



Accomplishments 2017



2017 Selected Accomplishments

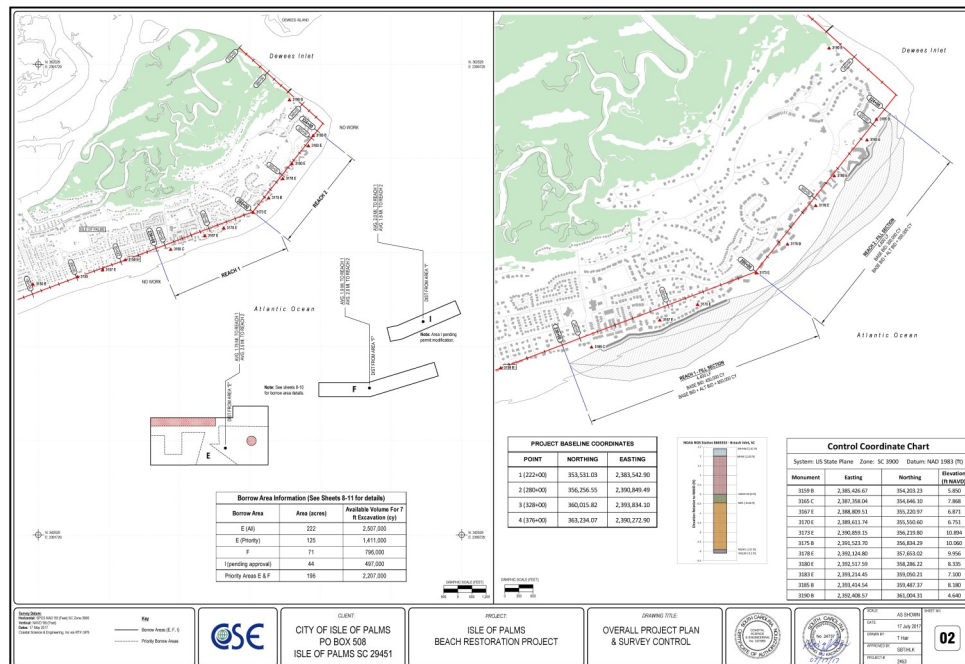


Beach Nourishment

Protecting and maintaining the Isle of Palms beach is a top priority for the City. This year, the City awarded a contract to Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, LLC for the next large scale offshore dredging project in the area between 53rd Avenue and Dewees Inlet.

The City of Isle of Palms received a grant award of approximately \$3.4 million from the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism towards the project. The Federal Emergency Management Agency is also participating in the funding of this project, obligating approximately \$2.9 million funds towards the City's Beach Nourishment Project.

The project is slated to begin construction in January 2018 and be completed by Spring of 2018, before turtle nesting season begins.



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Palm Boulevard Resurfacing & Bike Path Addition

After much advocacy from the City, in 2017 a federally funded project was approved by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). The project consisted of resurfacing a total of 1.84 miles of Palm Boulevard, from Breach Inlet to 21st Avenue and the addition of a bike path in the northbound direction. The bike path addition involved modifying the existing southbound bike lanes and adding a four (4) foot widening for a total of 1.12 miles in the northbound direction (Ocean side) from Carolina Boulevard to 9th Avenue.

This project supports the City's goal of improving and expanding alternate modes of transportation and improving pedestrian safety as stated in the City's Comprehensive Plan.



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

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2017 Selected Accomplishments



The Great American Eclipse

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse covered the continental United States, the first one to cross from coast to coast since 1918. The City of Isle of Palms celebrated this historical event by hosting the *Get Eclipsed on IOP!* event on Front Beach. Residents and visitors enjoyed a beautiful day at the beach with music by DJ Natty Heavy and entertainment by the band Plane Jane, as everyone waited for the City to be completely covered by the eclipse shadow. The City provided free eclipse viewing glasses to residents and visitors. Educational activities and children's games were offered at the Isle of Palms County Park and the winner of the 29th Annual Piccolo Spoleto Sand Sculpting Competition delighted everyone with a depiction of the event's logo. National and local media outlets broadcasted the event live from the Isle of Palms beach.



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

www.iop.net

2017 Selected Accomplishments



CALEA Accreditation

On March 25, 2017 in Mobile, Alabama, the Isle of Palms Police Department received its 5th re-accreditation award. At the conference, the department also received a Meritorious Award for being an accredited agency for fifteen (15) consecutive years. Also, Chief Buckhannon was awarded the Egon Bittner Award for being in command of an accredited agency for fifteen (15) or more continuous years.

Accreditation represents a significant professional achievement and acknowledges the implementation of policies and procedures that are conceptually sound and operationally effective. The foundation of Accreditation lies in the promulgation of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives. Participating agencies conduct a thorough self-analysis to determine how existing operations can be adapted to meet these objectives. When the procedures are in place, a team of trained assessors verifies that applicable standards have been successfully implemented. The process culminates with a decision by CALEA that the agency has met the requirements for Accreditation.



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

www.iop.net

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Isle of Palms Farmers' Market

This year, a group of Isle of Palms residents advocated to City Council for the City to implement a Farmers' Market on the island. Mayor Cronin appointed a Farmers' Market Volunteer Citizen Committee to develop a proposal for City Council. They did so successfully with the assistance of City staff, and City Council approved the Isle of Palms Farmers' Market as a City Sponsored Event to be held at the IOP County Park on Front Beach. The Farmers' Market was held every Thursday from August 31, 2017 through October 26, 2017 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The Farmers' Market had over 60 produce, specialty foods and craft vendors, food trucks, music from local performers and children's activities. City Council voted to approve free parking for participants at the Municipal Parking Lots on Pavilion Drive. The IOP Farmers' Market quickly became a favorite community gathering event.



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Drainage

This year the City began construction on the much awaited Phase II Drainage Project. This project includes the installation of storm water infrastructure from 45th to 52nd Avenues and the associated areas along Palm Boulevard, excluding the private roads 47th and 48th Avenue. After opening bids and learning that the project was over budget, the City advocated to Charleston County for additional funds to help the City cover the shortfall. Charleston County Council approved and allocated an additional \$193,198 from the Transportation Sales Tax towards the project, allowing the City to award a contract and begin construction.



This year, the City also amended the existing drainage maintenance contract to allow for the cleaning of the open ditches more frequently, from once a year, to 3 times a year.

The City was successful in having SCDOT repair the closed pipe system at Palm Boulevard and 25th Avenue, which included repairing a section of the sidewalk, and cleaning the ditch on the non-ocean side of Palm Boulevard between 55th and 57th Avenue.

As an emergency protective measure in order to prevent flooding and ensure good water flow, the City instructed the drainage maintenance contractor to clean vegetation off of several open ditches before and after the impact of Hurricane Irma.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Increased Amenities & Community Enhancements ...

To improve conditions of the **Public Restrooms on Front Beach**, the City initiated a project of replacing all of the toilets and sinks, installing new water fountains, removing the rust from the steel door frames, painting the interior and exterior and replacing the lighting. This work made the facility useable until the larger remodel project could be initiated. The City collaborated with **AmeriCorps** and **Island Realty, Inc.** whose staff **volunteered** to paint the interior of the restrooms.



In 2015, the Planning Commission began analyzing the issues of expanding the **public sewer system** to every home and lot that does not currently have public sewer available. The Commission researched the history of the issues, met with key stakeholders and developed a series of **recommendations, strategies** and **goals** for future action. These recommendations are ready for discussion and ratification by City Council.



To enhance the quality and aesthetic of the **City's Recreation Center**, the City remodeled the **Cardio Room**, replaced the **treadmill** and recumbent **bicycle**, replaced two (2) wave **benches** in the lobby area, **expanded the playground area**, and will install **retractable basketball goals** in the gymnasium.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Increased Amenities & Community Enhancements ...

Various City departments teamed up together to effectively and efficiently coordinate over **17 special events in the City**, ensuring **fun** and **safe** events for the community.

The City initiated a **clean-up effort** of the compactor located in the **commercial district**. The area was modified by lowering the gate to aid in getting trash into the compactor, as well as retrofitting the rails for the compactor to ensure that the delivery driver set the compactor in the correct location. Additionally, a **cleaning routine** was established to ensure that the facility does not return to unsanitary conditions.

