On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and the dedicated men and women of Leon County Government, I’m proud to present the updated Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2021 Leon County Strategic Plan. In the pages ahead, you will read about the County’s vision, priorities, and initiatives that guide our daily efforts, as well as bold goals and five-year targets, which keep County employees striving to make Leon County a special place to live, work, and play.

Each year we update our Strategic Plan as we continue to evolve, engage, and execute our strategy. Our culture of performance has made Leon County known nationwide and here at home as a county government of innovative problem solvers working on behalf of and alongside our citizens in addressing the needs of the day and shaping our future.

In the pages ahead, you will see how we at Leon County plan and measure our success in the priority areas of Economy, Environment, Quality of Life, and Governance. Our Strategic Plan guides our efforts at every level of the organization and provides a foundation for setting the standard in public service. Recently updated for the current year, this plan features five-year targets that keep us focused on tangible results, and our bold goals that ensure we stretch ourselves to expand possibilities and exceed expectations.

And we cannot do all this alone. In the years ahead, we will continue to engage citizens as co-creators of this special community we share.

CORE PRACTICES

» Delivering the “Wow” factor in Customer Service.

» Connecting with Citizens.

» Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service.

» Accepting Accountability.

» Exhibiting Respect.

» Employing Team Approach.

» Exercising Responsible Stewardship of the Community’s Resources.

» Living our “People Focused, Performance Driven” Culture.
A community that is safe, healthy and vibrant.

Leon County’s vision statement is an aspirational description of what the organization would like to achieve and accomplish in the future. The vision statement also describes how Leon County, in an ideal state, should look in the future.

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

Leon County’s mission statement supports the vision and serves to communicate purpose and direction to employees, citizens, vendors and other stakeholders. The mission statement reflects the organization’s vision, but is more concrete and action-oriented.

Service, Integrity, Accountability, Respect, Collaboration, Stewardship, Transparency, Performance

Leon County’s core values are the foundational, guiding principles on how the County team serves the public, exceeds expectations, and accomplishes big, game-changing projects and initiatives. These core values serve as the foundation for our core practices, which are the ways we live our values every day through public service.

A community that is safe, healthy and vibrant.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

 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 FY2017-2021 Strategic Plan, the 75 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 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.
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.\(^{[EC]}\)

**PRIORITY**

- Do well-designed public infrastructure which supports business, attracts private investment and has long term economic benefits.
- Leverage university and community partnerships to increase entrepreneurial, technology transfer and commercialization opportunities.
- Support programs, policies and initiatives to attract, create, and promote expansion of business, entrepreneurship, and job creation.
- Grow our tourism economy, its diversity, competitiveness and economic impact.

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**BOLD GOAL**

Grow the five-year tourism economy to $5 billion

**5-YEAR TARGETS**

- Attract 80 state, regional, or national championships across all sports
  - 38% (30 Championships)
- Co-create 500 entrepreneur ventures and 11,500 new jobs, including 400 high-wage jobs
  - 38% (1,765 Students and Citizens)
  - 35% (129 Entrepreneur Ventures, 3,428 New Jobs*, and 123 High Wage Tech Jobs)
- Connect 5,000 students & citizens to middle skilled job career opportunities
  - 36% (11,203 Residents and Visitors)
- Host 100,000 residents & visitors as part of the Amphitheater County Concert Series
  - 36% (11,203 Residents and Visitors)

*Estimate based upon available data.
PRIORITY

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.

**ENVIRONMENT**

Protect the quality and supply of our water.

Promote orderly growth and sustainable practices.

Conserve and protect environmentally sensitive lands and our natural ecosystems.

Reduce our carbon footprint.

**BOLD GOAL**

Upgrade or eliminate 500 septic tanks in the Primary Springs Protection Zone

**5-YEAR TARGETS**

- Plant 15,000 trees including 1,000 in canopy roads
- Ensure 100% of new County building construction, renovation and repair utilize sustainable design
- 75% community recycling rate
- Construct 30 miles of sidewalks, greenways and trails

**PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 2018**

- 659 septic tank upgrades or eliminations in progress
- 10% (2,824 Trees) for canopy roads
- 66% Recycling Rate
- 61% (18.42 Miles)

Lake Henrietta
Leon County, Florida

Developed with Natural Resources
Division of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in cooperation with Leon County

On target

On target

On target
QUALITY OF LIFE

PRIORITY

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.

