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Kristin Dozier

Leon County Commissioner
District 5

Dear Friends:

On June 22, fifty-five (55) people officially qualified to run for office in Leon County, more than any mid-term election and second only to the 2016 General Election. At the end of the qualifying period, I was fortunate to have not drawn an opponent so I was re-elected without opposition to another term as your County Commissioner for District 5.

The opportunity to serve my community and my hometown will always be one of the great honors of my life. Thank you for your trust, confidence and support. We have accomplished a lot and I'm confident that together we can do even more in the years to come.



*Photo Credit: Bob Howard from 2017
Word of South Festival*

If there is ever anything I can help you with, please feel free to call me (850) 606-5375 or just email me at dozierk@leoncountyfl.gov. You can also find me on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

P.S. You're receiving this newsletter because you inquired about government services in the past. If you do not want to receive future newsletters, please click the "unsubscribe" button at the bottom of this email.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristin Dozier".

Children's Services Council (CSC)

At our June 19th Public Hearing, the Commission voted 7-0 to place the Children's Services Council on the ballot in 2020 instead of 2018. The Board also discussed if and how we can further

study this issue. Based on our direction, County staff will present two options for our consideration at our next Commission meeting on July 10th.

Option #1 - Allow the County Commission to create a public Children's Services Planning Committee either staffed by County personnel or by an outside consultant.

Option #2 - Allow the Our Kids First Advocacy Committee to convene the Planning Committee on their own or with County funding.

I believe a local CSC could benefit our community, but I did have concerns about placing this issue on the 2018 ballot. To ensure we have an independent, transparent and community-driven discussion that looks at how a CSC could operate and address the questions raised in recent months, we need to have the same process that has worked for us in the past and establish a Leon County Planning Committee (**Option #1**).

I appreciate everyone who participated in the discussion about this very important issue. Your feedback is always helpful and I am proud to live in a community that knows how to engage in a civil and constructive conversation.

Leon County Commission Approves Preliminary County Budget for 2018-19

During our June 19th Commission meeting, the Board unanimously approved a preliminary balanced budget without raising the millage rate for the seventh year in a row. The \$262.5 million budget is an increase of 3.4% over last years budget and accounts for an increase in property values of 5.6% countywide.

Highlights from the preliminary budget include:

\$1.2 million for the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) program to fund social service agencies;

\$4.3 million increase in the Sheriff's budget for new positions (including 4 patrol officers, 4 correctional officers and 3 school resource officers) and replacement of some patrol vehicles;

\$5 million for capital improvement projects focused on existing infrastructure;

\$800,000 (24%) reduction in ambulance fees saving customers \$800,000 annually;

\$1 million reduction in the County's Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) payment;

\$125,000 in new funding for the installation of street lights in the unincorporated areas of the County;

\$552,200 from Transportation Fund reserves to purchase debris removal equipment in advance of hurricane season;

\$30,000 in new funding each year from 2019-2021 for construction of new dog parks in the unincorporated area.

In order to finalize the budget for 2018-19, the Commission will conduct two (2) public hearings to hear from residents on the proposed budget:

Tuesday, September 4 @ 6:00 pm

Monday, September 24 @ 6:00 pm

The public hearings will be held in the County Commission Chambers located on the 5th Floor of the County Courthouse (301 N. Monroe St.).

District 5 Highlights from July 10th Commission Agenda

Agenda Item #12 - Adoption of a Resolution designating a portion of U.S. 90/S.R 10 between Chaires Cross Road and S.R. 59 in Leon County and Jefferson County as Deputy Christopher Smith Memorial Highway in honor of a Leon County Sheriff's Deputy who was killed in the line of duty on November 22, 2014. Deputy Smith served with the Leon County Sheriff's Office for almost six years as a dispatcher, corrections officer, and Sheriff's Deputy. He served in law enforcement for almost 26 years during his career.

Agenda Item #15 - Approval of an agreement with Westminster Oaks for the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Dempsey Mayo Road at Emerald Chase Subdivision to allow their residents safe access to their main campus on the east side of the road.

Agenda Item #18 - Approval to bring back a new development agreement with the City of Tallahassee and the St. Joe Company that would replace the existing Southwood Development of Regional Impact (DRI).

Agenda Item #21 - Status Report of the recently completed J. R. Alford Greenway Trail Assessment and approval of funds to implement the proposed 3 miles of new single-track trails and signage for the entire greenway.

Join a Citizen Committee Today

Applications are being accepted for these current and upcoming Leon County Committee vacancies.

Applications for appointment can be completed online [here](#) or downloaded, completed, and either e-mailed or faxed to -- Fax: (850) 606-5301 or Email: SmachM@LeonCountyFL.gov

[Advisory Committee of Quality Growth](#)
[Affordable Housing Advisory Committee](#)
[Board of Adjustment and Appeals](#)
[CareerSource Capital Region Board](#)
[Water Resources Committee](#)

Events in the Community

July 4 - [Celebrate America, Tallahassee's Annual Independence Day Celebration](#) at Tom Brown Park - FREE

July 6-7 - [2018 Art + Technology Festival](#) at 621 Gallery in Railroad Square (1:00pm - midnight)

July 7 - City of Tallahassee Summer Movie Series presents [Jumanji](#) at Palmer Munroe Teen Center (7:00pm) - FREE

July 13-22 - Leon High Choral Department presents [Les Miserables](#) at Leon High School - ticket prices and show times vary

Upcoming Commission Meetings, Workshops and Other Boards

July 9, 2018

9:30 am: Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) (view the CRA agenda [here](#) when available) - City Hall, City Commission Chambers

July 10, 2018

3:00 pm: Leon County Commission (view the Commission agenda [here](#)) - County Courthouse, 5th Floor Commission Chambers

July 19, 2018

10:00 am: Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) (view the ARPC agenda [here](#) when available) - UF IFAS – North Florida Research & Education Center, 155 Research Road, Quincy, FL 32351

The Leon County Commission generally meets every other Tuesday at 3pm on the 5th Floor of the County Courthouse (Commission schedules and agendas are listed [here](#)). Residents can view live coverage of Commission meetings on Comcast channel 16 or stream it live through the [County's website](#). **All meetings are open to the public.**

Helpful Links and District 5 Amenities

[Leon County Commission, District 5 Map](#)

[Leon County Emergency Information Portal](#)

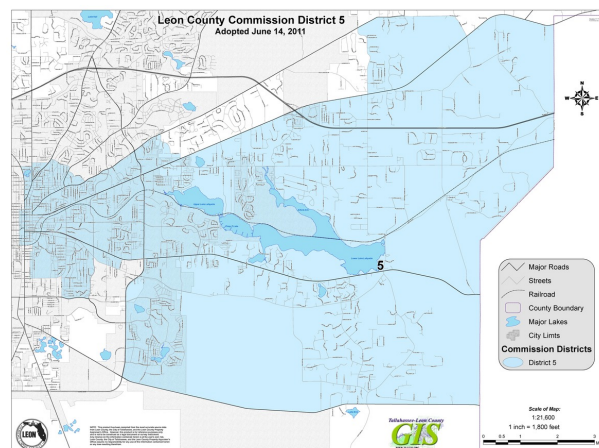
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[Tallahassee/Leon County Nature Trails \(Trailahassee\)](#)



District 5 Map - click to enlarge



To read the latest edition of the Leon County Newsletter, click [here](#).



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