



Islander

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OCTOBER 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE Mayor

“ The City is embarking on an exciting journey to revamp and revitalize our parks and recreation programs, services and offerings. ”



Dana Robin Goldman
Mayor

Our Cultural and Community Services (CCS) department is managing and aiding in the development of a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. What will the master plan entail? The long-ranging planning document will develop a comprehensive park system plan that defines the direction, development, and delivery of the city's parks and recreation services over the next 10 years. We intend the plan to have a profound impact on Sunny Isles Beach residents and their future parks and recreation system. The purpose is to provide the opportunity to reimagine the vision and goals of the CCS department while establishing a shared set of community needs and priorities. Ultimately, we will build a foundation with a focused direction for the development and delivery of parks, recreation, and community services.

Our parks are the cornerstone of the Sunny Isles Beach community. We have 11 parks within city limits and 98% of residents live within walking distance of at least one park. Whether your kids play at the Town Center Park playground, you attend Tai Chi at Gateway Center, or bring the whole family to Boogie by the Beach every year at Pelican Community Park, our parks and facilities offer something for everyone. The master plan will help determine how to focus, diversify, and expand what you can do at your favorite park.

There are four phases to the project: Learning, Exploring, Envisioning, and Implementation. The master plan is currently in

the Research and Public Engagement processes, which will identify our community's needs and priorities in order to begin establishing the long-range vision and its associated recommendations and implementations. Once the Final Master Plan is complete, it will be presented at a public open house before coming to the City Commission for adoption.

The most important part of the master plan process is your input. Feedback from the community is essential to building a well-rounded and realistic plan that our community will be proud to enjoy. Beginning later this month, we invite you to our Virtual Open House where you can help establish your community vision. Accessible online at oursibparksplan.com, you will watch a short welcome video, view information boards and participate in a series of engagement exercises to provide your input. The Virtual Open House will be accessible at any time and we encourage you to share the link with your friends and neighbors. Looking ahead, we will be distributing an online survey that we hope to gain your honest feedback.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is an important opportunity that will provide a guideline to best respond to the changing needs and priorities of our residents and community. Together we will reach new heights for a healthy, sustainable, and equitable future for all Sunny Isles Beach residents.

Contact Mayor Dana Robin Goldman at mayor@sibfl.net or [305-792-1753](tel:305-792-1753).

MESSAGE FROM THE City Manager

Stan Morris

I am pleased to present the proposed comprehensive budget and five-year Capital Improvement Program for fiscal year 2022-2023.

When we started this process, I had four main goals to accomplish. The first was to involve the City Commission in developing the priorities for this next fiscal year. Through individual meetings between the Commission and our administrative team, we freely discussed what the goals were for the future of our City. Their message was clear, and the recurring theme included public safety and reducing our millage rate.

The second goal was to thoroughly involve the staff in this process. Every department was directed to look at their budget from a fresh perspective, prioritizing needs over wants, and every department head was provided the tools they needed to get to work and submit a comprehensive, responsible budget. This was followed by one-on-one meetings with each department and my office to review their submissions. We scrutinized each division, cut where possible and added where necessary.

The third goal was to develop a budget that remained fiscally responsible, lowered the millage rate, and ensured that our residents continue to receive the high-quality services that they expect while fulfilling the initiatives set by the Commission. This budget achieves these goals. The filing of the budget reflects an assessed value that

has increased by \$1.1 billion from last year, and we have a budget that reduces the millage rate to 2.0 mils per \$1,000 of assessed value. This has resulted in an unprecedented 10th year our City has lowered the tax rate.

Fiscal responsibility is at the forefront of our entire management team. The phrase “do more with less” has been felt by every department these past few years where they had to do more work with less staff. We are fortunate to have a dedicated team that has kept the wheels turning throughout the pandemic and the aftermath that has left us all working in unprecedented times and conditions. As we continue to navigate this post-pandemic world, we developed a budget that is conservative on our revenues and hopeful in our expenses.

