

Impact Update for Tuesday, November 24



Photo Credit: Mark Thor (Orlando City Soccer Club)

Each week, we will distribute our Impact Update newsletter on Thursdays. We encourage you to share this information with friends, families, and business owners who may be able to take advantage of the resources and programming options listed below.

Jason Siegel
President & CEO
Greater Orlando Sports Commission

“The greatness of a man is not how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively.”

– Bob Marley

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ORLANDO.
MAKE THE
PROMISE.

SAFER
STRONGER
TOGETHER

#DoYourPartORL

Local Resources.

- Visit these pages for the most critical local health and government updates, as well as COVID-19 Testing Site Locations:
 - **City of Orlando:** [COVID-19 Homepage](#) | [Testing Sites](#)
 - **Orange County:** [COVID-19 Homepage](#) | [Testing Sites](#)
 - **Osceola County:** [COVID-19 Homepage](#) | [Testing Sites](#)
 - **Lake County:** [COVID-19 Homepage](#) | [Testing Sites](#)
 - **Seminole County:** [COVID-19 Homepage](#) | [Testing Sites](#)
- **Facial Coverings Executive Orders** are still in effect for both [Orange County](#) and [Seminole County](#), as this protective measure prevents the spread of COVID-19.
- **City of Orlando Updates:**
 - In an effort to attract quality retail operators to the area, the **City of Orlando's Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)** created the **Retail Stimulus Program**. [Applicants are eligible to receive up to \\$75,000 or 50% of the total cost of tenant improvement related costs, whichever is less.](#) Improvement related costs include electrical upgrades, plumbing, flooring, lighting, and more. Applicants will also be able to receive a one-time award of up to \$25,000 to cover rent expenses.
 - The **City of Orlando's CRA** has also created the **Small Business Rental Assistance Program** in partnership with the **Orlando Economic Partnership (OEP)**. This program will allow eligible small businesses in downtown [to apply for a rent subsidy for up to \\$5,000 per month](#) for a maximum of \$30,000 per business.
 - The **Downtown Development Board (DDB)** Special Event Funding program [will now provide up to \\$3,000 to qualifying downtown businesses](#) to support reopening marketing efforts. [Apply for funding here.](#)
 - **Park DTO** has been extended through **Feb. 1, 2021!** Patrons can enjoy FREE parking in metered street spaces and inside specific **City of Orlando** garages, while dining and shopping in **Downtown Orlando**. [Click here to learn more](#) about **Park DTO**. Eligible business owners can [click here](#) to apply for parking validations to provide to your patrons.
 - **Discover Downtown** – the downtown Orlando information center – is seeking vendors [to participate in a pop-up shop throughout the month of December](#). Interested vendors must fill out the [vendor form](#) and notate it is

for Holiday Vendor Pop-Up consideration.

- **Orange County Updates:**

- **Orange County Government** is giving away free PPE to **small businesses** located in **Orange County** to help them adhere to CDC guidelines. The PPE kit distribution including disposable face masks and hand sanitizers will take place on **Dec. 1-3** at three pick-up sites – **Downey Park, Cypress Grove Park and West Orange Park**. [Pre-registration is required](#).
- **Mayor Demings** announced another \$30 million dollars will be available for the **Orange CARES for Individuals and Family Assistance Program**. The program will provide a one-time payment of \$1,000 per household for residents affected by COVID-19. Residents who have already received funding from the previous **Individual and Family Assistance Program** are not eligible to apply. Updated information is available [here](#). The portal re-opened this morning, Nov. 24, at 8am.
- **Orange County Government** is partnering with **CareerSource Central Florida** and **Valencia College** to offer a variety of short-term, vocational training courses at the **Orange County Convention Center**, beginning Monday, Nov. 30, 2020. Residents can apply for tuition assistance through **CareerSource Central Florida's "Help is Here" grant program**.
- **Orange County** launched a **COVID-19 Eviction Diversion Program** that will [provide assistance for up to three months of past due rent](#), with a cap of \$4,000, to residents who have been impacted financially by COVID-19. The program will close to new applicants on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020.
- **Orange County Government** has awarded a **Community Development Block Grant** of more than \$570,000 dollars to **Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando & Osceola County**. The grant funding [will provide free roof repairs to residents in Unincorporated Orange County, and select municipalities such as Apopka and Winter Park](#). Applications are currently closed, but check the website regularly for updates as the application program may re-open in the coming weeks.
- **Orange County Health Services Department** is providing free flu vaccinations. Getting a flu vaccine is more important than ever during a pandemic because it can save resources for the care of patients with COVID-19. [Click here to book an appointment](#).
- To assist low-income **Orange County** residents with spay/neuter costs, **Orange County Animal Services** announced a new voucher program making these free services available. [Click here for program details and to obtain a voucher](#) for a free spay or neuter service visit.

