

Public Safety Committee

3:00 p.m., Thursday, July 1, 2021 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

Public Comment:

All citizens who wish to speak during the meeting must email their first and last name, address, and topic to City Clerk, Nicole DeNeane at <u>nicoled@iop.net</u> no later than **3:00 p.m. the business day before the meeting.** Citizens may also provide written public comment here: <u>https://www.iop.net/public-comment-form</u>

<u>AGENDA</u>

- **1. Call to order** and acknowledgment that the press and the public have been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.
- 2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes June 10, 2021

3. Citizens' Comments

4. Highlights of Departmental Reports

- a. Fire Department Deputy Chief Hathaway
 Presentation of the Fire Safe South Carolina Community Award
- b. Police Department Chief Cornett

5. Old Business

- a. Update on CARTA's Beach Shuttle between Isle of Palms and Mount Pleasant
- b. Discussion of dog leash rules and enforcement

6. New Business

- a. Discussion of unregulated or unsigned right of way parking
- b. Discussion of Beach Services Officers (BSOs) roles, responsibilities, and community expectations
- c. Discussion and consideration of installing a Stop sign at the intersection of 41st Avenue and Wildwood Road/Forest Trail
- d. Discussion of speeding issues on the Avenues and consideration of reducing the speed limit on the interior streets
- e. Update and discussion of study of the modifications to the IOP Connector
- f. Discussion and presentation of Tru-Grid material for right of way parking areas
- g. Discussion about law enforcement assistance from Charleston County Sherriff's Office and State Highway Patrol
- h. Discussion of challenges with the pedestrian median on Front Beach, Ocean Boulevard between 10th and 14th Avenue
- 7. Miscellaneous Business Next meeting date: 3:00 p.m., Thursday, August 5, 2021
- 8. Executive Session If needed.
- 9. Adjournment



Public Safety Committee 10:00am, Thursday, June 10, 2021 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC and broadcasted live on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Council members Bell, Pounds, and Ward

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Chief Cornett, Deputy Chief Hathaway, Lieutenant Forsythe

2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

MOTION: Council Member Pounds made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021 meeting, and Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

3. Citizens' Comments

Jennie Pierce of 9th Avenue spoke in support of the CARTA Beach Shuttle but asked if the dropoff point could be moved elsewhere. She spoke of the bus blocking a pedestrian's view of oncoming traffic and fears there will be an incident in the area. She suggested moving the stop to someplace where there are facilities.

Carly David, 709 Palm Boulevard and property owner at 9th Avenue, also spoke with concern about the CARTA Beach Shuttle stop in that area. She noted there is no covered area for riders to stand if it is raining. She also mentioned moving the bus stop to an area where there are facilities.

4. Old Business

A. Discussion of golf cart and low speed vehicle regulations and enforcement

Chief Cornett reported that the Police Department continues to enforce the golf cart and low speed vehicle regulations. Two tickets and multiple issues have been issued. He is working to create something that short-term rental owners can post in their homes to make renters aware of the rules.

B. Update on CARTA's Beach Shuttle between Isle of Palms and Mt. Pleasant

Committee members held a lengthy discussion about the CARTA Beach Shuttle. Administrator Fragoso explained the reason 9th Avenue was chosen as the bus's stop was due to its handicapped accessibility, the closure of 14th Avenue to summer traffic, and concerns about

traffic backup on Ocean and Palm boulevards. She has submitted the concerns she has received to CARTA. The Police Department will monitor the stop throughout the summer to note any safety concerns. Chief Hathaway stated that while turning the fire trucks onto Ocean Boulevard is not impossible, it does present challenges that could become issues while responding to a call.

Council Member Bell said he would like to see the bus drop people off in the commercial district. He encouraged City Administration to work with CARTA on how to make the beach shuttle work best for all involved. He asked if CARTA had smaller buses that could be used for the beach shuttle. Council Member Bell expressed the importance of defining what success looked like with regards to the beach shuttle initiative. He said there are potential public safety issues of a bus in a residential area and expressed concern of the lack of facilities at 9th Avenue for riders. He also noted there have been complaints about the MobiMat at that access.

