



---

**2022 April & May**

**City Manager Report**

---

**MAY 2, 2022**

**Florida Blvd.  
Culvert**

**Bay Street  
HAWK Beacon**

**Jarboe Park**



## Florida Blvd. & 5<sup>th</sup> St. Stormwater Culvert

### On Schedule for June 1<sup>st</sup> Reopening

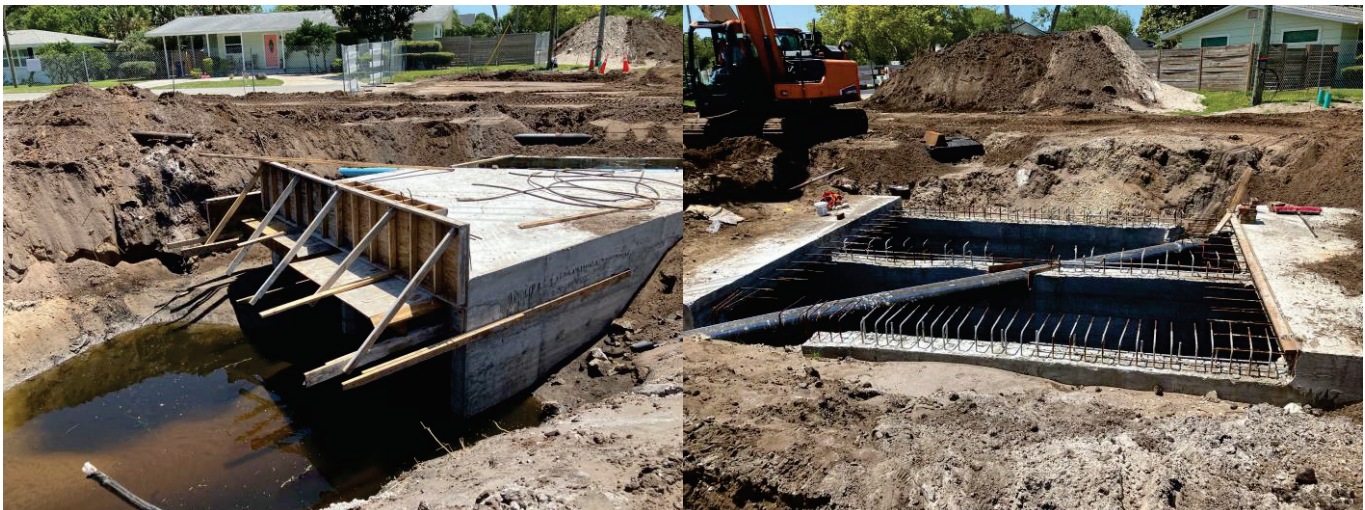
The City's contractor, A.W.A., gave an update during the April 18<sup>th</sup> Council Workshop. Weather permitting, the project should be completed in time for Summer!

The Florida Boulevard Culvert Project was identified in 2016 as the City's most significant bottleneck by a study conducted by Parsons Transportation Group. The study was commissioned by FDOT as a part of the drainage improvements for SR-A1A. The study noted that the Duval County Beaches have historically experienced flooding during major storm events, and during minor storm events with exceptionally high tides. The study documented that the problem is due to undersized drainage channels and culvert crossings.

The design to improve the culvert at Florida and 5<sup>th</sup> was approved by FDOT (Bridge Culvert No. 724446). The improvements include a double 7' x 6' steel-reinforced concrete culvert to replace the hydraulically inadequate and deteriorated steel corrugated pipe culvert (See Attachment A).

In 2019, the City received partial funding from the State of Florida to construct the vital stormwater improvements. In 2019, nothing was budgeted for the project in FY-2020, but during the FY-2021 Budget, staff budgeted \$950,000 towards the construction of the improvements. On May 13, 2021, the City advertised an ITB. Three contractors attended the pre-bid meeting on May 27, 2021. On June 4, 2021 staff evaluated (2) bids for the project and selected A.W.A. Contracting with the lowest bid of \$996,754.49. On July 19, 2021 during a Special Meeting of the Council, the staff recommendation was approved (See Attachment B).

The original roughly 2' diameter steel corrugated pipe is being completely replaced by **(2)** 7' x 6' poured in place concrete culverts. The construction requires exceptional care as water must still flow through the site, but also must be dammed to stop water from getting into the construction area while the new sections are installed!



# Florida Blvd. & 5th St. Stormwater Culvert

## On Schedule for June 1<sup>st</sup> Reopening

Continued from previous page.

