



## Bryan's Brief November, 2011

The holiday season is upon us and I, for one, couldn't be more thankful for friends, family and this incredible community we live in. Whether it's running trails, kayaking on our beautiful waterways or just driving to work, a day doesn't pass that I don't appreciate where we are all so fortunate to live and the people who make it special. I want to thank you for being a part of what makes Leon County great and update you on some issues in our area.\

**Capital Cascades Trail Project** – The Cascades Trail Project is one of the more exciting projects I've had the pleasure to work on in many years. The ultimate intent of this project is to provide a multi-faceted, multi-use storm water and recreation facility that will extend the entire length of the project (4.25 miles). Segments I and II should be completed in late 2012. To enhance the Project further we are considering the use of Tourist Development Funds to build an amphitheater which should encourage and enhance performing arts in our area. As the Chair of Blueprint 2000 this year, I'm especially proud of the projects you approved with the sales tax referendum. I encourage you to read more about this Blueprint 2000 project at [http://www.blueprint2000.org/Project CCT/index.html](http://www.blueprint2000.org/Project_CCT/index.html)

**Sales Tax Extension** – The existing one-cent infrastructure sales tax that is funding the Cascades Trail Project discussed above and many of the Capital Circle improvements was approved by referendum in 2004 and will expire on December 31, 2019. To learn more about this issue please go to <http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/coadmin/agenda/Workshops/WS120110412.pdf> The list of completed projects and those under way are included to give you an idea of the work we've been able to accomplish with the use of the sales tax funds. To prepare for the expiration of the levied tax, the County Commission has established the Leon County Sales Tax Committee, including citizen appointments. The purpose of this Committee is to collect public input and make recommendations regarding public policy for infrastructure sales tax issues within Leon County. As I keep you informed of their meetings, I hope that you'll participate by providing input to them. That important input will ultimately be shared with the County Commission. It's my hope that any improvements to Bannerman Road will be funded through this process. Your help will be invaluable.

**Crime/Safety Issues** – Some of you, through personal experience, are aware of the impact the failing economy has had on crime and safety issues. The Sheriff's Department reports that there has been an increase in theft of items that can be easily and quickly grabbed, such as televisions and lawn mowers. If you haven't already, please make sure you have pictures and serial numbers on items of this type. Without this information, there is little hope of recovery, but with it and with the cooperation our law enforcement agencies now have with pawn shops in the South Georgia, North Florida and Central Florida areas, there is a greater chance they will be able to recover your property.

**Orchard Pond Toll Road** – this is a public/private partnership project proposed by the property owner Jeff Phipps, that will significantly improve the east/west connectivity between US-319 and US-27 north of Lake Jackson and south of County Road 12, a distance of over ten miles (Attachment #5). While Mr. Phipps has applied for and received State funds to assist with the project, we are continuing to study it. As proposed, it will enhance mobility in the northern reaches of the county, provide direct relief to I-10 between Capital Circle Northwest and US-319 north of I-10 and provide a much needed economic benefit to this area. To read more about this project, go to

[http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/coadmin/agenda/view.asp?item\\_no='10'&meeting\\_date=11/8/2011](http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/coadmin/agenda/view.asp?item_no='10'&meeting_date=11/8/2011)

**Northeast Park** – We are still in negotiations with Celebration Baptist Church on their 100-acre parcel located just two miles north of Chiles High School. I'll keep you posted on the progress.

I'm running once again for reelection as your District IV County Commissioner. I'm honored by the support and assistance many of you have provided me over my past two terms in office and look forward to being able to serve you once again. As of yet, I have no opposition and that is especially humbling. I hope that's an indicator that I'm doing the job you elected me to do, and doing it well! As always, thank you for your continued support. I appreciate all of your calls, e-mails and letters advising me of service

or operational issues in District IV. It's because of you and your continued contact with me that I am able to identify opportunities for improvement and make District IV the wonderful place it is to live. Please call me if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions. 606-5364 or [deslogeb@leoncountyfl.gov](mailto:deslogeb@leoncountyfl.gov).

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