



LEON COUNTY  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN. **2023**







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Lake Jackson

## Leon County Statistics

Population: **299,130**

**33% unincorporated**

**67% within city limits**

Area (Square Miles): **702**

Established: **1824**

Charter Date: **2002**

County Seat: **Tallahassee**

Median Household Income: **\$82,200**

Districting: **5 Single Districts / 2 At-Large**

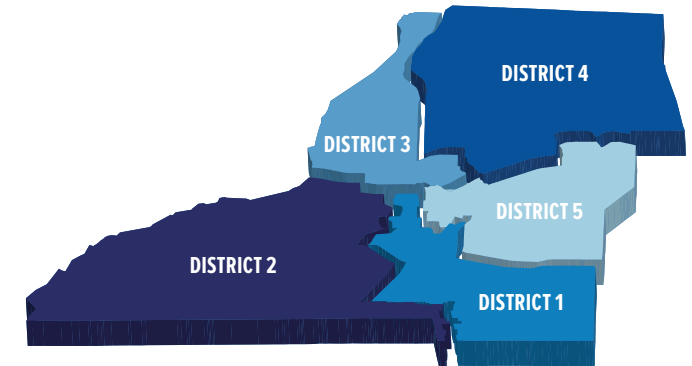
Median Age: **27**

Source: The United States Census Bureau

## ABOUT LEON COUNTY

Leon County was named after the Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon. He was the first European to explore Florida in 1513 in search of the “Fountain of Youth” and named the state after the Spanish word for “flowery.”

Leon County is home to Florida’s capital, Tallahassee, which was established in 1824. Legislative and executive offices, the State House and Senate chambers are located here. As a political subdivision of the state, the County is guided by an elected, seven-member Board of County Commissioners.



Five members of the Board are elected to serve specific commission districts and two members are elected at-large. Leon County is a Council-Manager form of government, and the County Administrator is appointed by the Board to oversee all functions, directives and policies. Florida Statutes, Chapter 125, establishes the powers and duties of the County Commission and the County Administrator. As of November 12, 2002, Leon County is governed by a Home Rule Charter.

*This document fulfills the annual reporting requirements of Chapter 125.74, Florida Statutes and Sec. 2-501(1), Leon County Administrative Code. 1,500 copies were printed for community distribution at a cost of \$11,642.75*

*This publication is printed on sustainably sourced paper that contains 10% post-consumer waste content and vegetable-based inks and is 100% recyclable.*





# LEON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



## Vision

A community that is safe, healthy and vibrant.

## Mission

To efficiently provide public services which serve and strengthen our community.



District 1  
Commissioner  
Bill Proctor

District 5  
Commissioner  
David O'Keefe

At-Large  
Commissioner  
Carolyn D. Cummings  
(Vice Chair)

At-Large  
Commissioner  
Nick Maddox  
(Chairman)

District 4  
Commissioner  
Brian Welch

District 3  
Commissioner  
Rick Minor

District 2  
Commissioner  
Christian Caban





# MESSAGE FROM THE LEON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.



## VINCENT S. LONG

**County Administrator**

(850) 606-5300 | LongV@LeonCountyFL.gov

Vince Long has worked for Leon County since 1995 and was appointed County Administrator by the Board of County Commissioners in 2011. As the County government's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), he provides fiscal, strategic and operational leadership to the organization, as well as sound analysis and professional implementation of the Board's policies. He holds a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy at Florida State University and is a graduate of the Harvard University, JFK School of Government Institute for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. Vince is a Credentialed Manager by the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA), and in 2022, earned the ICMA Award for Career Excellence, the highest honor for a local government CEO internationally. He serves on the Board of Directors and is a past President of the Florida Association of County Managers, serves on the Board of Directors for the Florida Association of Counties Institute for County Government, and serves on the Florida Trust Board of Trustees. A graduate of Leadership Tallahassee and Leadership Florida, Vince is a leader in many community and professional organizations. He also serves on the Advisory Council and is a regular lecturer at the Askew School, and has been featured in national media and publications for his expertise in local government issues.

## 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW: ADVANCING OUR STRATEGY, SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY

In 2023, Leon County continued to make great progress and serve our citizens while striving to set the highest standard for performance, fiscal stewardship, and best practices for local governments everywhere.

The 2023 Annual Report looks back at the significant progress of the past year. It highlights Leon County's commitment to investing in infrastructure, creating places for people and businesses to thrive, and building a culture of innovation and co-creation—all of which make our County one of the South's Best places to live, work, and play.

And we did this and so much more in 2023, never losing focus on our ambitious targets and bold goals for the organization and the community, including growing our local tourism economy, addressing pressing issues like homelessness and hunger, protecting our precious environment, and so much more.

### LIVING OUR CULTURE, SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY

This annual report to the Board of County Commissioners and our community demonstrates the importance we place in Leon County on having a clear vision and a culture built upon our core values and practices. Our dedicated employees take special pride in setting the standard each day by providing essential services, like EMS, Public Works, Parks, Tourism, and so many others, that serve and shape our community.



Leon County Emergency Medical Services (EMS)



Amazon Fulfillment Center

While addressing the critical needs of this time, we remained focused on executing our long-term strategy of building and diversifying our local economy by opening Amazon. Leon County is now home to a \$200 million, 630,000-square-foot Amazon Fulfillment Center, the largest facility in the region with a footprint of 170 acres. This game-changing project brings more than 1,300 full-time jobs and \$33 million in annual wages to our community, with a \$114 million economic impact each year.

Thanks to our continuous efforts to grow our local tourism economy, we are recognized perennially as one of the South's best destinations. With live music and events hosted throughout 2023, we had another record year for local tourism, with \$1.23 billion in economic impact and nearly 2.35 million visitors.

To keep this historic momentum going, we opened the County's one-of-a-kind Visitor Information Center downtown in the renovated rail station. Strategically positioned between businesses, hotels, campuses, and venues, this hub for visitor services will grow tourism and support the County's leading efforts in celebrating our community's Bicentennial in 2024.

With that same dedication to ensuring our community's brightest future, Leon County continued enhancing our quality of life and protecting our precious water bodies, including Lake Munson. In 2023, the County continued its critical efforts to restore and protect Lake Munson's health.





*Concert at the Adderley Amphitheater*

Efforts include the County and its partners' ongoing investment of more than \$290 million to improve the Lake Munson Basin's water quality while also continuing a decades-long comprehensive action plan to drawdown the lake and

protect it for future generations. All of these actions were done in coordination with the State of Florida and through engaging community members, the County's Science Advisory Committee, and community shoreline cleanup events.



*Water quality monitoring*

Because of results like this and so much more, in 2023, our dedicated County employees received dozens of state and national awards for exceptional public service. Such awards recognized the County's Emergency Medical Services as the best in the state, our communication strategy as best in the nation, and our Public Works projects as best amongst their peers. These efforts not only continue to make our community better, but they have also been key to keeping Leon County among the most efficient and affordable counties anywhere.

From our commitment to fiscal stewardship to our nationally recognized programs, the men and women of Leon County Government have a lot to be proud of in 2023 as they continue to drive performance and deliver results to our citizens.

### **ENGAGING CITIZENS AS CO-CREATORS**

We continued to keep our community engaged with initiatives like our annual 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service, honoring the victims, survivors, and others who rose in service in response to the tragic events of September 11, 2001. During this year's Day of Service, more than 100 County employees and community volunteers came together to revitalize 20 homes in the Yons Lakeside Estates neighborhood.

We also continued the important conversations about race and engaged hundreds of citizens through our award-winning Created Equal program on Black women and the fight for equality. This program included a panel discussion of local industry professionals and encouraged attendees to examine the histories and current realities of Black women in America and the struggles they continue to face in the areas of health, economy, community, and education.

### **SETTING THE STANDARD IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

This commitment to service is at the heart of everything we do in Leon County. It drives us to be the best in our fields.

In 2023, our dedicated Leon County employees continued to set the highest standards in public service by earning more than 103 awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo) over the past ten years. This year alone, Leon County received eight NACo awards for national best practices for programs and initiatives like the County's use of Artificial Intelligence with GIS imagery data to improve safety for first responders, Hired On The Spot, SustainaBiz, the Summer Backyard Bucket List, and the Libraries' Autism Awareness Initiative, to name just a few.

Also in 2023, Leon County Emergency Medical Services celebrated 20 years of dedicated service to our community. For two decades, our exceptional EMS team has continued to create a vibrant, resilient, and healthy community. This year alone, Leon County EMS responded to more than 50,000 calls for service, up from 26,000 calls in 2004.



*Fort Braden Playground opening*

For these contributions and so many more, Leon County was recognized as the 2023 EMS Provider of the Year by the Florida Department of Health.

### **BUILDING ON OUR PROGRESS**

In all the ways that Leon County touches the lives of so many people we serve each day, whether it's helping our veterans claim more than \$33 million in benefits they deserve, transporting more than 33,000 patients for life-saving care, or serving more than 1.1 million patrons through our County's Library System, as we did in 2023, we strive to put each person first.

As we look ahead, we know we will continue to face the same challenges as communities everywhere else, but at Leon County, we remain committed to listening to the people we serve, addressing the challenges we face together, and striving to be a place like nowhere else.

And we cannot do this alone. Thank you for your continued confidence in the work we do on behalf of and alongside our citizens to make our community even better.

Here's to 2024!





# L.E.A.D.S.

A STRUCTURE TO SUPPORT OUR PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN. CULTURE

## HOW LEON COUNTY LEADS

Continued throughout Leon County Government in FY 2023, Leon LEADS is a strategic approach to aligning the Board’s guiding vision and strategic priorities with the optimized resources of the organization. LEADS provides a structure to support and sustain our *People Focused. Performance Driven.* culture through a continuous process that looks inward to strengthen what works and abandon what does not, and looks outward to receive feedback from citizens and leverage partnerships that adjust as conditions change.

County employees are more committed than ever to delivering the quality of service our citizens deserve for their tax dollars, working with our community to tackle the tough problems of today, and ensuring our quality of life into the future. Below are just a few highlights of how the County’s LEADS framework supports an organizational culture that simply but powerfully combines performance and relevance.

### **TACKLING FOOD INSECURITY THROUGH INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS**



*TasteBud Explorers cooking demonstration*

Building on the success and feedback from the County’s Breaking Bread Together food insecurity neighborhood meetings in 2022, the County hosted two family-friendly TasteBud Explorers events featuring healthy cooking demonstrations and opportunities for residents to learn about the feeding programs and resources available in the community. More than 100 caregivers and children participated in the events, which were held in partnership with the City of Tallahassee, United Way of the Big Bend, the Children’s Services Council of Leon County, UF/IFAS Leon County Extension, and Second Harvest of the Big Bend.

Leon County Government continues to address food security barriers in neighborhoods with the highest food insecurity rates in Leon County through collaborative community partnerships and innovative initiatives, including new food grocery lockers at Sabal Palm Elementary, which



- Listens for Changing Needs
- Engages Citizens and Employees
- Aligns Key Strategic Processes
- Delivers Results & Relevance
- Strives for Continuous Improvement

launched in September 2022. Additionally, since 2021, Leon County has participated in Summer BreakSpot to provide healthy summer meals and snacks to kids and teens at library locations in partnership with Second Harvest of the Big Bend and the Florida Department of Agriculture.

### **BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

Leon County encourages citizens to prepare for the Atlantic hurricane season each year by developing an emergency plan and filling a five-gallon bucket with essential supplies. Creating a household plan can help protect property, but most importantly, save lives.

Countless hours have been invested by Leon County in training both local and regional emergency responders, as well as County residents. Just in this year, Leon County Emergency Management has hosted 18 distinct training courses for 450 local and regional emergency responders, including the Inland Search and Rescue Planning Course. In addition to response trainings, Emergency Management actively engaged in 19 community outreach and educational sessions, including the Leon Ready Neighborhood Readiness Trainings, all geared towards fostering and strengthening community resilience.

As part of its ongoing commitment to keep the community safe and resilient, Leon County continues to encourage citizens to be prepared for any emergency through LeonReady.com, a hub of resources to help citizens, families, and neighborhoods prepare for disasters.

The County’s disaster preparedness mascot, Billy the Bucket, helped spread the word about disaster preparedness for the whole family at local events throughout the year. With Billy the Bucket’s coloring book, children learn how they can get ready for hurricane season with fun and exciting activities.

### **PROVIDING ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES THROUGH THE LIBRARY**

As part of the Leon County Public Library’s Essential Libraries Initiative, the library now provides on-site information, referrals, and assistance with completing applications for social and government services through a community resources specialist. In the year that these services have been offered, nearly 1,000 Leon County citizens have received one-on-one assistance with applying for essential food, medical, shelter, legal, and mental health services through more than 19 events and weekly office hours.

The Leon County Public Library continues to engage and serve even more citizens with new, relevant programs, materials, and services.

## OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

Leon County Government leverages partnerships, embraces efficiency and innovation, and demands performance to the benefit of our taxpayers. We actively engage our citizens, not only as taxpayers but as stakeholders and co-creators of our community, providing meaningful opportunities to capitalize on their talents in making important decisions and shaping our community for future generations.





## INNOVATOR AND INSPIRATOR AWARDS CONTINUE COST SAVINGS AND NEW EFFICIENCIES, SAVING MORE THAN \$8.7M TO DATE

Leon County is an organization that rewards its employees for innovative ideas, teamwork, strategic processes, efficiency, and the ability to achieve positive results. The I<sup>2</sup> (Innovator/Inspirator) Awards convey the value Leon County Government places on employee-led improvements that result in increased efficiencies, enhance or support the delivery of County services, reinforce Leon County's relevance in the community, and exemplify the County's Core Practices in the workplace. Examples of such improvements include the following:

- ▶ Leveraging the success of the 2021 NCAA National Cross Country Championships, the Division of Tourism landed the 2026 World Athletics Cross Country Championships at the award-winning Apalachee Regional Park. The World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be the first world championship sporting event ever to be held in Tallahassee/Leon County and is expected to draw more than 550 runners from more than 60 countries to compete in five races. The event is projected to be attended by 10,000 spectators from around the world, bringing in an estimated economic impact of more than \$4.3 million, and will be broadcast internationally.



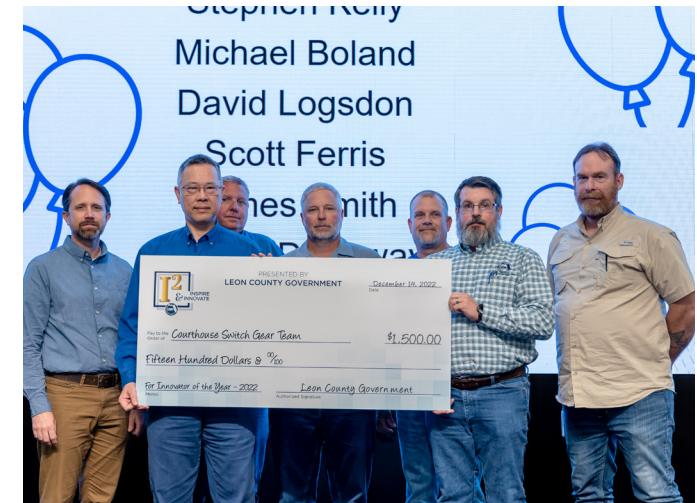
- ▶ The Public Works team coordinated with multiple County departments to upgrade the switch gear technology that controls and protects power systems in the Courthouse. With the initial estimate coming in at \$1.23 million, the team researched cost-saving methods and worked closely with community partners to learn how to retrofit the project rather than replace it with all new components. Ultimately, the Public Works team was able to retrofit the switch gear internally, saving taxpayers \$625,000.



Tourism, Parks and Rec, and GIS lead the sprint from NCAA Cross Country Championships to World Championships

- ▶ Facilities retrofitted exit signs in County buildings after an inspection revealed the lights were too dim. Instead of replacing all the signs at a cost of \$70,000, staff suggested replacing bulbs with LEDs, which building inspectors approved. In the end, the retrofit only cost about \$2,000, which resulted in a savings of \$68,000.
- ▶ Parks staff identified a need to further protect and educate the community about Eastern screech owls, which are an essential part of our ecosystem. Staff coordinated with the Apalachee Audubon Society to install educational signs and build nesting boxes for owls at County parks. By building and installing these nesting boxes, the project helped protect declining bird populations, educated the public about the importance of Eastern screech owls and how they prevent disease, and continued to grow important community partnerships.

The I<sup>2</sup> Awards recognize employees and inspire others to reinforce the County's Core Practices in the workplace. Since its inception in FY 2015, the I<sup>2</sup> Awards program has saved the County a total of \$8.7 million, including nearly \$2 million in recurring costs and more than \$6 million in one-time costs.



Courthouse switch gear upgrade team







# LIVING OUR CORE PRACTICES

## Our Core Practices

**Delivering the “Wow” factor in Customer Service.** Employees deliver exemplary service with pride, passion and determination; anticipating and solving problems in “real time” and exceeding customer expectations. Customers know that they are the reason we are here.

**Connecting with Citizens.** Employees go beyond customer service to community relevance, engaging citizens as stakeholders in the community’s success. Citizens know that they are part of the bigger cause.

**Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service.** Employees adhere to the highest standards of ethical behavior, avoid circumstances that create even an appearance of impropriety and carry out the public’s business in a manner which upholds the public trust. Citizens know that we are on their side.

**Accepting Accountability.** Employees are individually and collectively accountable for their performance, adapt to changing conditions and relentlessly pursue excellence beyond the current standard, while maintaining our core values.

**Exhibiting Respect.** Employees exercise respect for citizens, community partners and each other.

**Employing Team Approach.** Employees work together to produce bigger and better ideas, to seize the opportunities and to address the problems which face our community.

**Exercising Responsible Stewardship of the Community’s Resources.** Employees engage in the continuous effort to create and sustain a place which attracts talent, fosters economic opportunity and offers an unmatched quality of life, demonstrating performance, value and results for our citizenry.

**Living our “People Focused, Performance Driven” Culture.** Employees have a structure in place to live all of this as our organizational culture and are empowered to help the people they serve.



Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold with target Heart Attack Honor Roll (EMS)



Savvy Award for Hired on the Spot (CMR)



Gold Award for the Leon County/ FAMU Federal Credit Union SmartSteps Microloan Program (OEV)



Placed first in Florida and fifth nationwide in the 250K-500K population category (OIT)



2023 EMS Provider of the Year (EMS)

103 total NACo awards since 2013



Eight Achievement Awards for Council on the Status of Men and Boys; Hired on the Spot; Leon County Children’s Services Council; Leon County Libraries’ Autism Awareness Initiative; Leon County Uses Artificial Intelligence with GIS Imagery Data to Improve Safety for First Responders; Re-Entry Job Placement Assistance Initiative; Summer Backyard Bucket List; and SustainaBiz



Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (OMB)



Top 100 Leader in Sustainability for diverting more than 12,382 pounds of batteries in 2022 (Solid Waste)



Florida Chapter Public Works Project of the Year award and three Big Bend Branch Project of the Year awards (Public Works)



Trail Town designation (Planning)



Mid-Market Event of the Year for the 2021 NCAA D1 Cross Country National Championship (Tourism)



2023 Special Recognition Award for 10 years of veteran benefits services (Veteran Services)



Award of Distinction and Judges’ Award for Tackling Poverty and Inequities in 32304 brochure and Image Award for 2022 Annual Report video (CMR)



# DELIVERING THE



# FACTOR IN CUSTOMER SERVICE



## LIBRARY SERVICES

“Everyone is always so helpful and friendly. My boys end up leaving with a stack of books every time.”

—County resident

## ANIMAL CONTROL

“Officer Hamilton suggested some good ideas to help keep my dog ‘Jojo’ in his kennel. She was right! She told me who I could call to get free dog food and even gave me a voucher to get ‘Jojo’ neutered for free. She was just awesome. Thank you for having such good, intelligent, and helpful Officers.”

—County resident

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

“I’m blessed you were the folks that came to my heart attack at Seminole Legacy Golf Club. Your effort and professionalism were amazing. Your unwillingness to give up on me not only gave me my life back, but in my full mental capacity. Thank you!”

—County resident

## PARKS AND RECREATION

“Nate continues to do an amazing job out at St. Marks, and it has not gone unnoticed. Thank you for always getting the work done. You are a true asset to the team.”

—County resident

## SOLID WASTE

“Thank you for the telephone call and email update and for the excellent customer service. You and your Leon County colleagues certainly exemplify excellence in local government.”

—Mark

## DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGMT.

“This weekend, we noticed the motto *People Focused. Performance Driven.* at the bottom of the initial correspondence from Ms. Allen and wanted to affirm that is indeed what we’ve experienced thus far. Your efforts to help us in a timely and respectful way are very much appreciated.”

—Jason and Betty

## OFFICE OF ECONOMIC VITALITY

“OEV has been an indispensable force driving our achievements and fostering our expansion. Through their comprehensive market research, deep community engagement, strategic networking opportunities, and facilitation of minority certifications, OEV has been instrumental in amplifying the reach and impact of the Elite Business Strategies brand.”

—Princess Ousley, CEO of Elite Business Strategies

## DIVISION OF TOURISM

“Thank you for hosting our national cross country championship meet and making it a ‘big deal’ for our athletes! They put in a lot of work and the opportunity to compete at a championship meet that is so well run, and looks and feels like a championship event, is rewarding for them.”

—David Barney,

Head Coach at Paradise Valley Community College in Phoenix, AZ

## VETERAN SERVICES

“Your knowledge about requirements and resources and your obvious love of what you do to help veterans and their families was evident. Thank you for investing your time in me and our family. You were a genuine blessing to us, and we deeply appreciate all that you have done.”

—Angela

## BLUEPRINT

“Blueprint has been knocking it out of the park with your recent events. From the Skateable Art Park to the opening of the History and Culture Trail, they have all been top-notch. Kudos to you and your City/County counterparts. Well done!!”

—Michelle

## OFFICE OF INTERVENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES

“Thank you for helping me get through what I viewed to be the most difficult part of my life. There aren’t enough words to say how grateful I am to have someone of your stature in my corner. You deserve more credit than given. You are truly a blessing.”

—County resident

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

“I always enjoy volunteering. Kay does a great job coordinating the events.”

—County resident

## We Believe In

Demonstrating to our citizens that we are on their side, letting them know that they are the reason we exist and what they are getting for their tax dollars;

Producing bigger and better ideas to address the real issues facing our community;

Actively promoting transparency, accessibility, and openness in everything we do;

Engaging citizens in important decisions facing the community;

Tirelessly enhancing our community’s livability, sustainability and economic competitiveness; and providing employees a structure which reinforces this as our organizational culture and employs and empowers them to help people.

## What We Value

- Service
- Relevance
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Stewardship
- Performance
- Transparency
- Vision





# STRATEGIC PLAN - FY2022 - FY2026

## UNDERSTANDING OUR STRATEGY

### VISION

A community that is safe, healthy and vibrant.

### MISSION

To efficiently provide public services which serve and strengthen our community.

### Strategic Priorities

Leon County's Strategic Priorities are high-level categories of focus in the County's major areas of responsibilities: Economy, Environment, Quality of Life, and Governance. The priorities consider the County's future in each area and are critical to the success of the community. As part of the strategic plan, these priorities inform every decision and every initiative made by Leon County.

### STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Leon County's strategic initiatives are program- or area-specific projects that align with the County's strategic priorities to serve and strengthen the community. In the FY2022-2026 Strategic Plan, the 43 strategic initiatives ensure that the optimized resources of the County are aligned to address the community's most pressing issues and to achieve the County's top priorities.

### BOLD GOALS AND TARGETS

Bold goals are truly stretch goals that will be big and difficult to achieve, but are worthy of Leon County's best efforts. Bold goals require the County to explore new partnerships, identify new opportunities, and inspire new ideas.

Leon County's five-year targets are aligned with each strategic priority and will communicate to the public and staff throughout the County the specific results the County expects to achieve through the collective execution of the strategic initiatives. Achieving these five-year targets will demonstrate results, accountability, and the strength of long-term planning.

