



October 17, 2018

## ***As Red Tide Slows Paid Parking Returns to Madeira Beach***

MADEIRA BEACH, FL – One month ago the City of Madeira Beach began the battle against Red Tide together with our partners from Pinellas County. Cleanup crews from contractors DRC and Lil'Mo, attacked with shrimp boats gathering dead fish in the Gulf and cleanup crews patrolling our beaches from sunup to sundown. On September 18, 2018, the Board of Commissioners voted to suspend paid parking in all City-owned parking lots to help our local businesses. Some of our neighboring communities decided to follow suit because we are all in this together.

Today, the effects of Red Tide have reduced, and while the occasional odor or dead fish are present, residents and visitors have returned to the beaches. On Monday, Oct. 15th the Board of Commissioners passed a Resolution officially rescinding the suspension of parking fees, and granted the City Manager authority to quickly implement another suspension of parking fees should conditions worsen.

Forecasters are predicting a change in weather patterns over the next few days that may result in cooler air pushing south into the region which could further limit the red tide and its impacts. The timing could not be better as the 37th Annual Seafood and Music Festival is scheduled for Oct. 25 – 28 in John's Pass Village. The event is expected to draw more than 100,000 people to Madeira Beach.

For more information contact Curt Preisser, City of Madeira Beach Public Information Officer at 727-391-9951 x299 or [cpreisser@madeirabeachfl.gov](mailto:cpreisser@madeirabeachfl.gov).