for yard waste.

The city will take over yard waste pick up internally – no outside contractor.

The city will lease or buy an additional trash truck.

The city will transition 2 employees from sanitation to other departments.

Boat ramp dumpster will be taken out on October 1. Contact Public works if you need to take your trash somewhere outside of normal pickups.

## **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.
- Daily inspections and cleaning of the beach are being conducted by the department.

- Maintenance and monitoring of the 8th Street Canal are ongoing.
  - Normal dredging operations in the mouth of the canal are underway.
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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.
  - 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.
  - A speed indication sign has been relocated to 15<sup>th</sup> Street.
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### Stormwater Management

- Nine (9) stormwater inspections on new construction.
  - Stormwater canals are under inspection to ensure proper flow and functionality.
  - The department is still actively looking for solutions for the stormwater improvements at Highway 98 and 15th Street, plans are pending.
  - 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 on the weekends has officially come to an end until next busy season.
- Routine maintenance and updates are ongoing across all park facilities.
- Landscape updates are underway at Sunset Park.

- The City Lot on 37<sup>th</sup> Street is completed as a secondary parking area for visitors.
  - The new sign for the future pier is completed.
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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.
  - The footers from the old water tower have all been successfully removed.
  - Work at the Public Works compound is still underway and in progress.
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#### Sanitation

- Weekend sanitation services for commercial dumpsters and beach receptacles throughout the city are completed until the next season.
  - The second sanitation meeting is planned for Friday 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 completed and pending the interactive process.
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### **SHERIFF**

#### August 2025

Calls for Service	260	
Miles Patrolled	13,115	
Traffic Stops	44	
Citations	5	
Warnings	28	
Arrests	3 Misdemeanor	1 Criminal Traffic
Traffic Accidents	4	

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Here are a few items Code worked on this past week:

- Mailed out about 4 Turtle Light Notice of violations this past week.
- Notice of Violation for lot cut.
- Lot cleaned up and mowed on Fortner.
- Lot on Kim Kove & Nannook tree service was cutting down healthy Live Oak trees, no permit, lot is vacant. Stopped him from cutting down the rest of the Live Oaks.
- Received a call Lady selling food out of her car, went to check it out she was already gone and couldn't locate her.
- Person on Texas Drive has fixed his fence that was installed incorrectly.
- Person on Azalea fence installed too high and backwards without a permit, fence has been corrected.

## **Fire Department.**

With Labor Day having been and gone, so to have the large numbers of visitors to our community for now at least. It has been a good tourist season with good numbers visiting both for a fishing trip, beach day and longer family holidays. Our beach patrol will continue so as to be operationally aware and our jet ski will remain on the floating dock, should it be needed. We will be turning our minds to yearly testing of hydrants, company training and renewal of certificates such as CPR cards.

Our new training software, Vector Solutions, is now in full use and training is being documented as needed and updated before the expiry date pass. This is a great tool to keep everything valid moving forward and to meet the requirements for our ISO audit when it happens. It is vital that we keep everything up to date and record it for the audit.

As we are in the middle of hurricane season, we have been meeting with Bay County emergency management on all aspects of readiness in the event of any storm in the area. We have some classes coming up in the near future regarding EOC activation and incident command of a major incident so we will be better situated should the need arise.

## **Harbor Master.**

August was another good month at the city marina with record slip bookings and another slip booked for the whole year. That brings to 15 the number of slips booked year-round and still leaving 36 for rental by short term visitors. Of those 15 full year rentals 5 have or are putting in a boat lift and we have one more in the pipeline. As thing slow down I will get together with the canal department and make any repairs and or upgrades needed. We have been waiting on the jetties to be done on some of the upgrades.

The boat ramp had a busy month with increased use on the same period last year. 2024 saw 146 paid daily launch fees whereas 2025 had 176. Yearly permit sales are also doing well but a little behind 2024. The boat wash system continues to be used by some boaters. All in all, another good month in and around the city boating facilities.

## **FLOODPLAIN CONSULTANT**

We have issued 508 minor floodplain reports/permits and conducted 79 compliance inspections to date.

Major applications (Commercial, Subdivisions, Plats etc.) listed below have either been reviewed and feedback provided, are pending more information from the applicant, or have been permitted. Please see the lists below for status details:

Pending Application/ Meetings Held:

- Sweetwater at Mexico Beach: Preliminary meeting held June 25th, 2024.
- Harmony Lakes preliminary meeting held August 28th, 2024.
- Meeting held 6/30/2025 to discuss pier public restroom.