Council Member Ward said he would voice these issues at the CARTA Board meeting next week.

5. New Business

A. Discussion of dog leash rules

Chief Cornett said there have been five documented dog incidents so far this year across the island. He spoke about the difficulty of enforcing the current city ordinance since officers are rarely present to observe any lack of command over a dog by its owner. Police are usually called to a dog incident after it has happened and after people have dispersed from the scene. He said clear, defined leash laws are easier to enforce.

Committee members would like to look at the locations of the recent incidents as well as the fine structure as it relates to animal violations at the next meeting.

B. Discussion of preparations for the July 4th holiday weekend

Chief Cornett stated that the incident action plan for the holiday weekend is in the works. The Golf Cart Parade has been approved. He has asked the Sheriff's Department and Highway Patrol for extra help that weekend.

C. Discussion of additional golf cart parking areas

Administrator Fragoso said staff is discussing with SCDOT ways to make golf cart crossings safer. Staff has identified 46th Avenue as a space that may be suitable for golf cart parking. They will bring a plan to the Committee for consideration.

D. Consideration of approval of purchase of John Deere Gator UTV for Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 [State contract purchase, FY21 Budget, State ATAX]

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve and Council Member Pounds seconded the motion.

Administrator Fragoso said this item and Item E were meant to be more of a report of the purchase rather than needing Committee approval. Council members Ward and Pounds withdrew the motion.

E. Consideration of approval of purchase of jet ski for Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$14,000 [FY21 Budget, State ATAX]

Administrator Fragoso said the jet ski has been purchased.

F. Consideration of approval of the Axon body camera, in-car camera video software and data storage [State contract purchase, FY22 budget]

Administrator Fragoso said this item is in the FY22 budget and they are seeking approval now so that it can be purchased as soon as FY22 begins. Chief Cornett said that Axon is booked out through August/September and he would like to get on their calendar as soon as possible. This purchase will replace the entire system currently in place. It will be purchased at the State contract price.

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve, and Council Member Pounds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Highlights of Departmental Reports

A. Fire Department – Deputy Chief Hathaway

Deputy Chief Hathaway reported that there were 136 calls for service in the month of May, which is a 74% increase over 2020 and is also still higher than calls in May 2019. Notable Fire Department events in May include a dumpster fire, a motor vehicle accident on the Connector, an outdoor fire due to yard lighting, and a fuel spill.

B. Police Department – Lieutenant Forsythe

Lt. Forsythe said the Police and Fire Departments enjoyed an Employee Appreciation Luncheon at Wild Dunes. He also shared that Sgt. Storen was recognized as First Responder of the Month by the Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce.

The May incidents report included 25 drug charges, 12 DUIs, and 1,206 parking tickets. There were 1,379 calls for service resulting in 113 incident reports compared to 133 incident reports in May 2020. There were 8 traffic collisions. Chief Cornett said the drug concerns are being addressed.

There were 24 coyote sightings in May, and Chief Cornett said they are working with the property owner and the trapping company involved in these sightings.

Chief Cornett spoke about the recent purchase of 5 BOLA Wraps for the Police Department. The IOP Police Department is the second agency in the Lowcountry to have these. They are meant to assist in taking people safely into custody without having to use force. Training on these devices will be forthcoming.

7. Miscellaneous Business

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be on Thursday, July 1, 2021 at 3:00pm.

Council Member Ward would like for the departmental reports to appear after Citizen's Comments in the meeting agendas moving forward.

