Town of Edisto Beach

Monthly Highlights

December 2023



IMPORTANT

Signup for CodeRed Weather Alerts by selecting the button below.



And subscribe to the Edisto Beach Website <u>HERE</u>.



Christmas Message from the Mayor

Merry Christmas Everyone,

As we have officially entered the Christmas holiday season, we want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy, and hopeful New Year.

Looking back over the past year, I am amazed at what we have been able to accomplish together. Your council and staff have worked diligently to move Edisto Beach forward with infrastructure updates while at the same time maintaining Edisto as Edisto. As we move into the new year, we continue to work to complete several infrastructure improvements which will benefit our Town and residents for many years to come -- from beach nourishment to sewer and water upgrades to a new town hall with an Emergency Operations Center, just to name a few. We still, however, have lots of work to do.

Fortunately for us, we have the best staff of any town I have been involved with, from our administrative staff to utilities and grounds to law enforcement and fire. I cannot brag enough on how hard they work and how committed they are to the success of Edisto Beach. Our law enforcement is top of the line and as professional as they come. Our fire department is expertly trained and remains so through their annual training commitments, and they are second to none.

Also, I would like to thank you! Your commitment to serving this community through volunteerism, whether helping with events, serving on one of the Town's several committees, or attending our public meetings, your service is critical to our success as we work together for the future of Edisto Beach. With that, I believe the year ahead looks very promising.

On another note, I would like to express my personal appreciation of your belief in this council. You have blessed me with four more years as your Mayor, and I want to assure you that I do not take that responsibility lightly. I understand your vote for me was more than a simple vote. It says you trust this council to handle the business of Edisto Beach in a way that reflects your ideals and values. In my years I have been fortunate to serve in many capacities, and I would like to share that being your mayor is one of which I am most proud. I want to assure you I will continue to do my best to represent you in a way that reflects everything we hold dear here at Edisto Beach.

On a final note, unfortunately I will not be with you for the Christmas parade this year due to a family obligation. I hate to miss the festivities because it is absolutely one of my favorite days of the year; however, I am sure it will be, as always, a fantastic and fun event. Remember to throw some candy and dog biscuits for us.

Wishing Everyone a Very Merry Christmas, Crawford

Edisto Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project -Reminders

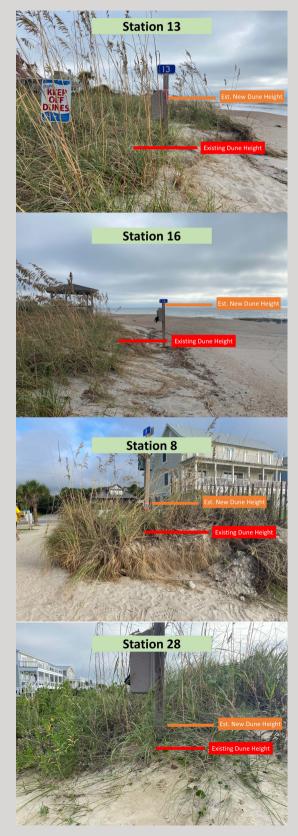
The Mayor and Town Council members appreciate the residents and others who attended the two informational sessions with the USACE regarding the Coastal Storm Risk Management Project. As has been shared previously, the primary benefit of this project is to reduce risk of damage to life and property.

Please see below some items related to this project which were discussed at the informational sessions:

- the existing beach dune has been severely eroded; this project will restore the dune to its optimum height to maximize risk reduction; markers have been placed at each public beach access that indicates the height of the dune at that particular place based on the current condition; there will NOT be 15 feet of additional sand added to the dunes - only the amount of sand required to reach 15 total feet
- eligibility for repairs after declared disasters at which time the Town will be eligible to receive 100% of the cost of storm repair, whereas previously the Town was eligible only for 75% from FEMA
- sharing the cost of beach nourishment with the federal government
- having easements in place longterm allows the USACE to conduct periodic nourishments; the easements will be held by the Town of Edisto Beach, not the USACE
- beach access will continue as it currently exists, which is to direct the public to access the beach using the 38 public access points
- the dune will be vegetated and protected from the public traversing or sitting on the dune other than at designated access points.

Please use this <u>LINK</u> to view the Easement and Construction Line Map Viewer.

Please use this <u>LINK</u> to view the USACE presentation shared at the informational sessions.

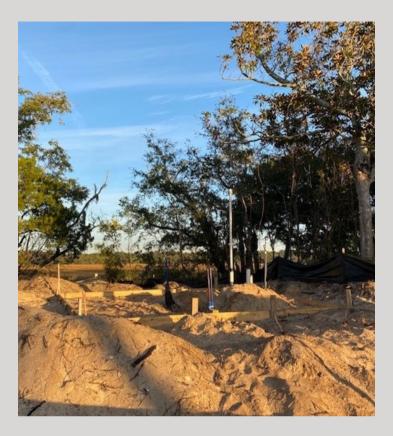


Project Update: Arc & Billow Drainage, Jungle Road Bathrooms, Tennis/Pickleball Courts

The Arc/Billow drainage project is substantially completed. The Town is reviewing final paperwork and materials from IPW Construction, and this project will then be finalized.

