

## Bryan's Brief August 2009

If temperatures are the indicator, Summer is definitely here and I'm not looking forward to August. Hope you're all managing to stay cool in this extreme heat! Lots to cover this issue! The budget workshops went well! We approved the proposed budget of \$248,357,541 that will reduce spending by approximately \$19 million dollars or 7.1% from the current year's budget of \$267,410,647. We worked hard to maintain services and reduce spending while making essential capital investments, which stimulate the local economy and create jobs and we accomplished our goal of leaving the countywide millage rate unchanged. I'm very proud that our County continues to maintain the lowest net budget, the lowest net budget per resident, the lowest number of employees and the lowest number of employees per capita than any other like-sized county in Florida.

The public hearings on the proposed budget will be held September 9th and September 22nd at 6:00 p.m. Hope to see you there or you can phone, e-mail or write me with any suggestions you may have regarding budget proposals.

**Intersection/Roadway Improvements** - (read more on line about these projects at the following URL [http://www.leoncountyfl.gov/ADMIN/Agenda/view2.asp?meeting\\_date=7/14/2009&item\\_type=0](http://www.leoncountyfl.gov/ADMIN/Agenda/view2.asp?meeting_date=7/14/2009&item_type=0) - and scroll to the agenda item listed after each title)

Meridian Rd/Oxbottom and Meridian Rd/Bannerman Rd. - **Agenda Item 34** - Bid's have been awarded, work should begin within 60 days, and it will take 4 to 6 mths for completion. The intersection improvements include the addition of southbound left-turn lanes and signalization of both intersections.

Timberlane from Timberlane School Rd to Woodley Dr - Sidewalk extension and intersection improvement  
Proposed Timberlane Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Project - **Agenda Item 44**

**Sidewalk Project Initiative - Agenda Item 49** - Grants are available through the Federal Government for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant Program (TIGER). The Commission directed staff to evaluate our proposed sidewalk projects that total \$20 million and to prioritize projects. Of the top ten, District IV has six:

- Timberlane Rd from Meridian Street to Thomasville Rd. - \$1,205,000
- Miccosukee Rd from Capital Cr to the Miccosukee Greenway (Fleischmann Rd) \$868,000
- Centerville Rd from Shamrock to Roberts Rd (has been completed up to Pimlico by City - \$658,000
- Ox Bottom Rd from Meridian to Thomasville Rd - \$4,305,000
- Maclay Rd from Meridian to Thomasville Rd (partially within the City limits) \$1,213,000
- Beech Ridge Tr/Lawton Chiles Lane \$113,000

Keep in mind that although we have these projects identified, all capital project funds have been eliminated from the County budget due to economic and budget restraints. TIGER is a competitive grant process open to all states and local governments for capital investments and without this grant the likelihood of these projects being done in the next five years will be very slim. We're prepared to compete for these funds - through our lobbying efforts and using any connections available to us. I'll keep you posted!

**Recreation - Joint Use Agreement Between Leon County and the School Board - Agenda Item 37** - we'll be working with the School Board staff in developing agreements for the use of School Board property for recreation activities. I've asked that Deerlake, Montford and Roberts be given priority in their discussions.

I had the pleasure of touring the Killlearn Lakes neighborhood with some of their Board members to discuss issues of concern to them. Whether you have neighborhood issues or not, I'd like to meet with members of your board to do the same with all of you in your neighborhoods. Unless you have a pressing issue, I've ask Brenda, my aide, to schedule these for the fall and hope you'll call her (606-5374) to get your tour set up - looking forward to being better educated on the issues of my district and to meeting with all of you. Also, if you have neighborhood association meetings scheduled, I'd welcome the opportunity to attend to brief you on County issues and to hear the concerns of your neighborhood residents.

As always, thank you for your continuing support. I'm honored to serve as your District IV Commissioner. I welcome your suggestions on how we can improve. I hope you'll call on me if you have further questions or concerns – [deslogeb@leoncountyfl.gov](mailto:deslogeb@leoncountyfl.gov) or 606-5364.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bryan Desloge', written in a cursive style.

*Bryan Desloge*

Chair

Leon County Commissioner, District IV