



April 2026

Newsletter

Shaping the Future of Flamingo / Dando Forma al Futuro de Flamingo

The Integral Development Association of Flamingo (ADIF), a non-profit organization, serves as our official representative to manage and protect the environment and overall quality of life for the Playa Flamingo community.

La Asociación de Desarrollo Integral de Flamingo (ADIF), una organización sin fines de lucro, sirve como nuestro representante oficial para gestionar y proteger el ambiente y la calidad de vida general de la comunidad de Playa Flamingo.

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— SAVE THE DATE —

ADIF
Annual General Assembly

May 31, 2026

Additional details coming soon

One of the most important ways to strengthen our community is through participation.

All ADI members are encouraged to attend and participate in the decision-making process to help shape Flamingo’s priorities, work plan, and budget for the coming year.

If you are not yet an ADI member, [download our Membership Form here](#).

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Supporting the Work Ahead

Current Balances	
Colones account	₡1.325,346.36
Colones account	₡1.086,596.82
US Dollars account	\$107,712.78

Community improvements require both sustained effort and financial support.

A sincere thank you to the Marina Flamingo Foundation for its generous response to our grant request. These funds will help support important community projects, including:

- Security cameras
- Monkey bridges
- Beach road-related efforts
- Water system improvements

**Marina Flamingo
Foundation Grant**

\$87,363

This support is deeply appreciated, but it will not cover the full cost of the work ahead. If you have not yet made your annual membership donation, we encourage you to do so. Your support helps fund the critical projects and advocacy efforts our community depends on.

Tax deductible donations to the ADI can also be made in the US through the Marina Flamingo Foundation. The Foundation will provide these funds to our ADI.

[Access donation instructions here](#).

Stock transfer contributions designated for our ADI and cash donations over \$50,000 can be made using the [Tri-Star Trust Asset Delivery Instructions](#).

In addition, we are exploring several new fundraising opportunities designed to put the FUN in fundraising, including possible community events such as a race/walk and games. More details to come.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Ongoing Issues, Advocacy, and Improvements

Unauthorized Road Signage

Illegal advertising signs continue to appear along roads in our community, including the beach road.

To be clear: signs placed within the road right-of-way or maritime zone without proper authorization are not permitted and are subject to removal. We have contacted MOPT and other relevant authorities to request enforcement and removal assistance.

Important!

Signs in the road right-of-way or maritime zone without authorization are subject to removal.

Businesses must have proper authorization to place signs along public roads, and signage within the maritime zone is subject to additional restrictions. Signs placed on private property must also have the authorization of the property owner.

This remains an ongoing problem, and we will continue pressing for enforcement.

Road Repairs & Traffic Improvements

Several road-related issues continue to affect both safety and everyday mobility in Flamingo.

After repeated follow-up, AyA addressed the damaged road section between Margaritaville and ECCR, that had been dug up over the Christmas period to repair a major leak. However, the repairs made to date are not adequate.

We have raised this issue with AyA management and have also asked MOPT to properly repair the road.

We were also pleased to successfully advocate for replacement of the stop sign at the intersection near Banco Nacional. We have submitted a request for installation of a traffic light at that intersection to help regulate traffic flow between Surfside/Potrero and Flamingo.

Additional traffic and infrastructure improvements we have requested include:

- Reductors on the road in front of La Plaza
- Widening the bridge to two lanes

North Ridge Concerns

Parking and access issues on the North Ridge continue to create frustration for nearby residents.

We have reached out to the Municipality regarding ongoing problems with vehicles parking on the North Ridge for access to Squirrel Beach, which has at times blocked road and residential access.

We are also continuing to press for resolution of the situation involving the former Marisol property, which remains a concern for the community. Although the Judicial Court was notified that the owner was in Flamingo, they were unfortunately unable to complete required service at that time. We will continue pursuing this matter.

Beach Road

The beach road remains one of Flamingo's most visible and urgent quality-of-life, safety, and environmental concerns as well as one of our most visible and urgent infrastructure challenges. [insert beach road graphic]

ADI Flamingo continues to pursue solutions to the growing traffic, parking, safety, and environmental problems on the beach road. This includes continued concern about commercial activity and vendor operations in areas where such activity may not be authorized.

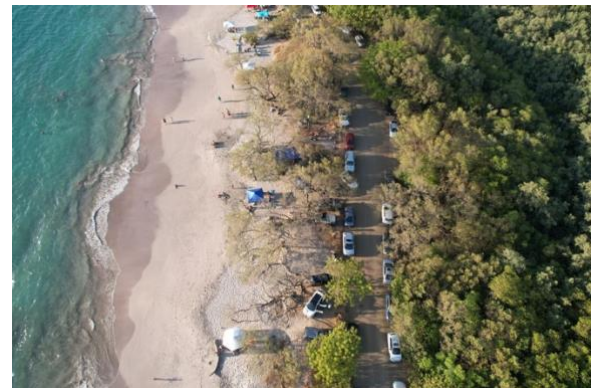
As confirmed to us, business licenses are not issued for operations conducted directly within the maritime zone in the same way they are for activities operating from an authorized commercial premises. This distinction is important when evaluating activities such as direct beach solicitation, pre-installed tents or structures, and operations conducted directly from the beach or road edge.

