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 capitol, 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.
As home to Florida’s capitol, Leon County is a welcoming, diverse, healthy, and vibrant community, recognized as a great place to live, work and raise a family. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the stunning beauty of the unspoiled natural environment and a rich array of educational, recreational, cultural and social offerings for people of all ages. Leon County Government is a responsible steward of the community’s precious resources, the catalyst for engaging citizens, community, business and regional partners, and a provider of efficient services, which balance economic, environmental, and quality of life goals.
2015 was another year of significant progress for Leon County toward realizing an ambitious vision for our community and setting the standard for performance, fiscal stewardship and best practices for local governments everywhere. We completed major infrastructure projects, launched bold policy initiatives, and enhanced efficiencies, created innovations, and improved service delivery to our citizens. Overall, from our operations and finances, to our core practices and organizational culture, we are stronger today than we were even a year ago.

Each year the County Administrator provides an Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners which also serves as an important update to our community on our commitments to serve on behalf of and alongside our citizens. This was a year which continued to reflect the strong fiscal leadership of the Board of County Commissioners in balancing our community’s needs with the resources of our citizens; as well as, the fiduciary stewardship and innovation of Leon County employees in maximizing efficiency, driving performance and delivering results for our community.

Here are just a few highlights from the Annual Report which demonstrate the dependability of the Board of County Commissioners and the dedication of the men and women of Leon County government in doing what we said we would do in 2015.

We said we would continue to be an effective leader and a reliable partner in growing and diversifying our local economy.

AND WE DID...

As we grew our tourism economy dramatically in 2015 and literally set the stage for becoming a premiere destination for entertainment, culture and sports tourism. From hosting regional running events at the Apalachee Regional Park to coordinating signature events like Word of South, we drew tens of thousands of visitors and saw a tourism economic impact of $963 million. And we focused on developing talent right here when we celebrated the first year of Domi Station, which will create jobs and diversify our local economy for years to come.

We said we would continue to protect and enhance our unique quality of life so that people are safe, healthy and connected to their community.

AND WE DID...

As we expanded and improved our beautiful parks countywide, including the renovation of Miccosukee Community Park, where at the park dedication we recognized Trent McElroy and his heart of a warrior. Through a partnership between the County, City and United Way, we
created the Kearney Center for the homeless where we realized once again the heart of our community as we brought together critical service providers to help those in need. We also said we would complete the Kinhega roundabout before school started again, and we opened the road four days early. And throughout construction we promoted area businesses, because we know that when construction starts, business does not stop.

We said we would engage citizens not only as taxpayers, but as co-creators of our community.

AND WE DID...

As our citizens shaped the future of our community through their work on the sales tax extension. And when county employees joined community members to revitalize a neighborhood to commemorate 9/11, and at Operation Thank You, when we brought together the community to honor our Korean War Veterans at their memorial in Cascades Park. And through the Club of Honest Citizens (and so many other forums) when we invite our community to engage face to face with county officials on issues that matter most to them.

We also brought hundreds of citizens to the table with “Food For Us”, our Sustainable Communities Summit, where we talked about local food issues and how we can grow our food economy. And at the same time, we launched our Library Seed Program and watched as thousands of library patrons checked out seed packets to start their own gardens with friends and family.

Among our many commitments to our citizens, we said we would continue to be a model local government which our citizens believe in and others benchmark against.

AND WE DID IN 2015...

By continuing to be good fiscal stewards during a slowly recovering economy. We refinanced the County’s debt service, which will save $585,000 over the next two years; we added funds for sidewalks and right-of-way maintenance; increased funding for social service agencies to address critical needs in our community; and reduced three positions funded by general revenue due to improved processes and consolidation of duties. And we realized these and other savings while keeping the millage rate unchanged.

Leon County was also recognized with eleven national awards for best practices for the efficient and innovative provision of services to our community. Awards highlighted online technology, program delivery, and most of all, our commitment to serving our citizens.

In all the ways we touch the lives of our citizens each day, whether it’s helping a veteran, teaching a child to read, building parks and greenways, or responding to the scene of an accident, we at Leon County not only do what we say we are going to do, but we do it putting people first and striving every day to set the standard in public service.

While we will continue to face the same challenges of communities and governments everywhere else, Leon County has proven to be a government that listens to the citizens we serve, solves our problems, and ensures that our community continues to be a place like nowhere else, as demonstrated through the pages of the 2015 Annual Report.

In Public Service,

Vincent S. Long
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.

HOW LEON COUNTY LEADS
Leon LEADS was instituted throughout Leon County Government over the course of Fiscal Year 2012. This approach resulted in the alignment of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners’ Vision for the Leon County community, with Strategic Priorities that advance the County toward that Vision, and the County’s optimized resources. As reflected in the graphic on the next page, Leon LEADS is a continuous process by which Leon County Government looks inward to strengthen what works and abandon what does not; looks outward to receive feedback from citizens and leverage partnerships; and adjusts as conditions change.

LEON LEADS
The first step, of what is now an ongoing process, was taken in December of 2011 when the Board identified its Vision Statement composed of four Strategic Priorities that support and advance that Vision, and organizational Values which form the basis for Leon County Government’s “People Focused, Performance Driven” culture. The Board’s Strategic Priorities are: Economy, Environment, Quality of Life and Governance.

To start, Leon County strategic planning teams conducted LEADS Review meetings in early 2012. Each LEADS Review meeting was a facilitated process, during which participants conducted a SWOT Analysis, identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats, and responded to targeted, open-ended questions to identify opportunities for improvement. Each team then prepared a report, identifying workplace improvements and Strategic Initiatives, each of which supports and advances one or more of the Board’s four Strategic Priorities.

Staff then drafted their work areas’ Strategic Plans, which identify the work area’s Mission, Strategic Initiatives for which it has lead responsibility, and planned workplace improvements. The work areas’ Strategic Plans, which set the broad course of action for the same two-year period as the Board’s Strategic Plan, were approved by the Board in 2012.

This year, Cross Departmental Action Teams realized further improvements and cost savings from earlier LEADS Review meetings. The County consolidated driveway inspection duties, which will lead to a position reduction in FY 2016. Further consolidation efforts in the Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives resulted in the colocation of operations, which further streamlined County functions. Also, due to the efficiency gains, the efforts resulted in the deletion of two more positions.

The Leon LEADS process enables Leon County to continue to be a model 21st century county government that is in a constant state of becoming the highest performing organization by conveying greater relevance and delivering more value in the many ways county government touches citizens.

LISTENS FOR CHANGING NEEDS
ENGAGES CITIZENS AND EMPLOYEES
ALIGNS KEY STRATEGIC PROCESSES
DELIVERS RESULTS & RELEVANCE
STRIVES FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
I² AWARD: THE INNOVATOR & INSPIRATOR AWARD

Leon County is an organization that rewards its employees for innovative ideas, teamwork, strategic processes, efficiency and the ability to achieve positive results. Employee ideas are an integral part of innovation and inspiration. Leon County is committed not only to its citizens, but is equally committed to its employees as a part of its “People Focused, Performance Driven” culture.

The I² (Innovator/Inspirator) Award conveys the value Leon County Government places on employee-led improvements that result in increased efficiencies or that enhance and support the delivery of county services, which significantly contribute to reinforcing Leon County’s relevance in the community and our Core Practices in the workplace. Examples of such improvements include the following:

• The Department of Development Support and Environmental Management (DSEM) developed a cost savings program that saves Leon County residents a total of $93,000 annually. Residents in unincorporated Leon County are required to have flood insurance. Upon their policy renewal, they are now eligible to receive a discount. Through Leon County’s work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the voluntary program called the Community Rating System (CRS) makes the cost savings possible.

• The Solid Waste Management Division’s Waste Stream Tire Elimination program was recognized for maintaining the quality, quantity and timeliness of its service at a measurably reduced cost. The program identified that tires were inefficiently being processed in Leon County’s waste stream. By removing the tires before taking the waste to Waste Management, the County achieved significant savings.

• The Library, Management Information Services and Community and Media Relations came together to create the new LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library Website and Facebook page. The program has increased web access and utilization, lead to increased use of the Library’s digital offerings as well as increased engagement on social media sites. In just a year and a half, the Library has gained more than 4,000 followers on Facebook because of the coordination and effort of the team.

• Leon County Public Works and the Planning Department collaborated to complete the Lafayette Street Gateway. The project improved pedestrian flow, accommodated business activity, provided a gateway entry into Cascades Park and created an aesthetically appealing shopping district.

The I² Award is a chance for employees to be recognized, and also an opportunity to inspire others to continue reinforcing Leon County’s Core Practices in the workplace while raising the public’s awareness of Leon County’s value to the community.
LIVING 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.

Leon County continued to be nationally recognized for cost-effective, high-quality service to citizens and was presented with the “Best In Category” Achievement Award for 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service and received ten additional Achievement Awards.

Leon County received three Project Awards and one Lifetime Achievement Award.
DELIVERING THE FACTOR IN CUSTOMER SERVICE

DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

“I really appreciate your open mind and common sense approach to your job. I can assure you it is appreciated. Keep up the good work.”
- Elliot

VETERAN SERVICES

“Words cannot express my gratitude. I simply can’t thank your office enough. I could not have done this without your service. I don’t believe in coincidences, and finding your office was not a coincidence.”
- Veteran Services client

OFFICE OF INTERVENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES

“I wanted to make mention of what an OUTSTANDING employee that you have. Jeanette Gaskins was my Probation Officer until recently. I can honestly say that I have never been more impressed with any employee in my life.”
- Jeannie

ANIMAL CONTROL

“It is rare today, in public service, to encounter public servants whom rise above the expectations of the citizens in regard to professional standards and conduct. Brendon Ocasio has a depth of knowledge and interpersonal skills, as well, evident pride in himself that is reflected in both his demeanor and uniform.”
- J.H.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

“I cannot express enough gratitude for the 911 operator, Killearn-based fire department and EMTs, when you grumble about taxes, think about a 2-minute response time by...EMTs who ran repetitive EKGs, streaming them to the emergency department so that, when the door opened, the staff at CRMC was ready to go. My taxes helped save my life.”
- Steven

LIBRARY

“Thanks for providing an exemplary service to Leon County. I especially like your Kindle book offerings and find loaning reading material so convenient.”
- Library patron

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

“I just wanted to thank you for forwarding my e-mail about public composting systems to the County’s Sustainability Program. Via that e-mail, we were introduced to and met with Tessa Schreiner, the County’s new Recycling and Sustainability Manager. What a wonderful person to meet! And what a coup for the County to attract her as an employee!”
- Jody

