

EXECUTIVE BRIEF REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: April 9, 2020

DEPARTMENT: Commission

TITLE:

Presentation by staff regarding COVID-19 response

SUMMARY:

The Presentation will provide the Commission with a review of the activities conducted by the City during the COVID-19 response.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

On March 9th, Governor DeSantis issued a Declaration of Emergency for the State of Florida. The City of Lake Worth Beach has been functioning under this declaration in a state of emergency since then to address the many challenges and issues caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. As set forth Under the City's Emergency Operation Plan, the City is functioning under our Unified Command Structure with PBSO and PBC F/R and staff has been working through their Sections and Emergency Service Functions to coordinate and work with the State, County and other entities.

While all activities and programs the City provides under normal circumstances are important, during an emergency the focus turns to ensuring the core critical functions. These are the services and programs of which the City is responsible to provide and directly affect the basic health, safety and welfare of our citizens and businesses. These include Water, Sewer, Electric, Sanitation, Emergency Permitting, Policing, Emergency Medical, and Fire Protection. Each City Department, PBSO and PBCF/R are prepared and have a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) that ensures that these basic services continue and are safe during this crisis.

The core critical functions in most cases requires the physical presence of employees to manipulate and monitor technology and equipment that cannot be done remotely. Whether it is collecting household garbage, repairing a lift station, fixing a transformer, responding to a crime, or making sure employees are paid, the core critical functions do not happen without our employees. The many changes and adjustments to the personnel policies and procedures through this emergency reflect this effort. The CDC Guidelines, the Executive and Administrative Orders from the Federal, State and County levels, and the responsibility to protect the health and safety of the employees have guided the numerous decisions made over the past four weeks.

The programs and services that are not considered the City's core critical functions have also been adjusted over the course the COVID-19 response. As CDC Guidelines change and as the Governor's Executive Orders and amendments as well as the County Administrator's Administrative Orders and amendments have been issued, the City has morphed and adapted its operations. The increasing restrictions have resulted in impacts to facilities, programs and services starting with limiting hours of operation to the complete cessation of specific programs and operations.

Concurrently with these internal operational issues and plans, the City staff have been working on specific needs within the Community such as food, finances and safety. Through three Working Groups, the needs that have arisen from the COVID-19 are being using the available resources, relationships and good old fashion creativity. The comprehensive nature of this crisis and the duration are creating issues and challenges that a few months earlier were unimagined. Remaining nimble, flexible and adhering to the training and the emergency structures in place, Lake Worth Beach is meeting the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

MOTION:

N/A

ATTACHMENT(S):

Fiscal Impact Analysis N/A