



From the Office of...

Nick Maddox

Leon County Commissioner, At-Large

"Educate and inform the whole mass of the people... They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."

-Thomas Jefferson

June, 2012

Looking Forward

The month of May brought the beginning of the Leon County budget process. We held our first workshop that precisely laid out for us the deficit we will be facing next year. If we continue to utilize our fund balance in the amount of \$4 million as we have the past two budget cycles then we are looking at a deficit of \$8.9 to 10.9 million for fiscal year 2013.

This deficit is due to a decline in valuations of property, estimated to decline three to four percent this year, and the reciprocal decline in the amount of ad valorem taxes collected by the County. The Board of County Commissioners has not raised the millage rate since FY 2009. In spite of not raising the millage rate on residents, Leon County has reduced the budget by \$48.9 million since fiscal year 2008.

What does all of this mean? Leon County has been fortunate the past several years. Due to the fiscal responsibility of previous boards and administrations, we were in a very good position when the recession started and we have been able to utilize fund balance reserves and not raise taxes. Our County administration has done a phenomenal job of streamlining services and reducing costs. Compared to like size counties in Florida, Leon County has the lowest net budget and the lowest net budget per county resident.

I am entering this budget season with a fundamental philosophy: be pragmatic and look forward. I will be asking myself the same question when I look at every budget item – Does the necessity of this expenditure benefit our residents without burdening our children? Every choice this board makes will impact the future of Leon County. I consider it my ultimate responsibility to look forward and make sure this community remains a place my children will want to live.

I want to hear your thoughts...

"Always focus on the front windshield and not the review mirror."

~Colin Powell~

Commission Meeting Schedule

June 12, 2012

3:00 pm: Regular Meeting

June 26, 2012

9:00 am: Workshop Regarding Consideration of Employee Health Insurance Alternatives
11:00 am: Workshop to Consider Capital Projects for Presentation to the Sales Tax Committee
3:00 pm: Regular Meeting
6:00 pm: Public Hearings (list below)

All Workshops, Meetings and Public Hearings are subject to change.

Upcoming Public Hearings



Follow my blog at <http://nick-maddox.blogspot.com> or click the picture above.

June 26, 2012 - 6:00 pm

Joint City/County Public Hearing on Cycle 2012-1
Comprehensive Plan Amendments

***Public hearings are held at the Leon County Courthouse,
5th Floor (301 South Monroe Street)*



*View the BOCC agenda at
www.leoncountyfl.gov or click the
picture above.*

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