

Island Vibes

the Official Newsletter for the City of South Padre Island

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

City Council gathered for a Special Meeting on Wednesday, March 23rd. In Public Comments, Assistant Public Works Director, Jon Wilson, shared that the bike and walking safety lane improvements along Gulf Boulevard have begun. The project is expected to take about 3.5 months to complete.

Some action items from the Agenda included:

- Acceptance of a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation for the construction of new bus shelters at the City's Multimodal Facility.
- A great presentation of an external audit report for the City's [Annual Comprehensive Financial Report](#) from 2020-2021 fiscal year, which Council voted to approve.
- Approval of the preliminary design for improvements to the Sea Island Circle beach access, funded by the Coastal Management Program's Cycle 26 grant.

View the entire Agenda and video of the meeting by clicking [here](#).

EARTH HOUR

This Saturday, March 26th, is the World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) global event, Earth Hour. Each year millions of individuals, governments and businesses turn off their lights for one hour to show their commitment to action on climate change.

The City will be participating in the event by turning off the lights in City Hall and encourages the community to also join.



WHEN: 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26.

WHERE: In your home and/or business.

HOW: Turning off your lights for one hour.

WHY: To represent unity against climate change and remind us that even small actions can make a big difference.

[Click here for more information.](#)

STAY IN THE KNOW

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday • March 30

9 AM • Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful

View upcoming meetings, live stream meetings in session, and watch archived meetings [here](#).

EVENTS

Saturday • March 26

Fitness enthusiasts can join the South Padre Island Sprint Triathlon, hosted by Parrot Eyes (5801 Padre Blvd). The deadline to register is today, March 25, so don't miss out.

Sunday • March 27

Join the Art Business Incubator (2500 Padre Blvd #1) for an Interactive Color Wheel Workshop from 1-3 PM.

To see more Island events, click [here](#)!

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CITY SPOTLIGHT



For this week's City Spotlight, we have the City's Chief Financial Officer, Rodrigo Gimenez! Rodrigo was born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina where he also earned his Bachelors in Accounting. He completed his MBA with the University of Texas and is a Certified Government Finance Officer with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of Texas.

Rodrigo began his career with the City in 2007 and was promoted to head of the Finance Department in 2013. His team works diligently to serve the community, ensuring the highest principles of financial reporting and transparency. Most recently, the department was recognized by GFOA with an award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

As CFO, Rodrigo serves as a financial guide to City Council and staff when it comes to the many projects and plans for South Padre Island. Through his efforts, the City was able to refund approximately \$300,000 in General Obligation Bonds in the last fiscal year. These taxpayer savings can now help fund more projects that greatly improve life on South Padre Island.

The Finance Department continuously works to provide the community the most up-to-date financial reports. Find this information and more, by clicking [here](#).

PET OF THE WEEK

Sweet Shirley is ready to find her *fur*-ever home. She's a female, Shepard mix, between 2-3 years old. She's easy to love with her laid-back personality and aims to please, even letting you play "dress-up" with her! If Shirley sounds like your perfect match, fill out an application with Friends of Animal Rescue by clicking [HERE](#). Or to set up a meeting with Shirley, or any of her furry friends, call (956) 772-1171.



JOIN TEAM SPI

The City of South Padre Island is hiring! We offer great benefits like medical, vision and dental covered 100% by the City, competitive pay, Texas Municipal Retirement System 2-to-1 match, plus more. [Apply](#) to become a part of our extraordinary team today!

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

- Admin Assistant/Receptionist: Full-Time
- Code Enforcement Officer: Part-Time
- Police Officer: Full-Time
- Maintenance: Full-Time & Part-Time
- Firefighter/Paramedic: Full-Time & Part-Time

More positions and information available [here](#).

Follow us on social media!

