



# CITY CONNECTION



7047 Sunset Drive South  
South Pasadena, FL 33707

Quarterly Newsletter

website: [www.mysouthpasadena.com](http://www.mysouthpasadena.com)

Spring

March 2023

## March 14, 2023 Municipal Election Results & Swearing In

At the March 28, 2023 Special Commission Meeting, Gail M. Neidinger and Tom Reid were officially sworn in to serve four year terms on the City Commission. During the meeting, Reid was appointed as Vice Mayor and Commission department designations were approved. Congratulations Commissioner Neidinger and Vice Mayor Reid!

MARCH 14, 2023 ELECTION OF TWO COMMISSIONERS OFFICIAL RESULTS	
Michael James Burgmaier	182
Marj Lorand	394
Gail M. Neidinger	637
Felix Day Pretsch	132
Tom Reid	645



Pictured (Left to Right): Commissioner Neidinger - Public Works, Commissioner Thomas - Community Improvement, Mayor Penny - Administration, Commissioner Thompson - Finance, Vice Mayor Reid - Public Safety



### NEW FIRE STATION 20 CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY



Construction of the new Fire Station 20 has officially begun!



Check out Page 5 for details!



Commissioner Bonnie Quick

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
SERVICE!**

Bonnie Quick served on the City Commission since March 2020. The City thanks her for her service and wishes her the best in her future endeavors.



**Hope, Health  
and Sunshine  
Foundation  
Open  
Charity Golf Event**

**Saturday, May 20th  
Shotgun Start  
Scramble Format  
Bardmoor Golf & Tennis Club**

For details including start times, registration fees, and sponsorship opportunities, please visit [www.hhsfoundation.org/](http://www.hhsfoundation.org/).

The Hope, Health and Sunshine Foundation is a local 501(c)(3) charity that provides support to cancer patients.



**HELP FEED HUNGRY CHILDREN**

One in four children in Tampa Bay don't know where their next meal is coming from and food insecurity increases in the summer, when a lot of kids aren't receiving meals at school. That's why 10 Tampa Bay and Feeding Tampa Bay are once again teaming up for Cereal for Summer. Please consider supporting this campaign with donations of cereal and other non-perishable breakfast items.



You can drop off your boxes of cereal and other breakfast items at:

**City of South Pasadena City Hall  
7047 Sunset Drive S.  
South Pasadena, FL 33707  
April 1st - May 4th**

For more information about this year's drive, contact 10 Tampa Bay's Kathryn Bursch at [kbursch@10TampaBay.com](mailto:kbursch@10TampaBay.com).





**Arthur Penny**  
Mayor, City of South Pasadena  
[www.mysouthpasadena.com](http://www.mysouthpasadena.com)  
[apenny@mysouthpasadena.com](mailto:apenny@mysouthpasadena.com)

**MY CITY: I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It**

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The election to fill two commission seats was held on March 14th. Congratulations to Tom Reid and Gail Neidinger, who were sworn in at a Special Commission meeting on March 28th. Both will serve four-year terms on the Commission. I want to thank all the candidates who ran this year, and I appreciate your desire to help our city.

**NEW BUSINESSES AND RIBBON CUTTINGS**

Align Foot & Ankle has opened at 1615 Pasadena Avenue South in suite 280. The Commission attended the grand opening and ribbon cutting on March 23rd. Dr. Barnett and his wife Kelsey, the Practice Manager, moved from Texas to open their new office here in South Pasadena. Also, on February 4th, the Commission attended the grand opening and ribbon cutting for HCA Pasadena Hospital's new Surgical & Orthopedic Unit. We love progress, especially when it brings new businesses that benefit our community.



**2023 ARTSPRING EXHIBITION & BLOCK PARTY**

Our annual Block Party held on March 11th was a HIT! There were close to fifty beautiful vehicles in the car show, over 190 pieces of art on display, live music,

food trucks, children's activities, the Pinellas Sheriff's PAL Drumline, displays, and fire apparatus use activities by our very own Fire Department. The event was well attended; if you could not make it to the Block Party this year, plan not to miss this spectacular event in 2024.



Sincerely,  
*Mayor Arthur Penny*



The City of  
*South Pasadena*  
Florida  
"Our Place in the Sun"

# About Town In South Pasadena

A Series from Commissioner Lynda Thompson

**Coastal Ice Cream & Sweet Bar**  
Samos Plaza -  
6801 Gulfport Blvd. Suite 6  
727-498-6547  
[www.facebook.com/  
coastalicecreamandsweetbar](http://www.facebook.com/coastalicecreamandsweetbar)



Do you know about Coastal Ice Cream and Sweet Bar? It is run by Ruth & her daughter Natasha who came here from Canada leaving their careers behind. Ruth stated they wanted to do something different so they bought the ice cream shop back in May 2021. They live in Largo but loved the area near the beach to have the shop. They have 40 flavors, including 4 vegan options.

