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Kristin Dozier

Leon County Commissioner District 5

Dear Friends:

Although the County Commission takes a brief recess from meetings during the summer, I stayed very active in the community as your County Commissioner.

As the Commission appointed representative to the [Apalachee Regional Planning Council](#), I've been busy working with other council members and staff on issues ranging from regional economic development to transportation. Later this week I was also attend a meeting of the [Florida Regional Planning Council](#) which serves to enhance regional collaboration throughout the state.



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

This summer I was also very active with the [Florida Association of Counties](#) (FAC). I will continue my role as a member of the [Florida Counties Foundation](#) (FCF), and will assume additional responsibilities as the FCF Vice Chair. This summer I also completed the [Advanced County Commissioner](#) program through FAC; a program focused on leadership development and exploring issues from around the state. There is great value in being exposed to best practices and learning how other Counties have approached common issues.

I look forward to our next County Commission meeting on September 4th, and as always, 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.

Historic Marker Coming to Leon County

This week Leon County government unveiled a historical marker at the Leon County Fairgrounds to increase public awareness of the significance of the fairgrounds during the Civil Rights Movement. Through the work of the Meek-Eaton Southeastern Regional Black Archives at Florida A&M University, the Florida Historical Marker Council approved the Leon County Fairgrounds as an eligible site.

The Leon County Fairgrounds was the site of one of Florida's and the nation's largest student-led, jail-in demonstrations during the Civil Rights Movement. From September 14-16, 1963, more than 350 student demonstrators were arrested for trespassing, disturbing the peace, and mass picketing against two segregated movie theaters in Tallahassee. Due to the large volume of arrests, local law enforcement officials used portions of the Fairgrounds as a makeshift expansion jail. This period of non-violent protests in Tallahassee was one of the Civil Rights Movement's largest student-led, jail-in demonstrations and contributed to the passage of landmark legislation that helped to end legalized racial discrimination in our country.

Public Hearings Scheduled on 2018-19 County Budget

The Leon County Commission will hold two (2) Public Hearings to hear from residents on the proposed 2018-19 County Budget. The Commission tentatively approved the proposed 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 year's budget and accounts for an increase in property values of 5.6% countywide.

The Public Hearings will be held on **Tuesday, September 4 @ 6:00 pm** and **Monday, September 24 @ 6:00 pm** in County Commission Chambers located on the 5th Floor of the County Courthouse (301 N. Monroe St.).

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.

Magnolia Drive Multi-Use Trail Project Update

In March 2018, the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency (IA) Board (all County and City Commissioners) accepted input from citizens and provided new directions to staff to provide a vegetative buffer between the Magnolia Dr. and the new multi-use trail currently under construction. The IA also approved the conversion of electric utilities along Magnolia Drive to underground. Based on this new direction, the schedule for the project has been adjusted (see below).

Current status for each segment:

Segment 1 - South Meridian Road to Pontiac Drive (completed January 2017 with redesign underway to add the buffer between the road and trail);

Segment 2A - Pontiac Drive to east of Alban Avenue (including Traffic Signal installation at Jim Lee Road and Magnolia Drive, design to be completed in Fall 2018);

Segment 2B - East of Alban Avenue to Diamond Street (design to be completed in Fall 2018);

Segment 3 - Diamond Street to Apalachee Parkway trail on west side; sidewalk on east side from Diamond to Chowkeebin (design to be completed in Fall 2018);

Segment 4 - Multi-use Trail from South Meridian Road to South Monroe Street (design to be completed in Fall 2018, right of way acquisition currently underway);

Segment 5 - (combined with Phase 3) Continuation of Multi-use Trail from Chowkeebin Nene to Apalachee Parkway;

Segment 6 - Streetscape from South Monroe to South Adams - sidewalks on both sides (completed Fall 2017);

Once design is complete for all segments, Leon County Public Works will hold public meetings to share updates and provide information for upcoming construction.

Early Voting in Leon County

Early voting for the August 28th Primary Election will begin this Saturday, August 18th weekend and continue through Sunday, August 26th. Eight (8) Early Voting sites have been designated throughout the County for convenience:

Leon County Courthouse (301 S. Monroe St.) - 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM

IVS Election Center (2990-1 Apalachee Parkway) - 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

Dr. BL Perry Jr Branch Library (2817 S. Adams St) - 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

Eastside Branch Library (1583 Pedrick Rd) - 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

Jane G. Sauls Fort Braden Branch Library (16327 Blountstown Hwy) - 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

Lake Jackson Community Center (3840 N. Monroe St, Suite 301) - 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

Northeast Branch Library (5513 Thomasville Rd.) - 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

Woodville Community Center (8000 Old Woodville Rd.) - 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

Find more information about voting [here](#).

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 on Quality Growth](#)

[Affordable Housing Advisory Committee](#)

[CareerSource Capital Region Board](#)

[Code Enforcement Board](#)

[Council on Culture & Arts](#)

[Joint School Coordinating Committee](#)

[Leon County Educational Facilities Authority](#)

[Leon County Research and Development Authority](#)

[Science Advisory Committee](#)

[Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls](#)

Events in the Community

August 16th - [TNMC 11th Annual Jazz Showcase Concert](#) presented by Thursday Night Music Club at Ruby Diamond Concert Hall - 7:30pm-10:00pm (ticket prices vary)

August 18th - [Frenchtown ArtWalk](#) presented by ASH Gallery (400 Georgia Street) - 10:00am-4:00pm (FREE)

August 24th - [Movie Night at the Museum](#) presented by and at the Florida Historic Capitol Museum - 6:30pm-10:00pm (FREE)

August 25th - [Free Day at Mission San Luis](#) (2100 W. Tennessee St.) - 10:00am-4:00pm (FREE)

Upcoming Commission Meetings, Workshops and Other Boards

September 4, 2018

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

6:00 pm: Leon County Commission Public Hearing - First Public Hearing on the Tentative Millage Rate and Budgets for FY 18/19

September 13, 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

September 18, 2018

1:30 pm: Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) (view the CRTPA agenda [here](#) when available) - Tallahassee City Commission Chambers in City Hall

September 20, 2018

3:00 pm: Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board Workshop on the Office of Economic Vitality and the Economic Development Strategic Plan (view the agenda [here](#) when available) - Tallahassee City Commission Chambers in City Hall

5:00pm: Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board Meeting (view the agenda [here](#) when available) - Tallahassee City Commission Chambers in City Hall

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](#)

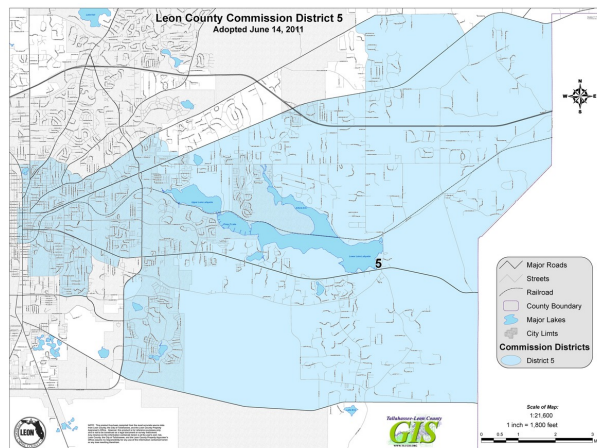
[Leon County Online Services](#)

[Report a Problem/Request Service](#)

[Leon County Libraries](#)

[Leon County Parks & Greenways](#)

[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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