This project has been identified as necessary to expeditiously moving stormwater to an appropriate outfall at the intracoastal waterway since 2016. City staff took the appropriate steps to properly design, bid and select a contractor to begin work.

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the contractor A.W.A. Contracting received a notice to proceed. There is a 72-hour bid protest period that must be completed after a bid has been accepted, and the contractor was given (15) calendar days to return a signed agreement, performance & payment bond (recorded with the Duval County Clerk of Courts), and all certificates of insurance.

The contractor returned the signed agreement, and began planning a work schedule that was swiftly implemented. As a matter of safety for the contractor, and to begin the relocation of utilities, the roadway was closed completely to traffic while the contractor began mobilizing on site.

The contractor has continued to work on the project as weather and time permitted. The contractor did not work during holidays such as Christmas, New Years, President's Day, and Easter. However, the contractor's owner recently reported that the project will open as scheduled.

The City's contractor, A.W.A., gave an update during the April 18<sup>th</sup> Council Workshop. Weather permitting, the project should be completed in time for Summer. Considering the scope of work, and the type of bridge culvert being installed, the contractor is moving along at an acceptable pace by their contractual agreement.

City Staff are excited to see this project finally coming to fruition and look forward to witnessing the improvement to the increased capacity of the larger culverts. Please be patient for a couple more months as the project finishes up!

A major bridge culvert built from bid to completion in **under 12 months!**



Top Left: (Previous Page) 7' x 6' Box Culvert – Concrete Cap poured in place

Top Right: (Previous Page) Top Section of 7' x 6' Box Culvert

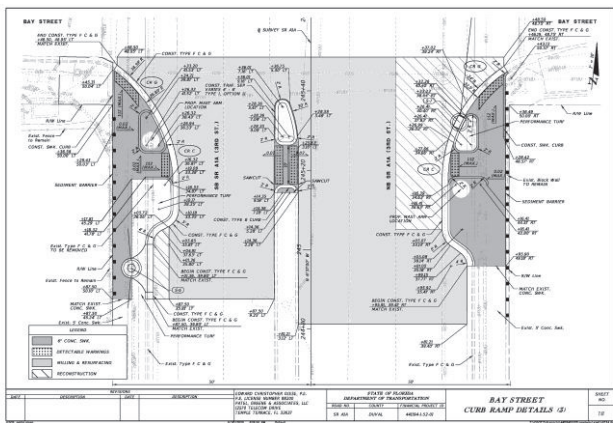
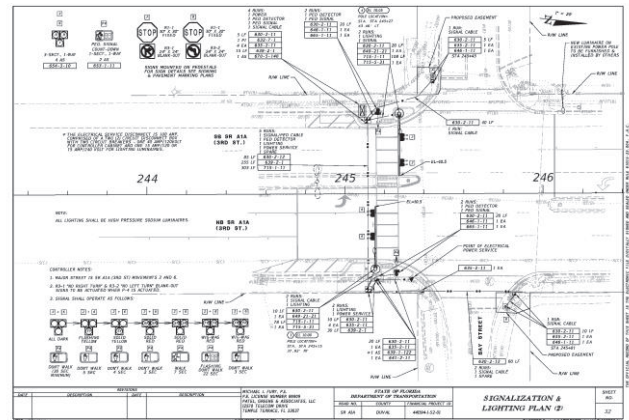
Bottom Left: Original (approximate) 2' Diameter Stormwater Culvert Pipe

## Bay Street HAWK (PHB) Beacon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street & Atlantic Blvd.

### FDOT Working in Phases for Three Projects

3<sup>rd</sup> Street has three different construction sites, all part of the same FDOT project. Each phase must be completed entirely among the three sections before the next can begin.

Any street improvement takes time and the FDOT projects along 3<sup>rd</sup> Street are no exception. The first project location at Atlantic and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street wasn't part of the original plan, but FDOT revised plans after Atlantic Beach requested improvements to mitigate issues with vehicles crashing into buildings and monuments at the intersection. Moving South, the second project is the installation of a HAWK Beacon at Bay and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets.



The final project is at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Jacksonville Beach. Due to the way the contract was awarded by FDOT, the contractor completes each phase for all three intersections before moving on to the next phase. More information is available from FDOT about the improvements to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (See Attachment C). According to FDOT publications, the project is scheduled to be completed this Spring.

[Click this link to learn more about HAWK \(PHB\) Signals.](#)

When will the barrels at Bay Street be removed?