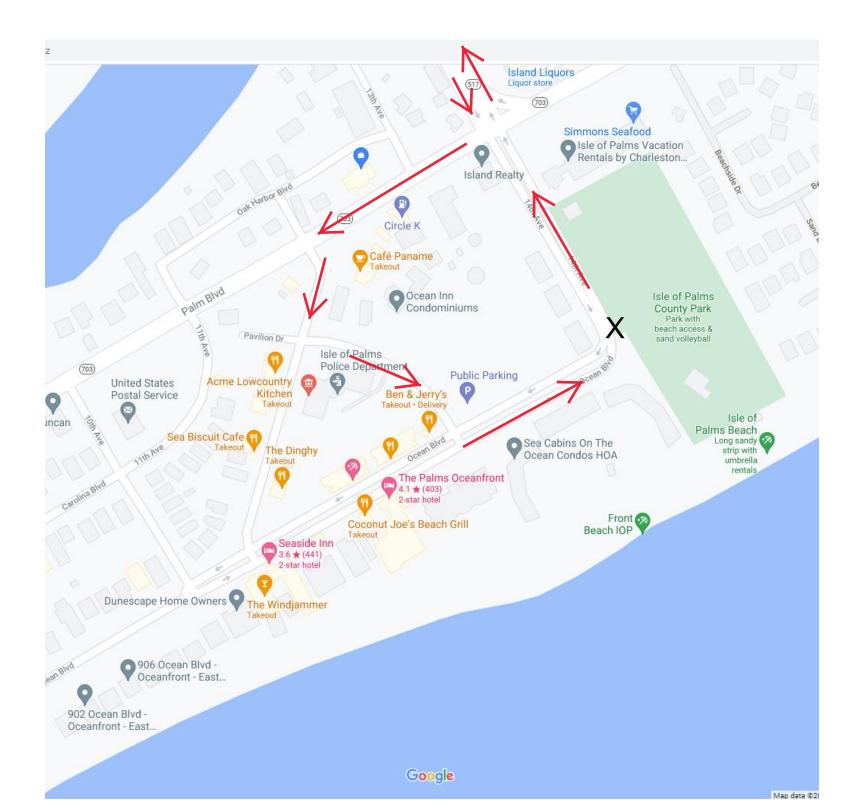
Council Member Bell encouraged citizens to review the reports provided by the Fire and Police Departments in the meeting packets.

8. Adjournment

Council Member Ward made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Pounds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:29am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane City Clerk



Article B. – Dogs

Sec. 6-2-14. Running at large prohibited; exceptions.

- (a) No person owning, having an interest in, harboring or having charge, care, control, custody or possession of any dog shall cause or permit the dog to be off the premises of its owner or custodian, unless such dog is securely confined by a strong leash, securely and continuously held by a competent person owning, having an interest in, harboring, or having charge, care, control, custody or possession of the dog, or unless the dog is confined within a vehicle, within an enclosure surrounded by an adequate fence or within a house. Provided, however, that a dog owner or other person charged with the custody and control of a dog may allow the dog to roam at large on the beach between the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. from September 15 through March 31, and between the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. from April 1 through September 14. Such owner or custodian shall at all times be in close proximity to the dog, have a leash in hand, and have the dog under control. Nothing contained herein shall affect a dog owner or custodian's duty to comply with all state laws regarding vicious or dangerous dogs, or the duty to comply with section 62-26 requiring the removal of animal excrement.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to cause, permit, accompany or be responsible for the presence of any diseased dog on the streets or public places of the City or allow the dog to run on the premises of another, at any time; unless and in addition to the other requirements of this chapter the dog shall be securely muzzled to effectively prevent it from biting any person or other animal.

(Ord. No. 2019-14, § 4, 7-23-2019)

Sec. 6-2-15. Violation, impoundment, penalties.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to comply with the requirements of this article or to suffer or permit a dog to be a danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the public in violation of this article.
- (b) Any dog running at large in violation of this article shall be impounded. The owner of a licensed dog shall be given notice that the dog may be claimed from the City kennel within three (3) days. A dog with no license or identification will be held in the City kennel for two (2) days. An owner claiming a dog must comply with all requirements of this article and pay to the City an impoundment fee as established by City Council. Dogs not claimed within the applicable holding periods will be transferred to the County SPCA for disposal.
- (c) Violation of this article is a misdemeanor punishable pursuant to section 1-3-66.

