

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting: October 13, 2020

TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager

VIA: Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager

FROM: Nicholas Caristo, Chief of Police

RE: Sunrise Avenue to Wells Road Beach Area Police Department Actions

DATE: September 30, 2020

Increased Patrol and Enforcement

The Police Department has been providing increased enforcement due to complaints since April, 2020. Increased enforcement was accomplished via officer education and supervisor-verified proactive patrols. These patrols were a combination of increased Parking Control presence and citation issuance, increased zone officer patrol, and increased ATV beach patrol. These patrols were tasked with enforcing parking regulations, VTO's, emergency orders, and trespassing complaints. Our policy in this area has been to educate and warn offenders for first offenses (except for parking), and cite for subsequent violations.

Beginning in June of 2020, the PD began keeping more detailed statistics of our activity in the area. The below numbers cover June through September 30, 2020.

- Approximately 765 proactive patrols.
- Approximately 289 parking tickets.

Additionally, we have responded to every call for service that has arisen in the area. Those service calls are not represented in the above numbers.

Trespass Enforcement Affidavits

These affidavits allow the Police Department to take trespass enforcement action on behalf of a homeowner when they are not present or immediately available. To date we have obtained affidavits from 8 out of the 17 beach front parcels.

Signage

The Police Department conferred with Public Works regarding the signage along North Ocean Boulevard between Wells Road and Sunrise Avenue. Public Works provided signs in that area indicating there is no parking, stopping, and standing. In addition, signage stating regulations were placed at the public access points.

Suggested Ordinance to Change Closing of the Beach at Night

The proposed ordinance change, which is scheduled for second reading on October 13, will keep this beach area consistent with the time regulations present at our municipal beaches. When enacted, the Police Department will be responsible for opening and closing the public accesses at the requisite times.

Communication with Residents

The Police Department has maintained robust communication with residents in regard to their concerns via email, phone, and in person with officers and supervisors. Unfortunately there are still times when residents are dissatisfied with lack of action (due to legal limitations) on trespass complaints or in the lack of a permanently stationed police officer in the area. The Police Department suggested to the residents that they may hire a detail officer for increased presence in the area if they so desire.

Cc: H. Paul Brazil, Director of Public Works
Wayne Bergman, Director of Planning, Zoning and Building