They are not all about ice cream. They make custom cakes & pies, serve coffee & cappuccino, and even do children's birthdays. There is both outside and inside seating. Stop in and tell them you saw this article in the South Pasadena City Connection Newsletter and receive 10% off.



**One Unique Shop**  
Samos Plaza -  
6801 Gulfport Blvd. Suite 8  
727-827-7244  
[www.facebook.com/  
Oneuniqueshop727](http://www.facebook.com/Oneuniqueshop727)

A family owned shop owned and operated by three sisters Sue, Karen, and Tina. They are residents here in South Pasadena. One sister was a Registered Nurse, one an Insurance Agent and the other an IT person. They opened their shop in February of 2020 because they love to create beautiful items as well as

supporting local artists. Their shop has beautiful paintings, handmade toys, stained glass, home accessories, cards and more.

Stop by and say hello to see what you have been missing. Mention this article while you're there and receive 10% off your purchase.

**In the *About Town in South Pasadena* series, the City Commission will be selecting local businesses to be featured in the City Connection Newsletter. If you are interested in having your business included in the series, please contact City Hall at [cityhall@mvsouthpasadena.com](mailto:cityhall@mvsouthpasadena.com).**



# New Fire Station 20 Groundbreaking & Construction

On January 19, 2023, the City held a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new Fire Station 20 (1477 Pasadena Avenue South). Speakers included Mayor Arthur Penny, HCA Florida Pasadena Hospital CEO Brent Burish, Fire Chief David Mixson, and Max Elson Jr., son of former Mayor and Commissioner Max V. Elson, for whom the new station will be dedicated. The City is excited for the project to come to fruition as the station is expected to better serve the needs of a modern fire rescue service, allow for more efficient distribution of emergency calls, more adequately withstand severe weather events, and will be a beautiful and meaningful addition to the community.



Construction officially began on February 14, 2023 and is scheduled to be completed in mid-2024. For weekly photos and construction updates, be sure to Like and Follow the City's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CityofSouthPasadenaFL](http://www.facebook.com/CityofSouthPasadenaFL).





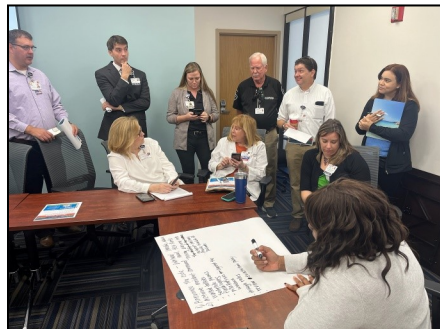
## Vice Mayor Reid Attends Advocacy Initiative in Washington D.C.

In early February, Vice Mayor Tom Reid participated in the Florida League of Cities, Inc. Federal Action Strike Team (FAST) Fly-In event in Washington, D.C. The FAST Fly-In is an advocacy initiative that brings together local officials and federal legislators to build relationships, promote municipal priorities, and request assistance with procuring resources to meet community needs. During his trip, Vice Mayor Reid attended meetings with Senator Rick Scott, Senator Marco Rubio, Representative Scott Franklin, and Representative Anna Paulina Luna to discuss key issues like streamlining grant processes, cybersecurity threats and mitigation, strategies to protect Home Rule, and more.



## Great Tornado Drill

On February 10, 2023, the City participated in the statewide Great Tornado Drill. City staff joined HCA Florida Pasadena Hospital to discuss tornado response processes and procedures in order to be better prepared for extreme weather. Pinellas County is the 2nd highest risk county in Florida so tornadoes are very real threats to our area.



Thank you to HCA Florida Pasadena Hospital for including the City in this valuable discussion and training opportunity.





# Artspring Exhibition and Artists' Reception







2023  
*Artspring Exhibition*

**2023 WINNERS**

**BEST OF SHOW**

“Shades of Summer” Terri Mills

**MAYOR’S AWARD**

“T’boli Woman Headdress” Emelia C. Johnson

**ARTWORK (FRAMED/HUNG)**

1st Place “Wild Blackberries” Yvonne Long

2nd Place “Blue-eyed Mia” Marilyn Bresnahan

3rd Place “Feathered Fantasy” Leisha Sheshe Bishop

**SCULPTURE**

1st Place “Prudence Rarely Shied Away From Out

Dazzling the Hostess” Dawn Waters

2nd Place “Walnut Platter with/3 Spheres” David Jones

3rd Place “Shatkona Fusion” Karen Isskenderov

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

1st Place “Another Please” George F. Wilsey

2nd Place “Midevil Knights” Frank Crommelin

3rd Place “Streets of St Pete” Gerard DiStefano

**HONORABLE MENTION**

“Red Dragon” Brandy Stark

“Andre” Bruni Jaeger

“Upham Beach Rocks” Dan Kurant

“Tombstone Taillight” Katherine Zehnder

“The Crab Shack” Teresita Hightower

“Florida Scrub Jay” Susan Aschenbrenner

“Agave” Patricia Proball Zill

“In The Palms, Ft. Desoto” Peter Shurtz

“Sunset at Hacket’s Cove” John Sumner

“Maine Seas” Ellen Brown

“Sorry-” Marci Jacobs

“Yellow Flower” Lis Allermann



If you would like to volunteer or exhibit your artwork next year, please contact the City at 727-347-4171 to be added to the mailing list.