ENGINEERING SERVICES

“I can’t thank you both enough for your concern, attention and understanding of my issues. I know I’m one of a lot of squeaky wheels, but you constantly give me 100% and I appreciate that. You have made this street such a wonderful street. From where we were 30 years ago, it’s just hard to believe!”
- Scott

OPERATIONS

“Having been in Public Works for over 35 years, I wanted to let you know I passed through a work zone on Williams Road this morning and wanted to compliment the flagman. It was obvious that he had received proper flagman training and was utilizing what he had been taught. In my experience this was always an area where employees tend to get lazy. This young man was doing a great job in protecting the site and traffic and I felt compelled to report this good job on his part.”
- Marvin

PARKS AND RECREATION

“Hats off to Miccosukee Greenway maintenance crew for making a sweet ride even sweeter. Thank you.”
- Tallahassee Democrat reader

HOUSING SERVICES

“Thank you for a memorable presentation! Your delivery was engaging, informative, and provided excellent examples to illustrate your key points.”
- Angela

PUBLIC WORKS

“I thought it important that you know what a great job your folks [in Leon County] are doing. I have never once called in to report a problem that I wasn’t greeted with courtesy and prompt response and resolution.”
- Leon County citizen

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

“I know it’s hot outside and I noticed you painting that building across the street and making the view from the grocery store look nice with fresh paint. Thank you.”
- Bread and Roses Food Co-op

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

“I just wanted to tell you what a pleasure it was working with Jason on getting a copy of an easement in my neighborhood. He tracked it down and got back to me ASAP! The service was not even a GIS resource. They could have easily sent me on to another person but instead focused on finding a solution. I know how tough it is working in customer service and just wanted to say thanks again.”
- Tom

Facilities & Community and Media Relations

“I took note of the outstanding public service given by Leon County staff during the Veterans Day parade. My family and I were deeply impressed with their unending enthusiasm in trying and achieving the highest level of county service to ordinary residents.”
- Mr. & Ms. Parsons

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

- (EC1) Integrate infrastructure, transportation, redevelopment opportunities and community planning to create the sense of place which attracts talent. (2012)
- (EC2) Support business expansion and job creation, including: the implementation of the Leon County 2012 Job Creation Action Plan, to include evaluating the small business credit program. (2012)
- (EC3) Strengthen our partnerships with our institutions of higher learning to encourage entrepreneurship and increase technology transfer and commercialization opportunities, including: the Leon County Research and Development Authority at Innovation Park. (2012) (rev. 2015)
- (EC4) Grow our tourism economy, its economic impact and the jobs it supports, including: being a regional hub for sports and cultural activities. (2012)
- (EC5) Focus resources to assist local veterans, especially those returning from tours of duty, in employment and job training opportunities through the efforts of County government and local partners. (2012)
- (EC6) Ensure the provision of the most basic services to our citizens most in need so that we have a “ready workforce.” (2012)
- (EC7) Promote the local economy by protecting jobs and identifying local purchasing, contracting and hiring opportunities. (2013)

Strategic Initiatives – Economy
- (EC1, G3, G5) Evaluate sales tax extension and associated community infrastructure needs through staff support of the Leon County Sales Tax Committee (2012)
- (EC1, G3, G5) Develop a proposed economic development component for the Sales Tax extension being considered (2013)
- (EC1, G5) Ensure projects being considered for funding associated with the infrastructure Sales Tax extension represent geographic diversity throughout the County (2014)
- (EC1, G5) Ensure projects being considered for funding associated with the infrastructure Sales Tax extension address core infrastructure deficiencies in rural areas (2014)
- (EC1, G5) Work with the City of Tallahassee and Blueprint to implement the Sales Tax extension, including the Economic Development portion (2015)
- (EC1, G5) Identify projects that may be advance-funded as part of the Sales Tax extension (2015)
- Implement strategies that encourage highest quality sustainable development, business expansion and redevelopment opportunities, including:
  - (E2) Identify revisions to future land uses which will eliminate hindrances or expand opportunities to promote and support economic activity (rev. 2013);
  - (EC2) Consider policy to encourage redevelopment of vacant commercial properties (2012); and
  - (EC2) Consider policy to continue suspension of fees for environmental permit extensions (2012)
- Implement strategies that support business expansion and job creation, including:
  - (EC2) Evaluate start-up of small business lending guarantee program (2012);
  - (EC2) Identify local regulations that may be modified to enhance business development;
  - (EC2) Implement Leon County 2012 Job Creation Plan (2012);
  - (EC2) Engage with local economic development partners to build and expand upon the success of Entrepreneur Month and community connectors (2014);
  - (EC2, EC6) Evaluate and identify the projected unmet local market for middle-skill job opportunities (2015); and
  - (EC2, EC6) Based upon the projected unmet local market for middle-skill jobs, and with Board approval, collaborate with community and regional partners to host a new “Leon Works” exposition to educate high school students (15-18 years old) on the diverse and exciting middle-skill career and jobs anticipated locally, while raising awareness regarding a wide range of career opportunities (2015)
- (EC2, EC3) Implement strategies to support the Leon County Research and Development Authority at Innovation Park and promote commercialization and technology transfer, including being a catalyst for a stakeholder’s forum (2012) (rev. 2015)
● (EC3) - Coordinate efforts, with institutions of higher learning and other partners, to support local entrepreneurs (2015)

● Implement strategies that promote the region as a year round destination, including:
  ○ (EC4, Q1, Q4) - Evaluate competitive sports complex with the engagement of partners such as KCCI (2012);
  ○ (EC4) - Support VIVA FLORIDA 500 (2012);
  ○ (EC4) - Support Choose Tallahassee initiative (2012); and
  ○ (EC4, Q1) - Continue to work with FSU to bid and host NCAA cross country national and regional championships at Apalachee Regional Park (2014)

● Implement strategies that assist local veterans, including:
  ○ (EC5) - Hold “Operation Thank You!” celebration annually for veterans and service members (rev. 2013);
  ○ (EC5, EC6) - Develop job search kiosk for veterans (2012);
  ○ (EC5, EC6, Q3) - Consider policy to allocate a portion of Direct Emergency Assistance funds to veterans (2012); and
  ○ (EC5, EC6, Q3) - Consider policy to waive EMS fees for uninsured or underinsured veterans (2012)

● (E6, G2) - Implement strategies to promote work readiness and employment, including: provide job search assistance for County Probation and Supervised Pretrial Release clients through private sector partners (2012)

● (EC7) - Extend the term of Leon County’s Local Preference Ordinance (2013)

● (EC1, EC4) - 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 (2014)

● (EC1, Q6, Q7) – Support sector planning for the area surrounding Veterans Affairs’ outpatient clinic (2014)

● (EC1, Q6, Q7) – Engage in a needs assessment for the Bradfordville Study Area (2014)

Ongoing Support (Highlights) – Economy

● (EC1, Q2) - Develop and maintain County transportation systems, including roads, bike lanes, sidewalks, trails, and rights-of-way (2012)

● (EC2, G2) - Implement Department of Development Support & Environmental Management Project Manager, and dual track review and approval process (2012)

● (EC2) - Partner with and support the Economic Development Council, Qualified Targeted Industry program, Targeted Business Industry program, and Frenchtown/Southside and Downtown Redevelopment Areas (2012)

● (EC3) - Support and consider recommendations of Town and Gown Relations Project (2012)

● (EC4) - Promote region as a year round destination through the Fall Frenzy Campaign, and by identifying niche markets (2012)

● (EC5, EC6, Q3) - Collaborate with United Vets and attend monthly coordinating meetings, support Honor Flights, provide grants to active duty veterans, assist veterans with benefits claims, provide veterans hiring preference, waive building permit fees for disabled veterans, and fund Veterans Day Parade as a partner with V.E.T., Inc. (2012)

● (EC6, G3) - Provide internships, Volunteer LEON Matchmaking, Summer Youth Training program, 4-H programs, EMS Ride-Alongs, and enter into agreements with NFCC and TCC which establish internship programs at EMS for EMS Technology students (2012)

Strategic 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)

● (EN1) - Protect our water supply, conserve environmentally sensitive lands, safeguard the health of our natural ecosystems, and protect our water quality, including the Floridan Aquifer, from local and upstream pollution. (rev. 2013)

● (EN2) - Promote orderly growth which protects our environment, preserves our charm, maximizes public investment, and stimulates better and more sustainable economic returns. (2012)

● (EN3) - Educate citizens and partner with community organizations to promote sustainable practices. (2012)

● (EN4) - Reduce our carbon footprint, realize energy efficiencies, and be a catalyst for renewable energy, including: solar. (2012)

Strategic Initiatives - Environment

● Implement strategies that protect the environment and promote orderly growth, including:
  ○ (EN1, EN2) - Develop Countywide Minimum Environmental Standards (2012);
  ○ (EN1, EN2) - Develop minimum natural area and habitat management plan guidelines (2012);
  ○ (EN1, EN2, Q9) - Integrate low impact development practices into the development review process (2012);
  ○ (EN1, EN2) - Consider mobility fee to replace the concurrency management system (2012);
  ○ (EN1, EN2, G2) - Develop examples of acceptable standard solutions to expedite environmental permitting for additions to existing single-family homes (2012);
  ○ (EN1, EN2, G2) - Develop examples of acceptable standard solutions to expedite environmental permitting for new construction (2013); and
  ○ (EN1, EN2, G2) - Develop solutions to promote sustainable growth inside the Lake Protection Zone (2013)
● (EN1, EN2) - Implement strategies to protect natural beauty and the environment, including: update 100-year floodplain data in GIS based on site-specific analysis received during the development review process (2012)

● Implement strategies which plan for environmentally sound growth in the Woodville Rural Community, including:
  ○ (EN1, Q5) - Bring central sewer to Woodville consistent with the Water and Sewer Master Plan, including consideration for funding through Sales Tax Extension (2012); and
  ○ (EN1, EN2, Q5) - Promote concentrated commercial development in Woodville (2012)

● Continue to work with regional partners to develop strategies to further reduce nitrogen load to Wakulla Springs, including:
  ○ (EN1, EC4) - Conduct workshop regarding Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal and Management Options report (2012); and
  ○ (EN1) - Extend central sewer or other effective wastewater treatment solutions to the Primary Springs Protection Zone area within Leon County (2013)

● Implement strategies to promote renewable energy and sustainable practices, including:
  ○ (EN4) - Complete construction of Leon County Cooperative Extension net-zero energy building (2012);
  ○ (EN2, EN3, EN4) - Pursue opportunities to fully implement a commercial and residential PACE program (2012);
  ○ (EN3, Q5, EC6) - Consider policy for supporting new and existing community gardens on County property and throughout the County (2012);
  ○ (EN3, Q5, EC6) - Expand the community gardens program (2013);
  ○ (EN4, G5) - Develop energy reduction master plan (2012); and
  ○ (EN4) - Further develop clean - green fleet initiatives, including compressed natural gas (rev. 2013)

