



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CITY OF MADEIRA BEACH CELEBRATES COMMUNITY AFTER IRMA

On Friday the community will gather for a toast.

Madeira Beach, FL, September 19, 2017 –

Madeira Beach would like to invite all of the residents, business owners, first responders, and volunteers who pulled together for the safety of our city to join the Mayor, Acting City Manager, City Staff, and Commissioners in a toast. The event will take place this Friday, September 22 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Madeira Beach City Hall, 300 Municipal Drive. The toast is sponsored by local companies The Florida Winery and Mad Beach Brewing.

"We want to thank all of the volunteers, officers, firemen, staff members, residents and businesses that stood together to help prepare and recover our city from this storm." - Derryl O'Neal, Acting City Manager

The event will acknowledge people on the ground who worked tirelessly from preparation, storm response and communication, and in the cleanup process and restoration for their residents and visitors. Local businesses will be highlighted as the city is grateful for their donations of food to the first responders, participation in evacuation, and actions taken to open quickly after to help those in need.

"We are so proud of our strong community and we really want to thank them for their participation in evacuation and patience returning home." – Maggi Black, Mayor

In the preparation process the City distributed over 30,000 sandbags from their station at Archibald Beach Park and filled many more with people bringing bags from other locations. This location helped not only Madeira Beach residents but surrounding communities as well. With the help of so many volunteers and city staff members the station was able to keep an average wait time of less than 30 minutes at all times.

"We had people coming from Seminole, St. Petersburg, and some as far as Safety Harbor to get and fill sandbags." - Chris Mecko, City Employee

Since the storm has cleared Public Works has collected an average of 7 truckloads a day of debris from the beaches and roadsides totaling nearly 60 loads each weighing from 5,000 to 6,000 pounds. These city employees have worked resiliently through the storm, only closing for a single day last Sunday, September 10.

For more information about the City of Madeira Beach please visit madeirabeachfl.gov.

If you would like more information about this topic or the City of Madeira Beach's emergency plan, please contact Derryl O'Neal, Acting City Manager at (727) 391-9951 or email at doneal@madeirabeachfl.gov.