



Islander

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OCTOBER 2026

OFFICE OF THE City Manager

BUDGET MESSAGE F/Y 2026-2027

Following a productive discussion at last month's Second Budget Hearing, the City Commission adopted the City of Sunny Isles Beach's comprehensive budget and five-year Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. This budget continues the City's longstanding commitment to delivering high-quality services while maintaining the lowest municipal tax rate in the region. Most importantly for residents, the adopted operating millage rate was reduced from 1.7000 mills to the rollback rate of 1.6514 mills per \$1,000 of assessed value.

This is the 14th consecutive year that Sunny Isles Beach has reduced its municipal tax rate. At 1.6514 mills, Sunny Isles Beach maintains the lowest municipal operating millage rate across Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties. This is a significant accomplishment, particularly as the City manages rising costs for construction, maintenance, technology, employee recruitment and retention, and other essential services.

The rate reduction was achieved during a year in which taxable property values grew by a modest 3.56 percent—the City's lowest percentage increase since 2018. The FY 2026-2027 budget reflects a deliberate effort to preserve residents' value while ensuring the City remains able to meet its obligations today and in the years ahead.

This budget is designed to be lean, efficient and focused on the services and investments that matter most to residents. Developing it involved months of analysis

and collaboration among the City Commission, City Administration and residents, with each department evaluating its programs, service levels, staffing and operating and capital needs.

The FY 2026-2027 budget deliberately focuses on core responsibilities rather than trying to do everything at once. It protects essential services and directs available resources toward the areas that have the greatest day-to-day and long-term impact on residents.

Public safety remains the City's number one priority. The budget continues to fully support the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department and Ocean Rescue. That investment is not limited to personnel; it includes the equipment, training and technology required to provide the high level of service our community expects. The budget also includes the addition of police officers, strengthening the City's ability to protect residents, visitors and businesses.

Infrastructure is the other central priority. Maintaining and improving the systems that protect our community is critical, particularly in a coastal city. The five-year Capital Improvement Program identifies the Central Island Drainage Project and the Bella Vista Bay Park Seawall as high-priority investments. The Central Island Drainage Project is being planned around a two-pump station approach as a long-term solution for improving stormwater management in the area, while the seawall project addresses the preservation and resilience of an important waterfront asset.

The recent opening of Intracoastal Sports Park is an accomplishment residents can now enjoy. The park adds multi-use courts for tennis and basketball, outdoor exercise equipment and a pedestrian walkway—another example of the City investing in amenities that support recreation, health and quality of life. It also illustrates an important principle behind responsible public budgeting: the cost of a capital project does not end when construction is complete.

Every new park, facility, amenity or infrastructure improvement carries ongoing responsibilities. Those can include routine maintenance, landscaping, utilities, equipment replacement, programming, staffing, repairs and long-term rehabilitation. Planning for those future operating needs is essential to preserving the quality of the City's investments without compromising other services.

That long-range perspective guides the City's five-year Capital Improvement Program. Capital projects in the FY 2026–2027 plan total approximately \$42 million, including carryover funding for multiyear work. The City also

continues to seek grants, legislative appropriations and other outside funding opportunities to help stretch local dollars further.

The City remains committed to being as open and transparent as possible about its finances. The budget process includes public discussion and formal hearings, and the City makes budget materials, financial reports, audits and detailed revenue and expenditure information available for residents to review.

The adopted FY 2026–2027 budget is more than a set of numbers—it is a public roadmap for how Sunny Isles Beach will deliver services, maintain public safety, invest in infrastructure and plan for future obligations. Residents are encouraged to review the budget and related financial information, ask questions and stay engaged in how public dollars are allocated.

To read the complete Fiscal Year 2026- 2027 Budget Message, and to review the entire budget book, visit sibfl.gov/budgetmessage26-27.

Contact the City Manager's Office at citymanager@sibfl.net or [305.792.1731](tel:305.792.1731).



A New Place to Play: INTRACOASTAL SPORTS PARK IS NOW OPEN

Sunny Isles Beach residents now have even more ways to stay active, enjoy the outdoors, and spend time with neighbors. Intracoastal Sports Park is officially open, offering multi-use courts for tennis and basketball, outdoor exercise equipment, and a scenic pedestrian walkway.

