

# Public Safety Committee 11:00am, Tuesday, August 5, 2025 City Hall Council Chambers 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

#### **Public Comment:**

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

### **Agenda**

- Call to order and acknowledgement that the press and the public have been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.
- **2.** Citizen's Comments All comments have a time limit of three (3) minutes.
- 3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes July 1, 2025.

#### 4. Old Business

- a. Discussion of shark fishing ordinance
- b. Update on Breach Inlet Signage and Parking
- c. Discussion of changes to the noise ordinance/nighttime noise levels
- d. Discussion and consideration of designating official golf cart paths
- e. Discussion of scope of future traffic study

#### 5. New Business

- a. Review of parameters for IOP Connector Run October 2, 2025
- b. Discussion of painting the intersection at 41st Avenue and Forest Trails
- c. Discussion of e-bikes and motorized scooters
- **6. Miscellaneous Business –** Next meeting date: September 1, 2025 at 11:00am
- 7. Adjournment



# Public Safety Committee Meeting 11:00am, Tuesday, July 1, 2025 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 Streetman, Anderson, Bogosian

Staff Present: Director Kerr, Chief Cornett, Chief Oliverius

#### 2. Citizen's Comments

Carol Rice's comments are attached to these minutes.

Mark Friedrich expressed concern about people driving recklessly through the neighborhoods on weekends when traffic is backed up on Palm Boulevard. He would like the City to look at ways to alleviate, direct, and manage the traffic.

Julie Nestler shared information about health supplements for first responders and how the City could benefit from purchasing them for their public safety staff.

Micah Swanson spoke about the proposed ordinance and guidelines for shark fishing. As a fisherman, he said those who shark fish already follow safety guidelines including no fishing on holiday weekends and no fishing on the beach until after 5pm. He hopes there can be a middle ground that protects beachgoers and allows fishing.

Josh Sobczak also spoke about the proposed shark fishing ordinance and supports coming ground rules and solutions.

Susan Smith also spoke in support of the proposed hate crime legislation and shared the island's exclusionary history. She believes the legislation will put forth a welcoming message.

### 3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – June 3, 2025

MOTION: Council Member Streetman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2025 meeting. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to change the order of the agenda to allow for the discussion with Stuart Day of Stantec to happen first. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. New Business

## A. Discussion with Stuart Day of Stantec about future traffic study

Committee members discussed with Mr. Day of Stantec how to study traffic build-up on busy weekends so that actionable suggestions could be offered to the City. Administrator Kerr and Chief Cornett pointed out that any data collected now would not greatly impact this season as traffic decreases after July 4<sup>th</sup>. Council Member Streetman suggested using last year's traffic data to make suggestions that would help this year.

Administrator Kerr and Mr. Day will discuss what can be done this year and bring that information to the City Council workshop next week.

#### 5. Old Business

#### A. Discussion of shark fishing ordinance and guidelines

Council Member Streetman said he supports this draft of the ordinance. Council Member Bogosian said he wants to allow recreational fishing on the beach, but he does not want chumming, the use of drones in commercial fishing, or commercial shark fishing. Chief Cornett added that shark fishing will happen no matter what, but it should not be intentional. He noted that a prohibition on commercial fishing on the beach is already in the code.

Council Member Bogosian said he believes Section A of the proposed ordinance is unenforceable. Mr. Micah Swanson said those who recreationally fish in the area policy themselves, and Chief Cornett agreed.

After further discussion, changes to the ordinance will include language prohibiting intentional shark fishing and restricting fishing on the beach between the hours of 10am and 5pm from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The use of drones related to fishing will also be added as a prohibited activity. This information will also appear in the fishing guidelines.

A revised ordinance will be brought to the City Council for discussion next week.

MOTION: Council Member Streetman made a motion to recommend the shark fishing ordinance and guidelines as discussed to the City Council. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### B. Discussion of Breach Inlet signage

Chief Oliverius stated that he has sent a draft of proposed signage to the Town of Sullivan's Island and is waiting for their feedback. The proposed signage will match on both sides of the inlet and appear in smaller versions at appropriate beach access paths. He anticipates having approved signage and suggested locations for the Committee to review in August.