(Ord. No. 2019-14, § 5, 7-23-2019)

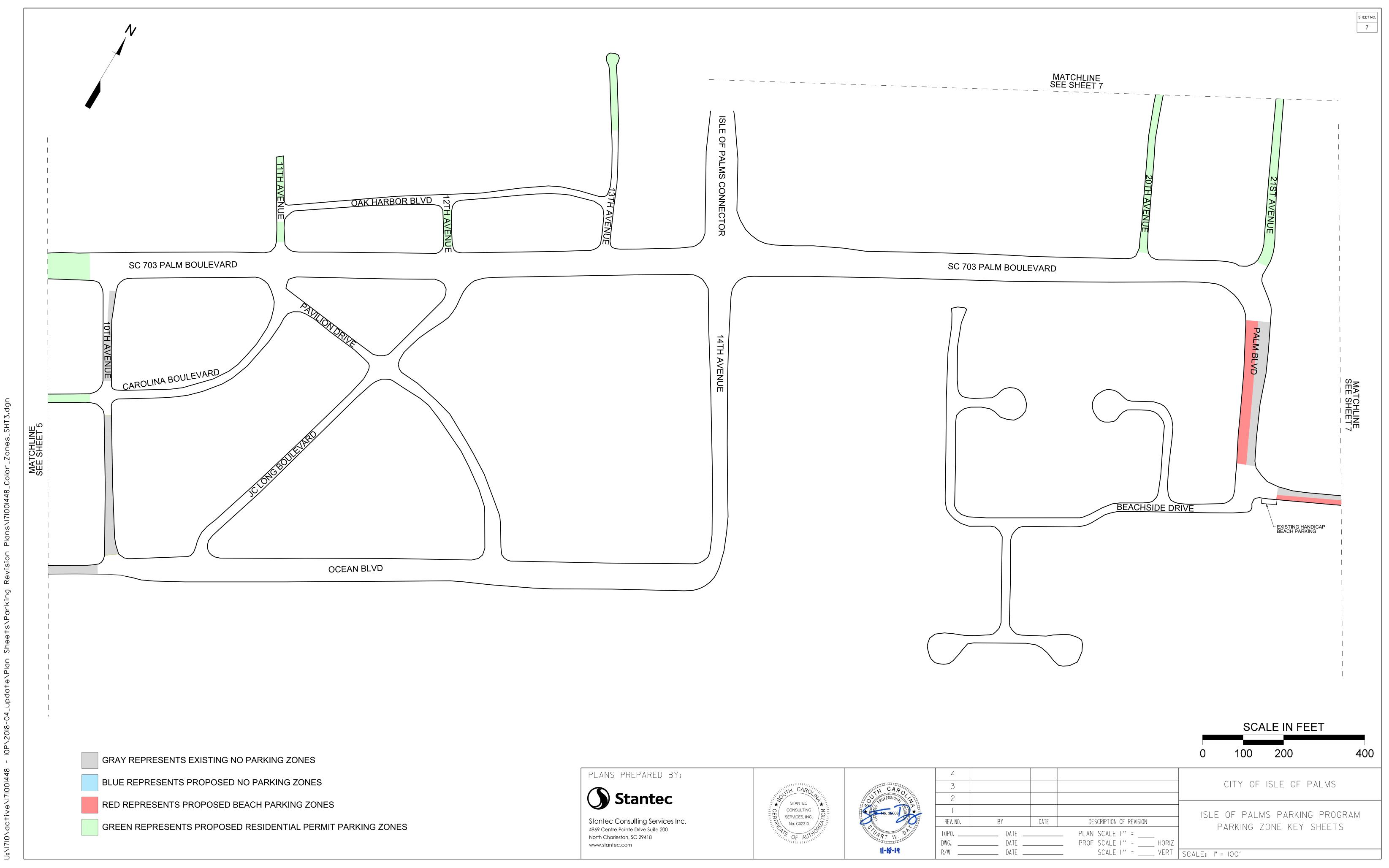
Sec. 6-2-16. Dogs not to disturb protected species and habitats.

In addition to the requirements of section 6-2-14(a), no person shall allow a dog to disturb protected species and habitats, as follows:

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to allow a dog to disturb nesting sea turtles, turtle nests or turtle hatchlings.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to allow a dog to enter into critical habitat areas which have been posted to prohibit such entry by the City or the State Wildlife and Marine Resources Department.

