



## The Latest from Your District 5 Office

Dear Friend,

Four years ago, County and City Commissioners voted 7-5 to give \$20 million in Blueprint Sales Tax funds to renovate FSU's Doak Campbell Stadium ([WFSU](#)). With interest, the cost to Blueprint is \$27 million. This month, we learned that FSU has saved \$25 million on the stadium renovation and is using that savings to buy a jumbotron. ([WTLX](#) & [WCTV](#))

Like so many of you, I opposed ([YouTube](#)) this use of our sales tax funds going to a football program that did not need our local sales tax money to update their stadium. When I ran for this office, I committed to pursue the return of these funds in any way possible, and now we have the opportunity to do so.

Last week, I urgently sent a [letter](#) to the Chairwoman of the Blueprint Board of Directors to request a special meeting to pursue the return of your \$20 million in sales tax funds now that FSU has saved more than that amount on the project. Despite not hearing back yet, I am hopeful that we can meet soon.

I've also [written to](#) FSU President McCullough asking that they wait to reallocate funds for a jumbotron until Blueprint can meet. I have not heard back, but I hope to hear back soon.

FSU has always and continues to partner with our community for the better. Returning these funds could be another great way to improve our community together, potentially funding other economic development projects. Your City and County Commissioners can use these tax dollars for other projects that could significantly benefit our community's economic growth.

I am unwavering in my commitment to getting these funds back to better use in growing our local economy in a way that benefits everyone, just as I committed to do when I took office.

Sincerely,

-David,

# Recent Votes at the County Commission

In our effort to keep you informed about the decisions we make on various issues, I am posting some of the key votes from our March 18, 2025, County Commission Meeting.



## 3/18/2025 Votes

Approved \$15,000 in funding for the Henry Hill Foundation's annual Emancipation Day Celebration.

**PASS**

**YES**  
Cummings, Welch, Caban,  
Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe,  
Maddox

**NO**

Not Present:

Abstained:



## 3/18/2025 Votes

Approved \$1 million in Emergency Rental Assistance funding reallocation for operational costs of the Columbia Gardens at South City affordable housing.

**PASS**

**YES**  
Cummings, Welch, Caban,  
Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe,  
Maddox

**NO**

Not Present:

Abstained:



## 3/18/2025 Votes

Motion to consider at a future meeting language that replicates the City's Ordinance prohibiting panhandling on sidewalks, medians and streets.

**PASS**

**YES**  
Cummings, Welch, Caban,  
Proctor, Minor, Maddox

**NO**  
O'Keefe

Not Present:

Abstained:



## 3/18/2025 Votes

Motion to direct the Housing Finance Authority and Affordable Housing Advisory Committee to analyze and evaluate President Trump's proposal to use federal lands/national forest for affordable housing.

**FAILED**

**YES**

Cummings, Proctor, Maddox

**NO**

Welch, Caban, Minor,  
O'Keefe

Not Present:

Abstained:



## 3/18/2025 Votes

Approved a Proclamation recognizing March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

**PASS**

**YES**

Cummings, Welch, Caban,  
Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox

**NO**

Not Present: Proctor

Abstained:



## 3/18/2025 Votes

Motion to consider an agenda item analyzing outreach staff options to focus specifically on homeless woman.

**YES**

Cummings, Welch, Caban,  
Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe,  
Maddox

**NO**

Not Present:

Abstained:

## Dixie



## Penny



Dixie and Penny came to the shelter together so we are highlighting them **both** this month!

Meet Dixie! I am a spayed female and I look like a Labrador Retriever mix. The staff at the shelter thinks I'm approx. 10 years old.

Meet Penny! I am a spayed female and I look like a German Shepherd mix. The staff at the shelter thinks I'm approx. 7 years old. I am staying with David as his foster dog. I get along with cats and dogs. I am house-trained and crate-trained.