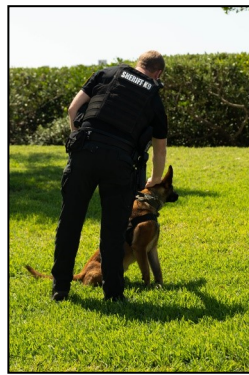
CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA'S ANNUAL

# BLOCK PARTY FUN!

Check out the City's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CityofSouthPasadenaFL](http://www.facebook.com/CityofSouthPasadenaFL) for more pictures!









# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Without the generosity and support of these organizations, the 2023 Block Party would not have been so successful!



The City would also like to thank Jimmy Valenty & Pasadena Liquors, Publix, and Winn-Dixie for contributing supplies to Artspring and the Block Party this year.



## Permit Reminder

Be sure to only hire licensed contractors when having work done at your house, condo or business. No permit is necessary for painting or installation of flooring, but most other items DO require a permit.

All contractors must have an active license with the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board before they can work or be issued a permit in the City of South Pasadena. This is done to ensure that only qualified, licensed and insured contractors are doing work for the residents of our community.

Remember, as the property owner, it is your responsibility to make sure that a permit has been obtained and posted prior to work being performed. If there are any questions as to whether or not a permit is necessary, please do not hesitate to contact the Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Rev. 03/22

**South Pasadena  
Community Band  
FREE CONCERT**

**April 13, 2023  
7:30 P.M.**

City Hall - Hibiscus Hall  
7047 Sunset Dr. S.

For more information visit: [www.southpasadenaband.com](http://www.southpasadenaband.com)

**Band Sponsored by the City of South Pasadena**

Welcome to our newest employee Josh Martinez. He recently joined our Public Safety Department as a Firefighter/Paramedic.

## Recognition of Service

The following employees are celebrating milestone anniversaries with the City:

Emery Culverhouse - 25 years  
Deputy Fire Chief  
January 22

Anthony DeMars - 20 years  
Public Works Supervisor  
February 25

Mark McCloskey - 15 years  
Firefighter/Paramedic  
March 11

Nghi (Chris) Le - 5 years  
Firefighter/Paramedic  
April 13

**Thank you for your hard work!**



### Sponsor Your Sun Bench Today!

Have you noticed the colorful benches throughout South Pasadena? With a color pattern designed to mimic the City's logo, 45 "Sun Benches" can be found along local streets and in our parks. The benches were installed to add character and help identify the community.

Sun Benches can be sponsored for a one time cost of \$400. With your sponsorship, a personalized plaque will be added to the available bench of your choosing. For information about Sun Bench locations and sponsorship details, visit the City website at [www.mysouthpasadena.com/community/sun\\_benches.php](http://www.mysouthpasadena.com/community/sun_benches.php).





# South Pasadena Fire Department Annual Open House January 14, 2023



The South Pasadena Fire Department hosted its annual Open House event on January 14, 2023 at the current Fire Station 20 (911 Oleander Way South). The event was a huge success with multiple demonstrations, participation from valuable local partners, and free food!

### Vehicle Extrication

South Pasadena Fire Department personnel used a set of recently acquired tools including hydraulic cutters, a telescoping ram, and spreaders (often referred to as the “jaws of life”) to cut apart a car and safely remove a patient trapped inside.



### Safety and Wellness Exhibits

Representatives from Pinellas County Emergency Management, Regional 911, Sunstar Paramedics, the American Red Cross, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue, and HCA Florida Pasadena Hospital provided educational materials and demonstrations on a wide range of topics including CPR, “Stop the Bleed” trauma training, home fire safety, hurricane preparedness, fall prevention, and healthy living.

### Police K-9 Presentation

Deputies from the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office demonstrated use of K-9 officers, including a commanded attack featuring South Pasadena Firefighter/Paramedic Martinez.







**Station Tours**

Attendees were given tours of the current Fire Station 20 and got to see where personnel train, study, eat, and sleep while on duty. Built in 1978, the current station is due to be replaced by the new Fire Station 20, which is under construction at 1477 Pasadena Avenue South (due to be completed in mid-2024).