## ► PRIORITY: ECONOMY

To be an effective leader and a reliable partner in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place which attracts and retains talent, to grow and diversify our local economy, and to realize our full economic vitality. (EC)



Do well-designed public infrastructure which supports business, attracts private investment, and has long term economic benefits. (EC1)



Support programs, policies and initiatives to attract, create, and promote expansion of business, entrepreneurship, job creation, workforce development, economic equity and mobility. (EC2)



Leverage university and community partnerships to increase entrepreneurial, technology transfer and commercialization opportunities. (EC3)



Grow our tourism economy, its diversity, competitiveness, and economic impact. (EC4)

## BOLD GOAL

**Grow the five-year tourism economy to \$5 billion.** (BC1)

**23%**

\$1.15 billion







## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (EC1) Continue to implement catalytic public infrastructure projects through Blueprint and the County’s five-year CIP that provide connectivity and leverage public and private investments. (2022-1)
- » (EC2) Implement the Economic Development Strategic Plan as adopted and revised by the Intergovernmental Agency. (2022-2)
- » (EC2) Implement the recommendations from the joint County/City disparity study to be completed in FY 2022. (2022-3)
- » (EC3) Continue to support the Magnetic Technologies Task Force in growing the cluster of research and businesses in the magnetic technologies industry. (2022-4)
- » (EC4) Implement the Division of Tourism’s Strategic Plan. (2022-5)
- » (EC4) Continue to build upon the reputation of Apalachee Regional Park as a destination venue for cross country athletes by securing state, regional and national competitions. (2022-6)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## 5-YEAR TARGETS

### PROGRESS TO DATE

▶ Attract 100 State, Regional or National Championships Across All Sports	<b>16%</b> (16 Championships)
▶ Grow the Job Market by 10,000 New Jobs and Co-Create 500 Entrepreneur Ventures	208 new entrepreneurial ventures co-created
▶ Connect 7,000 Students to Skilled Job Opportunities through Leon Works and Other Talent Development Initiatives	<b>54%</b> (Connected 3,700 students)
▶ Increase the Number of Certified MWSBEs by 30%	<b>18%</b> (Certified 35 new MWSBEs)







# STRATEGIC PLAN - FY2022 - FY2026



Rally in Tally



Leon Works Expo

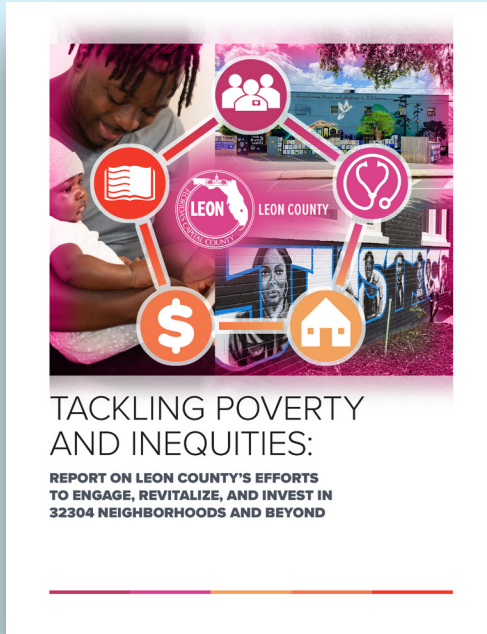


Visitor Information Center

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

- » (EC4) To further promote Leon County as a biking community, pursue the State’s “Trail Town” designation and continue to coordinate with the City, Blueprint, State, and U.S. Forest Service to leverage capital improvements in pursuit of the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) designation. (2022-7)
- » (EC1) Maximize the leveraging of the \$1.0 trillion federal infrastructure bill to fund County projects. (2022-8)
- » (EC2, EC3) Collaborate with regional workforce and talent partners to connect companies and education institutions with training programs to inform, support, and recruit entry-level technology talent. (2022-9)
- » (EC1, EC4) Support the completion of the Fairgrounds Master Plan by Blueprint and, upon completion, effectuate the next steps for the redevelopment of the North Florida Fairgrounds. (2022-10)
- » (EC4) To celebrate Leon County/Tallahassee Bicentennial in 2024, the County will implement the Leon County Bicentennial organizational management plan and facilitate the Bicentennial Steering Committee to lead the community planning efforts with government agencies, businesses, organizations, and citizens. (2023-1)
- » (EC1, EC4) Open and activate the newly renovated Amtrak facility as the visitor center and destination hub for Leon County. (2023-2)





*Tackling Poverty and Inequities: Report on Leon County's Efforts to Engage, Revitalize, and Invest in 32304 Neighborhoods and Beyond*



*Junior Apprenticeship Program*



*Gov't Mule Concert*

- » (EC2) Partner with the City of Tallahassee, Capital City Chamber of Commerce, and local stakeholders to spur economic growth and financial security in the neighborhoods that have historically experienced poverty and racial inequity through initiatives including Bank On Tallahassee. (2023-3)
- » (EC1) Engage local, regional, state, and federal partners to encourage the restoration of passenger rail service along the Gulf Coast by leveraging federal dollars under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2023-4)

- » (EC1) Through the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency, evaluate opportunities to advance the construction of the Tharpe Street project. (2023-5)
- » (EC2, EC3) Collaborate with regional partners in the building and technical trades to increase entry-level apprenticeship opportunities. Target specifically training on-the-job upon hiring positions. (2023-6)
- » (EC2) Continue efforts to promote opportunities for youth training and development with the County. (2023-7)





## ► PRIORITY: ENVIRONMENT

To be a responsible steward of our precious natural resources in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place which values our environment and natural beauty as a vital component of our community's health, economic strength and social offerings. (EN)



Protect the quality and supply of our water. (EN1)



Conserve and protect environmentally sensitive lands and our natural ecosystems. (EN2)



Promote orderly growth and sustainable practices. (EN3)



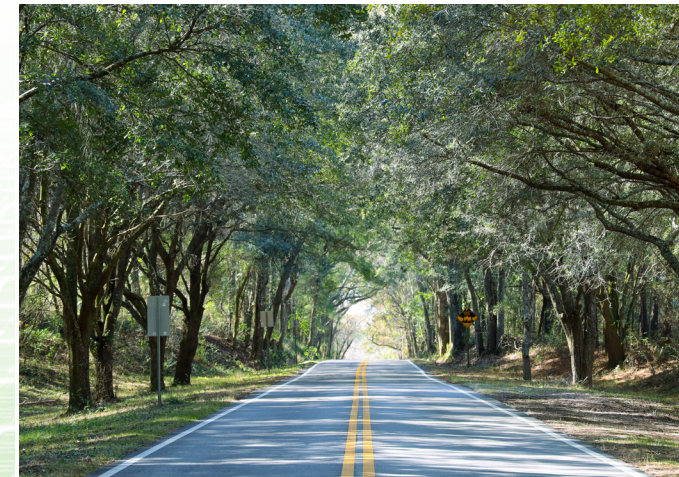
Reduce our carbon footprint. (EN4)

### BOLD GOAL

**Upgrade or Eliminate 500 Septic Tanks in the Primary Springs Protection Zone** (BG2)

**39%**

195 septic upgrades and/or conversions completed or in progress to date







## 5-YEAR TARGETS

### PROGRESS TO DATE

- ▶ Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Stemming from County Operations by 25% **8%** (Reduced GHG emissions by 2%)
- ▶ Double Solar Power Generation at County Facilities **37%** (Increased generation by 50 kW)
- ▶ Divert 3 Million Pounds of Household Hazardous Waste from Landfill **27%** (Diverted 795,000 pounds of waste)
- ▶ Increase the Number of Fully Electric Vehicles in the County's Fleet by 500% **275%** (Anticipated increase through FY 2023)

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (EN1) Continue to work with the state to seek matching grants to convert septic to sewer systems and support septic system upgrades. (2022-11, rev. 2023)
- » (EN2) Evaluate requiring advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) for new construction. (2022-12)
- » (EN3) Complete a comprehensive review and revision to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan. (2022-13)
- » (EN3) Complete an evaluation of transportation fee alternatives to replace the existing concurrency management system of mobility fees. (2022-14)
- » (EN4) Enact the County's Integrated Sustainability Action Plan to further reduce the County Government's carbon footprint. (2022-15)
- » (EN1) Ensure County's water quality and stormwater regulations, programs and projects are evaluated and implemented holistically to advance the County's adopted strategic priority: to protect the quality and supply of our water. (2022-16)
- » (EN1) Initiate Basin Management Plan updates for the unincorporated area once the state adopts new stormwater standards. (2022-17)
- » (EN3) Partner with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) to address long term regional resiliency through a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) grant. (2022-18)
- » (EN2) Evaluate enhancing existing roadside litter debris removal through the creation of a County staffed program and further engage neighborhoods, businesses and civic organizations in expanding the County's adopt-a-road program. (2022-19)
- » (EN1) Implement the comprehensive Action Plan for Lake Munson to support the long-term water quality of the lake and surrounding water bodies (2023-8)





## ► PRIORITY: QUALITY OF LIFE

To be a provider of essential services which promote the well-being of our citizens and the livability of our community in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place where people are healthy, safe, and connected to their community. (Q)



Maintain and enhance our parks and recreational offerings and green spaces. (Q1)



Promote livability, health and sense of community by supporting strong neighborhoods, enhancing mobility, encouraging human scale development, and creating public spaces for people of all ages. (Q5)



Provide relevant and essential offerings through our libraries and community centers which promote literacy, life-long learning, and social equity. (Q2)



Assist local veterans and their dependents with securing entitled benefits and advocating their interests. (Q6)



Provide essential public safety infrastructure and services while supporting early intervention and prevention strategies. (Q3)



Support and promote access to basic healthcare, mental health, affordable housing, and homeless prevention services to our community members most in need. (Q4)

Build, sustain and improve resilience to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to and recover from man-made and natural disasters. (Q7)

### **BOLD GOAL**

**Support Community Partners to Place 100 Residents Experiencing Chronic Homelessness in Permanent Supportive Housing**

(BG3)

**23%**

23 placements





## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (Q1) Implement the Tallahassee-Leon County Greenways Master Plan. (2022-20)
- » (Q2) Implement the Leon County Essential Libraries Initiative. (2022-21)
- » (Q3) Continue to evaluate emergency medical response strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates. (2022-22)
- » (Q3) Identify and evaluate pretrial alternatives to incarceration for low level and non-violent offenders and support reentry through regional partnerships and state and national efforts. (2022-23)
- » (Q4) Continue County support of primary healthcare through participation in Carenet in order to increase access to affordable healthcare for those in need. (2022-24)
- » (Q4) In coordination with the Leon County Health Department, work to identify an operator for a local Syringe Exchange Program. (2022-25)
- » (Q5) Continue to work with the Florida Department of Transportation for safety improvements on State and County roadways to include accessibility enhancements, street lighting installations, sidewalk additions, safety audits, and intersection improvements. (2022-26)

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 18**

## 5-YEAR TARGETS

### PROGRESS TO DATE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Secure More Than \$150 Million in Federal, State, and Local Benefits for Leon County Veterans and Their Families</li> </ul>                              | <p><b>17%</b><br/>(Secured \$25 million)</p>           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Support 900 Community Events, Sporting Competitions, Festivals, Performances and Cultural Programing That Will Attract Visitors and Residents</li> </ul> | <p><b>15%</b><br/>(Supported 135 community events)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Construct 90 Miles of Sidewalks, Greenways, Trails and Bike Lanes</li> </ul>   | <p><b>10%</b><br/>(Constructed nearly 10 miles)</p>    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Host 100,000 Residents and Visitors through County-Supported Performances at the Amphitheater</li> </ul>   | <p><b>25%</b><br/>(Supported 11 performances)</p>      |





# STRATEGIC PLAN - FY2022 - FY2026



Family Health Literacy Fair



TasteBud Explorers: Family Cooking Demonstration



Orange Avenue redevelopment

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

- » (Q7) Continue coordination of local COVID-19 response and recovery including leveraging State and federal funds to support individual and business assistance as well as vaccination and testing efforts. (2022-27)
- » (Q3) Support the Sheriff in the implementation of the Council on Men and Boys to address the issues brought forth in the Sheriff's Anatomy of a Homicide Project report. (2022-28)
- » (Q3, Q4) Partner with the Children's Services Council of Leon County on opportunities to collaborate and coordinate on the funding, program delivery, program evaluation, and outcome measures for children and family services. (2022-29)
- » (Q5) Implement the recommendations of the Citizen's North Monroe Street Task Force to reduce crime and improve conditions along the North Monroe Corridor. (2022-30)
- » (Q4) Coordinate with America's Second Harvest of the Big

Bend and the City of Tallahassee to conduct community meetings in the neighborhood block groups with greatest food insecurity to identify and address their specific barriers to food security. (2022-31)

- » (Q3) Partner with the Leon County Sheriff's Office in raising community awareness on issues such as child abuse and prevention programs, human trafficking, sexual abuse and exploitation and domestic violence. (2022-32)
- » (Q2, Q5) Work with the City of Tallahassee on the development and implementation of the Neighborhood First Program to engage residents and develop plans to address poverty and inequity in targeted neighborhoods including 32304. (2022-33)
- » (Q3) Support law enforcement and community partners' programs and initiatives to address the causes and impacts of drug related crimes in our community. (2022-34)

- » (Q4) Continue to explore policies such as inclusionary housing and mixed housing developments to increase the stock of affordable housing throughout Leon County. (2023-9)
- » (Q5) Building on the Citizens North Monroe Task Force Final Report, host an intensive, multi-day design charrette to work with the community to identify and evaluate a variety of land use/planning strategies and other proposals for the continued improvement of the North Monroe Corridor area. (2023-10)
- » (Q4) Work with the City of Tallahassee, Big Bend Continuum of Care, Kearney Center, and other local stakeholders to enhance engagement and awareness of resources available for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in order to support safe, stable, and inclusive neighborhoods. (2023-11)
- » (Q4) Evaluate the reimbursement structure of the Leon County Health Care Program to better reflect the cost for diagnostic and ancillary costs such as laboratory and X-ray services and





Community Health Update



Capital Area Healthy Start infant CPR training program with EMS



Probation/Pretrial Officer prepares for a courtroom hearing

ensure continued access to affordable health care for low-income individuals and families. (2023-12)

- » (Q4) Enhance the partnership with Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition, Inc. to implement its Service Delivery Plan to improve women and children’s health and health care access in Leon County. (2023-13)
- » (Q5) Develop an interactive community web-based tool that documents planned improvements, tracks investments, and identifies enhancement strategies for the North Monroe Corridor area. (2023-14)
- » (Q4) Partner with the Children’s Services Council to address Black maternal and children’s health through the coordination of data sharing, collaboration with partners on available community resources, and opportunities to maximize investment in outreach and awareness to improve health outcomes. (2023-15)

- » (Q1) Design and construct the new Northeast Park. (2023-16)
- » (Q4, Q5) Work with the City of Tallahassee, Big Bend Continuum of Care, and street outreach teams to develop corridor plans for North Monroe, Downtown, and Pensacola Street for outreach to unsheltered homeless individuals and to engage residents and businesses to address community aesthetics and neighborhood safety along the corridors. (2023-17)
- » (Q4) Continue to leverage County funding in partnership with local stakeholders to secure state and federal funding to build affordable rental housing for very low- and low-income families. (2023-18)
- » (Q4) Leverage federal funding and relationships with local service providers to increase the number of temporary/ transitional housing beds available to those experiencing homelessness. (2023-19)

- » (Q4) Continue to identify opportunities to increase the number of mental health beds in the community by working with mental health treatment providers and academic institutions in the community. (2023-20)
- » (Q4) Work with the City of Tallahassee, FSU Askew School, and human service agencies to utilize and refine the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) Outcome Measures to ensure that the CHSP continues to address the highest human service needs in the community. (2023-21)





## ► PRIORITY: GOVERNANCE

To be a model for local governance with innovative, competent, and responsible public servants, committed to promoting integrity and diversity, creating meaningful opportunities for citizen engagement and co-creation, and ensuring fiscal stewardship. (G)



Sustain a culture of transparency, accessibility, accountability, civility, and the highest standards of public service. (G1)



Retain and attract a highly skilled, diverse and innovative County workforce, which exemplifies the County's Core Practices. (G4)



Sustain a culture of performance, and deliver effective, efficient services that exceed expectations and demonstrate value. (G2)



Exercise responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management, and ensure that the provision of services and community enhancements are done in a fair and equitable manner. (G5)



Inform and engage citizens through multiple outreach platforms to ensure consistent, high-value, transparent communication on our most important issues. (G3)

### BOLD GOAL

**Implement 600 Citizen Ideas, Improvements, Solutions and Opportunities for Co-Creation** (BG4)

**23%** 138 citizen ideas







## 5-YEAR TARGETS

### PROGRESS TO DATE

▶ Connect 50,000 Volunteers with Service Opportunities Communitywide	<b>15%</b> (Connected 7,400 volunteers)
▶ Reach 100,000 More Citizens Across All County Platforms and Programming	<b>18%</b> (Reached 18,000 more citizens)
▶ Offer 100% Online Permitting for Licensed Contractors, Engineers and Architects	<b>100%</b> (on track to complete this target by FY 2023)
▶ Communicate More Than 1.5 Million Disaster Preparedness Messages to Create Resilient Households, Businesses and Nonprofits	<b>41%</b> (Communicated 613,000 messages)

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (G1) Alongside The Village Square, the Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI), and other community partners, continue to engage citizens of diverse backgrounds with innovative programs like Created Equal, the Citizen Engagement Series, Build Your Bucket, and so much more. (2022-35)
- » (G2) Continue to set the benchmark for local governments everywhere by earning national, state and local awards for County programs, hosting Florida Association of Counties events like Innovation Day, and sharing best practices with peers, all while remaining committed to learning and improving as an organization. (2022-36)
- » (G3) Launch the internationally recognized Zency communications platform to address social media misinformation, proactively address citizen concerns, and increase transparency and accountability. (2022-37)
- » (G4) Continue to invest in the professional development of County staff including participation in Certified Public Manager training and enhancements to the County’s Management Training. (2022-38)
- » (G5) Continue to pursue cost savings through the County’s Innovator & Inspirator (I<sup>2</sup>) Program. (2022-39)
- » (G3) Further enhance the use of social media neighborhood apps to notify citizens of development projects occurring in their neighborhoods. (2022-40)
- » (G5) Continue to support updates to the Comprehensive Plan that encourage annexation of southside properties within the Urban Services Area. (2022-41)
- » (G5) Pursue Federal funding to provide broadband to underserved rural communities. (2022-42)
- » (G5) Pursue working with Leon County Schools to acquire the Ft. Braden Community Center. (2022-43)
- » (G5) Engage an industry expert to identify jail population management strategies to proactively mitigate the need for additional infrastructure at the Leon County Detention Center and evaluate long term space needs of the facility. (2023-22)
- » (G3) Develop a touch-screen kiosk at the County Courthouse showcasing “200 Years of Representation and Progress” highlighting current and past County officials, significant County achievements/projects by decade, and a historical overview of Leon County. (2023-23)
- » (G4) Support the Sheriff in implementing a step pay plan for sworn officers to achieve and maintain recruitment and retention efforts. (2023-24)





# LEON COUNTY ATTORNEY



## CHASITY O'STEEN

### County Attorney

850-606-2520

[OSteenC@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:OSteenC@LeonCountyFL.gov)

Chasity H. O'Steen was selected to serve as the County Attorney beginning April 1, 2020. Ms. O'Steen is a 2003 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law, former General Counsel of both the State of Florida, Department of Management Services and Department of Financial Services. She brings with her a wealth of experience gained over 20 years in State and County government as well as the private sector, practicing in areas of law relevant to local government such as ethics, policy, procurement and contract issues, public records, federal and state grant funding, labor and employment law, finance, real estate and civil litigation.

Ms. O'Steen leads a team of skilled professionals in providing legal support to the Board and other officials of Leon County Government.

The County Attorney's Office section of the Leon County FY 2024 Annual Budget is comprised solely of the County Attorney's Office. This Office provides legal services to the Board of County Commissioners, the County Administrator, County departments, and certain boards and agencies organized under the Board of County Commissioners, unless they are separate legal entities or have their own legal counsel, and as otherwise directed by the Board. The Office also reviews contracts, bonds, ordinances, resolutions, and other written instruments.

The County Attorney's Office continues to provide legal support to Leon County Government in a variety of areas, including the following litigation matters:

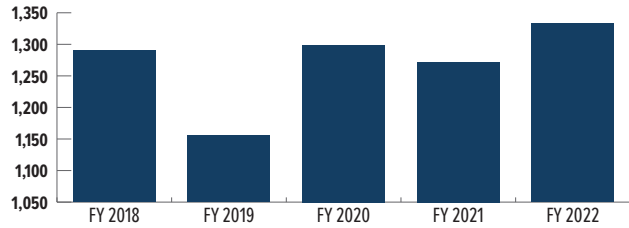
- Continues to work with outside counsel to represent Leon County in the multidistrict opioid litigation against multiple opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. The complaints include allegations of the manufacturer defendants' false, deceptive, and unfair marketing of opioids, as well as the distributor defendants' unlawful distribution of opioids. The Board has approved entering into numerous settlement agreements, as well as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State of Florida governing how the settlement proceeds will be distributed among the State and local governments. As provided in the MOU, all funds received will be divided into three funds (City/County Fund, Regional Fund, State Fund) after expense fund costs are deducted. It is currently contemplated that settlement payments will be paid out over 18 years, with use restricted to abatement and treatment of opioid use disorder and other limited uses. It is anticipated that most of the outside multidistrict litigation counsel will be paid through an attorney fund established at a national level, but a percentage of the local government distribution may also be used to fund attorneys' fees. On April 5, 2023, the Florida Attorney General's Office provided Florida cities and counties with partial estimated distribution numbers, and Leon County has started to receive disbursements. At the June 2022 Florida Association of County Attorneys Award Luncheon, County Attorney O'Steen was presented with FACA's annual Writing Award for her work related to the Opioid Litigation.
- Continues to represent Leon County as a Plaintiff in the firearms preemption litigation, *Broward County v. State of Florida, et al.*; Circuit Court Case No. 2018 CA 882; *Nicole Fried, et al., v. State of Florida, et al.*; *City of Weston, et al., v. State of Florida*; Supreme Court Case No. SC21-917 and 918, wherein the Plaintiffs challenged the related penalty provisions in the Florida Statutes, which allow certain monetary damages and other penalties to be imposed against any individual who enacts or causes to be enforced a preempted firearm regulation. This matter has proceeded through the courts, and the Supreme Court of Florida accepted jurisdiction and directed that briefs be filed by the parties on September 9, 2021. On January 19, 2023, the Supreme Court issued its Opinion, in which it affirmed the First District Court of Appeal's decision, holding that neither legislative immunity nor governmental function immunity prohibit the statutory actions and penalties in section 790.33(3)(c), (d), and (f), Florida Statutes.
- Represented Leon County in *Michael Grasso v. Leon County, Florida and Keith A. Hill and Terri Hill*; Circuit Court Case No. 2022 CA 989, wherein the Plaintiff alleged negligence and breach of contract. Mr. Grasso previously filed a claim against the Leon County Tax Collector, which is covered by the County's general liability insurance coverage, alleging discriminatory treatment in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. In January 2021, the County's insurer settled this matter, and on or about January 25, 2021, Mr. Grasso and the County, on behalf of the Leon County Tax Collector, entered into a Settlement Agreement and General Release, wherein Mr. Grasso was paid \$50,000. Subsequently, Mr. Grasso filed this Complaint for Damages alleging negligence and breach of contract on the part of the County and numerous allegations on the part of Defendants, Keith A. Hill and Terri Hill, including defamation/slander, harassment/stalking, battery, and abuse or neglect of a disabled or elderly person. Mr. Grasso is seeking over \$1 million in damages against the Defendants. The Plaintiff's Amended Complaint was filed with the court on September 16, 2022, and the County moved to dismiss the charges against the County. The other Defendants are represented by separate counsel. The Court granted Leon County's Motion to Dismiss. While Mr. Grasso filed a notice to appeal the Court's ruling, he subsequently filed a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal of his appeal on May 1, 2023.
- Continues to defend Leon County in *Steven R. Dewitt v. Ceressa Haney, et al.*; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Case No. 4:21cv340-AW-MAF; wherein the Plaintiff filed a pro se lawsuit alleging a violation of Plaintiff's civil rights when he was asked to leave the premises of the Leon County Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives for video recording staff and the public. One of the defendants, Ceressa Haney, is an employee of Leon County. The County filed a Motion to Dismiss on August 5, 2022, and the Plaintiff filed a Motion in Opposition. On March 31, 2023, the Court entered an Order Granting the County's Motion to Dismiss. Plaintiff appealed the Order and subsequently requested and received an extension of time in which to file his initial brief. Brief was due on June 29, 2023.
- Defended Leon County in *Linda Atkinson v. Leon County Board of County Commissioners – Circuit Court Case No. 2021 CA 1090* – wherein the Plaintiff alleges she sustained injuries in a slip and fall accident inside the Leon County courthouse. Mediation on October 4, 2021, resulted in an impasse. A second mediation was held on December 13, 2022, that resulted in a settlement of this matter with the County's insurer paying \$27,000 to the Plaintiff.
- Continues to represent Leon County in *State of Florida and Leon County v. Terrica Coleman*; County Court Case Nos. 2022 CO 48 and 49, wherein the Defendant was issued Leon County Animal Control citations when her dogs were found to be running at large and subsequently attacked and killed a neighbor's dog. Plaintiff was found guilty in County Court and ordered to pay the citations. Plaintiff appealed the County Court decision to the Circuit Court, which in turn filed an Order of Transfer to the First District Court of Appeal. The matter is now pending a response from the First District.
- Continues to handle Leon County, *Florida v. Montejo Homeowners Association, et al.*; Circuit Court Case No. 2022 CA 1900, an eminent domain case for the Belair/Annawood Septic to Sewer Project. The County has acquired a permanent easement allowing construction of the wastewater lines on Susie B. Lane. The case is ongoing to determine full compensation owed to the property owners.