“Fiscal responsibility is at the forefront of our entire management team. The phrase “do more with less” has been felt by every department these past few years where they had to do more work with less staff.”

And finally, the fourth, and to me, most important goal, remains to be fully transparent. When I took this position, I promised to be fully transparent in my decisions and actions. I worked closely with the Commission, the Finance Department and City staff to present an honest and manageable budget. This budget advances our initiatives in sustainability, innovation, safety, and quality.

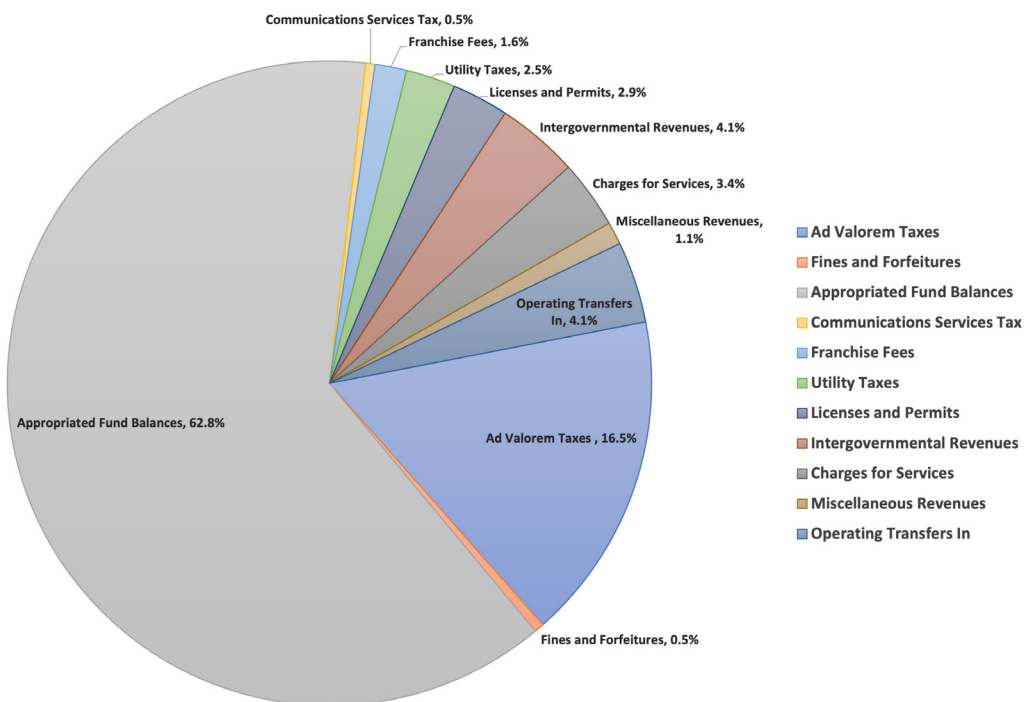
We listened to the residents through public outreach and surveys and worked closely with our Commission and staff to deliver this fully transparent, thorough, and comprehensive budget that fulfills several initiatives as proposed by our community in a cost-effective and fiscally responsible manner.

There are currently seven approved development projects, four of which are under construction. There was also one project completed, which added 320 residential units. All of these projects contribute to our increased revenue.

The revenue for the fiscal year 2022-2023 General Fund is \$47,899,558, which represents an increase of \$7,289,215, or 17.9%, from the fiscal year 2021-2022 adopted budget. The adjacent pie chart displays the percentage of revenues by source.

The proposed General Fund budget expenditures (not including transfers out to other funds) increased to \$44,461,238, which represents an increase of \$1,875,658 from fiscal year 2021-2022. The pie chart below shows the percentage of expenditures and fund balance by type.

