



LEON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

**Rick Minor**

DISTRICT 3 NEWSLETTER



## April 2026 Newsletter

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Board of County Commissioners Budget Workshop

-- Tues, April 28  
-- 1:00 pm  
-- The agenda can be viewed [here](#) on or about April 21.

#### Board of County Commissioners Meeting

-- Tues, May 12  
-- 3:00 - meeting  
-- The agenda can be viewed [here](#) on or about May 5th.

#### Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA)

-- Tues, May 19  
-- 1:30 - meeting  
-- The agenda can be viewed [here](#) on or about May 12th.

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

Hello,

I hope you're doing well. I've always considered March and April as the busiest months in our community... people are back from winter break, the weather's nice, and every organization seems to schedule a great event around this time. This year is no different: Springtime Tallahassee, the inaugural P-Funk Festival, Chain of Parks, and Word of South are just a few examples. There's also a lot going on within and related to our work in Leon County:

The **SafeSense: Online Safety & Digital Skills Workshop**, presented to the public on March 26, was a great success. Nearly 100 attendees gained valuable insight on how to identify and avoid the latest, ever more sophisticated digital scams. Details are below. To stream a video recording of the workshop, please click [here](#).

The **Buc-ee's proposed site plan** has been received by Leon County and is now publicly available for review. See below for instructions on how to access the documentation and for information on the site plan review meeting on April 22.

On **North Monroe** there are two projects currently in construction -- one by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Blueprint. Two additional projects (one by FDOT and another by Leon County/FDOT/USDOT) are in the planning/design stages. We'll keep you updated on these in future newsletters.

On April 21 I'll be joining three other local elected officials on a **5-day trek** from the Red Hills in southern Georgia, passing through Leon County, and finishing up at the coastal marshes of Apalachee Bay. Organized by the **Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation**, this expedition is intended to increase public awareness of the importance of Florida's open spaces. See below for details and how you can join us for the trek's launch.

I hope you'll find the rest of this newsletter interesting and informative. Thank you once again for the honor of representing you at the Leon County Commission, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

**Rick Minor**

Commissioner, Leon County District 3  
[MinorR@leoncountyfl.gov](mailto:MinorR@leoncountyfl.gov)

P.S. If you have friends and family who might be interested in receiving this newsletter each month, please ask them to sign up at [www.LeonCountyFL.gov/RickMinor](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/RickMinor). Thank you!

## Longleaf to Lighthouse Expedition



### Meet the Expedition Trekkers



**Becky Troutman**  
Polk County Commissioner



**Jack Porter**  
Tallahassee City Commissioner



**Rick Minor**  
Leon County Commissioner



**Sean Parks**  
Lake County Commissioner

We are thrilled to announce that Rick has been selected to be part of the team of four elected officials for the **Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation's** upcoming **Longleaf to Lighthouse Expedition** and documentary film!

In just a few weeks, Rick and his fellow trekkers will embark on a **week-long journey** through the critical Corridor connection between the Red Hills of north Florida and the Gulf.

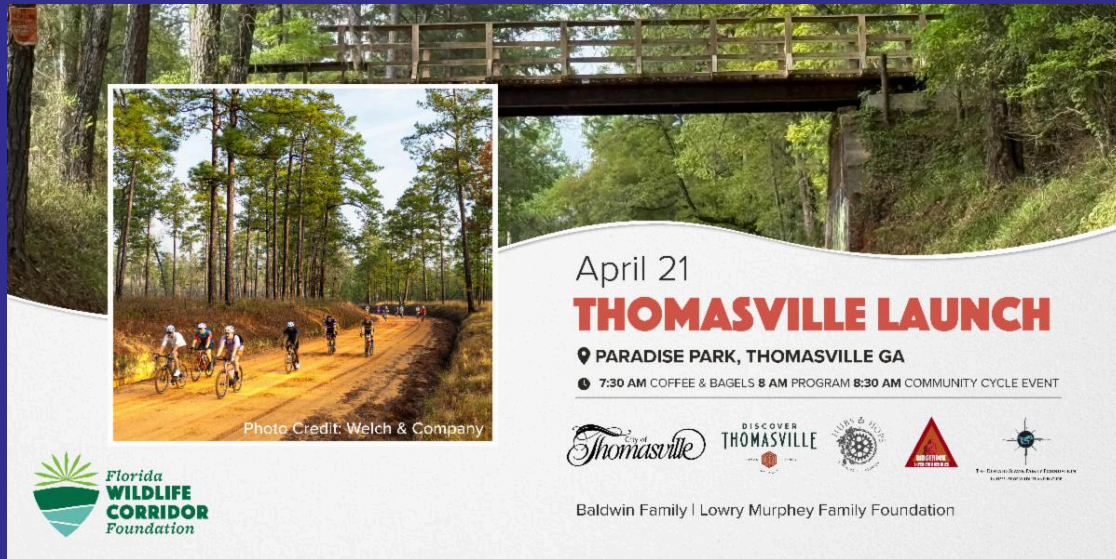
"The Longleaf to Lighthouse Expedition is an extraordinary opportunity to see firsthand how local and state decisions impact our green spaces and waterways," said Leon County District 3 Commissioner Rick Minor.