**Public Safety Vehicles Display**

Emergency response vehicles from the South Pasadena Fire Department, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, and Sunstar Paramedics were onsite and open for attendees to climb inside and take photos.



**Live Fire & Sprinkler Demonstration**

Piper Fire Protection provided their demonstration trailer to show the difference in fire response with and without sprinklers. Two identical rooms were set on fire live, with the non-sprinklered room extinguished by the South Pasadena Fire Department and the sprinklered room extinguished by ceiling sprinklers.



**Don't Forget the Free Food!**

Attendees got their fill of refreshments including hot dogs fresh off the grill, generously provided by the International Association of Firefighters Local 747.



**Thank You!**

Thank you to the local partners that participated in the event and to all members of the public who attended. The South Pasadena Fire Department is honored to serve such an amazing community!



# DO YOU HAVE A HURRICANE PLAN IN PLACE?

Early forecasts indicate that the 2023 hurricane season will be considered average, which typically has 13-16 named storms, including 6-8 hurricanes and 2-3 major hurricanes. An “average” season might not sound concerning but it only takes one storm to severely affect our city. For example, Hurricane Ian occurred after a record calm August but decimated countless communities and was named the deadliest storm system to hit Florida in 87 years. The South Pasadena Fire Department encourages all residents to prepare for hurricane season no matter how much activity is predicted.



Preparing for a hurricane cannot be done quickly when a storm is coming. With hurricane season officially starting on June 1<sup>st</sup>, now is the time to get ready. Preparedness tips include:

- ✓ Prepare a disaster plan
- ✓ Organize important papers to pack quick during an evacuation
- ✓ Complete home improvement tasks and trim trees
- ✓ Purchase supplies like batteries, flashlights, and weather radios



For more tips and storm readiness information, check out the South Pasadena Fire Department’s upcoming virtual Hurricane Preparedness Presentation series:

May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81234992125>

Meeting ID 812 3499 2125

May 25<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84464817803>

Meeting ID 844 6481 7803

These links are posted on the City’s website at [www.mysouthpasadena.com](http://www.mysouthpasadena.com).

All are welcome to virtually attend and each webinar will include question and answer sessions.

Interested in having a live hurricane preparedness presentation at your business, condominium, or homeowners association? Contact the South Pasadena Fire Department at 727-344-1666.





# Lithium-Ion Battery Safety



Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.

## The problem

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

## Safety Tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the right way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

## Signs of a Problem

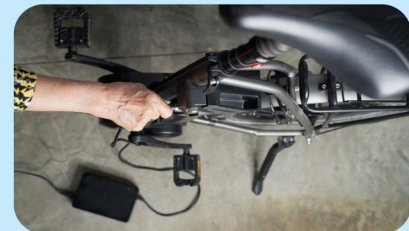
Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call **9-1-1**.

## Battery Disposal

- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
- Recycling is always the best option.
- Take them to a battery recycling location or contact your community for disposal instructions.
- Do not put discarded batteries in piles.

## Charging an E-bike

Charge your battery in a flat, dry area away from children, direct sunlight, liquids, tripping hazards, and in a location where the e-bike is not at risk of falling.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards





## News from the Public Works Department . . .

### What happens when fats, oils, and grease are poured down the sink?

When warm fats, oils, and grease are poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet they may not travel very far through your pipes before they begin to form large, nasty conglomerations with other debris and chemicals and stick to the walls of your pipes. These FOG deposits could cause future sewer backups in your home, condominium, restaurant, or other building.

The results of FOG buildup in pipes include:

- Severe reduction in pipe flow capacity
- Complete blockages
- Slow drains
- Sewage backups
- Contact with disease-carrying bacteria
- Unnecessary costly repairs
- Contamination of water sources



Figure A – Top view of a section of 4 inch cast iron pipe from a condominium experiencing severe FOG buildup.

- ✓ **Do not put oil and grease in covered collection containers.**
- ✓ **Do not scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using the garbage disposal**
- ✓ **Do not remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease.**

**DO NOT pour oil and grease down the drain.**

**DO NOT put food scraps down the drain.**

**DO NOT rinse off oil and grease with hot water.**

**For more information contact:**

**Public Works Department  
727-384-0701**





# CONSTRUCTION IN SOUTH PASADENA

## YOUR GUIDE TO THE PERMITTING PROCESS

### **When do I need a permit?**

The following are some of the most common examples of when you will be required to obtain a permit. This list is NOT all inclusive. If you are unsure, place call or email the Community Improvement Department at 727-343-4192 or [buildingdepartment@mysouthpasadena.com](mailto:buildingdepartment@mysouthpasadena.com).

