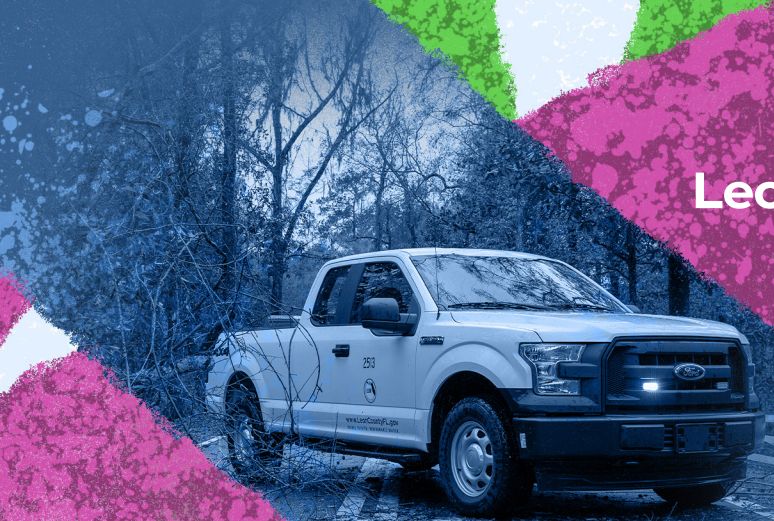


# ANNUAL REPORT

2024



PEOPLE FOCUSED.  
PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.



Leon County



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Apalachee Regional Park

## Leon County Statistics

Population: **301,724**

**33% unincorporated**

**67% within city limits**

Area (Square Miles): **702**

Established: **1824**

Charter Date: **2002**

County Seat: **Tallahassee**

Median Household Income: **\$91,700**

Districting: **5 Single Districts / 2 At-Large**

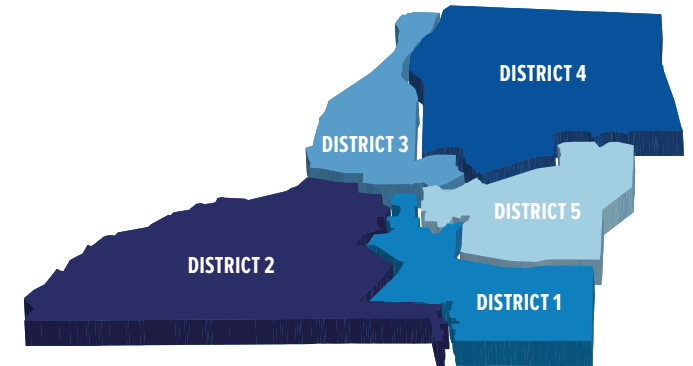
Median Age: **31**

Source: The United States Census Bureau

## ABOUT LEON COUNTY

Leon County was named after the Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon. He was the first European to explore Florida in 1513 in search of the “Fountain of Youth” and named the state after the Spanish word for “flowery.”

Leon County is home to Florida’s capital, Tallahassee, which was established in 1824. Legislative and executive offices, the State House and Senate chambers are located here. As a political subdivision of the state, the County is guided by an elected, seven-member Board of County Commissioners.



Five members of the Board are elected to serve specific commission districts and two members are elected at-large. Leon County is a Council-Manager form of government, and the County Administrator is appointed by the Board to oversee all functions, directives and policies. Florida Statutes, Chapter 125, establishes the powers and duties of the County Commission and the County Administrator. As of November 12, 2002, Leon County is governed by a Home Rule Charter.

*This document fulfills the annual reporting requirements of Chapter 125.74, Florida Statutes and Sec. 2-501(1), Leon County Administrative Code. 1,500 copies were printed for community distribution at a cost of \$9,766.90.*

*This publication is printed on sustainably sourced paper that contains 10% post-consumer waste content and vegetable-based inks and is 100% recyclable.*



# LEON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



## Vision

A community that is safe, healthy and vibrant.

## Mission

To efficiently provide public services which serve and strengthen our community.



At-Large  
Commissioner  
Nick Maddox

District 3  
Commissioner  
Rick Minor

District 5  
Commissioner  
David O'Keefe

At-Large  
Commissioner  
Carolyn D. Cummings  
(Chair)

District 4  
Commissioner  
Brian Welch  
(Vice Chairman)

District 2  
Commissioner  
Christian Caban

District 1  
Commissioner  
Bill Proctor



# MESSAGE FROM THE LEON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.



**VINCENT S. LONG**

**County Administrator**  
(850) 606-5300 | LongV@LeonCountyFL.gov

Vince Long has worked for Leon County since 1995 and was appointed County Administrator by the Board of County Commissioners in 2011. As the County government's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), he provides fiscal, strategic and operational leadership to the organization, as well as professional analysis and implementation of the Board's policies. He holds a Master of Public Administration (MPA) 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. Vince is a Credentialed Manager by the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA), and in 2022, earned the ICMA Award for Career Excellence, the highest honor for a local government CEO internationally. He serves on the Board of Directors and is a past President of the Florida Association of County Managers, serves on the Board of Directors for the Florida Association of Counties Institute for County Government, and serves on the Florida Trust Board of Trustees. A graduate of Leadership Tallahassee and Leadership Florida, Vince is a leader in many community and professional organizations. He also serves on the Advisory Council and is a regular lecturer at the Askew School, and has been featured in national media and publications for his expertise in local government issues.

## 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW: SERVING OUR CITIZENS, SHAPING OUR FUTURE

In 2024, Leon County continued to make great progress and serve our citizens while embracing big challenges and always striving to set the standard for performance, fiscal stewardship, and best practices for local governments everywhere.

The 2024 Annual Report highlights Leon County's commitment to investing in infrastructure, creating places for people and businesses to thrive, and embracing innovation and co-creation — all of which makes our County one of the best places anywhere to live, work, and play.

And we did this and so much more in 2024, staying focused on our ambitious targets and bold goals for the organization and the community, including growing our local tourism economy, addressing pressing issues like affordable housing, protecting our precious environment, and so much more.



Magnolia Trail enhancements

### **LIVING OUR CULTURE, SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY**

This annual report to the Board of County Commissioners and our citizens demonstrates our focus on the County's clear vision to have a community that is safe, healthy, and vibrant. And a mission to provide essential public services which serve, shape, and strengthen our community. Our dedicated employees at Leon County take special pride in our community. We are your neighbors, friends, and family who rebuild roads, respond to emergencies, protect our natural resources — and just might coach your child's team. This connection to the community we serve drives us to go above and beyond in delivering necessary services each day, critical response when disaster strikes, and lifesaving care in times of emergency.

While addressing the critical needs of our community, we stayed committed to our long-term strategy of building and diversifying our economy, resulting in Leon County being named the nation's strongest economy in 2024 by *Area Development* magazine. This top ranking reflects successful initiatives and transformative projects, including the opening of Amazon, which brought more than 1,300 full-time jobs, \$33 million in annual wages, and \$114 million in annual economic impact to our community.

As one of the South's best destinations, 2024 was another record-breaking year for our local tourism economy. From concerts to festivals to sporting events and more, local tourism generated more than \$1.3 billion in economic impact and more than 2.5 million visitors. In 2024, our community celebrated its Bicentennial year with events and programs focused on 200 years of history and progress. Throughout the year, the County led Bicentennial planning efforts, resulting in more than 200 themed events.



With that same dedication to ensuring our community's brightest future, Leon County continued enhancing our quality of life and protecting our vital water bodies by leveraging more than \$50 million in County and state funding to remove more than 700 septic tanks on the southside and improving greenspaces for all to enjoy with new and engaging trails, playgrounds, facilities, and more across County parks.

We also continued to shape our community for future generations by investing \$5.4 million in County and federal funding to renovate the Old Concord School to provide essential services to rural communities



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES & PUBLIC POLICY

## Vincent S. Long Named 2024 Distinguished Alumni

Florida State University's College of Social Sciences and Public Policy has recognized Leon County Administrator Vincent S. Long as the recipient of the prestigious 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honor given to alumni. Vince earned this honor for his exceptional professional achievements, significant contributions to society, and unwavering support of both the college and university. With nearly 30 years of service to Leon County, he has managed historic crises, implemented generational projects, and has consistently set the standard in public service.



*Severe weather response*

and reimagining the downtown library to enhance services to meet the community's current and emerging needs.

From our commitment to fiscal stewardship to our nationally recognized programs, the men and women of Leon County Government have a lot to be proud of in 2024 as they continued to drive performance and deliver results to our citizens.

### **ENGAGING CITIZENS AS CO-CREATORS**

This year, we continued to engage the community by building connections with each other through innovative initiatives and programs. With this commitment, we held our annual 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service, honoring the victims, survivors, and others who rose in service in response to the tragic events of September 11, 2001. During this year's event, more than 80 County employees and community volunteers came together to revitalize the home of a U.S. Army veteran.



*20th Anniversary of Leon County EMS*

We also held important conversations about race by engaging hundreds of citizens through our award-winning Created Equal program. Featuring a panel of academic experts, historians, and community members, the program offered a candid conversation about our 200-year history of race and equality in honor of the Leon County Bicentennial.

### **SETTING THE STANDARD IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

Our commitment to service is at the heart of everything we do in Leon County, and it drives us to be the best in our fields.

In 2024, Leon County EMS celebrated 20 years of providing exceptional, lifesaving care and treatment to the residents and visitors of Leon County. Over 20 years, our EMS team has become one of the best services in the nation, responding to nearly 800,000 calls for service, transporting a half a million patients, and most importantly, delivering a cardiac survival rate double that of the national average.

This same commitment to excellence, when it matters most, was tested again this year as the County led disaster response and recovery efforts following both historic flooding and a devastating tornado outbreak. County teams worked tirelessly to protect citizens after the Bicentennial Storm, a once-in-200-year event that brought three months' worth of rain in less than three hours. Just one month later, three tornadoes caused more damage in a half hour than any other disaster in our history. As with past emergencies, the County was at the forefront, spearheading recovery efforts, launching a \$1 million disaster assistance program for individuals and businesses, and providing critical relief to the community.

From responding to challenges to planning for the future, in 2024, our dedicated County employees received dozens of state and national awards for exceptional public service. These efforts not only continue to make our community better, but they have been key to keeping Leon County among the most efficient and affordable counties anywhere.

### **BUILDING ON OUR PROGRESS**

As we look ahead, we will continue to face the same challenges of communities and governments everywhere else, but at Leon County, we remain committed to listening to the people we serve, addressing the challenges we face together, and striving to be a place like nowhere else.

And we cannot do this alone. Thank you for your continued confidence in the work we do on behalf of and alongside our citizens to make our community even better.

Here's to 2025!



# L.E.A.D.S.

A STRUCTURE TO SUPPORT OUR PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN. CULTURE

## HOW LEON COUNTY LEADS

Continued throughout Leon County Government in FY24-25, Leon LEADS is a strategic approach to aligning the Board’s guiding vision and strategic priorities with the optimized resources of the organization. LEADS provides a structure to support and sustain our *People Focused. Performance Driven.* culture through a continuous process that looks inward to strengthen what works and abandon what does not while looking outward to receive feedback from citizens and leverage partnerships that adjust as conditions change.

County employees are more committed than ever to delivering the quality of service our citizens deserve for their tax dollars, working with our community to tackle the tough problems of today, and ensuring our quality of life into the future. Below are just a few highlights of how the County’s LEADS framework supports an organizational culture that simply but powerfully combines performance and relevance.

### **BRIDGING THE FOOD GAP THROUGH INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES**

In FY24, the County continued offering innovative programs and services to help address food insecurity in the community. In April, the County held its ongoing family-friendly TasteBud Explorers event featuring healthy cooking demonstrations and opportunities for residents to learn about the feeding programs and resources available in the community. Dozens of caregivers and children participated in the event, which was held in partnership with the City of Tallahassee, United Way of the Big Bend, the Children’s Services Council of Leon County, UF/IFAS Leon County Extension, and Second Harvest of the Big Bend.

Collaborative community partnerships and innovative initiatives offered through the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System helped ensure children did not go hungry while school was out. Launched in October 2023, the Kids Cafe program in partnership with Second Harvest offers after school snacks to kids and teens at the downtown Main Library during the school year. During the summer months, Leon County participated in the Summer BreakSpot program to provide healthy summer meals and snacks to kids and teens at Library locations in partnership with Second Harvest and the Florida Department of Agriculture. Both programs support the well-being of local students all year long so they can better focus on learning. The Library continues



- L**istens for Changing Needs
- E**ngages Citizens and Employees
- A**ligns Key Strategic Processes
- D**elivers Results & Relevance
- S**trives for Continuous Improvement

to offer programs to help residents sign up for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and learn about nutrition and financial planning.

### **GROWING THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING INVENTORY FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW**

Through strong and successful partnerships with local agencies and state programs including the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program, Leon County Government continues to grow its inventory of safe and sanitary affordable housing through offerings such as the Homeownership Development (HOD) Program and the Home Rehabilitation/Emergency Home Repair Program.

These programs support first-time homebuyers and current homeowners by developing safe and affordable new homes and rehabilitating owner-occupied homes in need of immediate repair. In FY24, the County financed the construction of nine new homes through the HOD Program and invested \$400,000 to preserve 11 affordable homes through the Home Rehabilitation/Emergency Home Repair Program.

Expanding the inventory of safe and sanitary housing options empowers individuals and families to achieve stability, build wealth, and contribute

## OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

Leon County Government leverages partnerships, embraces efficiency and innovation, and demands performance to the benefit of our taxpayers. We actively engage our citizens, not only as taxpayers but as stakeholders and co-creators of our community, providing meaningful opportunities to capitalize on their talents in making important decisions and shaping our community for future generations.

fully to our community's vitality. These initiatives, coupled with strong partnerships, demonstrate a steadfast commitment to creating a more equitable and prosperous Leon County for all residents.

### **BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

As demonstrated this year with the Bicentennial Storm on April 11 and the May 10 Tornado Outbreak, emergencies can happen not only during the Atlantic hurricane season but throughout the year. Leon County encourages residents to be prepared all year long by developing an emergency plan and filling a five-gallon bucket with essential supplies. Creating a household plan can help protect property, but most importantly, save lives.

As part of its ongoing commitment to keep the community safe and resilient, Leon County continues to encourage citizens to be prepared for any emergency through LeonReady.com, a hub of resources to help citizens, families, and neighborhoods prepare for disasters. The County also continues to offer its Citizen Engagement Series: Disaster Resilience Edition and Neighborhood Readiness Trainings to equip unincorporated communities with the tools necessary to prepare, act, and recover when a disaster strikes.



# INNOVATOR AND INSPIRATOR AWARDS CONTINUE COST SAVINGS AND NEW EFFICIENCIES, SAVING MORE THAN \$9.3M TO DATE

Leon County is an organization that rewards its employees for innovative ideas, teamwork, strategic processes, efficiency, and the ability to achieve positive results. The I<sup>2</sup> (Innovator/Inspirator) Awards convey the value Leon County Government places on employee-led improvements that result in increased efficiencies, enhance or support the delivery of County services, reinforce Leon County's relevance in the community, and exemplify the County's Core Practices in the workplace. Examples of such improvements include the following:

- ▶ Faced with the pressing need for a complete overhaul of the J. Lee Vause Park boardwalk due to safety concerns after years of use and repair, Parks staff demonstrated a commitment to proactive problem-solving. Rather than relying on an external design and engineering firm, which quoted \$800,000, staff took the bold step of handling the removal and disposal of the unsafe boardwalk themselves. Parks staff engaged the expertise of a dock contractor for both the design and replacement phases of the boardwalk, delivering remarkable savings to taxpayers of \$700,000 while setting a new standard in park management.



J. Lee Vause Park boardwalk

- ▶ In mid-2023, Leon County Tourism, Engineering Services, and Facilities Management wrapped construction on the game-changing Visitor Information Center at the Historic Amtrak Station. Strategically positioned between universities, hotels, businesses, and so much more, the Historic Amtrak Station serves as the County's tourism hub. Further, County teams renovated and reinvigorated the train station while also preserving its historic character. Although the May 10 Tornado Outbreak damaged the structure, plans are in place to quickly repair the facility.



Visitor Information Center at the Historic Amtrak Station

- ▶ Staff from the Environmental Services Division took the initiative to examine Leon County's Community Rating System, with the goal of presenting a report to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that would promote Leon County to a Class 5, rivaling the classification of much larger municipalities. At a time when home insurance premiums are rising, staff set their goal on this class upgrade, which translates to annual savings of approximately \$117,500 for County residents when rising home insurance premiums are a pressing concern.
- ▶ In 2023, the Street Lighting Program, which enhances the nighttime visibility for both drivers and pedestrians in the unincorporated areas of the County, was expanded to include school bus stops. After meeting with a consultant, Public Works Engineering staff decided to use their expertise to complete lighting design for 18 intersections and 15 school bus stops, resulting in a reduced project delivery time and a cost savings of \$120,000.

The I<sup>2</sup> Awards recognize employees and inspire others to reinforce the County's Core Practices in the workplace. Since its inception in FY15, the

I<sup>2</sup> Awards program has saved the County a total of \$9.3 million, including nearly \$2 million in recurring costs and more than \$7.4 million in one-time costs.





# LIVING OUR CORE PRACTICES

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Our Core Practices

**Delivering the “Wow” factor in Customer Service.** Employees deliver exemplary service with pride, passion and determination; anticipating and solving problems in “real time” and exceeding customer expectations. Customers know that they are the reason we are here.

**Connecting with Citizens.** Employees go beyond customer service to community relevance, engaging citizens as stakeholders in the community’s success. Citizens know that they are part of the bigger cause.

**Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service.** Employees adhere to the highest standards of ethical behavior, avoid circumstances that create even an appearance of impropriety and carry out the public’s business in a manner which upholds the public trust. Citizens know that we are on their side.

**Accepting Accountability.** Employees are individually and collectively accountable for their performance, adapt to changing conditions and relentlessly pursue excellence beyond the current standard, while maintaining our core values.

**Exhibiting Respect.** Employees exercise respect for citizens, community partners and each other.

**Employing Team Approach.** Employees work together to produce bigger and better ideas, to seize the opportunities and to address the problems which face our community.

**Exercising Responsible Stewardship of the Community’s Resources.** Employees engage in the continuous effort to create and sustain a place which attracts talent, fosters economic opportunity and offers an unmatched quality of life, demonstrating performance, value and results for our citizenry.

**Living our “People Focused, Performance Driven” Culture.** Employees have a structure in place to live all of this as our organizational culture and are empowered to help the people they serve.

 <p>City-County Communications &amp; Marketing Association</p> <p>Award of Excellence for 20 Years of Exceptional Emergency Medical Services video (CMR)</p>	 <p>2024 SURVEY WINNER</p> <p>Placed first in Florida and fourth nationwide in the 250K-500K population category (OIT)</p>	 <p>Distinguished Budget Presentation Award with special recognition for the Strategic Goals and Strategies category and the Budget Process category. (OMB)</p>	 <p>Two Florida Chapter Public Works Project of the Year awards (Public Works and Blueprint)</p>
 <p>American Heart Association® <i>Learn and Live</i></p> <p>Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold Plus (EMS)</p>	 <p>111 total NACo awards since 2013</p>		 <p>2024 Regional Deal of the Year for the Amazon Robotics Fulfillment Center Project (OEV)</p>
 <p>2023 Silver Excellence in Economic Development Award for the OEV newsletter (OEV)</p>	<p>Eight Achievement Awards for Crosswalks to Classrooms – Dempsey Mayo Road Initiative (Designated “Best in Category”); Historic Amtrak Building Renovation and Site Reconstruction; Leon County-Tallahassee Bicentennial Celebration; Septic Upgrade Incentive Program; Combatting Food Insecurity; EMT to Paramedic Trainee Program; North Monroe Revitalization Efforts; and Risk and Safety Management Enhancements</p>		 <p>Insurance Leader Award for improved insurance processes that met specific needs of public entities (Risk Management)</p>
 <p>State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program Award (Housing)</p>	 <p>Six Awards of Distinction for the 2023 Annual Report, “Leading the Way” Leon County History Kiosk, 2023 Leon Works Expo, Leon County Courier Summer 2023 Edition, Library Lecture Series: Rhythms of Panama, and 20 Years of Exceptional Emergency Medical Services (CMR)</p>	 <p>Community Service Impact Award (EMS)</p>	
 <p>Advancing Heart Care Worldwide</p> <p>Emergency Medical Services Partner in Care (EMS)</p>	 <p>2024 Best of Florida Award for Best IT Collaboration (OIT)</p>	 <p>Historic Preservation Award, Preservation Education Award, and two Organization Achievement Awards (Blueprint and OIT)</p>	 <p>2023-2024 Outstanding Development and Design Excellence Award (Blueprint)</p>



# DELIVERING THE **WOW!** FACTOR IN CUSTOMER SERVICE



## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

“ The two paramedics who arrived to assist my husband during a medical emergency were professional and supportive as they assessed his medical needs. I am so grateful for the time you took to explain your observations of his situation and the compassionate care you both gave him. Thanks for all you do!

—County resident

## PUBLIC WORKS

“ Just wanted to let you know how pleased our Killlearn Lakes Plantation neighborhood is with County engineer Kim Wood and her staff. It’s so gratifying to see a County Government department that is efficient and works as a team to solve problems.

—Cana

## ANIMAL CONTROL

“ Officer Catron responded immediately to a loose dog issue. She was compassionate and professional with the dog at large, who was very scared. Although it took a long time, and eventually required back up, they secured the dog, saving it from the busy road nearby. Thanks so much for the assistance.

—Rose

## HUMAN SERVICES

“ I can’t begin to thank you enough for all you have done through the Indigent Burial Program, and the kindness extended to me during the loss of my beloved. He is my once-in-a-lifetime love, and I have no doubt that he is smiling upon you for what you have done for me.

—County resident

## VETERAN SERVICES

“ We just wanted to thank your officer so very much for your care and attention to Captain Pieno’s wife, Dione. You made things so much easier for her during this time of grief. You never cease to amaze us with all that you do.

—Dennis

## LIBRARY SERVICES

“ I think it’s important to notice when an organization gets it right. My local library celebrates Autism Acceptance Month, and they use the infinity symbol instead of the puzzle piece. This rainbow dragon version won the design contest this year, and I adore it.

—Heather

## OFFICE OF ECONOMIC VITALITY

“ Since the very beginning of our project, the Office of Economic Vitality has been an indispensable partner in bringing the Amazon Fulfillment Center to life in Leon County, and now, we are proud to be providing good, well-paying jobs to the community.

—Sam Blatt, Economic Development Manager at Amazon

## DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

“ I was so impressed and relieved to have spoken to such an informative and understanding employee such as Eunice. I called about an ongoing nuisance complaint regarding a landlord who neglects their properties on our street. She laid out all the scenarios and gave me excellent advice on how to proceed.

—County resident

## PARKS AND RECREATION

“ Chris and his crew were out there before and after the storm to make sure Apalachee Regional Park was ready for the “Rally in Tally” event. Their commitment has become legendary. There were multiple positive comments about the high quality of the infrastructure and the fact that dumpsters are provided.

—Bree

## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

“ Shawnya was so kind, patient, helpful, and knowledgeable during our phone conversation. When she answered, I told her I needed to switch my fire assessment fee to my name. She then patiently explained to me how to do it.

—Michelle

## SOLID WASTE

“ Our rural waste station is kept immaculate, which is no easy task, to say the least. First-time users can be completely clueless as to where to put which types of refuse. Rosemary is always on top of the facility and she’s always nice. She is more than a competent manager of our site on Miccosukee Road.

—Ruth

## INTERVENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES

“ Thank you for your assistance handling my case. I appreciate your time and am very grateful for the effort and hope to never meet you again under similar circumstances.

—County resident

## We Believe In

Demonstrating to our citizens that we are on their side, letting them know that they are the reason we exist and what they are getting for their tax dollars;

Producing bigger and better ideas to address the real issues facing our community;

Actively promoting transparency, accessibility, and openness in everything we do;

Engaging citizens in important decisions facing the community;

Tirelessly enhancing our community’s livability, sustainability and economic competitiveness; and providing employees a structure which reinforces this as our organizational culture and employs and empowers them to help people.

## What We Value

- Service
- Relevance
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Stewardship
- Performance
- Transparency
- Vision



# STRATEGIC PLAN - FY2022 - FY2026

## UNDERSTANDING OUR STRATEGY

### VISION

A community that is safe, healthy and vibrant.

### MISSION

To efficiently provide public services which serve and strengthen our community.

### Strategic Priorities

Leon County's Strategic Priorities are high-level categories of focus in the County's major areas of responsibilities: Economy, Environment, Quality of Life, and Governance. The priorities consider the County's future in each area and are critical to the success of the community. As part of the strategic plan, these priorities inform every decision and every initiative made by Leon County.

### STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Leon County's strategic initiatives are program- or area-specific projects that align with the County's strategic priorities to serve and strengthen the community. In the FY2022-2026 Strategic Plan, the 43 strategic initiatives ensure that the optimized resources of the County are aligned to address the community's most pressing issues and to achieve the County's top priorities.

### BOLD GOALS AND TARGETS

Bold goals are truly stretch goals that will be big and difficult to achieve, but are worthy of Leon County's best efforts. Bold goals require the County to explore new partnerships, identify new opportunities, and inspire new ideas.

Leon County's five-year targets are aligned with each strategic priority and will communicate to the public and staff throughout the County the specific results the County expects to achieve through the collective execution of the strategic initiatives. Achieving these five-year targets will demonstrate results, accountability, and the strength of long-term planning.