“In the Big Bend and throughout Florida, we must find ways to accommodate growth while preserving our natural resources for future generations. On the expedition we’ll be learning from scientists and conservation professionals to gain insights on how to accomplish this.”

You can read more about this exciting adventure [here](#) and [here](#).

We hope you might be able to **join Rick and the other trekkers for the expedition launch on Tuesday, April 21st in Thomasville.** Below are details and a link to RSVP.

*NOTE: Rick is paying personally for all of his expedition expenses.*



April 21  
**THOMASVILLE LAUNCH**  
📍 PARADISE PARK, THOMASVILLE GA  
🕒 7:30 AM COFFEE & BAGELS 8 AM PROGRAM 8:30 AM COMMUNITY CYCLE EVENT

Photo Credit: Welch & Company

Florida WILDLIFE CORRIDOR Foundation

City of Thomasville DISCOVER THOMASVILLE Baldwin Family | Lowry Murphey Family Foundation

## YOU'RE INVITED!

Join four elected officials as they launch their Longleaf to Lighthouse Expedition from the Red Hills to the Gulf — a five-day adventure to hike, cycle, and paddle through the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

Location: Paradise Park, [403 S Broad St, Thomasville, GA 31792](#)

### Schedule:

7:30am Coffee and Bagels

8:00am Program

8:30am Community Cycle Event

8:45am Park tour featuring Longleaf Pine habitat restoration efforts (for those not participating in Cycle Event)

Join us at beautiful Paradise Park in downtown Thomasville, Georgia to launch the Longleaf to Lighthouse Expedition. Enjoy coffee and bagels with Mayor Scott Chastain and other community leaders as you hear about the important role Georgia plays in the Florida Wildlife Corridor vision. Then join the four elected officials as they cycle from Thomasville towards Florida to begin their Expedition from the Red Hills to the Gulf — a five-day adventure to hike, cycle, and paddle through the Florida Wildlife Corridor. A film crew will be along to document the journey.


Renowned cyclist Karlos Bernart will be your guide on this 20-mile round trip ride (paved and clay roads).

Note: Bicycling is optional. If you'd like to ride with the trekkers, please bring your bicycle and a water bottle, and be prepared to sign a liability waiver when you arrive.