# COUNTY ATTORNEY OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS



## New Requests for Legal Assistance October 1 - September 30



- Continues to handle Leon County, Florida v. David Rainey, Shayna Rainey, U.S. Bank Trust National Association, et al., Circuit Court Case No. 2023 CA 1786 an eminent domain case for the Maylor Road Accessibility Enhancement Project. Maylor Road experiences flooding during large storm events since the project area is located at the bottom of the Maylor Road Closed Basin. Known flood events have occurred in 1994, 2008 (during Tropical Storm Fay), 2014, and most recently in December 2018. The residences along Maylor Road within the project area are experiencing safety deficiencies resulting from these recurring flood events, including impaired access to residential properties. The County will raise the elevation of Maylor Road and needs temporary construction easements for the purpose of driveway reconstruction and harmonizing project improvements.

In addition, the County Attorney's Office provides legal support to County staff in all its real estate transactional and right-of-way acquisition matters, which in the past year included:

- Assistance to staff with the continued sales of County-owned real property appropriate for use as affordable housing, resulting in significant proceeds to the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County to be used for affordable housing.
- Preparation of a resolution adopting an inventory list of all real property within Leon County to which the County holds fee simple title that is appropriate for use as affordable housing.
- Assistance with funding the gap for the second phase of the Orange Avenue Apartments Redevelopment Project, utilizing Federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funding, and handling the real estate closing on a forgivable loan. The project is intended to increase and preserve the stock of affordable housing through collaboration and coordination with the City and the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County and enabled the developer to leverage significant tax-exempt financing.
- Oversight of the drafting of an affordable housing incentive joint ordinance with the City of Tallahassee.

- Review of lease agreements for County-owned properties, such as the Leon County Government Annex and the Lake Jackson Town Center.
- Acquisition of utility easements, drainage easements, whole parcels, and other right-of-way needed for the County's capital improvement projects. These include the Woodville area septic-to-sewer projects, the Maylor Road drainage improvements project, and the Old Bainbridge Road/Capital Circle NW intersection improvement project, the North Gadsden Street Sidewalk Project, the Belair/Annawood Septic-to-Sewer Project, and the Blountstown Highway Sidewalk Project to serve the Fort Braden School area as part of the Safe Routes to School Program.
- Research of County ownership parameters, rights, and obligations, and reviewing title work for Lake Munson Boat Landing, Lake Munson Road, Gardner Landing, and Gardner Road.
- CAO's Emily Bouza achieved Board Certification in City, County and Local Government Law by The Florida Bar. Only 312 attorneys in Florida have currently earned this distinction.

### PROCUREMENTS, TRANSACTIONS, AND ASSESSMENTS INCLUDED:

- Provision of legal guidance in developing the solicitation and agreement for an exclusive franchise for solid waste collection services for unincorporated Leon County that would include competitive rates for residential and commercial customers.
- Assistance to staff with the imposition of special assessments to recoup the costs of the Tower Oaks 2/3 Program for road improvements, as required by the 2/3 Program. Residents sought improvements along the north side of Tower Road to existing infrastructure and for the County to take over future maintenance needs. The project included road upgrades, sidewalk replacement, and improvements to the stormwater control and drainage system associated with the roads.
- Assistance in the review and development of a Request for Proposals for qualified vendors to provide decedent transportation services for the Leon County Medical Examiner. Providing legal review on subsequent contracts with qualified vendors following the closing of the solicitation.
- Assistance to staff with the solicitation of bids for renovation of existing warehouse space to provide a new 12,376 GSF evidence storage facility for the Leon County Sheriff's Office.
- Development of solicitations, assisting staff with procurements, and preparing agreements related to outside Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel.
- Provision of legal support in developing the Syringe Exchange Program agreements, the springs restoration grant amendment for the Woodville Sewer System Project, and the TESLA Supercharger License Agreement for Huntington Oaks Plaza.

- Provision of legal support to staff with updating special assessments for fire rescue, solid waste, stormwater management, and the Emergency Medical Services MSTU.
- Provision of contract risk mitigation through legal review of procurement policies, purchasing templates, and contracts.
- Assistance to staff in ensuring that County policies and procedures provide the best economic value for public funds while promoting competition and maintaining public confidence through a fair and open procurement process.
- Provision of guidance to staff on bid evaluations for vendor selection, legal requirements of documentation in support of procurement decisions, and bid protest resolutions, as well as reviewing and revising bid documents and written terms and conditions.

In the past 12 months, the County Attorney's Office has responded to nearly 1,400 requests for legal advice or assistance, including reviewing, preparing, and/or signing ordinances, resolutions, proclamations, agenda items, contracts, and various housing, land use, and other real estate documents, as well as employment, procurement, and litigation documents, responding to public records requests, and advertising public hearings. Included in this number are 416 agreements, 316 agenda items, 344 public records requests, 80 resolutions, 12 ordinances, and 11 policies. The County Attorney's Office worked with staff to develop and implement rules of procedure for the Trusted People Neighborhood Engagement Steering Committee and trained staff and Committee members on compliance with the Sunshine Law and public records laws. The County Attorney's Office provided legal support to the Planning Department for the 2023 Comprehensive Plan cycle and the Department of Development Support and Environmental Management in the approval of all Land Development Code revisions and applications for development approvals. The County Attorney's Office also represents Leon County before the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Commission, the Board of Adjustment and Appeals, the Code Enforcement Board, and the Development Review Committee. For the 2022 elections, the County Attorney's Office represented the Leon County Canvassing Board. Office personnel have assisted with significant revisions to the Code of Laws concerning the Leon County Energy Improvement District, Animal Control, Land Development Code, Pre-Development Environmental Analysis Reviews in the Environmental Protection Act, and Lake Protection, as well as amendments to various elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The County Attorney's Office continues to be active in efforts to keep the County's lakes clean and has worked diligently with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce nutrient levels coming into Lake Talquin from Georgia, including implementation of the 2022 Lake Talquin Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Rule.

The County Attorney's Office also reviewed a notification from the Florida PACE Funding Agency (FPFA) purporting to materially alter the way in which it operates in Leon County. As authorized by the Board, the County Attorney's Office has issued a cease and desist letter to the FPFA. At the June 2023 Florida Association of County Attorneys (FACA) Award Luncheon, County Attorney O'Steen was presented with FACA's annual Friend Award for her leadership on the FACA PACE Task Force, which she Chairs.





# PROVIDING SERVICE 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK





# LIVING OUR PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN. CULTURE

A CORE PRACTICE OF LEON COUNTY GOVERNMENT







# DEMONSTRATING HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

## LEON COUNTY GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



**VINCENT S. LONG**  
County Administrator



**CHASITY H. O'STEEN**  
County Attorney



**MATHIEU CAVELL**  
Director, Community Relations and Resilience



**KEVIN PETERS**  
Director

**Emergency Management**

- Disaster Preparedness and Response
- 9-1-1 Operations
- Disaster Plan Review
- Emergency Exercises



**KIANNA GILLEY**  
Manager

**Community and Media Relations**

- Community Relations
- Media Engagement
- Crisis Communications
- Disaster Resiliency



**KERRI POST**  
Director

**Tourism**

- Destination Marketing
- Sports Tourism
- Signature Event Grants
- Amphitheater Concert Series
- Culture and Arts



**CANDICE WILSON**  
Director, Human Resources



**ALAN ROSENZWEIG**  
Deputy County Administrator



**WANDA HUNTER**  
Assistant County Administrator



**KEN MORRIS**  
Assistant County Administrator



**SHINGTON LAMY**  
Assistant County Administrator



**BEN PINGREE**  
Assistant County Administrator



**CHAD ABRAMS**  
Chief

**Office of Public Safety**

- Emergency Medical Services
- Consolidated Dispatch Agency
- Animal Control



**TERESA BROXTON**  
Director

**Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives**

- Probation
- Supervised Pretrial Release
- Drug and Alcohol Testing
- PSCC



**PAMELA MONROE**  
Director

**Library Services**

- Branch Libraries
- Ask a Librarian and Reference
- Community Programming
- Learning Resources
- Technology and Media



**SCOTT ROSS**  
Director

**Office of Financial Stewardship**

- OMB
- Risk Management
- Purchasing
- Real Estate Management



**ROSHAUNDA BRADLEY**  
Director

**Office of Management and Budget**

- Budget Development
- Grants
- Fiscal Planning



**MICHELLE TAYLOR**  
Chief Information Officer

**Office of Information and Technology**

- Management Information Services
- Geographical Information Systems



**NICKI PADEN**  
Assistant to the County Administrator

**Legislative and Strategic Initiatives**

- Strategic Planning
- Legislative Affairs



**BEN BRADWELL**  
Manager

**Veterans Services**

- Benefit Counseling
- Veterans Resource Center
- Emergency Assistance for Veterans



**ABBY SANDERS**  
Manager

**Health and Human Services**

- Primary Healthcare
- CHSP
- Neighborhood Engagement
- Homelessness
- Direct Emergency Assistance



**JELANI MARKS**  
Manager

**Housing Services**

- Affordable Housing
- Down Payment Assistance
- Rehabilitation



**BRENT PELL**  
Director

**Public Works**

- Operations
- Mosquito Control
- Engineering Services
- Construction Management
- Fleet Management



**MAGGIE THERIOT**  
Director

**Office of Resource Stewardship**

- Sustainability
- Recycling
- Parks and Recreation
- Facilities
- Solid Waste
- Coop. Extension



**BARRY WILCOX**  
Director

**Development Support and Environmental Mgmt.**

- Environ. Svcs.
- Dev. Svcs.
- Building Plans Review and Inspection
- Permit/Code Services

**Department of P.L.A.C.E.**

(Planning, Land Management and Community Enhancement)

- Planning
- Blueprint
- Office of Economic Vitality
- MWSBE



# DELIVERING ON OUR PRIORITIES: VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER



As part of Leon County's commitment to support job growth and enhance the local economy, the County's new Division of Tourism Visitor Information Center is strategically situated between the campuses of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and Florida State University in the Arts District and within walking distance of more than 400 hotel rooms. Last year alone, through the everyday work of County Tourism staff, local tourism economic impact grew to \$1.2 billion by attracting more than 2.3 million visitors and accounting for more than 14,708 people employed in our community in the tourism and hospitality industry.







# COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

## PROVIDING TRANSPARENCY AND ENGAGING CITIZENS

Leon County continues to grow citizen involvement and engagement through its commitment to programs that help shape the community, including the Citizen Engagement Series, Library Lecture Series, and the Club of Honest Citizens.

The nationally recognized Leon County Citizen Engagement Series continued this year with a training on disaster resilience. Focused on building community preparedness and resilience to withstand man-made and natural disasters, more than 130 citizens stepped behind-the-scenes at the County's Emergency Operations Center to learn about disaster preparedness with local public safety experts. County staff, nonprofit partners, and public safety officials offered sessions on various topics, including disaster preparedness, emergency communication, and the importance of having an evacuation plan.

Further engaging citizens of all ages, the Leon County Library Lecture Series hosted three events featuring diverse speakers and topics. Florida State University Assistant Professor Dr. Lakeisha Johnson engaged parents, caregivers, and community members in a discussion about the importance of reading diverse books with children and building strong language and literacy skills for all ages. In honor of the 50th anniversary of hip hop, the next Library Lecture took attendees on a journey through the historical origins of hip-hop culture with Florida A&M University faculty member Maurice Johnson. Finally, the Library hosted an interactive panel of local professionals and historians in conversation about how Florida Emancipation Day was celebrated in the past and how Leon County citizens can remember and celebrate this historic day now and in the future.



Citizen Engagement Series: Disaster Preparedness

## LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES

TOPICS THAT ENGAGE AND INSPIRE



**Dr. Lakeisha Johnson**  
*Windows, Mirrors, and Sliding Glass Doors: Utilizing Diverse Books*



**Maurice Johnson**  
*Hip-Hop: A Reflection of Society*



**Althemese Pemberton Barnes**  
*Emancipation Day: Where Do We Go From Here?*





# Created Equal: BLACK WOMEN & THE FIGHT FOR EQUALITY

As part of the Club of Honest Citizens, Leon County partnered with The Village Square to host “Created Equal: Black Women and the Fight for Equality” on March 23, 2023. The award-winning program focused on the past experiences and present situations of Black women in America, as well as the ongoing challenges they confront in the areas of health, community, education, and the economy.

Connecting academic experts, community members, and advocates, the program addressed the question: *Throughout American history, Black women have been expected to serve and support others. Now, what should be done to support Black women?* After the panel discussion, the audience had the opportunity to participate in roundtable conversations to engage in a positive and healthy dialogue with one another about the topic.







# SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES VS. COUNTY SERVICES

COMPARING YOUR DOLLAR

## COMPARING HIGH-QUALITY COUNTY SERVICES WITH A MONTHLY STREAMING BILL

For less than a monthly streaming bill, you receive County services like Emergency Medical Services, parks, road maintenance, mosquito control, libraries, stormwater, disaster response and recovery, and so much more!

## SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

**Total \$219**

## COUNTY SERVICES

Law Enforcement & Corrections	\$55.10
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	\$9.69
Facilities	\$6.46
Health & Human Services	\$5.28
Elections	\$3.96
Library Services	\$3.70
Mosquito Control	\$0.45
Veterans, Volunteer, Economic Development & Planning	\$1.29
All Other Services	\$31.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 117.08</b>

Do I need all these sitcom reruns?  
**\$13.00**

I thought this was part of my cable bill ...  
**\$15.00**

The price is going up again?!  
**\$20.00**

Never heard of those shows.  
**\$5.00**

If I have to watch *Frozen* one more time ...  
**\$8.00**

Lots of unskippable ads, probably.  
**\$73.00**

Wait, how much?!  
**\$50.00**

But there's a warehouse in town!  
**\$15.00**

What even is this?  
**\$10.00**

Oh, come on!  
**\$10.00**



Leon County is not affiliated with the companies whose logos appear on this page; the logos are being used to provide context for residents in describing beneficial public services.

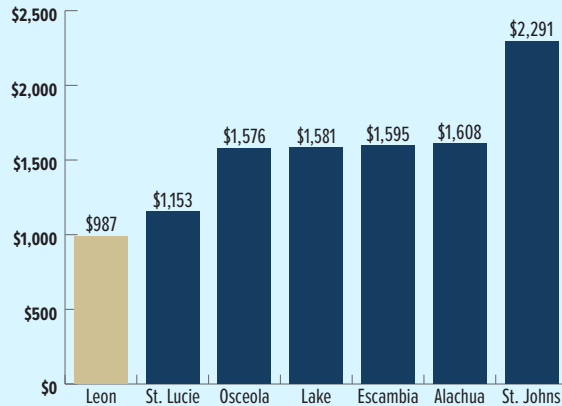


# FY 2023/2024 LEON COUNTY ADOPTED BUDGET AT A GLANCE

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

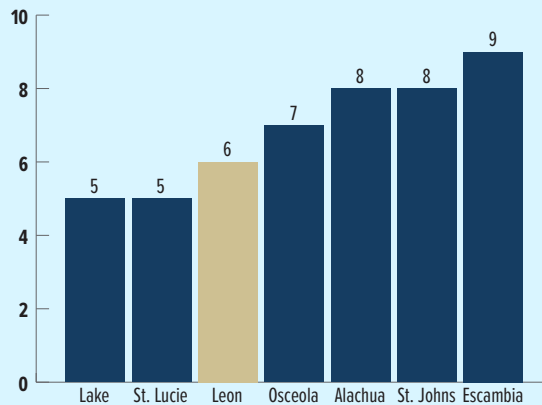


## Net Budget per Countywide Resident (FY 2023)



Leon County spends the least dollars per county resident of all like-sized counties. The next closest County's net budget per capita is 17% higher than Leon County's (St. Lucie County). St. Johns County spends more than two times the amount per resident than Leon County does.

## County Employees per 1,000 Residents (FY 2023)



Leon County is second highest just above Lake and St. Lucie counties with a ratio of six employees for every thousand County residents.

## EXERCISING RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY'S RESOURCES

- ▶ Balanced the FY 2024 budget (\$349.5 million), a 9.9% percent increase from last year's budget, without raising the millage rate for the twelfth year in a row.
- ▶ The FY 2024 budget continues to maintain core services and the community's infrastructure. A few highlights include:
  - » Dedicating more than \$2.3 million to Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) agencies to address the community's most pressing needs, including \$1.8 million to ensure uninsured and underinsured residents have access to comprehensive health services, \$1.1 million in SHIP funding to support affordable housing, and \$500,000 to support homelessness efforts.
  - » Fully supporting the Leon County Sheriff's Office's (LCSO) and Supervisor of Elections' budget requests, including a new pay plan for sworn officers and funding expanded voting operations at the Supervisor of Elections Office to manage the 2024 Presidential Primary and new state election requirements.
  - » Allocating millions of dollars in funding to support strategic, long-term investments in infrastructure with a focus on maintaining existing assets, including over 2.3 million square feet of County facilities, 3,865 acres of greenways and parks, along with hundreds of miles of roads and stormwater drainage systems.
  - » Preserving community affordability through the "Save Our Homes" measure, which provides a safeguard for homesteaded property owners by capping the annual property value increase at 3%.
  - » Fully supporting the Tallahassee/Leon County Bicentennial Celebration, including yearlong programming and events.
  - » Reducing the use of the General Fund balance by over half from last fiscal year to \$571,290.
  - » Adding eight new paramedics/EMTs for Emergency Medical Services (LCEMS) to maintain response times.
  - » New cost savings and avoidances of \$500,000, bringing the total to \$63.6 million since FY 2013.

## PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION

(Based on average value single-family home in Leon County)

Services	FY 2024 Ad Valorem Tax Bill \$1,405	FY 2024 Monthly Cost	FY 2024 Percent of Ad Valorem Taxes
Sheriff - Law Enforcement	\$381.46	\$31.79	27.15%
Sheriff - Corrections	279.79	23.32	19.91%
Emergency Medical Services	116.25	9.69	8.27%
Facilities Management	77.55	6.46	5.52%
Health & Human Services	63.41	5.28	4.51%
Management Information Services	49.06	4.09	3.49%
Supervisor of Elections	47.47	3.96	3.38%
Library Services	44.41	3.70	3.16%
Tax Collector	41.99	3.50	2.99%
Capital Improvement	38.87	3.24	2.77%
Property Appraiser	38.68	3.22	2.75%
Other Non-Operating/Communications	35.40	2.95	2.52%
Other Criminal Justice (Probation, DJJ, Diversion)	33.08	2.76	2.35%
Administrative Services	31.38	2.62	2.23%
Community Redevelopment - Payment	19.49	1.62	1.39%
Veterans, Volunteer, Planning, Economic Dev.	15.52	1.29	1.10%
Board of County Commissioners	13.29	1.11	0.95%
Geographic Information Systems	13.27	1.11	0.94%
Clerk of Circuit Court	12.52	1.04	0.89%
800 MHz Radio Communication System	11.42	0.95	0.81%
Financial Stewardship	10.57	0.88	0.75%
Court Administration and Other Court Programs	8.76	0.73	0.62%
Risk Allocations	8.45	0.70	0.60%
Mosquito Control	5.34	0.45	0.38%
Sustainability/Cooperative Extension	5.59	0.47	0.40%
Budgeted Reserves	1.28	0.11	0.09%
Line Item Agency Funding	0.64	0.05	0.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,405</b>	<b>\$117.08</b>	<b>100.00%</b>





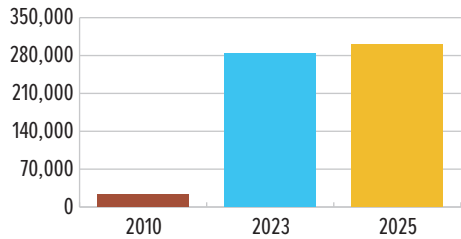
# PERFORMANCE DRIVEN PROGRESS

PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY SERVICES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES



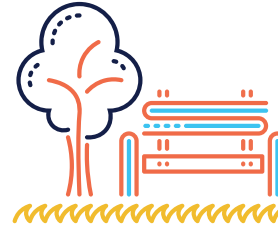
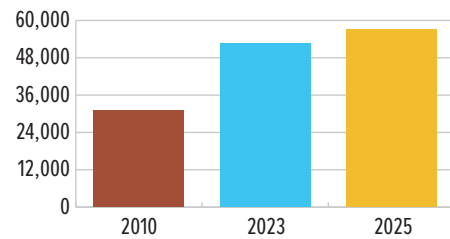
## Library Services

EBOOK/AUDIOBOOK DOWNLOADS



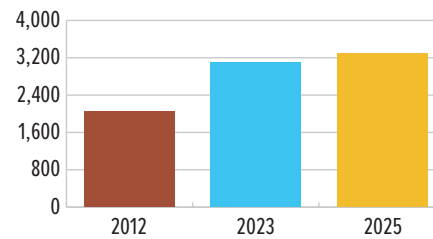
## Emergency Medical Services

CALLS FOR SERVICE



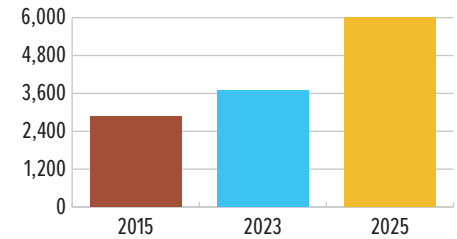
## Parks and Recreation

TOTAL ACRES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



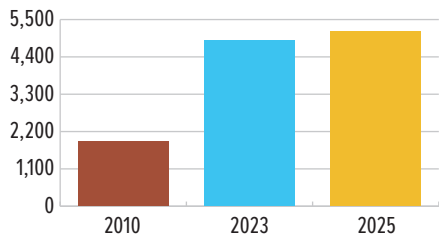
## Dev. Support & Env. Mgmt.