The Jungle Shores Bathroom Project is underway (see photo to the right). This project is scheduled to be completed by Spring 2024. Cinderella Partners, Inc. is the contractor for this project.

The new tennis/pickleball courts are substantially completed. Work on the parking area should be complete early December. ATAX funds were used for this project.



Election Results

The General Election was held on November 7 for the Town of Edisto Beach to elect one mayor and two Council members. The Municipal Election Commission certified the votes on November 9 as follows:

Mayor:

Crawford Moore, 250 votes Write-In, one (1) vote Council:

> Jerome Kizer, 230 votes Write-In, three (3) votes

Joey Bagwell, 236 votes Write-in, four (4) votes



Cold Weather is Coming!

Please remember to ready your home for any cold weather we may experience. As a reminder from our October Monthly Highlights:

- protect plumbing with proper insulation
- turn off the main water supply and drain all faucets and spigots if you are away from your Edisto Beach home for the winter
- properly seal doors and windows
- if you are away for the winter, set thermostat between 50-55 degrees F, which is just high enough to prevent freezing in your home; this also prevents mold and mildew from forming
- · unplug all electronics
- sign up for CodeRed notifications (see the front page of this publication)

Fire Hydrant Maintenance and Repair

The Edisto Beach Fire Department hydrant maintenance and service program involves inspecting and maintaining hydrants on a regular schedule. Major service and repairs are conducted annually on a number of hydrants. Service includes:

- ensure the fire hydrant operates as expected
- lubricate regularly
- flush the hydrant to remove any foreign material inside the hydrant or lead line
- ensure there are no obstructions hiding the fire hydrant
- inspect for leaks
- check hydrant nozzle caps

The following fire hydrant locations will be repainted during the winter months:

- 2306 Murray Street
- 2001 Myrtle Street
- 1617 Lybrand Street
- 3911 Docksite Road
- 3767 Docksite Road
- 3757 Docksite Road
- 3743 Docksite Road
- 3728 Docksite Road
- 676 Buoy Road
- 3602 Sunset Street



Calendar Reminders

Holiday Mix & Mingle, sponsored by the Town, will be held on December 8 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Bay Creek Park.

Holiday Movie in the Park, sponsored by the Edisto Chamber of Commerce, will be held on December 8 at 5:45 p.m.

Edisto Beach Christmas Parade, sponsored by the Edisto Chamber of Commerce, will be held on December 9 at 2:00 p.m.

In observance of the holidays, **Town Hall will be closed** on December 22, 25, 26, and January 1.



Beach Christmas Tree

Come and have photographs taken with the Edisto Beach Christmas tree located at Beach Access 30! A beautiful tree, great beach scenery, family and friends would make a great memory! Feel free to stop by and take your photographs at any time until the end of December. Thank you to Phyllis McElveen, Edye Graves, and Lisa White for their work on this project!



November Town Council Meeting Highlights

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on November 9, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- Approval of Resolution 2023-R13, Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Match in the amount of a local match of \$145,000; if the grant is approved, funds will be used to repair and resurface the Jungle Shores Drive Bike Path.
- Approval of award for upgrades to Pump Station A in an amount not to exceed \$721,586 to Babcock Construction.
- Approval of surveying services from ESP Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$80,000 as part of the Coastal Storm Risk Management Project, as well as approval of appraisal services in the amount of \$21,000 to Colliers International for the same project.
- Approval of the following ATAX projects:
 - \$18,000 to SC Lowcountry Tourism Commission
 - \$31,587 for the EB Fire Dept radio replacement project
 - \$10,000 to Ocean Ridge Master Property Owners Assoc. for outfall/pipe project



Oath of Office

Given the November 7 Election results, the following were administered the Oath of Office by Town Attorney Maryann Blake:

Crawford Moore, Mayor Joey Bagwell, Council Member Jerome Kizer, Council Member

Election of Mayor Pro Tempore

As per Town Ordinance, following a general election for Town Council, a Mayor Pro Tempore shall be elected by ballot from the Town Council. The Mayor Pro Tempore shall serve for a term of two years or until his/her successor is elected.

Following a vote by ballot, Jerome Kizer received five (5) votes to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. On a motion by Mayor Moore, seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved, Mr. Kizer was approved as Mayor Pro Tempore.

As a reminder, Council agendas and minutes are found on our website <u>HERE</u>.