



**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH
COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

155 Corey Avenue
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Tuesday, April 21, 2026
9:00 AM

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

REGULAR MEETING

1. Approval of the Agenda -

Action Request: Motion to approve the April 21, 2026 agenda.

2. Audience Comments -

If you wish to speak, please complete and submit a speaker's card to the City Clerk. When called, approach the podium and state your name and address for the record. Comments are limited to 3 minutes for both general and agenda items. Public comment on agenda items will be taken when that item is called.

3. Action Items -

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2025 Regular and January 20, 2026 Special

b. Election of Committee Officers for 2026-27

Sec. 22-108.(a) The parks and recreation advisory committee shall meet bi-annually, at the first meeting held following the appointment of members, organize by electing a chair and vice-chair. The committee may move to retain current officers.

Current Chair: Mike Wise
Vice Chair: Vacant

Requested Action:

Motion to APPOINT _____ as the Committee Chair for 2026-27.

Motion to APPOINT _____ as the Committee Vice Chair for 2026-27.

4. Presentations -
 - a. **Parks and Recreation Update**
5. Items for Discussion -
6. Adjournment -

APPEAL: In accordance with 286.0105, Florida Statute (Notices of meetings and hearings must advise that a record is required to appeal), if a person decides to appeal any decision made by this committee, board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA): In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Florida Statutes, if any person with a disability defined by the ADA needs special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, then not later than two business days prior to the proceeding, he or she should contact City Hall at (727) 367-2735.

**The public is cordially invited to attend this meeting.
All agenda material is available for review at City Hall or www.stpetebeach.org.**

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 18, 2025 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Mike Wise, Chair
Liz Sinatra, Vice Chair
Daryl Dykens, Member
Kent Gordon, Member

ABSENT: Jayne Stitik, Member

STAFF PRESENT: Mandy Edmunds, Interim Recreation Director
Ginny Bodkin, Deputy City Clerk
Eileen Torres, Operations Manager Public Property Division

Chair Wise called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Presentations – Parks Presentation

Eileen Torres, Operations Manager of the Public Property Division, presented a status update on parks. Her presentation is part of the meeting record.

- Mulch installed at all dog parks except Vina del Mar; a new contractor is expected by end of December. Ms. Torres will follow up with the contractor on using mulch vs. bark.
- Egan Park concession and restrooms are completed, and fascia will be the next step.
- The Egan Park big field is scheduled for the end of the year with work to be done in house with an estimated completion in December.
- The new Hurley Park playground was completed and there was a ribbon cutting on 10/14/25.
- A yearly maintenance schedule was reviewed. The city strives to stay within the timelines to be proactive for health, safety and aesthetics.
- Ms. Torres reviewed a list of what is included in weekly maintenance for parks to remain clean, healthy and visually appealing and address issues promptly.
- At the request of the committee at their last meeting, the number of SeeClickFix orders for vegetation, maintenance, irrigation and benches that were created and closed for April through September was reviewed.
- Post storm updates were reviewed – Warren Webster, Aquatic Center, Community Center, Suntan Art Center, interior Rec Center repairs, and Egan Park.

Ms. Torres answered committee members' questions. She oversees two crew chiefs; she gives them the works orders and they set schedules, conferring with her if deadlines cannot be met. She will check into two reported dead trees at McKinney Park. Member Gordon raised concerns about communication, follow-up, and decision-making related to various parks issues. He noted that he never saw a post-hurricane parks survey report and suggested such documentation should be included in future planning, especially regarding tree assessments. He also expressed surprise that the shuffleboard court building demolition appeared in bid notices without prior explanation, questioning whether such decisions are made by staff or the commission. He asked about the status of FEMA's approval and reimbursement for the demolition. Regarding Ercius Park, he referenced ongoing complaints about the deteriorated fishing pier and questioned whether repairs or demolition are planned, suggesting removal could be more appropriate given a better nearby pier. Finally, he recommended adding signage or QR codes at project sites to inform the public about what is happening, as current conditions give the impression that no action is being taken.

