



Islander

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JANUARY 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE Mayor

“ I want to start out by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. I hope you were able to enjoy the holidays and celebrate with family and friends. January is the perfect time to reflect on the previous year and move forward with new opportunities and experiences. ”



Dana Robin Goldman
Mayor

As we embark on a new year, we are also starting anew in Sunny Isles Beach. I am honored to be your mayor and have already hit the ground running. There is much to do and we can only accomplish it all with your help.

Citizen engagement is more important now than ever. Your input and your feedback are what drive the Commission's priorities. We want to hear from you. What changes do you want to see? What are your concerns? How can we improve your quality of life? As part of our civic participation initiative, we are holding workshops where you are invited to participate. We held the first workshop on December 14, 2021 and will be holding a condominium workshop this month. Stay tuned for more information regarding upcoming workshops.

One of the reasons I ran for mayor was to tackle important matters that impact all of us living in Sunny Isles Beach: pedestrian safety, traffic and sustainability are just a few. I am working closely with the Police Department to put more officers on the streets and at expanded hours both for traffic enforcement and education. There are also several projects in the works with the Florida Department of Transportation and others to be planned that will enhance safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.

If you know me, you know that preserving our natural environment and combating the effects of climate change are my top priorities. We need to act smart and swiftly with sustainability measures and initiatives. For example, just last month, the City removed invasive species that were invading the dune areas at Samson Oceanfront

Park and Pier Park. Next month there will be a dune restoration project along the beach outside Oceania Condominiums. Adopt a Dune and Oceania Condominiums are working together to restore the dune with new plants and volunteers are needed. Stay tuned for more details coming soon. I am committed to preserving our beach and enhancing our beach integrity for generations to come and look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas.

At the December 2021 Commission Meeting I introduced an ordinance to create the Mobility and Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee and the Environment Sustainability Advisory Committee. These two committees will propel our safety and sustainability efforts forward through thoughtful and engaging discussion. Applications are easy to complete and can be found on our website at sibfl.net/committees. This is an opportunity for residents to work closely with your local government on issues related to pedestrian and mobility safety, green initiatives, and sustainable development. Members of each committee will serve a two-year term from January 2022 through December 31, 2023. Submissions will be accepted through January 7, 2022. The ordinance will be presented at the next Commission Meeting for second reading and we will make the appointments to each committee.

My door is always open and I invite you to reach out to me. Send me an email or give me a call to set up a meeting. Or drop by City Hall on Fridays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. for open office hours. Let's solve your problems and make improvements you want to see. I'm ready to work with you to create meaningful change.

Contact Mayor Dana Robin Goldman at mayor@sibfl.net or [305.792.1753](tel:305.792.1753).

MESSAGE FROM THE City Manager

Stan Morris

Last month I was appointed as City Manager by a 5-0 vote of the Mayor and Commission, showing their faith and commitment. I consider it an honor to work alongside the great staff of the City of Sunny Isles Beach in serving our residents.

We are listening to your concerns and working on improving upon our already accomplished government. For those who do not know me, I served as the City's Deputy City Manager for eight years. I understand where Sunny Isles Beach is currently, how it functions, and have a vision for the future. My vision is for the City of Sunny Isles Beach to be the best, most responsive municipality in the world! Our customer service will be unparalleled, we will promote inclusivity, transparency, and safety, and we will work our hardest to give residents the quality of life they deserve.

“ We are re-envisioning the governance of our city by building a team of responsive employees to support the goals of the Commission, embracing community involvement, and putting residents first. ”

We are planning to schedule more workshops as a forum for the Commission to discuss direction of specific projects, while allowing the public additional opportunities to get involved. We have addressed residents' concerns about the availability of services on our third floor – Building, Code, Licensing, and Planning & Zoning – by making these services open for walk-ups, in addition to being available by appointment. We want to make our services as accessible, responsive, and open as possible. We are also expanding programs, activities and events for the winter season as we look forward to a brighter new year.

At the December Commission Meeting, the Commission voted to establish two new committees focused on safety and sustainability, which will help us get more work done quickly with input from residents. Applications are

currently available at sibfl.net/committees. Later this year we will be establishing a Charter Revision Commission to review the City's Charter. Every 10 years, a group of citizens is chosen to review the City's Charter alongside the Commission and propose changes. This is the time to voice your opinions about our municipal operations. We will keep you posted for more details on how to apply for this committee.

Another special election will be held this month, this time for Commission seats 1 and 3. Those elected will serve the remainder of the term until November 2024. It is important that you vote and have a say in the future of your government.

2022 is also an important milestone in our history - it marks the City's 25th anniversary. For those who have lived here since incorporation, think about what the city looked like and what was going on 25 years ago. The growth we have seen in such a short period of time is remarkable. Though Sunny Isles Beach is still a 'young' city by all counts, we will be looking back at all that has been accomplished over the last 25 years and looking toward another 25 years of progress, innovation, and service.