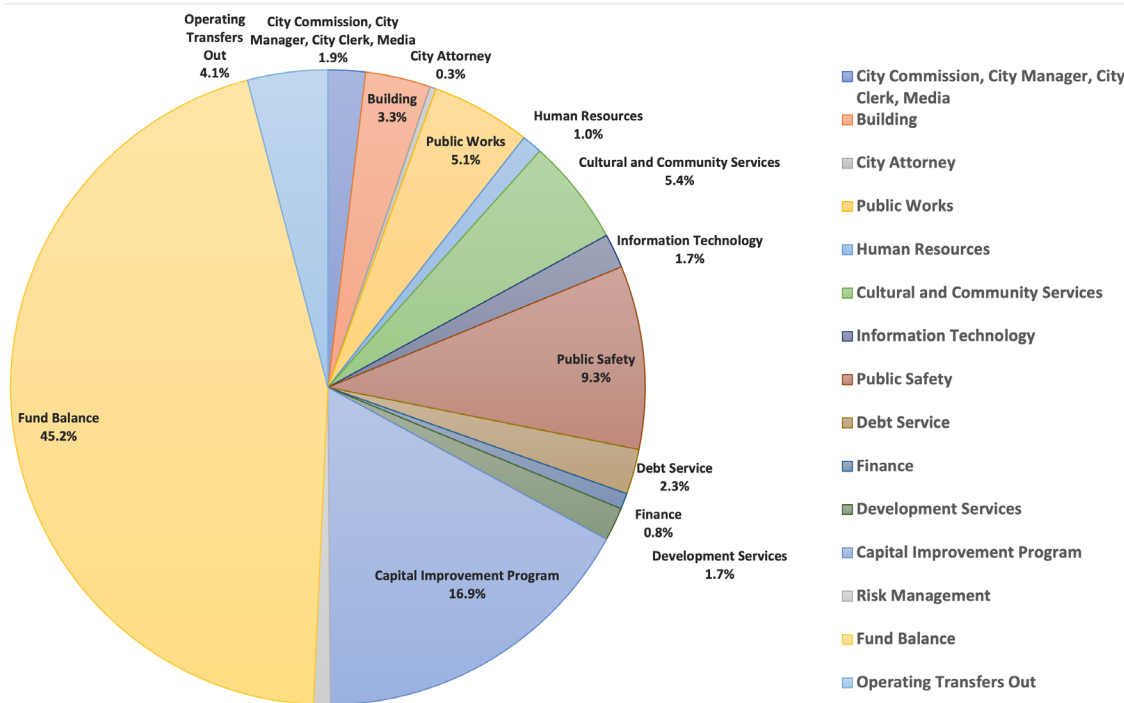
REVENUES BY SOURCE



Our 2022-2023 fiscal year budget is one that is presented with transparency and represents our meetings with elected officials, as well as, members of the public to ensure that

their needs and requests were heard. Our goal is to maintain fiscal responsibility while providing the utmost level of high-quality services our residents and visitors have come to expect. This work could not have been accomplished without the input and vision of the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners, the direction of our Finance Director, Tiffany Neely, and our department directors. On behalf of Deputy City Manager Susan Simpson and Assistant City Manager Audra Curts-Whann, we express our sincere thanks and gratitude.

EXPENDITURES & FUND BALANCE BY TYPE



To read City Manager Stan Morris' complete Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget Message, visit sibfl.net/budgetmessage22-23.

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

Beware of Power with Impunity

Commissioner Fabiola Stuyvesant

More than 95% of our Sunny Isles Beach residents live in a homeowner's or condominium association. The idea behind this type of community is to work together for the common good. However, sometimes this idyllic motivation can get tarnished by personal ones. In Florida, condo associations have almost "almighty" powers over owners and residents. Some associations can even impose special assessments without the vote or consent of unit owners.

There are reports of intimidation, selective enforcement, harassment, shady elections of directors and many other cases of abuse. The abuse is committed in a climate of complete IMPUNITY. The incompetence and negligence of FIDUCIARY duty by these associations is unfathomable.

"The problem isn't the abuse of power - it's to have the power to abuse."

As an elected official, protecting our residents is my priority. I would continue the outstanding job of our Mayor in advocating for changes in the legislation to guard the "unprotected," meaning homeowners and residents that are under the grotesque control of rogue associations.