2. Approval of the Agenda –

Motion: Member Gordon moved, and Member Dykens seconded to approve the November 18, 2025 agenda as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

3. Audience Comments – None.

4. Action Items

- a. Approval of Minutes – July 15, 2025

Motion: Member Dykens moved, and Member Gordon seconded to approve the July 15, 2025 minutes as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

- b. Review and Approval 2026 Meeting Dates

Motion: Member Gordon moved, and Chair Wise seconded to approve and accept the 2026 committee meeting dates as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

5. Items for Discussion

- a. Fee Study and Co-Sponsored Special Events

Mandy Edmunds, Interim Recreation Director, reviewed a presentation (which is part of the meeting record) and asked for committee feedback regarding the fee study and co-sponsored special events. explaining that the purpose is to evaluate the current program, facility, and rental fees; compare them to neighboring municipalities; and develop a transparent, equitable, and financially sustainable fee structure. The committee’s input will help shape recommendations that will eventually go to the City Commission.

Ms. Edmunds explained the purpose and framework of the fee study. The city is analyzing fees with the help of consultant Raftelis. Recreation services fall into three cost-recovery tiers - Tier 1 (Community benefit) – parks, playgrounds, open spaces (traditionally 100% taxpayer funded), Tier 2 (Mixed benefit) – leagues, classes, camps (recommended ~70% recovery), and Tier 3 (Individual benefit) – facility rentals, adult leagues, private lessons (target 100% recovery). She added that current city cost recovery is significantly below recommended levels, relying heavily on taxpayers. Committee input was requested; Ms. Edmunds suggested a meeting in January where members could provide their feedback on:

- Values that should guide the fee structure (affordability, fairness, access, cost recovery).
- Potential impacts of higher or lower fees on residents and participation.
- Balancing user fees vs. taxpayer subsidies.
- Perceptions of current fees.
- Groups that may need protection (e.g., low-income families).

Ms. Edmunds encouraged members to talk with residents before the detailed January presentation. No public outreach has been conducted yet; that will occur after committee input. The Committee requested a copy of current fees, comparative data from other municipalities, and more clarity on cost structures.

Equity and affordability tools were discussed including the consideration of expanding scholarships or sliding scales (currently only available for summer camp), resident vs. non-resident rates and peak-time pricing, existing partnerships such as Silver Sneakers/Renew Active, which reimburse the city for eligible participants—members stated this is not widely known and should be advertised more clearly.

Participation and class viability were discussed. Some classes have low attendance (e.g., Zumba). The fee study will review instructor splits, class length, overhead, and true cost of offering programs.

Ms. Edmunds introduced a discussion re-evaluating city co-sponsorship policy for special events. Current practice includes waiving special event permit fees and some EMS/sheriff costs, The organizer provides insurance, hold harmless forms, site plan, and runs the event. A concern was raised about the requirements for EMS, sheriff, and fire presence that appear inconsistent or excessive for small neighborhood events. Member Gordon wanted clarification on who sets thresholds such as the 250-person trigger for EMS and whether rules stem from law, insurance requirements, or tradition. He suggested comparing requirements to the Corey Avenue Sunday Market, which functions smoothly with minimal city services. Other committee recommendations included reassessing safety requirements to reduce unnecessary costs while maintaining safety, creating post-event reports to track incidents, attendance, and need for city services, reviewing financials of events—especially nonprofits—to ensure fee waivers are appropriate, and ensuring the committee has meaningful oversight and approval rather than simply rubber-stamping requests.

Goals moving forward were to improve transparency around fees and co-sponsorships and balance accessibility, safety, and financial sustainability. Ms. Edmunds concluded that at the January meeting she would return with the fee study results, current and proposed fee schedules, more information on event requirements, and data requested by the committee.

The members confirmed their availability to meet on January 20, 2026 at 9:00 AM to review and make recommendations on the fee study.

Member Gordon raised concerns about communication, access, and maintenance issues. He noted that during the Upham Beach renourishment, the City’s Facebook post inaccurately stated the entire beach was closed, even though one access point remained open without signage, leading residents to believe the beach was fully shut down. He questioned how communication decisions are made and whether better coordination with the communications manager could prevent confusion. Gordon also expressed frustration with unresolved or poorly completed maintenance requests submitted through SeeClickFix, citing delayed repairs, partial or substandard work, and inadequate oversight. He suggested improvements such as requiring photos of completed repairs, clearer next steps and timelines, and stronger quality control. He emphasized his willingness to help but stressed that proper oversight should be handled by the City.

6. Adjournment – The next meeting is the special meeting on January 20, 2026.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:59AM.

These minutes will be considered for approval at the regular April 21, 2026 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting.