Council Member Bogosian said clear signage is needed to indicate where it becomes dangerous to swim.

## C. Discussion of Ordinance 2025-05 amending trigger for business license revocation

Council Member Bogosian said the updated ordinance takes out the trash can violation as a strike against short-term rental licenses and provides a "clean slate" for violations beginning 1/1/2026.

Chief Cornett said trash can violations are enforceable violation resulting in a fine but will not be considered a strike on a business license. Repeat offenders will face increasing fines.

MOTION: Council Member Anderson made a motion to recommend the revised ordinance to City Council. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Anderson made a motion to move up the discussion of hate crime legislation in the agenda. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 6. New Business

## B. Discussion of hate crime legislation

Administrator Kerr noted that the proposed ordinance is almost the same as the one in place for the Towns of Mt. Pleasant and Summerville.

Council Member Bogosian wondered why such legislation needs to be passed when it is a State issue. Council Member Streetman said the City, along with other municipalities, should pass the legislation to pressure the State to pass one as well.

When asked what this kind of legislation means for the island, Chief Cornett explained that in order for someone to be in violation of this ordinance "we have to have something that says it [their action] was based off that individual's race, gender, or identity."

Council Member Bogosian asked how "intent to intimidate" is enforced. Chief Cornett said, "When we've got somebody burning a flag, yeah, that is intimidating somebody. That's got a whole State statute with it, but this would be triggered as well. One of the things that is beneficial from this is you have to be charged with the other charge in order to get this charge." He gave an example of vandalism and racial slurs. He explained the racial slurs were intimidating to another person and so the perpetrators would be charged with both crimes.

Administrator Kerr said he could ask the City Attorney to provide additional feedback during an Executive Session at next week's workshop.

MOTION: Council Member Streetman made a motion to recommend the proposed hate crime legislation to City Council. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## C. Procurement

- i. Purchase of ATVs and trailer \$20,364.75- Aiken Motorcycle/ state contract-FY26 Capital Budget, \$22,000
- ii. Purchase of police truck- \$48,577 Santee Automotive/ state contract- FY26 Capital Budget, \$67,000
- iii. Purchase of two police SUVs-\$46,440 each- Santee Automotive/ state contract-FY26 Capital Budget, \$64,000 each
- iv. Replacement of wrecked patrol vehicle \$46,440- Santee Automotive/ state contract (unbudgeted- \$15,000 anticipated from insurance)

Chief Cornett reviewed the budgeted requests. He said the costs are for the vehicle only. The costs for upfitting come later. He explained the wrecked patrol vehicle had over 100,000 miles on it, which is why it is getting a low amount from insurance. All salvageable parts were removed from that vehicle and put in other vehicles. He said this vehicle needs to be replaced to ensure there is a spare car to be used when another is being repaired.

MOTION: Council Member Anderson made a motion to approve the purchases as described and recommend them to City Council. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## D. Discussion of changing parking requirements at 41st Avenue and the City Marina

Administrator Kerr explained, "This is in relation to the marina parking lot, adjacent to it really, right across the street from Station 2. The City has an ordinance in effect that says that it is okay to park a trailer in that area between Waterway Boulevard and the entrance of the marina where that used to be an open ditch. Since that ordinance was put into effect, the City has piped that ditch and has created perpendicular parking spaces which you can no longer park a trailer in." The trailers still parking there are taking up 3-5 car parking spaces when parking parallel.

He continued, "This is just kind of a clean up to address the change in orientation of the parking spaces." Residents can still park in the area for free, but non-residents pay for those spaces. There will be no boat trailer parking allowed in the area.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to recommend the proposed changes to City Council. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 7. Miscellaneous Business

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 11:00am.

Council Member Bogosian would like to discuss E-bike safety and what can be done on a local level. Chief Cornett will bring information regarding E-bikes to the next meeting.