● Develop and implement strategies for 75% recycling goal by 2020, including:
  ○ (EN4) - Evaluate Waste Composition Study (2012);
  ○ (EN4) - Identify alternative disposal options (2012);
  ○ (EN4) - Explore renewable energy opportunities at Solid Waste Management Facility (rev. 2013); and
  ○ (EN4) - Seek competitive solicitations for single stream curbside recycling and comprehensively reassess solid waste fees with goals of reducing costs and increasing recycling (2013)

● (EN1, EN4) - Provide Adopt-A-Tree program (2012)
● (EN1, EN3) - Provide hazardous waste collection (2012)
● (EN) - Provide water quality testing (2012)
● (EN1) - Implement the fertilizer ordinance (2012)
● (EN3) - Provide state landscaping and pesticide certifications (2012)
● (EN3) - Conduct Leon County Sustainable Communities Summit (2012)

**Strategic Priority - Quality of Life**

*To be a provider of essential services in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place where people are healthy, safe, and connected to their community. (Q)*

- (Q1) - Maintain and enhance our recreational offerings associated with parks and greenway system for our families, visitors and residents. (rev. 2013)
- (Q2) - Provide essential public safety infrastructure and services which ensure the safety of the entire community. (2012)
- (Q3) - Maintain and further develop programs and partnerships necessary to support and promote a healthier community, including: access to health care and community-based human services. (rev. 2013)
- (Q4) - Enhance and support amenities that provide social offerings for residents and visitors of all ages. (rev. 2013)
- (Q5) - Create senses of place in our rural areas through programs, planning and infrastructure, phasing in appropriate areas to encourage connectedness. (2012)
- (Q6) - Support the preservation of strong neighborhoods through appropriate community planning, land use regulations, and high quality provision of services. (2012)
- (Q7) - Further create connectedness and livability through supporting human scale infrastructure and development, including: enhancing our multimodal districts. (2012)
- (Q8) - Maintain and enhance our educational and recreational offerings associated with our library system, inspiring a love of reading and lives of learning. (2013)
- (Q9) - Support the development of stormwater retention ponds that are aesthetically pleasing to the public and located in a manner that protects strong neighborhoods. (2013)

**Strategic Initiatives - Quality of Life**

- Implement strategies through the library system which enhance education and address the general public’s information needs, including:
  ○ (Q8, EC1, EC6) - Complete construction of the expanded Lake Jackson Branch Library and new community center (2012); and
  ○ (Q8, EC1, EC6) - Relocate services into the expanded facility (2012)
Implement strategies which advance parks, greenways, recreational offerings, including:
○ (Q1, EC1, EC4) - Explore extension of parks and greenways to incorporate 200 acres of Upper Lake Lafayette (2012);
○ (Q1, EC1, EC4) - Update Greenways Master Plan (2012);
○ (Q1, EC1, EC4) - Develop Miccosukee Greenway Management Plan (2012); and
○ (Q1, EC1, EC4) - Develop Alford Greenway Management Plan (2012)

Expand recreational amenities, including:
○ (Q1, Q5, EC1, EC4) - Complete construction of Miccosukee ball fields (2012);
○ (Q1, EC1, EC4) - Continue to plan acquisition and development of a North East Park (2012);
○ (Q1, EC1, EC4) - Develop Apalachee Facility master plan to accommodate year-round events (rev. 2013);
○ (Q1, Q5, EC1, EC4) - Continue to develop parks and greenways consistent with management plans including Okeechobee Prairie Park, Fred George Park and St. Marks Headwater Greenway (2012);
○ (Q1, EC1) - In partnership with the City of Tallahassee and community partners, conduct a community-wide conversation on upper league competition with the goal of a higher degree of competition and more efficient utilization of limited fields (2013); and

(Q4) - Further establish community partnerships for youth sports development programs (2014)

(Q1, EC1, Q9) - Redevelop Huntington Oaks Plaza, which will house the expanded Lake Jackson Branch Library and new community center, through a sense of place initiative (2012)

Provide essential public safety infrastructure and services, including:
○ (Q2, EC2) - Complete construction of Public Safety Complex (2012);
○ (Q2) - Consolidate dispatch functions (2012);
○ (Q2) - Successfully open the Public Safety Complex (2013); and
○ (Q2) – Develop a Leon County “Crisis Management Communication Plan” (2015)

(Q1, Q2) - Implement strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates, and to prevent injuries, including: continue to pursue funding for community paramedic telemedicine (2012) (rev. 2014)

Implement strategies to maintain and develop programs and partnerships to ensure community safety and health, including:
○ (Q2, Q3) - Participate in American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Partnership, and in ASPCA ID ME Grant (2012);
○ (Q3) - Implement procedures for residents to take full advantage of the NACO Dental Card program (2013);
○ (Q3) - Consider establishing a Domestic Partnership Registry (2013); and
○ (Q3, G2) - Provide an early budget discussion item regarding primary health care, including mental health care services, and options to maximize resources to meet the healthcare needs of the community including those individuals served through the local criminal justice system (2015)

Implement strategies that support amenities which provide social offerings, including:
○ (Q4, EC1, EC4) - Consider constructing Cascade Park amphitheatre, in partnership with KCCI (2012);
○ (Q4, EC4) - Consider programming Cascade Park amphitheatre (2012);
○ (Q4) – Work with the city to celebrate the opening of Cascades Park (2014);
○ (Q4) - Develop unified special event permit process (2012); and
○ (Q4, EC4, G5) - Evaluate opportunities to maximize utilization of Tourism Development taxes and to enhance effectiveness of County support of cultural activities, including management review of COCA (2012)

(Q6) - Implement strategies to promote homeownership and safe housing, including: consider property registration for abandoned real property (2012)

Implement strategies that preserve neighborhoods and create connectedness and livability, including:
○ (Q6, 7) - Implement design studio (2012);
○ (Q6, Q7) - Implement visioning team (2012);
○ (Q6, Q7) - Develop performance level design standards for Activity Centers (2012);
○ (Q6) - Revise Historic Preservation District Designation Ordinance (2012);
○ (Q6, Q7) - Develop design standards requiring interconnectivity for pedestrians and non-vehicular access (2012);
○ (Q7) - Develop bike route system (2012);
○ (Q7) - Establish Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (2012);
○ (Q6, Q7) - Conduct a workshop that includes a comprehensive review of sidewalk development and appropriate funding (2013);
○ (Q1, Q5, EC1, EC4) - Expand, connect and promote “Tallahassee” and the regional trail system (2013);
○ (Q7, EC1) - Promote communication and coordination among local public sector agencies involved in multi-modal transportation, connectivity, walkability, and related matters (2013);
○ (Q1, EC4) - Focus on improving Leon County's ranking as a bicycle friendly community (2014);
○ (Q6, Q7) - Initiate a comprehensive review and revision to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan (2015); and
○ (Q6, Q7) - Protect the rural character of our Rural Land use category. (2015)

(Q4) - Seek community involvement with the VIVA FLORIDA 500 Time Capsule (2013)

(Q4, EC1, EC4) - Institute a Sense of Place initiative for the fairgrounds (2014)
Ongoing Support (Highlights) – Quality of Life

- (Q1, Q9, EC1, EC6) - Maintain a high quality of offerings through the library system, including public access to books, media, digital resources, computers, Internet, reference resources, targeted programming, mobile library, and literacy training (2012)
- (Q2) - Fund Sheriff’s operations, consisting of law enforcement, corrections, emergency management, and enhanced 9-1-1 (2012)
- (Q2) - Implement alternatives to incarceration (2012)
- (Q2) - Initiate county resources as part of emergency response activation (2012)
- (Q2) - Provide, support and deploy the geographic information system, integrated Justice Information System, Jail Management system, case management and work release management information systems for Probation, Supervised Pretrial Release and the Sheriff’s Office, and the pawnshop network system (2012)
- (Q2, G5) - Provide for information systems disaster recovery and business continuity (2012)
- (Q2, Q3) - Support Community Human Services Partnerships (CHSP) (2012)
- (Q3) - Support Leon County Health Departments (2012)
- (Q3) - Support CareNet (2012)
- (Q3) - Support DOH’s Closing the Gap grant (including “Year of the Healthy Infant II” campaign, and Campaign for Healthy Babies) (2012)
- (Q3) - Maintain oversight of state-mandated programs, such as Medicaid and Indigent Burial, to ensure accountability and compliance with state regulations (2012)
- (Q3, EC6) - Educate at risk families to build healthy lives through the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program and other family community programs (2012)
- (Q3) - Support Regional Trauma Center (2012)
- (Q3, G5) - Leverage grant opportunities with community partners (2012)
- (Q3) - Support of Palmer Monroe Teen Center in partnership with the City (2012)
- (Q3) - Provide targeted programs for Seniors (2012)
- (Q6) - Provide foreclosure prevention counseling and assistance (2012)
- (Q6) - Provide first time homebuyer assistance (2012)

Strategic Initiatives – Governance

- Implement strategies which promote access, transparency, and accountability, including:
  - (G1) - Explore providing On Demand – Get Local videos (2012);
  - (G1) - Explore posting URL on County vehicles (2012);
  - (G1) - Instill Core Practices through: providing Customer Engagement training for all County employees, revising employee orientation, and revising employee evaluation processes (2012);
  - (G1) - Reform the existing on-line Comprehensive Plan to modernize its appearance and increase usability (2015); and
  - (G1) - Evaluate the existing Comprehensive Plan amendment process, and identify opportunities for further streamlining (2015)
- Implement strategies to gain efficiencies or enhance services, including:
  - (G2) - Conduct LEADS Reviews (2012);
  - (G2) - Develop and update Strategic Plans (2012); and
  - (G5) - Convene periodic Chairman’s meetings with Constitutional Officers regarding their budgets and opportunities to gain efficiencies (2013)
- Implement strategies to further utilize electronic processes which gain efficiencies or enhance services, including:
  - (G2) - Develop process by which the public may electronically file legal documents related to development review and permitting (2012);
  - (G2) - Expand electronic Human Resources business processes including applicant tracking, timesheets, e-Learning, employee self-service (2012);
  - (G2, EN4) - Investigate expanding internet-based building permitting services to allow additional classifications of contractors to apply for and receive County permits via the internet (2012);
  - (G2, EN4) - Institute financial self-service module, document management, and expanded web-based capabilities in Banner system (2012);

Strategic Priority - Governance

To be a model local government which our citizens trust and to which other local governments aspire. (G)

- (G1) - Sustain a culture of transparency, accessibility, accountability, civility, and the highest standards of public service. (rev. 2013)
○ (G5) - Consider options to gain continuity of Commissioners’ representation on committees, such as multi-year appointments (2013); and
○ (G5) - Periodically convene community leadership meetings to discuss opportunities for improvement (2013)

● (G2) - Investigate feasibility of providing after hours and weekend building inspections for certain types of construction projects (2012)

● Implement strategies to further engage citizens, including:
○ (G3) - Develop and offer Citizens Engagement Series (2012);
○ (G3) - Identify the next version of “Citizens Engagement” to include consideration of an “Our Town” Village Square concept (2013);
○ (G3) – Develop a proposed partnership for the next iteration of Citizen Engagement, possibly with the Village Square, which would be renewable after one year (2014); and
○ (G1, G3) - Expand opportunities for increased media and citizen outreach to promote Leon County (2013).