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

January 20, 2026 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Mike Wise, Chair
Kent Gordon, Member
Jayne Stitik, Member

ABSENT: Liz Sinatra, Vice Chair
Daryl Dykens, Member

STAFF PRESENT: Mandy Edmunds, Resident Services Director
Ginny Bodkin, Deputy City Clerk

Chair Wise called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Member Gordon moved, and Member Stitik seconded to approve the January 20, 2026 agenda as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

2. Audience Comments – No one came forward to comment

3. Action Items

a. Fee Study Presentation by Raftelis and Recommendations

Resident Services Director Mandy Edmunds explained that committee input is being sought as St. Pete Beach conducts a comprehensive city-wide fee study. This meeting would focus solely on recreation and aquatics, and member input would be for how the process (not necessarily the fees) stands now and moving forward to completion with this project.

She introduced Christina Conchilla, Senior Consultant from the local government consulting firm Raftelis, who has been working with staff for several months. Ms. Conchilla presented the methodology and preliminary findings of the fee study focusing on Parks and Recreation. The purpose and objectives are to establish a defensible, transparent methodology tied to actual costs of service, identify opportunities for additional revenue, fee consolidation, removal of obsolete fees, support long-term financial sustainability for Parks & Recreation operations and maintenance, and benchmark fees against peer communities (10 nearby jurisdictions plus YMCA, particularly for camps) to ensure competitiveness and avoid pricing users out of services.

She explained the methodology: all Parks & Recreation fees were grouped into seven service categories (pool, recreation programs, camps, gym, facility rentals, special events, and beach weddings). Department expenses were allocated to these categories based on staff time and operational effort. Current cost recovery was calculated by dividing fee revenue by allocated expenses for each category. Target cost recovery levels were then set using American Planning Association (APA) and National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards, which use a three-tier “cost recovery pyramid” based on public vs. individual benefit.

She presented a three-tier cost recovery framework: Tier 1 – High community benefit (0–20% cost recovery) - examples: parks, playgrounds, open space, which are primarily tax-supported with generally no or very low fees; Tier 2 – Mixed community/individual benefit (~70% target) - examples: pool use, camps, afterschool programs, youth leagues, special events. Costs are shared between users and taxpayers; Tier 3 – Individual benefit (100% target) - examples: facility and ballroom rentals, adult leagues, private lessons, trainers., which are intended to be fully user-funded. Recognizing the potential for “sticker shock,” especially in Tier 3, Rafelis recommends phasing increases over three years (longer if desired). The model allows adjustments if participation drops or fees become unreasonable.

In the benchmark findings, fee comparisons showed that results vary by program, but overall St. Pete Beach fees are lower than most peer communities, leaving room for increases while remaining competitive. Benchmarking acts as a “reality check” against strict cost recovery, ensuring fees do not exceed market tolerance. The YMCA data was primarily used for summer camp comparisons due to program similarity.

Six fee option alternatives were presented – 1) Full cost recovery in Year 1; 2) Phased cost recovery (default: 3 years); 3) Maximum peer benchmark rate; 4) Staff/board override rate for local judgment; 5) Keep current rate; 6) Consolidate or remove fee.

Regarding resident vs. non-resident fees, the study generally maintains the existing resident/non-resident fee ratio, recognizing residents’ tax support, however, some programs currently charge the same rate to both. A key policy question for the committee is whether to introduce or expand non-resident premiums for those services. Staff noted that recreation classes skew non-resident, special events skew resident, and pool use is roughly balanced.

Ms. Conchella summarized that input is being sought in two main areas - agreement with the cost recovery methodology and direction on resident vs. non-resident fees.

The committee’s recommendations were to prioritize participation and utilization over maximum cost recovery, emphasizing that maintaining high participation in classes, fitness programs, and pool use is more important than strictly achieving higher fees and raising fees to match benchmarks; cost recovery targets should not come at the expense of reduced usage or community engagement. Spreading fixed costs (such as instructors) across more participants is financially and socially beneficial. Regarding resident vs. non-resident fees, the committee expressed discomfort with charging different rates for residents and non-residents for classes and fitness programs. History shows that resident/non-resident class pricing reduced participation, particularly from neighboring communities. The current single-rate structure for classes is viewed as successful and should generally be maintained.

For programs that fill to capacity (especially camps and licensed childcare programs), the committee supported resident priority registration, followed by non-resident enrollment to fill remaining slots. The committee acknowledged that the pool and similar facilities are community amenities, funded for quality-of-life benefits rather than profit. There is no expectation of achieving 100% cost recovery for these services, as is common in all municipalities. The committee did not support setting fees simply to align with peer cities’ averages and expressed a strong preference for keeping programs accessible to friends, family, and neighboring communities, provided residents are not

displaced. The committee endorsed using the study’s override and phased approaches, recognizing that fee-setting requires judgment beyond formulas. Not all programs should be treated the same; larger “big ticket” items (rentals, camps) may warrant closer alignment with benchmarks, while classes should remain flexible.