- **Osceola County Updates:**

- After receiving \$3.2 million in funding from the **Federal CARES Act**, **Osceola County** is expanding their program to help small businesses throughout the county, including the cities of **Kissimmee** and **St. Cloud**. Visit [WeveOpenedSafely.com](#) for more information and to apply.

- **Lake County Updates:**

- The **Lake County Board of County Commissioners** voted to allocate \$15,000,000 in **CARES Act** funding to resident assistance. Eligible Lake County residents who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19 may receive up to \$4,000 in rent/mortgage assistance. [Click here](#) to learn about the program criteria and required documents, deadline to apply is Nov. 30.

- **Seminole County Updates**

- **Seminole County's** COVID-responsible business listing site is live for business owners to begin promoting their businesses. Visit [SeminoleSafeBusiness.com](#) and click "Submit a Business" at the top of the page to begin. The site is intended to help promote businesses that are

- taking action to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- If you have been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and live in Seminole County, **The Sharing Center** is currently accepting applications for rent/mortgage and utilities assistance. [Click here for program criteria](#) and to learn how to apply.
- Covering Central Florida** offers health coverage and a Special Enrollment Period [for individuals who have been laid off related to COVID-19](#).
- Additional Resources:**
 - Orlando Health** has [a website specifically designed for those in the business community returning to normal operations](#). The site features tips and best practices from medical experts, including facts about COVID-19.
 - AdventHealth CentraCare's Employer Resources hub** [provides a vast number of resources to assist businesses as they reopen](#). Their team of physicians and clinical experts can assist with business re-opening through consultation, comprehensive safety plan development and key services.
 - OUC** has launched the **Small Business Assistance Fund**, which provides up to \$2,500 in utility assistance for small businesses facing financial hardship due to COVID-19. Aid will be in the form of a credit adjustment on your next **OUC** bill. [Click here for more information and to apply](#).
 - OneBlood** is testing all blood donations for the COVID-19 antibody. The test is authorized by the **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** and will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to the virus, regardless of whether they ever showed symptoms. Appointments to donate are required. [Click here for more information](#).
 - Join **Orlando Regional Chamber** members for the inaugural – and virtual – "Business Opportunities Network" event on Dec. 10 from 9am-10am. Using **Remo**, a new digital platform that functions almost like an in-person event, [you'll join in conversations with other participants at virtual tables](#).

Stay Engaged.

- This Saturday, Nov. 28 is **Small Business Saturday**, a day dedicated to supporting small businesses in communities across the country. We hope you'll join us in shopping small throughout the City Beautiful this holiday season!*
- Mayor Jerry Demings** has launched the **2020 Mayor's Toy Drive** with local media partner **Fox 35**. This year, toy drive participants [can shop online and choose from over 500 toys to donate \(deadline: Dec. 7\) or drop off toys at county-wide collection sites \(deadline: Dec. 14\)](#).
- From the **Orlando Sentinel**: No technology can ever fully replace an in-person holiday gathering. [But it is possible to re-create some family traditions online](#) or even learn new skills — like roasting turkey.
- #DisneyMagicMoments**: [Celebrating Wondrous Animal Births and Disney's Animals, Science and Environment Team this Thanksgiving Season](#)
- It's almost time for the annual holiday edition of **What's Up Downtown!** [This year, enjoy performances song and dance performances](#) by **Mad Cow Theatre**, **Russian Ballet Orlando**, and **Opera Orlando**. Pack up your lunch and head to the **Walt Disney Amphitheater at Lake Eola Park** on Dec. 3 (11:30am) for this free event!
- Join **i4 Business Magazine** in celebrating some of the most admired and influential individuals shaping the future of Central Florida at the **2020 Business Leaders of the Year** event! [Click here to register now](#) for the Dec. 10 virtual event.
- Even though some December holidays are more than a month away, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at the **Orlando Museum of Art**. The **Festival of Trees** [has returned for its 34th year of holiday cheer](#) with the theme "Joy to the World."