To encourage the use of **alternate modes of transportation**, and become more **bicycle friendly**, the City installed **public bike racks** along the Front Beach commercial district, the Public Safety Building, Mayor Carmen R. Bunch Park and City Hall.

The City initiated and completed the **NPDES compliant vehicle wash station** at Public Works to improve the quality of **storm water runoff** from the site.



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and
Zoning

Fire
Police
Public Works
Recreation

Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Increased Amenities & Community Enhancements ...

To **enhance** and properly maintain the **beauty** of the Isle of Palms, the City increased the scope of the landscaping contract to improve the **beautification** of the City's **public spaces**.

The City installed additional **Holiday Light Displays** on Front Beach for everyone to enjoy during the **Holiday season**.



The City hosted the annual **Household Hazardous Materials Recycling and Shred Day** in April.

The City was **successful** in its request for funding to the Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax for the design, permitting and construction of a **sidewalk at 28th Avenue** connecting Palm Boulevard and the Recreation Center. This project is expected to be completed in the Spring of next year.

The **traffic camera at Rifle Range and the IOP Connector** went "live" on the **SCDOT 511 system**. Citizens are now able to view **real time traffic** from both this location and the one installed at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Palm Boulevard .

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

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2017 Selected Accomplishments



Governance & Operations

City Hall organized and provided **comprehensive meeting packets** to facilitate over 103 official sessions of the City Council, Committees and Boards and Commissions, supporting openness and transparency of City government deliberations and decision.

The City of Isle of Palms is committed to **transparency of government** action and operation, along with open access to public documents, as provided for in the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). City Hall responded to six (6) lengthy **FOIA requests** for public documents and records.

The City established a new **goal-setting approach** to guide the City staff towards addressing and implementing City Council's priorities. City Council held a "**Visioning Meeting**" prior to commencing the budget process.

Moody's Investor Service gave the City an **Aa1 credit rating position** based on the City's **robust financial position**, a strong wealth and income profile and a healthy tax base. The credit profile also reflects an extremely small debt burden and a moderate pension liability.

In line with City Council's **paperless initiative** and the goal of reducing the City's carbon footprint, City Council, Department Managers and Administrative Staff have gone fully digital with the use of **mobile tablets** for City-related business, as an alternative to paper, increasing efficiency and reducing costs.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Governance & Operations

The City received favorable **safety audit scores** resulting in significant **savings** on the City's insurance premiums.

The City's Fire Inspector obtained a certified **Fire Marshall** status by completing International Code Council Fire Inspector courses and testing. This will help the City maintain the **ISO Class 1** rating. The Fire Inspector also obtained **Certified Fire and Life Safety Educator** status through the South Carolina Fire Academy.

To **improve customer service** during the busy summer season, City Hall added a temporary Front Desk Clerk position to assist with clerical and administrative support.

The City hired a **Payroll and Human Resources Officer**. This newly created position segregates payroll processing and workforce management duties from the City Clerk position.

The City successfully maintained **continuity of operations** related to the retirement of the long term Fire Department Training Officer. His retirement resulted in the following promotions: Training Officer, Battalion Chief, Captain, Engineer, Firefighter

City Council and City staff successfully **opposed plastic bag ban legislation**, which would have prohibited municipalities from enacting plastic bag ban ordinances.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Governance & Operations

The City completed and received City Council approval of the 5 year update to the City's **Local Comprehensive Beach Management Plan**.

The City successfully implemented a new **financial software** that improves efficiency and ease of operations. All City Departments were involved in this transition, which included numerous on-site training sessions.

The City completed the first ever **comprehensive assessment** of the City's **buildings**, which will help the City in being proactive in addressing maintenance and improvements to the City's real property.

The Police Department successfully implemented the **South Carolina Collision and Ticket Tracking System (SCCATTS)** which allows Police Officers to issue electronically created collision reports and citations, and automatically submit them to the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

The City successfully managed and administrated **FEMA reimbursements** related to **Hurricane Matthew** damages and began processing **Hurricane Irma** related reimbursements.