# 8. Adjournment

Council Member Streetman made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane City Clerk Members of Public Szfety

I stand before you today, Carol Rice, as a concerned resident of Isle of Palms, to advocate for the urgent adoption of a comprehensive hate crime law on our island.

The very fabric of our community is woven with threads of diversity and mutual respect. However, recent events, both nationally and closer to home, remind us that hatemotivated acts continue to threaten these fundamental values. A hate crime is not just an attack on an individual; it is an assault on an entire community, instilling fear and eroding trust.

A hate crime law would provide our law enforcement with the necessary tools to appropriately investigate, prosecute, and deter crimes motivated by prejudice. It would send an unequivocal message that our island will not tolerate acts of violence, intimidation, or discrimination against anyone based on their race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or any other protected characteristic.

Such a law is not about creating new crimes, but rather about acknowledging the severe impact of crimes fueled by bias. It recognizes that when a crime is motivated by hate, it carries a unique and profound harm that ripples through communities, leaving lasting scars.

Implementing a hate crime law will reinforce our city's commitment to justice, equality, and the protection of all its residents. It will foster a more inclusive and welcoming environment, where everyone feels safe and valued.

I urge you, honorable members of the Public Safety committee, to prioritize the safety and well-being of every person on our island by enacting a hate crime law without delay. Let us stand united against hate and work towards a future where all individuals can hank you so much for your island thrive free from fear and discrimination.

ForesFTF1 P<C-29451

Thank you.

### ORDINANCE 2025 – XX

# AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 7 LICENSING AND REGULATION, CHAPTER 3 BEACH AND MARINE RECREATION REGULATIONS, ARTICLE A GENERAL PROVISIONS TO INCLUDE REGULATIONS ON RECREATIONAL FISHING FROM SHORE AND PIER

WHEREAS, the City of Isle of Palms has a significant and growing number of visitors that use the beach for recreational uses that include fishing, swimming, and walking along the beaches within City Limits; and

WHEREAS, the intentional fishing, catching or attempting to catch sharks from the beach or shore endangers the public and poses a hazard to humans; and

WHEREAS, the Isle of Palms City Council finds that regulating recreational fishing from the beach or shore is imperative to the health, safety and welfare to residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Isle of Palms City Council has the authority to enact new sections of its Code of Ordinances when deemed to be in the best interest of the citizens of the City, and now desires to do so as displayed below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Councilmembers of the City of Isle of Palms, in Council assembled, that Section 7-3-2 be amended and 7-3-23 be included under Title 7, Chapter 3, Article A of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances as follows:

SECTION 1. That Section 7-3-2 "Definitions" be amended to state as follows:

# Section 7-3-2 Definitions

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

(1) Beach means that area lying between the low-water mark of the Atlantic Ocean and the easternmost property line of the property owned by private individuals or corporations, lying closest in proximity to the Atlantic Ocean, and shall extend out from the mean low-water mark for a distance of three hundred (300) yards into the water. The term "beach" shall also include that area from the mean low-water mark for a distance of fifty (50) yards into the

water from the mouth of Breach Inlet to the seaward side of Breach Inlet Bridge and from the mouth to the midpoint of Dewees Inlet.

- (2) *Boat* means any watercraft, including sea planes when not airborne, sailboats, jet skis, aqua-trikes or similar types of watercraft.
- (3) Designated areas means any portion of the beach designated by the City Council for a special use, such as swimming, surfing, beaching of boats, etc.
- (4) *Motorboat* means any boat operated through use of a motor or motorized propulsion, including jet skis, but excluding sailboats that use motors as an auxiliary means of propulsion.
- (5) Electric-assist bicycles and bicycles with helper motors means lowspeed electrically assisted bicycles with two or three wheels, each having fully operable pedals and an electric motor of no more than 750 watts, or one horsepower, and a top motor-powered speed of less than twenty miles an hour when operated by a rider weighing one hundred seventy pounds on a paved level surface, that meet the requirements of the Federal Consumer Product Code provided in 16 C.F.R., Part 1512, and that operate in a manner such that the electric motor disengages or ceases to function when their brakes are applied or the rider stops pedaling.
- (6) *Chumming* means the depositing into water chopped or ground bait consisting of raw meat or fish parts including blood and oil thereof (excluding chicken) in an attempt to catch fish.
- (7) *Trot line* means a long fishing line with numerous hooks attached at intervals.