- The new **Dazzling Nights** holiday event [will feature lights, music, and interactive elements](#) to complete the transformation of the 50-acre, **Harry P. Leu Gardens** into a stunning holiday wonderland from Dec. 1, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021.
- When school's out, break camps at the **Orlando Science Center** are in! [Full-day programs are available](#) at the **Stem Discovery Center** for children in Preschool through Grade 5 throughout the school year.
- **Orlando's Main Streets** are committed to joy this season, moving forward with their normal events and even adding to the list (with safety measures in place, of course.) [Find out what's happening in your neighborhood this winter!](#)
- Join **Give Kids the World** for **Night of a Million Lights** now through Jan. 3 and [bask in the glow of more than three million lights while you explore](#) the storybook world that has been the setting of dreams come true for critically ill children and their families for more than 30 years. [Here's a preview](#) from the **Orlando Sentinel!**
- **Toys for Tots Orange County** has begun distributing collection boxes for their annual holiday toy drive. Organizations can [submit a form to become a collection location](#). All toys must be delivered to **Toys for Tots** by Dec. 11, 2020 to ensure timely delivery.
- **Gatorland** is beginning to wrap up 2020 [with a \\$20.21 combo ticket deal](#) dubbed the "Greater Gator Package." It is available throughout November.
- **Universal Orlando's** "Black Friday" deal includes [4 days of theme parks and a 4-night stay](#) at **Cabana Bay Resort**.
- **Florida Residents** looking to visit **Walt Disney World Resort** can "fall" in love with some special offers and [save on magical seasonal experiences](#) at **Magic Kingdom Park, EPCOT** and more.

"In reality, I wasn't really thinking about much. They asked me, 'Are you sure you want to do this?' And the team had all the confidence in me; the technical staff had all the confidence in me."

-Rodrigo Schlegel
Centerback (and substitute Goalkeeper)
Orlando City Soccer Club
See Julia Poe's story on Schlegel below...

Around The Horn.

- **Orlando City's** thrilling penalty-kick shootout victory over **New York City FC** on Saturday was filled with so many highlights, it was difficult to recall every detail. By now, [the highlights of the final half-hour have been canonized into the lore of the club forever.](#)
- From the **Orlando Sentinel's Julia Poe**: Before he became the unlikely hero of **Orlando City's** first playoff match, **Rodrigo Schlegel** [just needed a chance.](#)
- **Orlando City** honored **Rodrigo Schlegel's** iconic performance by [quickly putting his 'goalkeeper' jersey up for sale](#) after the **Lions'** first playoff win.
- **Orlando Magic** 2020 first-round draft pick **Cole Anthony** arrived in Orlando on

Friday, [signed his first professional contract on Saturday and began working out](#) at the team's practice facility on Sunday.

- The **Toronto Raptors** will begin their 2020-21 campaign in **Tampa** [after the Canadian government denied a request](#) to allow **NBA** teams to travel between the two countries. The deal between **Tampa** and the club precludes **Amalie Arena** from serving as an **NHL hub city** for the upcoming season.
- The **Orlando Magic** liked what forward **Gary Clark** showed them during their 13 games in the **NBA** bubble, [convincing the franchise to re-sign him](#).
- **UCF** was disappointed by the loss to **Cincinnati** over the weekend, but the **Knights** [can't linger on it too long with a short week ahead](#) and the "War on I-4" series with **USF** set for this Friday.
- Tickets for the **2021 Ram National Circuit Rodeo Finals** at **Osceola Heritage Park** [are on sale now](#)! The annual event makes its return on April 9-10, 2021.
- The **NBA** has confirmed the start of the 2020-21 season and along with it strict COVID-19 protocols for fans. The **NBA** [will require supporters within 30 feet of the court to test negative for COVID-19 as part of its protocols](#) to all 30 teams.
- **FIFA** is set to introduce new maternity leave protections for female soccer players and coaches, [marking the first time there will be a worldwide standard in the sport](#). Under the new rules, which still need **FIFA Council** approval in December, players would be entitled to a minimum of 14 weeks of maternity leave while making at least two-thirds of their salary.
- **Pope Francis** lauded a delegation of **NBA players** who met with him at the **Vatican** as "champions" [and said he supported their work on addressing social injustice](#).
- From **Front Office Sports**: Once considered a controversial environment for amateur sports, a semi-bubble event called "Bubbleville" [will host more than 40 men's and women's college basketball teams](#) starting on Nov. 25.
- **Five-time All-NBA guard Damian Lillard** is launching **The Visionary Academy**, a [four-month internship program for select student-athletes at 27 high schools](#) across Los Angeles, New York and Chicago.
- [A maximum of 4,000 fans will likely be permitted at outdoor events](#) in **England** in the lowest-risk areas when the four-week national lockdown ends on Dec. 2.
- Did you know that by buying a **Florida sports license plate**, you are supporting youth and amateur athletes? Through grants made possible by the sale of these license plates, young athletes are able to gain the tools and experience they need to perhaps become professional athletes one day ... and amateur athletes of all ages are given the opportunity to become more well-rounded individuals. The additional tag fee is even tax deductible. [Click here to connect with your county's tag office to purchase a Florida sports license plate today!](#)



In The News.