- Maintain and enhance our parks and recreational offerings and green spaces.
- Provide relevant library offerings which promote literacy, life-long learning and social equity.
- Provide essential public safety infrastructure and services.
- Support strong neighborhoods.
- Promote livability, health and sense of community by enhancing mobility, encouraging human scale development, and creating public spaces for people.
- Assist local veterans and their dependents with securing entitled benefits and advocating their interests.
- Support and promote access to basic health and welfare services to our community members most in need.

BOLD GOAL

Secure more than $100 million in Veteran Affairs benefits for Leon County veterans & their families

57% ($56.8 Million)*

PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 2018

- Double the number of downloadable books at the library
  - 87% (11,771 New Books)
- Construct 100 fire hydrants
  - 32% (32 Fire Hydrants)
- Train 8,500 citizens in CPR/AEDs
  - 39% (3,340 Citizens)
- Open 1,000 new acres of park land to the public
  - 20% (204 new acres)

* Estimate based upon available data
GOVERNANCE

PRIORITY

To be a model for local governance with innovative, competent, and responsible public servants, committed to promoting integrity, 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.

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

Sustain a culture that respects, engages, and empowers citizens in important decisions facing the community.

Retain and attract a highly skilled, diverse and innovative County workforce, which exemplifies the County’s Core Practices.

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.

BOLD GOAL

Implement 500 citizen ideas, improvements, solutions & opportunities for co-creation

41% (207 Citizen Ideas)

5-YEAR TARGETS

» Reduce by at least 30% the average time it takes to approve a single family building permit

» Achieve 90% employee participation in the County’s “My Rewards” Well Being Program

» Reduce by 60% the outstanding debt of the County

» 100% of employees are trained in Customer Experience, Diversity and Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence & Stalking in the Workplace

PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 2018

20% Reduction (2 days faster)

90% Participation (502 Employees Participating)

34% Reduction

48% of Employees Trained
(EC4) Utilizing a portion of the BP settlement funds, identify solutions for weatherization of the Capital City Amphitheater stage, inclusive of potential sound mitigation elements. (2016-11)

(EC1, EC4) Continue to work with FSU on the Civic Center District Master Plan to include the potential partnership to realize the convention center space desired by the County and to bring back issues related to the County’s financial and programming roles and participation for future Board consideration. (2016-2)

(EN3) Continue to work with partners, such as The Kearney Center and Leon County Schools, to increase access to training programs, apprenticeships, and other programs promoting middle-skilled jobs. (2016-48)

(EN1, EN2) Implement the adopted Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) for Wakulla Springs including bringing central sewer to Woodville and implementing requirements for advanced wastewater treatment. (2016-13)

(EN4) Develop strategies to increase recycling and reuse rates. (2016-14)

(EN2, EN3, EN4) Work with Sustainable Tallahassee and community partners to evaluate developing a community-wide climate action plan. (2017-6)

(EN1, EN2) Continue to work with the state as a host community in evaluating pilot technologies for new advanced wastewater treatment systems. (2017-7)

(EN1, EN2, EN3) Continue to work with the state to seek matching grants to convert septic to sewer systems. (2017-8)

(EN4) Develop an action plan to further reduce the County Government’s carbon footprint. (2018-2)

(EN1, EN2) To increase information available to the public regarding blue-green algae blooms, fishing advisories, invasive species, and general water quality, add education kiosks at Leon County boat landings. (2018-3)

(EN3, EN4) Pursue NACo’s SoilSmart designation. (2018-4)
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES – QUALITY OF LIFE