By Appointment: Daily: 10:00a - 6:00

Walk-in Kennel Viewings: Wed., Sat. and Sun.: 1:00p - 5:00p

Phone: 850-891-2950

Shelter Address: 1125 Easterwood Drive

Shelter Adoption Information



# Landfill Closure Update - Final Phase



In January 2025, the County Commission approved the final closure of the Landfill located next to Apalachee Regional Park. Work on final closure began on March 19, and is expected to be completed in Fall 2026. The project will include re-grading the landfill, installing a protective liner and capping the gas vent system.

Once completed, the site will be transformed into recreational space, aligning with the County’s vision for Apalachee Regional Park by creating scenic trails and other amenities atop the capped landfill.

## Key project components

- Reshaping the landfill surface to accommodate future improvements.
- Installing a protective barrier to prevent infiltration.
- Covering the landfill with soil and vegetation to prevent erosion.
- Managing stormwater runoff.
- Modifying gas vents to control odors.
- Retrofitting the pump station to move wastewater to a treatment plant.

## Construction Timeline

- **Construction Start:** March 2025
- **Estimated Completion:** Winter 2026
- **Pausing for Major Events:** Construction will pause for major sporting events (including the 2026 World Cross County Championship) to minimize disruptions to Apalachee Regional Park activities.

### Construction Activities & Minimizing Impacts

- **Separate Entrance:** A construction ingress/egress point 1,600 feet east of the main landfill entrance will be used to reduce interactions with public traffic.
- **Low Traffic Volume:** Strategic hauling schedules and careful planning will minimize truck traffic impacts.
- **Intersection Traffic Control:** Coordination with the Regional Traffic Operating Center to monitor the traffic at Apalachee Parkway and W.W. Kelley Road intersection and make necessary signal timing adjustment.
- **Work Schedule:** Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Possible Weekend Work:** Saturdays, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. (if needed)
- **Noise Levels:** The County will significantly minimize noise levels for area residents and parkgoers.
- **Daily Cover:** Waste areas are covered at the end of the day to contain odors.
- **Odor Neutralizers:** Additional measures as needed.
- **Dust & Debris:** Trucks are covered to minimize dust; on-site inspector ensures compliance with environmental regulations.

Please contact our office with any questions about the landfill closure process. To view a map of what Apalachee Regional Park will look like in the very near future, click [here](#).

## March is Women's History Month

In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned the U.S. Congress to designate March as Women's History Month. During our March Commission meeting we presented members from the Oasis Center for Women and Girls and the Commission on the Status of Woman & Girls our official Proclamation. **Leon County celebrates Women's History all year long!**





# Baum Rd. Drainage Improvement Project

In early February, Leon County crews and contractor's began a major drainage improvement project in District 5 along Baum Road. This project will include structural improvements to reduce the increased water flow generated during heavy storms and by uphill development, which sometimes overwhelms the current Baum Road cross-drain.

The current box culvert and headwalls will be removed and a new box culvert will be constructed. The projects will also include guardrail construction, side drain construction, roadway construction and roadway resurfacing. Our contractor's are on schedule to finish the project in June.

You can see the progress that is being made in the photos below.





## Capital Area Justice Ministry (CAJM) Affordable Housing Proposal Update

Later this summer at our Budget Workshop, County staff will present an item to the Commission exploring funding options to provide gap financing for new, affordable rental housing projects requiring units for very-low and extremely-low income households. This proposal resulted from the hard work by CAJM members meeting with me and the other members of the County Commission.

Later this evening, CAJM will also host their [Nehemiah Action](#) where CAJM speakers will describe their proposal for Affordable Rental Housing for Very-Low and Extremely Low-income Families, and will ask the local elected leaders in attendance, like myself, whether or not they support their actions. **I have been working closely with CAJM and will support their proposal 100%.**

### Time & Location of Nehemiah Action 2025:

**Mar 31, 2025, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

**2344 Lake Bradford Rd, Tallahassee, FL 32310**











[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™  
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.  
View this email [online](#).

301 S. Monroe Street 5th Floor | Tallahassee, FL 32301 US

This email was sent to .  
*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.