## ► PRIORITY: ECONOMY

To be an effective leader and a reliable partner in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place which attracts and retains talent, to grow and diversify our local economy, and to realize our full economic vitality. (EC)



Do well-designed public infrastructure which supports business, attracts private investment, and has long-term economic benefits. (EC1)



Support programs, policies and initiatives to attract, create, and promote expansion of business, entrepreneurship, job creation, workforce development, economic equity and mobility. (EC2)



Leverage university and community partnerships to increase entrepreneurial, technology transfer and commercialization opportunities. (EC3)



Grow our tourism economy, its diversity, competitiveness, and economic impact. (EC4)

## BOLD GOAL

**Grow the five-year tourism economy to \$5 billion.** (BG1)

**48%**

**\$2.4 billion**





## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (EC1) Continue to implement catalytic public infrastructure projects through Blueprint and the County’s five-year CIP that provide connectivity and leverage public and private investments. (2022-1)
- » (EC2) Implement the Economic Development Strategic Plan as adopted and revised by the Intergovernmental Agency. (2022-2)
- » (EC2) Implement the recommendations from the joint County/City disparity study to be completed in FY 2022. (2022-3)
- » (EC3) Continue to support the Magnetic Technologies Task Force in growing the cluster of research and businesses in the magnetic technologies industry. (2022-4)
- » (EC4) Implement the Division of Tourism’s Strategic Plan. (2022-5)
- » (EC4) Continue to build upon the reputation of Apalachee Regional Park as a destination venue for cross country athletes by securing state, regional and national competitions. (2022-6)
- » (EC4) To further promote Leon County as a biking community, pursue the State’s “Trail Town” designation and continue to coordinate with the City, Blueprint, State, and U.S. Forest Service to leverage capital improvements in pursuit of the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) designation. (2022-7)
- » (EC1) Maximize the leveraging of the \$1.0 trillion federal infrastructure bill to fund County projects. (2022-8)

## 5-YEAR TARGETS

### PROGRESS TO DATE

▶ Attract 100 State, Regional or National Championships Across All Sports	<b>32%</b> (32 Championships)
▶ Grow the Job Market by 10,000 New Jobs and Co-Create 500 Entrepreneur Ventures	<b>58%</b> (288 new entrepreneurial ventures co-created)
▶ Connect 7,000 Students to Skilled Job Opportunities through Leon Works and Other Talent Development Initiatives	<b>67%</b> (Connected 4,700 students)
▶ Increase the Number of Certified MWSBEs by 30%	<b>48%</b> (Certified 82 new MWSBEs)

### CONTINUED ON PAGE 12





# STRATEGIC PLAN - FY2022 - FY2026



Interscholastic cycling at J. R. Alford Greenway



Leon Works Expo



Word of South Festival

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

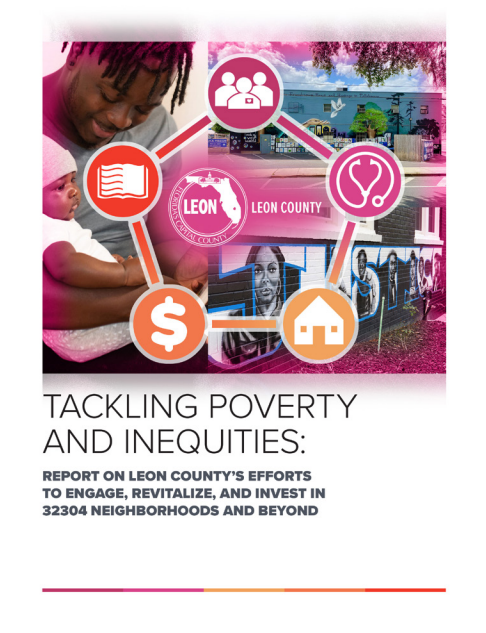
- » (EC2, EC3) Collaborate with regional workforce and talent partners to connect companies and education institutions with training programs to inform, support, and recruit entry-level technology talent. (2022-9)
- » (EC1, EC4) Support the completion of the Fairgrounds Master Plan by Blueprint and, upon completion, effectuate the next steps for the redevelopment of the North Florida Fairgrounds. (2022-10)
- » (EC4) To celebrate Leon County/Tallahassee bicentennial in 2024, the County will implement the Leon County Bicentennial organizational management plan and facilitate the Bicentennial Steering Committee to lead the community planning efforts with

government agencies, businesses, organizations, and citizens. (2023-44)

- » (EC1, EC4) Open and activate the newly renovated Amtrak facility as the visitor center and destination hub for Leon County. (2023-45)
- » (EC2) Partner with the City of Tallahassee, Capital City Chamber of Commerce, and local stakeholders to spur economic growth and financial security in the neighborhoods that have historically experienced poverty and racial inequity through initiatives including Bank On Tallahassee. (2023-46)
- » (EC1) Engage local, regional, state, and federal partners to encourage the restoration of passenger rail service along the

Gulf Coast by leveraging federal dollars under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2023-47)

- » (EC1) Through the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency, evaluate opportunities to advance the construction of the Tharpe Street project. (2023-48)
- » (EC2, EC3) Collaborate with regional partners in the building and technical trades to increase entry-level apprenticeship opportunities. Target specifically training on-the-job upon hiring positions. (2023-49)
- » (EC2) Continue efforts to promote opportunities for youth training and development with the County. (2023-50)



*Tackling Poverty and Inequities: Report on Leon County's Efforts to Engage, Revitalize, and Invest in 32304 Neighborhoods and Beyond*

- » (EC4) As part of the Bicentennial year and beyond, expand outreach and promotion of the County's new Visitor Information Center at the Historic Amtrak Station. (2024-68)
- » (EC4) Implement the statewide planning, coordination, and fundraising efforts to successfully host the 2026 World Cross Country Championships at Apalachee Regional Park. (2024-69)



*Adderley Amphitheater at Cascades Park*



## ► PRIORITY: ENVIRONMENT

To be a responsible steward of our precious natural resources in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place which values our environment and natural beauty as a vital component of our community's health, economic strength and social offerings. (EN)



Protect the quality and supply of our water. (EN1)



Conserve and protect environmentally sensitive lands and our natural ecosystems. (EN2)



Promote orderly growth and sustainable practices. (EN3)



Reduce our carbon footprint. (EN4)

### BOLD GOAL

**Upgrade or Eliminate  
500 Septic Tanks in  
the Primary Springs  
Protection Zone** (BG2)

**59%**

293 septic upgrades and/or conversions completed or in progress to date





## 5-YEAR TARGETS

### PROGRESS TO DATE

- ▶ Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Stemming from County Operations by 25% **60%**  
(Reduced GHG emissions by 15%)
- ▶ Double Solar Power Generation at County Facilities **37%**  
(Increased generation by 50 kW)
- ▶ Divert 3 Million Pounds of Household Hazardous Waste from Landfill **49%**  
(Diverted 1.47 million pounds of waste)
- ▶ Increase the Number of Fully Electric Vehicles in the County's Fleet by 500% **225%**  
(13 electric vehicles)

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (EN1) Continue to work with the state to seek matching grants to convert septic to sewer systems and support septic system upgrades. (2022-11, rev. 2023)
- » (EN2) Evaluate requiring advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) for new construction. (2022-12)
- » (EN3) Complete a comprehensive review and revision to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan. (2022-13)
- » (EN3) Complete an evaluation of transportation fee alternatives to replace the existing concurrency management system of mobility fees. (2022-14)
- » (EN4) Enact the County's Integrated Sustainability Action Plan to further reduce the County Government's carbon footprint. (2022-15)
- » (EN1) Ensure County's water quality and stormwater regulations, programs and projects are evaluated and implemented holistically to advance the County's adopted strategic priority: to protect the quality and supply of our water. (2022-16)
- » (EN1) Initiate Basin Management Plan updates for the unincorporated area once the state adopts new stormwater standards. (2022-17)
- » (EN3) Partner with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) to address long-term regional resiliency through a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) grant. (2022-18)
- » (EN2) Evaluate enhancing existing roadside litter debris removal through the creation of a County staffed program and further engage neighborhoods, businesses and civic organizations in expanding the County's adopt-a-road program. (2022-19)
- » (EN1) Implement the comprehensive Action Plan for Lake Munson to support the long-term water quality of the lake and surrounding water bodies. (2023-51)
- » (EN4) Expand the Biochar Pilot Program at the Leon County Solid Waste Management Facility into a full-scale, sustainable, and carbon reducing processing facility for the community's yard waste. (2024-70)



## ► PRIORITY: QUALITY OF LIFE

To be a provider of essential services which promote the well-being of our citizens and the livability of our community in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place where people are healthy, safe and connected to their community. (Q)



Maintain and enhance our parks and recreational offerings and green spaces. (Q1)



Promote livability, health and sense of community by supporting strong neighborhoods, enhancing mobility, encouraging human scale development, and creating public spaces for people of all ages. (Q5)



Provide relevant and essential offerings through our libraries and community centers which promote literacy, life-long learning, and social equity. (Q2)



Assist local veterans and their dependents with securing entitled benefits and advocating their interests. (Q6)



Provide essential public safety infrastructure and services while supporting early intervention and prevention strategies. (Q3)



Support and promote access to basic healthcare, mental health, affordable housing, and homeless prevention services to our community members most in need. (Q4)

Build, sustain and improve resilience to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to and recover from man-made and natural disasters. (Q7)

### **BOLD GOAL**

**Support Community Partners to Place 225 Residents Experiencing Chronic Homelessness in Permanent Supportive Housing**

(BG3)

**68%**

153 placements





## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (Q1) Implement the Tallahassee-Leon County Greenways Master Plan. (2022-20)
- » (Q2) Implement the Leon County Essential Libraries Initiative. (2022-21)
- » (Q3) Continue to evaluate emergency medical response strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates. (2022-22)
- » (Q3) Identify and evaluate pretrial alternatives to incarceration for low level and non-violent offenders and support reentry through regional partnerships and state and national efforts. (2022-23)
- » (Q4) Continue County support of primary healthcare through participation in Carenet in order to increase access to affordable healthcare for those in need. (2022-24)
- » (Q4) In coordination with the Leon County Health Department, work to identify an operator for a local Syringe Exchange Program. (2022-25)
- » (Q5) Continue to work with the Florida Department of Transportation for safety improvements on State and County roadways to include accessibility enhancements, street lighting installations, sidewalk additions, safety audits, and intersection improvements. (2022-26)
- » (Q7) Continue coordination of local COVID-19 response and recovery including leveraging State and federal funds to support individual and business assistance as well as vaccination and testing efforts. (2022-27)
- » (Q3) Support the Sheriff in the implementation of the Council on Men and Boys to address the issues brought forth in the Sheriff's Anatomy of a Homicide Project report. (2022-28)
- » (Q3, Q4) Partner with the Children's Services Council of Leon County on opportunities to collaborate and coordinate on the funding, program delivery, program evaluation, and outcome

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 18**

## 5-YEAR TARGETS

- ▶ Secure More Than \$150 Million in Federal, State, and Local Benefits for Leon County Veterans and Their Families
- ▶ Support 900 Community Events, Sporting Competitions, Festivals, Performances and Cultural Programming That Will Attract Visitors and Residents
- ▶ Construct 90 Miles of Sidewalks, Greenways, Trails and Bike Lanes
- ▶ Host 100,000 Residents and Visitors through County-Supported Performances at the Amphitheater

### PROGRESS TO DATE

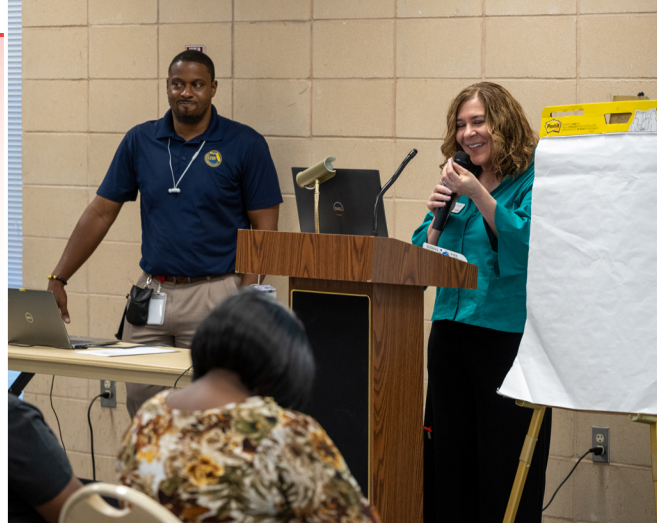
- 44%**  
(Secured \$66.3 million)
- 28%**  
(Supported 252 community events)
- 29%**  
(Constructed nearly 26 miles)
- 49%**  
(Supported 22 performances)



# STRATEGIC PLAN - FY2022 - FY2026



Autism Acceptance Month Resource Fair



Heir Property Workshop



Homeownership Development Program

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

measures for children and family services. (2022- 29)

- » (Q5) Implement the recommendations of the Citizen’s North Monroe Street Task Force to reduce crime and improve conditions along the North Monroe Corridor. (2022-30)
- » (Q4) Coordinate with America’s Second Harvest of the Big Bend and the City of Tallahassee to conduct community meetings in the neighborhood block groups with greatest food insecurity to identify and address their specific barriers to food security. (2022-31)
- » (Q3) Partner with the Leon County Sheriff’s Office in raising community awareness on issues such as child abuse and prevention programs, human trafficking, sexual abuse and exploitation and domestic violence. (2022-32)
- » (Q2, Q5) Work with the City of Tallahassee on the development and implementation of the Neighborhood First Program to engage residents and develop plans to address poverty and inequity in targeted neighborhoods including 32304. (2022-33)
- » (Q3) Support law enforcement and community partners’ programs and

initiatives to address the causes and impacts of drug-related crimes in our community. (2022-34)

- » (Q4) Continue to explore policies such as inclusionary housing and mixed housing developments to increase the stock of affordable housing throughout Leon County. (2023-52)
- » (Q5) Building on the Citizens North Monroe Task Force Final Report, host an intensive, multi-day design charrette to work with the community to identify and evaluate a variety of land use/planning strategies and other proposals for the continued improvement of the North Monroe Corridor area. (2023-53)
- » (Q4) Work with the City of Tallahassee, Big Bend Continuum of Care, Kearney Center, and other local stakeholders to enhance engagement and awareness of resources available for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in order to support safe, stable, and inclusive neighborhoods. (2023-54)
- » (Q4) Evaluate the reimbursement structure of the Leon County Health Care Program to better reflect the cost for diagnostic and ancillary costs such as laboratory and X-ray services and ensure continued

access to affordable health care for low-income individuals and families. (2023-55)

- » (Q4) Enhance the partnership with Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition, Inc. to implement its Service Delivery Plan to improve women and children’s health and health care access in Leon County. (2023-56)
- » (Q5) Develop an interactive community web-based tool that documents planned improvements, tracks investments, and identifies enhancement strategies for the North Monroe Corridor area. (2023-57)
- » (Q4) Partner with the Children’s Services Council to address Black maternal and children’s health through the coordination of data sharing, collaboration with partners on available community resources, and opportunities to maximize investment in outreach and awareness to improve health outcomes. (2023-58)
- » (Q1) Design and construct the new Northeast Park. (2023-59)
- » (Q4, Q5) Work with the City of Tallahassee, Big Bend Continuum of



*Honor Flight*



*Fall Reentry and Resource Fair*



*Excellence in EMS Awards*

Care, and street outreach teams to develop corridor plans for North Monroe, Downtown, and Pensacola Street/Highway 20 for outreach to unsheltered homeless individuals and to engage residents and businesses to address community aesthetics and neighborhood safety along the corridors. (2023-60, rev. 2024)

- » (Q4) Continue to leverage County funding in partnership with local stakeholders to secure state and federal funding to build affordable rental housing for very low- and low-income families. (2023-61)
- » (Q4) Leverage federal funding and new proposed State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) legislation, in partnership with local service providers and stakeholders, to increase the number of rental units for individuals and families exiting homelessness. (2023-62, rev. 2024)
- » (Q4) Continue to identify opportunities to increase the number of mental health beds in the community by working with mental health treatment providers and academic institutions in the community. (2023-63)

- » (Q4) Work with the City of Tallahassee, FSU Askew School, and human service agencies to utilize and refine the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) Outcome Measures to ensure that the CHSP continues to address the highest human service needs in the community. (2023-64)
- » (Q4) Implement efforts to enhance access and delivery of human services in the community in partnership with 2-1-1 Big Bend through the 24-hour Helpline, Lyft Transportation Program, Community Information Exchange System, and other efforts. (2024-71)
- » (Q4) Establish and implement line-item funding for local emergency homeless shelters in coordination and collaboration with community stakeholders including the City of Tallahassee and Children's Services Council of Leon County. (2024-72)
- » (Q6) In commemoration of the tenth flight of Honor Flight Tallahassee, expand opportunities to promote the event and engage even more volunteers and veterans both on the flight and at the Welcome Home celebration. (2024-73)

- » (Q3) In collaboration with law enforcement agencies, identify and implement solutions to immediately combat crime and nuisance activity in the Pensacola Street and Highway 20 corridor. (2024-74)
- » (Q5) Enhance Citizen Safety and Accessibility by evaluating the County's Private Road Repair and Maintenance Policy and Programs. (2024-75)
- » (Q4) Enhance the County's State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) program to provide legal assistance and consultation to residents with their property issues and estate planning needs that will preserve affordable housing for low-income families. (2024-76)



## ► PRIORITY: GOVERNANCE

To be a model for local governance with innovative, competent, and responsible public servants, committed to promoting integrity and diversity, creating meaningful opportunities for citizen engagement and co-creation, and ensuring fiscal stewardship. (G)



Sustain a culture of transparency, accessibility, accountability, civility, and the highest standards of public service. (G1)



Retain and attract a highly skilled, diverse and innovative County workforce, which exemplifies the County's Core Practices. (G4)



Sustain a culture of performance, and deliver effective, efficient services that exceed expectations and demonstrate value. (G2)



Exercise responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management, and ensure that the provision of services and community enhancements are done in a fair and equitable manner. (G5)



Inform and engage citizens through multiple outreach platforms to ensure consistent, high-value, transparent communication on our most important issues. (G3)

### BOLD GOAL

**Implement 600 Citizen Ideas, Improvements, Solutions and Opportunities for Co-Creation** (BG4)

**35%** 208 citizen ideas





## 5-YEAR TARGETS

### PROGRESS TO DATE

▶ Connect 50,000 Volunteers with Service Opportunities Communitywide	<b>32%</b> (Connected 16,000 volunteers)
▶ Reach 100,000 More Citizens Across All County Platforms and Programming	<b>49%</b> (Reached 49,000 more citizens)
▶ Offer 100% Online Permitting for Licensed Contractors, Engineers and Architects	<b>100%</b> (on track to complete this target by FY 2024)
▶ Communicate More Than 2 Million Disaster Preparedness Messages to Create Resilient Households, Businesses and Nonprofits	<b>70%</b> (Communicated 1.4 million messages)

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- » (G1) Alongside The Village Square, the Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI), and other community partners, continue to engage citizens of diverse backgrounds with innovative programs like Created Equal, the Citizen Engagement Series, Build Your Bucket, and so much more. (2022-35)
- » (G2) Continue to set the benchmark for local governments everywhere by earning national, state and local awards for County programs, hosting Florida Association of Counties events like Innovation Day, and sharing best practices with peers, all while remaining committed to learning and improving as an organization. (2022-36)
- » (G3) Launch the internationally recognized Zencity communications platform to address social media misinformation, proactively address citizen concerns, and increase transparency and accountability. (2022-37)
- » (G4) Continue to invest in the professional development of County staff including participation in Certified Public Manager training and enhancements to the County’s Management Training. (2022-38)
- » (G5) Continue to pursue cost savings through the County’s Innovator & Inspirator (I<sup>2</sup>) Program. (2022-39)
- » (G3) Further enhance the use of social media neighborhood apps to notify citizens of development projects occurring in their neighborhoods. (2022-40)
- » (G5) Continue to support updates to the Comprehensive Plan that encourage annexation of southside properties within the Urban Services Area. (2022-41)
- » (G5) Pursue Federal funding to provide broadband to underserved rural communities. (2022-42)
- » (G5) Pursue working with Leon County Schools to acquire the Ft. Braden Community Center. (2022-43)
- » (G5) Engage an industry expert to identify jail population management strategies to proactively mitigate the need for additional infrastructure at the Leon County Detention Center and evaluate long term space needs of the facility. (2023-65)
- » (G3) Develop a touch-screen kiosk at the County Courthouse showcasing “200 Years of Representation and Progress” highlighting current and

past County officials, significant County achievements/projects by decade, and a historical overview of Leon County. (2023-66)

- » (G4) Support the Sheriff in implementing a step pay plan for sworn officers to achieve and maintain recruitment and retention efforts. (2023-67)
- » (G3) Upgrade the Citizens Connect mobile application to ensure the best user experience and technical reliability for the next 10 years of readiness. (2024-77)
- » (G5) Begin implementing next generation 9-1-1 technology and infrastructure so as to ensure regional connectivity, call taker functionality, and the most resilient infrastructure during future disasters. (2024-78)
- » (G3) Launch a digital public noticing portal for use by Leon County Government, the City of Tallahassee, and other local governments that aims to enhance transparency, accessibility, and engagement in civic matters by providing a centralized platform for public announcements. (2024-79)
- » (G3) Launch a comprehensive overhaul of the County’s website, featuring a modern user-friendly and intuitive design, connecting citizens with County services and information. (2024-80)
- » (G3, Q3) Increase awareness and education on Human Trafficking by posting signage at County campgrounds. (2024-81)
- » (G1) Expand the County’s existing Build Your Bucket training to include year-round neighborhood-level emergency preparedness workshops to increase awareness and resilience. (2024-82)
- » (G3) Host community outreach events on the Vision 2025 Comprehensive Plan Land Use and Mobility Elements Update to share information and solicit input from citizens, advocacy groups, and neighborhood representatives. (2024-83)
- » (G5) Evaluate future opportunities to acquire eligible, non-conservation, federal lands for the provision of affordable housing and public services. (2024-84)
- » (G4) Continue to support the Sheriff in offering competitive compensation and benefits to ensure the recruitment and retention of sworn officers. (2024-85)



# LEON COUNTY ATTORNEY



## CHASITY O'STEEN

**County Attorney**  
850-606-2520  
OSteenC@LeonCountyFL.gov

Chasity H. O'Steen was selected to serve as the County Attorney beginning April 1, 2020. Ms. O'Steen is a 2003 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law, former General Counsel of both the State of Florida, Department of Management Services and Department of Financial Services. She brings with her a wealth of experience gained over 20 years in State and County government as well as the private sector, practicing in areas of law relevant to local government such as ethics, policy, procurement and contract issues, public records, federal and state grant funding, labor and employment law, finance, real estate and civil litigation.

Ms. O'Steen leads a team of skilled professionals in providing legal support to the Board and other officials of Leon County Government.

The County Attorney's Office provides legal services to the Board of County Commissioners, the County Administrator, County departments, and certain boards and agencies organized under the Board of County Commissioners, unless they are separate legal entities or have their own legal counsel and as otherwise directed by the Board. The Office also reviews contracts, bond documents, ordinances, resolutions, and other written instruments.

### LITIGATION: ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY

The County Attorney's Office provides legal support to Leon County Government in a variety of areas, including the following litigation matters:

- Leon County is a plaintiff in the multidistrict opioid litigation against multiple opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. The complaints include allegations of the manufacturer defendants' false, deceptive, and unfair marketing of opioids, as well as the distributor defendants' unlawful distribution of opioids. The Board has approved entering into numerous settlement agreements, as well as a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Florida governing how the settlement proceeds will be distributed among the State and local governments. It is currently contemplated that settlement payments will be paid out over 18 years, with use restricted to abatement and treatment of opioid use disorders and other limited uses. It is anticipated that most of the outside multidistrict litigation counsel will be paid through an attorney fund established at a national level, but a percentage of the local government distribution may also be used to fund attorneys' fees. On April 5, 2023, the Florida Attorney General's Office provided Florida cities and counties with partial estimated distribution numbers, and Leon County continues to receive disbursements. As of March 2024, Leon County had received \$320,817 in settlement funds. At its April 9, 2024, regular meeting, the Board voted to accept \$2,395,366 in settlement funds and enter into funding agreements with Big Bend Community Based Care, LLC, d/b/a Northwest Florida Health Network, and with DISC Village, Inc., for the provision of substance abuse treatment and ancillary services for individuals with opioid and substance use disorders. Funds will also be used for the purchase of EMS equipment to address opioid use disorders. In addition, outside counsel investigated and researched the role that pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) played in contributing to the opioid crisis and found that their failure to take action to slow distribution of opioid pills into communities across the country directly contributed to fueling the opioid crisis. At the Board's May 14, 2024, meeting, the County Attorney received approval from the Board to amend the County's opioid litigation complaint to add certain pharmacy benefit managers and their relevant subsidiaries as defendants.
- On January 3, 2023, the Florida PACE Funding Agency (FPFA) notified Leon County of a court ruling in Florida PACE Funding Agency v. State of Florida, Case No. 2022-CA-1562 (Bond Validation), wherein a Bond Validation Final Judgment was entered that purports to materially alter the way in which FPFA operates within Leon County, i.e., to operate autonomously and without County oversight or compliance with County requirements. The County Attorney's Office reviewed FPFA's representations and the Final Judgment and brought the matter to the Board for consideration. On July 11, 2023, the Board repealed Resolution 22-43, which had previously authorized FPFA to operate a PACE program in the County subject to enumerated protections and requirements. The Board also adopted Resolution 23-08 declaring that FPFA's continued operation in the County without authorization is a public health, safety, and welfare emergency. The Board authorized the County Attorney's Office to initiate litigation to defend the County's authority and interest related to FPFA's assertions that it has authority to operate

independently under the Bond Validation Final Judgment. Leon County filed a Motion for Relief from Final Judgment, which the Court subsequently denied. On April 18, 2024, Leon County, together with a number of additional counties, filed a Notice of Appeal of the Court's Final Order to the Supreme Court of Florida, Case No. SC2024-0652. Additional entities, including Tax Collectors and State Attorneys, also filed Notices of Appeal. This matter is pending. In a related case, Leon County v. Florida PACE Funding Agency, Case No. 2023-CA-2050 (Leon County's Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, and an Emergency Motion for Temporary Injunction), the Court entered an order on October 19, 2023, staying these proceedings until the Motion for Relief from Final Judgment in the Bond Validation proceeding has been resolved. The parties in this Declaratory action are required to provide periodic status reports to the Court.