Continuing Beach Road Issues

- Traffic congestion
- Unsafe or indiscriminate parking
- Damage to the mangrove and beach
- Overcrowding caused by increasing

We also requested and received assistance from the Coast Guard and Tourist Police during Semana Santa to manage access and traffic at key entry points to the beach, including The Palms and La Plaza.

To better document conditions and support further action, we arranged for drone footage to help illustrate to the Municipality the extent of our current problems.



SECURITY

Building a Safer Flamingo

Several important security initiatives are now moving from planning into implementation.

Community Camera Network

V-SEK has completed installation of two community security cameras, both of which are monitored 24/7 and equipped with speakers that can be used to address suspicious activity in real time.

Additional camera installation will continue over the coming weeks in key locations throughout Flamingo. Signage notifying the public of camera-monitored areas will also be installed.

We are especially grateful to the businesses assisting this project by providing power and internet connectivity for the community camera network.

V-SEK maintains the footage and is in direct contact with police, allowing for rapid response and coordination when needed. We are also working with area businesses and residences to develop a broader integrated public-private camera network to improve situational awareness and response capabilities across the community.

In addition, we have received a proposal from the Costa Rican Department of Intelligence and Criminal Analysis to provide video surveillance monitoring training for V-SEK's team. This training would help strengthen proactive monitoring and enhance V-SEK staff's ability to identify potential security concerns earlier.

Police Station Relocation

A stronger security presence also depends on having the right facilities in the right location.

We continue working on the issue of relocating the police station.

At this time, co-locating with the Coast Guard is not feasible because the available space is not sufficient to support a functioning police station.

The Municipal Police Chief is currently considering a larger station in Brasilito that would house our current police staff. At the same time, there is also a possible location in Flamingo that could serve as a strong option for a full police station.

Although current government policy appears to be moving away from leased facilities for public agencies, we continue to advocate for a solution that would provide more appropriate and effective police presence in Flamingo itself.

Support for Police

We understand that our Tourist Police struggle with the conditions of their vehicles.

We recently sent a letter to the Minister and Vice Minister of Security requesting additional support for Flamingo, including vehicle allocation as part of the 1,800 new units being deployed nationally. The Vice Minister responded indicating that Flamingo's needs will be taken into consideration and pointing out that vehicle deployment is based on data showing need. It's important that incidents occurring in our community are reported so Flamingo is accurately represented.

We also spoke with Kattia Chavarría, Commissioner of the Tourist Police, about the Flamingo station vehicles. We shared that the community may be willing to help support repairs, as long as the vehicles remain based here. She confirmed that commitment and said she will also look into how a more formal partnership could be put in writing.

WATER

A Top Priority for Flamingo

Our project to replace critical water system equipment has encountered complications related to ownership of the properties where tanks and pumping stations are located. At present, three properties are holding up the process, including one property associated with the now-defunct SUDAR.

- Property ownership issues remain
- AyA site visit in April
- Continued focus on interim and long-term solutions

We are assisting AyA in identifying and contacting property owners so these issues can be resolved and the project can move forward.

We recently met with the AyA Director to discuss both the long-term infrastructure project and interim measures that may help reduce the risk of future outages. While the project is not moving as fast as we had hoped, we continue to press AyA for resolution of the issues that are delaying progress.

AyA is expected to conduct a site visit around the end of April to inspect the condition of Flamingo's pumps. We are hopeful that this may lead to short-term improvements while we continue pushing for a more permanent solution.

Reliable water service remains a top priority. The water situation in Flamingo remains one of our community's most important concerns. Progress has been slower than we would like, but we continue pushing for both interim and long-term solutions.

ENVIRONMENT

Protecting Flamingo's Natural Resources

We continue to make progress on monkey bridge installation. In coordination with Coopeguanacaste, one additional bridge has been added, and plans are in place for 4–5 more bridges, including improvements near known wildlife danger points like transformers.



Results of the Current Trash Pickup Approach

- Torn bags
- Trash scattered by birds and animals
- Unsanitary conditions

We are also addressing concerns regarding the Municipality's current trash handling practice. We sent community members and businesses Workers remove trash from containers and leave bags on roadsides or in parking areas for later collection which causes safety and health problems. We are reaching out to the Municipality to explore changes that can be made to eliminate this situation and improve public cleanliness, health, and safety.