That Section 7-3-23 "Regulations on recreational fishing from shore or pier" be included to state as follows:

# Section 7-3-23 Regulations on recreational fishing from shore or pier

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to intentionally attempt to catch or take any shark or other marine animals that may endanger the public from any fishing pier, or any beach, or shore between 10am and 5pm from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

- (b) Chumming shall be unlawful within 600 feet of any fishing pier, or any beach or shore.
- (c) It shall be unlawful to use Unmanned Arial Vehicles and/or drones for the purpose of delivering fishing lines, fishing bait or other manner of fishing from any fishing pier, or any beach or shore.
- (d) It shall be unlawful to use trot lines from any fishing pier, or any beach or shore.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall affect or prohibit the baiting of crab traps or the placement of natural bait upon a hook and line.
- (f) Nothing in this section shall apply to any agent of the City, County, State of South Carolina or Federal Agency lawfully engaged in official duties.
- (g) Police officers, Beach Services Officers, Code enforcement officers or any other appointed police department official shall have the authority to require persons engaged in fishing from the beach to cease fishing if, in their judgement, circumstances indicate that cessation of fishing is in the interest of public safety. In the event the official determines that fishing from the beach may be unsafe for other users of the beach, the official may order any person engaged in fishing from the beach to immediately cease fishing until such time as he or she indicates that it is safe to resume fishing. The official may indicate that fishing may occur at an alternative location on the beach during the time that the cease fishing order is effective. Failure to comply with an order of the police officer, Beach Services Officer, Code enforcement officer or any other appointed police department official shall be deemed a violation of this section.

SECTION 2. That should any part of this Ordinance be held invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining parts shall be severable therefrom and shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as the same affect this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. That this Ordinance take effect and be in full force immediately.

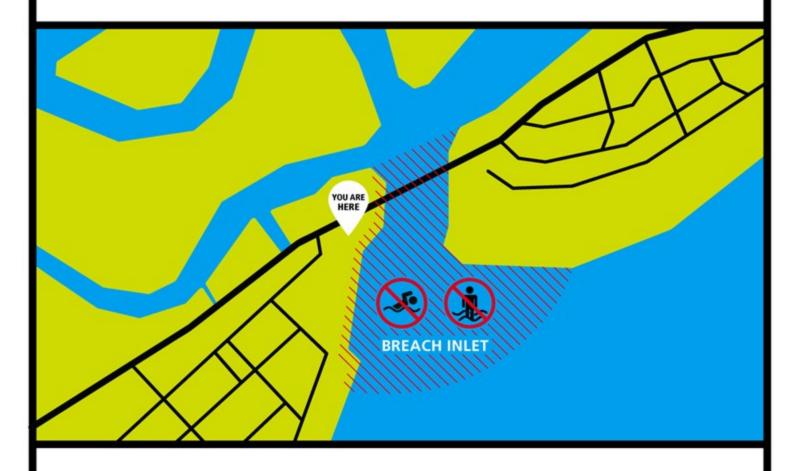
PASSED AND APPROVED BY	THE CITY CC	OUNCIL FOR '	THE CITY
OF ISLE OF PALMS, ON THE	DAY OF		
_	2025		

Phillip Pounds, Mayor
(Seal)
Attest:
Nicole DeNeane, City Clerk
First Reading:
Public Hearing:
Second Reading:
Ratification:





NO WADING NO VADEAR



SWIMMING AND WADING AT BREACH INLET ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED DUE TO SWIFT AND DANGEROUS CURRENTS.