- Leon County, Florida v. Edward M. Mitchell, Jr., Code Enforcement Board Case No. 22-118 – a Code Enforcement Board (CEB) proceeding to enforce an environmental violation resulting from the clearing of trees within the Canopy Road Protection Zone. After a three-hour evidentiary hearing on January 18, 2024, the CEB found that the owner's vested rights did not exempt him from complying with those Code provisions, thereby finding him to be in violation and ordering him to apply for an after-the-fact permit to complete a replanting plan for replacement of the cleared vegetation. The Board's opinion was memorialized in its Order dated February 21, 2024. In Edward M. Mitchell v. Leon County, Circuit Court Case No. 2024-CA-489, the Plaintiff has appealed the CEB's Order. In Edward M. Mitchell v. Leon County, Circuit Court Case No. 2024-CA-100, the Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, seeking a determination that Defendant is without legal authority to enforce the County's Canopy Road Ordinance as it applies to Plaintiff's Meridian Road property.
- Leon County, Florida v. David and Shayna Rainey, et al., Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CA-1786 – an eminent domain case for the Maylor Road Accessibility Enhancement Project. Maylor Road experiences flooding during large storm events since the project area is located at the bottom of the Maylor Road Closed Basin. Known flood events have occurred in 1994, 2008 (during Tropical Storm Fay), 2014, and most recently in December 2018. The residences along Maylor Road within the project area experienced safety deficiencies resulting from these recurring flood events, including impaired access to residential properties. The County raised the elevation of Maylor Road and needed temporary construction easements for the purpose of driveway reconstruction and harmonizing project improvements. Subsequent to the litigation being filed, the Rainey's entered into an Agreement for Acquisition and Full Compensation with the County, and the litigation was voluntarily dismissed.
- Steven Dewitt v. Ceressa Haney, et al. – U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Case No. 4:21cv340-AW-MAF – an alleged violation of Plaintiff's civil rights when he was asked to leave the premises of the Leon County Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives. The Defendant, Ceressa Haney, was an employee of the County at the time. The County filed a Motion to Dismiss on August 5, 2022, and the Plaintiff filed a Motion in Opposition. A United States magistrate judge recommended that the case against Ms. Haney be dismissed, and on March 31, 2023, the Court granted the County's motion. The Plaintiff filed a Notice of Appeal in April 2023, which was subsequently dismissed for lack of prosecution. His Motion to Reinstate Appeal was granted, and his initial brief was filed. The County's brief was filed with the Court on October 10, 2023. All motions have been briefed, and we are awaiting action by the Court.

- Vincent Barrington v. Leon County – Circuit Court Case No. 2022-CA-1928 – On November 21, 2022, the County was served with a complaint alleging that Plaintiff suffered permanent bodily injury after stepping onto a broken manhole utilities cover and falling onto a sidewalk. An amended complaint was subsequently filed on May 2, 2023. Plaintiff's attorney, Morgan & Morgan, has filed a Motion to Withdraw as Counsel, alleging they have had no contact with the Plaintiff. We are awaiting a ruling from the Court.
- Darrell Johnson v. Leon County – Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CA-207 – On February 28, 2023, the County was served with a complaint in which Plaintiff alleges he suffered injuries after tripping, slipping, and falling on a wooden ramp walkway at the Leon County Probation Pre-Trial Office. An amended complaint was subsequently filed on July 27, 2023. Mediation was held on December 1, 2023. Settlement was not reached, and this matter remains in the discovery phase. The Court set this matter for trial beginning September 3, 2024; however, on April 22, 2024, Leon County filed a Motion for Final Summary Judgment. We are awaiting a ruling from the Court.
- Bianca Toombs v. Leon County BOCC – Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CA-128 – Plaintiff filed a Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial on January 20, 2023, incorrectly naming "Bruce Ray" as the defendant and alleging Mr. Ray negligently operated his vehicle so that it collided with Plaintiff's vehicle, causing bodily injury to the Plaintiff. Mr. Ray's correct name is Claude R. Bruce, and at the time of the accident, Mr. Bruce was an employee of Leon County, acting in the course and scope of his County employment. The County moved to dismiss the complaint, and the Court subsequently entered an Agreed Order Granting the motion and allowing the Plaintiff 20 days' leave to file an amended complaint naming the proper governmental party. Plaintiff then misnamed the governmental entity and subsequently filed a Second Amended Complaint. This matter was in the discovery phase and mediation and a case management conference scheduled when the parties entered into a settlement agreement, with the Defendant paying \$167,500 to the Plaintiff, and the Plaintiff signing a release of all claims. On January 17, 2024, the Defendant filed a Notice of Settlement, and on March 7, 2024, the Court dismissed this matter.
- Tonesha Flanders v. Leon County – Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CA-305 – Plaintiff filed a Complaint on February 17, 2023, alleging she was injured in an automobile accident due to the negligence of an "unknown employee of Defendant." A Leon County Tax Collector employee was driving a vehicle owned by Leon County. The vehicles were involved in a traffic accident while stopped at a traffic light. Discovery is in process. Mediation was held on December 6, 2023, but settlement was not reached. A case management conference was held March 13, 2024, and the Court has set this matter for trial beginning December 9, 2024.
- Rossa McBride v. Leon County Board of County Commissioners, Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CA-154 – on January 25, 2023, the Plaintiff filed a Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial against the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, alleging she was injured in a slip and fall accident in the restroom located at Tower Road Park. Leon County filed a Motion to Dismiss the complaint. This matter was settled by the parties on March 18, 2024, with the Defendant paying to the Plaintiff the sum of \$25,000, and the Plaintiff signing a release of all claims. On April 1, 2024, the Defendant filed a Notice of Settlement, and on April 11, 2024, Plaintiff's counsel filed a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal with Prejudice in this matter.
- Tom Scarborough v. Leon County, Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CA-806 – On March 21, 2023, the Plaintiff filed a Complaint for Damages alleging he was



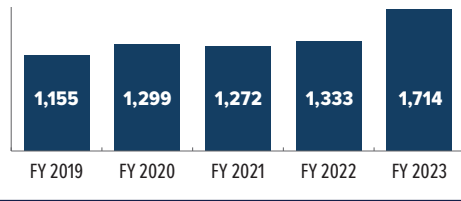
injured in an automobile accident due to the negligence of a Leon County ambulance driver. Mediation was scheduled for January 30, 2024. This matter was settled by the parties on February 7, 2024, with the Defendant paying to the Plaintiff the sum of \$75,000, and the Plaintiff signing a release of all claims. On April 8, 2024, the Plaintiff filed a Voluntary Dismissal with Prejudice.

- Stephen Suarez v. Leon County – Circuit Court Case No. 2023-CA-2708; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Tallahassee Division, Case No. 4:24-cv-4-AW-MAF – Petitioner was terminated from the County and thereafter requested a name-clearing hearing, which was ultimately denied for lack of eligibility. Petitioner subsequently filed a Petition for Writ of Mandamus and Declaratory Relief requesting the Court enter an order requiring the County to hold a name-clearing hearing and seeking compensatory damages. On February 11, 2024, the Circuit Court case was closed following its removal to the U.S. District Court. On February 20, 2024, the County adopted a revision to its personnel policies and procedures adding Subsection 12.03.2 – Name-Clearing Hearing. The parties entered into a settlement agreement on March 19, 2024, with the Defendant paying to the Plaintiff the sum of \$11,000, and the Plaintiff signing a release of all claims. On April 15, 2024, the Plaintiff and Defendant filed a Joint Stipulation of Dismissal with Prejudice, and the Court filed an Order Closing File.

- Leon County/State of Florida v. Terrica Coleman, County Court Case Nos. 2022-CO-48 and 2022-CO-49 – on April 25, 2022, Defendant was issued two citations for Escalated Attack on an Animal, violations of Section 4-35(f), Leon County Code, after her dogs attacked and killed a neighbor’s dog. On July 6, 2022, a hearing was held before a Leon County Magistrate, and the Defendant was found guilty of both violations and assessed costs and fines totaling \$626. The Defendant requested a rehearing, which was denied by the Hearing Officer. On August 2, 2022, Defendant/Appellant filed a notice appealing the Hearing Officer’s July 6, 2022, ruling, and the case was transferred to the Circuit Court and assigned appellate case number 2022 AP 5. The Circuit Court subsequently transferred the matter to the First District Court of Appeal, but the First District Court of Appeal transferred the case back to Leon County Circuit Court on October 25, 2023. On April 12, 2024, the Circuit Court entered an Order to File Initial Brief or Show Good Cause, stating that the Appellant is required to file an initial brief no later than May 13, 2024, or show good cause as to why it was not timely filed. The Appellant did not respond to the Order and the Court dismissed the case.

- Leon County/State of Florida v. Judy DuBois, County Court Case Nos. 2024-CC-16622, 2024-CO-11 through 2024-CO-70 - subsequent to a citizen complaint, Leon County Animal Control officers conducted an investigation into allegations of mistreatment of dogs that were being held on Defendant’s property and a neighboring property belonging to a relative. As a result of the investigation, Defendant was issued 59 Leon County Animal Control citations for Inhumane Care, a violation of Section 4-37, Leon County Code, and one citation for Running at Large, a violation of Section 4-35(a), Leon County Code. Animal Control officers seized a total of 60 dogs from Defendant’s property and ultimately the Defendant surrendered 57 of the 60 dogs. The County petitioned the Court for custody of the

## New Requests for Legal Assistance October 1 - September 30



three dogs that were not surrendered by Defendant. Hearings on the County’s petition and outstanding citations have been postponed, pending the resolution of a related criminal case against the Defendant.

- Leon County, Florida v. Montego Homeowners Association, Inc., et al., Circuit Court Case No. 2022-CA-1900 – ongoing eminent domain litigation related to the County’s septic-to-sewer program.

### **TRANSACTIONAL: RESEARCH, REVIEW, AND LEGAL SUPPORT**

- Provided Legal Research, Review, Drafting Assistance, and Counsel to:
  - Human Resources for the development of a name-clearing hearing procedure and a revision to County personnel policies.
  - The Division of Tourism to update the County’s tourism policy and associated delegation of signature authority from the County Administrator to the Director of Community Relations and Resilience and the Director of Tourism.
  - The Agenda Coordinator to update the Decision Making and Focus Group Citizen Committee Handbooks developed for staff who support the committees.
  - The Library to develop procedures designed to increase compliance with policies on returning overdue items and collection of fines; recommended policy updates to more efficiently address fines of over \$100 and items presumed lost based on time overdue; implemented updates to notice letters to patrons.
  - Human Resources and Veterans Services regarding Veterans’ Preference Procedures to ensure compliance with the Chapter 295 recruitment plan requirement.
  - The Board regarding future quasi-judicial hearings for disclosure of ex parte communications.
  - The Planning Department and the Board regarding the 2024 Comprehensive Plan amendments.
  - Human Services regarding the County’s ordinance prohibiting unauthorized solicitation on private property.
  - Housing Services and the Board regarding the County’s potential inclusionary housing ordinance and drafting documents for the implementation of the Homeownership Development Program.

- The Agenda Coordinator in drafting a resolution establishing the Miccosukee Canopy Road Greenways Committee.
- Real Estate Transactions and Right-of-Way Acquisition, including:
  - Assisting staff with the continued sale of County-owned real property appropriate for use as affordable housing, resulting in significant proceeds to the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County to be used for affordable housing.
  - Preparing a resolution adopting an inventory list of all real property within Leon County to which the County holds fee simple title that is appropriate for use as affordable housing.
  - Reviewing lease agreements for County-owned properties, such as the Leon County Government Annex, the Lake Jackson Town Center, and the Cross Creek Shopping Center.
  - Providing pre-suit negotiation and acquisition of utility easements, drainage easements, whole parcels, and other right-of-way needed for the County’s capital improvement projects, including the Woodville area septic-to-sewer projects, the Maylor Road drainage improvements project, the Old Bainbridge Road/Capitol Circle NW intersection improvement project, the North Gadsden Street Sidewalk Project, the Belair/Annawood Septic-to-Sewer Project, and the Blountstown Highway, Tram Road, and Chaires Road Sidewalk Projects to serve the Fort Braden Elementary and Middle School, Fairview Middle School, and Chaires Elementary School areas as part of the Safe Routes to School Program.
  - Assisting with the extensive pre-suit negotiations needed to acquire property interests, including involvement in the fee owner’s substantial review to ensure there was no impact to its remaining property forming part of the adjacent Canopy Planned Unit Development, for the dedicated north-bound Centerville Road Turn Lane at Harpers Ferry Drive Project to reduce traffic incidents.
  - Assisting staff with Road Abandonment requests – Woodville Plat, Capitola, April Road, and Elk Horn Landing Road.
- Procurements, Transactions, and Assessments, including:
  - Providing legal guidance in adopting the revised and consolidated joint Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprise Policy with the City of Tallahassee and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency, incorporating goals to reduce disparity in local government procurement in the region.
  - Assisting staff with the procurement of contractors to build Leon County’s Mountain Bike Trail Master Plan, helping to make Leon County one of only two counties in the State of Florida with an International Mountain Bike Trail Association Bronze Trail designation status.
  - Assisting staff with the procurement of contractors for the structural additions, repairs, and renovations of the historic Concord School Building (Miccosukee Community Center).
  - Assisting staff with the procurement of contractors for the construction of a concrete trail, storm sewer collection system, water and wastewater replacement, roadway reconstruction, curb and gutter installation, landscape planting, and all

- associated improvements for Phase II of the Magnolia Drive Trail Project.
- Assisting staff in drafting and adopting the revised County Cybersecurity Policy and securing Cyber Security Grant funding from the State of Florida Digital Service (FLDS).
- Providing legal support to staff with updating special assessments for fire rescue, sewer, solid waste, stormwater management, and Tower Oaks (2/3 Program).

### **YEAR IN REVIEW: COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL SERVICES**

In the past 12 months, the County Attorney’s Office has responded to over 1,714 requests for legal advice or assistance, including reviewing, preparing, and/or signing ordinances, resolutions, proclamations, agenda items, contracts, various housing, land use, and other real estate documents, as well as employment, procurement, and litigation documents, responding to public records requests and advertising public hearings. Included in this number are 514 agreements, 312 agenda items, 487 public records requests, 88 resolutions, 21 ordinances, and 9 policies. The County Attorney’s Office provided legal support to the Planning Department for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan cycle and the Department of Development Support and Environmental Management in the approval of all Land Development Code revisions and applications for development approvals. The County Attorney’s Office also represents Leon County before the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Commission, the Board of Adjustment and Appeals, the Code Enforcement Board, and the Development Review Committee. For the 2024 elections, the County Attorney’s Office is representing the Leon County Canvassing Board. Office personnel have assisted with significant revisions to the Code of Laws concerning digital publication of certain advertisements and legal notices, streetlights for school bus stops, accessory uses, solicitation on private property, and repealing the peddlers ordinance, as well as amendments to various elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The County Attorney’s Office continues to be active in efforts to keep the County’s lakes clean and has worked diligently with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce nutrient levels coming into Lake Talquin from Georgia, including continuing efforts regarding implementation of the 2022 Lake Talquin TMDL Rule.

### **LEGAL LEADERSHIP: AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS**

This past year, Assistant County Attorney Emily Pepin Bouza met the extensive criteria required by the Florida Bar to be recognized as a Board Certified Lawyer in city, county, and local government law. This certification represents that Ms. Bouza has exceptional knowledge, skills, and proficiency in her chosen field of law. In addition, County Attorney Chasity H. O’Steen received the prestigious Paul S. Buchman Award from the Florida Bar’s City, County and Local Government Law Section for her outstanding contribution in the area of legal public service. In June 2024, Ms. O’Steen received the 2024 Robert L. “Bob” Nabors President’s Award from the Florida Association of County Attorneys in appreciation for her dedicated service to the Association.



# PROVIDING SERVICE 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK

1:00 AM

## OFFICE OF ECONOMIC VITALITY

A local business owner subscribes to the OEV newsletter to receive transformative opportunities, including professional development workshops, networking events, and vendor recruiting, delivered right to their inbox.

3:00 AM

## HUMAN SERVICES

A citizen applies for the Direct Emergency Assistance Program to receive rental and utility assistance to maintain housing.

5:00 AM

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Paramedics respond to a patient in a life-threatening state due to blood loss and transfuse whole blood into the patient, stabilizing their condition until arrival at the local hospital.



7:00 AM

## SOLID WASTE

A citizen reads the County's Solid Waste Disposal Guide for information about County waste management resources and processes.

9:00 AM

## DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

A Building Inspector updates software after completing an inspection.



11:00 AM

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteer Services staff host a virtual volunteer recognition celebration for dedicated community volunteers.

2:00 AM

## FLEET

Fleet technicians support Operations crews while clearing trees following a storm event.

4:00 AM

## SUSTAINABILITY

The County's electric vehicle fleet finishes charging overnight and is ready to hit the road with a full charge in time for the workday.



8:00 AM

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Emergency Management staff conduct a neighborhood damage assessment following overnight severe thunderstorms.

6:00 AM

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks staff prepare for the thousands of runners and spectators descending on Apalachee Regional Park to participate in a day full of cross country races.



10:00 AM

## TOURISM

Tourism staff welcome the original Lincoln High School Class of 1964 Reunion to Tallahassee with signs and welcome bags as part of the Bicentennial Reunion Incentive Program.

12:00 PM

## HOUSING SERVICES

Housing staff assist a citizen complete an online application for home rehabilitation.



# LIVING OUR PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN. CULTURE

A CORE PRACTICE OF LEON COUNTY GOVERNMENT



1:00 PM

## VETERAN SERVICES

Veteran Services staff prepare and file a compensation claim for a veteran who was injured while serving their country.



3:00 PM

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of County Commissioners call a meeting to order in the Commission Chambers.



5:00 PM

## PLANNING

The DesignWorks Division meets with citizens, small business owners, and other entities to provide free site-specific design and policy consultation services.

9:00 PM

## COMMUNITY AND MEDIA RELATIONS

Community and Media Relations staff break down the event space after Created Equal.

7:00 PM

## FACILITIES

An on-call technician responds immediately to an elevator malfunctioning at the Courthouse.

11:00 PM

## LIBRARY SERVICES

A library cardholder uses Mango Languages in the digital library to learn a new language.

2:00 PM

## INTERVENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES

OIDA and a diverse group of community partners host local families for the Fall Reentry and Resource Fair.



4:00 PM

## ENGINEERING

Engineering Services staff host a construction progress meeting with contractors, utility service providers, and permitting agencies.



6:00 PM

## ANIMAL CONTROL

An Animal Control Officer assists law enforcement by transporting a cat for a citizen who was in a car accident.

8:00 PM

## OPERATIONS

Operations staff respond to a citizen's concern submitted through the County's Citizens Connect portal.

10:00 PM

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources staff track disaster hours after an activation.

12:00 AM

## PUBLIC WORKS

Crews respond to a downed tree that is blocking travel lanes.



# DEMONSTRATING HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

## LEON COUNTY GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



VINCENT S. LONG  
County Administrator



CHASITY H. O'STEEN  
County Attorney



MATHIEU CAVELL  
Director, Community Relations and Resilience



KEVIN PETERS  
Director

### Emergency Management

- Disaster Preparedness and Response
- 9-1-1 Operations
- Disaster Plan Review
- Emergency Exercises



KIANNA GILLEY  
Manager

### Community and Media Relations

- Community Relations
- Media Engagement
- Crisis Communications
- Disaster Resiliency



KERRI POST  
Director

### Tourism

- Destination Marketing
- Sports Tourism
- Signature Event Grants
- Amphitheater Concert Series
- Culture and Arts



CANDICE WILSON  
Director, Human Resources



SHINGTON LAMY  
Assistant County Administrator



CHAD ABRAMS  
Chief

### Office of Public Safety

- Emergency Medical Services
- Consolidated Dispatch Agency
- Animal Control



TERESA BROXTON  
Director

### Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives

- Probation
- Supervised Pretrial Release
- Drug and Alcohol Testing
- PSCC



PAMELA MONROE  
Director

### Library Services

- Branch Libraries
- Ask a Librarian and Reference
- Community Programming
- Learning Resources
- Technology and Media



ABIGAIL THOMAS  
Director

### Human Services and Community Partnerships

- Health and Human Services
- Housing Services
- Veterans Services



BEN BRADWELL  
Manager

### Veterans Services

- Benefit Counseling
- Veterans Resource Center
- Emergency Assistance for Veterans



JELANI MARKS  
Manager

### Housing Services

- Affordable Housing
- Down Payment Assistance
- Rehabilitation



KEN MORRIS  
Assistant County Administrator



ROSHAUNDA BRADLEY  
Director

### Office of Management and Budget

- Budget Development
- Grants
- Fiscal Planning
- Risk Management



MICHELLE TAYLOR  
Chief Information Officer

### Office of Information and Technology

- Management Information Services
- Geographical Information Systems



NICKI PADEN  
Assistant to the County Administrator

### Legislative and Strategic Initiatives

- Strategic Planning
- Legislative Affairs

### Purchasing Real Estate



NAWFAL R. EZZAGAGHI  
Assistant County Administrator



BRENT PELL  
Director

### Public Works

- Operations
- Mosquito Control
- Engineering Services
- Construction Management
- Fleet Management



MAGGIE THERIOT  
Director

### Office of Resource Stewardship

- Sustainability
- Recycling
- Parks and Recreation
- Facilities
- Solid Waste
- Coop. Extension



BARRY WILCOX  
Director

### Development Support and Environmental Mgmt.

- Environ. Svcs.
- Dev. Svcs.
- Building Plans Review and Inspection
- Permit/Code Services



ARTIE WHITE  
Director

### Department of P.L.A.C.E.

- (Planning, Land Management and Community Enhancement)
- Planning
- Blueprint
- Office of Economic Vitality
- MWSBE

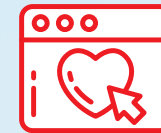
# DELIVERING ON OUR PRIORITIES: EMS 20TH ANNIVERSARY



Leon County Emergency Medical Services (LCEMS) celebrated a huge milestone this year—20 years of providing exceptional, lifesaving care and treatment to the residents and visitors of Leon County as well as serving the community through training and public education programs. Since its launch on December 31, 2003, LCEMS has responded to more than 789,300 calls for service and transported more than 505,150 patients. A leader in response and survival, LCEMS continues to exceed local, state, and national benchmarks by providing clinically superior, cost-effective emergency medical services and transport to the people of Leon County.



Responded to more than **789,300** CALLS FOR SERVICE



Held more than **4,000** CPR AND AED COMMUNITY TRAININGS



Transported more than **505,150** PATIENTS



Named 2023 **EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR** by the Florida Department of Health

## Celebrating 20 Years of Providing Lifesaving Care



# COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

## PROVIDING TRANSPARENCY AND ENGAGING CITIZENS

Leon County continues to grow citizen involvement and engagement through its commitment to programs that help shape the community, including the Citizen Engagement Series, Library Lecture Series, and the Club of Honest Citizens.

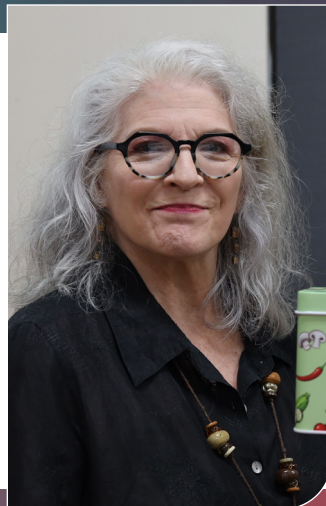
The nationally recognized Leon County Citizen Engagement Series continued this year with a training on disaster resilience. Focused on building community preparedness and resilience to withstand man-made and natural disasters, dozens of residents stepped behind the scenes at the County's Emergency Operations Center to learn about disaster preparedness with local public safety experts. County staff, nonprofit partners, and public safety officials offered sessions on various topics, including disaster preparedness, emergency communication, and the importance of having an evacuation plan.

Now in its eighth year, the Leon County Library Lecture Series hosted four events featuring a diverse range of speakers and topics. Author and food commentator Amy Rogers shared how to organize and standardize recipes so they can be preserved for future generations. During a lunchtime workshop, Louis Dilbert, Director of the FAMU TRIO Educational Opportunity Center and Military and Veteran Affairs, focused on the impact of multigenerational talent and how to unlock a team's unique skillsets to make a greater impact on workplace culture and productivity. Incorporating themes from the County's 2024 NEA Big Read selection *The Bear* by Andrew Krivak, Misty Penton, Tradition Keeper and Storyteller for the Muscogee Nation of Florida, explored how generational storytelling and oral traditions help guide the people of today. Finally, in celebration of the Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial, author Doug Alderson led a lively discussion about the founding of Florida's capital county.