Overall, the committee supported the study’s framework but recommended a balanced, utilization-first approach, maintaining single-rate classes, prioritizing residents only where capacity is constrained, using benchmarks as guardrails—not targets—and accepting that some parks and recreation services are intended primarily as community benefits rather than revenue sources.

Ms. Edmunds commented that facility rentals declined over the past few years due to COVID, storm impacts, and building maintenance issues (notably AC failures), making recent years unreliable for trend analysis. Utilization is now rebounding to roughly pre-disruption levels from about three years ago, averaging 25–30 rentals per year. Saturday bookings at the community center are filling again, with March and April largely booked, and activity at the Warren Webster facility is also increasing. Staff are launching a focused marketing effort to further boost rentals, which are viewed as high-value revenue opportunities that significantly offset operating costs.

4. Added Items for Discussion

Member Gordon praised the recent Warren Webster meeting for successfully engaging the shuffleboard community, which he noted had previously been largely invisible. He expressed concern that the shuffleboard courts and historic building have operated “under the radar” - not appearing in budgets, work orders, or the city website - and are largely maintained by users themselves, despite the courts being in poor condition and needing significant investment. He highlighted the planned demolition of a historically significant pavilion, damaged after user-added walls failed during a hurricane, questioning how such decisions occur with little broader oversight. He did not call for immediate action but urged the committee to be more aware and involved in oversight of shuffleboard and other recreational facilities, noting that these are city assets used by more than just a single group.

Member Gordon asked whether the informal dog beach is an official or public facility. Ms. Edmunds clarified that the area is not an official park or parcel, but a temporary sandbar that changes with dredging and storms. Once new signage is installed, it will be treated as open land rather than a city park, meaning standard park leash rules will no longer apply. The area will be posted as off-leash, use at your own risk, formalizing its informal status without designating it as a regulated dog park.

5. Adjournment – The next meeting is the special meeting on April 21, 2026.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 AM.

These minutes will be considered for approval at the April 21, 2026 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

April 21, 2026



Fee Study Update

- Status
 - Fee Study will stay in Draft until presented to Finance and Budget Board and to Commission
 - Receive input from both in addition to the input received from Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
 - Working on cost recovery models based on prior year participation numbers
- Next Steps
 - Adopt fees and implement



Facility Updates

- Recreation Center
 - Construction to wrap-up in mid May
 - Summer Camp to use Community Center
 - Classes will move to the Warren Webster for the summer
 - Grand Re-Opening Date: proposed August 1, 2026
- Don Vista
 - Re-enter into an agreement with Suntan through a MOU for use of the Gallery and classroom space; Fire to use space for fitness equipment
 - Re-Open Date: TBD based on construction progress
- Warren Webster
 - In Use



Parks Updates

- Egan Park
 - Completion of the installation of new irrigation systems and associated sod restoration
- Vina Del Park big Dog Park
 - Completion of installation of new organic mulch within the big Dog park and comprehensive clean up of the park
- McKenny Park
 - Completion of the comprehensive removal of dead trees and invasive landscaping
- Lazarillo Park
 - Completion of the comprehensive landscape cleanup to improve overall appearance to the park



Parks Updates

Yearly Maintenance Schedule

- January- Egan Park & Cidlowski - Trim & clean up of landscaping
- February – Belle Vista – Park and mini park trim and clean up landscaping
- March-Pass-A-Grill Park – clean up, trim landscaping and sod area where the Shuffleboard house was located
- April – Bayway & Lido Park – Trim and cleanup landscaping
- May – Citywide-fertilization of trees, stump grinding and weed control
- June – Storm preparedness city wide tree trimming and weed control
- July – No big projects peak tourism season – Regular maintenance