- Continue to expand recreational amenities to include:
  - (Q1, Q6) Implement a master plan for the Apalachee Regional Park. (2016-24A, rev. 2017)
  - (Q1, Q6) Develop a program to establish a signature landscaping feature with a regular blooming season. (2016-24B)
  - (Q1, Q6) Implement the Tallahassee-Leon County Greenways Master Plan. (2016-24C)
  - (Q1, Q6) Evaluate additional trail expansion opportunities. (2016-24D)
- (Q1, Q6) Work with partners to utilize rights-of-way and utility easements to further expand the trail system. (2016-24E)
- (Q1, Q6) Identify opportunities to create dog parks in the unincorporated area. (2016-24F)
- (Q1) Complete a comprehensive review and revision to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan, including a review of inclusionary housing. (2016-25)
- (Q3) Continue to evaluate emergency medical response strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates. (2016-26)
- (Q4, G1, G5) Work with the City of Tallahassee to develop a new CHSP process in-light of the United Way’s decision to conduct a separate funds distribution process. (2016-27)
- (Q4, G5) Implement the joint County-City Affordable Housing Work Group’s efforts to develop a holistic plan for the redevelopment of a multi-family affordable housing project and identification of additional transitional housing opportunities through community partnerships. (2016-28, rev. 2017)
- Continue to serve our seniors through programs and partnerships, including:
  - (Q4) As Florida’s first Dementia Caring Community, support the Florida Department of Elder Affairs in the further development of the pilot program, provide enhanced paramedic training and engage local partners in making the County a more dementia-friendly community. (2016-28A)
  - (Q4) Exploring opportunities to address fraud/scams targeted towards seniors. (2016-28B)
  - (Q4, EC) To continue to support Choose Tallahassee’s efforts to market our community as a retirement destination. (2016-29C)
  - (Q4) Identify and evaluate pretrial alternatives to incarceration for low level and non-violent offenders through regional partnerships and state and national efforts, including data-driven justice initiatives. (2016-30)
  - (Q7) Work with community partners to expand appreciation of local veterans including recognition of National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. (2016-31)
  - (Q5) Increase safety in the unincorporated area through the development of a new street lighting program and evaluation of the need for additional signage. (2016-32)
  - (Q3, Q4) Improve pet overpopulation by engaging vested community partners in the implementation of spay and neutering strategies. (2016-33)
  - (Q4) Continue County support of primary healthcare through participation in Carenet in order to increase access to affordable healthcare for those in need. (2016-34)
  - (Q2) Explore opportunities to increase to high speed internet access through a “mobile hot spot” library lending program. (2016-35)
  - (Q5, Q6) 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. (2017-9)
  - (Q1, Q5, Q6) As part of sense of place initiative for Miccosukee, evaluate the opportunity to combine activities from the existing community center into the Old Concord School. (2017-10)
  - (Q7) Enhance partnership with CareerSource to increase job and economic opportunities for local veterans. (2018-7)
  - (Q5, Q6) Develop a formal policy to implement the private dirt road safety stabilization program to be funded through L.I.F.E. (2% of sales tax extension). (2018-8)
  - (Q4) Conduct a comprehensive human service needs assessment in order to align CHSP funding with the highest human services needs in the community. (2018-9)
  - (Q5) Implement practices and strategies to further enhance the response to mass casualty incidents, including, the delivery of Stop the Bleed campaign training which teaches citizens how to assist someone suffering from major bleeding. (2018-10)
  - (Q4) Continue to evaluate the effectiveness of our existing County supported re-entry programs, explore other opportunities to further enhance re-entry efforts, and work with the Supervisor of Elections to assist former felons with registering to vote. (2018-11)
  - (Q6, Q1) Implement a minimum grid bicycle route network. (2018-12)

- (G1, G3) Alongside community partners, engage citizens of diverse backgrounds, education, and age on issues that matter most to them through the Citizen Engagement Series and Club of Honest Citizens. (2016-36)
- (G1) Continue to Support Commissioner Desloge during his term as NACo President. (2016-37)
- (G5) In accordance with the Leon County Charter, convene a Charter Review Committee to review the Leon County Home Rule Charter and propose any amendments or revisions which may be advisable for placement on the general election ballot. (2018-13)
- (G6) Develop a formal policy to implement the private dirt road safety stabilization program to be funded through L.I.F.E. (2% of sales tax extension). (2018-8)
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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.