● (G4) - Implement healthy workplace initiatives, including: evaluate options for value-based benefit design (2012)

● Implement strategies to retain and attract a highly skilled, diverse and innovative workforce, which exemplifies the County’s Core Practices, including:
○ (G4) - Revise employee awards and recognition program (2012);
○ (G4) - Utilize new learning technology to help design and deliver Leadership and Advanced Supervisory Training for employees (2012); and

● (G4, G1) - Pursue Public Works’ American Public Works Association (APWA) accreditation (2012)

● Implement strategies which ensure responsible stewardship of County resources, including:
○ (G5) - Revise program performance evaluation and benchmarking (2012);
○ (G5) - Identify opportunities whereby vacant, unutilized County-owned property, such as flooded-property acquisitions, can be made more productive through efforts that include community gardens (2013);
○ (G5) - Develop financial strategies to eliminate general revenue subsidies for business operations (i.e., Stormwater, Solid Waste and Transportation programs) (2013);
○ (G5, EC1) – Create a capital projects priority list for the fifth-cent gas tax (program) (2014);
○ (G5) – Engage with the private sector to develop property at the corner of Miccosukee and Blair Stone, to include the construction of a Medical Examiner facility (2014); and
○ (G1) - Pursue expansion for whistleblower notification (2013); and

○ (G5, Q1, EN4) - Evaluate the long-term policy implications of the following options, taking into consideration the potential fiscal, environmental, operational and neighborhood impacts: a complete closure of the landfill; re-direct all Class I Solid Waste from the Transfer Station to the landfill; and a hybrid solution that includes both Class I Solid Waste disposal at the landfill and through the Transfer Station (2015)

● Implement strategies to maximize grant funding opportunities, including:
○ (G5) - Institute Grants Team (2012); and
○ (G5) - Develop and institute an integrated grant application structure (2012)

○ (G5) - Consider approval of the local option to increase the Senior Homestead Exemption to $50,000 for qualified seniors (2013)

● (G2) - Pursue Sister County relationships with Prince George’s County, Maryland and Montgomery County, Maryland (2013)

Ongoing Support (Highlights) – Governance

● (G1) - Develop and deploy website enhancements (2012)

● (G1) - Provide and expand online services, such as Customer Connect, Your Checkbook, and Board agenda materials (2012)

● (G1) - Provide televised and online Board meetings in partnership with Comcast (2012)

● (G1, G2, G5) - Provide technology and telecommunications products, services and support necessary for sound management, accessibility, and delivery of effective, efficient services, including maintaining financial database system with interfaces to other systems (2012)

● (G3) - Organize and support advisory committees (2012)

● (G4) - Support and expand Wellness Works! (2012)

● (G4) - Support employee Safety Committee (2012)

● (G4) - Conduct monthly Let’s Talk “brown bag” meetings with cross sections of Board employees and the County Administrator (2012)

● (G1, G2, G4) - Utilize LEADS Teams to engage employees, gain efficiencies or enhance services, such as: the Wellness Team, Safety Committee Team, Citizen Engagement Series Team, HR Policy Review & Development Team, Work Areas’ Strategic Planning Teams (2012)

● (G5) - Prepare and broadly distribute the Annual Report (2012)

● (G5) - Conduct management reviews (2012)

● (G5) - Provide and enhance procurement services and asset control (2012)

● (G5) - Manage and maintain property to support County functions and to meet State mandates for entities such as the Courts (2012)
LEON COUNTY ATTORNEY

Herbert W. A. Thiele
County Attorney
(850) 606-2500
ThieleH@LeonCountyFL.gov

Herb Thiele was selected by the Board in 1990 to create the County’s first in-house legal department and has served Leon County for over twenty-five years. Under Thiele’s leadership, the office continues to remain small but extremely efficient, with only 5 lawyers handling the legal affairs of Leon County, Florida.

In addition to being active in several state and national organizations that serve local government lawyers and advance the interests of local government law, Thiele has presented lectures or published articles on many local government law topics, including the Sunshine Law, the Open Records Law, and the Honest Services Act and Ethics. He serves on the Board of Directors for both the Florida Association of Counties Foundation and the International Municipal Lawyers Association, and will be installed as President of IMLA in October 2015.

Thiele leads a team of skilled professionals who provide high-quality, timely and cost-effective legal representation to the Board and other officials of Leon County.

Legal matters from this past year that are of particular note include the following:

- **2015 Fire Rescue Services Assessment** – Provided legal support in bringing this matter to the Board for consideration, including preparing the various resolutions necessary to adopt the fire rescue services assessment and amending the Interlocal Agreement to adopt the rate study.

- **2020 Local Government One-Cent Infrastructure Surtax Extension** – Prepared the referendum ordinance, subsequently approved by the Board, thereby placing this issue on the November 4, 2014 ballot. Once the Leon County voters approved the extension of this surtax, we were able to begin working with the City and draft the necessary Interlocal Agreements to provide for funding and construction of the additional 29 Blueprint 2020 Infrastructure Projects, Economic Development Programs, and Liveable Infrastructure For Everyone (L.I.F.E.) Projects.

- **Joseph A. Childs, Jr. and Lori Owen v. City of Tallahassee and Leon County, Florida – Fire Rescue Services Special Assessment** – This class action lawsuit challenges the validity of Leon County’s fire rescue services assessment and the City’s ability to collect same via utility bills. Plaintiffs’ Third Amended Complaint was served on Leon County on July 29, 2013, and the County Attorney’s Office continues to work with the City Attorney’s Office in the defense of this matter. On July 7, 2015, a hearing on class certification was held. The Court is required to first determine the appropriateness of the class, before the parties go to trial on the merits of the claims related to the constitutionality of the fire rescue services assessment. We are awaiting the Court’s decision on the class certification.

- **Thelma Crump and Keep it Rural Coalition vs. Leon County and William Glen Brown** – Provided legal support throughout this matter, which began in May 2014, with a challenge to the Development Support and Environmental Management’s preliminary approval of a gas station / convenience store near the intersection of Crump Road and Miccosukee Road. The parties entered into mediation and subsequently a Settlement and Forbearance Agreement, which required the County to consider and adopt amendments to the Land Development Code and the Comprehensive Plan. In 2015, the Board amended the Land Development Code to specifically prohibit gasoline service stations, fuel oil dealers, and liquefied petroleum gas dealers on all property designated “Rural.” Subsequently, the Board also adopted amendments to the Comprehensive Plan Rural FLU designed to protect and enhance rural areas, allowing agriculture, silviculture, and natural resource-based uses while continuing to note that residential development is limited to one dwelling unit per 10 acres.

- **Horseshoe Plantation Restoration Agreement** – Our office worked with Development Support and Environmental Management staff to negotiate and enforce a Restoration Agreement to restore several acres of wetlands that were destroyed by a property owner. After several months of negotiation, an Agreement was reached and litigation was avoided.

- **Engelhard/BASF Facility** – Significant nutrient contamination coming from the BASF facility near Attapulgus, Georgia, flows into Lake Talquin. County staff worked with representatives of the United States Environmental Protection Agency to address Leon County’s efforts to resolve the pollution; the EPA invoked jurisdiction over the BASF permit, removing the matter from the Georgia EPD’s jurisdiction. This action was appealed by the Georgia EPD and BASF, and in order to be a participant in the decision-making process, Leon County has joined the appeal in support of the EPA. We are currently awaiting a hearing date. In the meantime, Leon County has worked with the Florida DEP...
regarding its newly adopted nutrient standards to assure that Lake Talquin remains on the State’s Impaired Waterbodies List, and is now also working with DEP and the EPA in developing a nutrient loading limitation (TMDL) for Lake Talquin.

- **Wakulla Springs Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)** – Coordinated County involvement in regional water quality initiative focused on reducing nitrate pollution to Wakulla Springs, and provided legal support during agency and stakeholder meetings that will result in significant policy formulation with long term impacts on capital expenditures and development patterns throughout the region. Resolution of the BMAP is still pending, with a further public hearing by the Department of Environmental Protection scheduled for August 31, 2015.

- **Kinhega Roundabout (Beech Ridge Trail Extension Project)** – Provided all legal support in assisting with acquisition of common area parcel owned by Killearn Lakes HOA, including research and determination of how best to proceed to acquire HOA ownership interest and easement interests of all 4,200 HOA members and direct negotiation with HOA attorney to resolve the acquisition without need for a lawsuit. By negotiating settlement to avoid lawsuit, the project was able to be timely constructed during 2015 summer school break rather than delaying a full year until summer of 2016.

- **Gita Pitter Dam Removal in Killearn Lakes** – Provided legal support to Public Works and Real Estate staff in this public/private partnership to alleviate flooding in Killearn Lakes.

- **Reynolds v. Leon County Energy Improvement District (PACE)** – Continue to represent Leon County before the Court in a bond validation challenge by a private citizen to the issuance of up to $200,000,000 in revenue bonds by the Leon County Energy Improvement District to implement the County’s Commercial PACE Program. This matter has progressed from the Circuit Court to the Supreme Court, where the County Attorney’s Office was successful in having counsel for the Appellant disqualified; and subsequently, oral arguments on the merits of the case were made in February 2015. A decision from the Court is pending.

- **Leon County v. Moragne; Leon County v. Gilmore** – In February 2015, Leon County filed Petitions for Orders to Assume Custody of Neglected, Mistreated, or Cruelly Treated Animals to gain custody of over a dozen severely neglected horses. Most of the horses were permanently removed from the Defendants’ custody and placed in foster care, and the Defendants were ordered to reimburse the County for costs incurred for the horses’ care.

- **Brian Trent vs. Leon County Animal Control** – Plaintiff filed an Amended Complaint that alleges Leon County Animal Control was negligent in its handling and transporting of the plaintiff’s two dogs and as a result is the cause of the death of the two animals. The County filed its Answer and Affirmative Defenses to the Amended Complaint on August 10, 2015. This matter will be before the Honorable Angela C. Dempsey.