Due to the phasing of the project, each individual section must be completed at all three sites before the next phase can begin. Concrete was recently poured at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue for the steel HAWK Beacon mast arm. The next phase is most likely to install the steel mast arms, requiring the use of a small crane to lift. This phase will require intermittent closing of lanes along 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, so the barrels must stay until the project is completed.



## Jarboe Park Construction Update

### Phase 1 Nearly Complete – Visitors Must Park on 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Great weather contributed to pouring the last remaining pieces of concrete to open what will become the main park entrance on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Beginning Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> Parking along Bay Street outside of paved ADA spaces will be temporarily prohibited. All visitors to the Park are required to park along 5<sup>th</sup> Street, unless they walk or bike in. Pedestrian and bicycle visitors to Jarboe Park averaged 500 a day, and that's at only one entrance along the East Coast Greenway at Florida Boulevard (See Attachment D).

New paved parking spaces along Bay Street are still planned for construction, but parking along Bay Street is temporarily prohibited until they're installed.

Additional shade structures have been installed around the pickleball courts and the volleyball courts. Volleyball courts officially opened the week of April 4<sup>th</sup> and are ready for play!

Bicycle racks and benches are in the works and scheduled to be installed this Summer. Public Works staff have begun to plan for adding two ADA parking spaces along Florida Boulevard, and will move to Bay Street shortly after.

Multiple Residents have asked for more trees at Jarboe Park, and thanks to the generosity of the Jacksonville Tree Mitigation Fund, trees are scheduled to be installed the second week of May!

Construction Notes can be found as (Attachment E).



### Phase 1 Construction Costs

Final Payment for the Courts has been processed!



The last section of concrete has been poured to 5<sup>th</sup> Street, and the final payment has been processed for the courts. **The project budget has a remaining balance of: \$1,130.93 and has a total cost to date of: \$1,340,751.28.**

Public Works crews completed the concrete work and finishing touches (landscaping, paths, shower plumbing, etc.) internally, and the plan is to utilize Public Works employees to complete the ADA parking spaces on Florida as well.

Any additional phases of the park will most likely be discussed in Committee meetings as well as during budget discussions in the upcoming months.

Detailed cost sheets that show expenditures and where the funds were allocated from can be found as an attachment to this report. Between FY2020 and FY2021 Council allocated \$1,243,088 from the Better Jacksonville ½ cent sales tax. Two change orders were also approved with funds being pulled from the Better Jacksonville ½ cent sales tax and grant funding awarded to the City from FDEP (See Attachment F).

## **SLFRF (ARPA) Funding**

Report has been filed with  
US Department of Treasury

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the City of Neptune Beach received \$3,635,697.00 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). The funding has some stipulations like that it cannot be used to reduce taxes, or assist a pension plan, but it can be used for things that improve public health, assist households, assist small businesses, assist non-profits, aid impacted industries, and build public sector capacity.

Budget Amendment 2022-01 (Ordinance 2021-12) receipted the 1<sup>st</sup> tranche of SLFRF (ARPA) into the General Fund for \$1,817,848 (See Attachment G).

Staff proposed the following breakdown of expenditures for SLFRF (ARPA):

**Non-Departmental Repair & Maintenance \$100,000** – *To repair the roof at City Hall and to cover any additional cost for computer servers in order to be ready to implement the City's new ERP software. These funds will improve technology infrastructure that improves access to and the user experience of government IT systems and will allow Residents to file permit applications online.*

**Stormwater - Professional Services \$200,000** – *To collect additional data on localized flooding during major storm events and during normal storm events with exceptionally high tide, prioritize projects, and design projects for construction.*

**Stormwater - Repair & Maintenance \$117,848** – *To make repairs and improvements to stormwater conveyance systems throughout the City.*

**Sewer Services - Repair & Maintenance \$1,150,000** – *These funds were originally programmed to be used at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to assist in reducing the amount of funds required for upgrades and repairs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). However, these funds have been used to make emergency repairs to the City's neglected sanitary sewer conveyance system, that routinely experiences leaking and breaking pipes due to years of, 'deferred maintenance'. Funds have been diverted to repairing the main influent sanitary sewer gravity main and main influent sanitary sewer force main into the WWTP.*

**Water Services - Improvements, Not Buildings \$250,000** – *These funds are being used to offset the costs associated with completely resurfacing the Water Tower. Rather than put an additional coating on the tower, it will instead be repaired, upgraded, sandblasted and recoated. Staff are also working with the cellular companies leasing space on the tower to increase rents and share in the cost of the project.*

The US Department of Treasury accepted the City's 1<sup>st</sup> Project Expenditure Report on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The City has obligated \$606,312.87 and has expended \$416,982.95, (Attachment H) is the report submitted to UST.



