

# ISLAND VIBES

*the Official Newsletter for the City of South Padre Island*

## STAY IN THE KNOW

### EVENTS

#### Saturday Recycling

Date: Every Saturday  
Time: 8 AM to 11 AM  
Where: 4501 Padre Blvd  
South Padre Island, TX 78597  
[Click here](#) for event details.

#### Coffee and Conversation

Guest Speakers: Janeth Rico, Rey Tejada, and Workforce Solutions  
Date: May 11th  
Time: 9:00 AM  
Where: Padre Island Brewing Co.  
[Click here](#) for event details.

#### National Travel and Tourism Rally Day

Date: May 10th  
Time: 11:00 AM  
Where: South Padre Island Visitor Center  
[Click here](#) for event details.

#### Shallow Sport Owners Fishing Tournament

Date: May 12th - 13th  
Time: 7:00 AM  
Where: South Padre Island Convention Center  
[Click here](#) for event details.

#### Sea Turtle Inc. 5k Kemp's Krawl

Date: May 13th  
Time: 8:00 AM  
Where: Holiday Inn Beach Resort  
[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 this week.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

#### Tuesday • May 9th

3 PM • Shoreline Task Force

#### Tuesday • May 9th

10:00 AM • Board of Ethics

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

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some highlights from the May 3rd City Council Regular Meeting! During public comments, Mayor Pro-Tem Kerry Schwartz, made a proclamation in celebration of the Whitecap Circle Beach Access 8 Grand Opening.

- Approval for a budget amendment in the amount of \$350,347.92 to allocate reimbursements related to the Padre Boulevard sidewalk project.
- Approval for Resolution 2023-06 which approves a plan to issue a series of tax notes to finance street, sidewalk, median and related drainage improvements. It also authorizes city staff and professional advisors to take all actions deemed necessary in connection with the preparation for the issuance of such tax notes.

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



### Short Term Rental Update

Anyone who owns, operators, or advertises a short term rental (STR) will need to obtain a short term rental license. The annual license fee will be \$125 per rental unit. All old and new short term rentals will need to be registered at [www.myspi.org/hottax](http://www.myspi.org/hottax) where each unit will receive a new license number. These fees will provide funding towards the new STR program and enforcement.

If you have any questions regarding the Short Term Rental License email us at [hottax@myspi.org](mailto:hottax@myspi.org) or call (956) 761 8382.

View the press release [here](#).

Do you want to explore the Island? Below are some upcoming events that you can bring the whole family to.



Join our social media to get updates on the City of South Padre Island

**Travel Rally Day**  
May 10th  
11:00 AM

**Shallow Sport Owners Fishing Tournament**  
May 12th - 13th  
7:00 AM

**Sea Turtle Inc. 5k Kemp Krawl**  
May 13th  
8:00 AM

# WHITECAP CIRCLE GRAND OPENING



On May 3rd community members and staff gathered together to celebrate the Grand Opening of Whitecap Circle Beach Access 8. The Whitecap Circle Beach Access 8 project began in 2020. This project introduced 20 new beach access parking spaces along with two new permanent restrooms. Whitecap Circle is the first beach access to have permanent restrooms constructed since 2006. The design used for these

restrooms will be implemented across the Island at different beach accesses. Not only that but the improved walk over is also ADA friendly and has two wash stations for those leaving the beach. The walk over was also built to go over the dunes instead of through them to foster a healthier dune system. Whitecap Circle has been the first fully developed beach access since 2017, with a total funding of \$1,366,970.22. The Texas General Land Office's Coastal Management Program contributed \$200,000 (14.6%), and the City of South Padre Island contributed the rest of the \$1,166,970.22 (85.4%) needed to complete the project. This project was funded in part by a Texas Coastal Management Program grant approved by the Texas Land Commissioner, providing financial assistance under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, awarded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office for Coastal Management, pursuant to NOAA Award No. NA20NOS4190184.



## Arbor Day

South Padre Island Birding, Nature Center & Alligator Sanctuary partnered with Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful Committee to plant native flora at Turtle Park in honor of Arbor Day. These efforts help expand native habitat for our Monarch butterflies and migratory birds. You can learn more about South Padre Island flora and fauna by visiting the South Padre Island Birding, Nature Center & Alligator Sanctuary on May 6th for Free Admission Day!

## Pet of the Week

Frosty is a young Siamese cat who arrived at Friends of Animal Rescue (FOAR) on April 13th. He had a mouth and jaw injury that was infected. Even though he was in pain Frosty was very loving to FOAR staff. Frosty was treated immediately and three weeks later, he received a clean bill of health and is ready for his FUR-ever home. Frosty is one of the friendliest cats in the shelter.

He is the purrfect cat and loves everyone, including other cats. Our cat adoption fee is \$25. Frosty has already completed his vetting which includes spay/neuter, vaccinations, FIV and Felv testing, and microchip. Meet Frosty at Friends of Animal Rescue, 4908 Padre Blvd, between 10-4. Ready to adopt? Complete our online application [here](#).

