



2018 ANNUAL REPORT



LEADERSHIP



Mayor Tony Kennon

On behalf of our City Council and staff, we're excited to be able to showcase to the public all of the incredible happenings in our beautiful city in this 2018 Annual Report. From the groundbreaking of the city's first-ever Orange Beach High School and Middle School, which is a "game changer," to the Fire Department celebrating its 25th anniversary, it was a historic year and one to remember. Enjoy!

"Life is Better Here" and always will be. Go Makos!

Orange Beach City Council



Annette Mitchell
Place 1
Chairman Pro-tem



Jeff Boyd
Place 2



Jerry Johnson
Place 3



Jeff Silvers
Place 4



Joni Blalock-Costo
Place 5

The City of Orange Beach is a Class 8 Alabama municipal corporation, incorporated in 1984. Legislative authorities are vested in the City Council, which is comprised of six members, including the Mayor. The City Council is responsible, among other things, for passing ordinances and resolutions, making public policy decisions, adopting the budget, appointing boards, commissions and committees, approving contracts, authorizing real estate transactions, awarding bids, selling property, and hiring the City's department heads and City Attorney.

Members of the City Council serve four-year terms. The position of Mayor is an elected position.



ADMINISTRATION



Dear Orange Beach Citizen,

There are so many things we want to share with our community that we have been able to accomplish in 2018 by working together. The highlight is no doubt the new Orange Beach High School and Middle School, which is underway and expected to open before August 2020. The announcement and now construction of this new school for our community has truly been a "game changer" as Realtor feedback and general buzz within the community has young families asking many questions and seeking residency in our city.

In preparation of these future opportunities, Mayor Tony Kennon kicked off the Expect Excellence program that currently is working with over 250 students in grades 3-6 after school in teaching and guiding them in academics, arts and athletics. We have continued to tweak and design a program that will begin to show results as these students achieve more and excel in areas of interests as they approach middle school.

Continued investment in Public Safety is a high priority as the City Council has committed to taking the lead in the transport of Orange Beach medical calls. Council has approved and ordered two new ambulances along with two new fire engines to provide critical investment into our fleet as well as new medical equipment, which is no doubt going to add to the saving of lives in Orange Beach.

Topping all priorities has been the investment in our local infrastructure with the planning and underground utility relocation underway for the new additional eastbound lane on Canal Road from the Sportsplex to Alabama Highway 161, which will take two full years to complete. The council continues to move toward the permitting and design, which is underway, for the Wolf Bay Bridge extending Highway 161 to the north. These projects along with the potential of the new state bridge on the western edge of the city all have the potential of improving traffic flow for many years to come.

Transportation is at the forefront as the city awaits the release of RESTORE funds for projects to add a center turn lane to Canal Road from 161 to Wilson Boulevard. The city negotiated successfully with the state to take over that section of Canal Road all the way to Perdido Gate subdivision as a city street. This will help future developments, landscaping and basic management of that section of roadway.

The Coastal Arts Center of Orange Beach is doing very well as the campus was completed in 2018 with the centerpiece being the new gallery that is buzzing with weddings, arts and performance events weekly.

Renovations of so many facilities such as the Sportsplex, Kids Park, Recreation Center and more are underway or have been completed all over town. Be sure to check out and use the city's new website at www.orangebeachal.gov and subscribe to the city newsletter at www.orangebeachal.gov/community-newsletter.

This newsletter is a good example of our transparency and we welcome the public to attend our regular City Council meetings normally held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at City Hall.

Thanks for taking time to catch up on some of the many accomplishments and projects in this 2018 Annual Report. The elected body and employees of the City Orange Beach are working hard to meet the motto of "Life Is Better Here."



For the City,

Ken Grimes, Jr.

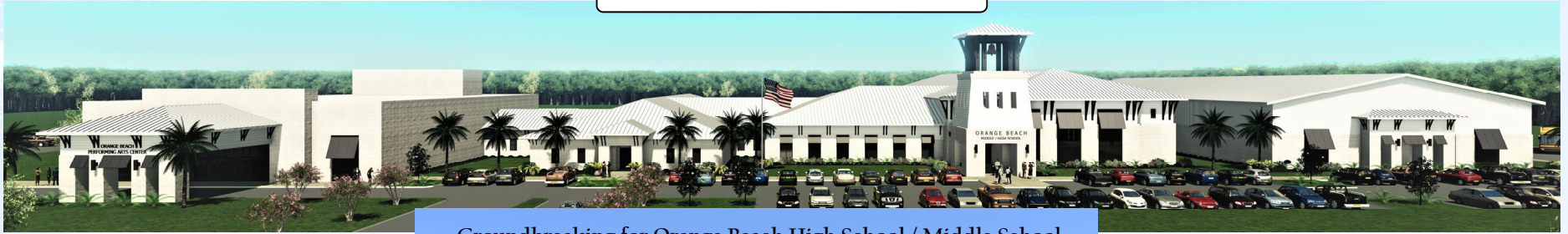
City Administrator



COMMUNITY



2018 in Review



Groundbreaking for Orange Beach High School / Middle School on Friday, May 11, 2018



Snowbird Town Hall meeting on February 6, 2018

26th Annual Seafood Festival & Car Show



Fire Department's 25th anniversary celebration on April 21, 2018

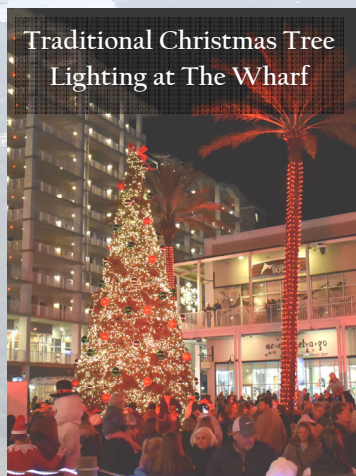


Mardi Gras 2018

Municipal Complex historical marker unveiling on June 19, 2018



Traditional Christmas Tree Lighting at The Wharf



Orange Beach Police & Fire Dept. Community Cookout on Oct. 27, 2018



44th Annual Orange Beach Festival of Art





FINANCIALS



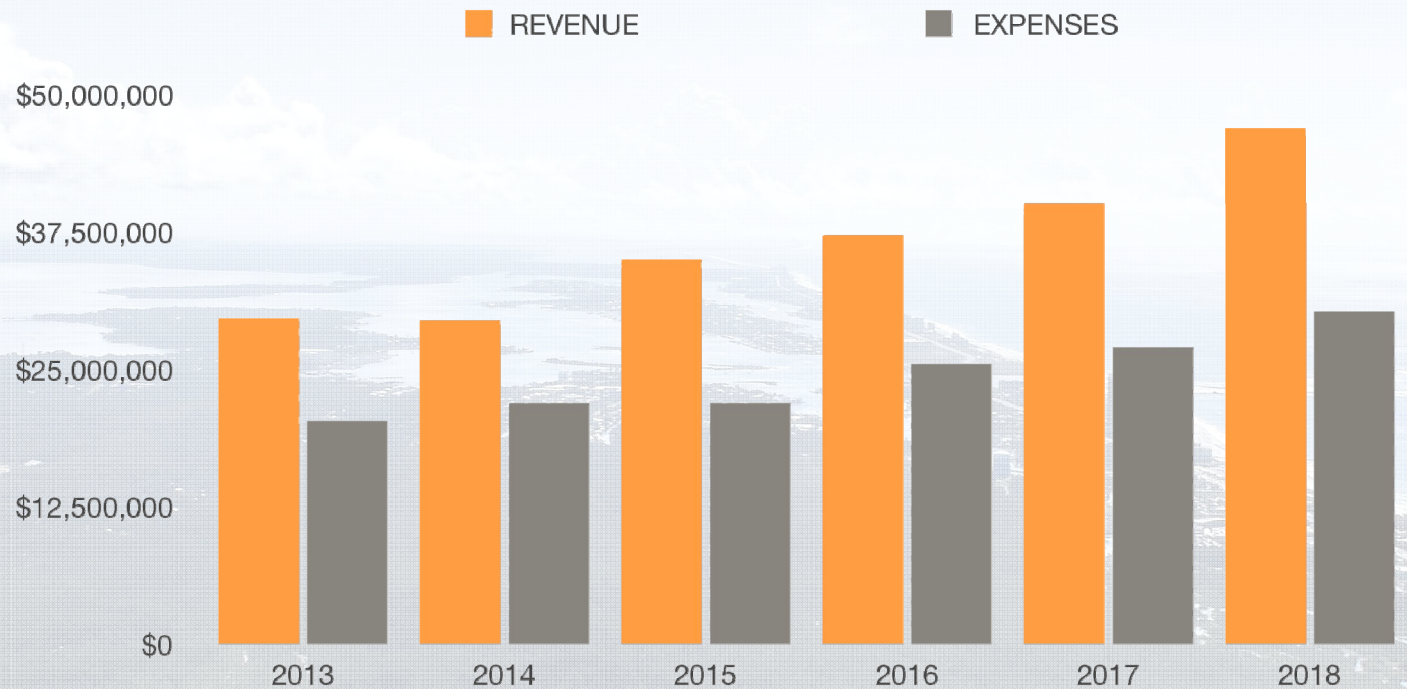
The Finance Department strives to provide the citizens, employees, and customers of the City of Orange Beach with quality financial management, financial reporting, and cost-effective acquisition of goods and services for the City consistent with local, state, and federal laws and governmental accounting and regulatory requirements.

