



City of New Smyrna Beach

October 11, 2023

RE: Status of Live Oak Cultural Center

Dear New Smyrna Beach,

I wanted to take a moment to provide an update to everyone who has been and will continue to be impacted by the temporary closure of the Live Oak Cultural Center.

Since the beginning of the temporary closure of the Live Oak Cultural Center in late July 2023, city staff have been working to resolve ongoing air conditioning and temperature issues within the building. These issues are at the root of the problem the building has faced recently. City staff have worked with TRANE to troubleshoot, fix, and order the necessary parts for the air conditioning units to now have them functioning in proper fashion.

Remediation of center will begin Friday, October 13, 2023. Once remediation is complete, the city will have an Indoor Air Quality Assessment conducted to ensure the center is fit for re-opening.

Remediation along with any needed remodeling and the requisite air quality assessments must be completed prior to the center re-opening and resuming regularly scheduled activities. The city's intent is to have the center re-opened by December 1, 2023. This target date is subject to change as we move through this process and potential issues arise.

City staff have been in consistent communication with the Council on Aging of Volusia County (COA) regarding the status of the cultural center. Currently the COA has moved their Meals on Wheels program to Babe James Community Center. In an effort to best allow the COA to resume their congregate dining and regularly scheduled programming, the city has been working to complete upgrades and needed maintenance of the Multi-Purpose Room at City Gym. The Multi-Purpose Room will be made available to the COA to conduct both Meals on Wheels and congregate dining by the end of the month of October.

This memo is to provide an update regarding our actions to date and our plans moving forward.

Our staff is extremely grateful for everyone's continued patience as we work through this process and effort to get the Live Oak Cultural Center back open as soon as possible.

Kindly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rob Salazar".

Rob Salazar
Leisure Services Director
City of New Smyrna Beach