We are re-envisioning the governance of our city by building a team of responsive employees to support the goals of the Commission, embracing community involvement, and putting residents first.

We are laying the foundation for a new era in Sunny Isles Beach. Our doors are open. The lines of communication are open. We are here to serve you.

Contact City Manager Stan Morris at smorris@sibfl.net or 305.792.1701.

Important State Legislation for 2022

Commissioner Alex Lama



As we commence 2022, I wish you a healthy, prosperous and happy new year. I also want to inform you of important upcoming legislation proposals at the 2022 Florida Legislative Session in Tallahassee from January 11 - March 11, 2022.

Local Ordinances:

SB 280 (Hutson) and HB 403 (Giallombardo) would require a municipality to prepare a business impact statement before adopting any local ordinances, excluding emergency ordinances. Municipalities will be forced to suspend enforcement for any appeals, civil action or challenges. While disguised as positive legislation, it transfers power to the state and substantially restricts local government from managing its city and providing for local solutions.

Regulation of Smoking by Counties and Municipalities:

HB 105 (Fine) and SB 224 (Gruters) would permit cities to restrict smoking within the boundaries of a county-

owned beach or park located within the city if it doesn't conflict with any county ordinance. This legislation is long overdue and I hope that it passes.

Aggressive Careless Driving:

SB 476 (Pizzo/Book) and HB 287 (Aloupis, Jr) will create the Anthony Reznik Act, penalizing aggressive careless drivers whose actions result in serious bodily injury, death and property damage. This is an important and significant bill for our city; and we will do everything in our power to see that it passes.

Please familiarize yourselves with the legislation that will have a substantial impact on local government and help us advocate in favor of municipalities. To learn about the bills and send a message to the state legislators, please visit floridaleagueofcities.com.

Contact Commissioner Alex Lama at seat2@sibfl.net or [305.792.1752](tel:305.792.1752).

A Road to Community Empowerment

Vice Mayor Jeniffer Viscarra



And just like that, 2021 is behind us. For many of us it was a year of transitioning "back to normal." Our children went back to school. Our commission meetings went from Zoom, to hybrid, to fully back in person. Our events calendar got a little fuller, and residents began to once again enjoy our local programs, talent, and activities.

One program that I am looking forward to in 2022 is our Residents' Academy where Sunny Isles Beach residents or business owners can learn about our local government at no cost to them. The goal is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the principles of public administration and focus on how the city functions. Topics may include governance, public safety, tour of facilities, the policy process, community enhancement, and budgeting. There will be between six to eight sessions, all of which will be taught by guest speakers.

Though there have been setbacks in the past, not the least of which was COVID, I am hopeful this community program will become reality in the spring of 2022 as we continue our transition "back to normal." If you are interested and can make the time commitment, I strongly encourage you to sign up when registration opens. The intention behind the Academy is for residents to better understand how our local government functions and thus enhance residents' opportunity for civic engagement and community empowerment.

Keep an eye out for announcements and social media updates on the Academy. I hope to see you there!

Contact Vice Mayor Jeniffer Viscarra at seat4@sibfl.net or [305.792.1750](tel:305.792.1750).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

Bingo

January 5 & 19

Wednesday | 3 - 4 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Mount Sinai Lecture: The Role of Salt in Hypertension

Thursday, January 6 | 11 AM - 12 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Light lunch provided after lecture.

Pre-registration required.

Family Movie Night: The Croods: A New Age

Friday, January 7

Heritage Park, 19200 Collins Ave.

Saturday, January 8

Town Center Park, 17200 Collins Ave.

7 - 9:30 PM | FREE



Modern Era Movie: The Blind Side

Monday, January 10 | 10 AM - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$5

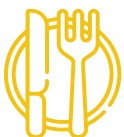
Lunch n' Learn with Cesar Becerra

Tuesday, January 11 | 11 - 11:45 AM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

FREE to attend | with lunch: \$14

Pre-registration required.



Cook Well, Be Well

Tuesday, January 11

12 - 2 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents \$20

Pre-registration required.

Cooking Live

Thursday, January 13

6 - 8 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents \$20

Pre-registration required.

Blood Pressure, Cholesterol & Glucose Screening

Friday, January 14

9 AM - 12 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Pre-registration required.

Call [305.792.1706](tel:305.792.1706) to register.

Teens Only: Cooking Class

Friday, January 14 | FREE

7 - 9 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Blood Drive

Friday, January 14

10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Government Center, 18070 Collins Avenue

Presented by OneBlood.

Appointments are required.

Register at oneblood.org/donate-now.

Federal Holiday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 17

City Facilities Closed.

SIBshuttle will not run.

Full Moon Yoga

Monday, January 17

5:30 - 6:30 PM

Samson Oceanfront Park (on the beach),

17425 Collins Avenue

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$5

Pre-registration required.