Additions/Remodels	Driveways	Garage doors	Shutters
Aluminum enclosures	Demolition of any kind	Kitchen remodels	Siding
Air handlers/condensers	Doors (exterior)	New construction	Sink new/replacement
Awnings	Drywall replacement	Pools and spas	Stairs
Bathroom remodels	Duct work	Railings	Toilet (new location)
Balcony repairs	Electrical Work	Roofing	Water Heaters
Carports	Fences	Screen rooms	Water lines
Cabinets and countertops	Fire alarm & sprinkler	Sheds	Windows
Concrete patios	Fireplaces	Shower/tub install	Wood decks

### **How do I get a permit?**

Once you have hired a licensed contractor they will fill out a permit application and submit all necessary paperwork to the Community Improvement Department.

Once your application is submitted, we will review your plans. Depending on the nature of the project, the review could involve several departments and may take 1-3 weeks.

Once it is determined that the plans satisfy all code requirements, the contractor will be notified of the approval and fees due. Upon payment, we will issue the building permit.

Inspections will be scheduled by your contractor as required by code. You will be given a permit packet which includes plans and specs as well as a placard. The entire permit packet must be available during all inspections.

From the day the permit is issued, you have 180 days (6 months) to begin work. Every approved inspection extends the permit for 180 days.

### **How do I find a Contractor?**

All contractors must be licensed either by the State of Florida or by the PCCLB ([www.pcclb.com](http://www.pcclb.com)). Ask to see their license and verify references from past customers.

Get a written estimate from several licensed contractors and be sure that the estimate includes ALL work to be done, the materials involved, date of completion and the total cost.

### **No permit required**

The following require no permits: painting, flooring, screen doors, interior doors, toilets in the same location, and screen replacement in existing screen room.

### **Permit Fees**

Permit fees are based on your contract price (labor and materials).

\$70.00 for the first \$1,000.00. \$20.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 and a plan review fee of 50% of the permit fee. There is a state surcharge of 2.5% that Building Departments are required to collect on all permits.





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## ALL PROPERTY IN THE CITY LIMITS OF SOUTH PASADENA IS SUBJECT TO FLOODING!

### CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA FLOOD FACTS

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies issued or renewed in the City of South Pasadena receives a 10% premium discount. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), this discount is the result of the City's qualifying as a Class 8 in the NFIP Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System. The City has achieved this rating through activities such as maintenance of drainage facilities, regulation of stormwater discharge and distribution of this information as part of the Community Outreach Program.

#### **Assistance is Available**

Publications pertaining to property protection, flood safety, etc. can be obtained at South Pasadena City Hall - 7047 Sunset Drive South, South Pasadena, FL, at the Community Improvement Department - 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South, South Pasadena, FL or through information links on the City of South Pasadena website: [www.mysouthpasadena.com](http://www.mysouthpasadena.com). Questions pertaining to flood zone, protection methods, flood elevation certificates, grant assistance, etc., please contact South Pasadena Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192.

#### **Flood Insurance Rate Maps**

The most recent Flood Insurance Rate Map for South Pasadena went into effect on August 24, 2021. The new flood maps are available at <https://floodmaps.pinellascounty.org/>. Since all of South Pasadena is in a Special Flood Hazard Area, it is important to know the base flood elevation of the property and the flood insurance purchase requirements. The City of South Pasadena has copies of elevation certificates for many structures in the community.

#### **Are you insured?**

Since 1851, only 18 hurricane seasons have passed without a known storm impacting the State of Florida. Property losses due to flooding are not covered under most standard homeowner insurance policies. You can protect your home and its contents with flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP is a federal program that enables property owners to buy flood insurance at reasonable rates in participating communities. In return, participating communities carry out flood management measures designed to protect life and property from future flooding. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through its Federal Insurance Administration administers the NFIP.

As a Special Flood Hazard Area, flood insurance is required for all properties in the City of South Pasadena with a federally backed mortgage. To find out more about flood insurance for your property and its contents, contact your insurance agent. There is usually a waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effects, so do not wait until a storm threatens before you secure the flood insurance you need.

#### **Flood Threat**

Flooding in South Pasadena can be caused by heavy rainfall that occurs in short periods of time, as is common during summer thunderstorms, and by tidal surges that accompany coastal storms, tropical storms and hurricanes. Hurricane tidal surges are the City's greatest threat and can cause flooding up to 24 hours before the "eye" of the storm reaches the coast. Because the City has low land elevations and abuts the Boca Ciega Bay, the flood threat is significant. FEMA has identified the entire City as a Special Flood Hazard Area on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. These maps establish base flood elevations for development within these areas with the lowest permitted habitable flood levels ranging from 10 to 15 feet above sea level.

#### **Flood Warning Systems**

The Pinellas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) works with the National Weather Service, the National Hurricane Center, and the local municipalities to monitor flood and storm threats. This information is then used to alert communities to the threats they are facing. Flood alerts are issued by: TV 8; TV 13; TV 10; and Bay News 9. For evacuation centers or other information on flooding, you can write to: Pinellas County Emergency Management, 10750 Ulmert Rd., Building 1, Suite 267, Largo, FL 33778 OR visit the County website: [www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/shelteroptions.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/shelteroptions.htm).

#### **Storm Warnings**

- Tropical storm watch: Tropical storm conditions are possible within 48 hours.
- Tropical storm warning: Tropical storm conditions are expected within 36 hours.
- Hurricane watch: Hurricane conditions are possible within 48 hours.
- Hurricane warning: Hurricane conditions expected within 36 hours. All preparations should be complete.





### **Flood Safety Measures**

South Pasadena residents can protect themselves from flood hazards by taking measures to ensure the safety of life and property before, during, and after a flood occurs. These safety measures include:

#### **Prepare before the storm**

- Know your evacuation plan. Evacuation time for South Pasadena could take hours because the City's evacuation routes are prone to flooding early in a storm. Pinellas County has posted all primary evacuation routes with blue and white signs.
- Review your family disaster plan.
- Check your survival kit, important insurance papers, and identification ready. Verify that you have food, water, medication and toiletry essentials early to avoid long lines and shortages.
- Prepare your home and yard (be sure you have all materials and tools necessary to shutter windows)
- If you have special needs, be sure your caregiver begins to implement your plan and, you are registered for a special needs shelter if necessary.
- Gather special supplies for infants, children, seniors and pets.

Pinellas County EMS, the South Pasadena Fire Department and PSTA work together to provide evacuation assistance to those persons requiring special assistance enrolled in the County's special assistance program. If you are physically impaired or require special assistance to evacuate, write to: Pinellas County Emergency Management, Public Safety Complex, 10750 Ulmerton Rd., Building 1, Suite 267, Largo, FL 33778 or call 727-464-3800 to register. You can also call your nearest fire department or home health care provider. Do not wait for a storm to strike! Write or call as soon as possible for an application requesting placement into the program.

### **Preparation for evacuation**

Keep a battery-powered radio tuned to local stations, and if an evacuation order is given, comply with it. Even if the evacuation order turns out to be unnecessary, leaving the area is better than potentially risking the loss of life by staying.

When preparing your home prior to evacuation, it is advisable to:

- Turn off all the electricity, with the possible exception of the power to your refrigerator;
- Fill your tubs, sinks, and any available containers with water, in case fresh water is not available after the storm (Sanitize tubs and sinks with bleach, rinse and then fill);
- Shut off your water line to prevent any contaminated water from backing up into your house;
- Move as many valuables as possible to upper floors;
- Elevate furniture, if possible;
- Create floodway openings in non-habitable areas such as garage doors;
- Seal off sewer lines to the dwelling to prevent the backflow of sewer waters. After the storm the City will be working as quickly as possible to ensure a speedy and safe return to your homes.
- Keep a battery-powered radio with you so you can listen for emergency updates and news reports.
- Use a battery-powered flash light to inspect a damaged home (The flashlight should be turned on outside before entering- the battery may produce a spark that could ignite leaking gas, if present).
- Stay off the streets. If you must go out, watch for fallen objects; downed electrical wires; and weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks.
- Do not drive through a flooded area. (Don't Drown, Turn Around)
- Keep children away from the floodwaters, ditches, culverts and storm drains.
- Clean everything that has been wet.
- Use the phone only to report life-threatening emergencies.
- Watch out for animals, especially poisonous snakes.

More people are injured after a storm due to unsafe buildings, downed power lines, contaminated water, and other unsafe conditions than are injured in the storm itself. Carefully check for structural damage prior to entering a building. Use caution when re-entering the structure. Turn on electricity one breaker at a time and watch for smoke or sparks.

### **Property Protection**

While recent construction practices and regulations have made new homes less prone to flooding, many existing structures remain susceptible. Retrofitting non-compliant buildings is a recommended approach to reduce flooding. While the property itself remains subject to flooding, the building is modified to prevent or minimize flooding of habitable space. Several approaches to retrofitting are:

- Elevation of the structure above flood protection levels
- Construction of barriers (floodwalls, berms)

- Dry flood proofing (water tight floor and wall systems)
- Wet flood proofing (construction that allows the entry and passage of flood water). This is only allowed for non-habitable structures.
- Removing or relocating items of value to higher elevation levels.

### **Floodplain Management**

The City's Stormwater Management Regulations require new construction and substantial remodeling to meet stringent standards in order to increase the survivability of structures, reduce the cost of repair and reconstruction after a storm event, and ensure that reasonably priced flood insurance is available.

### **Drainage System Maintenance**

The City continues to improve and maintain its stormwater management system. This has reduced the amount and duration of road and yard flooding during the rainy season. The City routinely inspects and performs maintenance on drainage ditches, catch basins, and culverts that comprise the City's stormwater drainage system. If you see any areas that may need additional maintenance or if you experience any localized drainage problems, please call South Pasadena Public Works Department at (727) 384-0701.