- **Christopher M. Jenson v. Leon County, Florida . . . Sentinel Offender Services, LLC, et al.** – Plaintiff asserts various federal and state law claims, and among other things, alleges that as a result of utilizing faulty equipment provided by Defendant, Sentinel, he was falsely arrested, falsely imprisoned, and maliciously prosecuted. Sentinel provides GPS electronic monitoring services pursuant an Agreement with Leon County. This matter is in its early discovery stages.

- **Tactical Medical Program** – Worked closely with the Division of Emergency Medical Services and the Leon County Sheriff’s Office to create the Tactical Medical Program Agreement. The Program provides specialized pre-hospital emergency medical support to the Sheriff’s Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) during tactical operations, and the Agreement between the parties created the foundation of how the program would be established, operated and organized.
1:00 AM
FLEET MANAGEMENT
During an emergency, technicians refuel vehicles for Emergency Medical Services, Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Sheriff’s Office to help keep the community safe.

2:00 AM
COMMUNITY AND MEDIA RELATIONS
In response to a tropical storm that brought six inches of rain to Leon County, staff updates the Emergency Information Portal with critical shelter and sandbag information.

3:00 AM
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
A frantic wife calls 9-1-1 because her husband collapsed to the floor. He is motionless and not breathing. EMS rushes to the house and paramedics perform necessary treatments and radio ahead to the hospital so specialists can be ready to help.

3:00 PM
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
Staff sets up for the Community Legislative Dialogue Meeting, where stakeholders throughout the community join Leon County Commissioners and County’s legislative team.

4:00 AM
OPERATIONS
Operations’ crews respond to downed trees and localized flooding throughout Leon County.

4:00 PM
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Agents collect samples of local vegetation for tree and plant identification classes.

5:00 AM
PARKS AND RECREATION
Staff arrive at Apalachee Regional Park to begin course preparation and parking activities for the FSU Invitational cross country races.

5:00 PM
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
Assist property owners with tax bill assessment questions.

6:00 AM
BOCC
Commissioners begin a Budget Workshop.

6:00 AM
HUMAN SERVICES
Through the direct Emergency Assistance Program, a family in Leon County receives short-term financial assistance.

7:00 AM
SUSTAINABILITY
A staff member delivers mulch to the iGrow South City Community Garden as a part of the support provided by the garden mini-grant program.

8:00 AM
M/WSBE
Staff conducts orientation with a new vendor that has been dually certified as a Women Business Enterprise (WBE) and a Small Business Enterprise (SBE).

9:00 AM
PROVIDING SERVICE 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK

10:00 AM
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
Staff sets up for the Community Legislative Dialogue Meeting, where stakeholders throughout the community join Leon County Commissioners and County’s legislative team.

11:00 AM
COMMUNITY AND MEDIA RELATIONS
In response to a tropical storm that brought six inches of rain to Leon County, staff updates the Emergency Information Portal with critical shelter and sandbag information.

12:00 PM
SUSTAINABILITY
A staff member delivers mulch to the iGrow South City Community Garden as a part of the support provided by the garden mini-grant program.

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Commissioners begin a Budget Workshop.
Mission Statement
To provide leadership and direction to County staff, to facilitate the implementation of Board priorities and policies, and to manage the operation of County functions to ensure the delivery of cost effective, customer responsive public services within the bounds of available resources.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Quality of Life
• Provided comprehensive organizational leadership of Leon County Government while continuing the people focused, performance driven culture.
• Provided vision and clear direction through representation on the Consolidated Dispatch Agency (CDA) board including an in-depth evaluation of the CDA communication system and day-to-day operations.

Governance
• Facilitated the Board retreat, resulting in an updated FY 2012 - FY 2016 Leon County Strategic Plan, which assured staff has clear direction as to the execution of the County Priorities.
• Continued to involve citizens as stakeholders in the community by hosting the Citizens Engagement Series, initiating of the Club of Honest Citizens, and facilitating Leon County Citizen Committees including the Sales Tax Committee.
• Instituted an organizational realignment to address succession management, talent retention and recruitment, and diversity.

Contact Us
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www.LeonCountyFL.gov

Providing Fiscal, Strategic & Operational Leadership

• During FY2015 Leon County exercised sound fiscal stewardship even during the slow economic recovery.
  » The international ratings agency Fitch continued to provide Leon County with an “AA” bond rating. According to Fitch, Leon County’s “financial profile is characterized by prudent, forward-looking budgeting, high reserve levels, and strong liquidity.”
  » Developed a proposed balanced budget without raising the property tax rate.
  » Refinanced outstanding debt by leveraging the favorable conditions of the current financial markets to save $299,958 in FY16 and $585,711 over the two year life of the refinancing.
  » Realized $800,000 in utility savings through the County’s investment in energy efficient systems.
  » Implemented a pay for performance plan based on employee evaluations, providing for recognition of employees based on their performance.

• Even during the slow economic recovery, the Board continues to make appropriate investments in our community. County Administration manages and oversees the delivery of certain projects, including:
  » Continued leadership over Blueprint 2000 project execution including Capital Circle and Cascades Park.
  » The County Administrator serves with the City Manager and Sheriff as the governing body overseeing the Consolidated Dispatch Agency that provides dispatch services to all law enforcement, fire and EMS first responders.

• Leon County Administrator Vincent S. Long is now President of the newly-formed Florida Association of County Managers (FACM).

Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service

Leon County Government received eleven national awards for providing cost-effective, high-quality service to citizens. Awards were received in categories including as Civic Education and Public Information, Financial Management and Information Technology.
Leon County has a long history of promoting citizen involvement to guide policy and shape our community. Since 2012, the nationally-recognized Citizen Engagement Series has provided greater opportunities to build trust through meaningful engagement. The Citizen Engagement Series sessions enhance transparency and convey the relevance of County government through immersive hands-on exercises that offer a glimpse into the decision making process that shape the community.

For this year, three Citizen Engagement Series sessions were held to offer citizens an in-depth look into County services. The first session, “Destination Leon County: Promoting Our Community. Attracting Visitors,” offered citizens an opportunity to gain greater insight into the Tourism Development Division’s recent and continued success in attracting visitors to the Big Bend area through extensive marketing of local events, destinations, and attractions.

The second session, “Public Safety: Preserving Life, Improving Health, and Promoting Safety,” featured the County’s Emergency Medical Services, the Consolidated Dispatch Agency, and Leon County Emergency Management. The session offered citizens a stimulating and interactive forum that highlighted the operations and services of the three areas’ efforts to deliver high-quality safety services to the community.

The third session, “Balancing Budgets and Exercising Fiscal Stewardship: Making Hard Choices in Challenging Times,” utilized Leon County’s national award-winning Let’s Balance exercise to give citizens hands-on experience in the decision-making process of balancing the budget.
For less than the price of a monthly TV cable bill, you receive County services that include EMS, parks, roads, flood relief, libraries, County Sheriff, court support and disaster response - just to name a few!

### Monthly TV Cable Bill

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Channel Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24/7 Reality TV</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Housewives of Everywhere</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food, Food &amp; More Food</td>
<td>$9.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movies I Don’t Like</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silly People Doing Silly Things at Silly Times</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is That Really For Kids?</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/7 Ultimate Ping Pong Championships</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Re-Run Channel</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movies &amp; Shows That Shouldn’t Have Been Made</td>
<td>$9.45</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total**: $80.95

### County Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement &amp; Corrections</td>
<td>$30.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medical Services (EMS)</td>
<td>$3.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Services</td>
<td>$2.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>$3.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Human Services</td>
<td>$3.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elections</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans, Volunteer, Co-op &amp; Planning</td>
<td>$1.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mosquito Control</td>
<td>$0.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Other Services</td>
<td>$15.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total**: $63.50
EXERCISING RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY’S RESOURCES

In its continued effort to deliberately focus on the most fiscally responsible budget possible, the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, in a 7-0 vote, balanced the County’s budget without raising the millage rate. The Fiscal Year 2016 budget of $238.6 million is a 4.4 percent increase from last year’s budget. Property values have grown 4.5 percent. Excluding funding increases for one-time extraordinary spikes, such as the Presidential Preference Primary, the preliminary budget increase is 3.6 percent.

The Board accomplished this year’s balanced budget while leaving the millage rate at the current 8.3144 mills. The County deliberately used reserves, all in an effort to maintain quality service levels and focus on capital infrastructure needs.

While continuing to maintain core services and the community’s infrastructure, a series of budget balancing strategies were implemented, including:

- Refinancing debt service, which will save $300,000 in Fiscal Year 2016 and $585,000 over the two-year life of the refinancing;
- Reducing a net of three positions funded by general revenue due to pre-planning and/or the consolidation of duties;
- Adding an environmental review specialist to assist in environmental permitting review and to be paid for by permitting fees;
- Providing additional operating funds to pay for expanded sidewalk and right-of-way maintenance;
- Providing $1.5 million to begin implementing the Board’s sidewalk priorities;
- Supplying the Sheriff with resources to implement a step pay plan needed to remain competitive in the retention of deputies and correction officers; and
- Increasing funding for social service agencies by allocating an additional $175,000 to the Community Human Service Partnership (CHSP).

Leon County has a ratio of 6.0 employees for every thousand County residents, tied with Lake County for second in lowest per capita employees.

Net Budget Per Countywide Resident (FY2016)

Leon County is the lowest for dollars spent per County resident. Osceola County spends more than two and a half times the amount per resident than Leon County. The next closest county’s net budget per capita is 18% higher than Leon County’s (Lake County).

*Compared to peer counties.

PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION:
(Based on Median Value Single-Family Home in Leon County)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>FY 2016 Ad Valorem Tax Bill $762</th>
<th>FY 2016 Monthly Cost</th>
<th>FY 2016 % of Ad Valorem Taxes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff - Law Enforcement</td>
<td>191.21</td>
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<td>25.09%</td>
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<td>177.34</td>
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<td>Emergency Medical Services</td>
<td>43.22</td>
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<td>5.67%</td>
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<td>Health &amp; Human Services</td>
<td>42.64</td>
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<td>Supervisor of Elections</td>
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<td>Property Appraiser</td>
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<td>Administrative Services</td>
<td>20.92</td>
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<td>Other Criminal Justice (Probation, DJJ, Diversion)</td>
<td>18.69</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>2.45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans, Volunteer, Agricultural Co-op, Planning</td>
<td>13.11</td>
<td>1.09</td>
<td>1.72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Redevelopment - Payment</td>
<td>11.36</td>
<td>0.95</td>
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<td>Board of County Commissioners</td>
<td>8.53</td>
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<td>Geographic Information Systems</td>
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<td>Capital Improvement</td>
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<td>Other Non-Operating / Communications</td>
<td>6.66</td>
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<td>0.87%</td>
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<td>Clerk of the Circuit Court</td>
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<td>0.85%</td>
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<td>Court Administration and Other Court Programs</td>
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<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.84%</td>
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<td>Risk Allocations</td>
<td>4.15</td>
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<td>0.42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budgeted Reserves</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
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<td>Line Item Agency Funding</td>
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<td>0.06</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$762.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$63.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Providing More Quality Services with Fewer Resources

**EMS Responses**
- 2012: 32,873
- 2013: 33,166
- 2014: 36,729

Calls responded to by Emergency Medical Services each year.