Citizen Engagement Series: Disaster Resilience Edition

## LEON COUNTY LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES TOPICS THAT ENGAGE AND INSPIRE



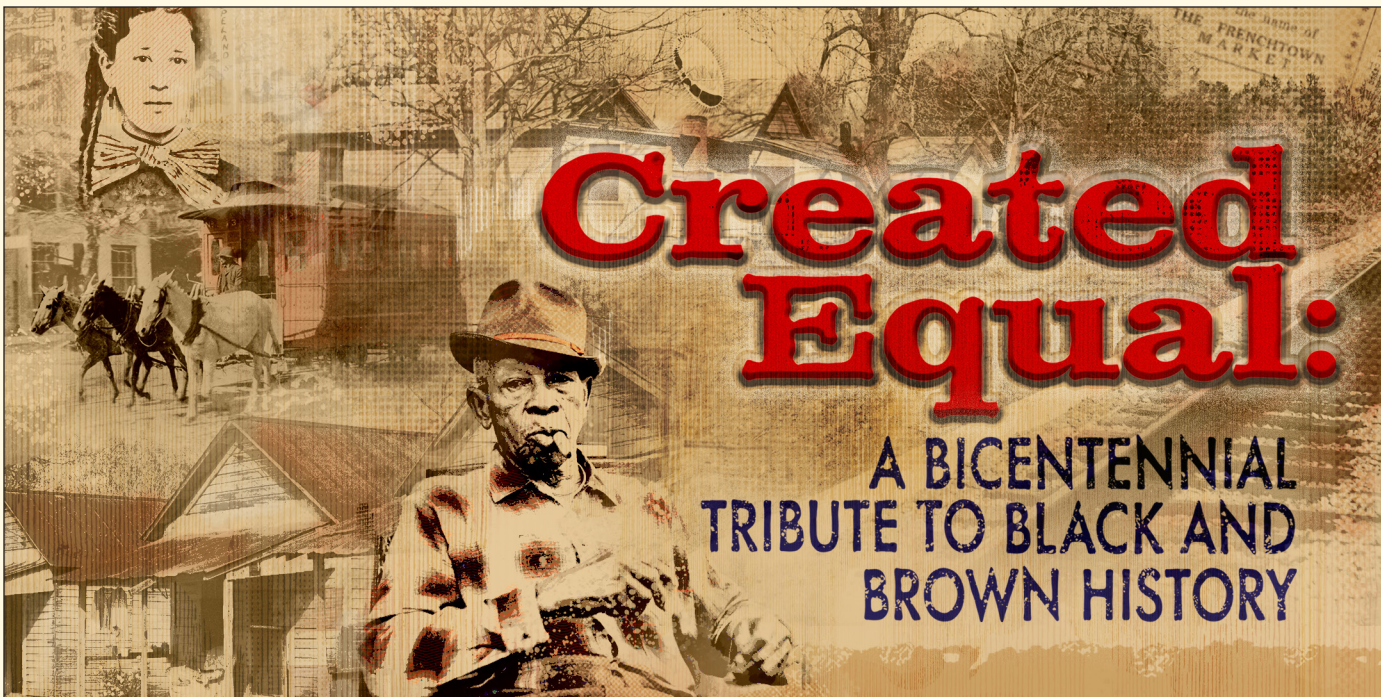
**Amy Rogers**  
*Preserving Your Food Stories: How to Write a Recipe*



**Louis Dilbert**  
*Unleashing the Power of a Multi-generational Workforce*



**Misty Penton**  
*Keeping History Alive: The Power of Tradition and Storytelling*



On May 7, 2024, Leon County partnered with The Village Square to host its ninth annual Created Equal event, *A Bicentennial Tribute to Black and Brown History*. The program was a success, with nearly 300 people in attendance to discuss Leon County's vibrant history and culture over its 200 years of existence. Headlined by a panel of local historians, professors, and artists, this year's program shined a light on Tallahassee-Leon County's Black and Brown history and explored the influence people of color had on the conception and development of the County.

Audience members from all walks of life had the opportunity to engage in discussions centered around local civil rights movements, the community's deeply rooted Black and Brown history, and how to ensure that today's youth learn about the rich history and culture of Leon County. The program allowed attendees to not only learn about influential Black and Brown individuals who deeply influenced the local community but to envision a path forward to a more informed and inclusive future for everyone.



# SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES VS. COUNTY SERVICES

COMPARING YOUR DOLLAR

## COMPARING HIGH-QUALITY COUNTY SERVICES WITH A MONTHLY STREAMING BILL

For less than a monthly streaming bill, you receive County services like Emergency Medical Services, parks, road maintenance, mosquito control, libraries, stormwater, disaster response and recovery, and so much more!

## SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

**Total \$245**

## COUNTY SERVICES

Law Enforcement & Corrections	\$59.86
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	\$10.36
Facilities	\$7.02
Health & Human Services	\$5.74
Elections	\$3.10
Library Services	\$3.75
Mosquito Control	\$0.46
Veterans, Volunteer, Economic Development & Planning	\$1.12
All Other Services	\$33.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$125.33</b>

Do I need all these sitcom reruns? **\$18**

I thought this was part of my cable bill ... **\$17**

The price is going up again?! **\$23**

Never heard of those shows. **\$10**

If I have to watch *Frozen* one more time ... **\$14**

Lots of unskippable ads, probably. **\$73**

Wait, how much?! **\$55**

But there's a warehouse in town! **\$15**

What even is this? **\$8**

Oh, come on! **\$12**



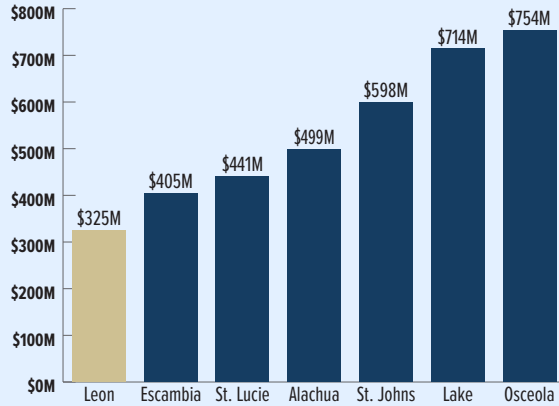
Leon County is not affiliated with the companies whose logos appear on this page; the logos are being used to provide context for residents in describing beneficial public services.

# FY 2024/2025 LEON COUNTY ADOPTED BUDGET AT A GLANCE

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

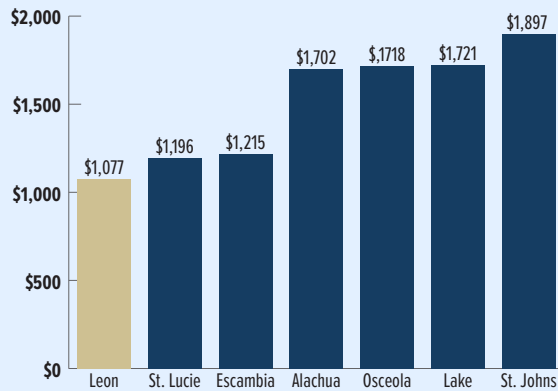


## Total Net Budget (FY24)



Leon County has the lowest operating budget among like-sized counties, with a net budget of \$325 million. Escambia County's net budget is 25% higher than Leon County's.

## Net Budget per Countywide Resident (FY24)



Leon County spends the least dollars per county resident of all like-sized counties. The next closest County's net budget per capita is 11% higher than Leon County's (St. Lucie County). St. Johns County spends 76% more per resident than Leon County does.

## EXERCISING RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY'S RESOURCES

- ▶ Balanced the FY 2025 budget (\$377.9 million), an 8.1% increase from last year's budget, without raising the millage rate for the 13th year in a row.
- ▶ The FY 2025 budget continues to maintain core services and the community's infrastructure. A few highlights include:
  - » Dedicating more than \$2.3 million to Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) agencies to address the community's most pressing needs, including the establishment of line-item funding for emergency homeless shelters; \$1.8 million to ensure uninsured and underinsured residents have access to comprehensive health services; and \$820,000 in State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program funding to support affordable housing.
  - » Fully supporting the Leon County Sheriff's Office's (LCSO) and Supervisor of Elections Office's budget request, including funding for the pay plan for sworn officers and funding voting operations at the Supervisor of Elections Office to manage the 2024 General Election.
  - » Allocating millions of dollars in funding to support strategic, long-term investments in infrastructure with a focus on maintaining existing assets, including more than 2.3 million square feet of County facilities, 3,865 acres of greenways and parks, along with hundreds of miles of roads and stormwater drainage systems.
  - » Preserving community affordability through the "Save Our Homes" measure, which provides a safeguard for homesteaded property owners by capping the annual property value increase at 3%.
  - » Adding six new paramedics/EMTs for Emergency Medical Services (LCEMS) to maintain response times.
  - » New cost savings and avoidances of \$12.2 million, bringing the total to \$76 million since FY 2013.

## PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION

(Based on average value single-family home in Leon County)

Services	FY 2025 Ad Valorem Tax Bill \$1,504	FY 2025 Monthly Cost	FY 2025 Percent of Ad Valorem Taxes
Sheriff - Law Enforcement	\$418.87	\$34.90	27.85%
Sheriff - Corrections	299.60	24.96	19.93%
Emergency Medical Services	124.44	10.36	8.28%
Facilities Management	84.18	7.02	5.60%
Health & Human Services	68.91	5.74	4.58%
Capital Improvement	55.41	4.62	3.68%
Management Information Services	52.46	4.37	3.49%
Library Services	44.99	3.75	2.99%
Tax Collector	43.28	3.61	2.88%
Property Appraiser	42.19	3.52	2.81%
Administrative Services	40.05	3.34	2.66%
Supervisor of Elections	37.25	3.10	2.48%
Other Non-Operating/Communications	36.10	3.01	2.40%
Other Criminal Justice (Probation, DJJ, Diversion)	35.27	2.94	2.34%
Community Redevelopment - Payment	20.60	1.72	1.37%
Clerk of Circuit Court	13.71	1.14	0.91%
Board of County Commissioners	13.70	1.14	0.91%
Veterans, Volunteer, Planning, Econ. Development	13.44	1.12	0.89%
800 MHz Radio Communication System	12.52	1.04	0.83%
Geographic Information Systems	11.49	0.96	0.76%
Risk Allocations	10.28	0.86	0.68%
Court Administration and Other Court Programs <sup>4</sup>	8.63	0.72	0.57%
Mosquito Control	5.48	0.46	0.36%
Sustainability/Cooperative Extension	5.26	0.44	0.35%
Office of Management and Budget	4.63	0.39	0.31%
Budgeted Reserves	1.26	0.10	0.09%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,504.00</b>	<b>\$125.33</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



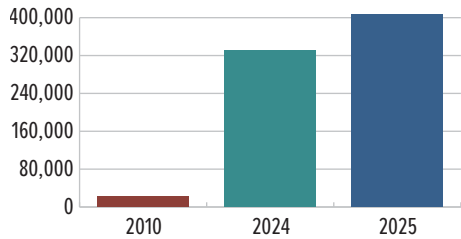
# PERFORMANCE DRIVEN PROGRESS

PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY SERVICES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES



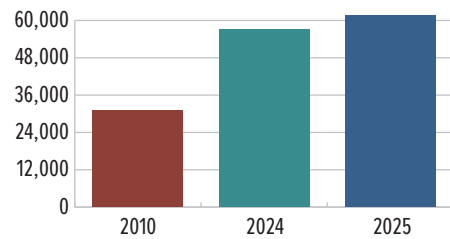
## Library Services

EBOOK/AUDIOBOOK DOWNLOADS



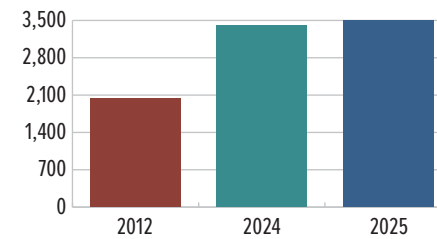
## Emergency Medical Services

CALLS FOR SERVICE



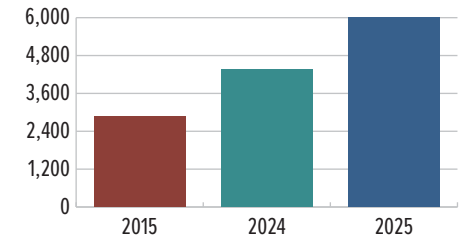
## Parks and Recreation

TOTAL ACRES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



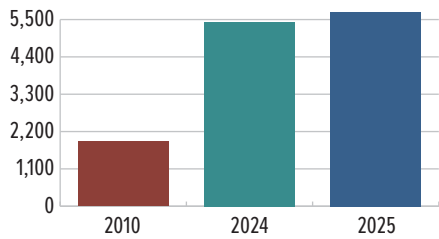
## Dev. Support & Env. Mgmt.

ONLINE PERMITS ISSUED



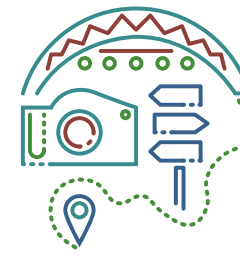
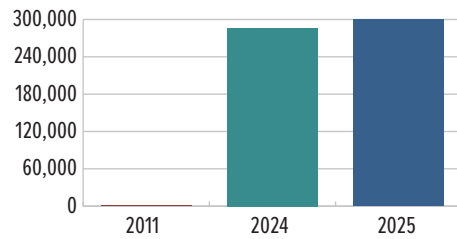
## Veteran Services

CLIENTS SERVED



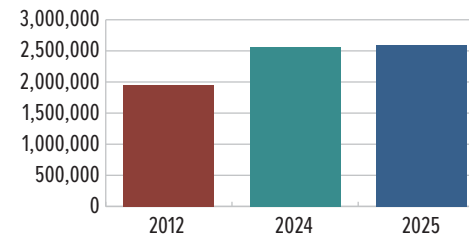
## Community & Media Relations

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS



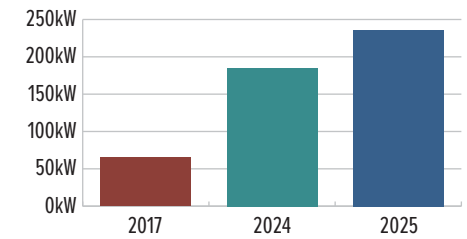
## Tourism

NUMBER OF VISITORS



## Sustainability

SOLAR ENERGY PRODUCED AT COUNTY FACILITIES



PAST
  PRESENT
  PROJECTED



# STRETCHING YOUR TAX DOLLARS

EXERCISING RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY'S RESOURCES

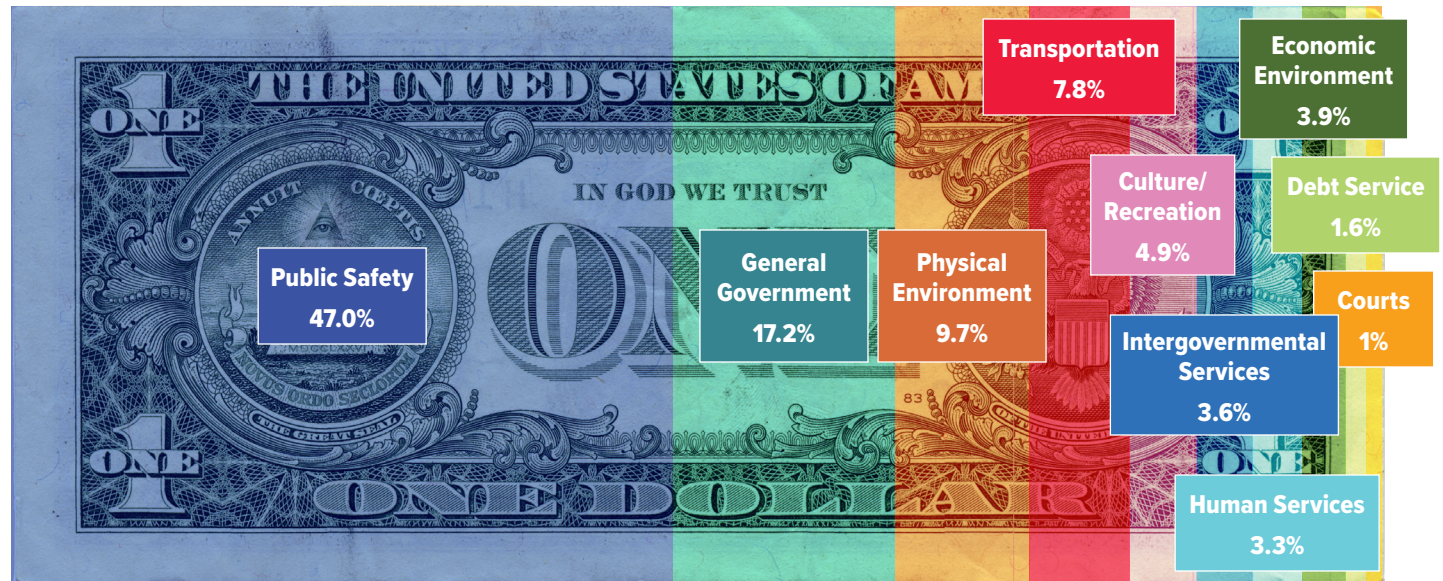


## WHERE THE \$377.9 COMES FROM...



FY 2024/2025 ADOPTED BUDGET:  
**\$377.9 MILLION**

...AND HOW THE \$377.9 IS UTILIZED



### DID YOU KNOW?

- Leon County citizens pay among the lowest in the state per person to operate their local County government.
- The County has balanced the budget every year without raising the millage rate for the last 13 years.



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To preserve life, improve health, and promote safety through clinically superior and compassionate pre-hospital care and life safety education for citizens and visitors of Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Continue to evaluate emergency medical response strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates. (#2022-22)

## PRESERVING LIFE. IMPROVING HEALTH. PROMOTING SAFETY.



TMH Community Service Impact Awards



Career fair

- ▶ Responded to more than 54,000 calls for service, and transported more than 35,000 patients in FY24, leading the industry in setting the standard for emergency medical care.
- ▶ Continued to provide specialized services through Critical Care Transport, Tactical Medical, Highly Infectious Patient Transport, and Special Operations teams.
- ▶ Continued to improve the chances of survival following a cardiac arrest event by advocating for the integration of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and conducting cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training through the Heart Ready initiative.
  - » More than 1,850 citizens received training in CPR and AED use.
  - » 1,480 public access AEDs in the community are registered with EMS.
- ▶ Partnered with Tallahassee State College and Godby High School to offer an Emergency Medical Technician program to high school students.

- ▶ Continued to provide internships for Tallahassee State College and North Florida College EMS students.
- ▶ Implemented a comprehensive medical protocol update, ensuring that the care provided to citizens is the very best and meets national standards.
- ▶ Deployed prehospital whole blood transfusions, enhancing patient care and saving the lives of seriously ill patients.
- ▶ Continued to participate in the national Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES), which collects and analyzes EMS and hospital data to improve cardiac arrest outcomes.
- ▶ Continued a partnership with the University of Florida to research advances in prehospital emergency pediatric patient care.
- ▶ Enhanced EMS member well-being by continuing to develop peer support capabilities and partnered with the Florida A&M University 2nd Alarm Project to provide additional services.
- ▶ Further enhanced the Social Service Referral Program with community partners, which assists paramedics in referring vulnerable patients in

### Contact us

(850) 606-2100  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS



*Rescue Task Force Training*

need of social, mental health, and financial assistance to community partners.

- ▶ Provided an income-based fee discount program and continued to completely waive EMS fees for uninsured or underinsured veterans.
- ▶ Partnered with Safe Kids Big Bend, a national organization committed to working with families and communities to keep children safe from unintentional injuries, through the Community Centric Injury Reduction program.
- ▶ Conducted more than 75 child safety seat inspections and installations at the Public Safety Complex as well as health and safety fairs throughout the community through the Child Passenger Safety Seat program.
- ▶ Partnered with Leon County Schools in support of the Safe Routes to School program by providing a bike trailer, equipment, and medics to promote bicycle use and transportation measures as well as safety education to schools and the community.
- ▶ Operated an EMT to Paramedic Trainee Program, assisting current EMTs to become paramedics, resulting in more paramedics and improved recruitment and retention of members.

- ▶ Conducted joint training exercises with law enforcement agencies and the fire department to enhance the response to Active Shooter Hostile Events (ASHE).
- ▶ Completed an upgrade to the Computer Aided Dispatch system which will further improve incident communication and provide vital information to paramedics responding to incidents.
- ▶ Joined efforts with community partners to combat opioid overdoses by creating a network of treatment, care, and recovery for individuals impacted by opioid use disorders.
- ▶ Continued public information efforts to build public awareness of EMS excellence and attract a talented workforce:
  - » Posted employment opportunities, employee highlights, safety tips, and more on the EMS Facebook page.
  - » Enhanced the recruitment website and implemented new outreach strategies to attract paramedics.
- ▶ Participated in more than 300 special operations events, providing medical coverage for our community during athletic events, concerts, festivals, and graduations.

## DEMONSTRATING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF CARE

The American College of Cardiology recognized Leon County EMS for playing a critical role in improving the morbidity and mortality of patients suffering from acute heart problems with the EMS Partner in Care Award.



Emergency Medical Technician Mike Aries was named the Florida Department of Health EMT of the Year.

- ▶ Hosted or participated in more than 120 community trainings and events, including CPR, Stop the Bleed, first aid, child passenger safety, bicycle safety, career fairs, and when and how to call 9-1-1.
- ▶ In recognition of the EMS 20th anniversary, introduced a new mascot bear, Teddy Bear-a-medec, to promote the health and safety of residents and visitors at community trainings and events.



# LEROY COLLINS LEON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To be an essential resource and place for learning, engagement, and innovation that provides for our community's changing needs.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the Leon County Essential Libraries Initiative. (#2022-21)

## LEARN. ENGAGE. INNOVATE.

- ▶ Served more than 1.1 million customers digitally and in person through the Library System and managed nearly 1.4 million checked out materials in FY24, including print, DVD, audio, eBooks, computers, tablets, Library of Things items, and more.
- ▶ Debuted an updated, mobile-friendly online catalog featuring a redesigned menu for easier navigation to search library resources and highlighting recommended book titles from popular categories.
- ▶ Through the Community Resources Specialist, partnered with State and local human services agencies to provide regular access to services for 867 attendees at Library events, including Benefits Connection: Medicaid & KidCare, Health Insurance Enrollment Assistance with Big Bend AHEC, and an Expungement Clinic.
- ▶ Hosted the sixth NEA Big Read featuring *The Bear* by Andrew Krivak with grant funds awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts. Events included a kickoff celebration, a virtual Q&A with the author, stargazing, book clubs, a nature photography exhibit highlighting local artists, and more.
- ▶ Completed another successful year of the Leon County Library Lecture Series, offering four informative sessions:
  - » Amy Rogers, author and food commentator, *Preserving Your Food Stories: How to Write a Recipe*, which included a community call to submit family recipes for a Bicentennial-themed cookbook.
  - » Louis Dilbert, Director of the FAMU TRIO Educational Opportunity Center, *Unleashing the Power of a Multigenerational Workforce*.
  - » Misty Penton, tradition keeper and storyteller for the Muscogee Nation of Florida, *Keeping History Alive: The Power of Tradition and Storytelling*.
  - » Doug Alderson, author and chair of the Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial History Task Force, *Bicentennial Beginnings: The Founding of Tallahassee and Leon County*.



Seed Library



Library Lecture Series: Rhythms of Panama

- ▶ Launched and continued community-wide reading challenges through Beanstack, including the Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial Challenge, Summer Reading Challenge, and Genre Bingo Challenge.
- ▶ Enhanced the library's technology offerings by adding tablets for check out to increase access to eBooks, streaming services, educational apps, and more.

### Contact us

(850) 606-2665  
www.LeonCountyLibrary.org



NEA Big Read Kickoff



CosmicCon

- ▶ Hosted more than 1,900 programs, including story times, book clubs, workshops for teens, and more.
- ▶ Presented the annual spring and fall Seed Library in coordination with UF/IFAS Leon County Extension, in which users checked out more than 24,000 sample-sized packets of seeds, totaling more than 240,000 seeds, with instructions for effective cultivation.
- ▶ Expanded teen programming to include craft programs, art wellness, chess, and additional volunteer opportunities at all locations.
- ▶ Created an eight-week summer program around the theme *Adventure Begins at Your Library*. The program featured exciting games, crafts, scavenger hunts, animal visits, reading challenges, and more for all ages.
- ▶ Hosted three Florida Talks workshops from the Florida Humanities Speakers Bureau, including:
  - » *Golden Harvest: The Music and Traditions of the Greek Spongers of Tarpon Springs* with Dr. Panayotis League.
  - » *A Motion Picture Paradise! A History of Florida's Film and Television Industry* with Dr. David Morton.
  - » *Hurricane!* with author and journalist Eliot Kleinberg.

- ▶ Continued offering adult education programs, helping 4,595 learners earn a GED, prepare for the U.S. citizenship exam and interview, improve English language skills, and more.
- ▶ Expanded the Library's Extension Services to provide library materials to Independence Landing, increasing the Library's reach.
- ▶ Continued to offer Homework Hub virtually and in-person for kindergarten through 8th grade students.
- ▶ Debuted 10 Youth Book Club Kits that provide five copies of a book to encourage youth to engage in shared reading experiences and promote discussions and critical thinking among peers.
- ▶ Added Sensory Kits for check out, which provide a unique approach to emotional and physical learning. Kits contain two books, toys, games, and tools focused on a theme, and provide caregivers research-based tips to help develop these skills with their children.
- ▶ Expanded the Library's partnership with Second Harvest of the Big Bend by offering Kids Cafe, an after-school snack program for kids and teens during the school year, and Summer BreakSpot, which provides healthy meals and snacks to kids and teens during summer months.
- ▶ Increased reservable meeting space offerings at the Dr. B.L. Perry, Jr. Branch, Lake Jackson Branch, and Bruce J. Host Northeast Branch by repurposing existing spaces to better meet community demand.

## LEON COUNTY LIBRARY LOCATIONS

### LeRoy Collins Leon County Main Library

200 West Park Avenue  
(850) 606-2665

### Bruce J. Host Northeast Branch Library

5513 Thomasville Road  
(850) 606-2800

### Dr. B.L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library

2817 South Adams Street  
(850) 606-2950

### Eastside Branch Library

1583 Pedrick Road  
(850) 606-2750

### Jane G. Sauls Fort Braden Branch Library

16327 Blountstown Highway  
(850) 606-2900

### Lake Jackson Branch Library

3840-300 North Monroe Street  
(850) 606-2850

### Woodville Branch Library

8000 Old Woodville Road  
(850) 606-2925

- ▶ In celebration of the Bicentennial, launched a call for recipes from the community that were compiled to create the cookbook *Bicentennial Community Cookbook: Celebrating 200 Years of Leon County's Tastiest Traditions*, which is available for check out digitally and in print.
- ▶ Offered a Bicentennial-themed special edition library card to celebrate this historic milestone.



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RESILIENCE

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

### Goal Statement

To protect our community by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve resilience so as to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from man-made natural disasters.

### Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

#### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Build, sustain and improve resilience to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to and recover from man-made and natural disasters. (Q7)

#### GOVERNANCE

- Begin implementing next generation 9-1-1 technology and infrastructure so as to ensure regional connectivity, call taker functionality, and the most resilient infrastructure during future disasters. (#2024-78)

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-3700  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EM

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

- ▶ Directed the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to plan for and coordinate disaster response activities with all partners.
- ▶ Led disaster response and recovery efforts for the Bicentennial Storm and May 10 Tornado Outbreak, which are described in further detail on the next few pages.
- ▶ Hosted 10 training courses for 350 local and regional emergency responders to build and enhance their emergency response skills.
- ▶ To ensure Leon County is prepared and resilient for any disaster, Emergency Management:
  - » Participated in 20 community outreach and education presentations.
  - » Reviewed emergency plans for 88 healthcare facilities and conducted public education and outreach programs for community groups.
  - » Provided more than 100 disaster supply kit buckets to citizens of vulnerable populations in coordination with Elder Care Services.
- ▶ Received more than 174,000 emergency calls during the past year to the Leon County Enhanced 9-1-1 System, including approximately 151,500 from wireless devices, 11,000 from landline devices, 8,000 from VoIP devices, and 3,600 texts.



Distributing disaster preparedness buckets for seniors

- ▶ Received more than 330,000 non-emergency calls.
- ▶ Responded to more than 900 requests for 9-1-1 records.
- ▶ Updated LeonReady.com to connect the public with available hurricane preparedness resources.
- ▶ Continued to provide Neighborhood Readiness Trainings to help individuals, families, and neighborhoods prepare, act, and recover from disasters.
- ▶ Continued offering educational resources for hurricane preparedness with the Billy the Bucket hurricane safety coloring book, available during community events and at all Leon County Public Library locations.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 95% of U.S. counties have experienced tornado watches within the last five years. Be prepared! Contact your insurance agent and have an insurance check-up. Having the right type and amount of insurance can help you recover more quickly from a disaster and avoid years of financial challenges.

## A PREPARED COMMUNITY IS A RESILIENT COMMUNITY

With our lead role in emergency response, caring for the lives and livelihoods of our community is nothing new to the County. After three consecutive hurricanes and a global health pandemic, Leon County's continuous commitment to building a resilient community is reflected through our local officials, neighborhood leaders, and community partners who work together during times of disaster to keep us safe, provide critical information, and answer our community's needs.

At 3 a.m. on April 11, 2024, the Leon County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated in response to severe thunderstorms that led to flash flooding, with personnel and partner agencies coordinating preparedness and response efforts, including closing and clearing roadways and performing welfare checks on citizens cut off by flood waters. The storm resulted in historic amounts of rainfall, with rates that overwhelmed drainage systems and caused significant flooding. The storm's rarity as a once-in-200-year event and its occurrence during Leon County's Bicentennial year led to it being named the "Bicentennial Storm." As a result, the EOC was activated from April 11 through April 19, engaging approximately 49 County staff in coordinating response and recovery efforts. The EOC's structured approach and the collaborative efforts of the community played essential roles in addressing the challenges posed by the storm.

Only one month later, on May 10, 2024, the EOC was again activated, this time in response to three simultaneous tornadoes. The event, known as the "May 10 Tornado Outbreak," led to the destruction of 174 homes and damaged an additional 1,500 homes in Leon County. The EOC was activated for 29 days, engaging approximately 100 County staff in coordinating response and recovery efforts. The May 10 Tornado Outbreak resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration and the EOC coordinated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on the delivery of Individual Assistance programs through August 19.



*Bicentennial Storm response*



*May 10 Tornado Outbreak response*



# MAY 10 TORNADO OUTBREAK

## STRONGER TOGETHER: LEON COUNTY RESILIENT AFTER TORNADO OUTBREAK



*Railroad Square*



*Apalachee Parkway*



*Emergency relief supplies point of distribution*

In the early hours of Friday, May 10, 2024, while many were heading to school or work, three tornadoes ripped through the community, causing significant disruption and destruction, which significantly impacted the Woodville, Fort Braden, and Chairres areas of unincorporated Leon County. The impact was immense, with homes, businesses, and lives changed forever.

This unprecedented weather event, named the “May 10 Tornado Outbreak” by emergency officials, brought 115-mile-per-hour winds that uprooted trees, shattered windows, and collapsed structures. When the storm clouds had passed, the extent of the damage quickly became apparent, and the road to recovery began. But through it all, Leon County Government was prepared and ready to respond.

Response efforts to the storm had begun several hours earlier when the Leon County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated at 3 a.m. Applying lessons learned from the response to Hurricanes Hermine (2016), Irma (2017), Michael (2018), and Idalia (2023) and the Bicentennial Storm (2024), Leon County personnel and partner agencies had activated resources on standby and were ready to deploy.

Once it was safe, the County’s Public Works teams began clearing roadway debris, staff from Development Support & Environmental Management assembled Damage Assessment Teams to document the extent of the damage, Community and Media Relations staff issued messaging on social media platforms to keep citizens safe and informed, and hundreds of employees across departments worked together to get the community on the path to recovery.



*Apalachee Regional Park*

The May 10 Tornado Outbreak was a formidable challenge, but it also served as a powerful reminder of Leon County’s resilience. Through coordinated response efforts, unwavering dedication, and a commitment to service, the County demonstrated its ability to weather even the most

severe storms. In the days ahead, the County would launch a one-of-a-kind microgrant program to provide immediate financial support to unincorporated residents most impacted by the tornadoes.

### **COUNTY RESPONSE TO THE STORM BY THE NUMBERS**

- ▶ 130 County roads cleared
- ▶ 1,300 miles traveled by damage assessment teams
- ▶ 300 hours activated at the Emergency Operations Center
- ▶ 5 million impressions across all media
- ▶ 345,000 cubic yards of debris collected
- ▶ 16,560 cases of water distributed
- ▶ 9,575 cases of MREs distributed
- ▶ 926 calls answered on the Citizens Information Line





## COUNTY SUPPORTS UNINCORPORATED RESIDENTS THROUGH TEAM LEON PROGRAM

To quickly assist residents impacted by the devastating tornadoes and provide a bridge to federal aid, Leon County launched the Targeted Emergency Assistance Microgrant (TEAM) Leon program, ultimately distributing \$1 million to assist 419 households and 53 businesses in the hardest-hit areas of unincorporated Leon County.



More than 50 staff members from 20 County departments helped implement the program, which began accepting applications on May 23, less than two weeks after the storm.



*Application Assistance Center*

On May 14, the Leon County Board of County Commissioners approved the TEAM Leon program to meet critical community needs following the tornado outbreak. The microgrant program was designed to ensure timely and effective assistance to the community, bridging the gap to federal disaster relief.

Individuals could apply to receive up to \$3,500 in assistance for critical and emergency needs and major property damage, while businesses could apply for up to \$10,000 for business disruption, loss of inventory, or major property damage.

To help get the word out to affected households and businesses in the unincorporated area, the County launched a successful targeted promotional campaign, which included sending approximately 300 mailers to impacted properties, issuing text message alerts, and utilizing digital and billboard ads, targeted social media posts, and news



*Program implementation training*



*Outreach team*

advisories. Additionally, street outreach teams consisting of County staff engaged residents by going door-to-door, distributing flyers, and placing door hangars in the community.

To assist residents with the online application, the County established three Application Assistance Centers located in the areas most impacted by the tornadoes, ultimately assisting more than 400 residents. The TEAM Leon Helpline was available to answer questions about the program and navigate the online application, receiving more than 1,700 calls.

### DELIVERING THE WOW! FACTOR IN CUSTOMER SERVICE

Thank you so much. You have no idea how much this is going to help me and my children.

*—Individual assistance recipient*

I am so happy because now I know that we're going to make it.

*—Business assistance recipient*



*Press conference located at the first business assistance recipient*

The success of the TEAM Leon program stands as a testament to Leon County's commitment to providing critical support to those individuals and businesses hit hardest by the devastating tornadoes. No matter what challenges may come our way, Leon County remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting its residents and ensuring a stronger, more resilient future for all.



## Mission Statement

To enhance the region's economic growth and quality of life by collaboratively inspiring the vitality of Leon County/Tallahassee's visitor economy.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- Implement the Division of Tourism's Strategic Plan. (#2022-5)
- Continue to build upon the reputation of Apalachee Regional Park as a destination venue for cross country athletes by securing state, regional and national competitions. (#2022-6)
- To further promote Leon County as a biking community, pursue the State's "Trail Town" designation and continue to coordinate with the City, Blueprint, State, and U.S. Forest Service to leverage capital improvements in pursuit of the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) designation. (#2022-7)
- To celebrate Leon County/Tallahassee Bicentennial in 2024, the County will implement the Leon County Bicentennial organizational management plan and facilitate the Bicentennial Steering Committee to lead the community planning efforts with government agencies, businesses, organizations, and citizens. (#2023-44)

### Contact us

(850) 606-2300  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Tourism

## PROMOTING AND MARKETING FLORIDA'S CAPITAL REGION

- ▶ In 2024, Leon County Tourism generated \$1.34\* billion in economic impact, nearly 2.55\* million visitors, and 13,738\* jobs.
- ▶ Continued to promote tourism efforts through Tourist Development Tax (TDT) collections, which are anticipated to exceed \$9.1\* million annually.
- ▶ The County continues to dedicate 20% of the annual TDT revenue collected to provide funding support for arts and cultural tourism programs and activities via the Council on Culture & Arts (COCA) through a combination of TDT and general revenue. In FY 2023/2024, COCA received \$150,000 from general revenue and \$1,822,107\* in TDT revenue.
- ▶ Hosted more than 39,000\* attendees at the Adderley Amphitheater through eight concerts, including the first-ever two-day Jubilee Gospel Music Festival, Gipsy Kings, The Revivalists, The Flaming Lips, Melissa Etheridge, and six sponsored concerts as part of the Downtown Concert Series and Countdown Downtown New Years Eve in partnership with the Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority.
- ▶ Awarded \$578,450 in tourism grant funding for 82 local legacy events, Bicentennial events, special events, signature/emerging signature events, and sports events. For the Bicentennial year, a second-cycle grant program awarded \$83,050 to support 23 additional Bicentennial events.
- ▶ In conjunction with the Bicentennial Steering Committee, led the community effort for celebrating the 2024 Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial, featuring more than 200 Bicentennial events, programs, and activities held throughout 2024.
- ▶ Organized and hosted the Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial Day at the Capitol to kick off the 2024 Bicentennial anniversary year. The



event was attended by local, state, and national dignitaries along with hundreds of residents eager to celebrate the milestone year.

- ▶ Developed the Bicentennial Reunion Incentive Program that provides incentives and perks for families and groups who hold a reunion and book hotel rooms in Tallahassee with special values from area hotels and attractions.
- ▶ Presented a five-series premier showing of the documentary *Invisible History*. As a key Bicentennial initiative, the film seeks to advance a sense of place and identity for hundreds of thousands of African Americans by exploring the invisible history of slavery in Leon County.
- ▶ Produced and distributed a Bicentennial Edition of our annual Visitor Guide and Meeting Planner Guide that highlighted the 200-year



Concert at the Adderley Amphitheater at Cascades Park

history of Tallahassee-Leon County with dedicated content to tell the story of the Capital Region and significant events of our past.

- ▶ Launched the TallahasseeLeonCounty200.com Bicentennial website that features historically fascinating blog content and a robust list of events throughout the year, allowing citizens to get involved to help support and celebrate the anniversary.
- ▶ Hosted seven major cross country events at the County's Apalachee Regional Park that welcomed more than 31,000 runners, coaches, and spectators to Leon County, including hosting both Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) and Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Conference Championships as well as Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and USA Track & Field (USATF) Club National Championships.



Florida High School Athletic Association Football State Championships

- ▶ Hosted the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSA) Cross Country State Championships for the 12th consecutive year. Tourism continues its strong partnership with FHSA, hosting all nine classifications of the 2023 Class Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSA) Football State Championships at Florida A&M University's (FAMU) Bragg Memorial Stadium as well as the FHSA third annual Beach Volleyball State Championship.
- ▶ Hosted the 2024 and was awarded the 2025 United States Bowling Congress Pepsi Youth Bowling State Championships. These competitions bring nearly 3,000 youth bowlers, coaches, officials, and family members to Leon County, generating an estimated \$6 million in economic impact each year.
- ▶ In partnership with World Athletics, announced internationally the new logo for the 2026 World Athletics Cross Country World Championships in Tallahassee with a hype video.
- ▶ Participated in the World Athletics "Future Organizers" program at the 2024 World Athletics Cross Country World Championships in Belgrade, Serbia, and hosted on-site activations promoting the 2026 World Athletics Cross Country Championships to be held in Tallahassee-Leon County.
- ▶ Hosted the NanoFlorida 2024 conference in partnership with the Integrative NanoScience Institute at Florida State University, bringing together researchers, students, and professionals from around the world to discuss advances in nanotechnology.

- ▶ Continued to build awareness and visibility for Leon County as a tourism destination through targeted cooperative marketing programs and strategic promotions with local tourism industry partners:

- » Leon County partnered with Wheel the World to make Tallahassee-Leon County a welcoming destination for travelers with disabilities. By local businesses, they ensure all visitors can explore the community with ease. collaborating with 30

- » Featured more than 100 partners in the "Bicentennial Summer Backyard Bucket List" challenge, and utilized the Visit Tallahassee mobile app, making it easier for residents and visitors to participate.

- » Utilized the Visit Tallahassee mobile app to develop and launch new itineraries and challenges such as tours of local breweries and Black-owned restaurants to drive visitation to local businesses.

- » Welcomed visitors and residents to "Stop at the Station" events hosted at the Visitor Information Center (VIC) & Gift Shop on the first Friday of the month in partnership with Domi and COCA. These events celebrated Black History Month, Women's History Month, and National Poetry Month and were all celebrated with local makers, artists, educators, and performers.

- » Worked with 22 national journalists and hosted 12 writers and social media influencers to achieve more than 100 story placements in prominent print and online media outlets.





# OFFICE OF ECONOMIC VITALITY

DEPARTMENT OF P.L.A.C.E.

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To guide the City and County’s economic development efforts in coordination with the private sector and community stakeholders by fostering fair and open competition, conducting extensive outreach to assist businesses in navigating and competing in today’s marketplace, and leveraging existing resources to maximize the infusion of financial capital to the local economy.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- Implement the Economic Development Strategic Plan as adopted and revised by the Intergovernmental Agency. (#2022-2)
- Engage local, regional, state, and federal partners to encourage the restoration of passenger rail service along the Gulf Coast by leveraging federal dollars under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (#2023-47)
- Collaborate with regional partners in the building and technical trades to increase entry-level apprenticeship opportunities. Target specifically training on-the-job upon hiring positions. (#2023-49)
- Continue efforts to promote opportunities for youth training and development with the County. (#2023-50)

### GOVERNANCE

- Pursue Federal funding to provide broadband to underserved rural communities. (#2022-42)

### Contact us

(850) 219-1080  
www.OEVForBusiness.org

## ONE-STOP SHOP FOR BUSINESS RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND EXPANSION

- ▶ Conducted year-round business recruitment, outreach, and retention activities, leading to the following significant successes for our local economy:
  - » Nine projects, \$36.6 million in OEV commitments, \$302 million in leveraged investment, and 8,858 total jobs (direct/indirect/induced).
- ▶ In close coordination with OEV and County staff, Amazon hosted hiring events throughout the community to promote job opportunities at the new fulfillment center. Of the more than 2,000 employees Amazon has hired since opening, more than 800 reside in zip codes 32304, 32301, and 32303.
- ▶ Continued to work with local internet service providers (ISP), community partners, and citizens to expand high-speed internet access to unserved and underserved areas in Leon County as the lead entity for the Local Broadband Technology Planning Team (LTP).
  - » Comcast was awarded \$6.5 million to service more than 3,000 households in Leon County’s rural areas, with total project costs representing \$15 million in new broadband investment over the next two years.
  - » Conexon was awarded \$2.3 million to service more than 1,300 rural households.
- ▶ Continued to certify Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprise (MWSBE) firms, ensuring they are equipped and prepared to engage in business with Leon County, the City of Tallahassee, and the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency.
- ▶ Assisted Danfoss Turbocor with its second expansion in Leon County, culminating in a ribbon-cutting ceremony in June to celebrate the new 145,000-square-foot manufacturing facility that represents a \$62 million capital investment and creates more than 100 new jobs.
- ▶ Launched a Strategic Site Readiness Program to identify sites in Tallahassee-Leon County best suited for future economic development opportunities.



Leon Works Expo

- ▶ Hosted the annual Leon Works Expo on April 12, 2024, which connected more than 500 high school students with 76 representatives from emerging skilled careers in healthcare, industry, creative, information technology, and beyond.
- ▶ Supported the Targeted Emergency Assistance Microgrant (TEAM) Leon Business Assistance Program following the tornadoes on May 10, 2024. The program provided \$258,500 in financial assistance to 53 affected businesses in unincorporated Leon County.
- ▶ Produced a seven-part “MWSBE Academy,” a series of trainings and workshops exclusively for certified firms.
- ▶ Sponsored and participated in the third annual Black Business Expo Tallahassee (BBET), which included 229 business registrants and awarded \$15,000 in grants.
  - » OEV-certified Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) connected with local prime contractors, paving the way for future collaboration and economic growth.
- ▶ Executed the inaugural Regional Supplier Diversity Symposium, Optimizing Job Creation and Business Growth in a Resilient Economy, in partnership with the National League of Cities, to address economic disparities and propel the inclusion of minority vendors in local procurement practices.



## ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

## PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

### Mission Statement

To implement the Blueprint Program in a timely and cost-effective manner through transformative impacts and innovative business practices while keeping the Tallahassee-Leon County community informed and involved.

### Strategic Initiatives

#### ECONOMY

- Continue to implement catalytic public infrastructure projects through Blueprint and the County's five-year CIP that provide connectivity and leverage public and private investments. (#2022-1)

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Support the completion of the Fairgrounds Master Plan by Blueprint and, upon completion, effectuate the next steps for the redevelopment of the North Florida Fairgrounds. (#2022-10)

#### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the Tallahassee-Leon County Greenways Master Plan. (#2022-20)
- Design and construct the new Northeast Park. (#2023-59)

#### Contact us

(850) 219-1060  
www.BlueprintIA.org

## PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND ENHANCE THE COMMUNITY'S QUALITY OF LIFE



Northwest Gateway: Welaunee Boulevard groundbreaking

- ▶ Completed construction of 0.3 miles of new sidewalk along Bull Headley Road from Chadwick Way to the Bull Headley Boat Landing, providing safer accessibility for pedestrians.
- ▶ Continued implementation of the Greenways Master Plan, approximately 348 acres of public space, which, once completed, will provide important recreation and connectivity across Leon County.
- ▶ Received \$118,100 in grants from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Knight Foundation to leverage opportunities for the North Monroe Gateway project.
- ▶ Initiated construction on the first phase of the Northeast Gateway: Welaunee Boulevard project, providing construction of the new roadway and multimodal facilities south of Interstate 10.
- ▶ Initiated the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study for the Northwest Connector Corridor: Tharpe Street project, which will provide preliminary engineering and environmental analysis to improve safety, transit access, and multimodal facilities along this two-lane corridor.
- ▶ Continued construction on the Lake Lafayette and St. Marks Linear Park – The Fallschase Trail, which will connect the Buck Lake corridor to the area's recreational amenities.
- ▶ Initiated construction for improvements to the Animal Service Center, including upgrades to the large-scale dog kennels, shelter medicine area, and new outdoor dog yards.
- ▶ Completed construction of the sidewalk along Pinewood Drive, filling a gap in the pedestrian network from Dellwood Drive to Delta Way as part of the Lake Jackson Greenway project.
- ▶ Continued construction efforts by M-Inc and FDOT on Capital Circle Southwest for the Orange Avenue to Springhill Road segment, which will provide nearly six miles of improved roadway and more than 23 miles of new bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- ▶ Completed 12 public art installations created by seven artists for the History and Culture Trail to honor and celebrate the rich African American history and culture of the neighborhoods, businesses, and people surrounding the Capital Cascades Trail along FAMU Way.
- ▶ Completed components of the Southwest Greenway Project, including the Debbie Lightsey Nature Park project, which provides a 113-acre nature park and five miles of trail facilities, and the Golden Aster Trail providing connectivity from Capital Circle Southwest to Longleaf Road through a 0.32-mile nature trail within the Golden Aster Nature Preserve.
- ▶ Initiated construction on the next phase of the Magnolia Drive Trail project providing a new multi-use trail, landscaping, and underground utilities from Pontiac Drive to Diamond Street.
- ▶ Secured the \$136 million Series 2024 Bond Sale for community infrastructure projects, including Capital Cascades Trail Segment 4, Northeast Gateway: Welaunee Boulevard, NE Corridor Connector: Bannerman Road, and Market District Placemaking.
- ▶ Approved the Fairgrounds Master Plan, establishing a multi-generational vision to reimagine and improve the North Florida Fairgrounds.
- ▶ Completed 0.75 miles of on-street cycle routes from Glenview Drive to Pinewood Drive as part of the Lake Jackson Greenway project.



### Mission Statement

To provide accurate information, creative and effective planning recommendations, and expertise in the areas of long-range land use, environmental, and transportation planning for the orderly growth of Leon County and the Tallahassee community.

### Strategic Initiatives

#### ECONOMY

- Support the completion of the Fairgrounds Master Plan by Blueprint and, upon completion, effectuate the next steps for the redevelopment of the North Florida Fairgrounds. (#2022-10)

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Complete a comprehensive review and revision to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan. (#2022-13)

#### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the recommendations of the Citizen’s North Monroe Street Task Force to reduce crime and improve conditions along the North Monroe Corridor. (#2022-30)

#### GOVERNANCE

- Continue to support updates to the Comprehensive Plan that encourage annexation of southside properties within the Urban Services Area. (#2022-41)

#### Contact us

(850) 891-6400  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Planning

## PLANNING TODAY FOR TOMORROW’S COMMUNITY

- ▶ Reviewed nine Comprehensive Plan amendments and five concurrent rezonings that shape future growth and development in the community during the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Cycle.
- ▶ Reviewed 175 development applications with 98 located in unincorporated Leon County.
- ▶ Processed six rezoning applications, with three more currently underway, not including the five that take place with the current Comprehensive Plan amendments, including changes to zoning districts and planned unit developments, staff analysis, and generating a Planning Commission recommendation in Leon County and the City of Tallahassee.
- ▶ Provided 101 site consultations through DesignWorks, with 18 located within County jurisdiction. Of the 18 County site consultations, 15 were private sector consultations and the remaining three services were provided to other Leon County departments. In addition, two public sector design assistance projects covered both County and City jurisdictions.
- ▶ Served critical roles in the Leon County Emergency Operations Center throughout the year, including activations for weather-related events, and provided staff support to the TEAM Leon program.
- ▶ Continued to serve as lead staff for seven advisory committees and participated on six other technical committees.



North Monroe Charrette

### DID YOU KNOW

The Planning Department tracks public and private investment in the Southside Action Plan, a guide for the future development of the Southside towards a more livable and sustainable future. Ongoing projects and those completed in the last five years represent a more than \$1.13 billion investment into infrastructure, commercial development, affordable housing, and other projects that will improve the quality of life for Southside residents.



## Mission Statement

To provide safe, efficient, and sustainable roadways and transportation amenities, stormwater facilities, and vehicle fleet throughout Leon County that enhances its livability, environment, and economic vitality.

## ENVIRONMENT

- Ensure County’s water quality and stormwater regulations, programs, and projects are evaluated and implemented holistically to advance the County’s adopted strategic priority: to protect the quality and supply of our water. (#2022-16)
- Continue to work with the state to seek matching grants to convert septic to sewer systems. (#2022-11)

## PLANNING, BUILDING, AND MAINTAINING QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE



*Sir Richard Road repair*

- ▶ Leveraged \$9.28 million in grants for the following projects:
  - » The Woodville Sewer System Project, part of the Wakulla Springs Protection Project, will connect residential homes in the Woodville area to the central sewer system.
  - » The Northeast Lake Munson Sewer Project will connect residential homes in the Idlewild and Yon’s Lakeside subdivisions to the central sewer system.
  - » The Miccosukee Road Bridge Project will include removing the current bridge and constructing a two-lane bridge-culvert crossing with signage, pavement marking, and guardrail replacement.
  - » Tire Amnesty Days, in partnership with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, is an annual free tire collection program to reduce mosquito breeding grounds within the community.
- ▶ Facilitated the County’s recovery by coordinating debris removal efforts following the May 10 Tornado Outbreak and submitting a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA ) reimbursement to

cover the associated costs of clearing and disposing of debris left by the tornadoes.

- ▶ Initiated a \$600,000 Vulnerability Assessment Grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), which identifies critical assets including roadways, facilities, infrastructure, and other regionally significant assets in Leon County that are vulnerable to flooding based on current and future rainfall scenarios.
- ▶ Completed the following projects to enhance County buildings and recreational facilities:
  - » Leon County Sheriff’s Office Evidence Storage Facility.
  - » Courthouse window repairs phases I and II.
  - » Courthouse second-floor Court Administration renovation.
  - » Government Annex parking garage structural repairs.
  - » Domi Station masonry wall repairs.
  - » Southside Florida Department of Health Leon County building roof replacement.
  - » Fred George Park Wetland Restoration Project.

### DID YOU KNOW

The May 10 tornadoes generated more than 345,000 cubic yards of debris to be removed from the unincorporated area of Leon County.

### Contact us

(850) 606-1500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks)



# ENGINEERING SERVICES

## PUBLIC WORKS

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

### Goal Statement

To provide the public with professional services for the construction and maintenance of cost-effective infrastructure to enhance our community's quality of life.