### **Permit Requirements**

The City administers flood management regulations that are designed to minimize the potential of flood losses in the City. Any development requires a permit from the City of South Pasadena Community Improvement Department, which ensures that all construction meets the Flood Insurance Rate Map (F.I.R.M.) elevation requirements. Such regulations include minimum elevations of lowest living floor areas plus an additional two (2) feet of elevation known as freeboard. Flood proofing of non-residential property will also have an additional two (2) feet of freeboard added. The placement of fill shall only be allowed for stem wall foundation and limitations on non-substantial improvements, additions and reconstruction. Following NFIP standards, the city mandates that if the cost of any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building's depreciated value, then such work is considered a substantial improvement. The existing building is then required to meet the same standards as a new building.

The NFIP standards relating to substantial improvement are enforced through the development and building permitting process. Applicants for remodeling or repair of nonconforming structures (i.e. buildings which are not elevated to or above the base flood elevation) are required to submit a cost estimate of the improvement and, if necessary, an appraised value of the existing structure, to determine if the work constitutes a substantial improvement.

The building permit review is a necessary component of its participation in the NFIP, which make flood insurance available to those who want to protect their property from flood damage. Development that occurs without permits threatens the City's continued participation in the NFIP and the ability to obtain flood insurance. If you see development occurring without permits, protect your rights and immediately contact the Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192. Two funding programs are available to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings insured under the National Flood Insurance Program.

### **Flood Mitigation Assistance**

Qualified mitigation activities include elevation of the existing home or commercial structure, acquisition of the property, or relocation of insured structure out of the floodplain. The structure must be insured under the NFIP and have suffered 2 or more flood losses; each with a claim of at least \$1,000 within any ten-year period since 1978.

### **Severe Repetitive Loss Program**

A Severe Repetitive Loss property is defined as a residential property that is insured under the National Flood Insurance Program and has at least 4 Flood Insurance claim payments (building and contents) over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000 within any ten-year period; Or has at least 2 separate Flood Insurance claims payments (building payments only) have been made with cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building within any ten-year period.

For more information go to:

FEMA/NFIP at [www.fema.gov/](http://www.fema.gov/)

Pinellas County Emergency Management at [www.pinellascounty.org/emergency](http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency)

Florida Department of Emergency Management at [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org)

The Official Hurricane Guide for Pinellas County at <http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/default.htm#hurricaneguide>



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**A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT IS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US!  
ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN!**

**Pollution Prevention Is Up To You!**

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants? The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. Untreated pollutants such as concrete, mortar, fertilizer in the grass clippings and many more flow directly into creeks, rivers, lakes and the ocean and are toxic to fish and other wildlife. Disposing of these materials into the storm drains causes serious ecological problems - and is PROHIBITED by law.

**Best Management Practices**

Best Management Practices, or BMP's, are procedures that help to prevent pollutants such as chemicals, concrete, mortar, pesticides, waste, paint and other hazardous materials from entering our storm drains. All of these sources add up to a pollution problem. But each of us can do our part to keep storm water clean. The efforts add up to a pollution solution!

**What Can You Do?**

- **Never** sweep or blow grass/lawn clippings into driveways, sidewalks, streets, gutters or storm drains.
- **Always** store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff and away from storm drains and waterways.
- **Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter and storm drains.**
- **Never dispose of washout into the street, storm drains, landscape drains, drainage ditches or streams.**
- Look for and clean up material that may have traveled away from your property after each days work.
- If you or your contractor keep a dumpster at your site, be sure it is securely covered with a lid or tarp when not in use.
- **Protect** dry materials from the wind. Don't allow dry products to blow into driveways, sidewalks, streets, gutters or storm drains.
- **Don't** place fill material, soil or compost piles on the sidewalk or street.
- During cleanups, check the street and gutters for sediment, refuse or debris. Look around the corner or down the street and clean up any materials that may have already traveled away from your property.

**WHO CAN YOU CONTACT?**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING, PLEASE CALL:**

**Community Improvement Department  
(727) 343-4192**

**Public Works Department  
(727) 384-0701**

Rev. 09/2022

**REPORT ILLICIT DISCHARGES**

**169-25. ILLICIT DISCHARGES**

Specific prohibitions. Any discharge to the stormwater system containing sewage, oil, or petroleum products, grass clippings, fertilizers, paints or paint solvents, industrial waste or other waste materials or containing any materials in violation of federal, state, county or municipal laws, rules, regulations, orders or permits is prohibited.

**Stormwater 24-Hour Watchline  
727-464-5060**



## DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS

**Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Center (HEC<sub>3</sub>)**  
**2855 109th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL**

Monday-Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Closed on Sunday and all observed county holidays.