In 2018, the Finance Department:

- * Moody's upgraded city bond rating to highly regarded Aa1.
- * Implemented new accounting software that allows each department to track their revenues and expenses in real time.
- * Launched a new website for utility consumers with no convenience fees. Since implementation, there has been an increase in online payments.
- * Worked with all departments and created portals to accept online registrations for activities such as Sail Camp, recreational ball teams, and wildlife excursions.
- * Started an investment policy for reserve funds to continue to build the reserve in case of a storm/disaster.
- * New 2 percent lodging tax started in May of 2018, resulting in \$4,530,541 in increased revenue to be spent on projects like Canal Road Widening and the Wolf Bay Bridge design.
- * Excluding the new 2 percent lodging tax, major revenues were up \$2,946,690 over 2017.
- * The privately-owned Foley Beach Express Bridge saw 4,476,041 individual vehicles pass through the toll gates, which was an increase of 523,466 individual vehicles from 2017.

Revenue and Expenses - 2013 to 2018 - City of Orange Beach

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
REVENUE	\$29,627,254	\$29,451,356	\$35,012,798	\$37,168,613	\$40,065,956	\$46,874,445
EXPENSES	\$20,283,750	\$21,955,312	\$21,930,476	\$25,472,137	\$27,000,558	\$30,240,058



*Graph does not include capital, debt service or enterprise funds



FINANCIALS



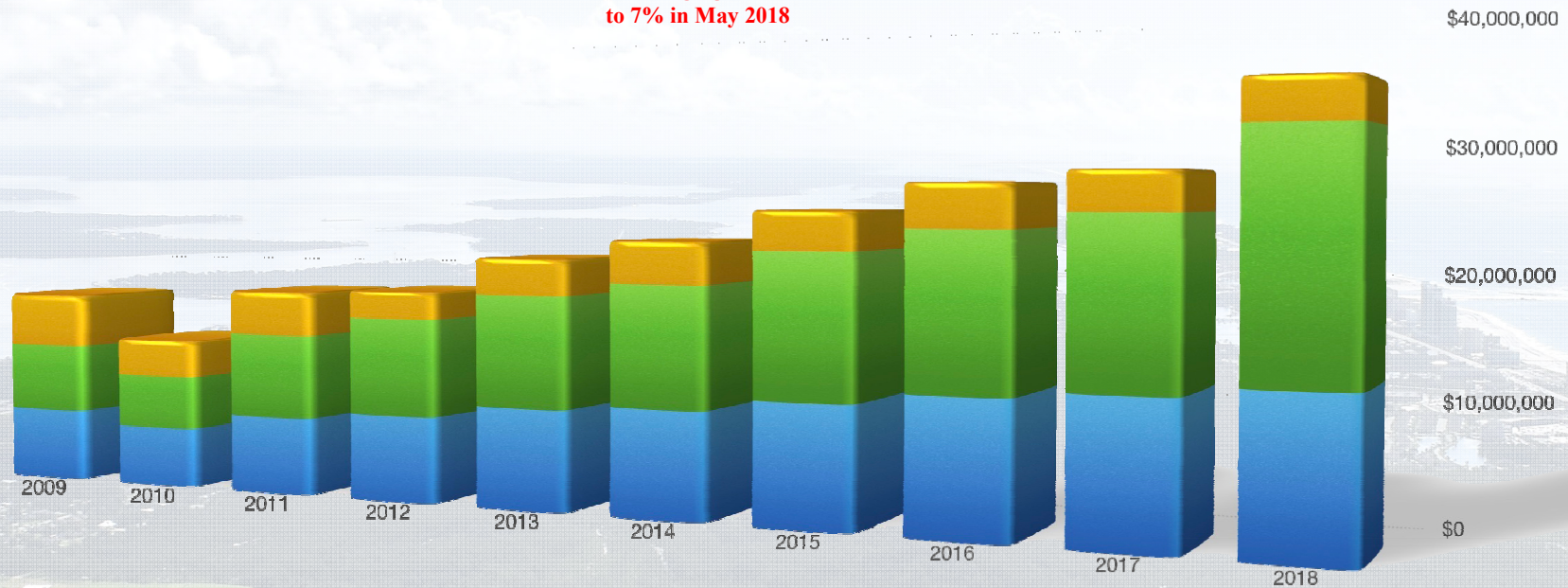
SALES, LODGINGS AND AD VALOREM TAX REVENUE - 2009-2018 - CITY OF ORANGE BEACH

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
SALES TAX (3% CITY SHARE)	\$6,300,789	\$5,205,964	\$6,674,168	\$7,339,442	\$8,493,009	\$8,963,445	\$10,029,023	\$11,021,742	\$11,598,228	\$12,420,889
LODGINGS TAX (5% CITY SHARE)	\$6,004,195	\$4,654,224	\$7,261,598	\$8,340,630	\$9,439,817	\$10,111,485	\$11,867,737	\$12,768,855	\$13,507,053	\$19,091,685
AD VALOREM (4 Mills - CITY SHARE)	\$4,748,728	\$3,293,702	\$3,850,368	\$2,334,952	\$3,070,401	\$3,536,394	\$3,273,130	\$3,588,538	\$3,180,461	\$3,370,208

■ SALES TAX (3% CITY SHARE)
 ■ LODGINGS TAX (5% CITY SHARE)
 ■ AD VALOREM (4 Mills - CITY SHARE)

NOTE: Lodging Tax raised to 7% in May 2018

NOTE: Ad Valorem in 2009 was 5 Mills





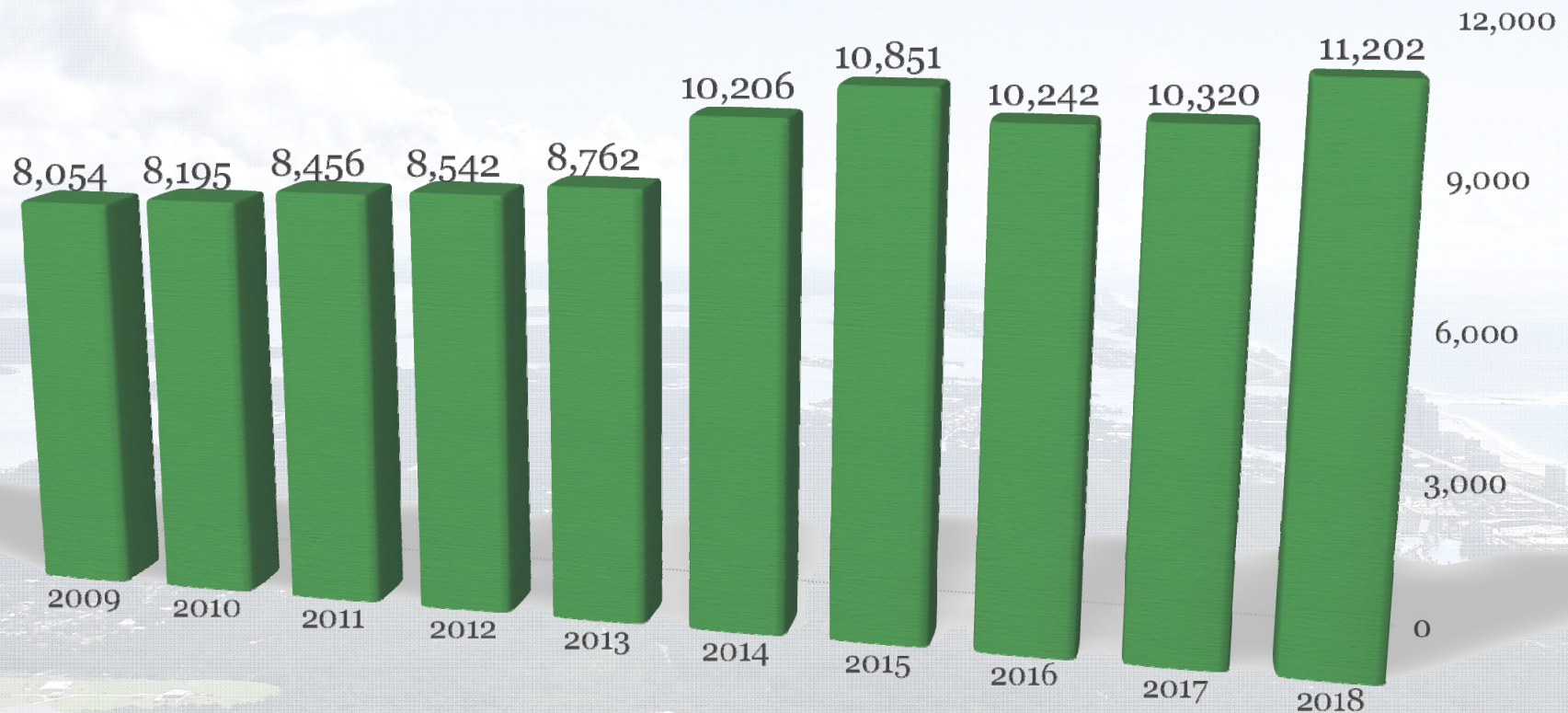
FINANCIALS



BUSINESS LICENSES ISSUED - 2009-2018 - CITY OF ORANGE BEACH

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Business licenses issued	8,054	8,195	8,456	8,542	8,762	10,206	10,851	10,242	10,320	11,202