We deserve associations we can trust, and we can't trust it until its behavior merits trust - until it's unbiased and transparent in the way it enforces the law.

A community can only properly flourish when its people feel that they and their properties are safe.



Contact Commissioner Fabiola Stuyvesant at seat3@sibfl.net or [305.792.1751](tel:305.792.1751).

Budget Talk

Vice Mayor Jeniffer Viscarra

One of the primary responsibilities for elected officials in any municipality is to adopt a responsible budget. Sunny Isles Beach is no exception. We must be good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars, as those funds are intended to serve you. Over the past 10 years, the budget has increased an average of 6.5% per year, with a high of 16.1% in 2012/2013 and a low of 0.8% in 2018/2019. In September, the Commission adopted the 2022/2023 budget, which increased by 4%.

The budget is essentially a balancing of all interests. Four percent is a conservative increase in the city's trajectory, especially when you take into account our current inflation and the fact that we lowered the property tax (millage) rate. With this budget we should be able to continue on the current path to improvement.

For example, I have gotten great feedback on the increased police presence and enforcement. This was possible in part

because we recently filled vacancies in the department. With proper staffing, training, and equipment (all of which costs money) our residents are seeing and liking the results.

While funding the police is important, it must also be balanced with our other priority of being fiscally responsible. The discussion is always about where to draw the line. The budget is your money. It needs to serve your quality of life while we simultaneously plan for the future and provide for your neighbors' quality of life issues as well.

Everyone's interests must be considered. It's why your input is so important.



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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Senior Movie Series: *Beetlejuice*



Tuesday, October 4

10 AM - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$5

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.



October 5*, 12, 19, 26

Wednesday | 3 - 4 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

*October 5, Bingo location is at

Marian Towers, 17505 North Bay Road. All are welcome to attend.

Mount Sinai Blood Pressure and Glucose Screening

Thursday, October 6

9:30 - 11 AM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Mount Sinai Lunch & Learn

Thursday, October 6

11 AM - 12 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Lunch is provided. Pre-registration required.

Informal Town Hall/Charrette Design Meeting: *The UnderPark*

Thursday, October 6

4:30 PM

William Lehman Causeway West Lot
19160 Collins Ave.

(Members of the Commission may be in attendance.)

Beach Cleanup

Saturday, October 8

8 AM - 12 PM | FREE

Newport Fishing Pier, 16501 Collins Ave.

Bicycle Helmet Fitting & Giveaway

Saturday, October 8 | 8 AM - 12 PM

FREE

Government Center, 1st Floor Meeting Room,
18070 Collins Ave.

October 2022

Full Moon Yoga

Sunday, October 9

6:45 - 7:45 PM | FREE

Samson Oceanfront Park (on the beach),
17425 Collins Ave.

Pre-registration required.

Lunch n' Learn with Florida Historian Cesar Becerra



Tuesday, October 11

11 - 11:45 AM | FREE

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$5

Teen Talk

Tuesday, October 11 | 6 PM

Pelican Community Park, 18115 North Bay Rd.

Doc Chats: Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention

Wednesday, October 12

11 AM - 12 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.

Medicare Open Enrollment Health Fair

Monday, October 17

10 AM - 12 PM | FREE

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Concert in the Park

Wednesday, October 19

7:30 - 9 PM | FREE

Samson Oceanfront Park, 17425 Collins Ave.

Hygiene Pack Distribution Program

Thursday, October 20 | 12 - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents only. FREE.

Pre-registration required.

Local Planning Agency (LPA) Meeting

Thursday, October 20 | 6:15 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center,
18070 Collins Ave.

Regular City Commission Meeting

Thursday, October 20 | 6:30 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center,
18070 Collins Ave.

Cultural Trip: Sawgrass Mills Mall



Friday, October 21 | 9 AM - 3 PM

Sawgrass Mills Mall,
Sunrise, FL

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$5

Special Magistrate Hearing

Tuesday, October 25

10 AM - 12 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center,
18070 Collins Ave.

Senior Roundtable

Wednesday, October 26

1 - 2 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.