All City Departments teamed up together to effectively and efficiently prepare the City in advance of **Hurricane Irma** and to clean up debris and assess damages post storm.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Protecting our City

The Police Department hosted a successful 3rd annual **National Night Out** attended by over 200 citizens, coordinated several **Meet & Greets** at the Public Safety Building, bringing residents together to discuss concerns and learn about safety in the community and hosted **Coffee with a Cop** which helps build and **strengthen positive relationships** between Police Officers and the community.

Police Officers certified as **Child Safety Seat** Inspectors assisted residents and citizens from the tri-county area with the installation and inspection of their child safety seats. The **Police Department** and **Fire Department** work jointly on this effort.

The Fire Department worked with the **Isle of Palms Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)** to create proper flag burning ceremonies.

The Police Department continued tracking **coyote sightings and interactions** reported through the Department's non-emergency number. Three (3) box traps were deployed in various public properties in response to coyote sightings.

The City embarked in a **comprehensive** effort to remove **encroachments** in the public rights-of-way.

The day after **Hurricane Irma** affected our coast, the City awarded an emergency contract for an **emergency berm restoration** from Breach Inlet to 10th Avenue, 56th Avenue to Seagrove, Beachwood East and Ocean Club to **protect property** where no protection existed between properties and the active beach.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

www.iop.net

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Protecting our City

The Fire Department implemented a **fire prevention program** to enhance citizen's fire safety and prevention education.

The Police Department installed two **solar operated radar speed signs** on Forty-first Avenue to discourage speeding vehicles by alerting them of their speed.

The City revised the **Parking Ordinance** and related **signage** based on community and staff feedback after the inaugural year. City Council approved changes to the **Managed Beach Parking** included implementing **No Parking** on either side of Palm Boulevard between 40th Avenue and the 41st Avenue curve and at 41st Avenue along the open ditch on the western side from the intersection of Marginal Road at both intersection points, establishing additional **Golf Cart Parking Only** on 9th Avenue and Ocean Boulevard, and changing to **Resident Permit Parking Only** the area of Waterway Boulevard from Forest Trail to where Waterway Boulevard intersects with 41st Avenue, 41st Avenue eastern side from Frank Sottile to Cameron Boulevard & western side/south end at Hartnett Boulevard.



The City installed a **metal detector** in Council Chambers and hired additional security to ensure the **safety** of staff and citizens during **Municipal Court**.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

www.iop.net

2017 Selected Accomplishments



More Department Highlights ...

The **Recreation Center** welcomed approximately 20,000 visitors and participants.

The **Fire Department** responded to 22 fires, 445 Emergency Medical Calls, and 672 other types of emergencies and calls for assistance.

The **Public Works Department** collected over 2,199.95 tons of debris and 32,740 tons of garbage.

City Hall and the **Municipal Court** processed 2,664 checks, 1,267 criminal and traffic court cases, and 5,468 parking citations.

The City gave 2,986 **IOP t-shirts** to visitors as part of the “**Free T-Shirt**” program.

The Building Department issued 635 permits and licenses throughout the year to ensure proper **code compliance** and approved 1,700 business licenses and 1,626 rental licenses, **expanding economic activity** in the City.

City Hall prepared and distributed over ten (10) informational materials ahead of the **Marina Enhancement and Community Revitalization** bond referendum, in addition to coordinating two (2) community informational meetings and two (2) island wide direct mailings.

City Hall prepared and managed eight (8) **requests for bids and proposals**.

Accounts Payable **successfully collected** approximately **\$44,000** in delinquent court fines.

City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

www.iop.net

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Raising the Bar...

The City of Isle of Palms achieved an **ISO Class 1** rating for local fire protection efforts based on ISO's Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) Public Protection Classification (PPC™) . Achieving a Class 1 rating is a **huge accomplishment** and a source of **pride** for our community.

City of Isle of Palms won “**Best Family Beach**” for the second year in a row, in the *Post and Courier* Charleston's Choice Awards.

The City was chosen as the filming location of an **IMAX movie** about the total **solar eclipse**.