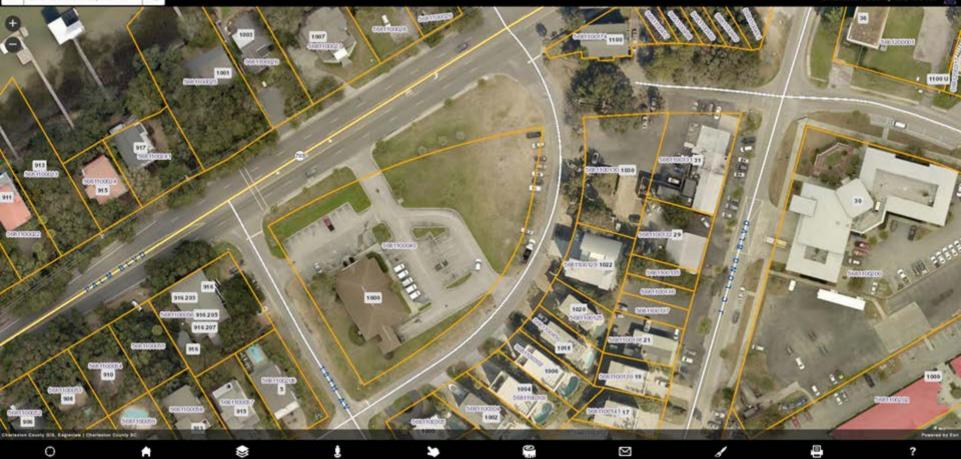
(Ord. No. 2019-14, § 6, 7-23-2019)

(Supp. No. 20)



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City of Isle of Palms Police Department



SUMMER BEACH SERVICES OFFICER POSITIONS

The City of Isle of Palms Police Department is accepting applications for civilian uniformed *seasonal summer* Beach Services positions. Primary duties include parking enforcement and patrolling the beach, lasting until the end of October. No experience necessary, however, applicants must be willing to work outside in a beach environment, possess a valid SC driver's license, high school diploma or equivalent, and be available to work <u>weekends and holidays</u>. The compensation is approximately \$13.00 per hour.

To apply visit the City website at: <u>www.iop.net</u>

Applications for BSO must be submitted on the City of Isle of <u>Palms Police</u> <u>employment application.</u>

Return completed applications along with any supplemental résumé and cover letter information to:

City of Isle of Palms, Attention Human Resources – Beach Services Recruitment, Post Office Box 508, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451.

EOE

BEACH SERVICES OFFICER

FUNCTION:

Under general supervision of Livability Sergeant or Shift Supervisor, the Beach Services Officer is responsible for the enforcement of parking related offenses throughout the City, but most especially in the business district. This is a temporary part-time position.

DUTIES:

Enforcement of parking regulations within the City.

Issues citations for illegally parked cars at parking meters, handicap zones, fire zones, and loading zones and other designated places.

Patrols beach for city ordinance violations and takes appropriate action; i.e. tagging debris (tents, chairs, etc.) and fills in holes on beach.

Assist with locating missing persons.

Directs traffic in the business district.

Assist with sign maintenance.

Assist Law Enforcement Officers when directed.

Provides assistance during special events.

Deploys cross walk signs at designated locations.

Operate various vehicles on the beach and roadway – i.e. all terrain type vehicles, bicycles, pickup trucks, and low speed vehicles.

Testifies in court as necessary.

Maintenance of pay stations.

Collection of monies from pay stations.

Boot vehicles for unpaid parking tickets.

Maintains accurate daily record of activities.

Respond to citizen's requests for assistance.

Refers to policy and procedures manuals, computer manuals, codes / laws / ordinances / regulations, publications and reference texts, etc.

Performs other duties as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of State and local laws and ordinances pertaining to parking.

Knowledge of department policies and procedures.

Knowledge of parking meters and equipment.

Ability to work well with colleagues and the general public.

Ability to understand and follow orders.

Ability to communicate clearly and succinctly both verbally and in writing.

Ability to perform regular duties on a self-initiating basis with minimal supervision.

Ability to lift and carry items weighting seventy-five pounds or more.

Ability to work with small hand tools, meter equipment and booting equipment.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

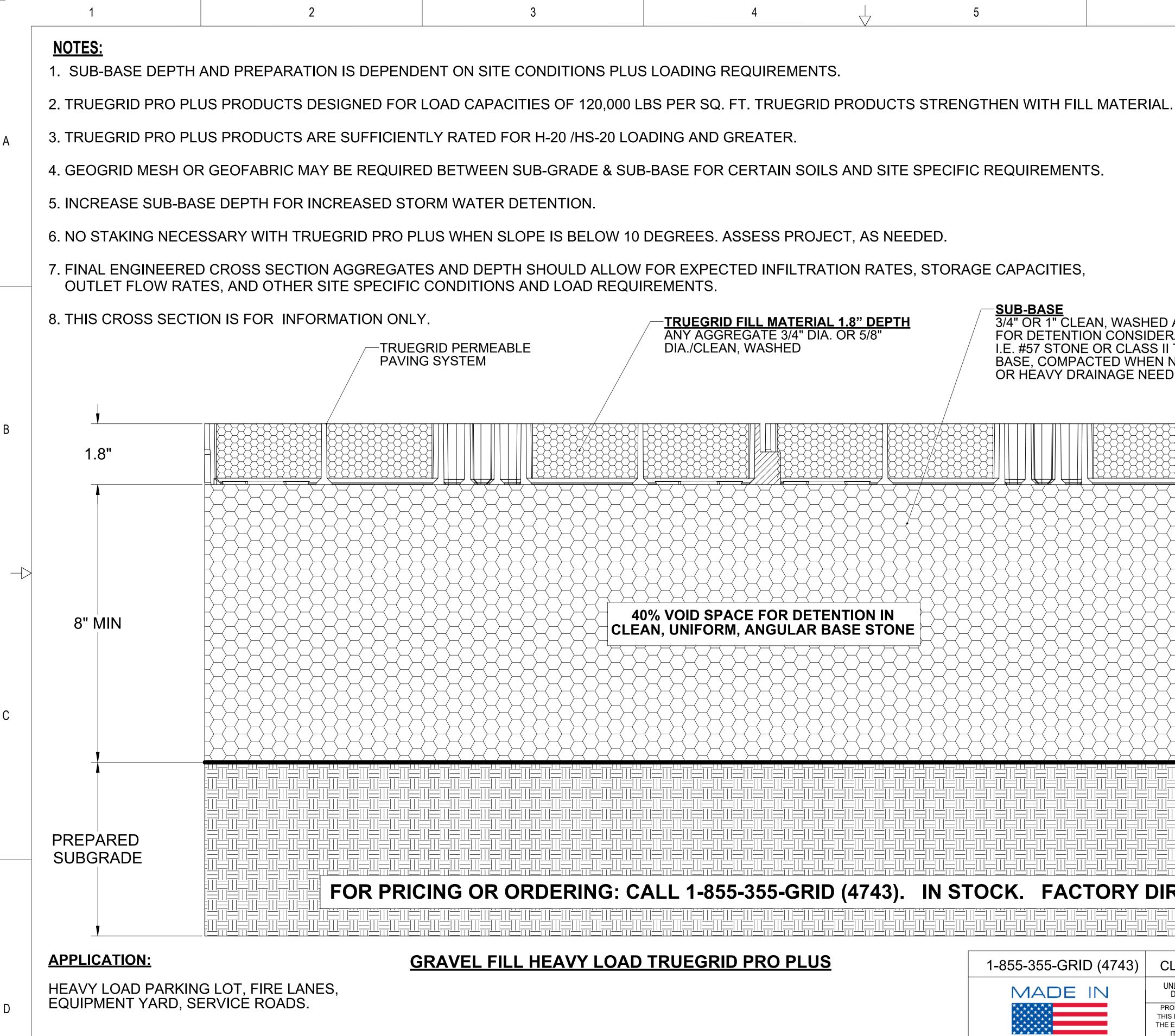
Graduation from an accredited high school or GED.

Achievement of departmental training.

Possession of a valid South Carolina driver's license.

(Note: The listing of duties in this class specification is representative, not exhaustive. It is not necessarily a detailed description of all work responsibilities and does not give exclusive title to every function described.)





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REVISION

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