For more information including what items to bring and what not to bring, call (727) 464-7500 or visit [www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste](http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste).

### Automotive/Lead Acid Batteries/Used Motor Oil

**Local drop off:** Advanced Auto Parts 4901 Gulfport Blvd. (727) 323-2971  
 They will accept up to 5 gallons of motor oil.  
 Most auto parts retailers accept old vehicle batteries at no charge.

### White Goods/Appliances (electric or gas)

**Contact:** Waste Connections at 727-572-6800  
**NO FREON ACCEPTED**

### Household Grease

Use paper towels to absorb grease, place in regular trash.

## [2022 Pinellas County Recycle Guide](#)

For more information on items that can/cannot be recycled, call 727-464-7500 or visit [www.pinellascounty.org/recycle](http://www.pinellascounty.org/recycle).

**What CAN I recycle?**  
 Items must be clean and dry.

<p><b>GLASS</b></p> <p><b>BOTTLES &amp; JARS</b></p>	<p><b>METAL</b></p> <p><b>FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE CANS</b></p>
<p><b>PLASTIC</b></p> <p><b>BOTTLES &amp; JUGS</b></p>	<p><b>PAPER &amp; CARDBOARD</b></p>

**What does NOT belong in my recycle bin?**  
 When in doubt, leave it out.

<p><b>PLASTIC BAGS OR BAGGED RECYCLING</b></p>	<p><b>CLOTHING</b></p>	<p><b>YARD WASTE</b></p>	<p><b>FOAM PACKAGING PRODUCTS</b></p>
<p><b>TISSUES, PAPER TOWELS OR NAPKINS</b></p>	<p><b>WIRES, CORDS OR HOSES</b></p>	<p><b>FOOD WASTE OR FOOD RESIDUE</b></p>	



**Not sure what you can recycle.... Very easy tool to use! Go to the website!**

[www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/getridofit/default.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/getridofit/default.htm)



**All you do is enter an address to see all available recycling & disposal options.**

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed on the following dates:

Good Friday  
Friday, April 7, 2023  
(City Hall closes at 12 Noon)

Memorial Day  
Monday, May 29, 2023

Independence Day  
Tuesday, July 4, 2023

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CALL 9-1-1 IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, DO NOT CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION NUMBER.**

### SIGN UP FOR E-NEWS!



Sign up for e-news on the City's website to receive the latest news and future newsletters via email. Visit [www.mysouthpasadena.com](http://www.mysouthpasadena.com).



### UPCOMING SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETINGS

All meetings are tentative. Please check the City's website or call the City Clerk's office at 727-347-4171 for up-to-date information about meeting dates and options for attending.

- April 4 9:00 a.m. Agenda Meeting followed by Administrative Workshop Meeting
- April 11 6:30 p.m. Special Commission Meeting followed by Regular Commission Meeting
- April 18 9:00 a.m. Administrative Workshop Meeting
- May 2 9:00 a.m. Agenda Meeting followed by Administrative Workshop Meeting
- May 9 7:00 p.m. Regular Commission Meeting
- May 16 9:00 a.m. Administrative Workshop Meeting
- June 6 9:00 a.m. Agenda Meeting followed by Administrative Workshop Meeting
- June 13 7:00 p.m. Regular Commission Meeting
- June 20 9:00 a.m. Administrative Workshop Meeting
- June 27 9:00 a.m. Agenda Meeting followed by Administrative Workshop Meeting
- July 3 9:00 a.m. Regular Commission Meeting

\* Meeting Dates Subject to Change

### COMMISSION MEETINGS

South Pasadena City Commission Meetings are broadcast live on Spectrum Channel 643 and rebroadcast the following Wednesday and Monday at 11:00 a.m.



Brochures and pamphlets on environmentally friendly landscaping are available at the Public Works Department or call 727-384-0701.

<p><b>CITY HALL</b> 7047 Sunset Drive South Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Mayor, Commission, Finance &amp; Administration Departments</b> Phone: 727-347-4171 Fax: 727-345-0518</p>	<p><b>FIRE STATION</b> 911 Oleander Way S.</p> <p><b>Public Safety Department</b> Phone: 727-344-1666 Fax: 727-381-4324</p> <p><b>Pinellas County Sheriff</b> Phone: 727-582-6200</p>	<p><b>CITY HALL ANNEX</b> 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="842 1787 1166 1902"> <p><b>Community Improvement Department</b> Phone: 727-343-4192 Fax: 727-381-4819</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1166 1787 1524 1902"> <p><b>Public Works Department</b> Phone: 727-384-0701 Fax: 727-347-4254</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Community Improvement Department</b> Phone: 727-343-4192 Fax: 727-381-4819</p>	<p><b>Public Works Department</b> Phone: 727-384-0701 Fax: 727-347-4254</p>
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