Boogie by the Beach



October 28, 29 | 7 - 10 PM

Pelican Community Park,
18115 North Bay Rd.

Residents: \$5

Non-Residents: \$20

More details on page 6!

Multi-Agency SHRED- A-THON, Electronics Recycling & Drug Take Back

Saturday, October 29 | 10 AM - 2 PM

Bill Bird Marina, Haulover Park,
10800 Collins Avenue, Miami, FL 33154

More details on page 5!

**FOR COMPLETE EVENT
DETAILS, VISIT**

sibfl.net/events

SPOTLIGHT ON...

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

This October, we recognize our fantastic Finance team, who have just finalized the Fiscal Year 22-23 Budget. The budget process is a tremendous undertaking that involves months of detailed planning, coordination and effort. Led by director Tiffany Neely, the Finance Department meets with each department and division, as well as each elected official to discuss budget, city goals and priorities for the upcoming fiscal year.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- 2022 - 2023 Budget: \$158,388,377
- Reduced the millage rate to 2.0 mils per \$1,000 of assessed value
- Taxable value: \$13,781,795,040

Once again, the City received Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our annual budget for fiscal year 21-22.

You can find the Adopted 2022-2023 Budget at sibfl.net/financial-reporting.

INSIDE THE *Isles* Elections

Be prepared for the upcoming General Election on Tuesday, November 8. Within Sunny Isles Beach, you'll find elections for Mayor and Commissioner Seat 4 on the ballot.

Early voting takes place from Monday, October 24 to Sunday, November 6. Various polling locations are available throughout Miami-Dade County including the Northeast Dade-Aventura Branch Library.

Please note: The polling location for Precinct 004, which was previously at Intracoastal Yacht Club, is now located at Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Deadline to Register to Vote: October 11

Deadline to Request a Vote-by-Mail Ballot: October 29

Runoff Date, if necessary: December 6

Register to vote: registertovoteflorida.gov

Request a vote-by-mail ballot:

miamidade.electionsfl.org/vrservices/mbrs#

View sample ballot: miamidade.gov/global/service.page?Mduid_service=ser1511964640434245

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



MULTI-AGENCY

SHRED-A-THON

WITH ELECTRONICS RECYCLING &
DEA PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 | 10 AM TO 2 PM

Bill Bird Marina, Haulover Park
10800 Collins Avenue, Miami, FL 33154

The Sunny Isles Beach Police Department is partnering with local agencies to provide residents a safe way to dispose of their personal documents, prescription medications, and recycle old electronics. Open to residents of participating municipalities only. ID with address required. No business shredding.

ACCEPTED ITEMS INCLUDE:

Electronics (Cell phones, DVD players, computers, microwaves, TVs, etc.), batteries, loose cords, personal documents, and prescription medications.

View the full list of accepted electronics at escrapusa.com/what-we-recycle.php

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

Large kitchen appliances (refrigerators, ovens, dishwashers), cardboard, CDs, DVDs, binders, x-rays or plastic. No needles accepted at the Drug Takeback.

THERE IS A 3 BOX LIMIT.

For more information or special accommodations, contact Sandra Block at [305.792.1839](tel:305.792.1839) or sblock@sibpd.net.

BOOOGIE

by the **BEACH**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

AND

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

7 - 10 PM

PELICAN COMMUNITY PARK | 18115 NORTH BAY ROAD

Join us for a scary good time filled with your favorite attractions, a haunted house, activities, food for purchase, and live entertainment.

WRISTBANDS*

\$20 Non-Resident

\$5 with valid City-issued Sunny Isles Beach Resident ID Card

**Wristbands are required to participate in all activities and do not include admission to the Haunted House.*

HAUNTED HOUSE

\$1 per person, per entry

Only available for purchase onsite.

PURCHASE YOUR WRISTBANDS NOW ONLINE AT [ACTIVITIES.SIBFL.NET](https://activities.sibfl.net)
OR IN PERSON AT PELICAN COMMUNITY PARK OR GATEWAY CENTER.

Islander

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