The City celebrated its newest park with a grand opening event on Thursday, September 3, bringing the community together for a ribbon-cutting ceremony, tennis and fitness demonstrations, live music, raffles, and complimentary appetizers.



"We're excited to provide residents with more opportunities to participate in sports and fitness activities while enjoying the beautiful setting of our city," said Cultural and Community Services Director Colin Summers. "This park is a wonderful addition to our recreational offerings, and we look forward to seeing it become a vibrant destination for our residents."

Intracoastal Sports Park was shaped by community input, with tennis and basketball ranking among residents' top choices for recreation in a community survey. Whether you're looking to showcase your skills on the court, fit in an outdoor workout, take a walk, or simply enjoy some time outside, there's something for everyone.

"Maybe you'll come here for a game of tennis. Maybe basketball. Maybe you'll get in a workout or just take a walk along the water and enjoy the view. Whatever brings you here, this park is one more reminder of what makes living in Sunny Isles Beach extraordinary," said Mayor Larisa Svechin.

Sunny Isles Beach residents with a valid Resident ID Card can reserve courts online for free.

For park hours, reservations, rules, equipment rentals, and other information, visit sibfl.gov/isp.



A Victory for Educational Opportunity: TRIO Programs Renewed for Five More Years

Vice Mayor Jeniffer Viscarra

In my June article, *Opening Doors to Higher Education Through Community Outreach*, I shared a summary of what was discussed at my Town Hall and concerns about the future of the federal TRIO programs. Funding was in question, and programs throughout the country faced an uncertain summer. Many wondered whether it would be their last or whether their students would be able to return in the fall.

While cuts were made, I am pleased to share encouraging news: the TRIO Educational Opportunity Center programs at Miami Dade College and Florida International University have been renewed for an additional five years. This renewal represents an important step toward preserving educational opportunities for our students and adults who need guidance and support to pursue higher education.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who took the time to write to your representatives or make phone calls. Your voices matter, and civic engagement does make a difference.

As I have emphasized throughout my service as Commissioner of Sunny Isles Beach, improving local civic engagement has been at the core of my mission. I firmly believe that our communities are strongest when residents are informed, involved, and willing to speak up for the issues that matter to them. At the same time, I recognize that knowing how to engage with government is not always easy. I hope my efforts have helped you find and use your voice.



Contact Vice Mayor Jeniffer Viscarra at seat4@sibfl.net or 305.792.1750.

Commission Recap

Below are some of the key approvals and decisions made by the City Commission at the September 17, 2026 meeting. For the full agenda and meeting recordings, visit sibfl.gov/meetings.

Special Events and Procedures for the Application for Permits

The City Commission approved the first reading of an ordinance updating the City's special events regulations. The ordinance establishes clearer criteria for when a special event permit is required, including events open or advertised to the public; events involving sales, admission fees, temporary structures, fireworks or drones; and events requiring additional parking, traffic control, public-safety services, portable toilets, or closure of public areas. It also establishes a double application fee for special event permit requests submitted fewer than 30 days before an event.

Citywide Parking Rates

The City Commission approved a resolution updating metered parking rates for beachfront parking lots. The resolution increases the non-resident rate from \$5.00 per hour to \$10.00 per hour for the high-demand parking lot at Intracoastal Sports Park and beach parking lots including Pier Park and Ellen Wynne Beach Access. The resident rate will remain at \$3.00 per hour. The resolution also allows the City to charge users of electric vehicle charging stations at a rate of \$0.18 per kilowatt hour as well as a \$0.10 per minute idling fee.

**SIB LOCAL DEAL
OF THE MONTH**

Pizza Bianco

**Located inside the HOTEL
Ramada Marco Polo
19201 Collins Ave.**

**Resident ID Cardholders
receive **FREE** garlic rolls
with a pizza purchase or **10%**
off their purchase.**

**For more information,
visit sibfl.gov/supportlocal.**

CALENDAR

OCTOBER OF EVENTS

Town Hall: Permits, Contractors, and Consumer Protection

Thursday, October 1
6 - 7:30 PM

Winston Towers 300, 230 174 St.