ONLINE PERMITS ISSUED



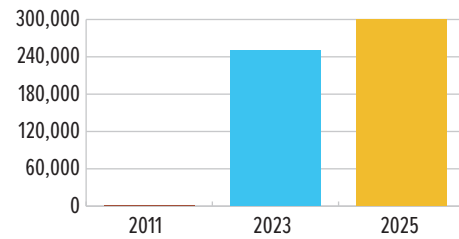
## Veteran Services

CLIENTS SERVED



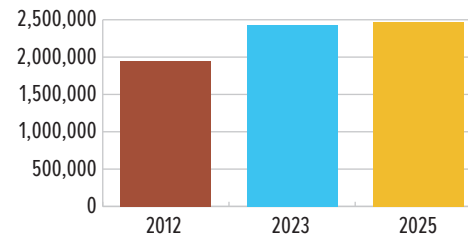
## Community & Media Relations

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS



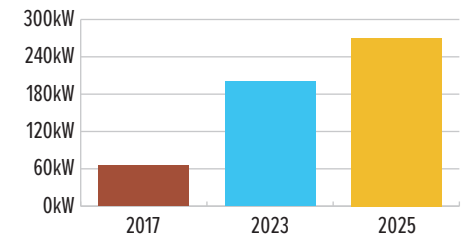
## Tourism

NUMBER OF VISITORS



## Sustainability

SOLAR ENERGY



PAST PRESENT PROJECTED



# STRETCHING YOUR TAX DOLLARS

EXERCISING RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY'S RESOURCES

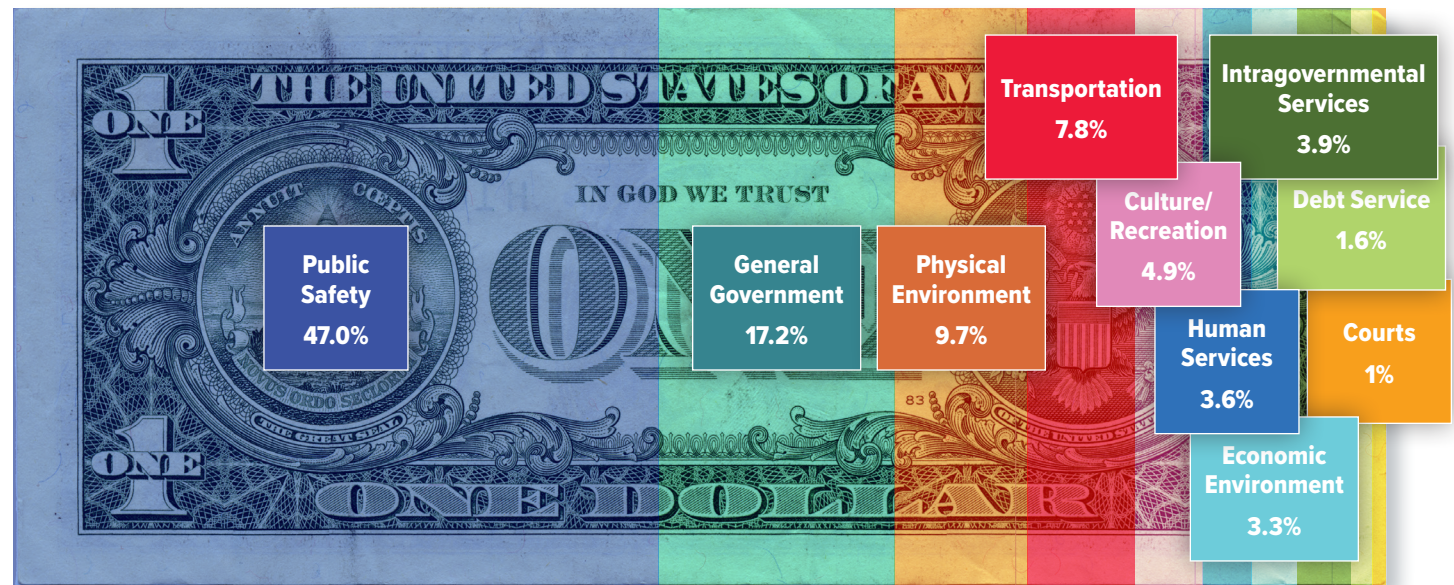


## WHERE THE \$349.5 COMES FROM...



FY 2023/2024 ADOPTED BUDGET:  
**\$349.5 MILLION**

...AND HOW THE \$349.5 IS UTILIZED



### DID YOU KNOW?

- Leon County citizens pay among the lowest in the state per person to operate their local County government.
- The County has balanced the budget every year without raising the millage rate for the last 12 years.





# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To preserve life, improve health, and promote safety through clinically superior and compassionate pre-hospital care and life safety education for citizens and visitors of Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Continue to evaluate emergency medical response strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates. (#2022-22)

## PRESERVING LIFE. IMPROVING HEALTH. PROMOTING SAFETY.



*Press the Chest: Free CPR Training for the Community*

- ▶ Celebrated 20 years of dedicated service to the community, responded to more than 50,000 calls for service, and transported more than 33,000 patients in FY23, leading the industry in setting the standard for emergency medical care.
- ▶ Continued to provide specialized services through Critical Care Transport, Tactical Medical, Highly Infectious Patient Transport, and Special Operations teams.
- ▶ Continued to improve the chances of survival following a cardiac arrest event by advocating for the integration of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and conducting Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training through the Heart Ready initiative.
  - » More than 1,700 citizens have received training in CPR and AED use.
  - » 1,295 public access AEDs in the community are registered with EMS.
- ▶ Provided lifesaving hands-only CPR and AED awareness training to 400 citizens at the 2023 Press the Chest event.
- ▶ Partnered with Tallahassee Community College and Godby High School to offer an Emergency Medical Technician program to high school students.
- ▶ Continued to provide internships for Tallahassee Community College and North Florida College EMS students.
- ▶ Implemented a comprehensive medical protocol update, ensuring that the care provided to citizens is the very best and meets national standards.
- ▶ Deployed ultrasound technology to enhance patient care for the most seriously ill patients.
- ▶ Continued to participate in the national Cardiac Arrest Registry for Everyone program, which collects and analyzes EMS and hospital data to improve cardiac arrest outcomes.

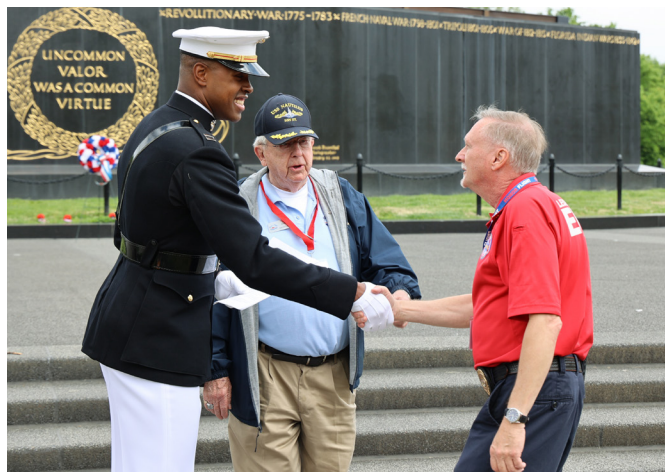
### Contact us

(850) 606-2100  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS)





EMS Awards Ceremony



Honor Flight

- ▶ Continued a partnership with the University of Florida to research advances in prehospital emergency pediatric patient care.
- ▶ Enhanced EMS member well-being by continuing to develop peer support capabilities, implemented a member monitoring tool to identify members at risk for exposure to repetitive trauma, and partnered with the FAMU 2nd Alarm Project to provide additional services.
- ▶ Further enhanced the Social Service Referral Program with community partners, which assists paramedics in referring vulnerable patients in need of social, mental health, and financial assistance to community partners.
- ▶ Provided an income-based fee discount program and continued to completely waive EMS fees for uninsured or underinsured veterans.
- ▶ Partnered with Safe Kids Big Bend, a national organization committed to working with families and communities to keep children safe from unintentional injuries, through the Community Centric Injury Reduction program.
- ▶ Conducted more than 75 child safety seat inspections and installations at the Public Safety Complex as well as health and safety

fairs throughout the community through the Child Passenger Safety Seat program.

- ▶ Partnered with Leon County Schools in support of the Safe Routes to School program by providing a bike trailer, equipment, and medics to promote bicycle use and transportation measures as well as safety education to schools and the community.
- ▶ Operated an EMT to Paramedic Trainee Program, assisting current EMTs to become paramedics, resulting in more paramedics and improved recruitment and retention of members.
- ▶ Continued public information efforts to build public awareness of EMS excellence and attract a talented workforce:
  - » Posted employment opportunities, employee highlights, safety tips, and more on the EMS Facebook page.
  - » Launched the EMS Instagram page to reach a wider audience in our community.
  - » Enhanced the recruitment website and implemented new outreach strategies to attract paramedics.

## DEMONSTRATING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF CARE

Leon County EMS was awarded 2023 EMS Provider of the Year by the Florida Department of Health, recognizing LCEMS' high-quality care and leadership role in the Florida EMS system and community.



Deputy Chief Darryl Hall received the Lifetime Achievement Award and Paramedic Christian Foster received the Chris Connell Professional Award from Tallahassee Community College.





# LEROY COLLINS LEON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To be an essential resource and place for learning, engagement, and innovation that provides for our community's changing needs.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the Leon County Essential Libraries Initiative. (#2022-21)

## LEARN. ENGAGE. INNOVATE.



*Celebration of Autism and Neurodiversity*

- ▶ Served more than 1.1 million customers digitally and in person through the Library System and managed nearly 1,374,862 checked out materials in FY 23, including print, DVD, audio, e-books, computers, hotspots and more
- ▶ Continued to provide services and resources based on the Essential Libraries Initiative strategic plan to address the changing needs of County residents and usage trends throughout the Library System.
- ▶ Through the Community Resources Specialist, partnered with State and local human services agencies to provide regular access to services at the Library, including Lawyers in the Library, Hope Navigators, and mobile medical units.
- ▶ Launched digital access to *The New York Times* and Hoopla.
- ▶ Hosted the Family Health Literacy Fair as part of a grant for community members to meet with more than 15 local health and safety organizations and learn about physical and mental health and well-being.
- ▶ Presented the ninth spring and fall Seed Library in coordination with UF/IFAS Leon County Extension, in which users checked out more than 17,000 sample-sized packets of seeds, totaling more than

## DID YOU KNOW?

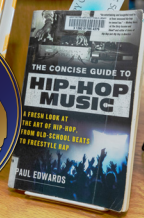
The Leon County Public Library provided free meeting spaces for more than 4,700 citizen events in FY23. Meeting rooms can be reserved with your library card at all library locations, two of which are shared community centers.

300,000 seeds, with instructions for effective cultivation. The Library checked out its one millionth seed this year!

- ▶ Completed another successful year of the Leon County Library Lecture Series, offering three informative sessions:
  - » Dr. Lakeisha Johnson, "Windows, Mirrors, and Sliding Glass Doors: Utilizing Diverse Books": 70 attendees were present for this family discussion on January 21, 2023, at the Main Library.

**Contact us**  
 (850) 606-2665  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Library](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Library)





African American Read-In



TasteBud Explorers healthy cooking and resource fair



Science Night - Cosmos with the MagLab

## LEON COUNTY LIBRARY LOCATIONS

### LeRoy Collins Leon County Main Library

200 West Park Avenue  
(850) 606-2665

### Dr. B.L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library

2817 South Adams Street  
(850) 606-2950

### Eastside Branch Library

1583 Pedrick Road  
(850) 606-2750

### Jane G. Sauls Fort Braden Branch Library

16327 Blountstown Highway  
(850) 606-2900

### Lake Jackson Branch Library

3840-300 North Monroe Street  
(850) 606-2850

### Northeast Branch Library

5513 Thomasville Road  
(850) 606-2800

### Woodville Branch Library

8000 Old Woodville Road  
(850) 606-2925

- » Maurice Johnson, "Hip-Hop: A Reflection of Society": 67 citizens attended this exciting discussion on March 30, 2023, at the Main Library.
- » Panel featuring Dr. Andrea Oliver, Gloria Jefferson Anderson, and Hunter Hill, along with Althemese Barnes as moderator, "Emancipation Day: Where Do We Go From Here?": 37 attendees were present for this interactive discussion on May 16, 2023, at the Main Library.
- ▶ Launched and continued community-wide reading challenges through Beanstack, including the Biography Challenge and 50 Books to Read Before You Graduate High School.
- ▶ Provided access to 35 virtual Author Talks with bestselling authors from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction genres.
- ▶ Hosted more than 1,600 programs, including story times, book clubs, workshops for teens, and more.
- ▶ Created an eight-week summer program for children and families around the theme "All Together Now." The program featured educational performers, scavenger hunts, teen do-it-yourself crafts, and reading challenges for all ages.
- ▶ Hosted programs throughout the year that focused on the well-being of Leon County citizens, including the four-part Mindfulness in Daily Life series, Financial Literacy series, and yoga classes.

- ▶ Partnered with the Federal Correctional Institute in Tallahassee to provide materials to individuals who are incarcerated.
- ▶ Continued to offer Homework Hub for kindergarten through 8th grade students virtually and in-person at two locations.
- ▶ Expanded the Library of Things, a collection of items other than books that can be borrowed from the Library at no charge, including tools, electronics, indoor and outdoor games, musical instruments, and more.
- ▶ Hosted the fifth annual CosmicCon, celebrating comic books, graphic novels, gaming, and pop culture.

- ▶ Partnered with Second Harvest of the Big Bend for the third year in a row for Summer BreakSpot to provide healthy summer meals and snacks to kids and teens at five Library locations.
- ▶ Continued to recognize cultural heritage and history days and months, including Holocaust Remembrance Day, Black History Month, Women's History Month, Autism Acceptance Month, and more.





# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RESILIENCE

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To protect our community by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve resilience so as to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from man-made natural disasters.

## Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Build, sustain and improve resilience to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to and recover from man-made and natural disasters. (Q7)

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE & RECOVERY



Hurricane Hunters tour

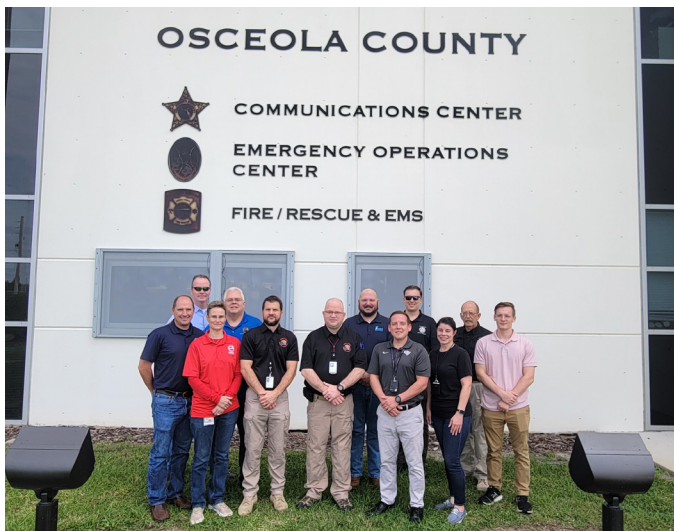
- ▶ Emergency Management directs the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to plan for and coordinate disaster response activities.
  - » Hosted 18 training courses for 450 local and regional emergency responders to build and enhance their emergency response skills.
  - » Hosted the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)/U.S. Air Force (USAF) National Search and Rescue School's Inland Search and Rescue Planning Course in October 2022. This class was one of 11 hosted in the entire United States and the only one hosted in Florida.
  - » Participated on an ad hoc committee that developed content for FEMA's EOC Skillset Training curriculum.
- ▶ To ensure Leon County is prepared and resilient for any disaster, Emergency Management:
  - » Participated in 19 community outreach and education presentations.
  - » Reviewed emergency plans for 88 healthcare facilities and conducted public education and outreach programs for community groups.
  - » Provided more than 100 disaster supply kit buckets to citizens of vulnerable populations in coordination with Elder Care Services.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Hurricane Ian resulted in more than \$112 billion in damages in Florida, making it the costliest hurricane in state history. Be prepared! Contact your insurance agent and have an insurance check-up. Having the right type and amount of insurance can help you recover more quickly from disaster and avoid years of financial challenges.

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-3700  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EM





Osceola County deployment



Disaster Bucket deliveries with Elder Care Services



Citizen Engagement Series: Disaster Preparedness

- » Partnered with NOAA, USAF, and Tallahassee International Airport to host a national Hurricane Awareness Tour event featuring Hurricane Hunter aircraft.
- ▶ Received more than 176,000 emergency calls during the past year to the Leon County Enhanced 9-1-1 System, including approximately 151,000 from wireless devices, 12,000 from landline devices, 8,000 from VoIP devices, and 850 texts.
- ▶ Responded to more than 900 requests for 9-1-1 records.
- ▶ Updated LeonReady.com to connect the public with vital disaster preparedness resources.
- ▶ Continued to provide Neighborhood Readiness Trainings to help individuals, families, and neighborhoods prepare, act, and recover from disasters.
- ▶ Continued to offer educational resources for hurricane preparedness with the Billy the Bucket hurricane safety coloring book. The coloring book is available during community events and at all Leon County Public Library locations.

- ▶ Continued to distribute Public Safety Defenders trading cards to connect public safety educational resources with local families.

**A PREPARED COMMUNITY IS A RESILIENT COMMUNITY**

After three consecutive hurricanes and a global health pandemic, Leon County's continuous commitment to building a resilient community is reflected through our local officials, neighborhood leaders, and community partners who work together during times of disaster to keep us safe, provide critical information, and answer our community's needs.

On October 3, 2022, County Emergency Management deployed a four-person team to Osceola County Emergency Management to provide response mutual aid in support of flooding from Hurricane Ian. Leveraging lessons learned from recent activations in Leon County, the team operated for seven days in the Osceola County Emergency Operations Center. Three months later on January 2, 2023, County Emergency Management activated the Emergency Operations Center in support of the multi-agency security detail for the Florida Gubernatorial Inauguration. The Emergency Operations Center coordinated resource deployment and community safety for four inaugural events over a two-day period.





# OFFICE OF ECONOMIC VITALITY

DEPARTMENT OF P.L.A.C.E.

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To guide the City and County's economic development efforts in coordination with the private sector and community stakeholders by fostering fair and open competition, conducting extensive outreach to assist businesses in navigating and competing in today's marketplace, and leveraging existing resources to maximize the infusion of financial capital to the local economy.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- Implement the Economic Development Strategic Plan as adopted and revised by the Intergovernmental Agency. (#2022-2)
- Implement the recommendations from the joint County/City disparity study to be completed in FY 2022. (#2022-3)
- Engage local, regional, state, and federal partners to encourage the restoration of passenger rail service along the Gulf Coast by leveraging federal dollars under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (#2023-4)
- Collaborate with regional partners in the building and technical trades to increase entry-level apprenticeship opportunities. Target specifically training on-the-job upon hiring positions. (#2023-6)
- Continue efforts to promote opportunities for youth training and development with the County. (#2023-7)

### GOVERNANCE

- Pursue Federal funding to provide broadband to underserved rural communities. (#2022-42)

### Contact us

(850) 219-1080  
www.OEVForBusiness.org

## ONE-STOP SHOP FOR BUSINESS RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND EXPANSION

- ▶ OEV conducted year-round business recruitment, outreach, and retention activities, leading to the following significant successes for our local economy:
  - » Facilitated the opening of the Amazon Fulfillment Center, creating more than 1,300 jobs, more than \$33 million in annual wages and salaries, and \$114 million in recurring annual economic impact.
  - » Facilitated 78 business consultations, generating 104 active leads, 41 recruitments, six business expansions, and 135 new and retained jobs.
  - » Continued to assist Danfoss Turbocor with its latest expansion, which has doubled in scope and scale to a 134,000-square-foot manufacturing facility that represents a \$48 million capital investment, creating approximately 350 construction-related jobs with over 500 permanent jobs being retained or created as a result. The total economic impact of the project, including long-term job growth, is calculated to be greater than \$140 million.
- ▶ Supported the creation of the North Florida Innovation Labs, a state-of-the-art, 40,000-square-foot business incubator that will sustain more than 600 full-time, high-quality jobs in the region and support more than 100 growing, early-stage companies. This new facility is slated to open in January 2024 and represents a capital investment of more than \$24 million.
- ▶ Hosted the annual Leon Works Expo event, connecting more than 700 high school students with more than 100 representatives from emerging skilled careers in healthcare, industry, creative, information technology, and beyond.
- ▶ Continued to work with local Internet Service Providers (ISPs), community partners, and interested citizens to expand high-speed internet access to unserved and underserved areas within Tallahassee-Leon County.
- ▶ Partnered with MagCorp to host a two-day Superconductivity Summit to actively recruit complementary companies focused on using high-



Amazon Hiring Informational Session

temperature superconducting (HTS) technology to set up operations in Leon County.

- ▶ Launched SizeUpOEV, a customer-facing data source to deliver custom analyses for local businesses that help local firms discover potential customers and suppliers, optimize marketing to ideal customers, analyze the characteristics and spending of the consumers in Tallahassee-Leon County, and rank industry performance across multiple metrics.
- ▶ Completed the Disparity Study Update for the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency. The recommendations from the study will be included as updates to the Consolidated MWSBE Policy.
- ▶ Sponsored and participated in the second annual Black Expo, which included 180 business registrants and awarded \$15,000 in grants.
- ▶ Coordinated the annual Love Your Local campaign that encourages citizens to shop locally and developed a new website, LoveYourLocalTLH.com, which now lists more than 500 local businesses.





**LEON WORKS EXPO AND JUNIOR APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

To meet the needs of growing job sectors, Leon County Government aims to connect local students to middle-skilled careers that require more than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree. On April 28, 2023, Leon County Government and the Office of Economic Vitality hosted the eighth annual Leon Works Expo. The Expo connected more than 700 high school students from the Big Bend region with more than 100 academic institutions, private businesses, non-profit agencies, and public sector partners with emerging skilled career opportunities.

The Leon Works Junior Apprenticeship Program is just another way that Leon County is preparing to meet the needs of the future by providing skill-building positions to local high school students. The program recently expanded to give high school juniors and seniors attending public, charter, private, or Leon County Schools virtual school the opportunity to participate. This year, nine students worked in Leon County departments, shadowing and assisting a County staff member while getting paid and earning an elective credit toward their high school diploma.



The Leon Works Expo and Junior Apprenticeship Program are a valuable part of the County's talent retention strategy and allow students to gain more information from local employers and academic institutions on internships, apprenticeships, and job opportunities. Leon Works builds upon the County's continued efforts to develop and sustain a rich local economy filled with the best and brightest workers who choose to define their own success.







## Mission Statement

To enhance the region's economic growth and quality of life by collaboratively inspiring the vitality of Leon County/Tallahassee's visitor economy.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- Implement the Division of Tourism's Strategic Plan. (#2022-5)
- Continue to build upon the reputation of Apalachee Regional Park as a destination venue for cross country athletes by securing state, regional and national competitions. (#2022-6)
- To further promote Leon County as a biking community, pursue the State's "Trail Town" designation and continue to coordinate with the City, Blueprint, State, and U.S. Forest Service to leverage capital improvements in pursuit of the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) designation. (#2022-7)
- To celebrate Leon County/Tallahassee Bicentennial in 2024, the County will implement the Leon County Bicentennial organizational management plan and facilitate the Bicentennial Steering Committee to lead the community planning efforts with government agencies, businesses, organizations, and citizens. (#2023-1)
- Open and activate the newly renovated Amtrak facility as the visitor center and destination hub for Leon County. (#2023-2)

### Contact us

(850) 606-2300  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Tourism

## PROMOTING AND MARKETING FLORIDA'S CAPITAL REGION



*Earth, Wind & Fire perform at the Adderley Amphitheater*

- ▶ In 2023, Leon County Tourism generated \$1.23\* billion in economic impact, nearly 2.35\* million visitors, and 14,496\* jobs.
- ▶ Continued to promote tourism efforts through Tourist Development Tax (TDT) collections, which are anticipated to exceed \$8.5\* million annually.
- ▶ The County dedicates 20% of the annual TDT revenue collected to provide funding support for arts and cultural tourism programs and activities via the Council on Culture & Arts (COCA) through a combination of TDT and general revenue. In FY 2022/2023, COCA received \$150,000 from general revenue and \$1,701,248\* in TDT revenue.
- ▶ Following a multi-year restoration and renovation, opened the state-of-the-art Visitor Information Center and Gift Shop in the historic Amtrak building, which also houses the Division of Tourism offices.
- ▶ Hosted 31,500 attendees at the Adderley Amphitheater through five concerts, including JJ Grey & Mofro, Gov't Mule, Trombone Shorty and Big Freedia, Willie Nelson & Family, Ben Folds with Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, and Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra's Freedom's Eve concert, and sponsored eight concerts as part of the Sundown Concert Series in partnership with the Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority.
- ▶ Spearheaded a comprehensive and inclusive two-year community effort for the 2024 Bicentennial Celebration. The following





Rally in Tally mountain bike race



NCAA cross country at Apalachee Regional Park



Visitor Information Center opening

Bicentennial activities were coordinated, planned and developed in 2023:

- » Conducted seven monthly meetings with the 14-member Tallahassee/Leon County Bicentennial Steering Committee.
- » Developed and managed six Task Forces, which resulted in coordinating more than 45 meetings comprising more than 100 community members to facilitate the planning and development process of the Bicentennial anniversary.

- » Launched TallahasseeLeonCounty200.com, a centralized information hub including a Bicentennial events calendar that is designed to educate and inform visitors and residents of Leon County's rich history and opportunities for participation.
- » Hosted three Bicentennial Zoom calls to engage and update the community.
- ▶ Hosted seven major cross country events at the County's Apalachee Regional Park, the biggest cross country season ever. The events, which included five new national cross country championships, welcomed more than 10,000 runners and coaches and approximately 25,000 attendees.
- ▶ Hosted the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) Cross Country State Championships for the 11th consecutive year. Tourism continues its strong partnership with FHSAA, hosting the Divisions 1A-3A Football Championships at Gene Cox Stadium as well as the FHSAA second annual Beach Volleyball State Championship.
- ▶ Sponsored two new major festivals at Apalachee Regional Park: Tallahassee Highland Games and Tallahassee Bike Fest.
- ▶ Participated in the World Athletics "Future Organizers" program at the 2023 World Athletics Cross Country World Championships in Bathurst, Australia.

- ▶ Awarded and hosted the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Pepsi Youth Bowling State Championships, bringing nearly 3,000 youth bowlers, coaches, officials, and family members to Leon County, resulting in nearly \$6 million in economic impact and more than 6,000 room nights.
- ▶ In conjunction with community partners, coordinated and developed the bid and hosted a site visit for the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) sorority in an effort to host the 2025 South Atlantic Regional Conference, representing an estimated 7,000-10,000 visitors.
- ▶ Welcomed 475 entrepreneurs from around the country for the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) Conference.
- ▶ Supported the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Tallahassee robotics competition at the FAMU AI Lawson Center, hosting nearly 1,500 participants and attendees.
- ▶ Awarded \$600,000 in tourism grant funding for 87 local Legacy, Special, Signature/Emerging Signature Events, and Sports events.
- ▶ Continued to build awareness and visibility for Leon County as a tourism destination through targeted cooperative marketing programs and strategic promotions with local tourism industry partners:
  - » Featured more than 100 partners in the "Summer Backyard Bucket List" challenge. Utilized the Visit Tallahassee mobile app, making it easier for residents and visitors to participate.
  - » Implemented a game-day activation at FAMU Homecoming, sharing visitor information with Rattler fans.
  - » Worked with 15 national journalists and hosted 16 writers and social media influencers to achieve 63 story placements in print and online media.
  - » Utilized the Visit Tallahassee mobile app to develop and launch new itineraries and challenges to drive visitation to local businesses.

*\*Projected estimate by Downs & St. Germain Research. Final results anticipated in December 2023.*





# PLANNING

DEPARTMENT OF P.L.A.C.E.

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To provide accurate information, creative and effective planning recommendations, and expertise in the areas of long-range land use, environmental, and transportation planning for the orderly growth of Leon County and the Tallahassee community.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ENVIRONMENT

- Complete a comprehensive review and revision to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan. (#2022-13)

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the recommendations of the Citizen’s North Monroe Street Task Force to reduce crime and improve conditions along the North Monroe Corridor. (#2022-30)
- Building on the Citizens North Monroe Task Force Final Report, host an intensive, multi-day design charrette to work with the community to identify and evaluate a variety of land use/planning strategies and other proposals for the continued improvement of the North Monroe Corridor area. (#2023-10)
- Develop an interactive community web-based tool that documents planned improvements, tracks investments, and identifies enhancement strategies for the North Monroe Corridor area. (#2023-14)

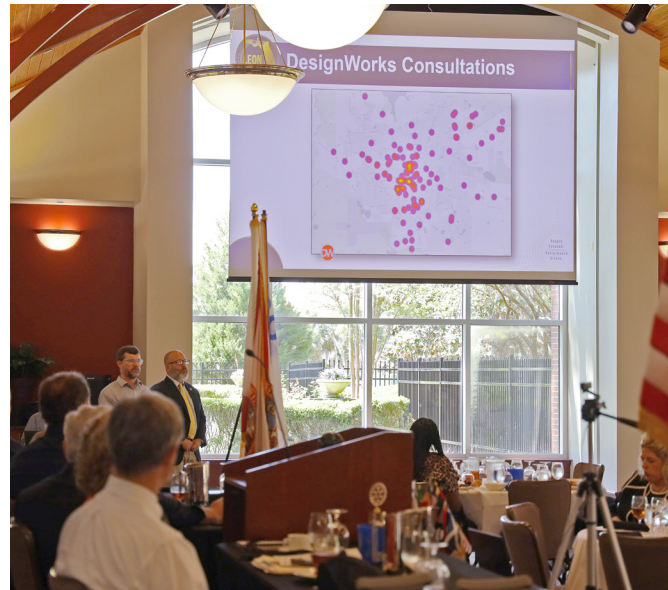
### GOVERNANCE

- Continue to support updates to the Comprehensive Plan that encourage annexation of southside properties within the Urban Services Area. (#2022-41)

#### Contact us

(850) 891-6400  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Planning

## PLANNING TODAY FOR TOMORROW’S COMMUNITY



Community presentation

- ▶ Reviewed seven Comprehensive Plan amendments and six concurrent rezonings that shape future growth and development in the community during the 2023 Comprehensive Plan Cycle.
- ▶ Processed 11 rezoning applications, in addition to the six that occur with the current Comprehensive Plan amendments, including changes to zoning districts and planned unit developments, staff analysis, and generating a Planning Commission recommendation in Leon County and the City of Tallahassee.
- ▶ Reviewed 161 development applications with 54 located in unincorporated Leon County.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Planning Department has an Urban Forester who is a certified arborist. The Urban Forester supports the Canopy Roads program and provides information to local groups and neighborhood associations on urban forestry’s best management practices.



- ▶ Provided 141 site consultations through DesignWorks to date, with 21 located within County jurisdiction. Of the 21 County site consultations, 17 were private sector consultations and the remaining four services were provided to other Leon County departments. In addition, seven design assistance projects covered both County and City jurisdictions, with two of these projects for the private sector and five for the public sector.
- ▶ Served critical roles in the Leon County Emergency Operations Center throughout the year, including full and partial activations for weather-related events, civil unrest, and the Florida Gubernatorial Inauguration.





## Mission Statement

To implement the Blueprint Program in a timely and cost-effective manner through transformative impacts and innovative business practices while keeping the Tallahassee-Leon County community informed and involved.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- Continue to implement catalytic public infrastructure projects through Blueprint and the County's five-year CIP that provide connectivity and leverage public and private investments. (#2022-1)
- Through the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency, evaluate opportunities to advance the construction of the Tharpe Street project. (#2023-5)

### ENVIRONMENT

- Support the completion of the Fairgrounds Master Plan by Blueprint and, upon completion, effectuate the next steps for the redevelopment of the North Florida Fairgrounds. (#2022-10)

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the Tallahassee-Leon County Greenways Master Plan. (#2022-20)
- Design and construct the new Northeast Park. (#2023-16)

### Contact us

(850) 219-1060  
www.BlueprintIA.org

## PRESERVE, PROTECT & ENHANCE THE COMMUNITY'S QUALITY OF LIFE



- ▶ Continued implementation efforts on approximately 52 miles of Intergovernmental Agency (IA) Board-prioritized projects from the Greenways Master Plan, which, when completed, will provide important conservation and connectivity in north, central, southeast, and southwest Leon County.
- ▶ Received a \$25.5 million State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan for the NE Gateway: Welaunee Boulevard Project. The final design for Phase 1 is complete, and construction will begin in the fall, which includes Welaunee Boulevard south of I-10 and the I-10 bridge.
- ▶ Installed the "Flex-Rake" system for the Capital Cascades Trail 3DB Pond Project, which removes trash and other suspended solids from the stormwater system before it enters the Central Drainage Ditch.
- ▶ Oversaw completion of the "We Are All One" murals by Canadian artist Yasaman Mehrsa, "A Stroll Down Seaboard Street" mural by local artist Joe Cowdrey, "In Honor of the Work" sculpture by local artist Mark Dickson, and "The Jazz Man" sculpture by local artist Brad Cooley as part of the History and Culture Trail. Continued implementation efforts are underway for the installations honoring and celebrating the rich African American history and culture of the

neighborhoods, businesses, and people surrounding the Capital Cascades Trail along FAMU Way.

- ▶ Purchased more than 249 acres of land, plus more than 10 acres by grant of easement, for the planned Welaunee Greenway and Trailhead. Once the greenway is constructed and connected to the Miccosukee Greenway, it will create a more than 17-mile loop.
- ▶ Received a \$572,052 grant through the Resilient Florida Grant Program for the Orange/Meridian Placemaking Project, which provides walking trails, exercise, and play areas, gathering spaces, food truck parking spaces, enhanced landscaping, including fruit trees, and a Wi-Fi hotspot provided by Leon County.
- ▶ Completed a component of the Capital Circle Southwest Greenway Project: the Golden Aster Trail, which provides connectivity from Capital Circle Southwest to Longleaf Road through a 0.3-mile nature trail within the Golden Aster Nature Preserve. Debbie Lightsey Nature Park Project, which will provide a 113-acre nature park and nearly four miles of trail facilities, is under construction and nearing completion.
- ▶ Continued construction efforts on Capital Circle Southwest for the Orange Avenue to Springhill Road segment. When completed, the Capital Circle Southwest Project, which is managed and will be primarily funded by FDOT with \$176 million, will provide nearly six miles of improved roadway and more than 23 miles of new bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- ▶ Leveraged the development at Fallschase for the design, permitting, and construction of the Upper Lake Lafayette Trail, public parking, and wayfinding signage. The Trail will connect the Buck Lake corridor to the recreational amenities in this area as part of the Lake Lafayette and St. Marks Regional Trail projects.
- ▶ Repurposed pieces of the Gamble Street bridge into the multi-use trail at Debbie Lightsey Nature Park and Golden Aster Trail. Using locally sourced materials lowers carbon emissions and transports history from one place to another.





# PUBLIC WORKS

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To provide safe, efficient, and sustainable roadways and transportation amenities, stormwater facilities, and vehicle fleet throughout Leon County that enhances its livability, environment, and economic vitality.

## ENVIRONMENT

- Ensure County's water quality and stormwater regulations, programs, and projects are evaluated and implemented holistically to advance the County's adopted strategic priority: to protect the quality and supply of our water. (#2022-16)
- Continue to work with the state to seek matching grants to convert septic to sewer systems. (#2022-11)

## PLANNING, BUILDING & MAINTAINING QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE



Public Works Road-E-O

- ▶ Launched the Leon County School Bus Stop Lighting Program, designed to enhance visibility and safety for students, parents, and all community members using bus stops in the unincorporated area. Since the launch of the program in July 2023, the County has received 13 eligible requests for school bus lighting installation.
- ▶ Leveraged \$7.79 million in grants for the following projects:
  - » The Woodville Sewer System Project, part of the Wakulla Springs Protection Project, will connect residential homes in the Woodville area to the central sewer system.
  - » The Belair/Annawood Sewer Project, part of the Wakulla Springs Protection Project, will connect residential homes in the Belair/Annawood area to the central sewer system.
  - » The Springhill Road Bridge Replacement Project, in partnership with the Federal Bridge Replacement Program, will repair a bridge over the Munson Slough.
  - » Leon County's Septic Upgrade Incentive Program replaces existing septic tanks with nitrogen-reducing enhancements in the Wakulla Springs Priority Focus Area (PFA).
- » The annual Tire Amnesty Days program, in partnership with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, is a free tire collection program to reduce mosquito breeding grounds within the community.
- » The Tree Inventory Grant, in partnership with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, provides an up-to-date inventory of tree assets along the historic canopy roads located within the County's unincorporated area.
- ▶ Completed the following projects to enhance County buildings and recreational facilities:
  - » Amtrak building renovation and site construction (Visit Tallahassee Visitor Information Center and Gift Shop).
  - » Courthouse main roof coating.
  - » Coe Landing electrical service upgrades.

## Contact us

(850) 606-1500  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks



## PRESERVING OUR NATURAL WATERBODIES: LAKE MUNSON

To ensure the long-term health of Lake Munson, Leon County conducted a drawdown of the lake in coordination with the State of Florida beginning in November 2022. The drawdown allows lake sediments to dry out and oxidize, while terrestrial vegetation offers beneficial wildlife habitat. The drawdown, which has been extended to spring 2024, is part of the County's ongoing and long-term action plan to protect and preserve Lake Munson.

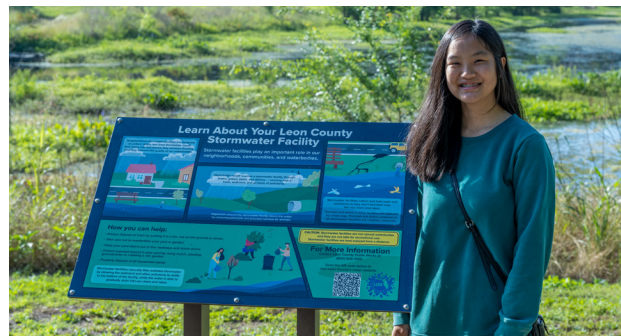
During the drawdown of the lake, the bed and shoreline of the lake and its connected waterbodies became exposed, which created a unique opportunity to engage citizens in cleaning the areas of the lake that are usually inaccessible.

On April 8, 2023, Leon County Public Works, the Office of Resource Stewardship, and Community and Media Relations hosted an educational litter clean-up at Lake Munson with volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 23. The event emphasized the lake drawdown and the County's ongoing efforts to maintain our waterbodies.

Later that month, a second clean-up event was held on Earth Day at a connected waterbody, Lake Henrietta. Lake Henrietta is one of Leon County's stormwater facilities, which are put in place to filter trash and debris from the stormwater runoff that drains into essential waterbodies, like Lake Munson. At this shoreline clean-up, 70 volunteers learned about stormwater facilities during a presentation by the Public Works team and worked together to clean up the shoreline and extended areas of Lake Henrietta. They were also the first to see a newly installed sign designed by Leon County Junior Apprentice Jade-Rose Konuch that explains in a creative and engaging way how the stormwater facility works. By the end of the event, volunteers and staff had collected 5.3 tons of litter.

Throughout the drawdown, Leon County continues to closely monitor Lake Munson while communicating with the public about our efforts and exploring innovative technology and solutions to ensure the water body's health and quality both now and into the future.

Learn more at [LeonCountyWater.org/LakeMunson](https://LeonCountyWater.org/LakeMunson).







# ENGINEERING SERVICES

## PUBLIC WORKS

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

### Goal Statement

To provide the public with professional services for the construction and maintenance of cost-effective infrastructure to enhance our community's quality of life.

### ENVIRONMENT

- Evaluate requiring advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) for new construction. (#2022-12)
- Initiate Basin Management Plan updates for the unincorporated area once the state adopts new stormwater standards. (#2022-17)
- Implement the comprehensive Action Plan for Lake Munson to support the long-term water quality of the lake and surrounding water bodies. (#2023-8)

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Continue to work with the Florida Department of Transportation for safety improvements on State and County roadways to include accessibility enhancements, street lighting installations, sidewalk additions, safety audits, and intersection improvements. (#2022-26)

**Contact us**  
 (850) 606-1500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Engineering](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Engineering)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- ▶ In a continued commitment to providing a safe and efficient transportation system over the past year, Leon County completed:
  - » Sidewalk construction along Gadsden Street from Sixth Avenue to Eighth Avenue.
  - » Design of Silver Lake Road Safety Improvements.
  - » Magnolia Drive Shared Use Trail construction from Meridian Street to Pontiac Drive.
  - » Design of Miccosukee Road Bridge Replacement.
  - » Resurfaced 4.34 miles of roads throughout Leon County.
- ▶ To reduce flooding and improve the community's surface and groundwater quality, the following projects were completed using the most cost-effective options:
  - » Design of Old Plank Road Cross Drain Replacement at the Chicken Branch Crossing.
  - » Stormwater Structure Inventory and Mapping Updates.
  - » Belair Phase 2 Septic to Sewer Construction.
  - » Seventeen Advanced Septic Tank system installations.
  - » Construction of Ben Boulevard Phase 2 Drainage Improvement.
  - » Comprehensive Wastewater Treatment Facilities Plan.
- ▶ To enhance traffic and pedestrian safety, Engineering Services completed street lighting projects at the following intersections:
  - » Monroe Street and Homewood Drive.
  - » Monroe Street and Lang Drive.



*Septic to sewer construction*

- » Monroe Street and Cynthia Drive.
- » Tennessee Street and Barineau Road.
- » Apalachee Parkway and Louvinia Drive.
- » Tennessee Street and Ida Road.
- » Old Bainbridge Road and Talpeco Road.
- » Meridian Road and El Destinado Drive.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Engineering Services processed approximately 370 Right-of-Way Placement Permits this year.





## Goal Statement

To provide the best quality maintenance and repair at the most economical cost to taxpayers of Leon County.

## Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

### ENVIRONMENT

- Protected the quality and supply of our water. (EN1)
- Continued to reduce our carbon footprint. (EN4)

### GOVERNANCE

- Exercised responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management, and ensure that the provision of services and community enhancements are done in a fair and equitable manner. (G5)

## VEHICLE REPAIR AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Fleet Management continues to work towards improving the management of resources and increasing efficiency through vehicle cost-saving opportunities.
  - » Purchased 3,600 gallons of RelaDyne Ecopower recycled motor oil and returned 1,800 gallons of used oil to be recycled.
  - » Performed 915 preventative maintenance services in-house.
  - » Collected more than \$31,000 in revenue for surplus vehicles and equipment.
  - » Reduced environmental impact by rightsizing two County vehicles from midsize trucks to hybrid utility vehicles.
  - » Managed a fuel inventory volume exceeding 500,000 gallons of diesel and gasoline.
  - » Monitored inventory control, distribution, and billing.



Steamroller work



Ambulance maintenance



Dump truck deployment

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-2000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet)





# OPERATIONS

## PUBLIC WORKS

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

### Goal Statement

To provide for the safety and convenience of the public by constructing, maintaining, beautifying, and protecting our infrastructure, to include transportation maintenance, stormwater maintenance, right-of-way maintenance, and mosquito control services.

### Strategic Initiatives

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Evaluate enhancing existing roadside litter debris removal through the creation of a County staffed program and further engage neighborhoods, businesses and civic organizations in expanding the County's adopt-a-road program. (#2022-19)

## TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

### TRANSPORTATION MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Responded to more than 7,867 requests for services via e-mail, telephone, personal contacts and the Citizens Connect mobile app.
- ▶ Performed grading on County-maintained dirt roads on an 18-day cycle, totaling more than 800 miles.
- ▶ Installed and repaired approximately 8,659 street signs throughout Leon County.
- ▶ Performed 120 private road repairs associated with the County's Private Road Repair and Livable Infrastructure for Everyone (LIFE) programs.
- ▶ Completed more than 500 tons of asphalt and pothole patching repairs.

### RIGHT-OF-WAY

- ▶ Completed maintenance on more than 625 acres of landscaped areas throughout Leon County.
- ▶ Planted 750 trees along County canopy roads and through the Adopt-A-Tree program.
- ▶ Secured a \$25,000 tree grant from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to update the tree inventory on the County's canopy roads.

### STORMWATER MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Cleaned more than 25,068 linear feet of roadside ditches to improve water quality and reduce the potential for stormwater impacts on adjacent properties.
- ▶ Inspected 320 stormwater ponds for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 permit.

- ▶ Renewed 45 County and City stormwater operating permits for stormwater facilities.

### MOSQUITO CONTROL

- ▶ Secured a Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant in the amount of \$25,000 to sponsor Tire Amnesty Days to help prevent breeding grounds for mosquitoes, collecting more than 148 tons of tires.



Leon Works Expo

### DID YOU KNOW?

Operations maintains 668 miles of public and private roads, which is equivalent to traveling from Tallahassee to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, and back.

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-1400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Operations](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Operations)





## ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

## PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

### Mission and Goal Statements

**Office of Resource Stewardship:** To provide leadership and coordination of services through the Office of Sustainability, Parks and Recreation, Solid Waste Services, Facilities Management, and the Cooperative Extension office in order to identify opportunities for synergy and added efficiencies between each work-group to effectively promote stewardship of the community's natural, societal, and economic resources.

**Sustainability:** To enhance our community's environmental, economic, and social resilience by promoting adoption of sustainability practices within County government and the community at large.

### Strategic Initiatives

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Enact the County's Integrated Sustainability Action Plan to further reduce the County Government's carbon footprint. (#2022-15)

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-5000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Sustainability](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Sustainability)

## GROWING GREEN TOGETHER

- ▶ Realized approximately \$1.4 million in additional utility savings from energy conservation measures, bringing the cumulative total to \$14 million from these upgrades.
- ▶ Saved more than 700,000 plastic water bottles from being used through the installation of 27 bottle filling stations across 13 County facilities.
- ▶ Hosted two shoreline clean-up events at Lake Munson and Lake Henrietta, removing nearly 600 pounds of waste from area waterbodies.
- ▶ Engaged more than 1,600 citizens through presentations and in-person events on topics, such as composting and recycling.
- ▶ Awarded 69 community garden and two beautification grants at schools, neighborhoods, and non-profits through the Community Garden and Beautification Programs.
- ▶ Distributed 200 compost bins to Leon County citizens to encourage at-home composting to help mitigate food waste and enhance soil quality.
- ▶ Continued to work on action items and goals outlined in the Integrated Sustainability Action Plan (ISAP), including reducing greenhouse gas emissions from County operations by 30% by 2030.
- ▶ Revitalized the Capital Area Sustainability Compact to better serve member organizations and the Leon County community.
- ▶ Successfully partnered with reCap, a Florida-based small business, to upcycle a portion of the County's yard debris into biochar, a charcoal-like substance using a carbon-negative pyrolysis process.
- ▶ Gathered more than 500 participants in the annual sponsorship of a BOGO deal on native plants at Native Nurseries.



Lake Munson shoreline litter cleanup

### DID YOU KNOW?

Five electric vehicle chargers at County buildings have been used by citizens and staff more than 3,000 times. Usage has offset more than 65.8 metric tons of CO2, which is equivalent to 164,349 miles driven by an average passenger vehicle.







# PARKS AND RECREATION

OFFICE OF RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To provide for the safety, comfort, and convenience of the public by creating and maintaining infrastructure and programs supporting recreation, parks, and open space.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- To further promote Leon County as a biking community, pursue the State's "Trail Town" designation and continue to coordinate with the City, Blueprint, State, and U.S. Forest Service to leverage capital improvements in pursuit of the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) designation. (#2022-7)

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the Tallahassee-Leon County Greenways Master Plan. (#2022-20)
- Design and construct the new Northeast Park. (#2023-16)

### Contact us

(850) 606-1470  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Parks

## MAINTAINING LEON COUNTY'S PRISTINE PARKS & GREENWAYS



Fort Braden playground opening

- Constructed a new baseball-themed playground at Canopy Oaks for children ages two to 12, featuring a turf play surface in a color complementary to the Northwest Little League baseball teams that call the park home.
- Replaced the Ft. Braden Community Center Playground with a new fully ADA-accessible playground, the first within County Parks. Parks also planted 40 donated trees to provide shade and installed donated lights around the history walk adjacent to the playground.
- Planted 20,000 native tree seedlings at Miccosukee, J.R. Alford, and St. Marks greenways as part of the land management plans.
- Over the past year, facilitated more than 1,900 community center reservations, 8,691 reservation days at campgrounds, and more than 125 special event permits at County parks.
- Applied for and received the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission Invasive Plant Management Grant for \$175,018 to treat Gil Waters Preserve Park and J.R. Alford Greenway.



