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*Kristin Dozier*

Leon County Commissioner  
District 5

Dear Friends,

Thanks you all for the great feedback I continue to receive on the newsletter. I am so honored to serve on the Leon County Commission representing District 5.

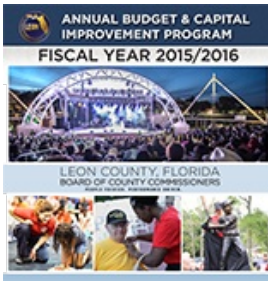
If there is ever anything I can help you with, please feel free to call me (850) 606-5375 or just email me at [dozierk@leoncountyfl.gov](mailto:dozierk@leoncountyfl.gov). You can also find me on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



*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.*

*Kristin Dozier*

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## The 2015-16 County Budget

Every year the County Commission must pass a budget to fund essential services. This year's budget strikes a balance by being fiscally conservative, and at the same time, supporting our community's highest priorities.

Next Tuesday, the County Commission will hold its final public hearing to allow citizens to weigh-in on the proposed budget for 2015-16. Below are highlights of the proposed budget:

### **Total Budget**

The tentative budget of \$238,553,913 represents a 4.4% increase from last fiscal year due to a positive increase in property values.

### **Property Taxes**

No increase in Leon County government-levied millage rates for the upcoming year.

### **Other Budget Highlights**

\*Eliminating of six (6) full-time positions and adding of three (3) full-time positions, for a net decrease of three (3) positions.

\*Increasing funding for social service agencies of an additional \$175,000 to the Community Human Service Partnership (CHSP) for a total of \$1 million.

\*Increasing salaries for Sheriff's employees over the next three (3) years to remain competitive in retaining deputies and correction officers.

\*Earmarking \$1.9 million for primary health care programs.

\*Allocating \$1.5 million for sidewalk projects.

To view the entire FY 15-16 tentative budget, [click here](#).

The second and final public hearing on the 2015-16 budget will be held on Sept. 29. at 6 p.m. The public hearing will be held in the Commission Chambers on the 5th Floor of the County Courthouse. Following this public hearing, the Commission will adopt the final budget and millage rates.

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## Smokey Hollow Community Commemoration

The long awaited Smokey Hollow Commemoration will officially open this Friday.

Smokey Hollow, the neighborhood that once stood where Cascades Park is now, was a vibrant African-American community that flourished from the 1890's until the 1960s.



To pay homage to the residents and to our history, the County and City have created a living exhibit featuring historic panels and a group of "spirit houses" or replicas of the shotgun style houses that were once characteristic of Smokey Hollow.

The grand opening ceremony will take place on Friday, September 25 at 9:30am on-site at the corner of E. Pensacola Street and Franklin Boulevard. There will also be a Community Celebration and Fish-Fry at 5:30pm. These are free events and open to the public!



## Kate Sullivan School Garden

Last week I was honored to join more than 50 students and teachers to celebrate the county's award of a mini-grant to the [Kate Sullivan Elementary School Garden](#).

Leon County awarded Kate Sullivan a \$1,000 mini-grant to help with the construction of the garden. The garden will help to enrich student learning, teach valuable life skills and promote sustainability.

In 2012, the County Commission adopted a Community Garden Policy and to date, 19 stakeholder gardens and 4 community gardens have been recipients of these mini-grants.

To learn more about this initiative, [click here](#).

## Sheriff's Office Administration Building Dedicated to Larry Campbell

On September 15th, the Leon County Sheriff's Office Administration Building was renamed in honor of Leon County's late Sheriff Larry Campbell. The County Commission took quick action after Sheriff Campbell's death and unanimously supported renaming the building to honor his distinguished career.



Sheriff Campbell leaves behind a legacy spanning more than half a century of public service. He served the country as a United States Marine and after more than thirty-five years of service in the Sheriff's Office and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, he was elected Leon County Sheriff in 1996. He served for five consecutive terms before passing on December 24, 2014.

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## Events in the Community

September 25 - [Fantastique Night](#) with the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra at Ruby Diamond Concert Hall (8:00pm)

September 25 - [Tallahassee Nights Live: Featuring Howard Hewett & Mama Blue](#) at Capital City Amphitheater at Cascades Park (8:30pm - 10:30pm) - tickets starting at \$20.

September 27 - [America's Second Harvest of The Big Bend/Feed The Seniors Fundraiser](#) at Bradfordville Blues Club (3:00pm)

September 30 - [THINK BIGGER: Growing a Career or Business with Technology](#), sponsored by DOMI and the Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce (5:30pm - 8:30pm) - FREE

October 1 - [Visit Tallahassee's](#) Tourism Development Marketing Roll-out at Theater Tallahassee (6:30pm)

October 3 - [Fall Morning Trail Ride](#) at Bird Song Nature Center (9:00am - 11:30am) - Call by noon on Oct. 2 to reserve a spot.

October 3 - [Frenchtown Heritage Fest](#) at corner of Georgia Street and Macomb Street (10:00am - 4:00pm)

October 8 - October 25 - [Calendar Girls](#) at Theater Tallahassee (check website for ticket price and times)

October 18 - [Making Strides Against Breast Cancer: Making Strides of Leon](#) at Cascades Park (3:00pm)

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## Upcoming Commission Meetings & Workshops

September 29, 2015

3:00pm: County Commission Meeting (view the Commission agenda [\[here\]](#))

6:00pm Public Hearing on the adoption of Millage Rates and Budgets for Fiscal Year 2016.

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.

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## Helpful Links and District 5 Amenities

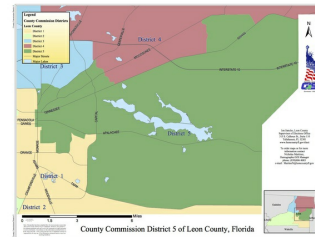
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*District 5 Map*



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