Concert in the Park with Stereotomy

Wednesday, January 19

7:30 - 9 PM

FREE

Samson Oceanfront Park,
17425 Collins Avenue



Regular City Commission Meeting

Thursday, January 20

6:30 PM

Government Center, Commission Chambers

18070 Collins Avenue

Gateway LIVE presents Selwyn Birchwood

Saturday, January 22

7:30 - 9 PM

Gateway Park, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$10

Special Election: Commission Seats 1 & 3

Tuesday, January 25

7 AM - 7 PM

Multiple Locations.

For more information, visit sibfl.net/clerk-election.

Special Magistrate Hearing

Wednesday, January 26 | 10 AM

Government Center, Commission Chambers

18070 Collins Avenue

Heartsaver CPR

Friday, January 28

11 AM - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Pre-registration required.

**FOR COMPLETE EVENT
DETAILS, VISIT**
sibfl.net/events



2022 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Calling all high school seniors that live in Sunny Isles Beach! The 2022 College Scholarship program is now accepting applications. There will be up to four scholarships awarded, \$2,500 each, to eligible students. So now is your opportunity – apply early!

Applications must be complete and submitted by 5 PM on Friday, February 25, 2022.



Scholarship winners will be notified no later than Friday, March 25, 2022.

To see the eligibility requirements and to apply, visit sibfl.net/scholarships.

INSIDE THE *Isles*

2022 DESKTOP CALENDAR

As part of the City's 25th Anniversary celebration, there is a new, special edition 2022 Desktop Calendar available for free pick-up! The calendar's design incorporates artistic elements of our ocean combined with a silver foil to represent our silver anniversary. It also features photos from this year's photo contest winners for each month of the year. Anyone may pick up their free calendar at the following locations:



Government Center | 18070 Collins Avenue
Monday - Thursday: 7:30 AM - 8 PM | Friday: 7:30 AM - 6 PM
Saturday: 9:30 AM - 6 PM

Pelican Community Park | 18115 North Bay Road
Monday - Saturday: 8:30 AM - 9 PM | Sunday: 8:30 AM - 5 PM

Gateway Center | 151 Sunny Isles Beach Boulevard
Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 4 PM

To submit photos for next year's photo contest, visit sibfl.net/photocontest.

SPOTLIGHT ON... CITY CLERK

The City is grateful to our City Clerk's Office for their commitment to our residents. With the Mayoral Special Election and the temporary appointments of Commission Seats 1 and 3, the City Clerk's office has been working hard to ensure the integrity, transparency, and accuracy of our electoral process.

On January 25, 2022, the City Clerk's Office will be overseeing the Special Election for Commission Seats 1 and 3. To be elected, one of the candidates must receive 50% of the votes, +1 vote. If no candidate achieves this tally, then a runoff election will take place on February 8, 2022 between the two candidates who receive the highest total votes. The winner of the special election will serve the remainder of the term, until the next election on November 5, 2024.

While elections are an important function of the City Clerk's office, they also prepare the agenda for all Commission meetings; disseminate City information to elected officials, other government organizations, and the public; and coordinate the compliance of public record laws and City policies.

Thank you to the members of the City Clerk's office for their continued service! Their organization and planning have made the election process and daily operations smooth and efficient. For more information about the Special Election for Commission Seats 1 and 3 and to see all candidates, visit sibfl.net/clerk-election.

Contact the City Clerk's Office at cityclerk@sibfl.net or [305.792.1703](tel:305.792.1703).

IMPORTANT DATES:

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022 BY 5 PM
Deadline to register to vote for run-off, if necessary.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2022 BY 5 PM
Deadline to request a vote by mail ballot for special election.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022 | 7 AM TO 7 PM
Special election voting day.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022 | 7 AM TO 7 PM
Run-off election voting day, if necessary.

ADULT & SENIOR PROGRAMS AT GATEWAY CENTER

Winter program registration is now open! Adults and seniors can enjoy their favorite activities at the City's newest recreational facility, Gateway Center. With dedicated spaces for socialization,

engagement, and leisure, Gateway Center has exceptional amenities to explore, no matter your interests. Discover all Gateway Center has to offer with your Sunny Isles Beach Resident ID Card!

THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS ARE BEING OFFERED THIS WINTER:

ADULT PROGRAMS (18+)

Cooking Live
Oil Painting Club
Morning Yoga

Vinyasa Yoga
Zumba

SENIOR PROGRAMS (55+)

Bingocize
Chair Yoga*
Cook Well, Be Well
Game Club
Low Impact Aerobics*
Mahjong Club

Senior Barre
Senior Strength*
Tai Chi*
Tai Chi in the Park*
Zumba Gold*



*SIBeHealthy are programs available to individuals ages 55+ for a small fee either monthly or per drop-in class.

Residents who are 62+ and have a valid Sunny Isles Beach Resident ID Card can register for any combination of two free eligible programs a month.

See complete program details and register online at activities.sibfl.net.
For questions, please contact the Cultural & Community Services Department at [305.792.1706](tel:305.792.1706).

Islander

**PUBLISHED BY THE CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH
CULTURAL & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

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