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

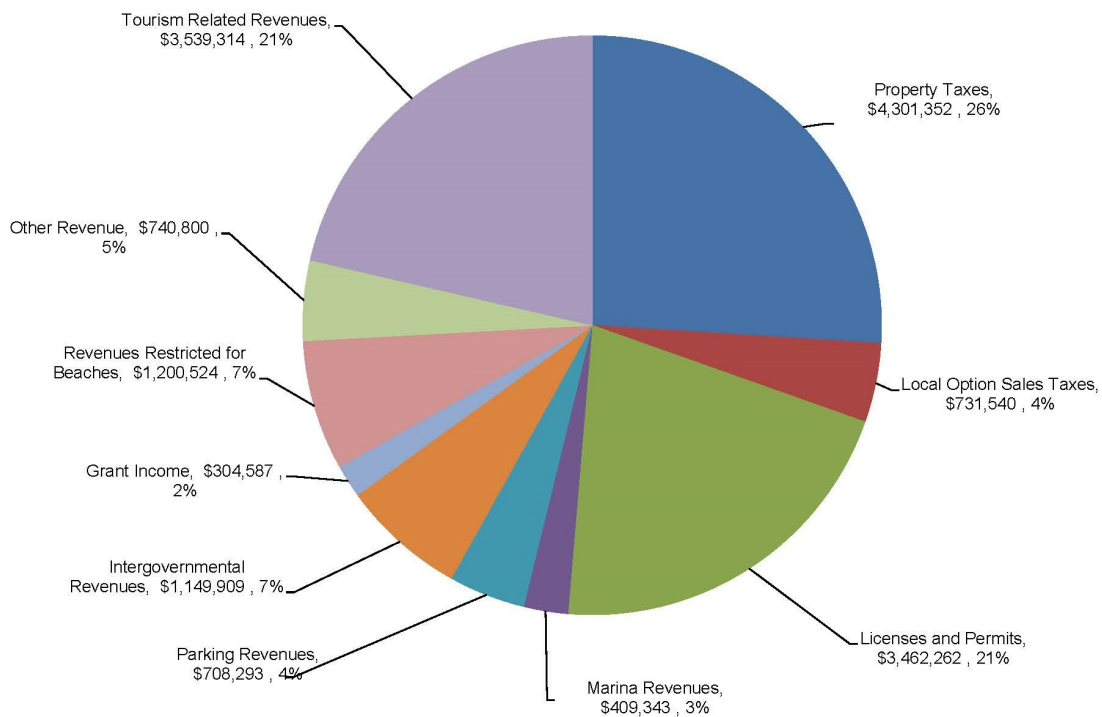
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2017 Selected Accomplishments



Finance

City of Isle of Palms - All Revenues - FY17



City Council
 General Government
 Building, Planning and

Zoning
 Fire
 Police

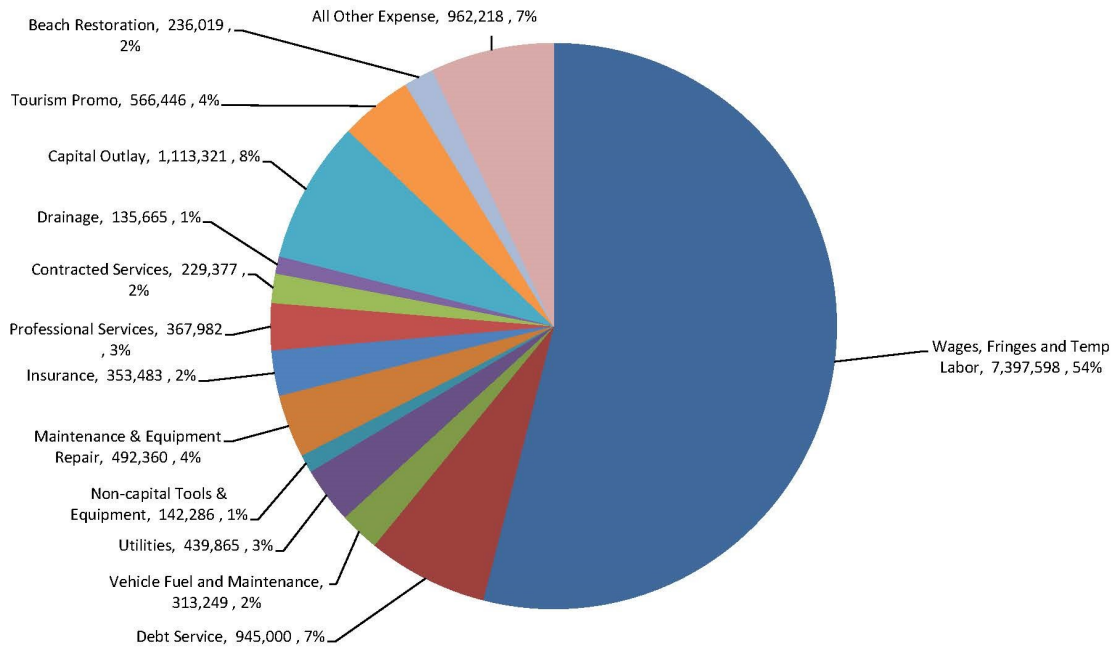
Public Works
 Recreation
 Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Finance