Rally in Tally at J.R. Alford Greenway

- Awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Healthy Kids Initiative in partnership with Play & Park Structures to help aid in the replacement of the J. Lewis Hall Woodville Community Park Playground.
- In partnership with Tourism, prepared and hosted more than 10 major cross country events at Apalachee Regional Park (ARP), including the 2022 NJCAA and NAIA Cross Country Championships. In addition to cross country events, ARP hosted two additional Tourism-funded events for the first time: the Tallahassee Bike Fest and Highland Games.
- Completed the construction of the Chaires Tennis Courts, which included resurfacing, new LED lighting, pickleball court additions, and new fencing.
- Hosted Little League Junior State Championships for baseball and softball at various fields across the County, in addition to hosting the District 20 Little League All-Stars at Daniel B. Chaires Community Park and Canopy Oaks Park.
- Conserved and protected environmentally sensitive lands by treating for invasive exotic species at Williams Landing, Pedrick Pond





Highland Games at Apalachee Regional Park



Pedrick Pond

Park, Goose Creek, J.R. Alford Greenway, and Gil Waters Preserve Park, totaling 640.11 acres.

- ▶ Replaced two boat docks at Williams Landing, including one ADA-accessible boat hoist.
- ▶ Replaced three fishing stations at Hall, Williams, and Coe landings and added a fish station to Williams Landing.
- ▶ Installed mile markers along the entire Miccosukee Multi-Use Trail in partnership with Gulf Winds Track Club.
- ▶ Installed more than 5,000 feet of new Pinellas wood fencing at Miccosukee and J.R. Alford greenways, Okeehoopkee Prairie Preserve, and Jackson View Park.
- ▶ Replaced the J. Lee Vause playground with a new modern playground.



J. Lee Vause playground



Canopy Oaks Community Park pickleball courts

- ▶ Replaced the overlook at Jackson View Park, giving citizens a beautiful space to enjoy the vista of Lake Jackson.
- ▶ In a joint effort with Chaires-Capitola Little League, installed covered batting cages, including lights, artificial turf surfacing, and pitching screens.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Leon County Parks and Recreation maintains 24 boat landings on five lakes across Leon County.

- ▶ Installed stormwater educational signage at various parks with stormwater facility ponds.
- ▶ Collaborated with the Boys & Girls Club of the Big Bend, so more than 60 youth were able to attend a summer camp at the Ft. Braden Community Center.
- ▶ Installed two new scoreboards at Ft. Braden Community Park and one at Woodville Community Park.
- ▶ Collaborated with the Cornerstone Learning Community to propagate and plant 50 native coreopsis flowers at Jackson View Park as a student project.





# FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To serve the people of Leon County as a responsible steward of all building infrastructure that is necessary to support County operations in a timely, professional, and cost-effective manner.

## Strategic Initiatives

### GOVERNANCE

- Pursue working with Leon County Schools to acquire the Ft. Braden Community Center. (#2022-43)

## PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE FOR COUNTY BUILDINGS

- ▶ Coordinated with Tourism and Public Works to commission the new Tourism Visitor Information Center and Gift Shop at the historic Amtrak building.
- ▶ Refurbished and modernized several elevators at the Leon County Detention Facility and the Public Works building.
- ▶ Completed the lobby restroom refresh project at the Florida Department of Health in Leon County's Southside clinic.
- ▶ Replaced the Courthouse's remote terminal units (RTU). This essential piece of equipment provides fresh air to the building as well as supplemental cooling in cooler seasons to help conserve energy.
- ▶ Replaced the audible fire system at the Leon County Detention Facility to enhance safety.
- ▶ Repaired the Leon County Government Annex parking garage and upgraded the signage. Signage will enhance visitors' experiences and wayfinding when visiting the building.
- ▶ Installed 11 new access controls and 33 cameras to enhance security measures countywide.
- ▶ Completed the transfer of the access control system for the Courthouse to a new and more modern control software.



Visitor Information Center

### DID YOU KNOW?

Facilities Management oversaw and responded to more than 15,000 work orders this year.

### Contact us

(850) 606-5000  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Facilities





## Goal Statement

To provide an integrated solid waste management system dedicated to excellent customer service and responsible fiscal and environmental stewardship.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ENVIRONMENT

- Enact the County's Integrated Sustainability Action Plan to further reduce the County Government's carbon footprint. (#2022-15)

## CUSTOMER SERVICE, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP & INNOVATION

- ▶ Leon County's Hazardous Waste Center continues to prioritize the health and safety of Leon County citizens by promoting responsible disposal of household chemicals and electronics.
  - » Processed 469.2 tons of potentially hazardous material from an estimated 15,570 residents and businesses, of which 326 tons were removed from the solid waste stream through recycling or reuse.
  - » Returned 48.6 tons of paint and household products to the community free of charge through the Renew Center and a working relationship with Habitat for Humanity.
  - » The convenient new Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Site at 1800 N. Blair Stone Rd. has collected more than 126,695 pounds of hazardous waste and electronics.
  - » Assisted with two City of Tallahassee Cash for Trash events, collecting 22,150 pounds of hazardous waste materials.

### RURAL WASTE SERVICE CENTERS

- ▶ Participated in the annual forest clean-up with the Forest Edge Neighborhood, helping to remove more than 12,580 pounds of waste from the Apalachicola National Forest.
- ▶ More than half (81.3 tons) of the tires from Mosquito Control's Tire Amnesty Days came from Rural Waste sites.
- ▶ Received 3,600 tons of waste, tires, and hazmat materials at the four rural waste sites, of which 46,274 pounds were hazardous materials.

### SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

- ▶ Processed 11,710 tons of yard debris from Leon County residents.
- ▶ Developed a plan to recycle an additional 1,000 tons of yard waste from Rural Waste sites that had not previously been recycled.



Leon County Hazardous Waste Center

- ▶ Processed 436 tons of waste tires from Leon County residents, including 148 tons for Tire Amnesty Days.
- ▶ Residents utilized more than 3.25 million pounds of mulch from the County's yard waste.

### TRANSFER STATION

- ▶ Processed and loaded 221,705 tons of solid waste from the tipping floor.
- ▶ Completed repairs and construction to the main driveway areas and installed a new odor control system while maintaining uninterrupted service operations.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The reCap (biochar) pilot program at the Solid Waste Management Facility has produced approximately 18 tons of biochar using 75 tons of Leon County's yard waste. Biochar strengthens soil fertility and sequesters up to three tons of greenhouse gas emissions per ton of biochar.

### Contact us

(850) 606-1800

[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste)





# LEGISLATIVE AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To advocate for Leon County's State and Federal legislative priorities before the Florida Legislature and the United States Congress, and to facilitate the development and implementation of the County's five-year Strategic Plan including Strategic Initiatives, Targets, and Bold Goals adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

## ECONOMY

- Maximize the leveraging of the \$1 trillion federal infrastructure bill to fund County projects. (#2022-8)

## QUALITY OF LIFE

- Continue coordination of local COVID-19 response and recovery including leveraging State and federal funds to support individual and business assistance as well as vaccination and testing efforts. (#2022-27)
- Support the Sheriff in the implementation of the Council on Men and Boys to address the issues brought forth in the Sheriff's Anatomy of a Homicide Project report. (#2022-28)

## GOVERNANCE

- Continue to set the benchmark for local governments everywhere by earning national, state and local awards for County programs, hosting Florida Association of Counties events like Innovation Day, and sharing best practices with peers, all while remaining committed to learning and improving as an organization. (#2022-36)
- Pursue Federal funding to provide broadband to underserved rural communities. (#2022-42)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5300  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SpecialProjects

## ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY'S LEGISLATIVE INTERESTS

- ▶ Partnered with organizations, such as the Florida Association of Counties, Leon County's state and federal legislative delegations, the City of Tallahassee, institutions of higher education, and others, to identify shared issues and seek opportunities to leverage financial, technical, and human capital to draw attention to community priorities at the federal, state, and local levels.
- ▶ Planned, developed, and implemented the County's 2023 state and federal legislative priorities to seek funding for local projects and advance legislation that protects the County's local home rule authority.
- ▶ Coordinated with members of the federal legislative delegation to secure \$1.6 million in the FY 2023 Federal Appropriations Package in support of the County's Veterans Memorial Drive Bridge Replacement project.
- ▶ Produced a pre-session update, an end-of-session report, and weekly briefings (Capitol Update) to keep the Leon County Board of County Commissioners and senior staff apprised of legislative developments that would impact the community during the 2023 Legislative Session.



NACo award winners

## DEMONSTRATING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Staff led a multi-departmental effort to win eight National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards in 2023 recognizing the cost-effective, high-quality services that Leon County provides to citizens.







### Goal Statement

To improve animal and human well-being through education, prevention, and enforcement programs and humane animal care and control services for the citizens and animals of Leon County.

### Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

#### GOVERNANCE

- Sustain a culture of transparency, accessibility, accountability, civility, and the highest standards of public service. (G1)
- Sustain a culture of performance, and deliver effective, efficient services that exceed expectations and demonstrate value. (G2)

## PROTECTING LEON COUNTY'S ANIMALS & CITIZENS



*Animal Control Officers*

- ▶ Animal Control staff is committed to serving the community and decreasing the number of impounded animals. During the year, staff:
  - » Maintained the online Animal Abuser Registry to address animal abuse and raise public awareness of animal neglect, generating more than 2,300 page views since its launch.
  - » Educated residents about responsible pet care and animal safety as well as distributed pet food at several outreach events, including the Leon Works Expo, Humane Society adoption events, Safety Day at local elementary schools, and the "Take Me Home" pet adoption event.
  - » Posted pet safety tips on the County's social media pages to educate pet owners about how to keep their pets and the community safe.
  - » Informed pet owners about Leon County's Animal Ordinance and provided pet owners with loaner dog houses and referrals for free outdoor enclosures.
  - » Rescued more than 300 pets and ensured more than 60 lost pets were returned home.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Leon County Animal Control works closely with local community partners to assist pet owners with caring for their animals, including spay and neuter vouchers and free pet food, flea medication, collars, leashes, and more.

- » Provided leashes to help people and pets get active through quality time outdoors.
- » Continued to implement strategies that allow Animal Control Officers to return animals to their owners and eliminate the need to take animals to the shelter, such as scanning animals for microchips, working with rescues to rehome pets, and speaking with citizens in the area to locate possible owners.
- » Passed out more than 100 heat indicators/auto alert tags for citizens to place in their cars to determine if the temperature is too hot to leave an animal or child inside.
- ▶ To continuously provide for the safety and well-being of both citizens and domestic animals, Animal Control staff has:
  - » Fielded more than 8,500 phone calls, resulting in more than 1,400 service requests and more than 2,700 Animal Control Officer activities.
  - » Responded to more than 500 service requests for inhumane care, resulting in the issuance of citations and referrals to the Leon County Sheriff's Office for the pursuit of criminal charges.
  - » Investigated more than 306 dangerous or aggressive animal complaints.

#### Contact us

(850) 606-5400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal)





# DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DSEM)

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission and Goal Statements

**DSEM:** To support the development of a sustainable community and its built environment, while protecting and preserving our natural resources to maintain the quality of life for all citizens and building positive relationships through exceptional customer service.

**Development Services:** Guide and support the development of sustainable communities through the adopted policies of the Comprehensive Plan and development standards of the Land Development Code, while ensuring and promoting the quality of life for all citizens of Leon County.

**Building Plans Review and Inspection:** Ensure that built environments are safe, accessible, and energy efficient through compliance with all applicable construction codes, plans review, inspections, the use of automated technologies, and continuing staff development.

**Environmental Services:** Provide high quality technical and scientific permitting and review services to the public and to disseminate environmental information to the public and government agencies in support of environmental protection efforts.

**Code Compliance Services:** Administer, centralize, coordinate, and facilitate licensing code compliance, citizen review boards, growth, and environmental management services to residents, property owners, and land development professionals served by DSEM in order to achieve compliance with adopted ordinances and policies.

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-1300  
www.LeonPermits.org

## PERMITTING, INSPECTION, DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

### DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

- ▶ Continued to provide exceptional customer service to the community and ensured that all approved developments met or exceeded the minimum development standards.
- ▶ Reviewed and approved 45 site and development plan applications, 57 minor subdivision applications, 1,488 land use compliance applications, and issued 20 concurrency certificates and 216 permitted use verifications.
- ▶ Worked with the Office of Human Services and Community Partnerships to develop an affordable housing ordinance that will require new residential developments to include affordable housing.
- ▶ Worked with the Friends of Lake Jackson on an ordinance amending the Lake Protection Zoning District to revise the cluster subdivision regulations and provide clarification on layout and natural area requirements for cluster subdivisions.
- ▶ Developed an ordinance to amend multiple sections of the Land Development Code to correct and clarify errors and reduce redundancy.
- ▶ Worked extensively with residents on development project applications, including:
  - » A multi-family development located south of Mahan Drive and east of Vineland Drive, consisting of 332 dwelling units.
  - » Renovation of the old Kohl's building on Thomasville Road into an indoor self-storage facility and a 9,533-square-foot orthodontist office located on Bradfordville Road across from Target.
  - » An 85,040-square-foot self-storage facility located just east of Aeon Church Road on Blountstown Highway.
  - » A 5,568-square-foot car wash facility on West Tennessee Street, just west of the Chevrolet dealership.



*Building inspection*

- » A 2,000-square-foot medical office located in the Shops at Bannerman Village at the Bull Headley Road and Bannerman Road intersection.

### BUILDING PLANS REVIEW AND INSPECTION DIVISION

- ▶ Performed 26,000 building, electrical, plumbing and mechanical inspections, completing the associated plan reviews.
- ▶ Issued approximately 5,500 building permits.
- ▶ Ensured an average of eight days for the issuance of new single-family home building permits.
- ▶ Continued coordination with Management Information Services (MIS) to implement DigEplan, a new plan review and file management software system.





## Strategic Initiatives

### GOVERNANCE

- Further enhance the use of social media neighborhood apps to notify citizens of development projects occurring in their neighborhoods. (#2022-40)

### ENVIRONMENT

- Complete an evaluation of transportation fee alternatives to replace the existing concurrency management system of mobility fees. (#2022-14)
- Evaluate requiring advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) for new construction. (#2022-12)

- ▶ Continued working with MIS to move the County's permitting system 100% online, providing customers with the ability to apply for any type of permit through the Leon County Permits Online portal.
- ▶ Made improvements to the DSEM website to increase the availability of information for customer access.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

- ▶ Reviewed 38 natural features inventory applications and helped ensure environmental protection by reviewing 102 site plan applications.
- ▶ Reviewed 94 environmental management permit applications and 41 new stormwater management facility operating permit applications, and processed 192 operating permit renewals to ensure proper operation of stormwater facilities.
- ▶ Worked with the Development Services Division to review 216 permitted use verifications for environmental compliance issues.
- ▶ Reviewed 380 driveway applications and 1,100 single-family permit applications for environmental protection.
- ▶ Performed more than 4,700 environmental inspections/reviews in support of approved permits.
- ▶ Performed 480 petroleum tank inspections in Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla and Jefferson counties during the Florida Department of Environmental Protection 2022/2023 fiscal year through the Leon County Petroleum Storage Tank Regulation Program.
- ▶ Drafted a closed basin ordinance that was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, which will ensure continued enhanced protections for properties in sensitive flood hazard areas and in closed basins.
- ▶ Continued to educate the public about fertilizing properly through the ongoing Fertilizer Rain Delay social



media campaign, which reminds homeowners and professional fertilizer applicators not to apply fertilizer for at least one day ahead of forecasted heavy rain (1 inch or more in 24 hours) to save money, plants, and the environment.

- ▶ Through coordination with FEMA, Leon County's community rating classification was upgraded to a Class 5, which helped the community save a total of approximately \$117,000 on flood insurance premiums.

### CODE COMPLIANCE SERVICES DIVISION

- ▶ Attended five local gun shows to ensure compliance with the Criminal History Records Check and Waiting Period for Purchase of Firearms, also known as the "Gun Show Loophole" Ordinance.
- ▶ Assisted 1,178 contractor licensing customers.
- ▶ Responded to 2,401 code compliance calls from citizens, resulting in 629 site inspections and 169 case presentations before the Code Enforcement Board for disposition.
- ▶ Monitored 106 properties under the Abandoned Property Registration Ordinance to protect neighborhoods from becoming blighted by distressed and abandoned properties with mortgages in default.
- ▶ Responded to 173 Compliance Certification Letter requests to provide the recovery of associated costs of research and processing of open code violations and property liens.
- ▶ Processed four nuisance abatement cases through the Nuisance Abatement Board to streamline the process for the abatement of unsafe structures.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Inspections for building permits can be scheduled via text message through the County's Text-to-Inspect program by texting "SCHEDULE" to 855-927-1525.





# HUMAN SERVICES/HEALTHCARE/CHSP

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (HSCP)

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission and Goal Statements

**HSCP:** To build a stronger, healthier community by providing a safety net of resources, services, and solutions for citizens in need in partnership with our community.

**Human Services:** To serve as a safety net to enhance the quality of life for residents by providing resources, access to social services, and short-term financial assistance.

**Healthcare:** To improve the health of citizens by providing quality and cost-effective health services through collaborative community partnerships.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Work with the City of Tallahassee, Big Bend Continuum of Care, Kearney Center, and other local stakeholders to enhance engagement and awareness of resources available for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in order to support safe, stable, and inclusive neighborhoods. (#2023-11)
- Partner with the Children’s Services Council to address Black maternal and children’s health through the coordination of data sharing, collaboration with partners on available community resources, and opportunities to maximize investment in outreach and awareness to improve health outcomes. (#2023-15)
- Work with the City of Tallahassee, FSU Askew School, and human service agencies to utilize and refine the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) Outcome Measures to ensure that the CHSP continues to address the highest human service needs in the community. (#2023-21)

### Contact us

(850) 606-1900  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HSCP

## PRESERVING & IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF CITIZENS



*TasteBud Explorers healthy cooking demonstration*

- ▶ Provided a local match of \$580,562 to Low Income Pool funding that allowed Apalachee Center, Bond Community Health Center, and Neighborhood Medical Center to leverage an additional \$992,202 to support healthcare and behavioral health services for citizens.
- ▶ Provided \$49,000 in annual funding for medical examination costs for children alleged to have been abused, abandoned, or neglected.
- ▶ Provided \$96,680 in annual funding for the Direct Emergency Assistance Program to provide financial assistance to Leon County residents for basic expenses, including shelter and utility costs.
- ▶ Allocated \$84,400 to fund the State’s Indigent Burial Program and transportation costs and collaborated with the Consolidated Dispatch Agency, law enforcement, and local transport providers to improve the process for transporting bodies before interment.
- ▶ Continued funding the Apalachee Center’s establishment of a Central Receiving Facility, providing care for more than 1,000 individuals who involuntarily need access to emergency mental and/or behavioral health or substance abuse treatment in Leon County.
- ▶ Contributed \$1.3 million to help fund more than 6,000 visits for primary care, dental care, and mental health services for uninsured and low-income residents at Neighborhood Medical Center, Bond Community Health Center, and Apalachee Center.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Leon County, in partnership with the City of Tallahassee, provides nearly \$5.6 million to support 50 agencies that provide a total of 82 human services programs through the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP).

- ▶ Provided \$168,826 to the Capital Medical Society Foundation’s We Care Network to coordinate donated specialty medical care and dental care for uninsured and low-income residents valued at more than \$1.9 million.
- ▶ Leveraged local and national partnerships to help uninsured residents with limited income receive more than 2,200 prescription medications valued at more than \$400,000 through the CareNet partnership with FAMU Pharmacy and Neighborhood Medical Center.
- ▶ Continued the County’s partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) to fill more than 120 prescription medications not covered by insurance at a cost savings totaling more than \$3,000.
- ▶ Launched the Trusted People Committee to receive citizen feedback on local human service provisions and help address gaps in service.
- ▶ Hosted two TasteBud Explorers events, a healthy cooking demonstration and neighborhood resource fair, to address food security barriers in neighborhoods with the highest food insecurity rates in Leon County.
- ▶ In partnership with Second Harvest of the Big Bend, continued to establish food lockers throughout the community to increase access to meals.





## Goal Statement

To build partnerships and administer programs that preserve and grow the inventory of safe and sanitary affordable housing in Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Continue to explore policies such as inclusionary housing and mixed housing developments to increase the stock of affordable housing throughout Leon County. (#2023-9)
- Continue to leverage County funding in partnership with local stakeholders to secure State and Federal funding to build affordable rental housing for very low- and low-income families. (#2023-18)

## HOUSING ASSISTANCE, COUNSELING & SOLUTIONS

- ▶ Leon County continuously works to develop community partnerships that preserve and grow the inventory of safe and sanitary affordable housing in Leon County and administers home rehabilitation, home replacement, homeownership development, down payment assistance, emergency housing repair (short-term and permanent), and rental development and rehabilitation programs.
  - » Invested more than \$5.7 million in the Orange Avenue Apartments Redevelopment project which will increase the number of affordable housing units by 100% from 200 units to 410 units.
  - » Through projects valued at more than \$250,000, rehabilitated and preserved more than 12 homes owned by low-income residents in Leon County, allowing residents to remain in their homes.
  - » Utilized more than \$800,000 in grant funding to replace three dilapidated homes for low-income homeowners.
  - » Assisted more than 10 households in addressing critical repairs through the Emergency Short-Term Housing Repair Program.
  - » Continued to support the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County in issuing multi-family housing revenue bonds to provide financing for affordable housing.
- ▶ As directed by the Board, created a policy requiring affordable rental developments seeking County funding to set aside a portion of their units for individuals or families exiting homelessness.
- ▶ Continued to leverage the online application for services and, through its pool of local contractors, addressed emergent needs, such as installing tarps on leaking roofs, pumping out malfunctioning septic systems, and other repairs.
- ▶ Hosted the Spring Home Expo with workshops and do-it-yourself demonstrations led by local experts about topics, including home buying and owning, home improvement, preparing your home for a disaster, and more.



Spring Home Expo

- ▶ Hosted four homeowner education workshops to provide community homeowners with maintenance strategies and information on the County's home rehabilitation and emergency repair programs.
- ▶ Hosted a series of heir property workshops in neighborhoods that have traditionally experienced poverty and inequities to foster economic growth and generational wealth.
- ▶ Organized the 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service neighborhood-wide service day in the Yons Lakeside Estates neighborhood to honor the victims, survivors, and others who rose in service in response to the attacks on September 11, 2001.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The 2023 Spring Home Expo saw a 24% increase in community attendance over the previous year.

### Contact us

(850) 606-1900

[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing)





# VETERAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To assist Veterans and their dependents in securing all entitled benefits earned through honorable military service and to advocate for Veteran's interests in the community.

## Meeting Goals with Ambitious Targets

- Secure more than \$150 million in federal, state, and local benefits for Leon County Veterans and their families.

## VETERANS HELPING VETERANS



Operation Thank You

- ▶ Completed 5,688 benefit counseling contacts for veterans and their dependents.
- ▶ In partnership with the City of Tallahassee, provided more than 120 StarMetro Bus passes for low-income and disabled veterans.
- ▶ Facilitated 900 claim actions that resulted in Leon County veterans receiving more than \$33 million in benefits.
- ▶ Managed the Veterans Resource Center, where 52 veterans accessed resources to assist them with employment needs.
- ▶ Provided the veteran benefits presentation for "Senior Days" at all senior center events throughout Leon County.
- ▶ Continued partnering with CareerSource Capital Region to increase job and economic opportunities for local veterans.
- ▶ Sent welcome letters to all separating veterans who designated Tallahassee as their home of record or as the place they will be relocating to after separation.
- ▶ Maintained strong relationships with community partners by attending United Vets monthly coordination meetings.



Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony

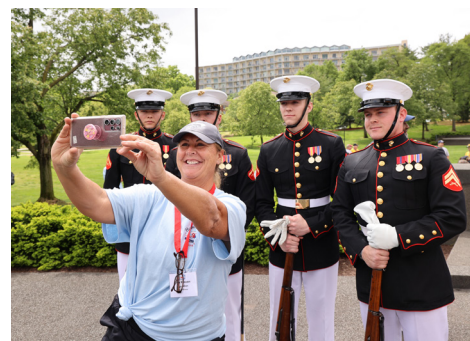
- ▶ Assisted veterans through the Veterans Emergency Assistance Program, which provides emergency financial assistance to help qualifying veterans meet critical, basic needs such as rent, mortgage, and utilities.
- ▶ Continued to provide financial support for Leon County Veteran's Day Parade in partnership with Vet Events Tallahassee, Inc.

