



2019  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



CLEARWATER  
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL • BAY TO BEACH

# OUR TOP

# ACCOMPLIS



The Public Communications and Information Technology departments improved the accessibility of about

**90%** of the city's website so that information is available to people with disabilities. This was accomplished by converting PDF documents to webpages and by adding alternative text to hundreds of website images.



The Community Redevelopment Agency hosted the Dreams of Dalí Virtual Reality Experience installation in partnership with The Dalí Museum at Second Century Studios.



Clearwater is proud to have been named the

# NO. 1

beach in the United States for the second year in a row and No. 6 in the world by TripAdvisor.com.



The city constructed a new Emergency Operations Center at the fire training facility on Belcher Road.



The Human Resources Department completed and implemented a comprehensive classification and compensation study with an outside contractor, Public Sector Personnel Consultants, to ensure that job titles and descriptions accurately matched the work city employees perform and that salaries are competitive with a predetermined market. The department negotiated a collective bargaining agreement with the Communication Workers of America union to implement study recommendations.



The Community Redevelopment Agency launched the Downtown Clearwater Mural Program, which resulted in four unique murals beautifying downtown sites.

Select sites of the city's libraries and recreation centers partnered with the United States Department of Agriculture and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to provide nearly

# 1,700

free, nutritious meals and snacks to children and teens through the Summer BreakSpot program at the Main Library.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

The city of Clearwater is proud to present its Fiscal Year 2018/19 Annual Report, which covers Oct. 1, 2018, through Sept. 30, 2019. Here are Clearwater's top accomplishments citywide – listed in alphabetical order – that spanned this timeframe.



The Solid Waste Department expanded its recycling outreach efforts and worked with the Public Communications Department to launch a comprehensive recycling contamination re-education campaign, in efforts to help mitigate residents' unintentional contamination of recycling materials in city recycling bins.

Clearwater Gas System added 1,700 residential and commercial customers, an increase of seven percent. The department added more than

**35** miles of gas pipelines, surpassing 1,000 miles of mains and serving 26,000 gas customers.

Clearwater Public Library System offered nearly 200 specialized programs for Clearwater's Hispanic community including English as a Second Language, or ESOL, tutoring and language practice sessions, technology classes, book groups, holiday celebrations and citizenship classes that served more than 1,300 residents.



Parks & Recreation celebrated the completion of the Morningside Recreation Center. The 20,998-square-foot facility houses a gymnasium, fitness center, multi-purpose rooms and pools. The \$5.6-million facility was paid for mostly through Penny for Pinellas.



The city joined Nextdoor, a hyperlocal social media platform, to communicate with residents at large and in specific neighborhoods. Nextdoor users in Clearwater neighborhoods increased from 10,636 to more than 20,800 verified residents after the city started using the platform.



The Utility Customer Service Department increased access to its paperless billing program. The number of customers who receive paperless billing went from 5,500 last year to 20,000 users this year.



The police department saw significant drops in several categories of crime. Through partnerships with the community to prevent and address crime-related issues, the department achieved a 32 percent reduction in burglary offenses,

**31%** percent reduction in stolen vehicle offenses and a 13.5 percent reduction in robbery offenses. (Statistics based on fiscal year to date, not calendar year.)



The city's Engineering Department and Clearwater Public Utilities completed the installation of two subaqueous lines under the Intracoastal Waterway between Clearwater Beach and the mainland. The lines are not currently in use and are ready and available in the event of water line failures for drinking water, sewer or reclaimed water to Clearwater Beach. The lines are in addition to existing service lines and offer a proactive strategy to ensure the reliability of the water system.



The city's complete listing of annual report accomplishments will be available online at [myclearwater.com/annualreport](http://myclearwater.com/annualreport).

# WHERE THE MONEY GOES

The 2018/19 budget was \$532,010,000 for citywide services, a decrease of \$34.7 million across all city operations. The General Fund budget reflected expenditures of \$148,139,000, an increase of 10 percent from the 2017/18 budget of \$134,945,720. The city's approved millage rate is 5.955 mills.

**FY 2018/19  
General Fund Expenditures  
Operating Budget \$148.1 Million**