### ENVIRONMENT

- Initiate Basin Management Plan updates for the unincorporated area once the state adopts new stormwater standards. (#2022-17)
- Implement the comprehensive Action Plan for Lake Munson to support the long-term water quality of the lake and surrounding water bodies. (#2023-51)

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Enhance Citizen Safety and Accessibility by evaluating the County's Private Road Repair and Maintenance Policy and Programs. (#2024-75)
- Continue to work with the Florida Department of Transportation for safety improvements on State and County roadways to include accessibility enhancements, street lighting installations, sidewalk additions, safety audits, and intersection improvements. (#2022-26)

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-1500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Engineering](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Engineering)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- ▶ In a continued commitment to providing a safe and efficient transportation system, over the past year Leon County completed the following:
  - » Multi-use trail construction along Tram Road from Gaile Avenue to Crossing Rocks Road.
  - » Sidewalk construction along Blountstown Highway from Williams Landing Road to the Fort Braden School mid-block crossing and from Sir Richard Road to Merry Robbin Road.
  - » Sidewalk construction along Bur Oak Drive from Forest Grove Road to Shumard Drive and along Shumard Drive from Bur Oak Drive to Canyon Creek Road.
  - » Safety improvements to Silver Lake Road.
  - » Accessibility enhancement construction for Maylor Road.
  - » Resurfaced 11.79 miles of roads throughout Leon County.
- ▶ To reduce flooding and improve the community's surface and groundwater quality, the following projects were completed using the most cost-effective options:
  - » Fred George Park Wetland Restoration.
  - » Environmental assessment for Lake Henrietta Sediment Removal.
  - » Construction of Keystone Trash Screen.
  - » Initiation of Vulnerability Assessment.
  - » Sixty-seven Advanced Septic Tank System installations through pilot and incentive programs.
- ▶ To enhance traffic and pedestrian safety, completed street lighting projects for 18 intersections and 15 school bus stops in-house, saving approximately \$120,000.



*Magnolia Drive construction*

### DID YOU KNOW

Engineering Services staff collect water quality samples quarterly and annual sediment and biological assessments of 12 lakes, 27 streams, and two river systems for 70 stations. The water quality samples are tested for 39 parameters and provide information on nutrient concentrations, oxygen levels, solids, temperature, color, trace metals, and more.





## Goal Statement

To provide for the safety and convenience of the public by constructing, maintaining, beautifying, and protecting our infrastructure, to include transportation maintenance, stormwater maintenance, right-of-way maintenance, and mosquito control services.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ENVIRONMENT

- Evaluate enhancing existing roadside litter debris removal through the creation of a County staffed program and further engage neighborhoods, businesses and civic organizations in expanding the County's adopt-a-road program. (#2022-19)

## TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE



Clearing roadways after severe weather

### TRANSPORTATION MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Responded to more than 8,000 service requests via email, telephone, personal contacts, and the Citizens Connect mobile app.
- ▶ Performed grading on more than 800 miles of County-maintained dirt roads during an 18-day cycle.
- ▶ Installed and repaired approximately 7,000 street signs throughout Leon County.
- ▶ Performed 120 private road repairs associated with the County's Private Road Repair and Livable Infrastructure for Everyone (LIFE) programs.
- ▶ Completed more than 900 tons of asphalt and pothole patching repairs.

### RIGHT-OF-WAY

- ▶ Completed maintenance on more than 500 acres of landscaped areas throughout Leon County.
- ▶ Planted 600 trees along County canopy roads and through the Adopt-A-Tree Program.

- ▶ Successfully completed a tree grant from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to update the tree inventory on the County's canopy roads.
- ▶ Collected litter from 765 miles of County roadside.

### STORMWATER MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Cleaned more than 22,068 linear feet of roadside ditches to improve water quality and reduce the potential for stormwater impacts on adjacent properties.
- ▶ Inspected 320 stormwater ponds for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 permit.
- ▶ Renewed 45 County and City stormwater operating permits for stormwater facilities.

### MOSQUITO CONTROL

- ▶ Secured a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) grant of \$25,000 to sponsor Tire Amnesty Days to help prevent breeding grounds for mosquitoes, collecting more than 37 tons of tires.

### Contact us

(850) 606-1400

[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Operations](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Operations)



### Goal Statement

To provide the best quality maintenance and repair at the most economical cost to taxpayers of Leon County.

### Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Protected the quality and supply of our water. (EN1)
- Continued to reduce our carbon footprint. (EN4)

#### GOVERNANCE

- Exercised responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management, and ensure that the provision of services and community enhancements are done in a fair and equitable manner. (G5)

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-2000  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet

## VEHICLE REPAIR AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE



May 10 Tornado Outbreak response



Leon Works Junior Apprenticeship program

- ▶ Fleet Management continues to work toward improving the management of resources and increasing efficiency through vehicle cost-saving opportunities.
  - » Purchased 3,369 gallons of RelaDyne Ecopower recycled motor oil and recycled 3,000 gallons of used petroleum products.
  - » Performed 1,035 preventative maintenance services in-house.
  - » Collected more than \$496,029 in revenue for surplus vehicles and equipment.
  - » Increased Leon County’s electric vehicle fleet to 11 vehicles.
  - » Managed a fuel inventory volume exceeding 500,000 gallons of diesel and gasoline.
  - » Monitored inventory control, distribution, and billing.



Emergency Medical Services ambulance

### DID YOU KNOW

By the end of FY24, the County will have 11 fully electric vehicles in its fleet.



### Mission and Goal Statements

**Office of Resource Stewardship:** To provide leadership and coordination of services through the Office of Sustainability, Parks and Recreation, Solid Waste Services, Facilities Management, and the Cooperative Extension office in order to identify opportunities for synergy and added efficiencies between each work-group to effectively promote stewardship of the community's natural, societal, and economic resources.

**Sustainability:** To enhance our community's environmental, economic, and social resilience by promoting adoption of sustainability practices within County government and the community at large.

### Strategic Initiatives

#### ENVIRONMENT

- Expand the Biochar Pilot Program at the Leon County Solid Waste Management Facility into a full-scale, sustainable, and carbon reducing processing facility for the community's yard waste. (#2024-70)
- Enact the County's Integrated Sustainability Action Plan to further reduce the County Government's carbon footprint. (#2022-15)

**Contact us**  
 (850) 606-5000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Sustainability](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Sustainability)

## GROWING GREEN TOGETHER



*Sustainable Communities Summit*

- ▶ Realized approximately \$2.1 million in additional utility savings from energy conservation measures, building upon the cumulative total of more than \$15 million from prior upgrades.
- ▶ Saved more than 700,000 plastic water bottles from being used by installing 44 bottle filling stations across 20 County facilities.
- ▶ Engaged more than 1,000 citizens through presentations and events on topics such as composting and recycling.
- ▶ Entered a new agreement with reCap, a Florida-based small business, to upcycle a portion of the County's yard debris into biochar, a charcoal-like substance produced from organic matter. After a successful pilot period from 2021-2023, the updated agreement is anticipated to produce 10 new full-time jobs and support the innovation of carbon-negative waste solutions.
- ▶ Due to severe weather, the Sustainable Communities Summit was rescheduled as a series of educational and community-focused programs. The series included a panel on recycling with local experts,

a discussion on intergenerational sustainability engagement, and an invasive species shoreline cleanup at Lake Carr.

- ▶ Awarded five Community Garden Grants and one Community Beautification Grant. In total, 72 garden grants and three beautification grants have been awarded to support community gardens and projects at schools, neighborhoods, and non-profit organizations.
- ▶ Distributed more than 50 compost bins to Leon County citizens to encourage at-home composting to help mitigate food waste and enhance soil quality.
- ▶ Continued to work on action items and goals outlined in the Integrated Sustainability Action Plan (ISAP), including reducing greenhouse gas emissions from County operations by 30% by 2030.
- ▶ Gathered more than 300 participants in the annual sponsorship of a buy-one-get-one deal on native plants at Native Nurseries.



# PARKS AND RECREATION

OFFICE OF RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To provide for the safety, comfort, and convenience of the public by creating and maintaining infrastructure and programs supporting recreation, parks, and open space.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- To further promote Leon County as a biking community, pursue the State's "Trail Town" designation and continue to coordinate with the City, Blueprint, State, and U.S. Forest Service to leverage capital improvements in pursuit of the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) designation. (#2022-7)

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement the Tallahassee-Leon County Greenways Master Plan. (#2022-20)
- Design and construct the new Northeast Park. (#2023-59)

### Contact us

(850) 606-1470  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Parks

## MAINTAINING LEON COUNTY'S PRISTINE PARKS AND GREENWAYS

- J. Lewis Hall Sr. Woodville Park received numerous upgrades, including:
  - » Playground replacement
  - » Restroom renovations
  - » Replacement of all post and rail fencing
  - » Parking lot resurfacing
  - » New scoreboard for the baseball/softball field
- Installed a new, engaging playground at Man-O'-War Park.
- Installed a new swing set at Pimlico Park to complement the play structure installed last year.
- Continued the renovation of the Old Concord School in collaboration with Public Works, which will become the new Miccosukee Community Center.
- Began construction on the second trailhead at St. Marks Headwaters Greenway off Buck Lake Road. This trailhead will include a restroom facility, playground, pavilions, and more than three miles of new walking trails adjoining the existing trailhead off Baum Road.
- Upgraded the existing six-foot-wide gravel walking path at the Ft. Braden Community Center to an eight-foot-wide concrete walking path, ensuring a more stabilized and user-friendly experience.
- Planted more than 200 native tree seedlings at Miccosukee Greenway, Man-O'-War Park, and Pimlico Park.
- Facilitated more than 2,400 community center reservations, 7,900 reservation days at campgrounds, and more than 100 special event permits at County parks.



- Received a \$48,497 grant from the Healthy Kids Initiative in partnership with Play & Park Structures to help aid in the replacement of the Miccosukee Community Park Playground.
- In partnership with the Division of Tourism, prepared and hosted more than eight major cross country events at Apalachee Regional Park (ARP), including the 2023 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Championships and Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Cross Country Championships. In addition to cross country events, ARP hosted two new Tourism-funded events, the Tallahassee Bike Fest and the Highland Games.



*New playground equipment at J. Lewis Hall Sr. Woodville Park*



*Arbor Day at Anita L. Davis Preserve at Lake Henrietta Park*



*Man-'O-War Park*



*Chainsaw training*

- ▶ Completed the replacement of two scoreboards at Daniel B. Chaires Community Park for the baseball fields and all new Pinellas fencing throughout the park.
- ▶ Refurbished the restrooms at the Miccosukee Greenway Edenfield Trailhead.
- ▶ Hosted Little League Districts' Sectionals and All-Stars for baseball at various fields across the County, in addition to hosting the District 20 Little League All-Stars.
- ▶ Conserved and protected environmentally sensitive lands by treating for invasive, exotic species at Williams Landing, Pedrick Pond Park, Goose Creek, J.R. Alford Greenway, and Gil Waters Preserve Park, totaling more than 300 acres.

- ▶ Continued working with Blueprint on the development of the new Northeast Park, which will break ground in fall 2024.
- ▶ Conducted a wetland restoration project in line with the Fred George Management Plan with State grant funding.
- ▶ Replaced three boat docks at Blount Landing, Cedar Hill Landing, and Bull Headley Landing.
- ▶ Continued collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club of the Big Bend, with more than 60 youth attending after-school care at the Ft. Braden Community Center for the 2023/2024 school year.

- ▶ Collaborated with the Cornerstone Learning Community to propagate and plant 50 native coreopsis flowers at Miccosukee Greenway as a student project.

### DID YOU KNOW

Leon County Parks and Recreation maintains 3,400 acres of community parks and 50 miles of maintained trails across Leon County.



# FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To serve the people of Leon County as a responsible steward of all building infrastructure that is necessary to support County operations in a timely, professional, and cost-effective manner.

## Strategic Initiatives

### GOVERNANCE

- Exercised responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management, and ensure that the provision of services and community enhancements are done in a fair and equitable manner. (G5)

## PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE FOR COUNTY BUILDINGS

- ▶ Upgraded the cell doors and installed new parking lot lighting to enhance safety at the Leon County Detention Facility.
- ▶ Modernized the Variable Air Volume (VAV) systems at the Courthouse and Leon County Main Library to maintain healthy air quality and provide comfort to building occupants.
- ▶ Replaced the DX Heat Pumps at the Florida Department of Health Roberts & Stevens Clinic with new, energy-efficient heat pumps, adding a Building Automation System to better control HVAC functions. Additionally, a new mini split for the Blood Lab was added to better manage the high heat produced by the equipment used.
- ▶ Refurbished and modernized Courtrooms 2C and 3D at the Leon County Courthouse, including paint, wall panels, furniture upgrades, and more.
- ▶ Equipped the Florida Department of Health in Leon County Southside Clinic with a new grant-funded generator to provide backup power during outages.
- ▶ Replaced the Florida Department of Health in Leon County Southside Clinic building roof to improve overall structural integrity.
- ▶ Upgraded the main heat pumps and replaced all water source heat pumps at the Human Services and Community Partnerships building, located at 615 East Paul Russell Road. The new pumps provide a sustainable and economical solution, significantly enhancing energy efficiency and performance.
- ▶ Added new electric vehicle charging stations at several locations throughout the County, making it more convenient to charge vehicles.
- ▶ Replaced all exterior handrails at the Leon County Main Library to improve accessibility and safety for visitors and staff.



Springtime Tallahassee float designed by Facilities team



Human Services and Community Partnerships building

## DID YOU KNOW

Facilities Management maintains more than two million square feet of County property, including more than 150 buildings located throughout Leon County, ensuring that everything from refurbished historic structures to modern public safety buildings run smoothly and efficiently.

### Contact us

(850) 606-5000  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Facilities



## Goal Statement

To provide an integrated solid waste management system dedicated to excellent customer service and responsible fiscal and environmental stewardship.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ENVIRONMENT

- Expand the Biochar Pilot Program at the Leon County Solid Waste Management Facility into a full-scale, sustainable, and carbon reducing processing facility for the community's yard waste. (#2024-70)

### Contact us

(850) 606-1800

[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste)

## CUSTOMER SERVICE, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, AND INNOVATION



Transfer Station

- ▶ Leon County's Hazardous Waste Center continues to prioritize the health and safety of Leon County citizens by promoting responsible disposal of household chemicals and electronics.
  - » Processed 648 tons of potentially hazardous material from an estimated 17,622 residents and businesses, of which 340 tons were removed from the solid waste stream through recycling or reuse.
  - » Returned 52.1 tons of paint and household products to the community free of charge through the Renew Center and a working relationship with Habitat for Humanity.
  - » The centrally located Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Site collected more than 161,000 pounds of hazardous waste and electronics.
- ▶ Assisted with two City of Tallahassee Cash for Trash events, collecting 68,035 pounds of hazardous waste materials.
- ▶ Participated in the annual forest clean up with the Forest Edge Neighborhood, helping to remove more than 16,920 pounds of waste from the Apalachicola National Forest.
- ▶ Received 3,507 tons of waste, tires, and hazmat materials at the four rural waste sites, including:
  - » 3,380 tons of household waste
  - » 60 tons of tires
  - » 25.5 tons of hazmat
  - » 41.5 tons of electronics
- ▶ At the Solid Waste Management Facility:
  - » Processed 18,309 tons of yard debris from Leon County residents.
  - » Recycled 1,985 tons of yard waste from Rural Waste sites.
  - » Processed 416 tons of waste tires from Leon County residents, including 35 tons for Tire Amnesty Days.
  - » Residents utilized more than three million pounds of mulch from the County's yard waste.
- ▶ Processed and loaded 224,054 tons of solid waste at the Transfer Station.
- ▶ Completed repairs and construction to the main Transfer Station driveway areas while maintaining uninterrupted service operations.



# LEGISLATIVE AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To advocate for Leon County’s State and Federal legislative priorities before the Florida Legislature and the United States Congress, and to facilitate the development and implementation of the County’s five-year Strategic Plan including Strategic Initiatives, Targets, and Bold Goals adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

## ECONOMY

- Maximize the leveraging of the \$1 trillion federal infrastructure bill to fund County projects. (#2022-8)
- Engage local, regional, state, and federal partners to encourage the restoration of passenger rail service along the Gulf Coast by leveraging federal dollars under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (#2023-47)

## GOVERNANCE

- Continue to set the benchmark for local governments everywhere by earning national, state and local awards for County programs, hosting Florida Association of Counties events like Innovation Day, and sharing best practices with peers, all while remaining committed to learning and improving as an organization. (#2022-36)

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-5300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SpecialProjects](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SpecialProjects)

## ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY’S LEGISLATIVE INTERESTS

- ▶ Partnered with organizations, such as the Florida Association of Counties, Leon County’s state and federal legislative delegations, the City of Tallahassee, institutions of higher education, and others, to identify shared issues and seek opportunities to leverage financial, technical, and human capital to draw attention to community priorities at the federal, state, and local levels.
- ▶ Planned, developed, and implemented the County’s 2024 state and federal legislative priorities to seek funding for local projects and advance legislation that protects the County’s local home rule authority.
- ▶ Coordinated with members of the federal legislative delegation to secure \$800,000 in the FY24 Federal Appropriations Package in support of the County’s Fords Arm Restoration project.
- ▶ Produced a pre-session update, an end-of-session report, and weekly briefings (Capitol Update) to keep the Leon County Board of County Commissioners and senior staff apprised of legislative developments that would impact the community during the 2024 Legislative Session.



Crosswalks to Classrooms, “Best in Category,” NACo Achievement Awards

## DEMONSTRATING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Staff led a multi-departmental effort to win eight National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards in 2024, including one



“Best in Category” award for Leon County’s Crosswalks to Classroom – Dempsey Mayo Road Initiative. These awards recognize the cost-effective, high-quality services that Leon County provides to citizens.





### Goal Statement

To improve animal and human well-being through education, prevention, and enforcement programs and humane animal care and control services for the citizens and animals of Leon County.

### Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

#### GOVERNANCE

- Sustain a culture of transparency, accessibility, accountability, civility, and the highest standards of public service. (G1)
- Sustain a culture of performance, and deliver effective, efficient services that exceed expectations and demonstrate value. (G2)

#### Contact us

(850) 606-5400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal)

## PROTECTING LEON COUNTY'S ANIMALS AND CITIZENS



*Animal Control vehicle*

- ▶ Animal Control staff is committed to serving the community and decreasing the number of impounded animals. During the year, staff:
  - » Fielded more than 8,000 phone calls, resulting in more than 2,500 service requests and more than 3,000 Animal Control Officer activities.
  - » Responded to more than 400 service requests for inhumane care, resulting in the issuance of citations and referrals to the Leon County Sheriff's Office for the pursuit of criminal charges.
  - » Investigated more than 330 dangerous or aggressive animal complaints.
  - » Supported the special needs shelter at Florida High during disaster activations to care for the pets of vulnerable populations.
- ▶ To continuously provide for the safety and well-being of both citizens and domestic animals, Animal Control staff has:
  - » Maintained the online Animal Abuser Registry to address animal abuse and raise public awareness of animal neglect, generating more than 5,600 page views since its launch.

- » Educated residents about responsible pet care and animal safety and participated in local events such as the "Take Me Home" pet adoption event at the fairgrounds.
- » Posted pet safety tips on the County's social media pages to educate pet owners about how to keep their pets and the community safe.
- » Informed pet owners about Leon County's Animal Ordinance and provided pet owners with loaner dog houses and referrals for free outdoor enclosures.
- » Rescued more than 400 pets and ensured more than 80 lost pets were returned home.
- » Provided leashes to help people and pets get active through quality time outdoors.
- » Continued to implement strategies that allow Animal Control Officers to return animals to their owners and eliminate the need to take animals to the shelter, such as scanning animals for microchips, working with rescues to rehome pets, and speaking with citizens in the area to locate possible owners.
- » Engraved and distributed free pet identification tags and assisted local partners with providing free pet food to residents in need.

### DID YOU KNOW

Leon County Animal Control works closely with local community partners to assist pet owners with caring for their animals by providing spay and neuter vouchers and free pet food, flea medication, collars, leashes, and more.



# DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DSEM)

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission and Goal Statements

**DSEM:** To support the development of a sustainable community and its built environment, while protecting and preserving our natural resources to maintain the quality of life for all citizens and building positive relationships through exceptional customer service.

**Development Services:** Guide and support the development of sustainable communities through the adopted policies of the Comprehensive Plan and development standards of the Land Development Code, while ensuring and promoting the quality of life for all citizens of Leon County.

**Building Plans Review and Inspection:** Ensure that built environments are safe, accessible, and energy efficient through compliance with all applicable construction codes, plans review, inspections, the use of automated technologies, and continuing staff development.

**Environmental Services:** Provide high quality technical and scientific permitting and review services to the public and to disseminate environmental information to the public and government agencies in support of environmental protection efforts.

**Code Compliance Services:** Administer, centralize, coordinate, and facilitate licensing code compliance, citizen review boards, growth, and environmental management services to residents, property owners, and land development professionals served by DSEM in order to achieve compliance with adopted ordinances and policies.

**Contact us**  
(850) 606-1300  
www.LeonPermits.org

## PERMITTING, INSPECTION, DEVELOPMENT, AND SUPPORT

### DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

- ▶ Continued to provide exceptional customer service to the community and ensured that all approved developments met or exceeded the minimum development standards.
- ▶ Reviewed and approved 50 site and development plan applications, 65 minor subdivision applications, and 1,451 land use compliance applications.
- ▶ Issued 30 concurrency certificates and 198 permitted use verifications.
- ▶ Led disaster damage assessment operations following the May 10 Tornado Outbreak, assessing 2,112 structures.
- ▶ Drafted an Ordinance amending the Accessory Dwelling Unit provisions to update, simplify, and streamline the regulations.
- ▶ Worked extensively with concerned residents on development project applications, including:
  - » A 9,533-square-foot orthodontist clinic on Bradfordville Road.
  - » A 12,300-square-foot conference center for the Tall Timbers Research Facility on Henry Beadel Drive.
  - » Fallschase Residential Phase VII subdivision, consisting of 176 single-family dwelling units.



*Damage assessment team meeting following May 10 Tornado Outbreak*

- » Retreat Phase II subdivision, consisting of 99 single-family residential dwelling units located on Highland Drive.
- » Westminster Presbyterian Church Addition, consisting of 12,400 square feet of additional building area located on Centerville Road.
- » Citrus Grove Planned Unit Development (PUD) Concept Plan, consisting of up to 542 single-family attached and detached residential units as well as community facilities and conservation and open space located on Apalachee Parkway near April Road.

### BUILDING PLANS REVIEW AND INSPECTION DIVISION

- ▶ Performed 26,700 building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical inspections, and completed the associated plan reviews.



## Strategic Initiatives

### GOVERNANCE

- Further enhance the use of social media neighborhood apps to notify citizens of development projects occurring in their neighborhoods. (#2022-40)



*The Dwellings neighborhood*

- ▶ Issued approximately 5,800 building permits.
- ▶ Ensured an average of eight days for the issuance of new single-family home building permits.
- ▶ Continued coordination with Management Information Services (MIS) to implement DigEplan, a new plan review and file management software system.
- ▶ Continued working with MIS to move the County's permitting system 100% online, providing customers with the ability to apply for any type of permit through the Leon County Permits Online portal.
- ▶ Made improvements to the DSEM website to increase the availability of information for customer access.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

- ▶ Reviewed 32 natural features inventory applications and helped ensure environmental protection by reviewing 50 site plan applications.
- ▶ Reviewed 82 environmental management permit applications and 50 new stormwater management facility operating permit applications and processed 115 operating permit renewals to ensure proper operation of stormwater facilities.
- ▶ Worked with the Development Services Division to review 250 permitted use verifications for environmental compliance issues.
- ▶ Reviewed 240 driveway applications and 1,100 single-family permit applications for environmental protection.
- ▶ Performed more than 4,200 environmental inspections/reviews in support of approved permits.
- ▶ Performed more than 300 petroleum tank inspections in Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, and Jefferson counties during the Florida Department of Environmental Protection 2023/2024 fiscal year through the Leon County Petroleum Storage Tank Regulation Program.

- ▶ Continued to educate the public about fertilizing properly through the ongoing Fertilizer Rain Delay social media campaign, which reminds homeowners and professional fertilizer applicators not to apply fertilizer for at least one day ahead of forecasted heavy rain (1 inch or more in 24 hours) to save money, plants, and the environment.

### CODE COMPLIANCE SERVICES DIVISION

- ▶ Attended five local gun shows to ensure compliance with the Criminal History Records Check and Waiting Period for Purchase of Firearms, also known as the "Gun Show Loophole" Ordinance.
- ▶ Assisted 1,645 contractor licensing customers.
- ▶ Responded to 2,405 code compliance calls from citizens resulting in 1,042 site inspections and 107 case presentations before the Code Enforcement Board for disposition.
- ▶ Monitored 115 properties under the Abandoned Property Registration Ordinance to protect neighborhoods from becoming blighted by distressed and abandoned properties with mortgages in default.
- ▶ Responded to 193 Compliance Certification Letter requests to provide for the recovery of associated costs of research and processing of open code violations and property liens.
- ▶ Processed four nuisance abatement cases through the Nuisance Abatement Board to streamline the process for the abatement of unsafe structures.

### DID YOU KNOW

To safeguard property owners, staff verifies contractors' and subcontractors' licenses to ensure all appropriate licenses, workers' compensation, and general liability are current before issuing permits.



# HUMAN SERVICES/HEALTHCARE/CHSP

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (HSCP)

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission and Goal Statements

**HSCP:** To build a stronger, healthier community by providing a safety net of resources, services, and solutions for citizens in need in partnership with our community.

**Human Services:** To serve as a safety net to enhance the quality of life for residents by providing resources, access to social services, and short-term financial assistance.