City of Isle of Palms - All Expenditures - FY17



City Council
 General Government
 Building, Planning and

Zoning
 Fire
 Police

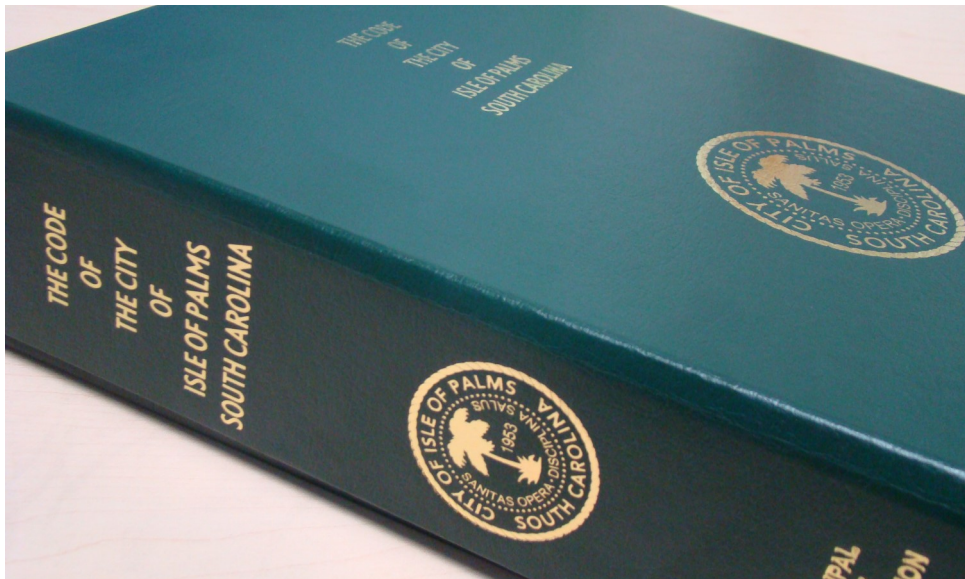
Public Works
 Recreation
 Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



Legislation

City Council passed ordinances in 2017 that include amending the City's **procurement code** to streamline the procurement process, making changes to the **Managed Beach Parking** ordinance related to the Resident Parking Permit requirements and regulations, adopting a **budget** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending in June 30, 2018, and providing a **referendum** on the City issuing a General Obligation bond to complete a **Marina Revitalization Project** .



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

2017 Selected Accomplishments



City Council Committees

Dick Cronin, Mayor

Barbara Bergwerf, Mayor Pro Temp

Marty Bettelli

Jimmy Carroll

Sandy Ferencz

Patrick Harrington

Ted Kinghorn

Carol Rice

Jimmy Ward

All Members

Chair of Ways and Means

Public Safety and Chair of Real Property

Personnel and Chair of Public Safety

Public Safety and Chair of Recreation

Personnel and Chair of Public Works

Real Property and Chair of Personnel

Recreation and Public Works

Recreation and Real Property

Public Works

Ways and Means and City Council



City Council
General Government
Building, Planning and

Zoning
Fire
Police

Public Works
Recreation
Marina

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