ESTÁ ESTRICTAMENTE PROHIBIDO NADAR Y VADEAR A DE BREACH INLET DEBIDO RÁPIDAS Y PELIGROSAS CORRIENTES. From: Jan Anderson
To: Douglas Kerr
Cc: John Bogosian

**Subject:** Overnight noise ordinance

**Date:** Saturday, July 26, 2025 6:39:28 AM

For discussion at Tuesday's meeting I would like to have an amendment to our noise ordinance that addresses only overnight noise. Limit volumes to 55 dbA between the hours of 11 pm to 7 am. Simple. Thanks,

Jan Anderson IOP City Council

Sent from my iPhone

### ORDINANCE 2025 – XX

# AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 8 MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, CHAPTER 1 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, ARTICLE B OPERATION OF VEHICLE TO INCLUDE REGULATIONS OPERATING GOLF CARTS ALONG CITY DESIGNATED GOLF CART PATHS

WHEREAS, the City of Isle of Palms has a significant and growing number of residents that use golf carts to travel within City Limits; and

WHEREAS, Governor McMaster signed Act No. 64 into law on May 22, 2025 providing municipalities, with the necessary approvals, the ability to designate separate golf cart paths for the purpose of golf cart transportation as long as certain criteria is in place; and

WHEREAS, the City has obtained necessary approval from the SC Department of Transportation on July 17, 2025 to designate separate golf cart paths in accordance with Act No. 64, specifically SC Statute 56-2-90, in certain areas within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Isle of Palms City Council finds that designating golf cart paths on certain shoulders of primary highways within the City of Isle of Palms to be in the best interest of residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Isle of Palms City Council has the authority to enact new sections of its Code of Ordinances when deemed to be in the best interest of the citizens of the City, and now desires to do so as displayed below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Councilmembers of the City of Isle of Palms, in Council assembled, that Section 8-1-21 be included under Title 8, Chapter 1, Article B of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances as follows:

SECTION 1. That Section 8-1-21 "Operation of golf carts along city designated golf cart paths" be included to state as follows:

Section 8-1-21 Operation of golf carts along city designated golf cart paths

Golf carts shall be authorized to operate on city designated golf cart paths that are designated in accordance with SC Statute 56-2-90.

Such designated golf cart paths are located:

- (a) Along the shoulder, four feet from the roadway, of Palm Blvd (SC 703) on the landside between 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave and the entrance to parking lot of 2101 Palm Blvd.
- (b) Along the shoulder of Palm Blvd (SC 703) on the oceanside between 2102 Palm Blvd and the entrance to the parking lot of the businesses located at 1400 Palm Blvd.
- (c) Along the shoulder of Palm Blvd (SC 703) on the landside between 20<sup>th</sup> Ave and the Mayor Carmen Bunch Park.

Golf cart paths shall not include established pedestrian sidewalks or crosswalks. Gold carts shall not travel upon sidewalks or pedestrian crosswalks.

SECTION 2. That should any part of this Ordinance be held invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining parts shall be severable therefrom and shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as the same affect this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. That this Ordinance take effect and be in full force immediately.

OF ISLE OF PALMS, ON T	THE DAY OF .
,	2025.
Phillip Pounds, Mayor	
(Seal)	
Attest:	
Nicole DeNeane, City Clerk	
First Reading:	
Public Hearing:	
Second Reading:	

#### 7/10/2025

Suggested request for Proposal for IOP peak congestion traffic study

During the summer of 2025, traffic on the Isle of Palms Connector consistently reached volumes of 25,000 vehicles per day (vpd) and on some weekends over 30,000 vpd. The result was gridlock conditions on the island on peak weekends and travel times reaching 90 minutes or more just to exit the island. This is unacceptable.

The City of Isle of Palms is requesting a proposal to evaluate peak summer travel conditions and propose solutions to reduce delays.