Three Rip Current warning signs have now been installed in key areas along Flamingo Beach to improve public safety. We are looking at options for placing lifesaving rescue equipment along the beach. This equipment ideally can be used by anyone who observes someone struggling in the water.[insert rip current photo]

Blue Flag Update

Playa Flamingo has earned Blue Flag Ecological certification and 3-star recognition in Costa Rica's Bandera Azul Ecológica program.

This recognition reflects our strong community commitment to:

- Environmental stewardship
- Cleanliness
- Sustainability
- Public health
- Responsible coastal care



On March 26th the Costa Rican Tourism Board's National Commission for the Ecological Blue Flag Program recognized our local committee with the 2025 Ecological Blue Flag Award in the Beaches Category. This conferred two white stars and one pink star for Flamingo's Blue Flag This recognition confirms our compliance with standards for marine water quality, drinking water quality, coastal sanitation, waste disposal containers, solid waste management, environmental education, and warning signage for water, beach and animal dangers.

For over 10 years, Flamingo Beach has had a dedicated committee comprised of volunteers, community partners, businesses, and residents who help keep Playa Flamingo clean, welcoming, and environmentally responsible.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to protecting and preserving the natural beauty of Flamingo for both residents and visitors.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not”. — Dr. Seuss



Monthly Beach Cleanup

Community stewardship is also one of the most encouraging parts of our work in Flamingo.

Volunteers working to keep our beaches clean and safe over the last several weeks removed 34 kg / 75 lbs of trash from Playa Flamingo. Thank you to El Colono for their support.

You can be part of helping keep Flamingo beautiful. Even a small amount of time makes a meaningful difference.

Supporting the Police Athletic League Program



On March 8, Allan and Max hosted 45 youth from the Police Athletic League program. This program provides local youth with positive recreational activities, mentorship, and opportunities to build confidence, teamwork, and community connection. Programs like this are valuable to Flamingo because they help create positive outlets for young people, strengthen relationships between youth and law enforcement, and support a safer, healthier community for everyone.

The group participated in a Flamingo beach cleanup, collecting 9 kilograms (20 lbs.) of trash. After beach cleanup they toured the Coast Guard station, one of Panache's catamarans, and Marina Flamingo's recycling facilities.

It was a meaningful day of community service, insight into marine safety and protection, environmental education, and youth engagement. We thank everyone involved for helping inspire the next generation of community stewards.

2025-27 BOARD OF DIRECTORS/JUNTA DIRECTIVA

President / Presidente	Max Arata	max@crcire.com
Vice President / Vicepresidente	Donna Osborne	donna@flamingoproperty.com
Secretary / Secretario	Sarah Martin	sarah@palmscostarica.com
Treasurer / Tesorero	Monica Guevara	moguirodu@gmail.com
Vocals / Vocals	Bob Davey	bob@bdavey.com
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Substitute / Suplente	Xinia Moraga	xmoraga@bancobcr.com
	Federico Jenkins	fjenkins@ccastrategy.com
	Jeanne Gillen	jmgillen@mac.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS/PRESIDENTES DE COMITÉ

Affiliation and Communication/ Afiliación y Comunicación	Jeanne Gillen	jmgillen@mac.com
Conservation and Preservation/ Conservacion y Preservacion	Donna Osborne	donna@flamingoproperty.com
Events/ Eventos	TBD	
Finance/ Finanzas	Monica Guevara	moguirodu@gmail.com
Infrastructure/ Infraestructura	Bob Davey	bob@bdavey.com
Security/ Seguridad	Monica Guevara	moguirodu@gmail.com
Water/ Agua	Joaquin Gamboa	jgamboaz@icloud.com

Emergency Contact / Números de Emergencia

Our Address

Playa: Flamingo **Province:** Guanacaste
Canton: Santa Cruz **District:** Cabo Velas

Type of Emergency/ Tipo de Emergencia	Organization/ Organización	Phone Number/ Número de Teléfono (use prefix +506 to call from non-Costa Rican numbers)
All Emergencies		911
Medical	Clinics: Medired (emergency 24/7 ambulance & helicopter service) Beachside Clinic Rescue: Cruz Roja Cartagena	4070-44141 2653-9911 2675-0167
Fire	Bomberos Huacas	2201-9079
Water Rescue	Guardacostas Flamingo	2654-5033 #16
Safety	Policía Turística Flamingo Policía Turística Flamingo Fuerza Pública Brasilito	2654-5086 2600-2032 2600-2086
Traffic	Policía de Tránsito	2680-1366
Wildlife	SINAC	2653-0470 8704-6444
Tourist/ExPat Assistance	Embassy of USA Embassy of Canada Consulate of France Consulate of Italy	2519-2000 2242-4400 2234-4201 8828-6286

ADIF COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Remember to add info@adiflamingo.org to your contacts

STAY CONNECTED & ENGAGED

Follow, join, share, and be part of the change.

ADI Flamingo Facebook



ADI Flamingo Instagram



ADI Flamingo
Registered Members
WhatsApp group



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