City of Delray Beach

Building Confidence in Local Government

Presented by
City Manager David T. Harden
May 31, 2012

What Kind of City is Delray Beach?

• **A Coastal Community**
  – Four miles square
  – One mile of public beach

• **Population 61,000**
  – 28% Black
  – 9.5% Hispanic
  – 26.2% Below the poverty level
Four Initiatives

- Resident’s Academy
- Haitian Citizen’s Police Academy
- Public Employee Recognition
- Peak Democracy

Delray Beach Resident’s Academy

- Session 1: At the Helm
- Session 2: Behind the Scenes
- Session 3: Who Ya Gonna Call?
Delray Beach Resident’s Academy

• Session 4: Can’t Live Without It
• Session 5: Building for Tomorrow
• Session 6: Serving with Pride
• GRADUATION

Haitian Citizen’s Police Academy

• Introduce Command Staff and Overview
• Recruiting & Training; Use of Force & Firearms
• Property Crimes, CSI and Technology
• Dive Team, K-9, Youth Vocational School
Haitian Citizen’s Police Academy

- Communications, Traffic and DUI
- Criminal Law and SWAT Operations
- Juvenile, Person Crimes, Sexual Offenders
- Community Relations, Crime Prevention, VIN

Haitian Citizen’s Police Academy

- Internal Affairs and Gangs
- Police Chaplaincy and Code Enforcement
- Community Patrol & Community Response
- GRADUATION
Public Employee Recognition

Living SPIRIT

Exceptional Service through your Performance by acting with Integrity, being Responsible, taking Innovative action and practicing Teamwork.

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Public Employee Recognition

Employee Suggestion Program

To reward City employees and retirees from City service for their positive efforts in the form of suggestions to reduce City expenditures, to increase productivity and efficiency, and to improve departmental service and operation.
Peak Democracy
Open City Hall Citizen Forum

Mission: Govt Decision Making Process Challenges

• Constituents are accustomed to online feedback
  – In business
  – With social networks
  – Why not government?

• Robust Govt Decision Making Process:
  Starts with…
  1. Broad, diversified public participation
     That leads to…
  2. Well-informed government leaders
     That enables them to…
  3. Deliberate in ways that increase public trust

Peak Democracy
Public Participation: Challenges

Public hearings are most influential channel of participation:
  • Often largest channel of participation
  • Often most transparent channel of participation
Public meetings are biased against many citizens:
• Don’t have time to attend (parenting, working, etc.)
• Don’t like to speak in public
• Don’t want to seem confrontational or impolite
• Don’t want to face intimidating opposition
• Have moderate views (not extreme views)

Online Public Comment Forums:
• Convenient Place & Time
• No Public Speaking
• No Confrontations
• No Intimidations
• Inviting to moderates (as well as extremists)
Subscribe to Open City Hall

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Open City Hall is an online forum for civic engagement. Read what others are saying about important Delray Beach topics, then post your own statement. City officials will read the statements and incorporate them into their decision process.

When you post your first statement, you will be asked for your name and home address. This confidential information is only used to identify statements from residents in and near Delray Beach, so that users know which statements are from local residents.

Open City Hall is run by Real Democracy, a non-partisan company whose mission is to broaden civic engagement and build public trust in government. They will keep your information confidential per their strict Privacy Agreement.

As with any public comment process, participation in Open City Hall is voluntary; city officials will consider input from this forum along with all other channels for public engagement.

Delray Beach
read less
Name not shown inside Delray Beach
March 19, 2012, 9:01 AM

It is probably time for a proper traffic light at George Bush and Swinton. The flashing light can’t handle the amount of traffic that needs to cross Swinton. Many people take chances when trying to cross.
1 Supporter

Name not shown inside Delray Beach
March 17, 2012, 11:38 AM

More bike lanes, bike racks and street trees in the downtown and beach areas. Delray Beach can be a great pedestrian friendly and bike friendly community. The Federal Highway improvements should be completed with bike lanes, shade trees and bioswales for filtering storm water. Bike lanes should also connect to the western half of Delray Beach too.
The downtown shuttle should be a biodiesel or electric vehicle, or at the very least it should run more often and not idle when parked.
Thank you.
2 Supporters

Name not shown inside Delray Beach
March 16, 2012, 5:23 AM

The City of Delray is doing really well on improvement in my area and should be complimented. However, what needs improvement is the street lighting. Noticeably when the new park was built on the corner of 7th Avenue and 2nd Street the old streetlighting made for a safer, friendlier environment. Another element that needs consideration for future planning is incorporating bike traffic. This is vital as sidewalks, where they exist are now being used but an estimated throughout Delray, traffic is on the increase and both pedestrian and bike traffic needs to be protected and incorporated especially downtown (past of A1A, west of 95, north of Linton and south of Lake Ida). Thank you for the forum.
7 Supporters
Building Confidence in Local Government