**Healthcare:** To improve the health of citizens by providing quality and cost-effective health services through collaborative community partnerships.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Establish and implement line-item funding for local emergency homeless shelters in coordination and collaboration with community stakeholders including the City of Tallahassee and Children’s Services Council of Leon County. (#2024-72)
- Partner with the Children’s Services Council to address Black maternal and children’s health through the coordination of data sharing, collaboration with partners on available community resources, and opportunities to maximize investment in outreach and awareness to improve health outcomes. (#2023-58)
- Implement efforts to enhance access and delivery of human services in the community in partnership with 2-1-1 Big Bend through the 24-hour Helpline, Lyft Transportation Program, Community Information Exchange System, and other efforts. (#2024-71)

### Contact us

(850) 606-1900  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HSCP

## PRESERVING AND IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF CITIZENS

- ▶ Contributed \$1.3 million to help fund more than 5,000 visits for primary care, dental care, and mental health services for uninsured and low-income residents at Neighborhood Medical Center, Bond Community Health Center, and Apalachee Center.
- ▶ Distributed \$1 million to 472 individual households and businesses through the TEAM Leon microgrant program in response to the tornado event on May 10, 2024.
- ▶ Hosted four heir property community presentations with stakeholders to educate homeowners about how to avoid complex probate and property issues and build family wealth.
- ▶ Leveraged local and national partnerships to help uninsured residents with limited income receive more than 2,300 prescription medications valued at more than \$500,000 through the CareNet partnership with FAMU Pharmacy and Neighborhood Medical Center.
- ▶ Provided a local match of \$564,599 to Low Income Pool funding that allowed Apalachee Center, Bond Community Health Center, and Neighborhood Medical Center to leverage an additional \$963,668 to support healthcare and behavioral health services for citizens.
- ▶ Provided \$49,000 in annual funding for medical examination costs for children alleged to have been abused, abandoned, or neglected.
- ▶ Provided \$86,685 in annual funding for the Direct Emergency Assistance Program to provide financial assistance to Leon County residents for basic expenses, including shelter and utility costs.
- ▶ Allocated \$114,400 to fund the State’s Indigent Burial Program and transportation costs and collaborated with the Consolidated Dispatch Agency, law enforcement, and local transport providers to improve the process for transporting bodies before interment.
- ▶ Continued funding the Apalachee Center’s establishment of a Central Receiving Facility, providing care for more than 1,200 individuals who involuntarily need access to emergency mental and/or behavioral health or substance abuse treatment in Leon County.



Heir Property Workshop

- ▶ Provided \$183,826 to the Capital Medical Society Foundation’s We Care Network to coordinate donated specialty medical care and dental care for uninsured and low-income residents valued at more than \$2.3 million.
- ▶ Continued the County’s partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) to fill more than 90 prescription medications not covered by insurance at a cost savings totaling more than \$2,000.
- ▶ Facilitated the Trusted People Committee with community partners to receive citizen feedback on local human services provision and help address gaps in service.

## DID YOU KNOW

Leon County, in partnership with the City of Tallahassee, provides nearly \$5.6 million to support 50 agencies that provide a total of 82 human services programs through the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP).



### ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

### PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To build partnerships and administer programs that preserve and grow the inventory of safe and sanitary affordable housing in Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Implement efforts to enhance access and delivery of human services in the community in partnership with 2-1-1 Big Bend through the 24-hour Helpline, Lyft Transportation Program, Community Information Exchange System, and other efforts. (#2024-76)
- Continue to explore policies such as inclusionary housing and mixed housing developments to increase the stock of affordable housing throughout Leon County. (#2023-52)
- Continue to leverage County funding in partnership with local stakeholders to secure State and Federal funding to build affordable rental housing for very low- and low-income families. (#2023-61)

### Contact us

(850) 606-1900  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing)

## HOUSING ASSISTANCE, COUNSELING, AND SOLUTIONS

- ▶ Leon County continuously works to develop community partnerships that preserve and grow the inventory of safe and sanitary affordable housing in Leon County and administers home rehabilitation, home replacement, homeownership development, down payment assistance, emergency home repair, and rental development programs.
  - » Through rehabilitation and emergency repair projects valued at approximately \$400,000, preserved 11 homes owned by low-income Leon County residents.
  - » Utilized approximately \$300,000 in grant funding to replace a dilapidated home for a low-income special needs household.
  - » Assisted eight households in addressing critical repairs through the Emergency Home Repair Program.
  - » Awarded more than \$500,000 in subsidies to nonprofit organizations and small businesses to finance the construction of nine new homes for low-income first-time homebuyers, including four units on parcels donated by the County to the Community Land Trust and five units in targeted neighborhoods that have historically experienced poverty and racial inequities.
  - » Continued to support the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County in issuing multi-family housing revenue bonds to provide financing for affordable housing.
  - » Provided emergency tarps to more than 40 households with active roof leaks.
- ▶ Enhanced the County's State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program by providing legal assistance to residents with heir property issues.
- ▶ Continued to leverage the online application for services and, through its pool of local contractors, addressed emergent needs such as installing tarps on leaking roofs, pumping out malfunctioning septic systems, and other repairs.



Homeownership Development Program

- ▶ Hosted the Spring Home Expo with more than 100 citizens attending workshops and demonstrations about topics including home buying and owning and home improvement. The event also featured 20 community partners sharing essential resources about homeowners' insurance, sustainable living, and more.
- ▶ Hosted five homeowner education workshops to provide community homeowners with maintenance strategies and information on the County's home rehabilitation and emergency repair programs.
- ▶ Organized the 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service to revitalize the property of a low-income veteran homeowner in honor of the victims, survivors, and those who rose in service in response to the attacks on September 11, 2001.
- ▶ Launched a disaster recovery program in response to the significant damage experienced in Leon County during the severe storms, straight-line winds, and tornadoes on May 10, 2024.
  - » Provided financial assistance to more than 17 low- to moderate-income households to cover homeowner's insurance deductibles, home repair costs, weatherproofing supplies, and costs associated with temporary relocation, mortgage, or utilities for displaced households.



# VETERAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To assist Veterans and their dependents in securing all entitled benefits earned through honorable military service and to advocate for Veteran's interests in the community.

## VETERANS HELPING VETERANS



*Operation Thank You*

- ▶ Completed 5,208 benefit counseling contacts for veterans and their dependents.
- ▶ In partnership with the City of Tallahassee, provided 108 StarMetro bus passes for low-income and disabled veterans.
- ▶ Facilitated 936 claim actions that resulted in Leon County veterans receiving more than \$38 million in benefits.
- ▶ Continued partnering with CareerSource Capital Region to increase job and economic opportunities for local veterans.
- ▶ Maintained strong relationships with community partners by attending United Vets monthly coordination meetings.
- ▶ Assisted veterans through the Veterans Emergency Assistance Program, which provides emergency financial assistance to help qualifying veterans meet critical, basic needs such as rent, mortgage, and utilities.
- ▶ Continued to provide financial support for the Leon County Veteran's Day Parade in partnership with Vet Events Tallahassee, Inc.

- ▶ Continued to serve on the Leon County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to ensure the transportation-disadvantaged population in Leon County has adequate access to transportation.
- ▶ Honored veterans by placing Operation Thank You commemorative wreaths on Memorial Day at military grave sites and memorials in

### Contact us

(850) 606-1940  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Vets

## HONOR FLIGHT



the community, including the World War II Memorial located on the front lawn of the County Courthouse, the Florida Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Memorial at Cascades Park, Big Bend Hospice Veterans Memorial Garden, Daniel B. Chaires Community Park, Oakland Cemetery, Greenwood Cemetery, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Cemetery.

- ▶ Hosted the annual Operation Thank You community breakfast on Veterans Day to honor the service and sacrifice of those who served our country.



Veterans Day Parade

### DID YOU KNOW

In FY24, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) revenue for Leon County veterans and dependents totaled more than \$38 million. According to the VA, Leon County is home to approximately 16,000 veterans.



# COMMUNITY AND MEDIA RELATIONS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RESILIENCE

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To proactively facilitate the accurate, effective, timely, and consistent flow of public information to internal and external parties of interest, provide community outreach, and serve as the county's liaison with its media partners.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Partner with the Leon County Sheriff's Office in raising community awareness on issues such as child abuse and prevention programs, human trafficking, sexual abuse and exploitation and domestic violence. (#2022-32)

### GOVERNANCE

- Upgrade the Citizens Connect mobile application to ensure the best user experience and technical reliability for the next 10 years of readiness. (#2024-77)
- Alongside The Village Square, the Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI), and other community partners, continue to engage citizens of diverse backgrounds with innovative programs like Created Equal, the Citizen Engagement Series, Build Your Bucket, and so much more. (#2022-35)
- Further enhance the use of social media neighborhood apps to notify citizens of development projects occurring in their neighborhoods. (#2022-40)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5300  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CMR

## EDUCATION, INFORMATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH



*Created Equal: A Bicentennial Tribute to Black and Brown History*

- ▶ Community and Media Relations (CMR) continued to enhance the community's access to Leon County Government and promote transparency and accountability.
  - » Communicated disaster preparedness information to help citizens prepare for hurricane season and other disasters through various mediums, and updated and distributed 71,317 print and digital copies of the 2024-25 Leon County Disaster Survival Guide.
  - » Shared accurate and timely information with the public by working with media partners in print, television, radio, and online.
  - » Worked with County staff to accurately respond to public records requests in a timely manner.
- ▶ In collaboration with the Office of Information Technology (OIT), launched the newly improved and redesigned County website, LeonCountyFL.gov, providing intuitive access to information on the County's wide array of services and programs. The revamped website enables users to connect effortlessly through all devices, including laptops, tablets, and mobile phones, ensuring accessibility to essential County resources on the go.



[www.LeonCountyFL.gov](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov)

- ▶ Generated more than \$11 million in earned media value for County programs, events, and services.
- ▶ Maintained County microsites, including LeonReady.com and FloridaFamilyDay.org.
- ▶ In collaboration with OIT, launched the Bicentennial kiosk *Leading the Way: 200 Years of Representation and Progress in Leon County*, featuring an interactive exhibit highlighting current and past County officials, a timeline of significant local, state, and national events, and a historical overview of Leon County. The kiosk is on display at the Leon County Courthouse and Leon County Public Library locations.
- ▶ Continued to provide the public with real-time news updates on the County's digital media subscription service, Mailchimp, to more than 53,000 subscribers.
- ▶ Prepared and issued more than 200 news advisories, releases, and public notices detailing County activities.
- ▶ Facilitated and documented more than 70 press conferences, community meetings, and events, publishing more than 3,100





Citizen Engagement Series: Disaster Resilience Edition



Bicentennial promotion



TEAM Leon Helpline

photographs on LeonPhotos.com and capturing more than 12 hours of video footage.

- ▶ Designed more than 900 graphic design deliverables to promote County events and projects.
- ▶ Maintained and grew Leon County's Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, Nextdoor, and YouTube accounts, totaling more than 150,000 followers across all platforms.
- ▶ Continued to provide accurate and timely information to the public through the County's award-winning Emergency Information Portal website, LeonCountyFL.gov/ei, and Citizens Connect Mobile App.
- ▶ Recognized vibrant neighborhoods and dedicated community leaders through the 43rd Annual Neighborhood Recognition Program in partnership with the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA).
- ▶ Produced the award-winning Leon County Courier, a publication by and for Leon County employees.
- ▶ Designed and implemented more than two dozen email signature banners for County employee emails to promote County programs and services.

- ▶ Hosted the ninth annual Created Equal event in partnership with The Village Square, where hundreds of residents gathered to hear about this year's topic focused on the stories of Black and Brown communities, their achievements, and their contributions to our County's history, titled *Created Equal: A Bicentennial Tribute to Black and Brown History*.
- ▶ In collaboration with the Office of Economic Vitality, hosted the ninth annual Leon Works Expo, connecting more than 500 high school students to more than 70 academic institutions, private businesses, non-profit agencies, and public sector partners with emerging skilled career opportunities.
- ▶ Continued the "Learn Before You Burn" educational campaign to inform citizens about the health impacts of burning yard waste and alternatives to burning yard debris.
- ▶ Designed and distributed the monthly Leon County LINK in print and online to connect citizens with County services.
- ▶ Launched a digital public noticing platform, which streamlines Leon County's public noticing process to improve accessibility and ease of use while reducing government costs.

- ▶ Supported the TEAM Leon microgrant program by launching a targeted promotional campaign to inform households and businesses in the unincorporated area affected by the May 10 Tornado Outbreak, including:
  - » Standing up a one-stop-shop website with robust information, including Frequently Asked Questions, portal how-to guides, and eligibility requirements.
  - » Sending approximately 300 mailers to impacted properties identified through the County's damage assessment process.
  - » Issuing text message alerts to residents and businesses in the unincorporated area based on the population of the hardest-hit areas.
  - » Engaging residents through street outreach teams by going door-to-door, distributing flyers, and placing door hangars in the community.
  - » Promoting the program through digital and billboard ads, targeted social media posts, news advisories, and more.



# VOLUNTEER SERVICES

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RESILIENCE

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Goal Statement

To empower citizens to answer local need through volunteerism and community engagement.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ENVIRONMENT

- Evaluate enhancing existing roadside litter debris removal through the creation of a County staffed program and further engage neighborhoods, businesses and civic organizations in expanding the County's adopt-a-road program. (#2022-19)

## RESPONSIVE VOLUNTEERISM AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Volunteer Firetruck Roundup



Summer Youth

- ▶ Coordinated internship and volunteer opportunities for more than 2,500 volunteers and interns who volunteered more than 40,000 hours of service for County government programs and special events.
- ▶ Registered more than 1,000 new users and 12 new agencies with the VolunteerLEON Get Connected volunteer portal.
- ▶ Coordinated volunteer opportunities for several County events and programs, including Operation Thank You, 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service, and the Leon Works Expo.
- ▶ Hosted the 26th Annual Volunteer Fire Truck Round-Up, highlighting the service and dedication of Leon County's volunteer firefighters, with more than 500 attendees.
- ▶ Placed more than 30 youths in various Leon County offices as part of the County's Summer Youth Program to provide youth with job experience, professional development, and training over the summer.
- ▶ Led County Emergency Support Function (ESF) #15 volunteer efforts and donations during disaster activations.
  - » Coordinated 22 Big Bend Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) conference calls to address meal and supply distribution and debris removal.

## DID YOU KNOW

In the aftermath of the May 10 Tornado Outbreak, Volunteer Services, through COAD, coordinated tree and debris clean-up for residents through five volunteer agencies. These organizations recruited more than 600 volunteers and contributed more than 15,000 volunteer hours, working to complete more than 1,000 work orders from residents.

- ▶ Operated the Citizens Information Line call center during emergency activations and received 1,246 calls from citizens with questions regarding disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.
- ▶ Coordinated the TEAM Leon Helpline following the May 10 Tornado Outbreak to assist citizens applying for the TEAM Leon microgrant program, receiving more than 1,700 calls.

### Contact us

(850) 606-1970  
www.VolunteerLEON.org



## Mission Statement

Managing a high performing and diverse workforce throughout the entire employee life cycle, through collaboration and strategic partnerships, while ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local employment regulations.

## Strategic Initiatives

### GOVERNANCE

- Continue to invest in the professional development of County staff including participation in Certified Public Manager training and enhancements to the County's Management Training. (#2022-38)
- Continue to pursue cost savings through the County's Innovator & Inspirator (I<sup>2</sup>) Program. (#2022-39)

### Contact us

(850) 606-2400  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HR

## ATTRACTING, TRAINING, AND RETAINING A QUALITY WORKFORCE



Well-Being Awards

### TRAINING/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ APPRENTICESHIP/BENEFITS

- ▶ Partnered with STACPRO to create human trafficking awareness training tailored for Leon County. More than 250 County employees attended sessions that were developed for specific departments and offered throughout County government as well as uploaded to our NEOGOV Learn system for on-demand access.
- ▶ Continued to provide training such as monthly new employee orientation, enhanced new supervisor and advanced supervisor training, *Mastering Team Dynamics (Taking Flight with DISC)*, and customized department trainings.
- ▶ Continued the customer experience, disaster preparedness, workplace violence, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) training as part of the New Employee Orientation Learning Plan curriculum within NEOGOV Learn.
- ▶ Leveraged online training through LinkedIn Learning to train and diversify the skill sets of County employees.
- ▶ Hosted Leon Works Junior Apprenticeship Program Lunch-N-Learns at Godby High School and FAMU DRS for spring and fall semester application sessions, where more than 40 students attended.

- ▶ Participated in career fairs at FAMU DRS and Godby High School to bring awareness to the Leon Works Junior Apprenticeship Program for the 2024-2025 school year, which was attended by more than 1,600 students.

### HEALTH & WELL-BEING

- ▶ Hosted a hybrid virtual and in-person Benefits and Well-Being Fair, attracting more than 800 employees and vendors.
- ▶ Supported 20 County employees who participated in the annual Corporate Cup Challenge.
- ▶ Tracked 5,324 participants to Live Well Leon activities, events, and health screenings.
- ▶ To further promote the health and wellness of County employees, hosted the eight-week *Feel Like a Million* walking challenge. The 286 participants logged nearly 1.5 million steps, totaling approximately 49,621 miles.
- ▶ Hosted 60 exercise classes at various locations throughout the year to enhance the physical well-being of County employees.

### DID YOU KNOW

Human Resources staff recently added a new Long-Term Care benefit for employees.



# OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To provide reliable and effective technology and telecommunications solutions and services to County agencies to enable them to fulfill their missions in serving the citizens of Leon County.

## Strategic Initiatives

### GOVERNANCE

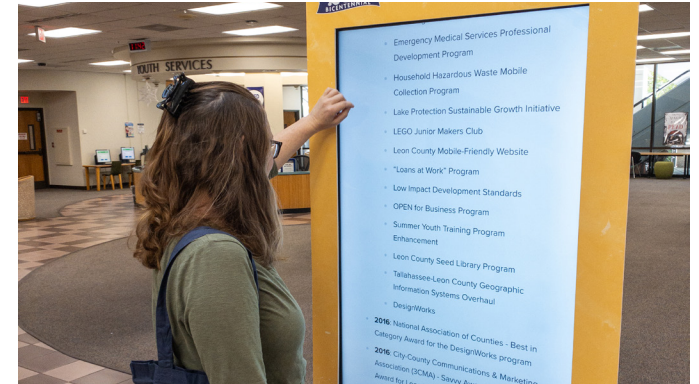
- Upgrade the Citizens Connect mobile application to ensure the best user experience and technical reliability for the next 10 years of readiness. (#2024-77)
- Begin implementing next generation 9-1-1 technology and infrastructure so as to ensure regional connectivity, call taker functionality, and the most resilient infrastructure during future disasters. (#2024-78)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5500  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/MIS

## MAINTAINING EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- ▶ The Office of Information Technology provides essential infrastructure and services County-wide to ensure the safety of the entire community and works to exercise responsible stewardship of the County's resources:
  - » Fully implemented online permitting for developers, contractors, and citizens.
  - » Converted all project documents from ProjectDox into a new system to allow consistency between old and new permitting records.
  - » Averaged 350,000 unique website visitors each month, totaling more than 4.2 million visitors during FY24.
  - » Received 18 million emails during FY24, 18% of which were caught by a security filter.
  - » Awarded grants valued at more than \$1.2 million, including the Florida Digital Service Cybersecurity Grant Program to expand cybersecurity initiatives and a Florida Department of Law Enforcement grant to replace the Leon County Sheriff's Office's Jail Management System.
  - » Passed four third-party cybersecurity assessments/audits, performed by Microsoft, a private cybersecurity firm that also included occupational technologies in addition to information technologies, a financial auditor, and a cybersecurity insurance auditor.
  - » Collaborated with Community and Media Relations (CMR) on the newly improved and redesigned County website, LeonCountyFL.gov, which provides intuitive access to information on the County's wide array of services and programs. The revamped website enables users to connect effortlessly through all devices, including laptops, tablets, and mobile phones, ensuring accessibility to essential County resources on the go.
  - » Supported the TEAM Leon microgrant program by expanding WiFi at the Ft. Braden Community Center, setting up laptops, printers,



Leading the Way kiosk

- and scanners at three assistance center locations, providing technical support for team members, creating a tracking status sheet for monitoring progress, setting up a helpline for taking phone calls from citizens, and providing maps and analysis of the tornado paths for compiling qualifying data.
- » Launched the Bicentennial kiosk *Leading the Way: 200 Years of Representation and Progress in Leon County* in collaboration with CMR, which features an interactive exhibit highlighting current and past County officials, a timeline of significant local, state, and national events, and a historical overview of Leon County. The kiosk is on display at the Leon County Courthouse and Leon County Public Library locations.
- » In celebration of the Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial, created the *History in Your Hands: Bicentennial* website, which includes a captivating story map focused on the creation of Tallahassee and Leon County in 1824 and offers users an immersive journey through the historical milestones that define the community.
- » Increased GIS data layers from 819 to 936 in the last two years.
- » Implemented a mobile device surplus reimbursement program, providing \$16,000 in reimbursement to the County.

# PROBATION, SUPERVISED PRETRIAL RELEASE AND DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING

OFFICE OF INTERVENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES



ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To provide information to the Courts which support judicial custody release decisions and provide alternatives to incarceration to person accused of crimes and offenders, improve their ability to live lawfully and productively in the community, enhance the overall administration of justice, and support community safety and well-being.

## Strategic Initiatives

### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Identify and evaluate pretrial alternatives to incarceration for low level and non-violent offenders and support reentry through regional partnerships and state and national efforts. (#2022-23)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5600  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation)

## COURT SERVICES, CASE MANAGEMENT, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



Fall Reentry and Resource Fair

- ▶ Maintained an average monthly caseload of 1,384 County probationers and supervised pretrial release defendants and recovered approximately \$27,814 from probationers for crime victims through court-ordered restitution.
  - » Supervised pretrial release diverted an estimated 312,516 inmate days from the Leon County Detention Facility, resulting in a cost savings of more than \$29 million.
- ▶ Performed more than 6,600 criminal history reviews and demographic assessments on new arrestees to assist the court in making release decisions.
- ▶ Administered more than 20,400 court-ordered drug and alcohol tests and collected more than \$115,853 for testing services.
- ▶ Provided substance use disorder treatment and ancillary services to people involved in the criminal justice system.
- ▶ Referred more than 650 clients to needed services such as housing, transportation, and job placement assistance through the Human Services Self-Assessment Questionnaire.
- ▶ Identified and supported additional services to address the increasing needs of individuals with mental illness in the community through

## DID YOU KNOW

OIDA staff supervise an average of 60 pretrial and probation defendants assigned to specialized mental health caseloads. Probation/pretrial officers coordinate with community partners, such as the Apalachee Center's Forensic Intervention & Re-entry Services Team (FIRST) and Mobile Response Team (MRT), and the Kearney Center in providing wrap-around services including but not limited to mental health evaluations and treatment, emergency sheltering, and transportation.

continued participation in the White House Data-Driven Justice Initiative, National Association of Counties Stepping Up Initiative, the Council of State Governments Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation.



# OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB)

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## Mission Statement

To continuously enhance the quality of County services by optimizing the use of County financial resources through the effective provision of planning, policy analysis, budget development, budget implementation, and program evaluation services to benefit citizens, elected officials, and staff.

## Strategic Initiatives

### ECONOMY

- Maximize the leveraging of the \$1 trillion federal infrastructure bill to fund County projects. (#2022-8)

### GOVERNANCE

- Continue to invest in the professional development of County staff including participation in Certified Public Manager training and enhancements to the County's Management Training. (#2022-38)
- Continue to pursue cost savings through the County's Innovator & Inspirator (I<sup>2</sup>) Program. (#2022-39)

### Contact us

(850) 606-5100  
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/OMB

## RESPONSIBLE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY'S FINANCIAL RESOURCES



*Let's Balance! Budget Game with Youth Leadership Tallahassee*

- ▶ Recognized as a financially viable organization with an extremely high Aa2 credit rating by international bond rating agency Moody's and Fitch.
- ▶ Provided two semiannual reports to the Board of County Commissioners documenting and analyzing the County's financial position.
- ▶ Achieved the lowest net budget (\$1,077) per County resident among like-sized counties and one of the lowest net budgets per County resident in Florida, with only three other counties having lower net budgets. Also, Leon County has 6.25 employees per 1,000 residents and ranks 10th lowest in employees per capita among all 67 counties.
- ▶ Realized more than \$12.2 million in new cost savings and cost avoidances, including leasing space to support the Leon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) reentry and crime prevention programs rather than constructing new office space, saving \$11.3 million; performing preventative maintenance and certain repairs in-house by Facilities Management, saving \$396,000; and supporting the expanded Street Lighting Program, the Engineering Services Division completed the design for 18 intersections and 15 school bus stops in-house, saving approximately \$120,000.
- ▶ Provided an additional \$7.7 million in Capital Improvement funds for replacement vehicles and equipment, parks and greenways

County Budget For Fiscal Year	2023/2024	2024/2025
Budget	\$349,453,357	\$377,886,993
County Wide Millage Rate	8.3144	8.3144
Emergency Medical Services	0.7500	0.7500
Total Millage Rate	9.0644	9.0644
Budgeted Property Taxes	\$182,140,872	\$200,374,597
Budgeted Emergency Medical Services MSTU	\$16,430,008	\$18,074,780

capital maintenance, LCSO capital maintenance for the Leon County Detention Facility, and funding for building mechanical repairs and infrastructure improvements. Additionally, \$1.51 million in Transportation Trust funds was provided for purchasing replacement equipment, vehicles, arterial and collector roads pavement markings, stormwater infrastructure, and preventative maintenance.

- ▶ Collaborated with the Florida State University Student Governance & Advocacy Program to develop a budget game based on the County's "Let's Balance" budget simulation game. The game is a hands-on budget training tool to teach the community the type of decisions that must be made to balance Leon County's budget.



### Goal Statements

**Purchasing:** To provide timely and professional procurement services to secure requested supplies, services, and commodities at a specified level of quality and at the lowest possible cost through open and fair competition.

**Risk Management:** To establish, to the fullest extent possible, a safe work and service environment in which employees, as well as members of the general public, can enjoy safety and security in the course of their daily pursuits.