### ECONOMY

**Bold Goal:** Grow the five-year tourism economy to $5 billion

- Attract 80 state, regional, or national championships across all sports
- Co-create 500 entrepreneur ventures and 11,500 new jobs, including 400 high-wage jobs
- Connect 5,000 students and citizens to middle skilled job career opportunities
- Host 100,000 residents and visitors as part of the Amethyst County Concert Series

**Progress to Date:**

- Attract 80 state, regional, or national championships
- Co-create 500 entrepreneur ventures and 11,500 new jobs, including 400 high-wage jobs
- Connect 5,000 students and citizens to middle skilled job career opportunities
- Host 100,000 residents and visitors as part of the Amethyst County Concert Series

**5-Year Targets:**

- 36% ($1.8 Billion)

**Progress to Date:**

- 30% ($0.8 Billion)

**Notes:**

- Attract 80 state, regional, or national championships
- Co-create 500 entrepreneur ventures and 11,500 new jobs, including 400 high-wage jobs
- Connect 5,000 students and citizens to middle skilled job career opportunities
- Host 100,000 residents and visitors as part of the Amethyst County Concert Series

### ENVIRONMENT

**Bold Goal:** Upgrade or eliminate 500 septic tanks in the Primary Springs Protection Zone

- Plant 15,000 trees including 1,000 in canopy roads
- Ensure 100% of new County building construction, renovation and repair utilize sustainable design
- Reduce by 75% community recycling rate
- Construct 30 miles of sidewalks, greenways and trails

**Progress to Date:**

- 18% (2,824 Trees)
- On Target
- 65% Recycling Rate
- 61% (18.42 Miles)

**5-Year Targets:**

- 579 septic tank replacements are in progress

**Notes:**

- Plant 15,000 trees including 1,000 in canopy roads
- Ensure 100% of new County building construction, renovation and repair utilize sustainable design
- Reduce by 75% community recycling rate
- Construct 30 miles of sidewalks, greenways and trails

### QUALITY OF LIFE

**Bold Goal:** Secure more than $100 million in Veteran Affairs benefits for Leon County veterans & their families

- Double the number of downloadable books at the library
- Construct 100 fire hydrants
- Train 8,500 citizens in CPR/AEDs
- Open 1,000 new acres of park land to the public

**Progress to Date:**

- 87% (11,771 New Books)
- 32% (125 Fire Hydrants)
- 39% (3,340 Citizens)
- 20% (204 new acres)

**5-Year Targets:**

- 57% ($65 Million)

**Notes:**

- Double the number of downloadable books at the library
- Construct 100 fire hydrants
- Train 8,500 citizens in CPR/AEDs
- Open 1,000 new acres of park land to the public

### GOVERNANCE

**Bold Goal:** Implement 500 citizen ideas, improvements, solutions & opportunities for co-creation

- Reduce by at least 30% the average time it takes to approve a single family building permit
- Achieve 90% employee participation in the County’s “My Rewards” Well Being Program
- Reduce by 60% the outstanding debt of the County
- 100% of employees are trained in Customer Experience, Diversity and Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence & Stalking in the Workplace

**Progress to Date:**

- 20% Reduction (2 Days Faster)
- 80% Participation (652 Employees Participating)
- 34% Reduction
- 4% of Employees Trained

**5-Year Targets:**

- 41% (307 Ideas/Year)

**Notes:**

- Reduce by at least 30% the average time it takes to approve a single family building permit
- Achieve 90% employee participation in the County’s “My Rewards” Well Being Program
- Reduce by 60% the outstanding debt of the County
- 100% of employees are trained in Customer Experience, Diversity and Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence & Stalking in the Workplace

*16 of September 2018 **Estimate based upon available data.*
Leon County needs your help shaping the years ahead

To volunteer at the County or in a local nonprofit, call (850) 606-1970 or visit VolunteerLEON.org

To serve on a Citizen Committee, call (850) 606-5300 or visit LeonCountyFL.gov/Committees

To provide feedback or make a service request, call (850) 606-5300 or visit LeonCountyFL.gov/CitizensConnect