■ Business licenses issued





FIRE



It was a very busy and productive year for the Orange Beach Fire Department under the leadership of Chief Justin Pearce.

- * The Fire Department responded to over 3,000 incidents for the first time in its history.
- * Celebrated the 25th anniversary as a career department.
- * Conducted a pre-incident plan on every commercial occupancy in the city.
- * Tested and inspected every fire hydrant and every piece of fire hose.
- * Conducted over 20,000 hours of training in fire and EMS skills - a 625% increase over a 5-year period.
- * Performed 1,800 commercial occupancy fire safety inspections.
- * Surf Rescue Division performed a record number of preventative actions and education - 11,500.
- * Increased Surf Rescue hours during peak months to better protect beach-goers.
- * Trained 214 CPR students.
- * Conducted a 13-week Firefighter 1 Class with 13 students from Orange Beach, Gulf Shores, Prichard, and Atmore
 - * 10 Resident Volunteer Firefighters went on to be career firefighters with local fire departments.
 - * Purchased 2 fire engines.
 - * Purchased 2 ambulances.
 - * Battalion Chief Jeff Smith named Firefighter of the Year.



Jeff Smith, 2018
Firefighter of the Year



“Protecting Paradise”





FIRE



Pierce custom fire engine

* In 2018, the Orange Beach Fire Department celebrated its 25th anniversary as a career fire department. The daily staffing in 1993 was 2 personnel who would respond in a fire engine or rescue truck based on the call type. In 2018, the department had a minimum daily staffing of 14 firefighters, most of which are paramedics. Every day the department staffs 3 fire engines, 1 ladder truck, 1 rescue truck and a Battalion Chief. During the summer months the department adds as many as 9 lifeguards on a daily basis to protect our beaches.

* Due to the rapid growth of our region and the desire to improve patient care, the Mayor and City Council began the process for Orange Beach Fire Department to transport patients

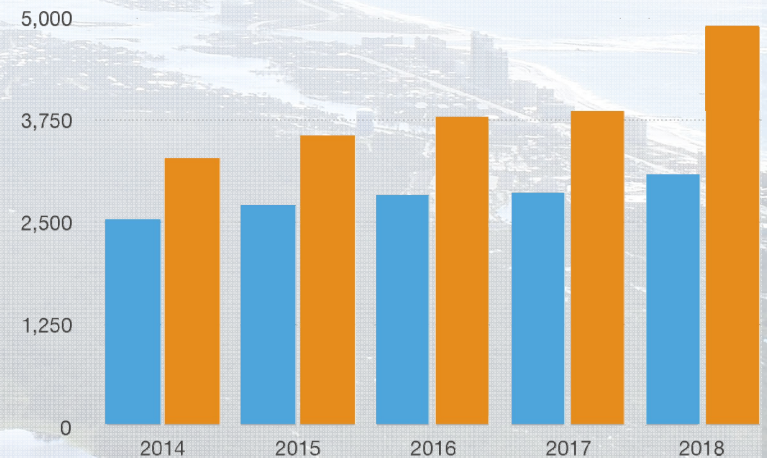
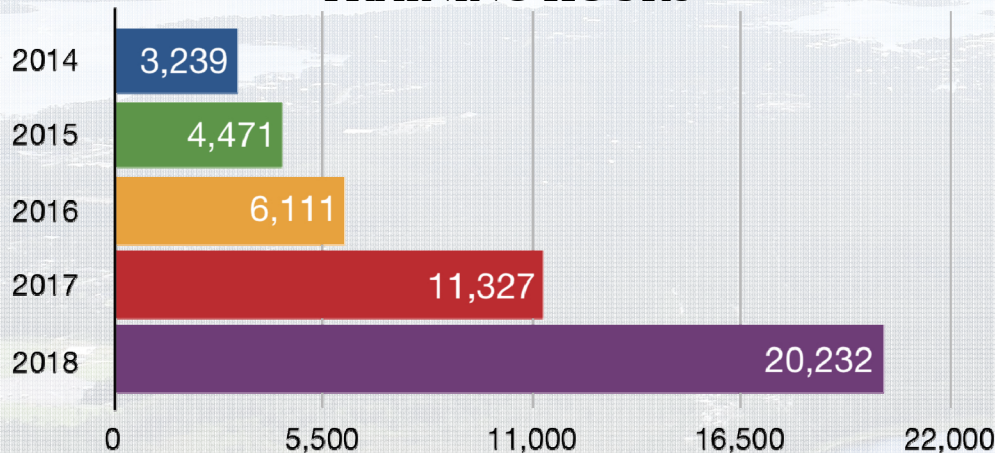
experiencing medical emergencies. This will be the first fire department-based transport service in Baldwin County and a testament to Orange Beach's desire to continually improve the quality of life and health care for Orange Beach residents and visitors.

- * To prepare for the future the Mayor and Council approved and purchased 2 Horton Type I ambulances and 2 Pierce custom fire engines. A total cost for these four apparatus is \$2 million and is a big commitment to the safety of our citizens. All four will be in service by August 2019.
- * The Fire Department added a Deputy Fire Marshal position to increase the new construction and existing business fire safety inspections. The goal was to increase the city's resident and guest safety through inspections and increase the public education opportunities. The Fire Marshal's office was able to completely rebuild the occupancy database and implement a pre-incident planning process for the firefighters while completing a record number of inspections and plans review. With the help of crews on the fire trucks, the department was able to pre plan every commercial occupancy in the City.
- * The Fire Department continued its strategic planning and hired a Deputy Fire Chief. This position oversees the operations of the fire department and is heavily involved with shaping the organization's mission. With the addition of this position, and the Deputy Fire Marshal, there is now a succession plan that ensures the department continues to provide the same exceptional service in the future.

YEAR	INCIDENTS	UNIT RESPONSES
2014	2,520	3,286
2015	2,714	3,563
2016	2,819	3,796
2017	2,866	3,868
2018	3,080	4,903

■ Incidents ■ Unit Responses

TRAINING HOURS





POLICE



Under the leadership of Chief Joe Fierro, 2018 was an exciting year for the Orange Beach Police Department. The department welcomed new faces and said goodbye to others. The department continued to engage the community through programs that brought citizens and officers together in informal settings to exchange ideas and answer questions. OBPD continued to work on its intelligence-led policing initiatives to make Orange Beach safer for residents and visitors alike. The department continued to update and upgrade its response capabilities to include the re-fitting of Marine 1 and added an additional Search/Rescue Jet Ski to assist with marine patrols and rescue. Officers continued the mission to “Protect Paradise” with unparalleled integrity, professionalism and respect for the entire Orange Beach community.

“Protecting Paradise”

Some of the highlights from the past year included the following:

- * Promotion of 6 officers to supervisory positions.
- * Addition of 7 new full-time officers.
- * Second Citizens’ Police Academy was a great success, and brings to total 21 graduates of the program.
- * Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association was created.
- * The Orange Beach Police Benevolent Fund sponsored a “Paw Ball” at Perdido Beach Resort to offset the cost of a new K-9 officer.
- * Added two new K-9 officers to the force, rounding the number out to four and providing a K-9 officer on each of the patrol squads.
- * Investigator Lisa Johnson was awarded a third Victim’s Voice Award by the Baldwin County District Attorney’s Office.
- * Marine 1 was re-fit and put back in service.
- * Part-time Officer Matthew Stringer retired after 20 plus years of service to the City. Jail Supervisor Randy Fitzgibbons retired with 16 years of service to the City.