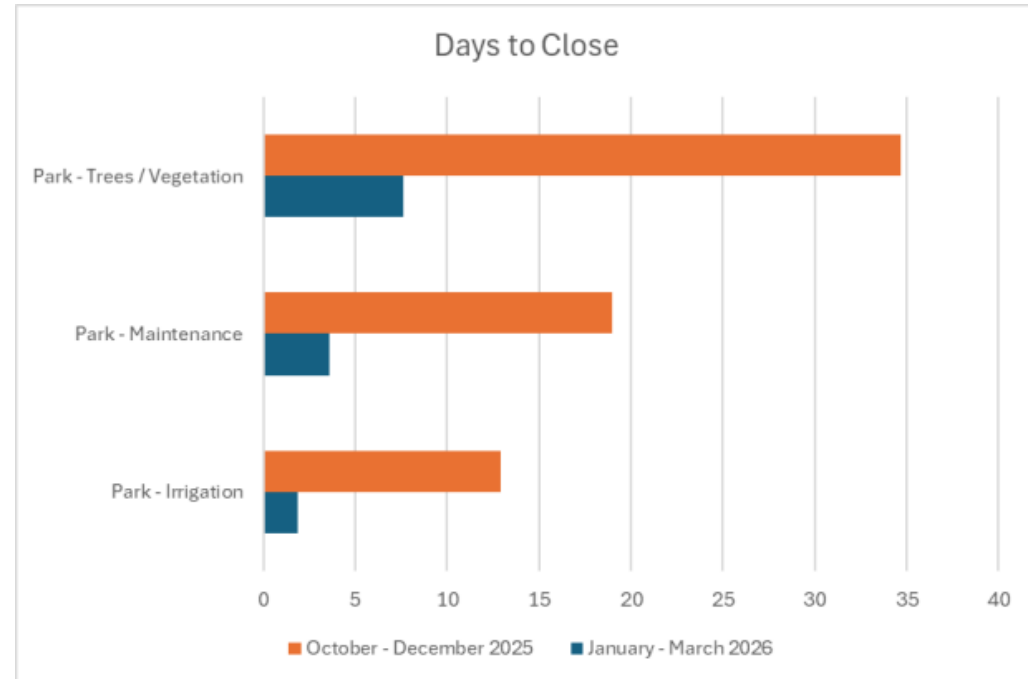
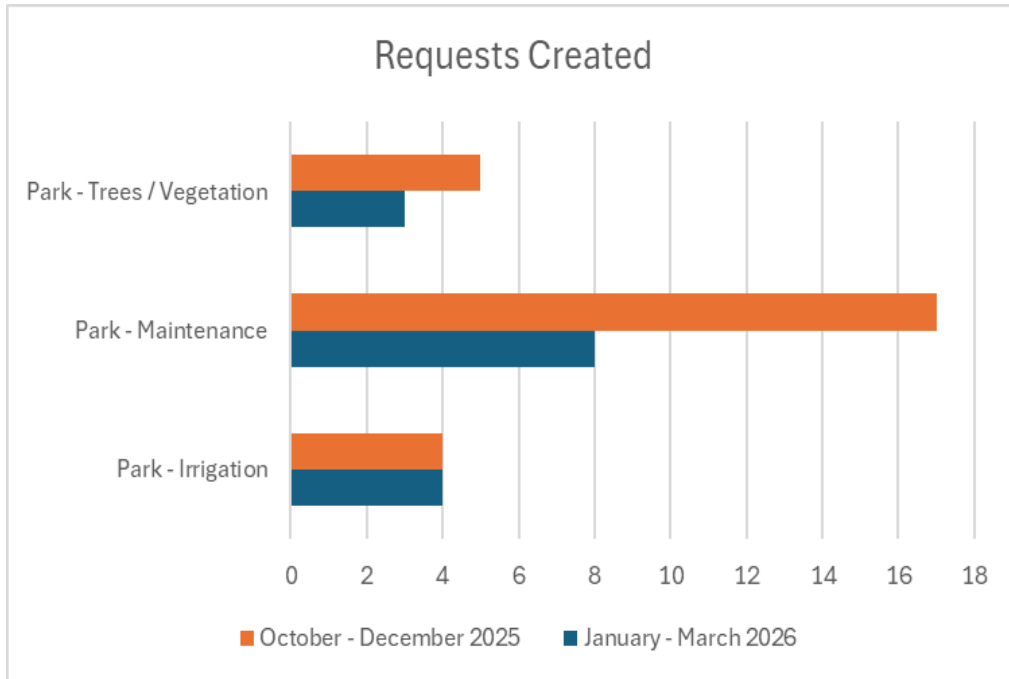
Parks Updates

Yearly Maintenance Schedule

- August- No big projects peak tourism season- Regular maintenance
- September - No big projects peak tourism season- Regular maintenance
- October – Don Vista Suntan Art Center & mini side park – Replacement of landscaping
- November- McKenny Park – Landscape upgrade
- December – Pass-A-Grille Park – Landscape upgrade



