

Bryan's Brief

December 2016

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Feliz Navidad, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all. Hope everyone enjoyed a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. We have much to be thankful for here in our community. The cold weather has finally arrived! Fireplaces and heaters are operating. We're raking leaves, getting ready for the Christmas holidays, settling in for the football bowl games and the coming New Year! I know we all are breathing a sigh of relief that the elections are over.

On a local level, we can expect exceptional leadership with John Dailey serving as Chair of the County Commission and Nick Maddox was elected vice chair. Much thanks to Commissioner Proctor for his leadership over the past year. You can always count on him to liven up a meeting. With new Commissioner Jimbo Jackson, who was elected to represent District 2, I'm looking forward to the new dynamics that come with new leadership and with a new commissioner. I ask you to join me in extending a warm welcome to Commissioner Jackson while we also extend a fond farewell to Jane Sauls while offering our grateful appreciation for her dedicated service to the District 2 and all Leon County residents. We wish her well as she moves into the next chapter of her life - retirement. May she enjoy the mountains of North Carolina and the pleasure of coming home. Without a doubt her calm and judicious guidance will be missed around the courthouse.

As with the County, we've experienced changes at the State and Federal levels. We've come through a very contentious presidential election that seemed to go on forever, but difficult elections aren't new to American democracy. In fact, the Founding Fathers built our democracy on a fierce exchange of ideas. We have all heard, and most of us probably agree, that it is time for everyone to take a deep breath, regroup, and focus on what unites instead of what divides us. It's also probably naïve to think that this will just happen. It's going to take a great deal of work by everyone. What I took away from this election is that our constituents want change. They want change that will lead to a better quality of life for everyone, not just on nationally, but on a State and local level too. We've all got to work together to affect this change. At the end of the day, we are one America that can certainly disagree fiercely but civilly. In fact, I think our Founding Fathers would expect no less.

Veterans Annual "Operation Thank You" Breakfast & Parade – we had a great turnout for the annual Veterans Breakfast held at Lake Ella and the Veterans Day Parade. I just wanted to take a moment to thank all of you who came out to support our veterans and to all our veterans out there - thank you for your service that provides us with the many freedoms we enjoy – your service to our country is greatly appreciated as are you! It's never too late to thank a “veteran” and let them know of your gratitude.

Leon County Commission Strategic Planning Retreat – The Retreat will be held December 12 at Goodwood Plantation beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you haven't already, go to <http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/coadmin/agenda/Retreat/BoardRetreat2015.pdf> and take a look at

the strategic plan that came out of the 2015 Retreat. Please don't hesitate to send any comments or recommendations for the current Retreat to all Commissioners.

'Tis the Season to Adopt-A-Tree - Give back to nature just in time for the new year by adopting a tree through Leon County Government's 2017 Adopt-A-Tree Program. Residents living outside the city limits can adopt an Eastern Red-Cedar tree that will be planted between January and March 2017. To be approved, the resident must agree to water the tree three times a week for one year. An Eastern Red-Cedar is a large maturing evergreen tree, keeping its foliage year-round. For more information or to fill out an application visit www.LeonCountyFL.gov/AdoptATree or stop by the Public Works building at 2280 Miccosukee Rd. Applications will be accepted through January 31, 2017.

District IV Projects

Thomasville/Proctor Rd Recreation Park Property – \$250,000 has been approved for passive trail improvements on this property. Our Parks staff is planning for a Community meeting in the near future to obtain citizen input on the park and particularly the installation of trails.

Velda Dairy Rd Improvements – In the Sales Tax 2020 Extension we have a Master Bike-Route System Project and in that project, Velda Dairy Rd was identified as a part of the bike route program. The plan includes the installation of sign and shared pavement marking, speed reduction from 45 mph to 35 mph, and prior to implementation, Variable Message Boards will be deployed to inform the traveling public of the upcoming changes. The work has been completed.

The Bannerman Road Widening – The widening of Bannerman Road to just west of Quail Commons is now complete and includes bicycle/pedestrian trail on the north side of Bannerman Road to Quail Commons.

FDOT Project – A landscape project is currently in design for the median on Thomasville Rd from Killarney Way to Childs High School. It's scheduled for bidding in the Spring of 2017 and construction is anticipated to be complete by Nov. 2017.