**Cardiac Survival Rate**
- National Average: 7%
- Leon County: 35%

**Total Clients Served In Person**
- 2014: 4,500

**Annual Client Benefit Payments**
- $51,546,309

**Economic Impact**
- Tourism Development: $630 Million
- Average Fleet MPG: 24.66
- Economic Impact: $809 Million
- Solid Waste: $963 Million

**Average Fleet MPG**
- 2012: 25
- 2013: 25.66
- 2014: 28.72

**Passive Park & Facility Acreage**
- 2010: 3,377
- 2015: 3,847

Total number of acres maintained by Parks and Recreation.

**Recycling Rate**
- National: 34%
- Leon County: 51%

Percentage of solid waste diverted from the landfills for other uses.

**Facebook Likes**
- 2014: 2,576
- 2015: 4,693

**Twitter Followers**
- 2014: 2,470
- 2015: 3,957
WHERE THE $238.6M COMES FROM...

FY 2015/2016 ADOPTED BUDGET:

$238.6 MILLION

...AND HOW THE $238.5M IS UTILIZED

Did You Know
Leon County citizens pay among the lowest in the state per person to operate their local county government.

Leon County’s budget is still $46.1 million less than the budget in 2008.
Mission 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/Support Highlights

Quality of Life
- Partnered with local hospitals and medical providers to improve heart attack outcomes and develop a system of care that exceeds national standards.
- Initiated a Tactical Medical Program to provide medical support to the Sheriff’s Office Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) unit, allowing specially trained paramedics to reach victims of violent incidents faster, resulting in decreased mortality.
- Consolidated dispatch functions for Leon County EMS, the Leon County Sheriff, Tallahassee Fire, and Tallahassee Police, which provides a single point of contact for 9-1-1 answering and dispatch services, and reduces response times.
- The Leon County EMS Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education program in partnership with Leon County Schools provided safety awareness and bicycle education to elementary schools.
- Participated in Public Safety Day with Youth, Adult and Senior Leadership Tallahassee providing an understanding of what EMS provides to our community.
- Conducted 140 public education events.
- Received a grant from the Florida Department of Health to implement a Community Paramedic Program.

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

PRESERVING LIFE. IMPROVING HEALTH. PROMOTING SAFETY.

- After celebrating 11 years of dedicated service to the community and responding to over 343,960 calls for service, the nationally recognized, Leon County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) continues to lead the industry in setting the standard for emergency care.
- EMS responded to 36,729 calls for service (an increase of 36% over the last 11 years) resulting in 24,962 patient transports with ensuring response times are maintained during a steady increase in calls for service.
- With over 300,000 people dying from sudden cardiac arrest each year in the United States before they reach the hospital, Leon County strives to continuously improve the chances of survival by advocating for the placement of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), and also Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training through its Heart Ready initiative. Through these efforts, over 1,600 citizens were trained in CPR and AED use. Also, there are 827 public access AEDs in the community registered with EMS.
  » Press the Chest 2015: For the fifth year, EMS hosted “Press the Chest,” a community-wide CPR and AED training event held at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center. EMS and community partners trained more than 700 citizens in CPR and AED use. Also, there are 827 public access AEDs in the community registered with EMS.
  » Child Passenger Safety Seat Program: The Child Passenger Safety Seat program conducted over 50 child safety seat checkpoints, inspections, and installations at the Public Safety Complex as well as health and safety fairs throughout the community.
  » Leon Lifesaver: Leon Lifesaver is a community risk reduction program presented at over 20 events, which focuses on improving safety and preventing injuries in young school-aged children. Leon, an interactive robotic ambulance, goes into schools and community events teaching children about the proper use of 9-1-1, the importance of car safety restraints and bicycle helmet use, and stranger danger.
  » Operation Prom Night: This cooperative anti-drunk driving and anti-distracted driving program is for high school-aged teenagers in which a mock accident scene is used to illustrate the dangers of drinking and driving, and distracted
driving. This program is hosted by Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare through the cooperation of community partners including schools, the Leon County Sheriff’s Office, Tallahassee Police Department, FSU Police Department, Tallahassee Fire Department, Lifeflight Air Methods and ShandsCair.

» Senior Citizens: EMS participated in various senior citizens events. These programs provided information on healthy living, fall prevention, CPR training and heart health education.

» Safety Fair: EMS conducted the sixth annual safety fair to highlight personal safety and injury prevention. This event was conducted at Governor’s Square Mall. EMS hosted this event along with the Leon County Sheriff’s Office, Leon County Animal Control, Capital Regional Medical Center, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, Tallahassee Fire Department, Tallahassee Police Department, Consolidated Dispatch Center, Florida Department of Health, American Red Cross, Tallahassee Community College, FSU First Responders, Community Traffic and Safety Team, Florida Fish and Wildlife, and the Pilot Club of Tallahassee.

Did You Know
After months of intense training and field exercises, a team of highly skilled Leon County EMS paramedics have now formed the Tactical Medic Program working alongside Leon County Sheriff’s Office Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team in the event of a high-threat civilian tactical and rescue operation.
Mission Statement
The mission of the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System is to enrich the community by inspiring a love of reading, providing a dynamic resource for intellectual, creative and recreational pursuits, and enabling residents to live a life of learning.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Quality of Life
- Leon County citizens made 1 million visits to the seven locations of the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library, and there were 1.2 million visits on the Library website.
- Library card-holders checked out 1.7 million books and other materials and downloaded 65,000 ebooks and audiobooks from the Library website.
- Library online resources include 24/7 access to magazine articles, health information, newspapers, auto repair, and more, all published as subscription online information by well-known and reputable library and reference publishers.
- 28,000 adults, teens and children attended some 800 programs throughout the library system.
- Book groups meet at all library locations, engaging readers of all ages in lively discussions of a wide variety of books.
- Continued to grow the Library System’s social media presence by 19% to further engage patrons.
- There were 400,000 uses of free public-access Internet computers and wi-fi throughout the library system.

Contact Us
(850) 606-2665
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Library

INSPIRING A LOVE OF READING AND A LIFE OF LEARNING

- The Library unveiled a new online catalog featuring improved search options and quick access to online resources, services and information.
- Launched a new online reservation system for meeting rooms to make it easier than ever for community groups to reserve meeting rooms at the Main Library, the Dr. B.L. Perry, Jr. Branch, Eastside Branch, Northeast Branch and Woodville Branch.
- Each library location received 10,000 LEGO bricks. Thanks to LEGO Systems, Inc. and the Association of Library Service to Children, young children can now attend LEGO Club, where they build with the LEGO bricks and talk about their LEGO structures.
- The Library joined the 150th anniversary celebration of the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation in Tallahassee, hosting lectures by Dr. Will Guzman of Florida A&M University and Dr. Andrea Oliver of Tallahassee Community College during the Festival of Freedom in May.
- “Traveling Book Club Kits” now include 7 children’s book titles and 10 young adult titles, as well as 36 titles for adults.
- The Summer Reading Program featured “Every Hero Has a Story” this year. The kick-off was held at each library location on May 30, and close to 600 children and their families enjoyed activities about superheroes and got their summer reading off to a great start.
- Monday Nights at the Main, a summer reading program at the Main Library, kicked off the series in June with an outdoor Community Hero Day. Service vehicles and operators (excavator, dump truck, ambulance, animal control truck, Sheriff’s SWAT vehicle, Library Bookhauler) from several county divisions were featured.
- In partnership with Literacy Volunteers of Leon County, the Library’s Literacy Program continues to offer services in adult literacy, family literacy and English for speakers of other languages.
- Leon County’s Seed Library program was successfully launched, with more than 2,400 seed packets being checked out from the libraries in just four days! Developed in partnership with Sustainable Tallahassee and Leon County Office of Resource Stewardship, spring and fall launch events helped educate future gardeners.

Leon County’s Seed Library Program
• In March, a permanent exhibit about Governor LeRoy Collins was unveiled at the Main Library. “LeRoy Collins’ Legacy: The Politics of Constructive Change and Leadership” features a biography of Governor Collins in 16 framed posters developed in 1996 with a grant from the Florida Humanities Council. An 11-minute video developed by the Collins Institute at Florida State University features Gov. Collins’ achievements, and photographs and other documents add interest and variety to the exhibit.

Did You Know
The library facilitates the AARP tax assistance program, which helps patrons with tax preparation for free. This year, the tax assistance program has assisted with 1086 returns.
Mission 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.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights
Quality of Life
- Operation and offices moved to the Public Safety Complex to better coordinate with Leon County first responders during day-to-day operations and emergencies.
- Provided essential public safety services through animal bite investigations, aggressive animal intervention, educational programs and through enforcement of the Animal Ordinance.

PROTECTING LEON COUNTY’S ANIMALS & CITIZENS
- In order to continuously provide safety and well-being of both citizens and domestic animals, Animal Control staff has:
  » Provided Bite Prevention Classes to 1st and 4th grade students throughout the local school district.
  » Educated residents about responsible pet care, animal safety, bite prevention and related matters by participating in outreach events such as public safety fairs, “Howl at the Moon”, and community pet adoption events.
  » Educated pet owners about requirements of the Leon County Animal Ordinance and provided loaner doghouses so owners did not give up their pet for lack of proper care and shelter.
  » Provided collars and identification tags to ensure lost pets were returned home.
  » Conducted proactive door-to-door neighborhood sweeps with community partners in high volume service call areas. The main focus of the operation being outreach, education and resource provision.
  » Facilitated the Capital Area Animal Network providing for an open forum format that brings together various animal welfare groups in the capital region.
  » Continued to implement strategies that allow Animal Control Officers to return animals to their owners, eliminating the need to take animals to the shelter.
  » Animal Control staff distributed low-cost spay and neuter vouchers provided by community stakeholders in an effort to impact animal overpopulation.

- Animal control staff is committed to decreasing the number of animal bites. During the year, staff:
  » Fielded over 9,600 phone calls resulting in over 5,800 service requests and over 6,600 Animal Control Officer activities.
  » Responded to over 270 reported animal welfare-related complaints and investigated over 50 dangerous or aggressive animal complaints.
  » Handled over 500 animal bite exposure cases for the state mandated Animal Rabies Program.