2018 Citizens’ Police Academy



Pasta with the Police at GTs on the Bay



2018 OBPD Kids’ Christmas Party with Santa



COURT



Under the guidance of Court Director Renee Gardner, Orange Beach Municipal Court has jurisdiction over misdemeanor traffic cases, misdemeanor criminal cases and violations of municipal ordinances that occur in the city limits or the police jurisdiction of the City of Orange Beach.

In 2018, the Orange Beach Municipal Court collected a total of \$1,172,533.18 in fines, cost, and restitution.

There were:

- * 2,613 traffic cases filed.
- * 1,033 non-traffic cases filed.
- * 153 ordinance violation cases filed.
- * 333 parking tickets filed.
- * 707 warrants issued.

ORANGE BEACH MUNICIPAL COURT CASELOAD, 2014-2018

CASES	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Traffic cases	481	838	1496	2000	2613
Non-traffic cases	284	476	1031	978	1033
Ordinance violation cases	35	24	120	104	153
Parking cases	20	63	156	278	333
Warrants	180	275	430	744	707
Felony warrants	142	100	158	111	486





COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Under the management of Director Kit Alexander, the responsibility of the City of Orange Beach Department of Community Development is to assist and serve citizens and developers with the land development process in order to ensure quality development for the City of Orange Beach. The Community Development Department is comprised of the following divisions: Planning and Zoning, Building Department, and Code Enforcement.

Plans Examination and Permitting in 2018

Permitting

- * Number of new single-family residential dwellings—156
- * Number of new commercial developments—6
- * Number of new multi-family developments—1
- * Number of commercial tenant build-outs—10
- * Total number of permits—2199
- * Total amount of permit revenue—\$2,145,524
- * Total number of inspections—3294

Planning Commission Applications

- * Total number of Planning Commission cases—71
- * Total amount of Planning Commission revenue—\$38,783

Wireless Telecommunication Applications

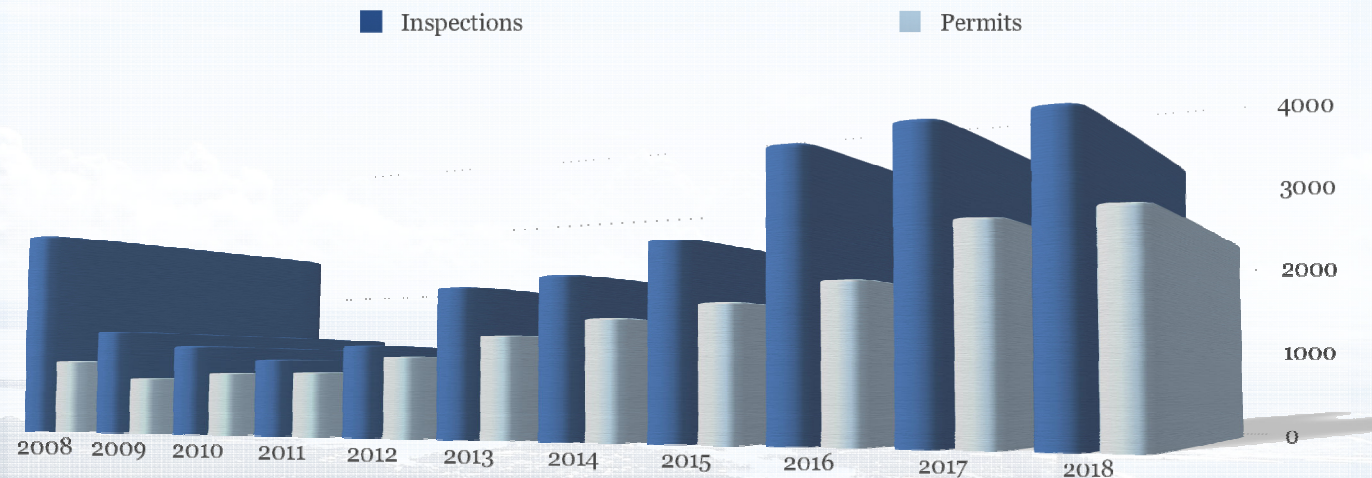
- * Total number of wireless telecommunication submittals—5
- * Total amount of wireless telecommunication revenue—\$1250

Board of Adjustment Applications

- * Total number of Board of Adjustment cases—10
- * Total amount of revenue—\$1000

BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS - 2008-2018 - CITY OF ORANGE BEACH

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Inspections	2525	1261	1066	890	1044	1666	1756	2075	2956	3091	3121
Permits	896	685	742	745	910	1129	1283	1419	1599	2125	2199



Code Enforcement

- * Number of logged complaints—477
 - * Public nuisance notifications—52*
- (*95% brought into compliance by property owners; 5% by the city)

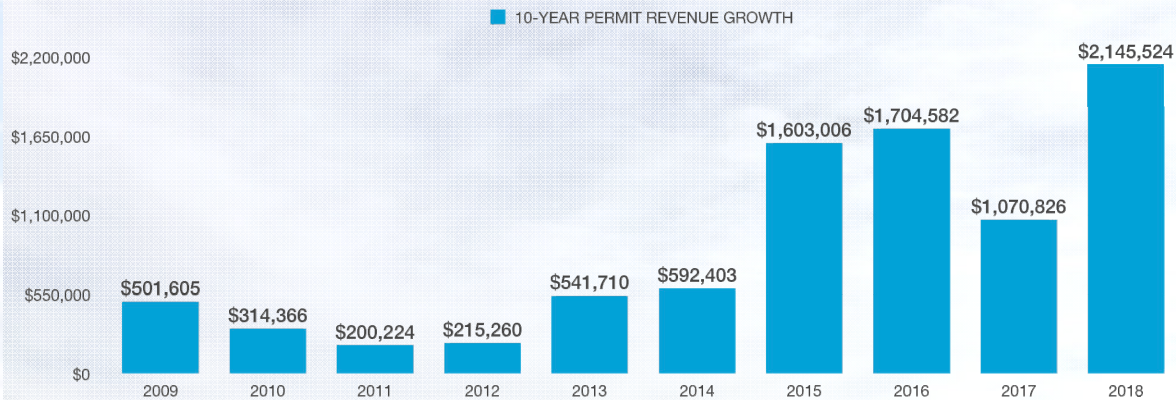




COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Year 2018 was a record year for number of permits issued and the associated revenue. The City of Orange Beach experienced a surge in single-family residential development; both redevelopment in existing neighborhoods and in newly established subdivisions.



Single-family residential construction is strong as seen here at Cypress Village.

Geographic Information Systems

* In 2018 established live reporting software for Leave Only Footprints:

- ◇ Daily and nightly beach report
- ◇ Turtle nesting report
- ◇ Turtle stranding report
- ◇ LOF inventory report
- ◇ GPS tracking of LOF fleet

* Established live reporting software for Hugh S. Branyon Backcountry Trail

- ◇ Amenities report: benches, swings, mile markers, etc.
- ◇ Campground inventory report
- ◇ GPS tracking of Backcountry trail maintenance fleet

* Licensed use of drones for aerial updates of projects and mapping.



