



LEON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.



Vincent S. Long

County Administrator
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The County Administrator is responsible for both ensuring the Board's legislative and policy directions are carried out and, as Chief Executive Officer, for ensuring the efficient and effective day-to-day operations of County government. Vince Long has worked for Leon County since 1995. He holds a Master of Public Administration from the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy at Florida State University and is a graduate of the Harvard University, JFK School of Government Institute for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. He is also a Credentialed Manager by the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA) and currently serves as immediate past President of the Florida Association of County Managers.

A member of the Board of Directors for Leadership Florida and the Board of Directors of the United Way of the Big Bend, Vince is a member of the Advisory Council and regular lecturer of the Askew School and serves on the faculty of the Florida Association of Counties' County Commissioner Certification Program.

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Ben Franklin once said, "When you're finished changing, you're finished." The famously innovative and civic-minded Founding Father would find much to be proud of in Leon County government in 2016, including our commitment to adapting to meet the changes and challenges facing our community. That's what the best organizations do. They anticipate change, challenge themselves and continue to advance their strategy. 2016 was a year of big changes and bold initiatives for Leon County and capped off the last in the five year 2012-2016 Strategic Plan.

Each year the County Administrator provides an Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners which also serves as an important update to our community on our commitments to serve on behalf and alongside our citizens. This year continued to reflect the strong leadership of the Board of County Commissioners in balancing our community's needs with compassion and our taxpayers' dollars with discipline. It was another year of Leon County employees reaching new heights in innovation, performance and results on behalf of the citizens we serve.



Here are just a few of the highlights from the Annual Report which demonstrate the dependability of the Board of County Commissioners and the dedication of the men and women of Leon County government in doing what we said we would do in 2016.

We said we would continue to be an effective leader and a reliable partner in growing and diversifying our local ECONOMY.

AND WE DID...

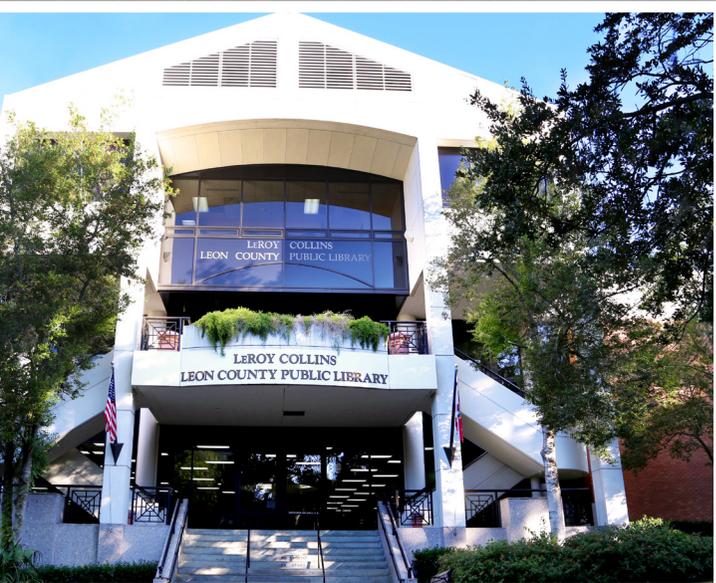
As we led our tourism economy to another record setting year in 2016 with \$863 million in economic impact from 2.35 million visitors, and continued to create a place which is seen not only a government or university town, but a premiere destination for entertainment, culture and sports tourism. And by starting Leon Works, an initiative that will help our community fill the skilled jobs gap of 10,000 jobs by 2022. In 2016, we created the new Office of Economic Vitality to serve as the hub of our economic development ecosystem bringing together and leveraging the efforts of all of our many economic development partners.

We said we would continue to be responsible stewards of our precious resources and natural ENVIRONMENT.

AND WE DID...

By working with the Keep It Rural coalition to preserve the character of our rural areas in the re-write of the rural land use policies. That same level of focus on what's important has positioned the County to launch the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program to help residents and business owners pay for energy improvements and save money while creating jobs and working on our environmental goals together. We also continued to support 27 community gardens throughout Leon County, with the most recent garden opening at The Kearney Center.





25th Anniversary Celebration of the Leon County Main Library



Fred George Park and Greenway Grand Opening

We said we would continue to protect and enhance our unique QUALITY OF LIFE so that people are safe, healthy and connected to their community.

AND WE DID...

As we expanded and improved our beautiful parks countywide, including the grand opening of Fred George Park, and when we celebrated 25 years at the County's downtown Main Library, which has seen 25 million patrons since opening its doors in 1991. And we did not do it alone. We created public-private partnerships to realize the Orchard Pond toll road and to enhance Bannerman Road for the benefit of our community.

In the area of GOVERNANCE, we said we would continue to be a model local government which our citizens believe in and others benchmark against.

AND WE DID...

As Leon County was recognized in 2016 with 14 national awards for best practices for the efficient, equitable and innovative provision of services to our community. And as we continued to reach out beyond our core practices of transparency, accessibility and customer service to engage citizens as co-creators of our community: training 600 community members in CPR at the annual Press the Chest event, conducting 30 listening sessions with over 300 citizens to continue to



Emergency Operations Center during Hurricane Hermine

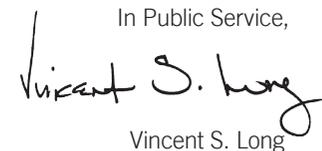
improve service delivery and convening the community on important issues as we did for Created Equal: A Community Conversation about Race which attracted over 250 participants.

And our organizational culture saw us through the disaster of Hurricane Hermine, where County, City and nonprofit partners worked around the clock to help our community recover. Throughout the eight day activation, the Leon County Emergency Operations Center served as the hub of emergency management response and performed flawlessly through its toughest trial.

In all the ways that Leon County touches the lives of the people we serve each day, whether it's helping 3,500 veterans, responding to the scene of 38,396 accidents, or serving one million patrons at our county libraries as we did in 2016, we at Leon County not only do what we say we are going to do, but we do it putting each person first and striving to set the standard in public service.

While we will continue to face the same challenges of communities and local governments everywhere else, Leon County is committed to ensuring that our community continues to be a place like nowhere else, as demonstrated through the pages of the 2016 Annual Report.

In Public Service,



Vincent S. Long