## 1) Data collection

- A. Collect hourly turning movement counts at two intersections on a summer Saturday during the peak morning and afternoon flow:
  - i. Palm Blvd. and 14th Avenue (signalized intersection)
  - ii. Palm Blvd, JC Long and 12th Ave (unsignalized intersection)
- B. Obtain 24- hour ped/bike volumes on the Connector.
- C. Use SCDOT 24-hour historical ATR counts at Station 10-0693 (SC 517) to select survey days and times
- D. Use <u>511SC.org</u> to observe traffic flow on the island for non- survey weekends, including identifying bottlenecks
- E. On the selected survey day, observe peak traffic conditions on Palm Blvd at 14th Ave. and between 21st Ave and 30th Ave to identify the cause of bottlenecks. Drone-aerial photography may be used for observations.
- 2) Data analysis and recommendations
  - A. At the Palm Blvd/14th Ave intersection, evaluate the signal timing and recommend changes to the intersection to improve traffic flow. Recommendations should include. but not be limited to:
    - i. An existing conditions intersection capacity analysis
    - ii. Reconfiguring lane use (including making 14th Ave. one way southbound) and evaluating the effect of changes on traffic flow on Ocean Blvd and at the of Palm Blvd/JC Long/12th Ave intersection
    - iii. Evaluating varying cycle length, phasing, and signal timing by time of day and for peak/off peak times to maximize efficiency and minimize delays.
  - B. On the Connector, evaluating the potential for using the northbound ped/bicycle lane as a second vehicle lane when extreme congestion oocurs, such as on the following weekends: Memorial Day weekend Saturday and July 4 weekend Saturday. Include how ped/bike volumes would be affected and how it would be rerouted. Coordinate with SCDOT.
  - C. On Palm Blvd between 21st Ave and 30th Ave, recommend traffic control measures to reduce bottlenecks and avoid gridlock. Measures may include but not be limited to:
    - Placement of traffic control officers at merge points to manage traffic flow
    - ii. Possible temporary street closings to reduce cut-through traffic
    - iii. Encouraging motorists to wait out delays at the Rec Center on 29th Ave
    - iv. Other innovative ideas

## 3) Deliverables

- A. Traffic report that summarizes existing conditions, analysis techniques and recommendations.
- B. Recommended signal timing plans suitable for implementation by SCDOT (peak, off-peak, etc.)
- C. Traffic management plans for officers describing their roles, temporary street modifications (cone placement, temporary signage, etc.) and scheduling for implementation.
- D. Recommended changes in lane configurations on the Connector including (but not limited to) use of the bike/ped lane for vehicle travel and rough cost estimate to implement. Describe how bike/ped traffic would be rerouted.
- E. Any long-term suggestions that could be pursued in subsequent studies.

# 4) Meetings

- A. Three meetings with IOP staff and City Council to: 1) kickoff project; 2) present findings; and 3) present final report.
- B. Coordination with SCDOT and Town of Mt Pleasant as necessary to ensure an outcome that is implementable.

From: <u>Jan Anderson</u>
To: <u>Douglas Kerr</u>

**Subject:** Fwd: IOP PUBLIC SAFETY agenda **Date:** Tuesday, July 22, 2025 6:01:28 PM

Forgot to cc you Jan Anderson IOP City Councilperson Jan.anderson@iop.net 843-252-3907

# Begin forwarded message:

From: Jan Anderson < jan.anderson@iop.net>
Date: July 22, 2025 at 4:48:52 PM EDT
To: John Bogosian < jbogosian@iop.net>
Subject: IOP PUBLIC SAFETY agenda

Counclperson Miars asked that the following issues be addressed at our meeting: At the intersection of 41st Ave and Forest Trails, some vehicles do not obey the stop sign and pass through the intersection without stopping. The intersection is not marked with Stop Bars at the approaches. Please consider painting strop bars on the appropriate approaches at this intersection, ant 34th and Harriett Blvd and any other stop-controlled intersection that is missing them.

I would like the issue of excessive noise during overnight hours (10 pm to 7 am) be addressed. I propose that the noise level be limited to 55 dba during those hours.

Jan Anderson IOP City Councilperson Jan.anderson@iop.net 843-252-3907