**[Click here to RSVP for the Expedition Launch!](#)**

# Buc-ee's Site Meeting Rescheduled to April 22


## CONSTRUCTION PLANS



FOR  
**BUC-EE'S #86 TALLAHASSEE**  
LOCATED IN  
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA  
JANUARY 2026




PROJECT LOCATION



PROJECT LOCATION

INDEX OF DRAWINGS		INDEX OF DRAWINGS	
SHEET NUMBER	SHEET TITLE	SHEET NUMBER	SHEET TITLE
C-01	COVER SHEET	C-100	STORM DRAIN PROFILES
C-02	GENERAL NOTES	C-108	STORM DRAIN PROFILES
C-03	CLEARING AND REMOVAL PLAN	C-105	STORM DRAIN PROFILES
C-03A	PRE-DEVELOPMENT PLAN	C-107	STORM DRAIN PROFILES
C-03B	POST DEVELOPMENT PLAN	C-11	OVERALL UTILITY PLAN
C-04	OVERALL SITE PLAN	C-11A	UTILITY PLANS
C-05	CIRCULATION PLAN	C-11B	UTILITY PLANS
C-05A	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11C	UTILITY PLANS
C-05B	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11D	UTILITY PLANS
C-05C	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11E	UTILITY PLANS
C-05D	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11F	UTILITY PLANS
C-05E	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11G	SANITARY SEWER PROFILES
C-05F	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11H	WATER PRESSURE PROFILES
C-05G	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11I	FIRE LINE PROFILES
C-05H	PAVING AND GEOMETRY PLAN	C-11K	FIRE LINE PROFILES
C-05I	PAVING AND GEOMETRY DETAILS	C-12A	TYPICAL SECTION
C-05K	MASTER SIGN PLAN	C-12B	SITE DETAILS
C-06A	PAVEMENT JOINT PLANS	C-12C	SITE DETAILS
C-06B	PAVEMENT JOINT PLANS	C-12D	SITE DETAILS
C-06C	PAVEMENT JOINT PLANS	C-12E	SITE DETAILS
C-06D	PAVEMENT JOINT PLANS	C-12F	SITE DETAILS
C-06E	PAVEMENT JOINT PLANS	C-12G	SITE DETAILS
C-06F	PAVEMENT JOINT PLANS	C-12H	SITE DETAILS
C-06G	BROOM FINISH PLAN	C-12J	SITE DETAILS
C-07	EROSION CONTROL PLAN	C-12K	SITE DETAILS
C-08A	BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES DETAILS	C-13A	DRAINAGE DETAILS
C-08B	STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN	C-13B	DRAINAGE DETAILS
C-09	OVERALL GRADING AND DRAINAGE PLAN	C-14A	UTILITY DETAILS
C-09A	GRADING PLAN	C-14B	UTILITY DETAILS
C-09B	GRADING PLAN	C-14C	UTILITY DETAILS
C-09C	GRADING PLAN	C-14D	UTILITY DETAILS
C-09D	GRADING PLAN	C-14E	UTILITY DETAILS
C-09E	GRADING PLAN	C-14F	UTILITY DETAILS
C-09F	GRADING PLAN	C-14G	UTILITY DETAILS
C-09G	GRADING PLAN	OP-1A	OFFSITE UTILITIES PLAN AND PROFILE



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The Tallahassee Buc-ees site plan meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 22nd at 1:30 p.m.** at the **Renaissance Center (435 North Macomb Street)** on the **Second Floor** in the main conference room. The public is welcome to attend.

You can review all submitted plans, staff comments, and future meeting notices any time on Leon County's **Accela Citizen Access** portal:

<https://aca-prod.accela.com/LEONCO/Default.aspx>

1. In the "Search" box at the top of the page, enter the Project ID (e.g., LSP26002) and press **Enter**.
2. Click the correct record, then select **Record Info** → **Attachments**.
3. (Optional) Double-click the **Upload Date** column header to sort files so the newest documents appear first.

No login is required to view or download these materials. If you have any issues accessing these documents or other questions, you can contact Ana Richmond at (850) 606-1321.

## SafeSense Online Safety & Digital Skills Workshop



About 100 people joined us last month at the library for Leon County Government's **SafeSense: Online Safety & Digital Skills Workshop**. Rick had been working on this training session for many months, along with FSU's CSCOO team, Kristy Tillman, and many other community partners. The workshop was a great success and a big thanks to each of the partners for their work in developing this essential training on how to avoid scams.

If you missed the training - or attended and want to listen to it again - you can stream it at the link above or the button below.

[Watch the Recording of the Workshop Here](#)

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## FDOT Public Meeting on Thomasville Road Resurfacing



## Hybrid Public Meeting

### State Road (S.R.) 61 (Thomasville Road) Resurfacing Improvements

From north of 9th Avenue to south of Maclay Road | Leon County | FPID#: 452938-1-32-01

#### Project Information

The intent of this project is to resurface all existing travel lanes, auxiliary lanes, median crossovers, and paved shoulders/bike lanes. Project improvements include the installation of new traffic signals at Hermitage Boulevard, updated street lighting, and replacement of pedestrian signals, curb ramps, and sidewalks, as needed, to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Planned safety improvements for S.R. 61 at Colonial Drive and Pine Street include:

- Convert the full median at Colonial Drive to a directional median.
- Close the full median opening at Pine Street.
- Add gore striping along the outside northbound lane near Colonial Drive to delay the transition of S.R. 61 from a 4-lane to 6-lane roadway to north of Colonial Drive.

