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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The City of Crystal River hosted Florida Governor Ron DeSantis for a tour of some of the areas affected by Hurricane Idalia within the City.**

*Sunday, September 3, 2023* The City of Crystal River hosted Florida State Governor Ron DeSantis to tour the City with Mayor Joe Meek. The Governor came into town at Town Square at approximately 1:30 pm. In attendance were the City Manager, Douglas Baber and City staff, City Council Members, Citrus Avenue business owners, residents and the City fire staff. The Governor spoke to the audience briefly before beginning a walking tour down Citrus Avenue.

Aided by several members of the Governor's staff, City staff and Mayor Meek he visited St. John's Tavern, KC Wine and Koffee Bar, and Kane's Cattle. The Mayor then joined him in his vehicle to begin touring other parts of the City.

The vehicle tour went North on Citrus Avenue to the Crystal River Fire Station and then to City Hall. Next they proceeded across Highway 19 to the Crab Plant where he met with owner Kelly Kohfmehl for a few minutes. The next stop was at The Redemption Center, a Church on Three Sisters Springs Trail where he met with Reverend Al Hopkins and several other parishioners. They then headed on Kings Bay Drive and into affected neighborhoods around the waterfront. He stopped at the home of Connie and Dale Pickles, who experienced extensive flooding and spent time speaking with them about their home.

The final stop was into Michigan Town where he spoke with residents Susan and Mark Littrell and Randy and Linda McConnell. Mayor Meek had this to say about the visit "Governor DeSantis spent almost 2 hours today touring Crystal River. He saw and understood the issues Crystal River is going through, and I am grateful for his time and help in rebuilding our great City. We will be stronger than ever, let's get to work!"

Photos from today's event are available on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/cityofcrystalriver](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcrystalriver).

For more information on the City of Crystal River, visit the City's website, [www.crystalriverfl.org/](http://www.crystalriverfl.org/) or follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cityofcrystalriver](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcrystalriver).