



LEON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Rick Minor

DISTRICT 3 NEWSLETTER



January 2024 News & Updates

Upcoming Meetings

Board of County Commissioners Annual Retreat

-- Monday, January 22nd
-- 9:00 am
-- FAMU Grand Ballroom
-- The retreat agenda can be viewed [HERE](#)
-- Leon County will be broadcasting the meeting on Comcast channel 16, the Leon County Florida Channel on Roku, the County's [Facebook page](#), [YouTube channel](#), [Twitter](#) and the County's [website](#).

Board of County Commissioners Meeting and Public Hearing

-- Tuesday, January 23
-- 3pm - Regular Meeting
-- 6pm - Public Hearings
-- 5th Floor, County Courthouse
-- The meeting agenda can be viewed [HERE](#)
Leon County will be broadcasting the meeting on Comcast channel 16, the Leon County Florida Channel on Roku, the County's [Facebook page](#), [YouTube channel](#), [Twitter](#) and the County's [website](#).

Click [HERE](#) for the complete Commission calendar.

Hello Rick,

Happy 2024! I hope you and your family are staying warm and are settling into a post-holiday routine. The winter break was nice but believe it or not, my two girls are grateful to be back in school. :-)

I'm proud to say that we're seeing real progress on a key District 3 project. If you drive on North Monroe, north of John Knox, you've noticed the work being done on the medians. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is adding new curbing and landscaping to this highly visible corridor, and it already looks better. And there's more to come... sidewalks on the west side of North Monroe are scheduled for later this year. A big thanks to FDOT and Blueprint for their work on Tallahassee's #1 Gateway!

Next month, I'll send you details on an additional North Monroe project proposal that, if approved, would add more sidewalks, safer street crossings, and other important improvements to the corridor. Stay tuned!

Next Monday the Leon County Commission will be having its annual retreat, where we will review our 5-year strategic plan, evaluate our progress to date, and make any adjustments. The following day, the Commission will have its regularly scheduled meeting to discuss proposed changes to the Community Human Services Partnership categories, CSC appointments, and other items. For more info on these two meetings, please click on the links to the left.

Thank you once again for the incredible honor of representing you at the Leon County Commission. My Chief of Staff, Jodi Wilkof, and I take this responsibility seriously, so please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any suggestions, comments, or questions about community issues.

All the best,

Rick Minor

Commissioner, Leon County District 3
MinorR@leoncountyfl.gov

P.S. If you have friends and family who might be interested in receiving this newsletter each month, please ask them to

Volunteers Needed: 2024 Point In Time Count *A Snapshot of Homelessness in Leon County*



Click the video above to watch Rick at the beginning of his volunteer shift with the PIT count last year.

Every year, during the last full week of January, Leon County and other communities across the country come together for a critical and compassionate undertaking known as the Point in Time (PIT) Count.

What is the Point in Time Count?

The PIT Count is an unduplicated count of people experiencing homelessness during a single night. It is a requirement for communities receiving federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help plan services and programs appropriately, tailor to the needs of the homeless population, and measure progress towards ending homelessness.

When Does It Take Place?

In Leon County and throughout the entire country, the PIT Count is conducted during the last full week of January. This time frame is chosen to minimize the number of people who might otherwise be unsheltered in warmer months and to gain a more accurate count of those in need of services during the colder season.

The Importance of the PIT Count

A Compass for Policy and Change: The data collected during the PIT Count is vital. It informs policymakers and community leaders about the scale and nature of homelessness, guiding funding allocations and the development of strategies to prevent and end homelessness.

The 2024 PIT Count: Join Us in the Effort!

As we approach the 2024 PIT Count, we invite you to join Rick and other volunteers to be a part of the effort in Leon County. Whether you are a service provider, a local official, a concerned citizen, or a person with lived experience of homelessness, your involvement is crucial.

Ready to Volunteer?

Volunteers must attend the training session from 2pm-4pm this Sunday (1/21). If you are interested, please [complete the application here](#).

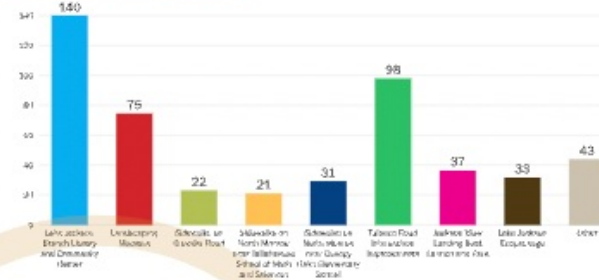
Summary of North Monroe Survey Responses

The Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department recently conducted a survey asking for priorities on improving North Monroe, north of I-10. We received 520 responses, which shows an incredible amount of interest in Tallahassee's #1 Gateway. Thanks to all of you who participated in the survey! If the summary below is difficult to read, please click [HERE](#) to visit the Planning Department's webpage.

Survey Results: 520 responses from July 5 through October 14, 2023

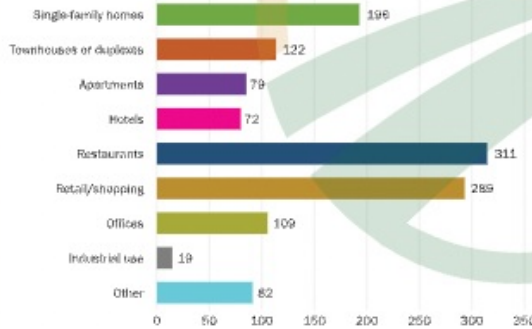
PART 1: LOOKING BACK

Question 1
What previous improvement has had the biggest impact on enhancing the North Monroe Corridor north of Interstate-10?

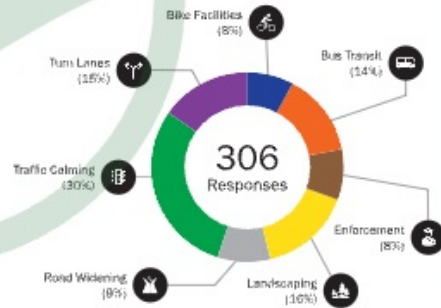


PART 2: LOOKING FORWARD

Question 2
Land Use: As private development or redevelopment occurs on North Monroe, what type of land use(s) would you like to see more of north of Interstate-10?



Question 3
Vehicular Transportation: Are there any transportation enhancements you would recommend to improve conditions for people driving on North Monroe Street north of Interstate-10?



Question 4

Pedestrian Transportation: Are there any transportation enhancements you would recommend to improve conditions for people walking or using mobility devices on North Monroe Street north of Interstate-10?

345 Responses



Question 5

Bicycle Transportation: Are there any transportation enhancements you would recommend to improve conditions for people riding bicycles on North Monroe Street north of Interstate-10?

310 Responses

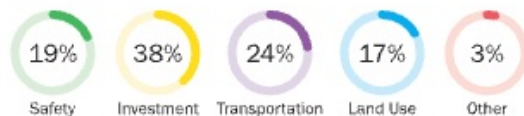
- Responses**
- "Not safe on the roadway"
 - "Clearly marked bicycle lanes"
 - "Always more bike lanes"
 - "Bike Lanes with protected area for cyclists"
 - "Need more bicycle infrastructure, it's nearly non-existent"
 - "Multi-modal trails"

PART 3: ONE BIG IDEA

Question 6

If you could do any one thing on North Monroe Street north of Interstate-10 to improve the area, what would it be?

449 Responses



The Planning Department is currently developing a report that incorporates the survey responses, input from the in-person events, and feedback from stakeholder interviews along with other data analysis such as land use analyses and transportation facility gap analyses. This report will also identify an implementation strategy and action items. This report is scheduled to be on the February 20, 2024 County Commission meeting agenda. We'll continue to keep you informed and appreciate your input in helping us improve North Monroe!

Big Bend Crime Stoppers is now Big Bend Crime Solvers



Big Bend Crime Stoppers has changed its name - it is now Big Bend Crime Solvers.

Founded in 1984, the purpose has remained the same: to gather tips about crime and criminal activities. For 40 years, this group has done that effectively through their secure and 24/7 anonymous crime tip hotline, website and P3 mobile app. They pay \$500-\$5,000 in cash rewards for tips that prevent a crime from happening or result in an arrest.

They have changed their name to more accurately reflect their role in the fight against crime. To strengthen their relationship with the public, it is necessary to make a clear distinction between Big Bend Crime Solvers and law enforcement. Law enforcement's role is to stop crime. Crime Solvers, as a nonprofit organization, is to help solve crime.

Big Bend Crime Solvers provides everyone a safe tool to report crime. They are your personal, anonymous crime fighting tool ready whenever you need it. Join Big Bend Crime Solvers and let's report crime in our community, because safety starts with us.

To learn more - or to submit a tip - [click here](#).

Upcoming Engagement Opportunities



What is Vision 2055 A Focused Future?

A Focused Future will identify the community's vision for the future. The vision will assist in preparing the goals, objectives, and policies and the requisite data and analysis for the update of the Land Use and Mobility elements of the comprehensive plan.

The overall planning process will last approximately 2 years and include extensive community engagement opportunities. This will include community meetings, online engagement opportunities, and the ambassador program.

S.T.E.P. Growth Framework Meeting Series

The Planning Department will be hosting a series of in-person meetings to talk about future growth opportunities in Tallahassee and Leon County. There will be a total of four meetings, each with the same presentation and available opportunities to provide your input. The S.T.E.P. Growth Framework will help shape how, and where, the community should grow through mapping exercises and discussion.

Join one of the four meetings:

- January 29 from 12:30 PM - 2 PM at Smith Williams Services Center, 2295 Pasco St.
- January 29 from 5:30 PM – 7 PM at LeRoy Collins Main Public Library, 200 W. Park Ave
- January 30 from 12:30 PM - 2 PM at Jack McLean Community Center, 700 Paul Russell Rd.
- January 30 from 5:30 PM – 7 PM at Frenchtown Renaissance Center, 435 N. Macomb St.

[Learn more here.](#)

Adopt-A-Tree



LEON COUNTY
**ADOPT-A-TREE
PROGRAM**

TREE SPECIES

- Easter Redbud
- Winged Elm
- Southern Magnolia

TALLAHASSEE - LEON COUNTY
1824 2024
**200
BICENTENNIAL**

**Help Us Plant 200 Trees
for 200 Years of Leon County**

APPLY BY JANUARY 31, 2024
Learn more at LeonCountyFL.gov/AdoptATree

Leon County is proud to offer the 2024 Adopt-A-Tree Program. Applications are now being accepted through January 31, 2024, on a first-come, first-served basis. If you live inside Leon County but outside of Tallahassee city limits, you may qualify to have a tree planted on your property for free. With a goal of planting 200 trees in honor of the Tallahassee-Leon County bicentennial in 2024, Leon County is encouraging residents to be a part of this green endeavor.

Residents will have the option to have a tree delivered to their residence for planting at their convenience. This project provides an enjoyable and educational experience for the entire family, and comprehensive instructions for tree planting and care will be provided upon tree delivery. For those who prefer assistance with tree planting, County staff is available to assist upon request; just choose the "delivery and plant" option.

If you agree to water the tree three times a week for one year, Leon County will plant the tree anywhere between your house and any publicly maintained road or any privately maintained road with public access.

[Click here to sign up.](#)

Residents residing within the Tallahassee city limits are encouraged to explore the City of Tallahassee's Adopt-A-Tree program by visiting Talgov.com/AdoptATree.

Family Health Literacy Fair



LEROY COLLINS
LEON COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Saturday, January 20, 2024
1-3 p.m.**

Leon County Main Library
200 West Park Avenue

★ ★ ★
FREE BLOOD PRESSURE
AND BMI SCREENINGS
WILL BE AVAILABLE.

Join Leon County Government and community partners for the Family Health Literacy Fair on Saturday, January 20 from 1-3 at the Leon County Main Library. The event will feature more than 15 local health and safety organizations sharing information about resources and services offered to the community that are focused on physical and mental health and well-being. During the event, individuals and families can receive free blood pressure and body mass index (BMI) screenings. Attendees can also receive a free health literacy bag while supplies last.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade

Rick and his family had a great time participating in the MLK Day Parade again this year. Big thanks to the organizers, parade-goers, participants and everyone else who contributed in making the event such a huge success.



Rick on the Greg Tish Show

Rick recently appeared on the Greg Tish Show to provide updates from the County and to discuss Veterans' Affairs.

You can listen to the radio segment [here](#) (January 8 episode).



Have a question about code compliance?

Our Development Support and Environmental Management (DSEM) team handles all types of business permits, code enforcement and environmental regulations.

For more information about our code compliance services, visit [here](#) or request a Leon County staff speaker for your event, visit [here](#).



Say "I Do" with the Leon County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller!

Registration for the Clerk's Second Annual Valentine's Day group wedding is now open. The single group ceremony will be officiated by Clerk Gwen Marshall Knight and will be held on Wednesday, February 14, at 2:00 p.m. at the Goodwood Museum and Gardens.



To participate in the Valentine's Day Wedding, couples must obtain a marriage license and register online by February 2 [here](#).

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