



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

Ponce Inlet Town Council

Reported by Deb Atkian

February 19, 2026

ENVIRONMENT

- Beach Feasibility Study Presentation by Ms. Jessica Fentress, Volusia County Coastal Division Director
- Volusia County does not, to date, have a Beach Management Plan. It is hoped that such plan will be completed by Summer, 2026.
- Volusia County has completed the Ponce Inlet Beach Recovery Project, including sea grass planting. The sand replacement project is now proceeding north of Sun-Glow Pier and in New Smyrna Beach.
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has grant funded placement of sand fencing on Volusia County Beach Property. Homeowners have until May 1, 2026, to apply for permits to place sand fencing along their properties.
- Beach Tourism contributes \$4.3 Billion to Volusia County's GDP. This equates to 31% of Volusia County's annual sales tax revenue or \$28,000. annual sales tax revenue per homesteaded property. Nearly 61 million day trips are made to Volusia County beaches each year.

TRANSPORTATION

- Votran service changes in Ponce Inlet Presentation by Ms. Bobbie King, Votran Transit Services Director
- Currently Votran provides fixed route service south of Dunlawton.
- Beginning March 1, 2026, Votran will provide on demand Uber service south of Dunlawton.
- ADA riders' service will be unchanged.
- Hours of Service will remain unchanged. Those hours are 6AM to 7PM Monday through Saturday.
- All scheduling is to be done through the Votran On Demand App.
- Update for the South Peninsula Drive sidewalk mobility project was presented. Input regarding this project was given by multiple homeowners. Town Council directed that study of the project, including homeowners' concerns, is to continue and to return to Town Council as more is known.

NATURAL RESOURCES

- Town Council unanimously passed Resolution 2026-03 – Adoption of the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS) and the 2025 Volusia Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information (PPI) Plan.