



# ISLAND VIBES

the Official Newsletter for the City of South Padre Island



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

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



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Below are highlights from the January 7<sup>th</sup> Regular City Council Meeting!

- Swearing in of the newly elected Council Member Place 2, Aarin Hartwell.
- Approval of submission of the T-Mobile Hometown Grant application for upgrades to the SPI Bird and Butterfly Park.
- Appointment of Rees Langston as the new Mayor Pro-Tem by Resolution No. 2026-01 for the term to begin January 7, 2026, for one year or until superseded by a new City Council appointment.



To watch this meeting online click or scan the QR code.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Saturday Recycling

Date: Every Saturday  
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Where: 4501 Padre Blvd  
[Click here](#) for event details.

### SPI Market Days

Date: January 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> &  
February 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Where: SPI Convention Center  
[Click here](#) for event details.

### SPI Chamber of Commerce hosts the Island Showcase

Date: February 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Where: SPI Convention Center  
[Click here](#) for event details.

### 30th Annual Winter Outdoor Wildlife Expo

Date: February 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Where: 6801 Padre Boulevard  
[Click here](#) for event details.

### Indoor Kite Fest

Date: February 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Where: SPI Convention Center  
[Click here](#) for event details.

There's no shortage of events happening on South Padre Island! [Click here](#) to join the fun and see what's happening.



Recognition of outgoing Council Member Place 2, Kerry Schwartz.



Sworn-in Council Member Place 2, Aarin Hartwell.

Thank you, Kerry Schwartz, for your steadfast commitment and diligent service to the City of South Padre Island as a Council Member! We wish you every success in your future endeavors!

Below is a highlight from the January 9<sup>th</sup> Special City Council Meeting!

- Approval of Resolution No. 2026-02 authorizing the City Manager to execute the closing documents for the purchase of land related to the Wind Water Sport Venue Tax Project.



To watch this meeting online scan or click the QR code.

## See You at the Beach!

Join us in beautifying the beach with the help of Adopt-a-Beach! Ready to volunteer? Use this [link](#) to learn more!



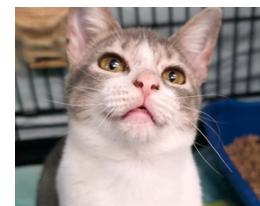
Date: Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



Location: [Beach Access #8](#)

[Whitecap Circle](#) between E. Red Snapper St. and E. Swordfish St.



## Pet of the Week

Missy is an adult cat that loves attention and people, is good with other cats, and litter box trained.

Meet your future fur friend at Friends of Animal Rescue at 4908 Padre Blvd.

Complete the adoption application [here](#).



Follow us! @CityofSPI



## Welcome, New and Returning City of South Padre Island Committee and Task Force Members!

Congratulations to all the new and returning members of the City of South Padre Island Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful Committee, Shoreline Task Force, and Special Events Committee! Get ready for your new 2-year term starting in 2026 and ending in December 2027.

Thank you to all the previous members of the Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful Committee, Shoreline Task Force, and Special Events Committee for your hard work and dedication!

### Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful Committee

-Committee Member: Laurie Coker

### Shoreline Task Force

-Task Force Members: Denise Franke, Sarah McKinlay, and Stephen Murphy

### Special Events Committee

-Committee Member: Ginny Stapleton

## Public Works Project Updates

Below are updates on a few projects that the Public Works Department has been working on! Don't forget! To report any issues or other concerns with streets, parks, and green spaces please email us at [pwcares@myspi.org](mailto:pwcares@myspi.org).



### PR-100 Overflow Parking Facility Project

The PR-100 Overflow Parking Facility project began on October 20, 2025. The biggest part of the project is complete! Next up is the installation of decorative lamp poles and pedestrian crosswalk signals, and finishing the landscaping!

### Pickleball Park

Phase #2 of the Pickleball Courts has been in progress. Recently, the foundations for the pergola and ADA bathroom were poured! Next up will be irrigation and the sodding of the grass. The final cherries on top will be the water fountain and a matching fence with the SPI Historical Museum.

### Joe Buck & Mary Jo Camp Island's Legends Park

Pickleballers, soon you'll get to pick between 7 courts to go ball! The City Council approved the construction of 3 new pickleball courts and 2 additional parking spaces at the Joe Buck & Mary Jo Camp Island's Legends Park with a budget of \$70,950!