301 S. Bronough St., Suite 300 • Post Office Box 1757 • Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757

850.222.9684 • Fax: 850.222.3806 • Website: [flcities.com](http://flcities.com)

## City of Neptune Beach Honored with 2022 Home Rule Hero Award

*City Manager Stefen Wynn has been recognized for advocacy efforts during the 2022 Legislative Session*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 2, 2022

**CONTACT:** Catherine Ponson

[Clerk@nbfl.us](mailto:Clerk@nbfl.us) (904) 270-2400; 30

**Neptune Beach, FL** – The **Florida League of Cities** (FLC), celebrating its 100th anniversary as the united voice for Florida's municipal governments, recently recognized the City of Neptune Beach's City Manager, Stefen Wynn, with a 2022 Home Rule Hero Award for his hard work and advocacy efforts during the 2022 Legislative Session. Mr. Wynn worked tirelessly throughout session to promote local voices making local choices, protect the Home Rule powers of Florida's municipalities and advance the League's legislative agenda.

Mr. Wynn has volunteered on the FLC's Administrative Policy Legislative Action Committee and helped to shape the legislative action items with the rest of the team. He spent time in Tallahassee advocating for Home Rule and the City that he serves. Mr. Wynn is the second Home Rule Hero in Neptune Beach and joins the Neptune Beach City Attorney, Zach Roth with the distinction.

"On behalf of the League and its legislative team, we're very proud to present this year's Home Rule Hero Awards to a deserving group of municipal leaders," said **FLC Director of Legislative Affairs Casey Cook**. "We had a record number of Home Rule Heroes this year, which shows the dedication and impact of local officials on behalf of their residents and businesses in protecting local decision-making. These local officials were constantly engaged and actively advocating for

their communities throughout the 2022 Legislative Session. They're heroes for Home Rule and we thank them for their efforts."

Home Rule is the ability for a city to address local problems with local solutions with minimal state interference. Home Rule Hero Award recipients are local government officials, both elected and nonelected, who consistently responded to the League's request to reach out to members of the legislature and help give a local perspective on an issue.

Upon receiving the distinction, Mr. Wynn said, "I'm glad to continue advocating for home rule so that Neptune Beach and other Florida municipalities maintain their right to govern locally. I'm proud to serve with a dedicated Duval County Beach's leadership team that tirelessly advocates for home rule." Elected and appointed officials in Jacksonville Beach, and Atlantic Beach were previously recognized for their efforts in promoting local voices making local choices.

Stefen Wynn has been the City Manager of Neptune Beach for the past two years. Previously he served in Albion, Indiana as the Town Manager and on the Noble County, Indiana Economic Development Corporation. Mr. Wynn is a graduate of Indiana University with an M.P.A., and Florida Gulf Coast University where he was named a "Soaring Eagle" in 2018, and currently serves on the FGCU Alumni Board of Directors.

###

*Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in "Local Voices Making Local Choices," which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida's communities. For more information, visit [flcities.com](http://flcities.com).*





**City of Neptune Beach  
Community Development Director  
Samantha Brisolaro  
Receives University of Florida's  
Jim Beeler Public Service Memorial Award**

*Samantha Brisolaro has been recognized for a commitment to public service and making a difference in the communities that she serves*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 2, 2022

**CONTACT:** Catherine Ponson

[Clerk@nbfl.us](mailto:Clerk@nbfl.us) (904) 270-2400; 30

Since arriving in Neptune Beach earlier this year, Samantha Brisolaro immediately engaged with fellow City Staff, elected officials and the Residents in the Community. She has been working on revisions to the Land Development Code and organizing the Community Development Department.

The award that she received from the University of Florida is given by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning in honor of James Nevin Beeler, Jr. Mr. Beeler graduated from the MURP program in 2011 and passed away in 2012. Jim was active in local political and civic circles everywhere he lived. He was not afraid to get involved in public controversy and public service. Before becoming a URP student, he served on the Tampa-Hillsborough County Planning Commission and worked on several campaigns for area politicians.

This award is presented to students who engage in public service and make a difference in their communities.

The 2022 Jim Beeler Public Service Memorial Award is Samantha Brisolaro. Sam began her career of public service while obtaining her undergraduate degree and working as a secretary for the City of Marianna's Community Development Department. She then transitioned to City Clerk for a town in Alabama while obtaining her Master's Degree. Samantha has City planning experience from the City of Destin, and is currently the City of Neptune Beach's Community Development Director, all while raising twin boys and investing time volunteering for organizations in the community.