UTILITIES



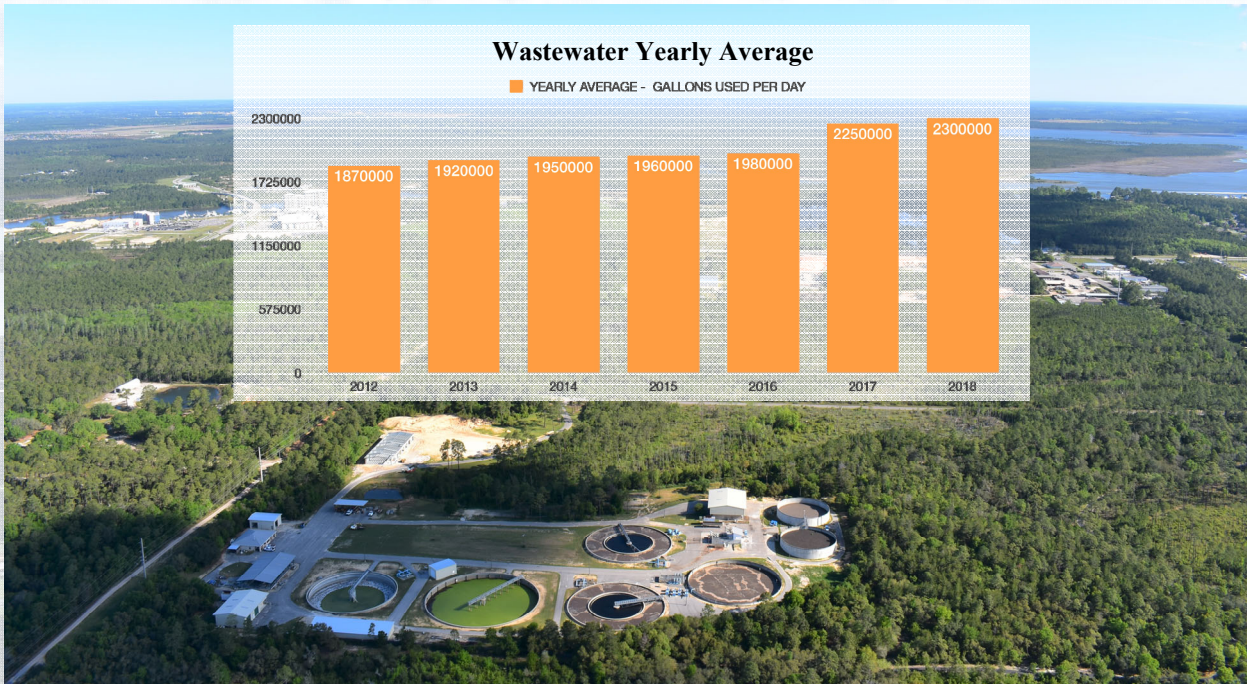
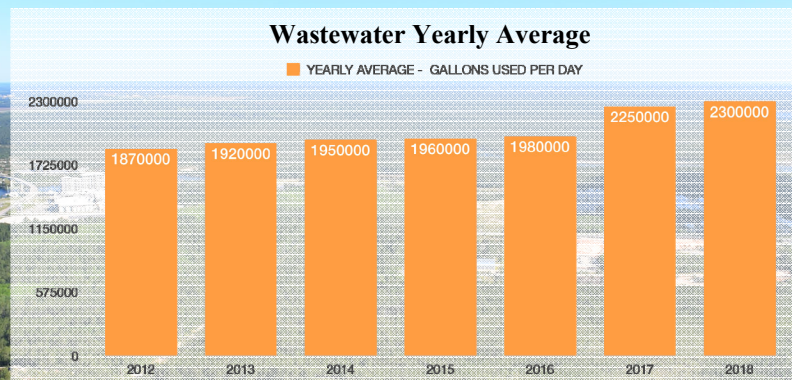
Under the management of Director Jeff Hartley, the City of Orange Beach Utilities (Sewer) Department's wastewater treatment facility operates with 25 lift stations that transfer all domestic and commercial waste to a 10 million gallon-a-day treatment plant. The collection system is comprised of low pressure and gravity lines, mostly in the corporate city limits of Orange Beach. Other areas supplied by the treatment facility are low-pressure lines to Ono Island and the Miflin Creek region.

In 2018, the City of Orange Beach Utilities Department:

- * Upgraded all control systems at the wastewater treatment plant.
- * Refurbished all manholes East of Highway 161 on Canal Road.
- * Installed 134 sewer taps.
- * Relocated many sewer lines in preparation for Canal Road widening by ALDOT.

Major projects in 2018 included:

- * Upgrading three major lift stations and started construction on the new sewer main from Winn Dixie to Fire Break Road.
- * Upgrading the equalization pond with four jet aerators.





PUBLIC WORKS



Under the management of Director Tim Tucker, the City of Orange Beach Public Works Department is comprised of the Street, Landscaping and Refuse Divisions.

The Street Division maintains the streets, rights-of-ways, drainage and beaches within the City of Orange Beach. The Landscaping Division maintains all city property grounds including the sportsplex, golf course, recreational parks and welcome areas. The Refuse Division keeps all of the rights-of-ways clear of trash and debris. Refuse also assists property owners in disposing of vegetative yard debris, household debris including appliances and furniture. Residential garbage and recycling is collected by a private contractor. The Public Works Department plays an integral role in emergency management and disaster recovery.

In 2018, the Orange Beach Public Works Department accomplished the following:

- * Oversaw construction and completion of sidewalks on Lauder Lane, West Oakridge and Hwy. 161
- * Repaved 3.7 miles of City streets.
- * Constructed phases 1 and 2 Sportsplex renovations, including new pole and netting, backstops, new dugouts, fencing replacement and shade sail installation.
- * Installed irrigation system, soil, plants and sod as part of ALDOT median improvement project on Perdido Beach Boulevard.
- * Renovated/expanded Recreation Center's 24/7 fitness area.
- * Constructed Art Center parking area, installed new pole lighting there as well as Waterfront Park.
- * Groomed beaches as part of "Leave Only Footprints" initiative.
- * Installed drainage pipes and sod West Perdido Avenue.
- * Maintained and cleaned all City facilities, properties and ROWs
- * Collected 115,000 tons vegetative debris curbside from residents, which was reduced and used as fuel by manufacturers in Mobile.
- * Collected and disposed of 3800 cubic yards non-perishable debris from residents



Orange Beach Sportsplex renovations



ALDOT median improvement project on Perdido Beach Boulevard



COASTAL RESOURCES



Originally established as a division in 2004 with two staff members, Orange Beach Coastal Resources became a standalone department in 2018. Under the management of Director Phillip West, 11 full-time and 30 part-time and seasonal staff are committed to preserving and maintaining the local beaches, trails and wildlife, which so greatly enhance our quality of life and sustain the local tourism-based economy.

IN 2018, ADMINISTRATION:

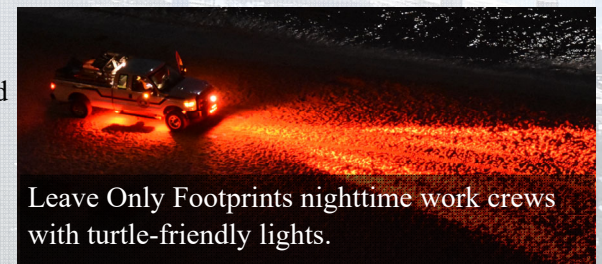
- * Processed eight and issued six Coastal Construction permits for projects on the beach that included five single-family dwellings and 9 cottages, totaling over \$14,000 in fees.
- * Executed a Memorandum of Understanding with Escambia County and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for conservation enhancement of Orange Beach Gulf-front, east of Perdido Pass. This enables the city to permit projects much faster in critical habitat while still protecting these areas.
- * Selected by the State of Alabama to implement and manage \$475,000 study of the Lower Perdido Watershed.
- * Over \$4.5 million in RESTORE/NRDA Projects grants have been submitted and award is anticipated: Lower Perdido Bay/Perdido Pass Navigation Project Hydrodynamic Modeling and Sediment Budget Study; Environmental Restoration of Cotton Bayou and Terry Cove Canals; Gulf Coast Wildlife Recovery & Interpretive Center: Feasibility, Planning and Preliminary Design Phase; Expansion of the Orange Beach Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center; Alabama Point Seawall Restoration; and Sea Turtle Initial Treatment and Triage Facility.
- * Continues to coordinate with Auburn University to develop the Auburn University Gulf Coast Engineering Research Center here in Orange Beach.

BEACH AND INLAND WATERWAYS:

- * Beach ambassadors continued education and outreach to beach visitors on the Leave Only Footprints program via 47,065 public interactions.
- * Relocated 2779 tents, filled 1475 unsafe holes, and made 1727 stops for glass on the beach.
- * Evening clean sweep crew removed 5043 chairs, 1244 umbrellas, 496 tents, 1962 boogie boards, and 1597 floats that were abandoned on our beaches.
- * All total in 2018 - 7.4 tons of trash, 22.4 tons of metal, and 3.8 tons of recyclables were removed by Orange Beach staff from our beaches.
- * Shoreline Enhancement Program picked up an additional 69,712 lbs of trash and marine debris from the local waterways surrounding Orange Beach and the islands.
- * The Dauphin Island Sea Lab Foundation presented Leave Only Footprints with the 2018 Gulf Coast Marine Environmental Manager Leadership Award.



Keeping the beaches clean of trash and debris.



Leave Only Footprints nighttime work crews with turtle-friendly lights.



Beach ambassadors at work educating the public.



COASTAL RESOURCES



WILDLIFE

- * The Orange Beach Wildlife Center had over 400 animals processed through our state and federally permitted rehabilitation program.
- * Hosted our 3rd Annual Gulf Coast Wildlife Symposium which has provided training and education to hundreds of wildlife professionals throughout the region.

Public Outreach

- * Wildlife Wednesdays on the trail for 12 weeks
- * Wildlife Workshops hosted at Hampton Inn for 6 sessions over 12 weeks
- * Wildlife Talks at Sea Sand and Stars facility for 10 weeks
- * Wildlife Talks at Graham Creek Preserve 4 sessions over 8 weeks
- * Wildlife curriculum based presentations at Elementary school for all classes K-6
- * In total over 300+ school based interactions and 625+ general public interactions
- * Four education ambassador animals were showcased: Izzy the river otter, Walter the



Scarlet Macaw, JB the Great Horned Owl, and Ed the Edu-gator as well as dozens of additional native reptiles.

