



Leon County Annual Report

A Report to the Community

~ A Snapshot ~

The full Annual Report is available online at: www.LeonCountyFL.gov

Board of County Commissioners



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

On November 15, 2011, I presented the 2011 Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners and, as your Leon County Administrator, I am now proud to present this report to the residents of our community. Perhaps the second most important document produced for our residents, next to the County budget, the Leon County Annual Report offers citizens a glimpse of the important work and achievements of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners and staff over the past twelve months.

To sustain our culture of performance and community relevance, and to realize our full capacity as an organization, we recently implemented Leon LEADS - a structure to support and reinforce our organization's transformational efforts, and to ensure no detail is too small to escape our "People Focused, Performance Driven" organizational culture. The three pillars of Leon LEADS are:

- » **People** - Leon County demonstrates our belief in respecting, engaging, and empowering citizens and employees. For Leon County employees, their work is about helping people. We will go beyond customer service and engage our citizens as stakeholders in the success of our community.
- » **Performance** - Leon County demonstrates our belief in delivering results, exceeding expectations, demonstrating value, and valuing efficiency and relevance. We believe in delivering a high quality level of service for a great value for citizens' tax dollars.
- » **Place** - Leon County demonstrates our belief in creating opportunity, attracting talent, promoting livability and sustainability. "Place" is vitally important, for our quality of life and as an economic driver. It is a critical component for creating the social fabric or the connection that people have to their community.

The information provided within this snapshot is merely a summary of the full annual report, which can be found online at: www.LeonCountyFL.gov. We hope that this information is more than useful as we, as an organization, continually work to enhance our customer service and remove any mystery or confusion behind the inner-workings of County government.

PLANNING TODAY FOR TOMORROW'S COMMUNITY:



Planning and Blueprint 2000 were combined in the Department of Planning Land Management and Community Enhancement (PLACE). P.L.A.C.E. puts a renewed emphasis on this critical element to our success as a community. There is no

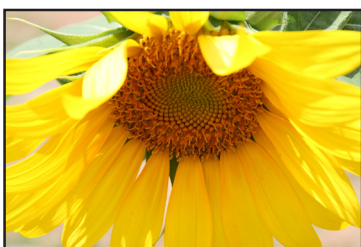
more important element to achieving our most important goals for our economic competitiveness, livability, and connecting with citizens than focusing on being a place that people love. It's very simple; people are all about place.

PRESERVING LIFE, IMPROVING HEALTH, PROMOTING SAFETY:

Once again, Leon County Emergency Medical Services (LCEMS) had another successful and award-winning year including Chief Tom Quillin being named the National EMS Executive of the Year in 2011 by the National EMS Management Association. LCEMS made over 22,500 transports in 2011 and, since 2004, Leon County has increased the number of transports by 36%. The LCEMS 'Heart Ready' initiative improved cardiac arrest survival rates to 29% upon arrival at the emergency room, where the national average is only 7%. All this is possible because of LCEMS' dedication to response time, superior medical training, and to educating our community in CPR and the use of AEDs.



GROWING GREEN TOGETHER:



2011 was a banner year in the area of sustainability as Leon County continued to lead by example and be a catalyst for the community. The County developed a 40,000 gallon rainwater cistern at the Cooperative Extension Building. This cistern is considered to be

one of the largest in the southeast and we were recognized as runner-up for the 2011 Sustainable Florida Leadership award.

INSPIRING A LOVE OF READING AND A LIFE OF LEARNING:

The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System expanded and grew this year. Over the past year, our library system had over 1 million visits. In 2011, the Board was able to undertake the renovations of two branches: B.L. Perry and Northeast and the County opened the new Woodville and Eastside Branch Libraries. During the first few hours that the Eastside Branch was open, approximately 1,300 people visited! We look forward to 2012 and the amazing renovation of the Lake Jackson Branch Library and Community Center.



VETERANS HELPING VETERANS:

Leon County assisted more than 2,000 veterans in person and more than 18,000 inquiries. We continue to support and fund the Active Duty Grant Program to help offset financial obligations for active duty service members and their families. This year, the County distributed more than \$70,000 to 69 applicants. Through VolunteerLEON, our volunteers contributed more than 100,000 hours of time, talent, and skill to the community.



INVESTING IN THE COMMUNITY & JOB CREATION

Over the past two years, the Board has taken strategic steps to focus resources on maintaining jobs, investing in the community, and creating local infrastructure improvements. The Board realized the current state of the economy, particularly the local construction industry, and accelerated the construction schedule for many projects utilizing existing cash reserves. These steps include committing \$107 million towards the following capital projects:

CAPITAL PROJECTS	PROJECT COSTS	JOBS CREATION
Public Safety Complex (includes City and State Funding)	\$45.0 million	414
Branch Libraries	\$9.4 million	87
Stormwater Improvements	\$14.0 million	129
Buck Lake Road	\$5.3 million	49
Transportation Improvements	\$33.3 million	307
FY11 (Actual) & FY12 (Projected)		
Total Spending	\$107 million	986

Based on analysis performed by the Economic Development Council, for every \$1 million spent, 9.2 jobs are created; therefore, the job creation from the capital project investments, including the Public Safety Complex, is 986 jobs.

PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY & ACCESSIBILITY



One consistent Board priority has been to provide more accessibility to our citizens. Through technology, we will continue to develop easier ways for our citizens to interact with County government and the new 'Citizens Connect' feature demonstrates that commitment.

The big blue 'Citizens Connect' button is prominently displayed on the homepage and is accessible from any of the website's internal pages.

With just a click, visitors can **Access Online Services, Report or Track a Problem, Make an Inquiry Online**, or simply choose to **Talk to a Live Person**.

When reporting a problem, visitors will be provided a tracking number that can be entered upon return to the website to monitor that problem. Email updates can also be provided as the inquiry is being addressed.

A Focus on Financial Stewardship

⇒ Leon County has a ratio of 6.0 employees for every thousand County residents - tied with St. Lucie and Lake County as the lowest in per capita employees.

⇒ Leon County spends the least per County resident as compared to other like-sized Florida counties. Manatee County spends over two times the amount per resident than Leon County. The next closest county's net budget per capita is 26% higher than Leon County's (Marion County).