Reviewed & Feedback Provided - Pending new information:

- The Palms - 1008 15th St. Units A-D
- Forgotten Coast Villas (Development Order- Structures)

Approved/ Approved with Comments:

- 5501 Hwy 98- Development Order for Hotel
- 102-104 14<sup>th</sup> St Replat Application
- 2902 Hwy 98 Development Order for Mixed Use Building
- Salt Creek Final Plat Approval
- Cottages at Paradise Cove (Preliminary Plat, Final Plat, & Development Order)
- 480 15<sup>th</sup> St. - Restaurant (Playa De Mexico)
- 712 Highway 98- Restaurant
- The Driftwood Inn Chapel
- Salt Creek Temporary Parking Lot
- Villas at Mexico Beach (Development Order)
- 100 42nd St. S (Preliminary Plat)
- 314, 316, 318 Hatley Dr. Duplex
- Toucans- 719 Hwy 98 (Development Order- Structure Only)
- 4101 Hwy 98 (Development Order)
- El Governor (Development Order) - Bathroom & Pool
- Salt Creek Townhomes Ph. 2 (Preliminary Plat)
- Aquas Esmeralda (Preliminary Plat)
- Aquas Esmeralda (Development Order)
- Sweetwater at Mexico Beach (Preliminary Plat)
- Cape & Coast Office: 3016 Hwy 98 (Development Order)

# BUILDING DEPARTMENT

## Issued Permits

Permit Issued Date: 08/28/2025 - 09/04/2025

Permit Issued Date	Property Address	Permit Number	Contractor	Category	Valuation	Subdivision
Permit Type			Attached Single Family			
Permit Status			In Progress			
08/28/2025	224 SALT CREEK LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0115	DR Horton, INC	Residential New	\$154,535.00	SALT CREEK AT MEXICO BEACH PH2
08/28/2025	220 SALT CREEK LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0116	DR Horton, INC	Residential New	\$148,252.00	SALT CREEK AT MEXICO BEACH PH2
08/28/2025	216 SALT CREEK LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0117	DR Horton, INC	Residential New	\$148,252.00	SALT CREEK AT MEXICO BEACH PH2
08/28/2025	212 SALT CREEK LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0118	DR Horton, INC	Residential New	\$148,252.00	SALT CREEK AT MEXICO BEACH PH2
08/28/2025	208 SALT CREEK LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0119	DR Horton, INC	Residential New	\$148,252.00	SALT CREEK AT MEXICO BEACH PH2
08/28/2025	204 SALT CREEK LN, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0120	DR Horton, INC	Residential New	\$154,535.00	SALT CREEK AT MEXICO BEACH PH2

Count: 6

Total: \$902,078.00

Count: 6

Total: \$902,078.00

Permit Type			Deck			
Permit Status			In Progress			
09/02/2025	103 35TH ST S Unit B, Mexico Beach	25MB-RB0121		Residential Alteration	\$3,000.00	MEXICO BEACH UNIT 6 235C2

Count: 1

Total: \$3,000.00

Count: 1

Total: \$3,000.00

Permit Type			Mechanical Permit			
Permit Status			In Progress			
08/29/2025	238 WILLIAM WAY, Mexico Beach	25MB-M0048	Deeson Heating & AC - CMC1249673	One Stop	\$25,000.00	GRAND ISLE UNIT 15 235C4

Count: 1

Total: \$25,000.00

Count: 1

Total: \$25,000.00

Permit Type			New Commercial			
Permit Status			In Progress			
09/02/2025	5501 Hwy 98, Mexico Beach	25MB-CB0002	Feasterco Construction, Inc CGCA09767	Commercial New	\$12,000,000.00	

Count: 1

Total: \$12,000,000.00

Count: 1

Total: \$12,000,000.00

Permit Type			Plumbing Permit			
Permit Status			In Progress			
09/03/2025	134 MIRAMAR DR, Mexico Beach	25MB-P0060	Beach Plumbing	One Stop	\$1,250,000.00	MEXICO BEACH UNIT #7 213D1
09/03/2025	102 23RD ST S, Mexico Beach	25MB-P0061	Emerald Coast Plumbing	One Stop	\$1,058,850.00	MEXICO BEACH U-3 MAP 235C

Count: 2

Total: \$2,308,850.00

Count: 2

Total: \$2,308,850.00

Permit Type			Siding			
Permit Status			In Progress			
09/03/2025	318 HWY 98, Mexico Beach	25MB-SID0003	MRJ Construction & Roofing Inc. - CBC1265103	One Stop	\$25,890.00	MEXICO BEACH UNIT #1

Count: 1

Total: \$25,890.00

Count: 1

Total: \$25,890.00

Total Permits: 12

Valuation Total: \$15,264,818.00