- * Our successful internship program continued in 2018 and led to three young professionals taking positions in the area: one hired as assistant naturalist at the Gulf State Park, one hired as a supervisor for Coastal Resources and one hired at a wildlife rehabilitation facility in Florida. A fourth intern was also hired at a zoo in Tennessee.
- * The Alabama Coastal Bird Stewardship Program started in 2018 and is thriving due to our partnership with the Birmingham Audubon which provided funding for a conservation position to promote public outreach, education, and communal support as well as ordinance enforcement.





COASTAL RESOURCES



Backcountry Trail
repair and maintenance



TRAIL

- * Featured in Smithsonian Magazine as one of the top 10 Reasons 'Why Alabama's Gulf Coast Should Be Your Next Beach Destination'.
- * Continue to maintain a 4.5 or better rating on TripAdvisor.
- * Conducted dozens of educational tours for various groups throughout 2018.
- * The trail continued to supply organizers with a safe, beautiful setting for walks, fun runs, half and full marathons as well as many cycling events.
- * Awarded a contract for \$311,562 to develop and construct the Hidden Lake Trail near the Sportsplex, of which \$116,000 will be reimbursed to the City by ADECA.
- * Replaced two of the four engineered wooden bridge decks that were in poor condition.
- * Continued to coordinate with the Gulf State Park on design and installation of the improvements being made as part of the new lodge project. This included new signs, interpretive items and trailside amenities.
- * Installed raised beds at the Community Garden to improve conditions for gardeners.

WIND AND WATER LEARNING CENTER

- * 2018 Summer Sail Camp produced 205 young sailors.
- * After School Sailing Club continued this year with hopes of a team forming to compete at the local level in 2019.
- * Hosted Full Moon Paddles and Mom/Dad Sail Days.
- * Completed upgrades and repairs at many of the Canoe Trail sites.



Students learn to sail in the waters of Wolf Bay.



A 2018 sail camp class at the Wind and Water Learning Center on Wolf Bay.



PARKS & RECREATION



Under the direction of Ken Grimes, the City of Orange Beach's Parks and Recreation facilities are made up of the Sportsplex, Recreation Center, Aquatics Center, Tennis Center, Adult/Senior Activity Center, Golf Center, Indian & Sea Museum, Camp Sunshine, Expect Excellence and concessions/vending.

SPORTSPLEX & ATHLETICS

The 45-acre Orange Beach Sportsplex includes five baseball fields, 4 softball fields, 3 soccer fields, two sand volleyball courts and two trailheads.

In 2018:

- * The city took over the baseball and softball programs previously ran by the Orange Beach Sports Association.

- * The city developed and managed two additional sports for local youth:

Sand Volleyball

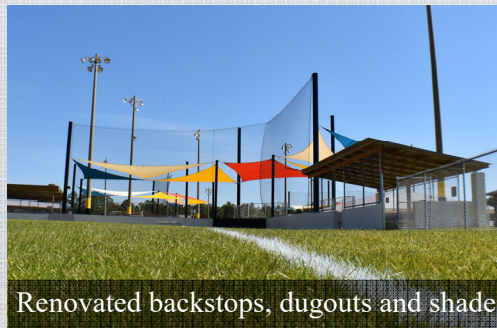
- o First recreation-based volleyball league offered in Baldwin County.
- o Available to local boys and girls ages 10-16 years.
- o Season ran from early April to late May.

Flag Football

- o First time flag football has been offered as a recreation league sport in Orange Beach.
- o Available to local boys and girls ages 5- 12 years.
- o Season ran from early December (2018) to late January (2019).

- * The renovation on fields 1-5 was completed in February.
 - o New dugouts with improved airflow and accessibility
 - o New outfield fencing
 - o New backstop model which includes pro-style netting and a decorative block wall
 - o Added colorful shade structures over each set of bleachers
- * The renovation on fields 9-12 (same upgrades as fields 1-5 received) began in Fall of 2018

- * A new Vending and Concession storage building was constructed to provide a more efficient and central location for food, equipment and supplies. The new building has a small office, freezers, and shelving, along with an open space to house equipment.



Renovated backstops, dugouts and shade



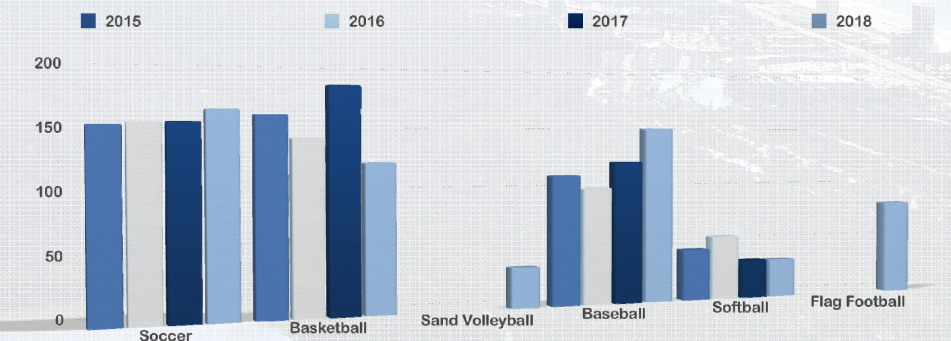
Inaugural flag football



Sand volleyball league

ORANGE BEACH ATHLETICS - YOUTH SPORTS PARTICIPANTS - 2015-2018

SPORT	2015	2016	2017	2018
Soccer	152	154	154	164
Basketball	160	142	184	122
Sand Volleyball	0	0	0	34
Baseball	110	99	121	150
Softball	44	55	33	33
Flag Football	0	0	0	82





PARKS & RECREATION



ADULT/SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Amenities include arts and crafts, game room, multi-purpose room, and a screened porch overlooking Wolf Bay. Programs are offered throughout the year by professional staff.



2018 participants, total: 10,422 individuals
Fitness Classes: 2,154
Cards/Games: 6,148
Trips/Lectures, Arts & Crafts: 1,491
Blood Pressure Checks: 401
AARP Tax Service: 228
Facility Rentals – 61

CAMP SUNSHINE

- * **2018 After School** starting in 2018 - 92 children
- * **Summer Camp -** 120 children
- * **After School** ending in 2018 - 57 children
- * **Home School** started in August 2018 on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - average 30 children



AQUATICS CENTER

The Orange Beach Aquatics Center is dedicated to serving the community needs with a facility that includes a 25-yard outdoor heated pool, an 11 1/2 foot diving well with a 1 meter board, tube slide, and a 25 x 25 foot wading/children's pool with spray features and a slide. Programs are designed for all.

2018 FACILITY USAGE

- * Member: 4,988
- * Daily Passes: 2,452
- * Total: 7,440

2018 PROGRAMS

- * **Swimming lessons:** 133 total, made up of 62 private, 38 group, 24 Camp Sunshine and 9 Kid's Plus.
- * **SCUBA:** 149 total, made up of 6 from High Pressure Dive Shop, 6 with Down Under Dive Shop, 119 open water, 12 SEAL Team, 12 independent instructors.
- * **Summer Camps:** 277 total enrollment, made up of 120 from Camp Sunshine, 50 from Expect

Excellence, 24 from Kid's Plus, 20 from South Baldwin Christian Academy, 50 from Academics Prekindergarten Blue Angel and 12 from Orange Beach Surf Rescue's Jr. Lifeguard Program.

- * **Classes:** Water Aerobics: 2010 participants; Lifeguard: 5; CPR & First Aid: 3
- * **Rentals:** 8 birthday parties and 52 locker rentals.

2018 PROJECTS

- * Spray Feature in Kiddie pool was painted by Savannah Litton and clear coated by Aquatics Staff.
- * Kiddie Pool tile was completed.

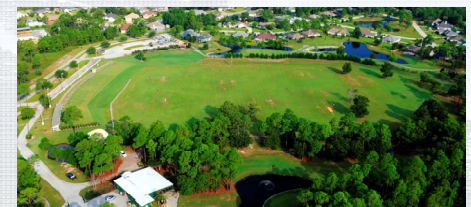


Toddler swim lesson



Water aerobics class

- * Kiddie pool slide was plumbed into bubbler system, which allows water to run down the slide.
- * Large tube slide was replaced.
- * Primed/painted kiddie pool slide
- * Installed swim suit dryer to women's restroom
- * Replaced about 60 tiles on lap pool.
- * Pump room was painted.
- * Added 2 additional picnic tables in picnic area.



