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2525 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, Fla. 33931

## **Hurricane Re-Entry Passes ready at temporary Town Hall**

*Mailing is also available for those still off-island*

**Town of Fort Myers Beach, FL** - In partnership with the Lee County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) and the Fort Myers Beach Fire District (FMBFD), the Town has revised its hurricane re-entry pass process and the passes are now available.

To receive passes, visit the temporary Town Hall complex at 2545 Estero Boulevard, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. One form of identification that confirms status as a resident, property owner, or business owner needs to be produced before a pass can be issued. Identification can include driver's license (if it shows a beach address), utility bill, deed, rental agreement or mortgage statement, or tax records.

If you are out of Town, email [hurricane@fmbgov.com](mailto:hurricane@fmbgov.com) with pictures or files of the document that shows eligibility. Please include the address that the Town should use to mail passes.

Anyone who lives in the Town, owns property in the Town, or owns or manages a business in the Town is eligible to receive two hurricane re-entry passes. Everyone who is eligible must secure new passes. Prior year passes will not be honored.

Hurricane Ian provided experience to guide this revised process, as did personnel from LCSO, FMBFD, and the Town who were involved in responding to Ian and its aftermath.

Depending on the severity of the storm, access to the Island will be closed for at least 48 hours after the storm ends so that these benchmarks can be determined. This time could possibly be longer. Even those with hurricane re-entry passes will not have access until the various agencies involved have worked through the above benchmarks.

Information will be posted on various social media sites and shared with local media. It is highly encouraged that pass holders connect now to multiple sources that will share information including the Town, LCSO, FMBFD, and Lee County.

Questions can be emailed to [hurricane@fmbgov.com](mailto:hurricane@fmbgov.com).

First and foremost, the Island must be safe and secure for residents and property owners to return. Immediately after a storm ends, several emergency management organizations including the Town, LCSO, FMBFD determine this.

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The Town of Fort Myers Beach is on Estero Island off the southwest Florida coast of the Gulf of Mexico. The beach stretches for seven miles and the Town has a variety of parks and recreational facilities, shops and restaurants. The Town has been incorporated since 1995.

Other benchmarks for opening access to the Island after a storm:

- \* Activation of emergency operations must be complete. This involves the Town, FMBFD, LCSO, and other local, county, state and federal agencies.
- \* Assess and mitigate findings throughout the entire island from the ground;
- \* Assess and mitigate findings over the entire island from the air;
- \* Search and rescue and/or recovery;
- \* Secure hazards such as electricity, gas leaks, road washouts, water lines, unstable structures threatening public right of ways, and bridges;
- \* Debris assessment and management;
- \* Clearing and fixing roads, determining threats to traffic patterns;
- \* Set up and determine how best to manage perimeter control.

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