Planned safety improvements for S.R. 61 at Capital Plaza Unsignalized Entrance:

- Close the full median opening at the Capital Plaza Unsignalized Entrance.

No additional right-of-way is required. Bids for construction are scheduled to occur summer 2027.

#### How to Participate

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) invites you to attend a hybrid public meeting for the S.R. 61 (Thomasville Road) resurfacing project.

This hybrid meeting is being held both virtually and in-person to provide interested persons an opportunity to express their views concerning the proposed improvements. Those who are unable to participate virtually may attend the meeting in-person. See the information sheet in this handout for details.

Interested persons can visit the project website at [www.nwflroads.com/calendar](http://www.nwflroads.com/calendar) and register for one viewing option (virtual or in-person). The same materials will be presented for each format. If you have any questions or issues registering, please contact the FDOT Project Manager.

Maps, drawings, and other project information is available for review online beginning at 12 p.m. (EDT), Thursday, April 9, 2026, at [www.nwflroads.com/calendar](http://www.nwflroads.com/calendar). The materials may also be viewed by contacting the FDOT Project Manager.



#### To Attend:

- Thursday, April 30, 2026**
- 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM (EDT)**
- Those who are unable to attend virtually may participate in-person at:  
**Thomasville Road Baptist Church Fellowship Hall**  
3131 Thomasville Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32308
- Access via computer, tablet, & smartphone.  
Register using the link:  
[www.nwflroads.com/calendar](http://www.nwflroads.com/calendar)



SR 61 Resurfacing Improvements, Leon County | [www.nwflroads.com/calendar](http://www.nwflroads.com/calendar)

[Learn More Here](#)

Coming Soon to Jackson View Park



We are excited to share TWO improvements coming to [Jackson View Park](#) (2585 Clara Kee Blvd.).

**Playground replacement:** Parks & Recreation is replacing the existing playground with **new equipment** featuring a shade sail, upgraded safety surfacing designed for ages 2–12 and an ADA-accessible swing.

**Disc golf course:** Staff are also designing and constructing a small disc golf course in-house, including concrete pads and baskets — **the County's first disc golf course at a park!**

These improvements will complement the park's existing amenities, which include walking trails, picnic tables, an observation deck, open space and a Little Free Library.

The park will remain open throughout both projects; however, certain areas will be temporarily closed during installation, for safety reasons. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters.

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## P-Funk Festival



Photo credit: Katherine Viker

Rick was honored to join his fellow Commissioner, Nick Maddox, in presenting a Leon County Proclamation to **George Clinton, the pioneer of Funk**, at the recent P-Funk Festival. The proclamation recognized and celebrated 85 years of Funk history and it honored George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelics' extraordinary contribution to music, culture, and artistic innovation.

## Created Equal: The Soul of Food

**Tuesday,  
April 21**  
5:30 p.m.  
The Moon

FREE AND OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC  
DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED

LEON  
the village square  
The Club of Honest Whites Citizens  
Eat. Drink. Think.

**Created Equal:  
The Soul of  
FOOD**

RSVP today at [LeonCountyFL.gov/CreatedEqual](https://LeonCountyFL.gov/CreatedEqual)

Food connects us to our past, to each other, and to the cultures that shape our communities. Join Leon County Government and The Village Square for “Created Equal: The Soul of Food” on **Tuesday, April 21**, at **The Moon**. A complimentary light dinner will

be provided starting at 5:30 p.m. The panel discussion will begin at 6 p.m., followed by table conversations among attendees. Registration is **free**, and everyone is invited to attend.

[Register Here](#)

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## Leon County Podcast on Affordable Housing



The Voices of Leon podcast is back with a new episode! In Episode 2, "**Pathways to Affordable Housing**," Leon County Housing Services Manager Jelani Marks breaks down the programs and resources helping residents take steps toward **owning a home**. From first-time homebuyer assistance and financial support to partnerships that expand affordable housing options, this episode offers a clear look at how Leon County is working to **make housing more accessible for all**.