Did You Know
Animal Control staff helps distribute reduced cost spay and neuter vouchers that are provided by community partners. This helps address pet overpopulation in Leon County.
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE & RECOVERY

- Emergency Management maintains the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to plan for and coordinate disaster response activities.
  » The EOC was activated two times during the last year to coordinate response to severe weather incidents.
  » The EOC hosted three separate training courses for local and regional emergency responders to build and enhance their emergency response skills.
  » The EOC hosted the annual EOC Concept of Operations meeting for personnel that will work in the EOC during a disaster.
  » Partnered with the Florida Department of Health in Leon County to host the Big Bend Healthcare Coalition’s Regional Hurricane Recovery Exercise.
- To ensure Leon County is prepared to address disasters, during this past year, Emergency Management:
  » Reviewed emergency plans for 51 healthcare facilities.
  » Hosted the 2015 Hurricane Season Kickoff and Presentation of the Annual Hurricane Survival Guide to re-emphasize the importance of hurricane preparedness.
  » Continuously monitored severe weather situations and coordinated response activities with partner agencies throughout the region.
- Partnered with the Library Services to conduct public outreach and education at multiple library branches as part of Florida Severe Weather Awareness Week.
  » Partnered with Community and Media Relations and Management Information Services to upgrade the Emergency Information Portal.
  » Disseminated 106 severe weather alerts to emergency response partners.
- The Leon County Enhanced 9-1-1 System received 180,846 calls during this past year. Of these calls, 141,804 were from wireless devices.

Did You Know
Citizens can receive emergency alerts by email and text. Sign-up to receive emergency alerts from Leon County at www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EI.
SPECIAL PROJECTS/INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

Goal Statement

To effectively serve the residents of Leon County by providing leadership, coordination and assistance to divisions to facilitate the delivery of services consistent with Board policy. This will ensure that divisions receive the resources, guidance, and support needed to provide superior services in a cost effective and efficient manner.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy

- Leon County worked with the City of Tallahassee and the Blueprint 2000 Intergovernmental Agency to begin planning for infrastructure projects to be conducted using the Blueprint 2020 Infrastructure Sales Tax extension. Together, the County, City, and Blueprint began to identify opportunities to advance-fund certain high-priority projects and these that may qualify for non-local funding to leverage local sales tax dollars.

Quality of Life

- The County and City Commissions jointly submitted a U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER grant application for the Southside Connectivity Completion Project, a $23.9 million project that will enhance multimodal transportation connections to, from, and around the South City area.

Contact Us

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

ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY’S LEGISLATIVE INTERESTS

- Through Community Legislative Dialogue Meetings, Leon County continued to partner with stakeholders throughout the community to identify legislative items of shared significance. Leon County 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, the United Way of the Big Bend, and others to identify these shared issues and to seek opportunities to leverage financial, technical, and human capital to draw attention to the community priorities at the federal, state and local levels.

- Staff prepared, guided and implemented the County’s 2015 state and federal legislative priorities to leverage funding for local projects and preempt legislation that threatened local decision-making.

- During the 2015 regular and special legislative sessions, staff produced weekly briefings (the Capitol Update) to keep the Board of County Commissioners and senior staff apprised of legislative developments that would impact the community.

Did You Know

Leon County aggressively seeks state and federal grant funding to support County projects and initiatives. At the start of Fiscal Year 2015, Leon County pledged approximately $625,000 in local funds to leverage over $8.9 million of state and federal funding for County projects – a leveraging ratio of over 14 to 1.

KEY POLICY ISSUES

Protection of State Workforce

Classifications: Local Government

Support: Leon County actively advocated for the renewal of the Florida Enterprise Zone Program, which provides tax incentives for businesses and residents located in the zone. A renewed Enterprise Zone will attract new businesses, reduce the loss of businesses, and provide human capital to drive the community forward.

Communication Service Tax

Classifications: Local Government

Support: Leon County opposes any additional reductions to the existing tax and encourages the collection of the current tax and expansion of the tax to include property valuation and encourage the broader state definition of return on investment.

STATE/LOCAL ECONOMY

Support: Special revenues generated through state/local programs, such as the Communications Service Tax (CST), contribute to the local economy and support vital services needed by the community.

Enterprise Zone

Support: Leon County supports the renewal of the Florida Enterprise Zone Program, which provides tax incentives for businesses and residents located in the zone.

Tallahassee – Leon County Enterprise Zone

Classifications: Local Government

Support: Leon County actively advocates for the renewal of the Florida Enterprise Zone Program, which provides tax incentives for businesses and residents located in the zone.

Tallahassee – Leon County Enterprise Zone

Classifications: Local Government

Support: Leon County actively advocates for the renewal of the Florida Enterprise Zone Program, which provides tax incentives for businesses and residents located in the zone.

2015 LEON COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT

34 2015 LEON COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT
DOMI STATION

In 2015, Leon County Government celebrated Domi Station’s first year of success. In just one short year, Domi Station has gone from a newly renovated space with fresh paint to a thriving business incubator with over 125 members and 35 companies. Those in attendance learned how, through hard work and by leveraging community partnerships and networks, the startup businesses in Leon County’s first business incubator have brought in outside investment, created new jobs, and generated almost a million dollars in revenue.

CAPITAL CITY AMPHITHEATER

Designed to be the centerpiece of Tallahassee’s new Cascades Park, the Capital City Amphitheater is a spectacular, 3,500-seat outdoor venue certain to attract a variety of artists and countless music lovers eager to hear them.

Leon County’s Capital City Amphitheater has brought in some of the largest names in the industry from the Pink Floyd Experience, to Wilco, to The Avett Brothers and The Beach Boys.

MICCOSUKEE COMMUNITY PARK

Parks are much more than green spaces; they are also areas residents and visitors alike can come together and share moments and memories. Due to the leadership of Leon County Government, the Miccosukee Community Park will be a community staple for years to come. With input from citizens and the Miccosukee Little League Board of Directors, Leon County Government renovated an aging park to meet the community’s vision. The playground offers children a place to play while their parents watch a baseball game, and the new drainage system will keep the fields in great shape throughout the year.
Mission Statement
To guide the 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 vendors in navigating and competing in today’s marketplace, and leveraging existing resources to maximize the infusion of financial capital into the local community.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy
- Coordinated the expansion of Entrepreneur Month for November 2014 to stimulate greater community participation and support beyond the universities.
- Supported Domi Station, a business incubator to house and provide business support services to start-up ventures.
- Promoted collaboration and communication through a “Town and Gown” partnership with Florida State University, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee Community College, and the City of Tallahassee.
- Supported the Alliance of Entrepreneur Resource Organizations (AERO), a coalition of public agencies and community nonprofit organizations united to provide current and new businesses with resources to aid in their success.
- Supported Project Gold, an international research and development facility, which would create 10 new research and development positions and will increase tourism through hosting an average of 10 domestic and international clients on a weekly basis.

Contact Us
(850) 606-5300
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EV

ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY’S ECONOMIC INTERESTS

- Leon County continues to focus on job creation and investment in the community:
  » Created 781 jobs through capital infrastructure improvement projects, including transportation and storm water improvements.
- Leon County has invested more than $20.4 million in the Frenchtown/ Southside Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and the Downtown CRA to revitalize the downtown and areas to the north and south of downtown. Construction of the Aloft Hotel, the Alliance Center, Cascades Park, and the trail along FAMU Way were funded in part through these CRAs, as is the new construction surrounding the Gaines Street District, including: College Town (a mix of apartments, entertainment and retail); The Deck (apartments and street-level retail); and The District and The Catalyst (both student apartments).
- Following voter approval of the penny sales tax extension, Leon County will be investing 12% (an estimated $90.7 million over 20 years) of the penny sales tax revenue in economic development projects.
- In partnership with Leon County Government, Domi Station celebrated their first year of success as a business incubator and co-working space at the Leon County Historic Amtrak Station Complex, which offers opportunities for entrepreneurs of all ages.
- Leon County hosted the 2014 Emonth Closeout and Stakeholder Forum, serving as an entrepreneurial catalyst by hosting this meeting of investors, inventors, entrepreneurs, economic development professionals, and university officials to identify the next steps for our community to continue to promote and develop our growing entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Capital Projects and Job Creation (FY15 & FY16)
Over the past several years, the Board has taken strategic steps to focus resources on maintaining jobs, investing in the community, and creating local infrastructure improvements. These steps include committing $85.8 million towards the following capital projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Categories</th>
<th>Project Costs</th>
<th>JobsCreated</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Culture &amp; Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Government</td>
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<td>Health &amp; Safety</td>
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<td>Physical Environment</td>
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<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$36,584,120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total FY14 &amp; FY15 Projected Spending</td>
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</table>

» In order to promote awareness on skilled workforce needs, Leon County and its partners are planning the Leon Works Expo to bring together institutions of higher learning, students, employers, and other job seekers. The Expo will provide high school students and the community an opportunity to learn about skilled careers and vocational training available locally as participants seek to define their own success.
Goal Statement
To provide minority, women, and small businesses with a means of participation in Leon County’s procurement process for the purpose of achieving economic parity among all Leon County vendors.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy
- Reviewed Leon County’s competitive procurement opportunities to determine the feasibility of aspirational goals for local, certified minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises (M/WBEs), and for set-aside opportunities to boost participation among local, certified small business enterprises (SBEs).
- Provided staff support for the Leon County Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprise Citizen Advisory Committee in reviewing programmatic functions for assisting certified vendors and identifying opportunities and strategies for continued program improvement.
- Supported and staffed local business education workshops and other networking events (Small Business Week and Minority Enterprise Development Week) provided to small business owners for the enhancement of their daily operations.

MANAGING MINORITY-OWNED, WOMEN-OWNED & SMALL BUSINESS NEEDS

- In a continuous effort to support local businesses and to promote parity with local, certified minority-owned and women-owned businesses:
  - During FY15, Leon County expended approximately $2.4 million in contractual payments and the direct purchase of goods and services from local small businesses; including certified minority, women, and small business enterprises participating in Leon County’s procurement process as a prime contractor and/or subcontractor.
  - The MWSBE Division collaborated with its community partners to co-sponsor, plan, and staff the local observations of Small Business Week and Minority Enterprise Development Week events. This resulted in the effective engagement of citizens through the provision of networking opportunities, business development training and workshops that were offered at no cost to the participants. In addition, the Division participates as a member of the Alliance for Entrepreneur Resource Organizations (AERO).
  - The Division demonstrated performance and results through its continuous monitoring of Leon County’s procurement activities, which allows for quick notification of certified small, minority-owned and women-owned businesses regarding Leon County procurement opportunities. In addition, the Division provided information to internal and external customers regarding certified vendor availability.
  - Leon County hosted the “Strategic Branding Workshop” in recognition of Entrepreneurship Month. The workshop provided small business owners and entrepreneurs with strategies for differentiating their businesses from their competitors in a saturated market.