### Contact us

(850) 606-1940  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Vets



## HONOR FLIGHT



- ▶ Continued to serve on the Leon County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to ensure the transportation-disadvantaged population in Leon County has adequate access to transportation.
- ▶ Honored veterans by placing Operation Thank You commemorative wreaths on Memorial Day at military grave sites and memorials in the community, including the World War II Memorial located on the front lawn of the County Courthouse, the Florida Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Memorial at Cascades Park, Oakland

Cemetery, Greenwood Cemetery, Big Bend Hospice Veterans Memorial Garden, and the Daniel B. Chaires Community Park.

- ▶ Hosted the annual Operation Thank You community breakfast on Veterans Day to honor the service and sacrifice of those who served our country.

### DID YOU KNOW?

All persons serving in the U.S. military who reside in Leon County are eligible to apply for a grant equal to the portion of their Leon County ad valorem property taxes on their owner-occupied residence reflecting the time they served on active duty.





# COMMUNITY AND MEDIA RELATIONS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RESILIENCE

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To proactively facilitate the accurate, effective, timely, and consistent flow of public information to internal and external parties of interest, provide community outreach, and serve as the county's liaison with its media partners.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Continue coordination of local COVID-19 response and recovery including leveraging State and federal funds to support individual and business assistance as well as vaccination and testing efforts. (#2022-27)
- Partner with the Leon County Sheriff's Office in raising community awareness on issues such as child abuse and prevention programs, human trafficking, sexual abuse and exploitation and domestic violence. (#2022-32)

### GOVERNANCE

- Alongside The Village Square, the Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI), and other community partners, continue to engage citizens of diverse backgrounds with innovative programs like Created Equal, the Citizen Engagement Series, Build Your Bucket, and so much more. (#2022-35)
- Launch the internationally recognized Zencity communications platform to address social media misinformation, proactively address citizen concerns, and increase transparency and accountability. (#2022-37)
- Further enhance the use of social media neighborhood apps to notify citizens of development projects occurring in their neighborhoods. (#2022-40)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5300  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CMR

## EDUCATION, INFORMATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Springtime Tallahassee

- ▶ Community and Media Relations (CMR) continued to enhance the community's access to Leon County Government and promote transparency and accountability.
  - » Communicated disaster preparedness information to help citizens prepare for hurricane season and other disasters through social media posts, as well as updated and distributed 20,000 copies of the 2023 Leon County Disaster Survival Guide.
  - » Shared accurate and timely information with the public by working with media partners in print, television, radio, and online.
  - » Worked with County staff to accurately respond to public records requests in a timely manner.
- ▶ Continued to provide the public with real-time news updates on the County's digital media subscription service Mailchimp to more than 50,000 subscribers.
- ▶ Prepared and issued more than 200 news advisories, releases, and public notices detailing County activities.



Lake Munson Shoreline Cleanup

- ▶ Facilitated and documented more than 60 press conferences, community meetings, and events, publishing more than 3,100 photographs on LeonPhotos.org and capturing more than 10 hours of video footage.





Filming for Annual Report Video



Created Equal: Black Women and the Fight for Equality

## DEMONSTRATING HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Community and Media Relations was recognized by the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) and FPRA Capital Chapter with Golden Image Awards and Image Awards for projects including the Annual Report video and the “Tackling Poverty and Inequities in 32304 Neighborhoods and Beyond” brochure.



- ▶ Designed more than 700 graphic design deliverables to promote County events and projects.



- ▶ Maintained and grew Leon County's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Nextdoor, and YouTube accounts, totaling 250,000 followers across all platforms.

- ▶ Generated approximately \$1 million in earned media value for County programs, events, and services.

- ▶ Hosted the eighth annual Created Equal event in partnership with The Village Square, where hundreds of residents gathered to hear about this year's topic focused on histories and current realities of Black women in America and the struggles they continue to face, titled “Created Equal: Black Women and the Fight for Equality.”
- ▶ Maintained County microsites, including LeonReady.com and LeonCountyWater.org.
- ▶ Continued to provide accurate and timely information to the public through the County's award-winning Emergency Information Portal website (LeonCountyFL.gov/EIP) and Citizens Connect Mobile App.
- ▶ Recognized vibrant neighborhoods and dedicated community leaders through the 42nd Annual Neighborhood Recognition Program in partnership with the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA).

- ▶ Produced the semiannual Leon County Courier, a publication by and for Leon County employees.
- ▶ Designed and implemented more than two dozen email signature banners for County employee emails to promote County programs and services.
- ▶ Hosted the eighth annual Leon Works Expo, connecting more than 700 high school students to more than 100 academic institutions, private businesses, non-profit agencies, and public sector partners with emerging skilled career opportunities.
- ▶ Continued the “Learn Before You Burn” educational campaign to inform citizens about the health impacts of burning yard waste and alternatives to burning yard debris.





# VOLUNTEER SERVICES

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RESILIENCE

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To empower citizens to answer local need through volunteerism and community engagement.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ENVIRONMENT

- Evaluate enhancing existing roadside litter debris removal through the creation of a County staffed program and further engage neighborhoods, businesses and civic organizations in expanding the County's adopt-a-road program. (#2022-19)

## RESPONSIVE VOLUNTEERISM & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



9/11 Day of Service



Volunteer manager certification

- ▶ Coordinated internship and volunteer opportunities for more than 1,800 volunteers and interns who volunteered more than 35,000 hours of service for County government programs and special events.
- ▶ Registered more than 1,000 new users and 10 new agencies with the VolunteerLEON Get Connected volunteer portal.
- ▶ Coordinated volunteer opportunities for several County events and programs, including Operation Thank You, 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service, and the Leon Works Expo.
- ▶ Led the Excellence in Volunteer Management Training Series with 14 participants exploring the volunteer sector, learning how to achieve service excellence, and understanding how to maximize the volunteer experience.
- ▶ Hosted the 25th Annual Volunteer Fire Truck Round-Up, highlighting the service and dedication of Leon County's volunteer firefighters, with more than 500 attendees.
- ▶ Placed more than 40 youths in various Leon County offices as a part of the County's Summer Youth Program to provide youth with job experience, professional development, and training over the summer.

### DID YOU KNOW?

To address unmet needs before, during and after a disaster, Leon County Volunteer Services coordinates with Big Bend Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), which is composed of community and faith-based organizations, businesses, and volunteers whose purpose is to coordinate planning efforts of the many local volunteer organizations.

- ▶ Continued to leverage the vast talents and resources of the community's residents for the benefit of a diverse group of organizations and individuals.

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-1970  
www.VolunteerLEON.org





### Mission Statement

Managing a high performing and diverse workforce throughout the entire employee life cycle, through collaboration and strategic partnerships, while ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local employment regulations.

### Strategic Initiatives

#### GOVERNANCE

- Continue to invest in the professional development of County staff including participation in Certified Public Manager training and enhancements to the County's Management Training. (#2022-38)
- Continue to pursue cost savings through the County's Innovator & Inspirator (I<sup>2</sup>) Program. (#2022-39)

#### Contact us

(850) 606-2400  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HR

## ATTRACTING, TRAINING AND RETAINING A QUALITY WORKFORCE

### TRAINING/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ APPRENTICESHIP/BENEFITS

- ▶ Onboarded more than 136 employees, where new hires learned about job benefits and completed paperwork on their first day prior to reporting to their department.
- ▶ Implemented a new electronic Personnel Action Form (PAF) process through NEOGOV e-Forms that will remove the paper process and allow for all PAFs to be processed online and automatically tied to an employee's online profile.
- ▶ Coordinated with the Well-Being Team to host Lunch and Learn training sessions, including Workplace Resilience and Understanding Stress, Anxiety and Depression: Effective Conflict Resolution.
- ▶ Continued to provide professional development opportunities, required staff training, and new employee orientation through the NEOGOV Learn platform.
- ▶ Offered additional online training using available licenses with LinkedIn Learning on various topics based on the needs of County employees.
- ▶ Expanded the Leon Works Junior Apprenticeship Program to offer more high schools the opportunity to participate, including juniors and seniors attending charter and private schools and Leon County School Virtual School.
- ▶ Hosted the Leon Works Junior Apprenticeship Program for the 2022-2023 school year by providing nine students the opportunity to gain skilled work experience during the fall and spring semesters. An additional three students are participating in the program for the fall 2023 semester.
- ▶ Secured additional ancillary benefits for Leon County employees.
- ▶ Assisted partner agencies to secure affordable benefit options for their employees.



Employee Appreciation Banquet

### HEALTH & WELL-BEING

- ▶ With the support of Office of Information Technology and Community and Media Relations, developed the County's Virtual Benefits and Well-Being Fair Portal that eliminated the need for an external contracted vendor, which resulted in a cost savings of more than \$5,700 and attracted 1,266 unique page visits, a 550% increase from the previous year.
- ▶ Hosted an in-person Benefits and Well-Being Fair, attracting approximately 550 employees and vendors.
  - » 125 flu shots and 50 COVID-19 vaccines were administered at the fair.
- ▶ Tracked 3,500 participants to Live Well Leon activities, events, and health screenings.
- ▶ Hosted the "Yo Ho Ho" pirate-themed walking challenge that attracted 231 participants.
- ▶ Sponsored 44 employees and dependents to participate in the Springtime Tallahassee Race.
- ▶ Continued to host a minimum of five exercise classes a month for County employees.





# OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To provide reliable and effective technology and telecommunications solutions and services to County agencies to enable them to fulfill their missions in serving the citizens of Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives

### GOVERNANCE

- Launch the internationally recognized Zency communications platform to address social media misinformation, proactively address citizen concerns, and increase transparency and accountability. (#2022-37)

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the Leon County Essential Libraries Initiative. (#2022-21)
- Develop an interactive community web-based tool that documents planned improvements, tracks investments, and identifies enhancement strategies for the North Monroe Corridor area. (#2023-14)
- Develop a touch-screen kiosk at the County Courthouse showcasing “200 Years of Representation and Progress” highlighting current and past County officials, significant County achievements/projects by decade, and a historical overview of Leon County. (#2023-23)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5500  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/MIS

## MAINTAINING EFFICIENT & COST-EFFECTIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Office of Information Technology provides essential infrastructure and services countywide to ensure the safety of the entire community and to exercise responsible stewardship of the County’s resources:

- ▶ Used artificial intelligence to create an Alley and Service Road mapping layer, which aids first responders in routing calls by providing shortcuts and routing within apartment complexes.
- ▶ Averaged 350,000 unique website visitors each month, totaling more than 4.2 million visitors during FY23.
- ▶ Received 18 million emails during FY23, 18% of which were caught by a security filter.
- ▶ Blocked 11,000 viruses through cybersecurity solutions.
- ▶ Awarded the Florida Digital Service Cybersecurity Grant to expand cybersecurity initiatives.
- ▶ Saved \$100,000 by utilizing free Lidar data from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), flown after Hurricane Michael.
- ▶ Provided Florida Gubernatorial Inauguration support through many meetings to support the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and several other law enforcement agencies using Geographic Information System (GIS) maps and analysis.
- ▶ Created automatic notification and electronic delivery of Certificate of Occupancy (CO) and Certificate of Completion (CC) for the permitting process.
- ▶ Passed a third-party assessment/audit to validate backup procedures and infrastructure to assess National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) compliance.



Vision 2023 Technology Conference presentation

- ▶ Followed best practice cybersecurity guidelines and fully implemented multi-factor authentication to further secure computer systems across the County.
- ▶ Configured and delivered the grant-awarded 89 Chromebooks and 89 Samsung tablets for the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System.
- ▶ Assisted Leon County Schools (LCS) with bus stop mapping and application support. With data automation and integration, OIT consumed LCS bus stops for in-house use and mapping to assist Leon County Public Works in analysis and policy creation for street lighting near bus stops.
- ▶ Provided custom scripting to create reports for Emergency Management 9-1-1 system.



# PROBATION, SUPERVISED PRETRIAL RELEASE AND DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING

OFFICE OF INTERVENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES



ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To provide information to the Courts which support judicial custody release decisions and provide alternatives to incarceration to person accused of crimes and offenders, improve their ability to live lawfully and productively in the community, enhance the overall administration of justice, and support community safety and well-being.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Identify and evaluate pretrial alternatives to incarceration for low level and non-violent offenders and support reentry through regional partnerships and state and national efforts. (#2022-23)

## COURT SERVICES, CASE MANAGEMENT, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



*Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week*

- ▶ Maintained an average monthly caseload of 1,322 County probationers and supervised pretrial release defendants and recovered approximately \$27,766 from probationers for crime victims through court-ordered restitution.
  - » Supervised pretrial release diverted an estimated 367,555 inmate days from the Leon County Detention Facility, resulting in a cost savings of more than \$29 million.
- ▶ Performed more than 6,300 criminal history reviews and demographic assessments on new arrestees to assist the court in making release decisions.
- ▶ Administered more than 23,000 court-ordered drug and alcohol tests and collected more than \$125,125 for testing services.
- ▶ Referred more than 200 pretrial defendants and probationers seeking employment to the Leon County Sheriff's Office Re-Entry and Inmate

## DID YOU KNOW?

During appointments, clients can identify needed services, such as housing, transportation, and job placement assistance through the Human Services Self-Assessment Questionnaire. To date, probation/pretrial officers have provided resource information for key community partners providing these services to more than 700 clients.

Programs for job placement assistance. Since February 2022, 22 individuals were employed through the ALLinLEON Business Pledge or the 1,000 Jobs for Youth initiative.

- ▶ Collaborated with the FSU Askew School of Public Administration to assist student teams in completing capstone projects related to Legislative and Judicial Implications on Leon County's Incarcerated Population and Alternatives to Incarceration: Options to Reduce the Jail Population at the Leon County Detention Facility.
- ▶ Identified and supported additional services to address the increasing needs of individuals with mental illness in the community through continued participation in the White House Data-Driven Justice Initiative, National Association of Counties Stepping Up Initiative, the Council of State Governments Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation.

## Contact us

(850) 606-5600  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation





# OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB)

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission & Goal Statements

**Office of Financial Stewardship:** To provide sound financial management, ethical procurement services, and asset control to the Board of County Commissioners, County Administrator, and Board departments, offices, and divisions, while minimizing long-term costs associated with accidental losses, in order to support effective decision making and ensure responsible stewardship of County resources.

**Office of Management & Budget:** To continuously enhance the quality of County services by optimizing the use of County financial resources through the effective provision of planning, policy analysis, budget development, budget implementation, and program evaluation services to benefit citizens, elected officials, and staff.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- Maximize the leveraging of the \$1 trillion federal infrastructure bill to fund County projects. (#2022-8)

### ENVIRONMENT

- Partner with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) to address long term regional resiliency through a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) grant. (#2022-18)

### GOVERNANCE

- Continue to invest in the professional development of County staff including participation in Certified Public Manager training and enhancements to the County's Management Training. (#2022-38)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5100  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/OFS

## RESPONSIBLE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY'S FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- ▶ Recognized by international bond rating agency Moody's and Fitch as a financially viable organization. This recognition comes even in the face of continued economic uncertainty surrounding COVID-19. Leon County's bond rating remains extremely high due to long-term fiscal planning before and during this unparalleled challenge.



Facilitating Youth Leadership Tallahassee Budget Game

- ▶ Achieved the lowest net budget (\$987) per countywide resident among like-sized counties and one of the lowest net budgets per county resident in Florida, with only three other counties having lower net budgets. Additionally, Leon County has six employees per 1,000 residents and ranks 12th lowest in employees per capita among all 67 counties.
- ▶ Since 2013, realized more than \$63.6 million in new cost savings and cost avoidances, including the evaluation of using metal storage containers instead of plastic at the Leon County Sheriff's Office Evidence Facility, saving \$250,000; performing the County stormwater inventory mapping in-house by compiling source data from other agencies, saving approximately \$153,000 in consultant fees; and performing lighting improvements at the Transfer Station in-house, saving \$93,000.
- ▶ Provided an additional \$500,000 in capital funding to support the Essential Libraries Initiative, a process of re-envisioning the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System to address the changing needs of residents and trends in library use.

County Budget For Fiscal Year	2022/2023	2023/2024
Budget	\$317,904,222	\$349,453,357
County Wide Millage Rate	8.3144	8.3144
Emergency Medical Services	0.5000	0.7500
Total Millage Rate	8.8144	9.0644
Budgeted Property Taxes	\$168,849,714	\$182,140,872
Budgeted Emergency Medical Services MSTU	\$10,154,053	\$16,430,008

- ▶ Provided two semiannual reports to the Board of County Commissioners documenting and analyzing the financial position of the County.
- ▶ Coordinated with Team Guardian, the County Attorney's Office, Parks and Recreation, and the American Red Cross to formalize a Tri-Party Agreement and implement a plan to install the new 9/11 memorial on County property.
- ▶ Since 2018, provided \$820,976 for affordable housing through the County's Affordable Housing Program to the Housing Finance Authority, with \$246,345 provided since January 2023.





## Goal Statements

**Purchasing:** To provide timely and professional procurement services to secure requested supplies, services, and commodities at a specified level of quality and at the lowest possible cost through open and fair competition.

**Risk Management:** To establish, to the fullest extent possible, a safe work and service environment in which employees, as well as members of the general public, can enjoy safety and security in the course of their daily pursuits.

## Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

### GOVERNANCE

- Continued to seek opportunities for partnerships through NACo and FAC's enterprise programs. (#2016-42)
- Retained and attracted a highly skilled, diverse and innovative County workforce, which exemplifies the County's Core Practices. (G4)
- Exercised responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management and ensured that the provision of services and community enhancements were done in a fair and equitable manner. (G5)

### Contact us

(850) 606-1600 (Purchasing)  
(850) 606-5100 (Risk Management)  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing)

## PROCURING AND MANAGING RESOURCES AND SERVICES, AND MANAGING RISK



Forklift training

- Provided sales and customer support to staff through ordering, stocking, and issuance of operational consumable products, valued at more than \$100.8 million, during the fiscal year through more than 1,650 requisitions.
- Conducted more than 70 competitive solicitations to ensure the best value for the County.
- Maintained proper control over all records of tangible personal property by conducting an annual inventory consisting of assets valued at more than \$72 million with no missing items.
- Conducted online surplus sales/auctions, resulting in a return of more than \$31,000, and used online auction services to dispose of obsolete equipment.
- Used competitive quoting and cooperative contracts to reduce inventory costs in the warehouse and had a turnover rate of 1.40, exceeding the national standard.
- Conducted monthly safety, Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and first aid kit inspections to ensure employees have a safe working environment.

- Coordinated more than 26 "Guide to Workplace Safety & Health" trainings, along with 24 safety training sessions, including active attack, defensive driving, load securement, AED/CPR training, forklift training, ergonomics, snake safety, and many more.
- Developed a new Prescription Safety Glasses program for County employees.
- Earned a Certificate of Safety Recognition through the Florida Municipal Safety Excellence Initiative, which provides benchmarks to compare industry best practices.
- Instituted a new annual Safety Strategic Retreat for the safety advisory group to review and develop new strategic goals and training concepts for the upcoming year.
- Awarded a Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT) Matching Safety Grant to purchase four new AEDs, replacing discontinued equipment.
- Launched a new software program that allows monthly safety site inspections to be conducted electronically, reducing time and carbon footprints.
- Reviewed more than 450 criminal background checks on individuals wishing to volunteer.

### DEMONSTRATING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE



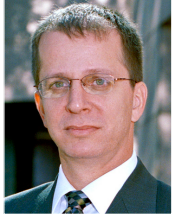
Earned the Insurance Leader Award for improved insurance processes that met specific needs of public entities.





# LIVING OUR PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN. CULTURE

Arranged according to the organizational chart on page 26



County Administration  
**Alan Rosenzweig**  
*Deputy County Administrator*  
(850) 606-5300  
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County Administration  
**Wanda Hunter**  
*Assistant County Administrator*  
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HunterW@LeonCountyFL.gov



County Administration  
**Ken Morris**  
*Assistant County Administrator*  
(850) 606-5300  
MorrisK@LeonCountyFL.gov



County Administration  
**Shington Lamy**  
*Assistant County Administrator*  
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LamyS@LeonCountyFL.gov



County Administration  
**Ben Pingree**  
*Assistant County Administrator*  
(850) 606-5300  
PingreeB@LeonCountyFL.gov



County Administration  
**Mathieu Cavell**  
*Director of Community Relations and Resilience*  
(850) 606-5300  
CavellM@LeonCountyFL.gov



County Administration  
**Nicki Paden**  
*Assistant to the County Administrator*  
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PadenN@LeonCountyFL.gov



Human Resources  
**Candice M. Wilson**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-2400  
WilsonCa@LeonCountyFL.gov



Emergency Management  
**Kevin Peters**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-3700  
PetersK@LeonCountyFL.gov



Community and Media Relations  
**Kianna Gilley**  
*Manager*  
(850) 606-5300  
GilleyK@LeonCountyFL.gov



Tourism  
**Kerri Post**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-2300  
PostK@LeonCountyFL.gov



Office of Public Safety  
Emergency Medical Services  
**Chad Abrams**  
*Chief*  
(850) 606-2100  
AbramsC@LeonCountyFL.gov



Office of Public Safety  
Animal Control  
**Cara Aldridge**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-3700  
AldridgeC@LeonCountyFL.gov



Office of Intervention & Detention  
Alternatives  
**Teresa Broxton**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-5600  
BroxtonT@LeonCountyFL.gov



LeRoy Collins Leon County Public  
Library System  
**Pamela Monroe**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-2665  
MonroeP@LeonCountyFL.gov



LeRoy Collins Leon County Public  
Library System  
**Kaycee Shiley**  
*Innovation Officer*  
(850) 606-2665  
ShileyK@LeonCountyFL.gov



Office of Financial Stewardship  
**Scott Ross**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-5100  
RossS@LeonCountyFL.gov



OFS: Office of Management  
and Budget  
**Roshaunda Bradley**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-5100  
BradleyR@LeonCountyFL.gov



OFS: Risk Management  
**Shelley Cason**  
*Risk Manager*  
(850) 606-5120  
CasonS@LeonCountyFL.gov



Office of Information Technology  
**Michelle Taylor**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-5500  
TaylorM@LeonCountyFL.gov



# A CORE PRACTICE OF LEON COUNTY GOVERNMENT



OIT: Mgmt. Information Systems  
**Will Whittle**  
*Director of IT Operations*  
(850) 606-5500  
WhittleW@LeonCountyFL.gov



OIT: Mgmt. Information Systems  
**Janna Richardson**  
*Director of Applications & Development*  
(850) 606-5500  
RichardsonJ@LeonCountyFL.gov



OIT: GIS  
**Scott Weisman**  
*Coordinator*  
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WeismanS@LeonCountyFL.gov



Veteran Services  
**Ben Bradwell**  
*Manager*  
(850) 606-1900  
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Health and Human Services  
**Abby Sanders**  
*Manager*  
(850) 606-1900  
SandersA@LeonCountyFL.gov



Housing Services  
**Jelani Marks**  
*Manager*  
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MarksJ@LeonCountyFL.gov



Public Works  
**Brent Pell**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-1500  
PellB@LeonCountyFL.gov



Public Works  
Engineering Services  
**Charles Wu**  
*Division Director*  
(850) 606-1500  
WuC@LeonCountyFL.gov



Public Works  
Fleet Management  
**Josh McSwain**  
*Division Director*  
(850) 606-2000  
McSwainJ@LeonCountyFL.gov



Public Works  
Operations  
**Andrew Riley**  
*Division Director*  
(850) 606-1500  
RileyA@LeonCountyFL.gov



Office of Resource Stewardship  
**Maggie Theriot**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-5000  
TheriotM@LeonCountyFL.gov



ORS: Parks & Recreation  
**Amanda Heidecker**  
*Division Director*  
(850) 606-1470  
HeideckerA@LeonCountyFL.gov



DSEM  
**Barry Wilcox**  
*Chief Development Resources Officer*  
(850) 606-1300  
WilcoxB@LeonCountyFL.gov



DSEM: Development Services  
**Ryan Culpepper**  
*Division Director*  
(850) 606-1300  
CulpepperR@LeonCountyFL.gov



DSEM: Environmental Services  
**Nawfal Ezzagaghi**  
*Division Director*  
(850) 606-1300  
EzzagaghiN@LeonCountyFL.gov



DSEM: Permit & Compliance Services  
**Emma Smith**  
*Division Director*  
(850) 606-1300  
SmithE@LeonCountyFL.gov



DSEM: Building Plans Review and Inspection  
**Justin Poole**  
*Director*  
(850) 606-1300  
PooleJ@LeonCountyFL.gov



Department of P.L.A.C.E.  
Office of Economic Vitality  
**Keith Bowers**  
*Director*  
(850) 219-1060  
KBowers@OEVforBusiness.org



Department of P.L.A.C.E.  
Planning  
**Artie White**  
*Planning Director*  
(850) 891-6400  
Artie.White@Talgov.com



Department of P.L.A.C.E.  
Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency  
**Autumn Calder**  
*Director*  
(850) 219-1060  
Autumn.Calder@BlueprintIA.org





# CITIZEN COMMITTEES

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR QUALITY GROWTH**

Provides a continuous source of community input and technical resources from industry professionals and community stakeholders that offer proactive input and feedback for development review and approval service enhancements.

## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Reviews the established policies and procedures, ordinances, land development regulations and adopted comprehensive plan and recommends specific actions or initiatives to encourage or facilitate affordable housing.

## **ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Considers evidence, related history, ordinance requirements, and provides recommendations as to the classification and disposition of any animal that is the subject of a Dangerous/Aggressive classification.

## **ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY BOARD**

Supports the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Services Center (animal shelter) by serving as community liaisons and assisting with developing policies, programs and long-range planning.

## **ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Reviews and makes recommendations for placement of properties on the Local Register of Historic Places and reviews changes to the exterior of properties zoned with Historic Preservation Overlay.

## **AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Adopts an annual plan of work for the Auditor and oversees the work of the Auditor. Promotes, maintains and enhances the independence and objectivity of the internal audit function by ensuring broad audit coverage, adequate consideration of audit reports and appropriate action on recommendations.

## **BIG BEND HEALTH COUNCIL**

Determines the health needs and resources of the 14-County Service District to develop a District Health Plan. Provides for local representation in planning and evaluating health needs of the County.

## **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS**

Responsible for hearing and deciding on appeals of interpretations made by the administrative officers as to the applicability of provisions in the Land Development Code (LDC) as well as for requests for a variation of development standards in the LDC.

## **CANOPY ROADS CITIZENS COMMITTEE**

Assists in coordinating efforts to protect and maintain canopy roads through the development of a long-range canopy road management plan, provides feedback and makes recommendations regarding the preservation of canopy roads to the City and County Commissions.

## **CAREERSOURCE CAPITAL REGION BOARD**

Develops the Region's strategic workforce development plan, identifies occupations in demand in the area, solicits input and participation from local business community for the provision of services and provides policy guidance and program procedures to connect employers with qualified skilled job talent offering employment and career development opportunities.

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD**

Conducts hearings to enforce County laws on cases involving violations of environmental management, zoning, land use, building code and control of junk accumulation and imposes fines and penalties with the goal of obtaining code compliance.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CITIZENS ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

Provides input on the development and implementation of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant process, facilitates community needs discussion, provides recommendations as to the program area and activities that should be considered when drafting the grant application and provides input during the grant implementation.

## **COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES PARTNERSHIPS CITIZEN REVIEW TEAMS**

Implements the joint agency review process for joint funding recommendations, resulting in funding recommendations for human services agency grant applicants that provide services to Leon County residents.

## **COUNCIL ON CULTURE & ARTS**

Stimulates greater awareness and appreciation of the importance of the arts by encouraging and facilitating greater, more efficient use of governmental and private resources for the development and support of the arts.

## **EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF THE BIG BEND REGION**

Implements, coordinates and administers the provisions of the Statutory Voluntary Prekindergarten Program and the School Readiness Program in Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor and Wakulla Counties and serves as the community child care coordinating agency.

## **HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF LEON COUNTY**

Encourages investment by private enterprise and stimulates construction and rehabilitation of housing through use of public financing and the provision of low-cost loans to purchase affordable housing.

## **INVESTMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Reviews, reports, and recommends changes in investment practices of Leon County, reviews the County's portfolio activity for compliance with the investment plan, reviews investment policies and makes recommendations to the Board for amendments.

## **JOINT CITY/COUNTY BICYCLING WORKGROUP**

Provides input to the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department staff regarding cycling-related projects, improvements, events and ordinances that are considered to be of community interest.

## **LEON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY**

Assists institutions for higher education in the construction, financing and refinancing of projects as set forth in Florida Statutes.

## **LEON COUNTY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Serves as the governing board for Innovation Park and is comprised of prominent business and community leaders that work together to guide the growth and development of the Park.

## **LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

Serves as a forum for community input concerning the County's library programs and activities.

## **MINORITY, WOMEN & SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWSBE) CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Monitors the progress of the MWSBE Program in achieving program performance goals, provides input on MWSBE policy alternatives and suggests programmatic recommendations relative to seeking resolution of disputes regarding Certification and Good Faith Effort.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Designated as the Local Planning Agency that reviews amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for area-wide planning within Leon County.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Assesses the population status of County detention facilities and formulates recommendations to ensure that the capacities are not exceeded; and assesses the availability of pretrial intervention or probation programs, work-release programs, substance abuse programs, gain-time schedules, applicable bail bond schedules and the confinement status of the housed inmates.

## **SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Evaluates and reports on scientific evidence and makes recommendations concerning policies and programs that pertain to environmental issues in order to safeguard natural resources and public health and safety.

## **TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY BICENTENNIAL STEERING COMMITTEE**

Brings together local stakeholders for the collaboration and coordination of planning the activities centered around celebrating and commemorating the Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial in 2024.

## **TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN & GIRLS**

Provides input and recommendations on approaches to address issues affecting the women and girls in Tallahassee-Leon County and promotes awareness on issues including: discrimination, employment, education, social

services, health, economic security, access to justice, freedom from violence and more.

## **TALLAHASSEE SPORTS COUNCIL**

Provides a fact-finding source of community input and technical resources used in developing recommendations regarding sports tourism to be considered by the Tourist Development Council.

## **TRUSTED PEOPLE NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE**

Connects human service providers and residents of the neighborhoods experiencing the highest rates of food insecurity to improve awareness and access to available resources and reduce barriers to healthy and nutritious foods, as well as overall economic prosperity.

## **TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Makes recommendations for operation of special projects or for uses of the tourist development tax revenue and reviews expenditures of revenue from tourist development trust fund.

## **VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD**

Settles disputes between taxpayers and the Property Appraiser relating to denials of exemptions, classifications and market values.

## **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Makes recommendations on policies, regulations and management activities to protect and enhance County water resources while considering the various impacts to these resources from accelerated runoff including flooding and surface and groundwater degradation.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

*Citizen participation is important in developing Leon County's programs/policies and in providing quality services to the community. For more detailed information or to join one of these committees, visit our website: [www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Committees](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Committees) or call (850) 606-5300.*





## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

(850) 606-5300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/BCC](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/BCC)

**Bill Proctor, District 1 Commissioner**  
(850) 606-5361  
[ProctorB@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:ProctorB@LeonCountyFL.gov)

**Christian Caban, District 2 Commissioner**  
(850) 606-5362  
[CabanC@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:CabanC@LeonCountyFL.gov)

**Rick Minor, District 3 Commissioner**  
(850) 606-5363  
[MinorR@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:MinorR@LeonCountyFL.gov)

**Brian Welch, District 4 Commissioner**  
(850) 606-5364  
[WelchB@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:WelchB@LeonCountyFL.gov)

**David T. O'Keefe, District 5 Commissioner**  
(850) 606-5365  
[OKeefeD@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:OKeefeD@LeonCountyFL.gov)

**Carolyn D. Cummings, At-Large Commissioner**  
(850) 606-5369  
[CummingsC@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:CummingsC@LeonCountyFL.gov)

**Nick Maddox, At-Large Commissioner**  
(850) 606-5367  
[MaddoxN@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:MaddoxN@LeonCountyFL.gov)

## **LEON COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**  
(850) 606-5300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CountyAdministrator](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CountyAdministrator)

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**  
(850) 606-2500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCAO](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCAO)

**ANIMAL CONTROL**  
(850) 606-5400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal)

**COMMUNITY & MEDIA RELATIONS**  
(850) 606-5300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CMR](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CMR)

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**  
(850) 606-5200  
[Leon.IFAS.UFL.edu](http://Leon.IFAS.UFL.edu)

**Agriculture**  
(850) 606-5200

**Family/Consumer Sciences**  
(850) 606-5203

**4-H**  
(850) 606-5204

**Horticulture/Forestry**  
(850) 606-5202

**DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
(850) 606-1300  
[www.LeonPermits.org](http://www.LeonPermits.org)

**Building Inspection**  
(850) 606-1300

**Inspection Hot Line (IVRS)**  
(850) 891-1800

**Code Compliance Services**  
(850) 606-1300

**Concurrency Management**  
(850) 606-1300

**Environmental Permitting**  
(850) 606-1300

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
(850) 606-3700  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EM](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EM)

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
(850) 606-2100  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS)

**Dispatch**  
(850) 606-5800  
[TLCCDA.org](http://TLCCDA.org)

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**  
(850) 606-5000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Facilities](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Facilities)

**FLEET MANAGEMENT**  
(850) 606-2000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet)

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
(850) 404-6300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCHD](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCHD)

**HOUSING SERVICES**  
(850) 606-1900  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing)

**HUMAN RESOURCES**  
(850) 606-2400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HR](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HR)

**Job Line**  
(850) 606-2403

**HUMAN SERVICES & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**  
(850) 606-1900  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HSCPC](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HSCPC)

**LEGAL AID**  
(850) 222-3292

**LEROY COLLINS LEON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
(850) 606-2665  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Library](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Library)  
**Literacy Volunteers**  
(850) 606-2644

**MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SERVICES**  
(850) 606-5500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/MIS](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/MIS)

**Geographic Information Services**  
(850) 606-5504  
[TLCGIS.org](http://TLCGIS.org)

**MINORITY, WOMEN & SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE**  
(850) 219-1080  
[www.OEVforBusiness.org](http://www.OEVforBusiness.org)

**MOSQUITO CONTROL**  
(850) 606-1400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Mosquito](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Mosquito)

**OFFICE OF FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**  
(850) 606-5100  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/OFS](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/OFS)

**PARKS & RECREATION**  
(850) 606-1470  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Parks](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Parks)

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**  
(850) 891-6400  
[LeonCountyFL.gov/Planning](http://LeonCountyFL.gov/Planning)

**PROBATION**  
(850) 606-5600  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation)

**PUBLIC WORKS**  
(850) 606-1500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks)

**Operations (24-hour response)**  
(850) 606-1400

**PURCHASING**  
(850) 606-1600  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing)

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**  
(850) 606-1800  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste)

**Hazardous Waste**  
(850) 606-1803

**Recycling Information**  
(850) 606-1802

**Rural Waste Collection Center**  
(850) 606-1800

**Transfer Station**  
(850) 606-1840  
**SUPERVISED PRETRIAL RELEASE**  
(850) 606-5700  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation)

**SUSTAINABILITY**  
(850) 606-5021  
[www.GrowingGreen.org](http://www.GrowingGreen.org)

**TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC VITALITY**  
(850) 219-1080  
[www.OEVforBusiness.org](http://www.OEVforBusiness.org)

**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT**  
(850) 606-2305  
[www.VisitTallahassee.com](http://www.VisitTallahassee.com)

**VETERAN SERVICES**  
(850) 606-1940  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Vets](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Vets)

**VOLUNTEER SERVICES**  
(850) 606-1970  
[www.VolunteerLEON.org](http://www.VolunteerLEON.org)

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES**

**CLERK OF COURTS**  
(850) 606-4000  
[www.LeonClerk.com](http://www.LeonClerk.com)

**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**  
(850) 606-8683  
[www.LeonVotes.gov](http://www.LeonVotes.gov)

**PROPERTY APPRAISER**  
(850) 606-6200  
[www.LeonPA.org](http://www.LeonPA.org)

**TAX COLLECTOR**  
(850) 606-4700  
[www.LeonTaxCollector.net](http://www.LeonTaxCollector.net)

**SHERIFF**  
(850) 606-3300  
[www.LeonCountySO.com](http://www.LeonCountySO.com)

## **OTHER COUNTY/STATE AGENCIES**

**PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
(850) 606-1000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PD](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PD)

**STATE ATTORNEY, 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
(850) 606-6000  
[www.SAO2FL.org](http://www.SAO2FL.org)

**CIRCUIT COURT 2ND JUDICIAL**  
(850) 606-4401  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/2ndCircuit](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/2ndCircuit)





# QUICK REFERENCE

## **PARKS**

### **Anita L. Davis Preserve at Lake Henrietta Park**

3305 Springhill Rd.; Walking Trail (Paved - 1.2 Miles Long), Informational Kiosk, Portable Restroom

### **Apalachee Regional Park**

7300 Apalachee Pkwy.; 4 Multipurpose fields (lighted), Restrooms/Concession Building, nationally recognized cross-country running facility, radio-controlled airfield

### **Bradfordville Dog Park**

6808 Beech Ridge Trl.; 13 acres of off leash play, small and large dog sections

### **Brent Drive Park**

812 Brent Dr.; Basketball Court, Hopscotch, Four-Square

### **Broadmoor Pond Park**

4723 Jackson Bluff Rd.; Walking Trail (Paved - 6/10 Mile Long), Informational Kiosk, Portable Restroom, Benches

### **Canopy Oaks Community Park**

3250 Point View Dr.; 2 Little League Fields (lighted), 2 Tennis and Pickle Ball Courts (lighted), Multipurpose Field (lighted), 1 Large Pavilion, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Daniel B. Chaires Community Park**

4768 Chaires Cross Rd.; 4 Tennis Courts (lighted), 2 Basketball Courts (lighted and recently renovated), Restrooms/Concession Building, 2 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), 1 T-Ball Field (not lighted), Playground

### **Fort Braden Community Park**

15100 Blountstown Hwy.; 2 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), Multipurpose Field (lighted), Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Fred George Greenway and Park**

3043 Capital Circle NW., Museum and Education Center, Regulation size Baseball Field (lighted), Multipurpose Field (lighted), Trails, Pavilions, Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Gil Waters Preserve at Lake Munson Preserve**

1306 Jackson Moody Pl.; Pavilions, Grills, Restrooms, 1 miles of Nature Trails, Boat Landing, Informational Kiosk, Observation Platform

### **J. Lee Vause Park and Dog Park**

6024 Old Bainbridge Rd.; 6 Pavilions, 26 Acres Open, Wooded Spaces, 1 Mile of Hard Surface Paths for Bikes and Pedestrians, 1.5-acre Dog Park, Restrooms, Playground, Sand Volleyball Court

### **J. Lewis Hall Sr., Woodville Park and Recreation Complex**

1492 J. Lewis Hall Sr. Ln.; 4 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), Junior League Field (lighted), Softball Field (lighted), 2 Basketball Courts (lighted and recently renovated), Multipurpose Field (lighted), 2 Pavilions, Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **J.R. Alford Greenway**

2500 Pedrick Rd.; Over 800 Acres of Trails and Open Space for Hikers, Mountain Bicyclists, Equestrians (Horse Trailer Parking), Benches, Portable Restroom, Informational Kiosks, Water Fountain (16 miles of double track trail; 5 miles of single track trail. All multi-use.)

### **Jackson View Park**

2585 Clara Kee Blvd.; Walking Trails (Mulched - 8/10 Miles Long), Picnic Tables, Open Space, Observation Deck, Playground, Little Free Library, Portable Restroom

### **Kate Ireland Park**

12271 Iamonia Landing Rd.; Pavilion, Playground, Restrooms

### **Man O War Park**

6568 Man O War Trl.; Playground, Swing Set, Open Grassy Area, Benches

### **Martha Wellman Park**

5317 W. Tennessee St.; Walking Trail (Paved - 8/10 Mile Long), Informational Kiosk, Portable Restroom

### **Miccosukee Canopy Rd. Greenway**

5600 Miccosukee Rd.; 14 Miles of Trails and 500 Acres of Open Space for Hikers, Mountain Bicyclists, Equestrians,

Picnic Tables and Benches, Restrooms, Water Fountains

### **Miccosukee Community Park**

15011 Cromartie Rd.; Playground, 2 Basketball Courts (lighted), 2 Pavilions, 1 Little League Baseball Field (lighted), 1 Little League Softball Field (lighted), 1 T-Ball Field (not lighted), Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Northeast Park**

9607 Proctor Rd.; Walking and Biking Trail (Natural Surface - 2 Miles Long), Informational Kiosk

### **Orange-Meridian Park**

326 Orange Ave. E.; Little Free Library, Picnic Tables, Portable Restroom, Informational Kiosk, Water Fountain

### **Orchard Pond Trail**

5861 Orchard Pond Rd.; Trails for Hikers, Bikers, and Equestrians (Clay, 3.2 Miles Long), Informational Kiosks

### **Parwez "P. A." Alam Park at Okeehoopkee Prairie**

1294 Fuller Rd.; Walking Trail (Crushed Shell - 1/2 Mile Long), Pavilion, Informational Kiosk, Playground

### **Pedrick Pond Park**

5701 Mahan Dr.; Walking Trail (Crushed Shell - 7/10 Mile Long), Benches, Picnic Tables, Informational Kiosk

### **Pimlico Park**

4811 Pimlico Rd.; Playground, Backstop, Picnic Tables, Open Grassy Area, Pond, Workout Equipment Area

### **Robinson Rd. Park**

1819 Robinson Rd.; 2 Picnic Tables, Open Green Space

### **St. Marks Headwaters Greenway**

640 Baum Rd.; 3 Pavilions, Informational Kiosk, Bicycle Rack, Equestrian and Passenger Vehicle Parking, 3 Miles of Natural Surface Multi-Use Trails, Open Space for Hikers, Mountain Bicyclists, and Equestrians, Portable Restroom

### **Stoneler Rd. Park**

5225 Stoneler Rd.; Little League Field (lighted), Pavilion, Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Tower Rd. Park**

5971 Tower Rd.; Multipurpose Field (lighted), Playground, Pavilion, Restrooms/Concession Building

## **LIBRARIES**

### **LeRoy Collins Leon County Main Library**

200 West Park Ave. (850) 606-2665

### **Dr. B. L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library**

2817 South Adams St. (850) 606-2950

### **Eastside Branch Library**

1583 Pedrick Rd. (850) 606-2750

### **Jane G. Sauls Fort Braden Branch Library**

16327 Blountstown Hwy. (850) 606-2900

### **Lake Jackson Branch Library**

Lake Jackson Town Center 3840-300 North Monroe St. (850) 606-2850

### **Northeast Branch Library**

5513 Thomasville Rd. (850) 606-2800

### **Woodville Branch Library**

8000 Old Woodville Rd. (850) 606-2925

## **BOAT LANDINGS**

### **Ben Stoutamire Landing**

2552 Ben Stoutamire Rd.

### **Blount Landing**

24371 Lanier St.

### **Bull Headley Landing**

10156 Bull Headley Rd.

### **Cedar Hill Landing**

467 Cedar Hill Landing Rd.

### **Coe Landing**

1208 Coe Landing Rd.

### **Crowder Landing**

1053 Crowder Rd.

### **Cypress Landing**

16900 Ro Co Co Rd.

### **Elk Horn Landing**

3997 Elkhorn Rd.

### **Faulk Drive Landing**

1895 Faulk Dr.

### **Fuller Road Landing**

1294 Fuller Rd.

### **Gardner Landing**

1022 Gardner Rd.

### **Gil Waters Preserve Landing**

5800 Crawfordville Hwy.

### **Jackson View Landing**

4967 N. Monroe St.

### **Lake Munson Landing**

1025 Munson Landing Rd.

### **Luther Hall Landing**

2997 Luther Hall Rd.

### **Meginnis Arm Landing**

3017 Meginnis Arm Rd.

### **Miller Landing**

2900 Miller Landing Rd.

### **Reeves Landing**

16254 Reeves Landing Rd.

### **Rhoden Cove Landing**

801 Rhoden Cove Rd.

### **Sunset Landing**

4800 Jackson Cove Rd.

### **Tower Road Landing**

6991 Tower Rd.

### **Wainwright Landing**

4135 Wainwright Rd.

### **Williams Landing**

951 Williams Landing Rd.

### **Van Brunt Landing**

(a.k.a. Kate Ireland Landing) 12271 Iamonia Landing Rd.

## **CAMPGROUNDS**

Phone Numbers for Camping Information: (850) 606-1470

Reservations can be made at: [www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Reservations](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Reservations)

### **Coe Landing Campground**

1208 Coe Landing Rd.

20 RV or Tent Sites with 30 Amp Hookups, Wifi, Electric, Showers (recently renovated), Dump Station

### **Luther Hall Landing Campground**

2997 Luther Hall Rd.

10 Tent Camping Sites, Showers

### **Williams Landing Campground**

951 Williams Landing Rd.

10 Tent or RV mixed use sites, Showers, BBQ Grills, Picnic Areas

## **COMMUNITY CENTERS**

General Information (850) 606-1470

### **Bradfordville Community Center**

6808 Beech Ridge Trl.

### **Dorothy Cooper Spence Community Center (Chaires Community Center)**

4768 Chaires Cross Rd.

### **Fort Braden Community Center**

16387 Blountstown Hwy.

### **Lake Jackson Community Center**

3840 N. Monroe St, Suite 301

### **Miccosukee Community Center**

13887 Moccasin Gap Rd.

### **Woodville Community Center**

8000 Old Woodville Rd.

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

### **Cooperative Extension**

615 Paul Russell Rd. (850) 606-5200

### **Development Support & Environmental Management**

435 N. Maccomb St., Renaissance Center, 2nd Floor (850) 606-1300

### **Solid Waste Management Facility**

7550 Apalachee Pkwy. (850) 606-1800

### **Woodville Waste Management Facility**

549 Henry Jones Rd. (850) 488-9099

### **Ft. Braden Waste Management Facility**

2485 East Joe Thomas Rd. (850) 488-9119

### **Miccosukee Waste Management Facility**

13051 Miccosukee Rd. (850) 922-0097

### **Volunteer Services**

301 S. Monroe, 4th floor (850) 606-1970



# EMPLOYING TEAM APPROACH



Press the Chest



Library Lecture Series

## EMPLOYING TEAM APPROACH

### *A Core Practice of Leon County Government*

Employees work together to produce bigger and better ideas to seize the opportunities and to address the problems which face our community.



Springtime Tallahassee



9/11 Day of Service



GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award



Employee Appreciation Banquet



Visitor Information Center Opening



Public Works Road-E-O





# BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



**Nick Maddox, Chairman | At-Large  
Orange Avenue Apartments Groundbreaking**



**Bill Proctor | District 1 | Carrie Pittman Meek Street Dedication**



**Brian Welch | District 4 | Winter Festival Parade**



**Carolyn D. Cummings, Vice Chair | At-Large  
Spring Home Expo**



**Christian Caban | District 2 | Fort Braden Playground Opening**



**Rick Minor | District 3 | TasteBud Explorers: Community  
Conversation and Family Cooking Demonstration**



**David O'Keefe | District 5 | Springtime Tallahassee Parade**





## OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

### **What You Get as a Taxpayer and a Stakeholder in our Community**

Leon County Government leverages partnerships, embraces efficiency and innovation, and demands performance to the benefit of our taxpayers. We actively engage our citizens, not only as taxpayers, but as stakeholders and co-creators of our community – providing meaningful opportunities to capitalize on their talents in making important decisions and shaping our community for future generations.





## 2023 Leon County Annual Report

Designed, developed and produced by  
Leon County Community and Media Relations

Leon County Courthouse,  
Suite 502 | 301 South Monroe St. | Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 606-5300 | [CMR@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:CMR@LeonCountyFL.gov)

You can find the Annual Report document and associated  
video online at:

[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/AnnualReport](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/AnnualReport)