

City Council Weekly Update - April 7, 2025

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Date Mon 4/7/2025 6:01 PM  
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1 attachment (7 MB)  
25-26 Nonprofit Grant Program Application Packet\_Final.1.pdf

**Greetings Mayor and Council!**

Hope everyone had a great weekend. Our Touch a Truck event was an absolute blast. Big shout out to Team Tybee for sacrificing their Sunday to help show our residents how much City Government appreciates them.



**New and Improved Nonprofit Grant Application**

We have finalized our 2025-26 nonprofit grant application process, and will hold an information session for nonprofits at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Public Safety Building in anticipation of the online application opening on April 15 here: [Nonprofit%20Grant%20Application]Nonprofit Grant Application

The grant application is a bit beefier than in previous years, and is formatted more like an RFP for purchased services. The application states that it is specifically looking to fund programs that:

- **Beautify the island**, through public space enhancements like murals and landscaping
- **Promote sustainability**, through programs that reduce litter and improve our environmental health
- **Enhance our quality of life**, through community events, entertainment and recreational activities
- **Preserve our history**, through restoration of our historical landmarks and sites
- **Increase off-season visitation**, through programs and events during the slow times

Councilwoman Williams and Councilman Parks will serve on the review committee, tasked with bringing recommendations to City Council in June.

The full Nonprofit Grant Application Packet is attached.

## **Preparing for Urban Land Institute Study of Memorial Park**

We are in the process of finalizing details of the Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel that will focus on Memorial Park on April 30 and May 1. This will be an extremely intense two-day event, which will include walking tours, technical reviews, and small-group stakeholder meetings. The ULI will bring in about a dozen urban design and land use experts from across the Southeast to put their best thinking on Memorial Park. At the end of Day 2, they will report out initial findings to staff, and then plan a follow-up visit about a month later to present the final report to the community.

We will hold a special dinner for City Council to interact with the ULI team at 5:30 p.m. April 30 upstairs at Fannies.

We were tasked with keeping the Stakeholders list to under 20 people to allow for meaningful conversation and input. The goal was to include a broad cross-section of the community, with a particularly focus on those who currently utilize Memorial Park. Below is our list of stakeholders; we plan to send out invitations later this week.

### **Memorial Park Stakeholder Panelists**

- Holly Grell-Lawe, Historic Preservation Commission Chair (or designee)
- Sarah Jones, Executive Director of Tybee Historical Society (or designee)
- Pat Lieby, YEEPIEs, Tybee MLK
- April Moore, Tybee Get Fit
- Kelly Swope, Main Street Chair
- Heather Thomas, Huc-a-poo's
- Deb Barreiro, Tybee Community Garden
- The Rev. Sue Jackson (Trinity Chapel Methodist)
- Shirley Wright, Forever Tybee
- Representative from Tybee Island Branch Library
- Representative from Tybee Island YMCA
- Representative from Tybee Island Maritime Academy
- Brent Levy, Tybee City Arborist/Landscaping Divisional Director
- Alan Robertson, AWR Consulting
- Justin McMillian, Tybee Fire Chief
- Beth Martin, Tybean owner, Pickleball organizer
- James Lucas, Tybee soccer coach and Memorial Park neighbor
- Ricardo Ochoa, Sea Wolf, Tim's Bikes
- Tony Vasquez, Beachside Colony

While the ULI process will not provide Tybee all the answers for Memorial Park, my hope is that it will give us good ideas, help frame our thinking about land use, and set us up for success in the next phase, which would include a more comprehensive master plan.

### **Communications and Outreach Dept Weekly Update:**

- Submitted July 4<sup>th</sup> Special Events Application
- Finalized Memorandum of agreement with Visit Tybee for Mobile Visitor Center Operations
- Coordinated City Staff & Event Organizer meeting for Beach Bum Parade
- Took Mobile Visitor Center vehicle for quotes to have exterior wrapped
- Held second Orange Crush Press Conference
- Finalized City Nonprofit Grant application for 25-26 Submissions
  - Link to online application that will open on 4/15: <https://www.cityoftybee.org/FormCenter/Nonprofit-Grant-Application-12/Nonprofit-Grant-Application-57>
- Coordinated RFP 2025-783 Pre Proposal Meeting for South End Electrical & Lighting Upgrades
  - Link to RFP Packet: <https://www.cityoftybee.org/bids.aspx?bidID=111>
- Participated in Orange Crush Final Coordination Meeting with CEMA
- Met with Ocean Rescue staff to support recruitment efforts
- Set up group media interview covering Shipwake Study and Dunes project
- Continued working with DPW to finalize keyless entry at the Guard House
- Met with contractors for quotes on Guard House kitchen renovations project

### **Tybee in the News:**

#### **WTOC**

- <https://www.wtoc.com/2025/04/07/tybee-island-officials-discuss-beach-safety-warm-weather-returns/>
- <https://www.wtoc.com/video/2025/04/04/willie-jackson-tybee-blues-band/>
- <https://www.wtoc.com/2025/03/30/us-army-corps-engineers-studying-ship-wake-impact-tybee-island-beaches/>

#### **WSAV**

- <https://www.wsav.com/news/local-news/tybee-island-prepares-for-busy-spring-break-season/>
- <https://www.wsav.com/community/community-voices-fresh-air-home-summer-camp/>
- <https://www.wsav.com/news/local-news/local-shrimpers-hoping-tariffs-bring-relief/>
- <https://www.wsav.com/news/local-news/officials-present-orange-crush-safety-update/>
- <https://www.wsav.com/news/local-news/tybee-hosts-presser-today-on-public-safety-for-orange-crush/>

#### **WJCL**

- <https://www.wjcl.com/article/orange-crush-tybee-officials-traffic-control/64368237>

#### **AJC**

- <https://www.ajc.com/food-and-dining/sweetwater-veteran-brings-atlanta-craft-beer-culture-to-tybee-island/QMNYDRN5FRAGBGZ5J54LXWCEKI/>

#### **Savannah Morning News**

- <https://www.savannahnow.com/story/news/local/2025/04/07/everything-you-need-to-know-about-orange-crush-2025-tybee/82953675007/>
- <https://www.savannahnow.com/story/news/environment/2025/04/01/u-s-army-corps-conducts-second-study-on-ship-wake-impact-to-north-beach/82749989007/>
- <https://www.savannahnow.com/story/news/local/2025/03/31/savananh-filmmaker-writes-crime-film-recognized-in-deadline/82692837007/>

## Code Compliance This Week

### Citations:

Glass on beach	5
Pet on beach	2
Disturbing dune vegetation	2
Smoking on beach	4
Sandbar violation	6
Dog at Large	1

### Warnings:

Dog At Large	1
Sandbar Violation	5

**Cart Inspections** 18

### Additional Selected Activity:

- Dispatched to the beach at Gulick Street for a large piece of metal sticking out of the sand. An officer responded and located the item. DPW was notified and onlookers were advised that DPW would be removing the item.
- Assisted TIPD in looking for a missing person. The person was not located.
- Received a report of a water leak at 8 T. S. Chu Terrace. According to the complaint the water leak was causing ponding which was becoming stagnant. Code responded and found the complaint to be accurate. Photographs of the scene were taken and emailed to the City Marshal. The City Marshal then notified the property owner of 8 T. S. Chu's of the situation. Property owner is correcting the issue.
- The City Marshal and the CC Supervisor responded to 8 Bright Street regarding a complaint of a vehicle parked in the city right of way, which is part of an ongoing neighborhood dispute. Handled by Officers.
- Code Compliance was dispatched to the beach for a report of people being on the sandbar. An officer responded and upon his arrival observed four people some distance out on the sandbar. Two of the four, a mother and daughter walked back to the shore where the mother was issued a citation for the sandbar violation. The daughter was a juvenile. TIFD was requested to respond for the other two male subjects due to their distance from the shore ensuring the subject could safely make it back to shore. TIFD responded and launched their jet ski from which they monitored the subjects on their return to the shore. Once the subjects returned to shore the CC Officer on scene provided them with education about the city ordinance regarding the sandbar and issued each of them a citation.