- **Brightline** and **Walt Disney World** have [announced an agreement to build a train station](#) at **Disney Springs**, providing close proximity to four theme parks, two water parks and 25 hotels.
- **Insomniac Events** has announced the return of **EDC Orlando** in 2021. The Orlando edition of the live music event, [a massive 3-night party billed as EDC's flagship East Coast festival](#), is scheduled for Nov. 12-14, 2021. The festival will help celebrate 25 years of **Electric Daisy Carnival** events around the world.
- **Walt Disney World** [is bringing back a modified park hopper option](#) that requires visitors to make reservations for their first park and physically go to that park. At 2 pm, however, they can head to any other **Disney** park for the rest of the day until park close — without needing a second reservation.
- **Wild Florida**, an animal-driven attraction in **Osceola County**, [will offer an annual pass](#) for its **Drive-Thru Safari Park** for the first time. It will go on sale during the upcoming Black Friday/Cyber Monday sales period.
- Artist **Jefrë**, who specializes in mammoth public sculptures and installations, has recently been working on “The Victor,” a 24-story-high statue. But his first solo museum show, at **Orlando Museum of Art**, [begins with a grain of rice](#).
- This past weekend, **District 4 Commissioner Patty Sheehan** and over 20 volunteers participated in the annual **Lake Eola Swan Round-Up**. [Each swan received their yearly medical check-up and well-being assessment](#), and two new Trumpeter swans were introduced to the flock thanks to two donors.

Fun & Games.

- [Get ready for goosebumps \(via Orlando City SC\)](#)
- [5 Fall-Inspired Milkshakes from Ben & Jerry's](#)
- Orlando Sentinel Pictures: [MLS Playoffs - Orlando City vs NYCFC](#)
- Sugar, spice and everything nice: [50 sweet and satisfying cookie recipes](#)
- (More) Orlando Sentinel Pictures: [Magic Johnson distributes Thanksgiving meals in Orlando](#)

KNIGHTS
BASKETBALL

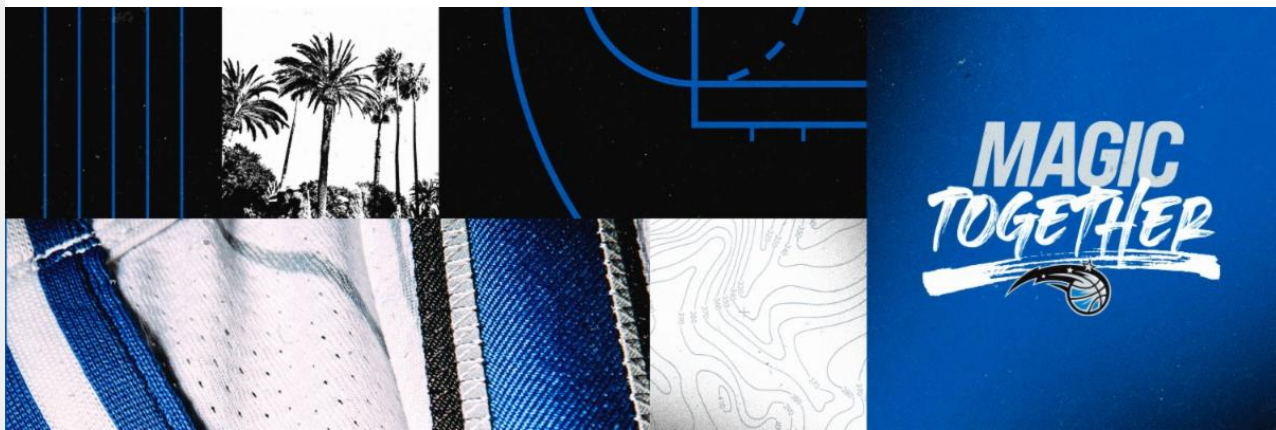
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11/28 • 2PM



11/30 • 7PM





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4 BILLION IN ECONOMIC IMPACT

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ACCOUNTS FOR 12% OF U.S.'S GOLF ECONOMY

1,100 COURSES

10



PROFESSIONAL SPORTS FRANCHISES



FSF'S SPECIALTY PLATE PROGRAM HAS CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN

\$5.7 MILLION

TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

16 MILLION VISITORS ANNUALLY



1,000 MILES OF COASTLINE
12,000 MILES OF FISHABLE RIVERS & STREAMS
8,000 NATURAL LAKES



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE **FLORIDA SPORTS FOUNDATION** AND FLORIDA'S SPORTS DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRY, VISIT PLAYINFLORIDA.COM.

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