National Night Out

Tuesday, October 6
5 - 7 PM

Pelican Community Park,
18115 North Bay Rd.

DBPR Resident Support Session

Wednesday, October 7

Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.
Appointment required.



October 7, 14, 21, 28

Wednesdays | 3 - 4 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Wellness Series: Community Wellness & Resilience

Wednesday, October 7, 14, 21, 28
6 - 7 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Mobile Driver's License Event

Thursday, October 8
9 AM - 3:30 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.
Appointment required.

Family Movie Night

Friday, October 9
7:30 - 10 PM

Gateway Park, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Beach Cleanup

Saturday, October 10
8 - 11 AM

Newport Fishing Pier, 16501 Collins Ave.

City Commission Workshop: Agenda Review

Tuesday, October 13
10 AM

First Floor Meeting Room, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

Teen Talk

Tuesday, October 13
5 - 6 PM

The Spot, 215 185 St.

City Commission Workshop: Special Presentations & Discussion Items

Thursday, October 15
1:30 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

Regular City Commission Meeting

Thursday, October 15
6:30 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

Cultural Trip: Holocaust Education Center

Friday, October 16
10 AM - 2 PM

Bus will depart from and return to Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.
Price: \$40
Resident ID Cardholder: \$20

Boogie by the Beach

Friday, October 23 & Saturday, October 24
7 - 10 PM

Pelican Community Park,
18115 North Bay Rd.

Price: \$50
Resident ID Cardholder: \$10



Full Moon Yoga

Monday, October 26
6:30 - 7:30 PM

On the beach by Samson Oceanfront Park, 17425 Collins Ave.

Senior Roundtable

Wednesday, October 28
12 - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.
Pre-registration is required.

Senior Halloween Party

Friday, October 30
12 - 2 PM

Price: \$20
Resident ID Cardholder: \$10
Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Teens Only: Halloween Bash

Friday, October 30
5 - 9 PM

The Spot, 215 185 St.
Pre-registration is required.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF EVENTS, VISIT sibfl.gov/events

Disclosure: Events are subject to change.

Miami-Dade County Sunny Isles Beach Branch

OCTOBER **LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

Homework Help and Tutoring (students grades K-12)

Saturday, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
10 AM - 1 PM

For more information,
contact tutoring@mdpls.org or call
305.375.1413.

Citizenship Class (ages 19+)

Saturday, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
10 AM - 12 PM

Talking is Teaching – Talk, Read, Sing for Toddlers (ages 3 – 5 yrs.)

Monday, October 5, 19, 26
11 AM - 12 PM

Chess Club (ages 19+)

Tuesday, October 6, 13, 20, 27
4 - 6 PM

Talking is Teaching – Talk, Read, Sing for Preschoolers (ages 18 mos. – 3 yrs.)

Wednesday, October 7, 14, 21, 28
11 AM - 12 PM

The Kids Reading Club (ages 6 – 11 yrs.)

Saturday, October 10
1 - 2 PM

For more information on Miami-Dade County
Sunny Isles Beach Branch Library programs, call
305.682.0726 or email vazquezh@mdpls.org.

Unless otherwise noted, classes and programs
are held in the First Floor Meeting Room of the
Sunny Isles Beach Government Center, 18070
Collins Avenue.





BOOOOGIE BY THE BEACH

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

7 - 10 PM

*Pelican Community Park,
18115 North Bay Road*

Get ready for two pre-historic nights of scares, screams, and spooky fun at Boogie by the Beach! Pelican Community Park transforms into a dinosaur-filled Halloween adventure featuring rides, a haunted house, themed experiences, entertainment, treats and fun for the whole family. Costumes are encouraged for these fright-filled nights of Halloween fun for all who dare to enter Jurassic on the Isles!

RIDES | HAUNTED HOUSE | TREATS

PRICE (per person, per day)

\$10 Resident ID cardholders

\$50 Non-Residents

Tickets are all-inclusive and provide unlimited access to rides, attractions, live entertainment and the haunted house.

For more information, visit [SIBFL.GOV/BOOOOGIE](https://www.sibfl.gov/booogie)



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754.219.5300



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