## Parking Weekly Recap

Citations This Week: 264

Boots YTD: 19

PREV WEEK	YTD FY25	MTH TO DATE	FY 24 TOTAL	FY 23 TOTAL	FY 22 TOTAL	FY 21 TOTAL	FY 20 TOTAL
\$186,213.00	3,845,556.3	2,965,405.0	\$6,995,949.00	\$6,519,000.00	\$6,652,450.00	\$6,174,682.00	\$3,823,152.00

		KIOSK	APP	OFFICE	WEB	COINS	TOTAL
3/28	FRI	12144	8336	4,282.00	0.00	0.00	24,762.00
3/29	SAT	17967	13447	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,414.00
3/30	SUN	7674	5352	0.00	2,695.00	0.00	15,721.00
3/31	MON	5981	3666	6,471.00	2,310.00	0.00	18,428.00
4/1	TUE	9741	7414	14,400.00	2,635.00	0.00	34,190.00
4/2	WED	10456	6726	6,334.00	1,790.00	0.00	25,306.00
4/3	THURS	12948	10701	12,743.00		0.00	36,392.00
		76911	55642	44,230.00	9,430.00	0.00	186,213.00

## Parking Employee Discount Program

Approximately 175 passes have been issued since January through Tybee's Employee Discount Program. In all off 2024 approximately 200 annual employee discount passes were issued.

This program allows employees of island businesses to receive a half-price decals. Traditionally the service industry employees were among our most frequent repeat offenders. This program has helped reduce that greatly. Under the current process an employer on the island must contact the Main Street Program to request a form, which is filled out by the owner or manager. The employee can then bring this to our office and receive a discounted decal.

## Work Under Way on Meter Adjustment Software

Parking is working with our software vendor on changes that will allow Tybee to adjust rates at all metered spaces remotely from the administrative office. When complete, this will provide us the capability of easily adjusting rates according to demand.

## The Week in Infrastructure

### DPW

- Replaced fencing at North Beach
- Removed large debris from beach
- Removed sand from fishing pier
- Returned beach marker to South Beach
- Responded to various work orders
- Picked up beach trash five times this week

- Picked up street trash three times this week
- Ran electrical power for lights at City flagpoles
- Swept streets with street sweeper
- Pressure washed Guardhouse, Jaycee park restrooms as well as Admin building
- Replaced deck boards at Guardhouse
- Replaced ceiling tiles at South Annex building
- Changed A/C unit in cafeteria
- Cleaned City owned buildings
- Blew parks for sweeper Monday and Friday
- Cut and trimmed at Public Safety Building, Memorial Park, YMCA, and Marine Rescue Squadron building
- Cut and trimmed at hill at Polk Street
- Filled water bags around new fruit trees
- Fixed windscreen at tennis court
- Cleaned up loose rocks on Tybrisa Street
- Picked up litter along crossovers
- Processed three tree permits and performed four tree assessments

#### **Recycling/Dump:**

- Collected aluminum carts as part of commercial aluminum pilot program
- Baled cardboard
- Picked up and emptied recycling trailers at Memorial Park and Polk Street
- Assisted residents in unloading trash, yard debris, and recycling brought to DPW yard

#### **Fleet**

- Performed maintenance on five vehicles
- Performed oil change on two vehicles
- Repaired landscaping trailer
- Installed new pump on water buffalo
- Organized entire shop
- Removed camera and lights from street sweeper

#### **Water and Sewer**

- Conducted utility locates in anticipation of Live Oak Fiber
- Cleaned out sewer lines
- Cleaned out three lift stations
- Responded to sewer backup at 121 Lewis
- Made repairs to grit chamber
- Responded to water leak on TS Chu Lane
- Cleaned vac truck
- Sprayed Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Televised sewer lines
- Responded to sewer backup at Sugar Shack
- Repaired sewer line break on Second Avenue
- Sprayed weeds at lift station
- Performed maintenance on meter register, and replaced meter boxes, lids and antennae.
- Repaired water leaks, called and emailed homeowners about leaks.
- Performed inspections on wells and lift stations.

#### **Wastewater Treatment Plant**

- Collected daily samples, checked equipment, ran daily samples and completed "Operator Checklist" report
- Started Belt Press and filled Little Digester throughout the day
- Collected and ran samples for Belt Press Digester Feed and Sludge Cake
- Ran wasting pump for 2 hours
- Analyzed microbes under microscope
- Cleaned out both clarifier troughs
- Checked bio-air equipment and filled out operator log
- Shut down Grit King pump to help remove the debris

#### **AWR Monthly Report**

##### **Accomplished:**

- EPA grant of \$2.6 million for 15th Street Stormwater improvements finalized.
- \$100,000 grant from Georgia Conservancy/Amazon to be awarded June for restoration of Jaycee Park stormwater drainage.
- Skidaway dune monitoring data sent to GHD to design North Dune project.
- USACE Ship Wake Phase 2 monitoring begun. They will be onsite for three weeks.