Parks Updates- SeeClixFix Community-Submitted reports



Programming, Childcare and Aquatics Update

- Programming
 - Hired Programming and Events Coordinator
 - Working on expanding current city led special events as well as adding new programs
- Childcare
 - Summer camp is full and on wait list
- Aquatics
 - American Red Cross Aquatics Examiner Service
 - The program is designed to assist aquatics facilities achieve a professional lifeguarding operation
 - Quarterly Maintenance Audits
 - Performed by Ferris Pools on the 1st Thursday in May, August, November and February
 - Monthly Maintenance Audits
 - Performed in house by the Aquatics Coordinator and documented



Co-Sponsorship Application Requests

Event	Description	Date	Location	Permittee	Non-Profit	Funding Requests		Permit Fee	Rental Fee	Parking Passes \$360 (120 passes x \$3)	Other
						Sheriff	EMS				
Pass A Grille Womens Club Home Tour	Home Tour fundraiser for PAG Womens Club	3/13/2027	Pass A Grille	Women's Club	Yes	Yes - (1)	No	\$500.00			Barricades, Cones, Trash bins
GBEMS Fish Broil	Fish Broil fundraiser for Gulf Beaches Elementary School	10/10/2026	Horan Park	Gulf Beaches Elementary School	Yes	No	No	\$50.00	Yes		Trash bins
Pass A Grille Community Church 6th Annual Concert Series	Concert series to promote outreach to the community	2/18/2027	16th Avenue	Pass A Grille Community Church	Yes	Yes - (1)	\$375.00	\$250.00			Barricades, Cones, Trash bins
		3/4/2027	16th Avenue	Pass A Grille Community Church		Yes - (1)	\$375.00	\$250.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
		3/18/2027	16th Avenue	Pass A Grille Community Church		Yes - (1)	\$375.00	\$250.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
		4/1/2027	16th Avenue	Pass A Grille Community Church		Yes - (1)	\$375.00	\$250.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
		4/15/2027	16th Avenue	Pass A Grille Community Church		Yes - (1)	\$375.00	\$250.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
St Pete Beach Classic	Running event to promote SPB as a tourist destination, running as a healthy lifestyle and generate funds for local charities	1/15/27- 1/17/27	Various roads throughout St Pete Beach	Finish Line Racing Events	No	\$20,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	Yes		Bonfire assistance from staff
PAGCA Holiday Beach Bonfire	Annual community bonfire	12/9/2026	Gulf Way and 16th Ave	Pass A Grille Community Association	Yes	Yes - (1)	\$500.00	\$250.00			Bonfire assistance from staff, tables, trash cans
Party Under the Lights	Bands, vendors and food to promote community gathering	10/17/2026	8th Avenue	Shadracks	No	Yes - (1)	\$750.00	\$250.00			Barricades, Cones, and Trash bins
		5/9/2027	8th Avenue	Shadracks	No	Yes - (1)	\$750.00	\$250.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
Crabs for a Cure	Fundraiser for Cancer society. Crab boil with a band	10/17/2026	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	\$500.00	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
Corey Avenue Arts and Crafts Festivals	Community arts and crafts fair	1/30/27-1/31/27	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	No	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
		4/3/27-4/4/27	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	No	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
		6/5/27-6/6/27	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	No	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
		10/3/26-10/4/26	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	No	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
		12/5/26-12/6/26	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	No	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
4th of July Celebration	Band to promote Corey Avenue	7/4/2027	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	\$750.00	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
Halloween	Sip and stroll with band on Friday; Band with vendors on Saturday to promote Corey Avenue	10/30/26-10/31/26	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	\$500.00	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
Octoberfest	Band, traditional Octoberfest Celebration to promote Corey Avenue	9/25/2027	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	\$500.00	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
Mardi Gras	Live entertainment and street vendors to promote Corey Avenue	2/9/2027	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	\$500.00	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
Seafood Festival	Seafood festival with bands, food and drinks to promote Corey Avenue	6/11/27-6/13/27	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	Yes - TBD	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
St Patricks Day Celebration	17th Annual Swigwam Anniversary Party and St Patricks Day Celebration with live music, DJ, childrens activities, food and beverages	3/13/2027	Corey Avenue	CABA	Yes	Yes	\$1,125.00	\$750.00			Barricades, cones, trash bins
Total								\$9,750.00	\$12,550.00		

Upcoming City Events

- July 4th
- Grand Re-Opening Party
- October Concerts
- Halloween Event
- Boat Parade with Festival of Trees and Viewing Party