GOLF CENTER

- * 11,418 rounds of golf played
- * Paid rounds - 6,127
- * Member rounds - 5,291



PARKS & RECREATION



RECREATION CENTER

- * 2018 was a year of continued growth trends in all aspects of the Orange Beach Recreation Center; including existing programs, new program development, general attendance and membership.
- * The Orange Beach Recreation Center underwent two major renovations in 2018 with changes to the existing fitness area and the addition of three rooms for our Expect Excellence program.
- * Programs continued to increase throughout the year of 2018 with continually rising Pickleball attendance and the start of Expect Excellence.
- * Increase in overall usage with 92,893 total recorded entrances in 2018.
- * Increase of memberships with a total of 2,495 members in 2018.
- * As Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America, the Rec Center is experiencing that trend with a total of 5,848 Pickleball players in attendance in 2018.

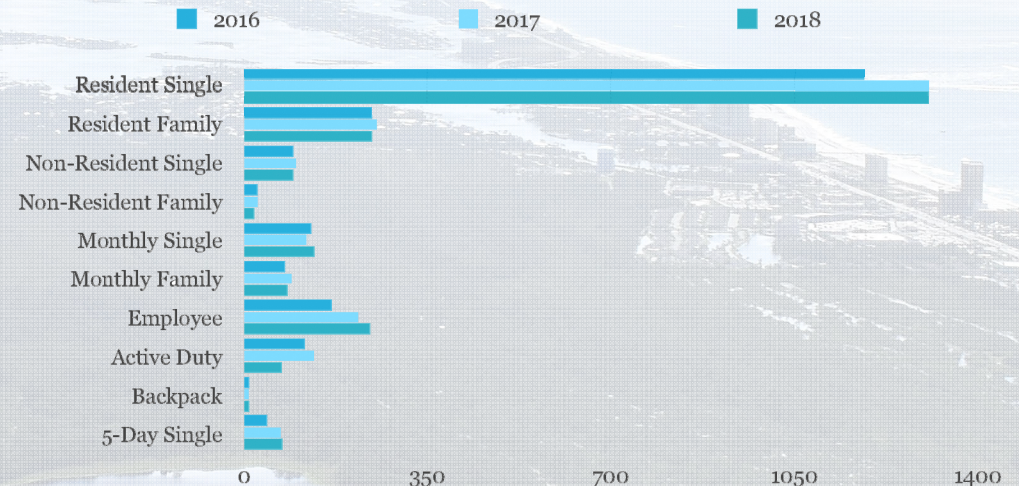


Pickleball play



Renovated 24/7 fitness area at Orange Beach Recreation Center.

	2016	2017	2018
Resident Single	1184	1308	1307
Resident Family	244	254	244
Non-Resident Single	93	99	94
Non-Resident Family	25	27	19
Monthly Single	129	120	135
Monthly Family	77	91	83
Employee	168	219	241
Active Duty	117	135	71
Backpack	10	10	10
5-Day Single	44	70	73





PARKS & RECREATION



In March 2018, Mayor Tony Kennon and the City Council began “Expect Excellence,” a new program geared at after-school training in academics, arts and athletics. Under the direction of Jonathan Langston, Expect Excellence serves students in second grade and up at no cost.



Programs that are offered throughout the week include:

- * Academics: homework lab, remedial and advanced studies, strategy games and robotics and coding.
- * Arts: theater, culinary arts, visual arts, advanced visual arts, graphic design, art of living, and dance.
- * Music arts include: voice, guitar, piano, and drum ensemble.
- * Athletics: speed, strength and agility, baseball/softball, soccer, volleyball, basketball, flag football and track & field.

RECREATION CENTER RENOVATIONS

* The 24/7 Fitness Room renovations involved the removal of seven walls to create a completely open space with a total of 4,380 square feet to allow for ease of flow and additional equipment for our members and citizens.



* The Expect Excellence renovations included adding three rooms to use for music instruction (guitar, piano and voice) as well as full recording studio capabilities.

ORANGE BEACH INDIAN & SEA MUSEUM

The museum on John Snook Drive houses local artifacts and memorabilia from the city's early days. Families of early fisherman donated supplies and collectibles that makes all visitors mindful of early challenges & achievements.

2018 visitors: 1,679 people from all over the Southeast as well as England, Puerto Rico, Ukraine, Wales, Poland, Ecuador, South Africa and Ireland.





EVENT CENTER / SPECIAL EVENTS



EVENT CENTER / COMMUNITY CENTER / SPECIAL EVENTS

The Orange Beach Event Center features 18,000 square feet of rentable space and can be configured in a variety of ways to serve various sized meetings, exhibits and receptions. The Event Center can accommodate from 25 to 2500 people. The Community Center is a 5,000-square-foot facility that can accommodate approximately 300 people. It is available for meetings, events and parties.

IN 2018, THE EVENT CENTER:

- * Hosted 94 events, and in use for 230 days with 41,700 attendees.
- * Hosted a variety of functions, 36 meeting/conference/expo; 25 social/balls/weddings; 13 miscellaneous/entertainment; 12 sports; and 6 religious events.
- * Upgraded sound and video equipment.
- * Over 50 percent of event attendees were from out of town.



COMMUNITY CENTER

- * Hosted 117 events and in use for 187 days.
- * Home to a variety of community functions, mostly meetings and social events.
- * Upgraded sound system.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- * Produced five large community events: Orange Beach Mardi Gras Parade, Orange Beach Seafood Festival, Orange Beach Police Kids' Night Out, Baldwin Pops on the Lawn, and Orange Beach Christmas Tree Lighting. Attendance ranged from 400 (Kids' Night Out, Pops Concert, tree lighting) to 12,000 (Seafood Fest) to 40,000 (Mardi Gras).
- * Installed third new Historical Marker at City Hall Complex, which followed markers at Perdido Pass, and Romar Beach Bed & Breakfast.
- * Permitted over 30 Special Events that occurred in Orange Beach.





COASTAL ARTS CENTER

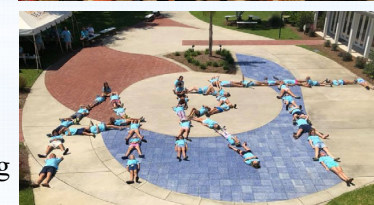


Under the management of Director Desiree Blackwell, the Coastal Arts Center of Orange Beach campus overlooks scenic Wolf Bay and offers many artistic experiences with a breathtaking view. The stunning 10,000-square-foot fine art gallery features a spacious two-story building displaying works by Gulf Coast artists. The Coastal Arts Center essentially contains four small businesses in one: a glass-blowing facility (The Hot Shop); a pottery studio (Clay Studio); a fine arts gallery with an education center; and wedding/corporate event rental space. Each of the divisions experienced growth in 2018 and overall sales were up significantly, including remarkable fine art sales, which reflect both the quality of the featured artists as well as the market desire for art.



In 2018, the Coastal Arts Center:

- * Created multiple new offerings including The Listening Room series of concerts and an after-school program for at-risk kids.
- * Designed, manufactured and installed a glass art feature (two lighted towers) on the art-center courtyard to exhibit the names of people or businesses who have donated funds to the Coastal Arts Center.
- * Without advertisement, hosted 32 weddings (exceeding goal of 30) and three large corporate events were booked.
- * Earned a 4.9 Google rating, and a 5.0 rating on Trip Advisor.
- * Had The Hot Shop artists selected to create a permanent glass art installation for the remodeled Orange Beach Welcome Center, which includes two large-scale pieces.
- * Received news that the Festival of Art was selected by the national festival industry magazine "Sunshine Artist" as a 2018 "Must See – Contenders" show ... one of 11 in the nation!
- * Welcomed a record number of patrons at the 2018 Festival of Art on day one and a record number of artist applications were received for the 2019 show.



"The Coastal Arts Center is the crown jewel of the Orange Beach/Gulf Shores Gulf Coast area, showcasing 100 Gulf Coast artists in a stunning bayfront gallery and offering hands-on experiences in hot glass and cool clay. With a staff known for their Southern hospitality and building relationships, 2018 brought extremely positive growth without a significant marketing investment. We believe this trend will continue for 2019 and we look forward to providing unique memory-making encounters for our local residents, our seasonal visitors and our rental guests." —Director Desiree Blackwell



LOGISTICS/ADMINISTRATION



LOGISTICS

The Logistics Division is under the Administration Department of the city and provides support, assistance and technical services to citywide events produced by all departments. Under the direction of Chris Litton, Logistics provides audio/visual, tents, barricades, labor, video production and general repairs citywide. The Logistics Division began as two men and a truck and has grown into a unique team.