##### **Next Steps:**

- NFWF Final Design and Permit Project formal launch expected April. UGA, GT, and T&H Agreements to go to Council for approval.
- Establish project schedule for 15th Street Stormwater improvement, expected in FY2026 budget.
- Developing Jaycee Park drainage restoration plan for execution this fall, FY2026.
- Meeting with GHD re: North Dune project update scheduled for April 8.
- Working with DNR to obtain LOP for North Dune project.
- Working with DNR to obtain LOP for Jaycee Park restoration.

- Safe Shelter project on hold pending decision on location.
- Consider inviting Clark Alexander of Skidaway to present beach and dune monitoring update at future Council Workshop (Hurricane Season).
- Consider inviting Warwick Partners to present at Council Workshop (Federal government update, Congressional Earmark request).

**Concerns/Issues:**

- Safe Shelter FEMA grant at risk if no progress made by end of May for June reporting. Should return grant if no progress rather than have FEMA pull grant due to lack of progress.
- Fire Station location needs to be identified by end of year, should Congressional Discretionary request for USDA grant be approved in annual budget.

**Projects Management:**

- Safe Shelter – on hold pending review and new Fire Station plan
- EPA 15th Street Drainage – \$2.6 million grant finalized, designing project schedule.
- GEMA 14th Street Drainage – awaiting \$10 million grant approval from FEMA.
- NFWF Back River Design & Permit – launch April 15.
- USACE Nearshore Placement – given budget constraints, deferred to fall 2026 for consideration. Given beach nourishment, doubtful of 2026 execution.
- USACE Beach Nourishment – still on schedule, planning for late 2026 execution.
- Skidaway Dune Monitoring – ongoing quarterly reviews. April survey will be sent to USACE for hurricane season baseline.
- North Dune Project – working with GHD on design of project, DNR on permitting, Legal on homeowner permissions.

**This Week at the Police Department**

**Accidents:**

This Week: 3 accidents, 0 injuries  
 2025 YTD: 25 accidents, 1 injury  
 2024 YTD: 18 accidents, 2 injuries  
 2024 TOTAL: 104 accidents, 18 injuries

**Arrests:**

This Week: 11 total – 8 DUIs / 0 Felonies  
 2025 YTD: 99 arrests  
 2024 YTD: 127 arrests  
 2024 TOTAL: 504 arrests

**Calls For Service:**

This week: 512  
 2025 YTD: 3,726  
 2024 YTD: 3,944  
 2024 TOTAL: 14,588

**Citations:**

This week: 85  
 YTD: 440  
 2024 YTD: 575  
 2024 TOTAL: 1,792

Part 1 Crimes									
-	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Arson	Motor Vehicle Theft	Total Part 1
2025	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	7
2024	0	3	0	10	3	51	0	0	67
2023	0	0	3	8	2	37	0	0	50
2022	0	0	0	2	1	17	2	1	23

**Daily Information:**

- 03/28: Public Safety Press Conference
- 03/31: TIPD command staff met with GSP command staff to discuss the upcoming Orange Crush weekend.
- 04/06: Touch a Truck event held in Memorial Park.

**Staffing:**

We are down 5 officers and have 2 applications. Of the 2 applicants, all have completed the oral interview, psychological test, and 1 has complete the polygraph exam. We will continue to move on with these 2 applicants. We currently have 1 officer on FMLA and 1 on workers' compensation.

**Upcoming Events:**

04/08: Shawnessy Cargile from The Front Porch will visit the police department and discuss the ways the officers can refer families to them for their services.

05/17: I'm proud to say our running group has grown! This year, we will have 13 members of our police department participating in The Savannah Mile! If you would like to participate with us, cheer us on, or donate to the cause, please see the link below. We would love to see you there!!!

[https://www.our200club.com/savannah-mile-2025/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0BMABhZGikAAAGG86l-QQBHdAC-QMMYG8siypVR9M6FrC3M6\\_THrQYIMpRoTZz8HDnkSGDRPfsJ-rrg\\_aem-zXsaSZ0LUvGwwPcJwVdIA&utm\\_medium=paid&utm\\_source=fb&utm\\_id=6716498362188&utm\\_content=6716498392188&utm\\_term=6716498386188&utm\\_campaign=6716498362188](https://www.our200club.com/savannah-mile-2025/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0BMABhZGikAAAGG86l-QQBHdAC-QMMYG8siypVR9M6FrC3M6_THrQYIMpRoTZz8HDnkSGDRPfsJ-rrg_aem-zXsaSZ0LUvGwwPcJwVdIA&utm_medium=paid&utm_source=fb&utm_id=6716498362188&utm_content=6716498392188&utm_term=6716498386188&utm_campaign=6716498362188)

The Savannah Mile returns for 2025! This highly anticipated race is scheduled for 8 a.m. Saturday, May 17, as part of National Law Enforcement Week. The one-mile course, beginning at the south end of Forsyth Park, will take participants down Drayton Street and finish up on Broughton Street.

Featuring six unique heats for all ages and abilities, including the "Memory Walk" and "Heroes Heat", you won't want to miss this event! All proceeds benefit the families of our Fallen First Responders that the 200 Club proudly serves.

**This Week at the Fire Department**

- 18 calls for service
  - 6 EMS call
  - 2 Medical Assists
  - 2 Welfare Checks
  - 2 Public Service Assistance Calls
  - 1 Assist Invalid
  - 2 Alarm System Activation
  - 2 Phone or Cable Line Down
  - 1 No Incident Found Upon Arrival

**Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) Finalized**

Chief McMillian has completed the initial formulation of the Tybee Island Fire Department's new Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs). These guidelines have now been forwarded to the City's Human Resources Department for formal review. Once approved, the finalized SOGs will be distributed to all department personnel. Employees will be required to formally acknowledge receipt and understanding of the material. This new framework is a significant step toward enhancing clarity, accountability, and consistency across all aspects of departmental operations. The SOGs are designed to align our team under unified procedures and expectations while also ensuring compliance with best practices and safety standards.

**Replacement of South-End Safety Signage**

Additional safety signage has been ordered to replace important warning signs on the south end of the island that were damaged or lost during past storm events. A special thank-you goes out to Sgt. Hatrlich for his initiative and assistance in coordinating this effort. Once the new signage arrives, the Department of Public Works (DPW) will assist with the installation. This collaboration ensures that beachgoers and visitors are kept informed of any risks, supporting both safety and our public service mission.

**Red Cross Agreement for CPR and Lifeguard Training**

The long-standing partnership with the American Red Cross for CPR and lifeguard training has been updated to meet new legal requirements recently issued by the organization. The City Attorney has made necessary revisions to the agreement, and it is now ready for formal consideration and approval by the City. While the updates represent an administrative shift, the overall framework remains consistent with the agreement the department has operated under for many years. This revised agreement is essential for resuming our lifesaving training programs and maintaining our high standards in public safety education.

**Municipal Court Monthly Report**

Year to Date Through March

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<b>Court Fines</b>	\$ 167,235.54	\$ 164,702.02	\$ 158,749.46
<b>Tech Fees</b>	-	-	\$ 1,550.00
<b>Court Costs</b>	\$ 61,218.45	\$ 65,505.67	\$ 44,625.01
<b>Total</b>	\$ 228,453.99	\$ 230,207.69	\$ 204,924.47

**Adjudicated Year to Date**

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<b>Cases</b>	1881	2944	1256
<b>Citations</b>	2440	3975	1950

**March 2025 Stats**

**Caseload**

	# of Court Sessions	# of Cases
<b>March 2023</b>	2	298
<b>March 2024</b>	2	367
<b>March 2025</b>	2	105

**Citations with Disposition Dates from March 01, 2025 – March 31, 2025**

Finding	Count
Bond Forfeiture	19
Bound over to State Court	28
Bound over to Superior Court	0

Dismissed	1
Guilty as Charged	37
Merged	4
Nolo Contendre	5
Nolle Prosequi	12
Pre-Trial Diversion	4
Warning	48
Retired from Docket	10
Voided	0
Total	168

**Projects:**

Adjudication Study – Ongoing  
 Record Retention – Ongoing  
 Website Updating – Completed

**Training and Education:**

**CLERK:** Courtware GCIC training; Budget preparation; ICMA: She Leads; Vector Solutions: Anti Harassment, Unconscious Bias, Work Place Stress  
**ASSISTANT CLERK:** Vector Solutions: Anti Harassment, Unconscious Bias, Work Place Stress. GPST: Georgia Uniform Motor Vehicle Crash Report Update. GBI: LASO and ARSO Technical Security Officer (TSO) Training IGB32G. Courtware GCIC training ,ICMA: She Leads. The Clerks Authority: Notary Public, GSCCCA Fines & Fees  
**DIRECTOR:** Vector Solutions: Anti Harassment, Unconscious Bias, Work Place Stress



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