[Listen Here](#)

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## 2026 Sustainable Communities Summit



Join Leon County for the 2026 Sustainable Communities Summit exploring the theme **Sustainable Threads: Weaving Paths to Sustainable Living**, on **Saturday, May 30**, at the Eastside Branch Library and Pedrick Pond Park.

Tune into storytelling moments from local sustainability success stories, learn about community resources and programs during engaging sessions, and participate in live demos to gain skills in mending, gardening, and more!

Finally, contribute to the fabric of our community by exploring sustainable topics, gathering cloth patches, and collaborating to form a community quilt!

This is a **free event** and **lunch will be provided**. **Registration is required**.

[Reserve Your Spot Here](#)

## Leon County Free CPR Training



The annual **Press the Chest** community **CPR training** event is happening **Saturday, May 9!** Hosted by Leon County EMS, people of all ages are invited to learn the lifesaving

skills of adult hands-only CPR, child CPR with breaths, adult and child choking relief, and AED awareness.

Each participant will receive an American Heart Association CPR Anytime Kit containing a CPR manikin, DVD, and educational materials. Participants can take these personal CPR kits home to train family and friends.

[Register Here](#)

## Words From the Machine: Why AI Chooses the Words It Does

LEON COUNTY  
**Library Lecture Series**  
*Topics That Engage and Inspire*




**Words From the Machine:  
Why AI Chooses the  
Words It Does**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6,  
FROM 6-7 P.M.**

LEON COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY  
200 WEST PARK AVE.

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

The poster features a stylized profile of a human head filled with colorful paint splatters and binary code, set against a dark blue background with geometric patterns.

 Wednesday, May 6  
 6-7 p.m.  
 Leon County Main Library, 200 West Park Avenue

Learn why AI favors certain language patterns and how these choices influence human speech. Combining research in computational linguistics and philosophy, this lecture offers a thought-provoking look at AI-human language interaction and its broader implications. **Free and open to the public**, with refreshments provided.

[Learn More Here](#)

## Join a Citizen Advisory Committee



Leon County is seeking dedicated residents to join our Citizen Advisory Committees. Your role will be vital as we strive to develop and grow our community responsibly.

[Learn More Here](#)

## Leon County's Summer Youth Training Program

Apply for a  
**SUMMER JOB**  
WITH LEON COUNTY!

Leon County Government is now accepting applications for the 2026 Summer Youth Training Program. In partnership with CareerSource Capital Region, this five-week program provides young adults ages 14-24 with valuable job experience working in various Leon County departments over the summer.

Apply by 5 p.m. EST  
on Monday, April 20, at  
[LeonCountyFL.gov/SummerYouth](https://LeonCountyFL.gov/SummerYouth)



This **five-week program** provides youth and young adults **ages 14 to 24** with valuable job experience by working with a Leon County department over the summer.

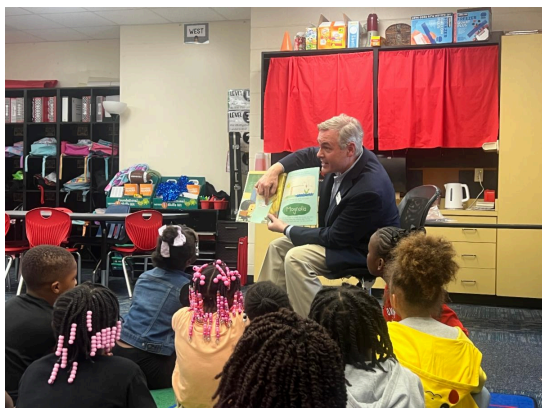
All positions are **20 hours per week** and pay **\$14 per hour**. Summer employment and training will run from Monday, June 29, through Friday, July 31, 2026.

[Apply Here](#)

## Rick around Leon County



*At the Springtime Tallahassee Parade*



*Reading to 1st graders at District 3's Astoria Park Elementary School*



*Hosting a Girl Scout Troop in the County Commission Chambers*



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Leon County Commission, District 3 | 301 S Monroe St | Tallahassee, FL 32301 US

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