In 2018, Logistics assisted with set up and ran all audio/video for the following events:

- * Coastal Arts Center Listening Rooms
- * Orange Beach High School / Middle School groundbreaking
- * Historical marker dedications
- * Gulf Shores High School graduation at The Wharf Amphitheater
- * Seafood Festival and Car Show
- * Festival of Art
- * Mardi Gras parades
- * World Food Championships
- * Cruising the Coast Alabama Car Show
- * Snowbird Town Hall meeting
- * Gulf Shores High School Scared Straight Pre-Prom event
- * Christmas Tree Lighting at The Wharf
- * Orange Beach Fire Department 25th anniversary celebration
- * Relay For Life Full Moon Paddles
- * Orange Beach Police Department Kids' Night Out event
- * Coastal Resources Winter Wonderland event at Sportsplex Trailhead

Projects Logistics either completed as a whole or assisted with:

- * Working with Orange Beach Fire and Police personnel to spend five days in Bay County, Florida assisting with the Hurricane Michael relief effort.
- * Coordinating with Operation Reconnect to facilitate 50 military families reuniting right after deployment to stay in donated beach accommodations.
- * Rebuilding the public access pier on Washington Avenue.
- * Rebuilding Kids Park and continues to make great progress.
- * Providing support to the AOPA Fly-In and secured a F-16 Falcon from the USAF 182nd Fighter Wing for the event at Jack Edwards Airport.



Audio/visual tech support at events

Additionally, Logistics:

- * Has constructed, placed and maintains the Turtle Toy boxes for the Leave Only Footprints program on the public access beaches in the city.
- * Coordinated the Friends of Army Aviation Ozark UH-1 Huey flights in Orange Beach.
- * Constructed a "Green Room" at City Hall and has been conducting interviews with local veterans as well as producing PSAs for the city.
- * Acquired several portable backup generators and made them viable units as well as maintaining all backup generators throughout the city.
- * Acquired and maintains barricades and trailers for use at city events.
- * Coordinated with the USMC to provide Marines to assist with barricade placement and removal during Mardi Gras 2018.
- * Logistics coordinates and hosts the city's Youth Shooting Sports Events and had over 200 children attend in 2018.



Video production in City Hall green room



Maintenance & repair projects



PUBLIC LIBRARY



The Orange Beach Public Library, led by Director Steven A. Gillis, serves the citizens of Orange Beach (census population 6,029) and the surrounding area. It is a member of the Baldwin County Library Cooperative and serves a seasonal population of “snowbirds” who are heavy users of library resources.

- * There were over 3,300 Orange Beach Public Library cards used between October 1, 2017 and the end of September 2018 (the State Fiscal Year). With a full-time resident population of around 6,000, this huge level of activity indicates the value our visitors place on the library. But even more impressive is the fact that of these users, over 54% are locals! That’s about 25% of the local census, which has used the library during the last year. These numbers do include some County residents and people who work in, but do not live within the Orange Beach city limits. The library treats the city’s greater area as “locals,” as the library deems the workforce and regular visitors from nearby locations in Baldwin County to be part of the primary service community. Almost 1000 new cards were created in the 2018 Fiscal year. Some of these are replacements for long-lost cards due to deleted accounts, but most of these are patrons joining the library for the very first time, indicating a distinct pattern of growth.
- * The rapid change in technology demands that the library constantly evaluate the infrastructure it provides. The library must position itself to respond quickly to changes to meet the increasing needs of the Orange Beach community. With the newly built computers, little updates were needed. Instead a focus on staff training on installation of software took place for 2018.
- * The Orange Beach Public Library was the first library in the state to be recognized for the achievement of library standards by the Public Library Division of the Alabama Library Association at the Blue Ribbon level (1996). It is once again proud to be the recipient of the highest standards award, now called “the Gold Standard,” for its 2014 service year. This was the first time that the Library has applied for and received recognition for these standards since the original award in 1996. Currently, since our statistics are all higher, we are confident we still meet these standards, and have chosen not to reapply for this award.
- * The Orange Beach Public Library is committed to innovative planning and creative action in our organization, our profession, and our community.



Our 2018 Summer Reading program attendance of 1,936 was up an amazing 28% over 2017! The Children’s Librarian Cassie Chenoweth offered a total of 52 programs!





DIRECTORY



- * **ADMINISTRATION | CITY HALL | MAYOR'S OFFICE**
4099 ORANGE BEACH BLVD. (MAIL: P.O. BOX 458)
251-981-6979 | INFO LINE at 251-980-INFO (4636)
 - * **ART CENTER | 26389 Canal Road**
251-981-ARTS (2787)
 - * **AQUATIC CENTER | 4853 Wilson Blvd.**
251-974-SWIM (7946)
 - * **CAMP SUNSHINE (After School Program) | 4951 Walker Lane**
251-974-2336
 - * **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | 4101 Orange Beach Blvd.**
251-981-2610
 - * **COASTAL RESOURCES | 4101 Orange Beach Blvd.**
251-981-1063
 - * **COMMUNITY CENTER | 27235 Canal Road**
 - * **COURT / JUSTICE CENTER | 4480 Orange Beach Blvd.**
251-981-2444
 - * **DOG PARK | 27920 Canal Road**
 - * **EVENT CENTER | 4671 Wharf Parkway**
251-981-6629
 - * **FINANCE DEPT. | 4151 Orange Beach Blvd. | P.O. Box 1159**
251-981-6096
 - * **FIRE DEPARTMENT | 25853 John Snook Drive**
251-981-6166
Surf Rescue Daily Beach Report, 251-981-SURF (7873)
Fire Station No. 1 | 25855 John Snook Drive | 251-981-2636
Fire Station No. 2 | 27280 Canal Road | 251-981-2635
Fire Station No. 4 | Ono Island | 251-980-5147
Fire Station No. 5 | 4550 Main Street at The Wharf
 - * **GOLF CENTER | 24401 Canal Road**
251-981-4653
 - * **LIBRARY | 26267 Canal Road**
251-981-2923
 - * **MARINE POLICE**
251-981-8540
 - * **MUSEUM | 25850 John Snook Drive**
251-981-8545
 - * **POLICE DEPARTMENT | 4480 Orange Beach Blvd.**
251-981-9777
 - * **RECREATION CENTER | 4849 Wilson Blvd.**
251-981-6028
 - * **SENIOR CENTER | 26251 Canal Road**
251-981-3440
 - * **SEWER PLANT | 23908 Canal Road**
251-974-5216
 - * **SPORTSPLEX | 4389 William Silvers Pkwy.**
251-981-6626
 - * **STREET DEPT. / PUBLIC WORKS | 4400 William Silvers Pkwy.**
251-923-5858
 - * **TENNIS COURTS | 4851 Wilson Blvd.**
 - * **WILDLIFE CENTER**
Wildlife calls dispatched by Orange Beach Police, 251-981-9777
 - * **WIND & WATER LEARNING CENTER | 26233 Canal Road**
251-974-7245
- ### MISCELLANEOUS NUMBERS
- Baldwin EMC | 251-968-7585
 - Beach Express | 251-968-3415
 - Chamber of Commerce | 251-968-6904
 - Clark Mobile Gas | 251-974-5432
 - Tourism Bureau | 251-968-7511 or 1-800-745-7263
 - Gulf State Park | 251-948-7275
 - Orange Beach Water Authority | 251-981-4233
 - Post Office | 251-981-5510
 - Welcome Center | 251-974-1510 or 1-800-982-8562



STAY CONNECTED



FACEBOOK PAGES:

- City of Orange Beach (@OrangeBeach)
- Fire Department (@OrangeBeachFire)
- Police Department (@OrangeBeachPD)
- Surf Rescue (@OrangeBeachSurfRescue)
- Recreation Center (@OrangeBeachRecreationCenter)
- Coastal Arts Center (@CoastalArtCenter)

- Athletics (@CityofOrangeBeachAthletics)
- Coastal Resources (@OBCoastalResources)
- Event Center (@OrangeBeachEventCenter)
- Wildlife Center (@OBWildlife)
- Golf Center (@OBGolfCenter)

- Aquatics Center (@OrangeBeachAquaticsCenter)
- Indian & Sea Museum (@OrangeBeachMuseum)
- Orange Beach Festival of Art (@OBFestivalofArt)
- The Clay Studio (@ClayStudioOrangeBeach)
- The Hot Shop (@TheHotShop)
- Wind & Water Learning Center (@WindandWaterLearning)
- Orange Beach Mardi Gras (@OrangeBeachMardiGras)
- Public Library (@OrangeBeachPublicLibrary)
- High School (@OrangeBeachHS)
- Middle School (@OrangeBeachMS)
- Elementary School (@OrangeBeachElementary)
- School Athletics (@OBMakoAthletics)



TWITTER PAGES:

- City of Orange Beach (@CityOrangeBeach)
- Fire Department (@OrangeBeachFire)
- Police Department (@OrangeBeachPD)



INSTAGRAM PAGES:

- City of Orange Beach (@CityofOrangeBeach)
- Police Department (@OrangeBeachPD)
- Surf Rescue (@OrangeBeachSurfRescue)
- Coastal Arts Center (@coastalartsctr)



ORANGE BEACH NEWSLETTER

Sign up online for the weekly newsletter
at www.orangebeachal.gov/community-newsletter

