



Bryan's Brief January, 2012

I think you'll agree we've had one of the mildest winters on record. The dogwoods and azaleas are blooming and I'm still raking leaves – In an attempt to keep you informed on County issues, I have some updates for you.

Northeast Park – As you may remember, Celebration Baptist Church has 100 acres of land, located at the intersection of Proctor Rd and Thomasville Rd that can be used as a Northeast Recreation Park. The Board directed staff to conduct two appraisals and they both came back at \$1 million. Celebration has provided two options regarding the purchase, with prices ranging from \$750,000, if closing occurs by March 21, 2012 or \$786,000, if paid over a three year period, inclusive of closing costs. If we are able to purchase the property, there are no funds for development of the Community Park. With the only District IV County recreation facility located in Miccosukee, this is a much needed amenity. Studies and analyses is being done at this time and the results will be brought back to the Commission sometime in April. I'll keep you posted as this progresses.

Capital Cascades Trail Project – The Cascades Trail Project is on schedule with Segments I and II expected to be completed in late 2012. You can read more about it at http://www.blueprint2000.org/Project_CCT/index.html. The ultimate intent of this project is to provide a multi-faceted, multi-use stormwater and recreation facility that will extend the entire length of the project (4.25 miles). Plans for a 4500 seat amphitheater are being considered.

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 prepare for the expiration of the levied tax, the County Commission has established the *Leon County Sales Tax Committee*, made up of citizen appointments. The 18-member Committee is charged with collecting public input and making recommendations on issues related to the proposed extension of the one-cent infrastructure sales tax. This group is holding public meetings to take input and will help us sort through almost \$1 billion of infrastructure components, one of which Bannerman Rd.

Orchard Pond Toll Road – this is a public/private partnership project proposed by the property owner Jeff Phipps, that has the potential to 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, providing 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. I understand surveys are being taken by contracted individuals to obtain citizen input into the development of this project. For more information on this project, go to

http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/coadmin/agenda/view.asp?item_no='10'&meeting_date=11/8/2011

County Commission Chair Appointments – Each year the new Chair of the County Commission appoints County Commissioners to the various boards under his appointment authority. I'm honored to have been asked to serve on the Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Advisory Council, the Downtown Improvement Authority and the Tourist Development Council. In addition, I'm also serving as member of the Capital Region Transportation Planning Authority, the Community Redevelopment Authority, Miccosukee Canopy Road Greenways Citizen's Advisory Committee and serve as the Commission's liaison to the Educational Facilities Authority. I'm honored to serve as the First Vice President of the Florida Association of Counties and was recently appointed to the National Association of Counties Board. This provides the opportunity to actively work on issues that affect our counties on a state and national level. I hope you'll consider offering your services to serve on one or more of our County advisory committees. We welcome all the help we can get in addressing the very important issues that these committees study and especially their recommendations provided to the Commission. For more information on the committee appointment process and the committees available, go to <http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/committees>.

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. As many of you already know, I filed to run for the District IV seat again and would appreciate your support. My face book account is "Bryan Desloge for Leon County Commission". I would be honored if you would "like me". Please call me if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions - 606-5364 or deslogeb@leoncountyfl.gov.

Bryan Desloge