### Aligning Resources with Strategic Priorities

#### GOVERNANCE

- Retained and attracted a highly skilled, diverse and innovative County workforce, which exemplifies the County's Core Practices. (G4)
- Exercised responsible stewardship of County resources, sound financial management and ensured that the provision of services and community enhancements were done in a fair and equitable manner. (G5)

#### Contact us

(850) 606-1600 (Purchasing)  
(850) 606-5100 (Risk Management)  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing)

## PROCURING AND MANAGING RESOURCES AND SERVICES, AND MANAGING RISK

- ▶ Provided departmental support through the issuance of purchase orders valued at more than \$110.4 million during the fiscal year through more than 1,400 requisitions.
- ▶ Conducted more than 75 competitive solicitations to ensure the best value for the County.
- ▶ Utilized cooperative purchasing for large equipment purchases to leverage the combined buying power of multiple agencies to reduce costs.
- ▶ Coordinated with the Office of Economic Vitality to identify opportunities to increase the utilization of Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprises.
- ▶ Maintained proper control over all records of tangible personal property by conducting an annual inventory, consisting of assets valued at more than \$76 million.
- ▶ Conducted online surplus sales/auctions, resulting in a return of more than \$438,000.
- ▶ Used competitive quoting and cooperative contracts to reduce inventory costs in the warehouse and had a turnover rate of 1.18, exceeding the national standard.
- ▶ Coordinated more than 20 workplace safety and health trainings, along with 24 safety training sessions, including active attack, defensive driving, load securement, automated external defibrillator (AED) and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), forklift safety, ergonomics, snake safety, and more.
- ▶ Developed a new prescription safety glasses program for County employees.
- ▶ Instituted an annual Safety Strategic Retreat for the safety advisory group to review and develop new strategic goals and training concepts for the upcoming year.



Snake Safety Training

- ▶ Conducted monthly safety, AED, and first aid kit inspections to ensure employees have a safe working environment.
- ▶ Awarded a Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT) Matching Safety Grant to purchase four new AEDs, replacing discontinued equipment.
- ▶ Launched a new software program that allows monthly site inspections to be conducted electronically, reducing time and carbon footprints.
- ▶ Reviewed more than 400 criminal background checks on individuals wishing to volunteer.

### DID YOU KNOW

Risk Management earned a Certificate of Safety Recognition through the Florida Municipal Safety Excellence Initiative, which provides benchmarks to compare industry best practices.



# COUNTY LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY



County Administration  
**Vincent S. Long**  
*County Administrator*  
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County Attorney's Office  
**Chasity H. O'Steen**  
*County Attorney*  
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OSteenC@LeonCountyFL.gov



County Administration  
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*Director of Community Relations and Resilience*  
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County Administration  
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*Assistant County Administrator*  
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County Administration  
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*Assistant County Administrator*  
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*Assistant County Administrator*  
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Emergency Management  
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Community and Media Relations  
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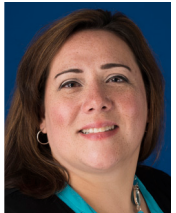
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Emergency Medical Services  
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Animal Control  
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Office of Intervention & Detention Alternatives  
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LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System  
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Human Services and Community Partnerships  
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Veteran Services  
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Housing Services  
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Office of Information Technology  
**Michelle Taylor**  
*Chief Information Officer*  
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# LIVING OUR PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN. CULTURE



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*Coordinator*  
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Public Works:  
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Office of Resource Stewardship  
**Maggie Theriot**  
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ORS: Parks & Recreation  
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DSEM: Environmental Services  
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DSEM: Permit & Compliance  
 Services  
**Emma Smith**  
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DSEM: Building Plans Review and  
 Inspection  
**Justin Poole**  
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**Artie White**  
*Director*  
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 Artie.White@TLCPLACE.org



Department of P.L.A.C.E.:  
 Office of Economic Vitality  
**Keith Bowers**  
*Director*  
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 KBowers@OEVforBusiness.org



Department of P.L.A.C.E.:  
 Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency  
**Autumn Calder**  
*Director*  
 (850) 219-1060  
 Autumn.Calder@BlueprintIA.org



# CITIZEN COMMITTEES

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR QUALITY GROWTH**

Provides a continuous source of community input and technical resources from industry professionals and community stakeholders that offer proactive input and feedback for all development review and approval process improvements and service enhancements.

## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Reviews the established policies and procedures, ordinances, land development regulations and adopted comprehensive plan and recommends specific actions or initiatives to encourage or facilitate affordable housing.

## **ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Considers evidence, related history, ordinance requirements, and provides recommendations as to the classification and disposition of any animal that is the subject of a Dangerous/Aggressive classification.

## **ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY BOARD**

Supports the Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Service Center (animal shelter) by serving as community liaisons and assisting with developing policies, programs and long-range planning.

## **ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Reviews and makes recommendations for placement of properties on the Local Register of Historic Places and reviews changes to the exterior of properties zoned with Historic Preservation Overlay.

## **AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Promotes, maintains and enhances the independence and objectivity of the internal audit function by ensuring broad audit coverage, adequate consideration of audit reports and appropriate action on recommendations.

## **BIG BEND HEALTH COUNCIL**

Determines the health needs and resources of the 14-County Service District to develop a District Health Plan. Provides for local representation in planning and evaluating health needs of the County.

## **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS**

Responsible for hearing and deciding on appeals of administrative decisions and variance applications as provided in the Land Development Code (LDC).

## **CANOPY ROADS CITIZENS COMMITTEE**

Assists in coordinating efforts to protect and maintain canopy roads through the development of a long-range canopy road management plan, and provides recommendations regarding the preservation of canopy roads to the City and County Commissions.

## **CAREERSOURCE CAPITAL REGION BOARD**

Develops the Region's strategic workforce development plan, identifies occupations in demand in the area, solicits input and participation from the local business community, and provides policy guidance and program procedures to connect employers with qualified skilled job talent offering employment and career development opportunities.

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD**

Conducts hearings to enforce County laws on cases involving violations of environmental management, zoning, land use, building code, and control of junk accumulation, and imposes fines and penalties with the goal of obtaining code compliance.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CITIZENS ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

Provides input on the development and implementation of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant process, facilitates community needs discussion, provides recommendations to be considered when drafting the grant application and provides input during the grant implementation.

## **COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES PARTNERSHIPS CITIZEN REVIEW TEAMS**

Implements the joint agency review process for joint funding recommendations, resulting in funding recommendations for human services agency grant applicants that provide services to Leon County residents.

## **COUNCIL ON CULTURE & ARTS**

Stimulates greater awareness and appreciation of the importance of the arts by encouraging and facilitating greater, more efficient use of governmental and private resources for the development and support of the arts.

## **EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF THE BIG BEND REGION**

Implements, coordinates and administers the provisions of the Statutory Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and the School Readiness Program in the Big Bend Region, and serves as the community child care coordinating agency for the service area.

## **HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY OF LEON COUNTY**

Encourages investment by private enterprise and stimulates construction and rehabilitation of housing through use of public financing and the provision of low-cost loans to purchase affordable housing.

## **INVESTMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Reviews, reports, and recommends changes in investment practices of Leon County; reviews the County's portfolio activity for compliance with the investment plan; and reviews investment policies and makes recommendations to the Board for amendments.

## **JOINT CITY/COUNTY BICYCLING WORKGROUP**

Provides input to the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department staff regarding cycling-related projects, improvements, events and ordinances that are considered to be of community interest.

## **LEON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY**

Assists institutions for higher education in the construction, financing and refinancing of projects as set forth in Florida Statutes.

## **LEON COUNTY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Serves as the governing board for Innovation Park and is comprised of prominent business and community leaders that work together to guide the growth and development of the Park.

## **LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

Serves as a forum for community input concerning the County's library programs and activities.

## **MICCOSUKEE CANOPY ROAD GREENWAY CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE**

Collects public input regarding updates to the 10-year management plan for the Miccosukee Canopy Road Greenway and provides input on future goals and objectives.

## **MINORITY, WOMEN & SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWSBE) CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Monitors the progress of the MWSBE Program in achieving program performance goals, provides input on MWSBE policy alternatives and suggests programmatic recommendations relative to seeking resolution of disputes regarding Certification and Good Faith Effort.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Designated as the Local Planning Agency that reviews amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for area-wide planning within Leon County.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Assesses the population status of County detention facilities and formulates recommendations to ensure that the capacities are not exceeded, including assessing the availability of pretrial intervention or probation programs, work-release programs, substance abuse programs, gain-time schedules, applicable bail bond schedules and the confinement status of the housed inmates.

## **SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Evaluates and reports on scientific evidence and makes recommendations concerning policies and programs that pertain to environmental issues in order to safeguard natural resources and public health and safety.

## **TALLAHASSEE SPORTS COUNCIL**

Provides a fact-finding source of community input and technical resources used in developing recommendations regarding sports tourism-related matters to be considered by the Tourist Development Council.

## **TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY BICENTENNIAL STEERING COMMITTEE**

Brings together local stakeholders for the collaboration and coordination of planning the activities centered around celebrating and commemorating the Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial in 2024.

## **TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN & GIRLS**

Provides input and recommendations on approaches to address issues affecting the women and girls in Tallahassee-Leon County

and promotes awareness on issues including discrimination, employment, education, social services, health, economic security, access to justice, freedom from violence and more.

## **TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF MEN & BOYS**

Provides support and services to the men and boys in Tallahassee-Leon County who are most at risk and unifies agencies and organizations to coordinate resources, funding and services to address underlying causes of violence.

## **TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Makes recommendations for effective operation of special projects or for uses of the tourist development tax revenue, and reviews expenditures of revenues from the tourist development trust fund.

## **TRUSTED PEOPLE NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE**

Connects human service providers and residents of the neighborhoods experiencing the highest rates of food insecurity to improve awareness and access to available resources and reduce barriers to healthy and nutritious foods as well as improve overall economic prosperity.

## **VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD**

Settles disputes between taxpayers and the Property Appraiser relating to denials of exemptions, classifications and market values.

## **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Makes recommendations on policies, regulations and management activities to protect and enhance County water resources while considering the various impacts to these resources from accelerated runoff including flooding and surface and groundwater degradation.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

*Citizen participation is important in developing Leon County's programs/policies and in providing quality services to the community. For more detailed information or to join one of these committees, visit our website at [LeonCountyFL.gov/Committees](http://LeonCountyFL.gov/Committees) or call (850) 606-5300.*



## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

(850) 606-5300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/BCC](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/BCC)

**Bill Proctor, District 1 Commissioner**  
 (850) 606-5361  
[ProctorB@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:ProctorB@LeonCountyFL.gov)

**Christian Caban, District 2 Commissioner**  
 (850) 606-5362  
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**Rick Minor, District 3 Commissioner**  
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**Brian Welch, District 4 Commissioner**  
 (850) 606-5364  
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**David T. O'Keefe, District 5 Commissioner**  
 (850) 606-5365  
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**Carolyn D. Cummings, At-Large Commissioner**  
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**Nick Maddox, At-Large Commissioner**  
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## **LEON COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**  
 (850) 606-5300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CountyAdministrator](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CountyAdministrator)

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**  
 (850) 606-2500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCAO](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCAO)

**ANIMAL CONTROL**  
 (850) 606-5400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal)

**COMMUNITY & MEDIA RELATIONS**  
 (850) 606-5300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CMR](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CMR)

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE**  
 (850) 606-5200  
[Leon.IFAS.UFL.edu](http://Leon.IFAS.UFL.edu)

**Agriculture**  
 (850) 606-5200

**Family/Consumer Sciences**  
 (850) 606-5201

**4-H**  
 (850) 606-5200

**Horticulture/Forestry**  
 (850) 606-5200

**DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
 (850) 606-1300  
[www.LeonPermits.org](http://www.LeonPermits.org)

**Building Inspection**  
 (850) 606-1300

**Inspection Hot Line (IVRS)**  
 (850) 891-1800

**Code Compliance Services**  
 (850) 606-1300

**Concurrency Management**  
 (850) 606-1300

**Environmental Permitting**  
 (850) 606-1300

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
 (850) 606-3700  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EM](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EM)

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
 (850) 606-2100  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCEMS)

**Dispatch**  
 (850) 606-5800  
[TLCCDA.org](http://TLCCDA.org)

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**  
 (850) 606-5000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Facilities](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Facilities)

**FLEET MANAGEMENT**  
 (850) 606-2000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet)

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
 (850) 404-6300  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCHD](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/LCHD)

**HOUSING SERVICES**  
 (850) 606-1900  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing)

**HUMAN RESOURCES**  
 (850) 606-2400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HR](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HR)

**Job Openings**  
 (850) 606-2403  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Jobs](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Jobs)

**HUMAN SERVICES & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**  
 (850) 606-1900  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HSCP](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/HSCP)

**LEGAL AID**  
 (850) 222-3292

**LEROY COLLINS LEON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
 (850) 606-2665  
[www.LeonCountyLibrary.org](http://www.LeonCountyLibrary.org)

**Literacy Volunteers**  
 (850) 606-2644

**MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SERVICES**  
 (850) 606-5500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/MIS](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/MIS)

**Geographic Information Services**  
 (850) 606-5504  
[TLCGIS.org](http://TLCGIS.org)

**MINORITY, WOMEN & SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE**  
 (850) 219-1080  
[www.OEVforBusiness.org](http://www.OEVforBusiness.org)

**MOSQUITO CONTROL**  
 (850) 606-1400  
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**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET**  
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**PARKS & RECREATION**  
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**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**  
 (850) 891-6400  
[LeonCountyFL.gov/Planning](http://LeonCountyFL.gov/Planning)

**PROBATION**  
 (850) 606-5600  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation)

**PUBLIC WORKS**  
 (850) 606-1500  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks)

**Operations (24-hour response)**  
 (850) 606-1400

**PURCHASING**  
 (850) 606-1600  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Purchasing)

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**  
 (850) 606-1800  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste)

**Hazardous Waste**  
 (850) 606-1803

**Recycling Information**  
 (850) 606-1802

**Rural Waste Collection Center**  
 (850) 606-1800

**Transfer Station**  
 (850) 606-1853

**SUPERVISED PRETRIAL RELEASE**  
 (850) 606-5700  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Probation)

**SUSTAINABILITY**  
 (850) 606-5021  
[www.GrowingGreen.org](http://www.GrowingGreen.org)

**TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC VITALITY**  
 (850) 219-1080  
[www.OEVforBusiness.org](http://www.OEVforBusiness.org)

**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT**  
 (850) 606-2305  
[www.VisitTallahassee.com](http://www.VisitTallahassee.com)

**VETERAN SERVICES**  
 (850) 606-1940  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Vets](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Vets)

**VOLUNTEER SERVICES**  
 (850) 606-1970  
[www.VolunteerLEON.org](http://www.VolunteerLEON.org)

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES**

**CLERK OF COURTS**  
 (850) 606-4000  
[www.LeonClerk.com](http://www.LeonClerk.com)

**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**  
 (850) 606-8683  
[www.LeonVotes.gov](http://www.LeonVotes.gov)

**PROPERTY APPRAISER**  
 (850) 606-6200  
[www.LeonPA.org](http://www.LeonPA.org)

**TAX COLLECTOR**  
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[www.LeonTaxCollector.net](http://www.LeonTaxCollector.net)

**SHERIFF**  
 (850) 606-3300  
[www.LeonCountySO.com](http://www.LeonCountySO.com)

## **OTHER COUNTY/STATE AGENCIES**

**PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
 (850) 606-1000  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PD](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PD)

**STATE ATTORNEY, 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
 (850) 606-6000  
[www.SAO2FL.org](http://www.SAO2FL.org)

**CIRCUIT COURT 2ND JUDICIAL**  
 (850) 606-4401  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/2ndCircuit](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/2ndCircuit)



# QUICK REFERENCE

## **PARKS**

### **Anita L. Davis Preserve at Lake Henrietta Park**

3305 Springhill Rd.; Walking Trail (Paved - 1.2 Miles Long), Informational Kiosk, Portable Restroom

### **Apalachee Regional Park**

7550 Apalachee Pkwy.; 4 Multipurpose fields (lighted), Restrooms/Concession Building, nationally recognized cross-country running facility, radio-controlled airfield

### **Bradfordville Dog Park**

6808 Beech Ridge Trl.; 13 acres of off leash play, small and large dog sections

### **Brent Drive Park**

812 Brent Dr.; Basketball Court, Hopscotch, Four-Square

### **Broadmoor Pond Park**

4723 Jackson Bluff Rd.; Walking Trail (Paved - 6/10 Mile Long), Informational Kiosk, Portable Restroom, Benches

### **Canopy Oaks Community Park**

3250 Point View Dr.; 2 Little League Fields (lighted), 2 Tennis and Pickle Ball Courts (lighted), Multipurpose Field (lighted), 1 Large Pavilion, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Daniel B. Chaires Community Park**

4768 Chaires Cross Rd.; 4 Tennis Courts (lighted), 2 Basketball Courts (lighted and recently renovated), Restrooms/Concession Building, 2 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), 1 T-Ball Field (not lighted), Playground

### **Fort Braden Community Park**

15100 Blountstown Hwy.; 2 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), Multipurpose Field (lighted), Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Fred George Greenway and Park**

3043 Capital Circle NW.; Museum and Education Center, Regulation size Baseball Field (lighted), Multipurpose Field (lighted), Trails, Pavilions, Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Gil Waters Preserve at Lake Munson Preserve**

1306 Jackson Moody Pl.; Pavilions, Grills, Restrooms, 1 miles of Nature Trails, Boat Landing, Informational Kiosk, Observation Platform

### **J. Lee Vause Park and Dog Park**

6024 Old Bainbridge Rd.; 6 Pavilions, 26 Acres Open, Wooded Spaces, 1 Mile of Hard Surface Paths for Bikes and Pedestrians, 1.5-acre Dog Park, Restrooms, Playground, Sand Volleyball Court

### **J. Lewis Hall Sr., Woodville Park and Recreation Complex**

1492 J. Lewis Hall Sr. Ln.; 4 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), Junior League Field (lighted), Softball Field (lighted), 2 Basketball Courts (lighted and recently renovated), Multipurpose Field (lighted), 2 Pavilions, Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **J.R. Alford Greenway**

2500 Pedrick Rd.; Over 800 Acres of Trails and Open Space for Hikers, Mountain Bicyclists, Equestrians (Horse Trailer Parking), Benches, Portable Restroom, Informational Kiosks, Water Fountain (16 miles of double track trail; 5 miles of single track trail. All multi-use.)

### **Jackson View Park**

2585 Clara Kee Blvd.; Walking Trails (Mulched - 8/10 Miles Long), Picnic Tables, Open Space, Observation Deck, Playground, Little Free Library, Portable Restroom

### **Kate Ireland Park**

12271 Iamonia Landing Rd.; Pavilion, Playground, Restrooms

### **Man-'O-War Park**

6568 Man-'O-War Trail; Playground, Swing Set, Open Grassy Area, Benches

### **Martha Wellman Park**

5317 W. Tennessee St.; Walking Trail (Paved - 8/10 Mile Long), Informational Kiosk, Portable Restroom

### **Miccosukee Canopy Rd. Greenway**

5600 Miccosukee Rd.; 14 Miles of Trails and 500 Acres of Open Space for Hikers, Mountain Bicyclists, Equestrians, Picnic Tables and Benches, Restrooms, Water Fountains

### **Miccosukee Community Park**

15011 Cromartie Rd.; Playground, 2 Basketball Courts (lighted), 2 Pavilions, 1 Little League Baseball Field (lighted), 1 Little League Softball Field (lighted), 1 T-Ball Field (not lighted), Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Orchard Pond Greenway**

5861 Orchard Pond Rd.; Trails for Hikers, Bikers, and Equestrians (Clay, 3.2 Miles Long), Informational Kiosks

### **Parwez "P. A." Alam Park at Okeehoopkee Prairie**

1294 Fuller Rd.; Walking Trail (Crushed Shell - 1/2 Mile Long), Pavilion, Informational Kiosk, Playground

### **Pedrick Pond Park**

5701 Mahan Dr.; Walking Trail (Crushed Shell - 7/10 Mile Long), Benches, Picnic Tables, Informational Kiosk

### **Pimlico Park**

4811 Pimlico Rd.; Playground, Backstop, Picnic Tables, Open Grassy Area, Pond, Workout Equipment Area

### **Robinson Rd. Park**

1819 Robinson Rd.; 2 Picnic Tables, Open Green Space

### **St. Marks Headwaters Greenway**

640 Baum Rd.; 3 Pavilions, Informational Kiosk, Bicycle Rack, Equestrian and Passenger Vehicle Parking, 3 Miles of Natural Surface Multi-Use Trails, Open Space for Hikers, Mountain Bicyclists, and Equestrians, Portable Restroom

### **Stoneler Rd. Park**

5225 Stoneler Rd.; Little League Field (lighted), Pavilion, Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

### **Tower Rd. Park**

5971 Tower Rd.; Multipurpose Field (lighted), Playground, Pavilion, Restrooms/Concession Building

## **LIBRARIES**

### **LeRoy Collins Leon County Main Library**

200 West Park Ave. (850) 606-2665

### **Bruce J. Host Northeast Branch Library**

5513 Thomasville Rd. (850) 606-2800

### **Dr. B. L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library**

2817 South Adams St. (850) 606-2950

### **Eastside Branch Library**

1583 Pedrick Rd. (850) 606-2750

### **Jane G. Sauls Fort Braden Branch Library**

16327 Blountstown Hwy. (850) 606-2900

### **Lake Jackson Branch Library**

Lake Jackson Town Center 3840-300 North Monroe St. (850) 606-2850

### **Woodville Branch Library**

8000 Old Woodville Rd. (850) 606-2925

## **BOAT LANDINGS**

### **Ben Stoutamire Landing**

2552 Ben Stoutamire Rd.

### **Blount Landing**

24371 Lanier St.

### **Bull Headley Landing**

10156 Bull Headley Rd.

### **Cedar Hill Landing**

467 Cedar Hill Landing Rd.

### **Coe Landing**

1208 Coe Landing Rd.

### **Crowder Landing**

1053 Crowder Rd.

### **Cypress Landing**

16900 Ro Co Co Rd.

### **Elk Horn Landing**

3997 Elkhorn Rd.

### **Faulk Drive Landing**

1895 Faulk Dr. Fuller Road Landing 1294 Fuller Rd.

### **Gardner Landing**

1022 Gardner Rd.

### **Gil Waters Preserve Landing**

5800 Crawfordville Hwy.

### **Jackson View Landing**

4967 N. Monroe St.

### **Lake Munson Landing**

1025 Munson Landing Rd.

### **Luther Hall Landing**

2997 Luther Hall Rd.

### **Meginnis Arm Landing**

3017 Meginnis Arm Rd.

### **Miller Landing**

2900 Miller Landing Rd.

### **Reeves Landing**

16254 Reeves Landing Rd.

### **Rhoden Cove Landing**

801 Rhoden Cove Rd.

### **Sunset Landing**

4800 Jackson Cove Rd.

### **Tower Road Landing**

6991 Tower Rd.

### **Van Brunt Landing**

(a.k.a. Kate Ireland Landing) 12271 Iamonia Landing Rd.

### **Wainwright Landing**

4135 Wainwright Rd.

### **Williams Landing**

951 Williams Landing Rd.

## **CAMPGROUNDS**

Phone Numbers for Camping Information: (850) 606-1470

Reservations can be made at: [www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Reservations](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Reservations)

### **Coe Landing Campground**

1208 Coe Landing Rd. 20 RV or Tent Sites with 30 Amp Hookups, Wifi, Electric, Showers (recently renovated), Dump Station

### **Luther Hall Landing Campground**

2997 Luther Hall Rd. 10 Tent Camping Sites, Showers

## **COMMUNITY CENTERS**

General Information (850) 606-1470

### **Bradfordville Community Center**

6808 Beech Ridge Trl.

### **Dorothy Cooper Spence Community Center (Chaires Community Center)**

4768 Chaires Cross Rd.

### **Fort Braden Community Center**

16387 Blountstown Hwy.

### **Lake Jackson Community Center**

3840 N. Monroe St, Suite 301

### **Miccosukee Community Center**

13887 Moccasin Gap Rd.

### **Woodville Community Center**

8000 Old Woodville Rd.

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

### **Cooperative Extension**

615 Paul Russell Rd. (850) 606-5200

### **Development Support & Environmental Management**

435 N. Macomb St., Renaissance Center, 2nd Floor (850) 606-1300

### **Solid Waste Management Facility**

7550 Apalachee Pkwy. (850) 606-1800

### **Woodville Waste Management Facility**

549 Henry Jones Rd. (850) 488-9099

### **Ft. Braden Waste Management Facility**

2485 East Joe Thomas Rd. (850) 488-9119

### **Miccosukee Waste Management Facility**

13051 Miccosukee Rd. (850) 606-1845

### **Volunteer Services**

301 S. Monroe Street, 5th floor (850) 606-1970

# EMPLOYING TEAM APPROACH



Florida Municipal Insurance Trust Insurance Leader award



Big Bend Heart Walk

## EMPLOYING TEAM APPROACH

### *A Core Practice of Leon County Government*

Employees work together to produce bigger and better ideas to seize the opportunities and to address the problems which face our community.



Arbor Day tree planting



Springtime Tallahassee



Hurricane Idalia EOC team



Excellence in EMS Awards



Severe weather response



Employee Appreciation Banquet



# BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



**Carolyn D. Cummings, Chair | At-Large**  
*Bicentennial Day at the Capitol*



**Bill Proctor | District 1**  
*Created Equal: A Bicentennial Tribute to Black and Brown History*



**David O'Keefe | District 5**  
*Debbie Lightsey Nature Park Grand Opening*



**Christian Caban | District 2**  
*TEAM Leon Press Conference*



**Brian Welch, Vice Chairman | District 4**  
*Bruce J. Host Northeast Branch Library Dedication*



**Rick Minor | District 3**  
*Operation Thank You*



**Nick Maddox | At-Large**  
*Florida High School Athletic Association Press Conference*



## OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

### **What You Get as a Taxpayer and a Stakeholder in our Community**

Leon County Government leverages partnerships, embraces efficiency and innovation, and demands performance to the benefit of our taxpayers. We actively engage our citizens, not only as taxpayers, but as stakeholders and co-creators of our community – providing meaningful opportunities to capitalize on their talents in making important decisions and shaping our community for future generations.





# 2024 Leon County Annual Report

Designed, developed and produced by  
Leon County Community and Media Relations  
Leon County Courthouse | 301 South Monroe St., Suite 502  
Tallahassee, FL 32301 | (850) 606-5300 | [CMR@LeonCountyFL.gov](mailto:CMR@LeonCountyFL.gov)  
You can find the Annual Report document and associated video online at:  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/AnnualReport](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/AnnualReport)