Timberlane Rd Sidewalk –The sidewalk from Deerlande to Meridian is now complete. We now have a sidewalk for the full segment of Timberlane Rd from Thomasville Rd to Meridian Road.

Killearn Acres – There have been no changes on this one as FEMA has not responded to our recommended corrections.

Killearn Homes Rezoning Project - The comp plan amendment proposed for the golf course area will come before the City and County Commissions next year for the next comp plan review. I've included the schedule below for your consideration. You're welcome to participate in the open houses to share your concerns or recommendations. Although the public is invited to these meetings, public comment is not taken at the workshops. Without doubt this is going to be a highly controversial project because we're also receiving requests to disapprove the project, approve it and some to alter the proposed plan. I assure you I will take your comments, and those received from others, into consideration in my deliberations when the amendment is sent to the County Commission

Date	Meeting	Purpose	Time	Location
November 17 (Thursday)	Planning Department Staff	First Public Open House	5:30PM	Renaissance Center 2nd Floor 435 North Macomb Street
January 19 (Thursday)	Local Planning Agency	Local Planning Agency Workshop	9:00 AM	Renaissance Center 2nd Floor 435 North Macomb Street
January 19 (Thursday)	Planning Department Staff	Second Public Open House	5:30 PM	Renaissance Center 2 nd Floor 435 North Macomb Street
February 7 (Tuesday)	Local Planning Agency	Local Planning Agency Public Hearing	6:00 PM	Renaissance Center 2 nd Floor 435 North Macomb Street
March 7 (Tuesday)	County and City Commissions	Joint City-County Commission Workshop	1:30 PM	County Commission Chambers 5 th Floor, Leon County Courthouse
April 4 (Tuesday)	County and City Commissions	Joint City-County Transmittal Public Hearing	6:00 PM	County Commission Chambers 5 th Floor, Leon County Courthouse
May 23 (Tuesday)	County and City Commissions	Joint City-County Adoption Public Hearing	6:00 PM	County Commission Chambers 5 th Floor, Leon County Courthouse

Killearn Lakes Sidewalk Installation – The consultant has completed about 60% of the design for the sidewalk to be installed on Chadwick from Bull Headley to Deer Lake and from Deer Lake to Journey’s End. They’ll also connect the sidewalk to the small stretch on Pheasant Run where there is no sidewalk. This is being done under the Safe Routes To School Initiative and is being funded by the local option Gas Tax and Blueprint 2000 allocations. A public meeting will be held before construction is initiated.

Killearn Lakes Unit 1 – The weather has been extremely cooperative and the project is moving forward after a series of delays due to wet weather, storms, and high groundwater. The contractor should be finishing the majority of the work on the first of three legs by the end of November, leaving only landscaping and possibly some curb work to be completed. The contractor has moved onto the second leg to begin clearing. The contractor and County Staff have learned several valuable lessons over the last year, which are intended to be implemented on the next two legs, in addition to the modified design recommendations we received from the Geotechnical Engineer. The contractor has provided a revised schedule to complete the remaining legs by June 30, 2017.

Kinhega Roadway Resurfacing – The paving of Kinhega Roadway began October 17 and is currently on schedule for completion of the paving prior to Thanksgiving with temporary striping. Final striping cannot be installed until the asphalt has cured so it will not be install for next few weeks after the paving is complete, depending on weather.

I’m honored to be serving you again as your District IV Commissioner and welcome any thoughts you may have on how we can improve service and programs to this community we love

so much. I can't promise I can do all that may be asked of me, but I'll do my homework and will do all that is within my power. Hope you survived the storm with little damage. For those who sustained damage, I'm hopeful we'll have Federal funds available to assist you as you restore your homes but it's a long and arduous process getting a declaration of emergency with the necessary funds set aside to support it!

You are receiving this because I have your name or neighborhood association on my mailing list. Many of your family, friends or neighbors may not receive my newsletter. I hope you'll take the time to share this information or let them know they can send an email to me and I'll add them to the mailing list.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve as your District IV Commissioner and I commit to you that I will continue to do the best job I can in representing you and our community. As always, I welcome your input and appreciate all of you who act as my eyes in the District. Many of the improvements we've already made, or are currently working on, came from citizen suggestions or observations. As you plan for your neighborhood/homeowner's association meetings, please let me know the dates and times so that I may join you. Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions or concerns, deslogeb@leoncountyfl.gov or 606-5364.