- Leon County and Tallahassee Community College co-hosted “Business Solutions That Impact Your Bottom Line,” a free workshop focusing on strategies business owners could utilize to improve customer service and increase their bottom line.

Did You Know
During FY15, Leon County expended approximately $2.4 million in contractual payments and the direct purchase of goods and services from local certified M/WSBES.
Mission Statement
To spearhead and coordinate the tourism-related marketing and management of the destination through the coordination of the hospitality industry, local governments and the business community to sustain and grow visitor spending and job creation in the Tallahassee region.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy
- Hosted three major cross country events at Apalachee Regional Park in 2015: Florida High School Athletic Association State Championship, the Florida State University (FSU) Cross Country Invitational, and the NCAA Cross County South Regional for a total of 9,500 visitors, generating 4,800 room nights and a direct visitor spending of $3.7 million.
- Tourism related jobs now exceeds 15,000 in Leon County, 2.75 million annual visitors infused nearly $963 million of economic impact into Leon County.
- Revamped the application process for special events and sports grants and developed a fully integrated, online application for the benefit of all applicants.

Quality of Life
- Produced the fourth-annual Capital Cuisine Restaurant Week & Concert Series with 29 local restaurants participating.
- Hosted “Spring On Stage”, a campaign that collectively promoted numerous special events including the Pink Floyd Experience, Wilco, the Beach Boys, and the first sell-out at the Capital City Amphitheater with the Avett Brothers.
- Developed a “Spring On Stage” campaign that collectively promoted numerous special events that helped achieve record hotel occupancy in March-May.
- Produced the fourth-annual Capital Cuisine Restaurant Week & Concert Series with 29 local restaurants participating.
- Implemented the county’s first research trip for motor coach operators from throughout the Southeast.
- Produced and promoted four concerts at the Capital City Amphitheater including the Pink Floyd Experience, Wilco, the Beach Boys, and the first sell-out with the Avett Brothers.
- Promoted Leon’s County’s outdoor recreation, culinary, African-American heritage, history and heritage and arts and culture amenities by hosting more than 30 journalists from travel and lifestyle publications in the US, the United Kingdom and Germany.
- Leveraged an additional $835,000 million in advertising equivalency through earned media during the first six months of FY2015.
- 25% increase in traffic to both www.VisitTallahassee.com and www_TRAILahassee.com as well as Twitter and Facebook followers.
- Consumers viewed more than 1.5 million pages of information on www.VisitTallahassee.com last year.
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- Consumers viewed more than 1.5 million pages of information on www.VisitTallahassee.com last year.
• Assisted 162 groups with welcome materials representing 44,375 visitors and served 2,603 domestic visitors from 47 states and 789 international visitors from 36 countries at the Leon County Visitor Information Center from October 2014 - July 2015.

• Provided $215,000 in grants to 98 groups to support special events and sporting events in Leon County during FY 2015.

• Provided the Council on Culture & Arts with a penny of Tourism Tax funds in excess of $1,000,000 to be re-granted to various cultural organizations in Leon County with an additional ¼ penny to be used for capital and other cultural plan needs.

• Leon County hosted its award-winning Citizen Engagement Series session entitled, “Destination Leon County: Promoting Our Community, Attracting Visitors,” offering citizens greater insight into its recent and continued success in attracting visitors to the Big Bend region.

Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service

Trailahassee.com won an information technology achievement award from the National Association of Counties.
Mission Statement
To provide safe, efficient, and sustainable roadways and transportation amenities, stormwater facilities, parks and recreation opportunities, and maintenance services throughout Leon County that enhances its livability, environment and economic vitality.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights
- Pursue Public Works’ American Public Works Association (APWA) accreditation. The department is in the process of completing the first step in the accreditation process, self-assessment. This process involves reviewing all policies, revising or developing policies and procedures, and implementing new processes. This process gives the opportunity for the department to evaluate, analyze, and improve every aspect of the department’s operation, management, and administration.
- Conducted a comprehensive review of the overall sidewalk network within the unincorporated areas of the County. Additionally, a revised sidewalk eligibility and implementation policy was developed to govern the selection and construction of sidewalks in the unincorporated areas.
- During the few months of summer break, the County constructed and opened the Kinhega Roundabout. The improvements allow area residents and visitors to better access businesses, residences, and nearby new development, as well as Chiles High School. The roundabout was designed with input from the Killeen Lakes Homeowners Association.
- Public/Private Collaboration: Bannerman Road Widening Project: Leon County, the Developer, and residents work together to develop a plan of action to improve the roadway network, while maintaining water quality.
- To address community concerns regarding congestion on Bannerman Road and protection of lake quality, Leon County entered into a public-private partnership with the Developer to coordinate the proposed widening of Bannerman Road with the Developer’s construction of roadways for their development. This partnership allowed the County to leverage private dollars and facilitate roadways improvements, resulting in significant cost and time savings. Details of the agreement include:
  - Construction of a roundabout at the Beechridge Trail Extension using the Developer’s land for a bypass road and stormwater. This action minimized traffic disruptions and provided water quality treatment during construction.
  - Bradfordville Community Center was relocated to a new, 17 acre site at no cost to the County, providing enhanced opportunities for recreation programs at the Center.
- The Partnership accelerated the ability to widen Bannerman Road 900 feet west of Quail Commons. The Developer donated 100% of the right of way for stormwater ponds, eliminating the need for the County to acquire right-of-way, saving in both time and costs.

Did You Know
Leon County Public Works provides roadside maintenance on over 660 miles of County roadways.
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.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights
Quality of Life
- To be a provider of essential services in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a place where people are healthy, safe, and connected to their community.
- Create connectedness and livability through supporting human scale infrastructure.

Professional Services and Quality Infrastructure
- A safe and efficient transportation system is one of the standards for local government. Leon County is committed to constantly evaluating roadways for efficiencies. This past year, Leon County:
  - Constructed a right turn lane at Geddie and US 90 to improve traffic flow.
  - Completed a southbound turn lane and other safety improvements at Aenon Church Road and SR 20.
  - Constructed the Bannerman Road Roundabout at the new Beech Ridge Trail Extension.
  - Resurfaced Old Bainbridge Road between Brevard and Tharpe.
  - Completed the design for an access drive at Apalachee Regional Park.
- Transportation is not just roadway improvements. The County launched an emphasis on pedestrian connectivity, resulting in the completion of the following sidewalks in FY 2015:
  - Natural Bridge Road between Woodville and Old Woodville
  - Chaires Cross Road from Chaires Elementary to the Community Center
  - Timberlane from Deerlane to Woodley, extending the number of neighborhoods ability to reach Market Square and Gilchrist
  - A portion of Schoolhouse Road to Timberlane, connecting to Market Square and Gilchrist
  - Provided a connection between parks and communities with the additional sidewalks on Stoneler and Tower Roads
  - Fred George Road from Monroe to Mission, connecting neighborhoods to the Lake Jackson Town Center
  - Lawhon Road - between Woodville and Old Woodville
- In order to implement the most cost-effective options to reduce flooding and improve the community’s surface and ground water quality, Engineering Services completed the following projects:
  - Killearn Lakes Units 2 and 3 Stormwater Enhancement Projects - These projects alleviated sheet flow flooding issues by the provision of conveyance within the constraints of a woodland setting.
  - Autumn Woods Drainage - The County took over via easement acquisition and enhanced a major eroded unmaintained flowway through the Autumn Woods neighborhood. Additionally, a major bottleneck was improved at the discharge to the State Forest to significantly reduce flooding in this area. Work was largely accomplished through a CDBG grant.

Contact Us
(850) 606-1500
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/PubWorks
Goal Statement
To provide for the safety, comfort, and convenience of the public by creating, maintaining infrastructure and programs supporting recreation, parks and open space.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Quality of Life
• Construction of Fred George Greenway and Park began in March 2015 with an anticipated completion by the end of 2015.
• Received a grant to construct Phase III of trail improvements to Miccosukee Greenway between the Fleischmann Road trail head and the Edenfield Road trail head. The two-mile section of improvements will complete the eight mile, “trunk trail” system that has been part of the County’s strategic initiatives. The improvements will make hiking, biking, running and horseback riding more accessible for users of all levels.
• Partnered with Sustainable Tallahassee’s Carbon Fund to plant 50 new live oaks at Apalachee Regional Park to promote sustainable practices and sequester carbon.
• Improved active park amenities through the construction of new baseball fields at Miccosukee Park, additional lighting for fields #3 and #4 at Apalachee Regional Park, drainage and irrigation improvements at Chaires Park, and water pressure improvements at Woodville Park.
• Continued to develop parks and greenways consistent with management plans including Okeeheepeek Prairie Park, which completed construction in October 2015, and St. Marks Headwater Greenway which is currently in the design phase.

MAINTAINING LEON COUNTY’S PRISTINE PARKS & GREENWAYS

• Leon County continued to operate, maintain, develop, and promote the many unique recreational amenities the community desires.
• Completed campground renovations at Williams Landing Campground including delineation of ten campsites, adding fire rings and grills to each camp site, installation of a new fish cleaning station and the rehabilitation of the fishing pier.
• Implemented changes and enhancements at Community Centers as identified through neighbors and user feedback which included a new ice machine and chairs at Miccosukee Community Center; improvements to the sound system at Ft. Braden Community Center; and the addition of historical pictures/wall hangings at Lake Jackson Community Center.
• Partnered with Leon County Senior Outreach staff to add a computer class for residents in the Miccosukee community and a fitness program at the Lake Jackson Community Center.

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

Wide Open Rush at the Apalachee Regional Park

Williams Landing

• Hosted Greenway Day 2014, featuring the greenway’s vast hiking, cycling, horseback riding, stargazing and general recreational opportunities that are available throughout the year.
• Participated in community events such as the Healthy Communities Festival, Springtime Tallahassee, and the 2015
Sports Ability Conference in an effort to strengthen relationships and collaboration in promoting healthy lifestyles.

- Coordinated 13 volunteer projects to beautify and enhance Leon County Parks including shoreline clean-ups, trail mulching, landscape bed refurbishments and tree plantings.
- Improved amenities at Apalachee Regional Park cross country course by installing underground fiber-optic cable to facilitate the timing and video broadcasting of cross country events.
- Completed plans for Jackson View Boat Landing Improvements, with construction slated to begin in late 2015.
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- Cleaned and repaired more than 27 miles of roadside ditches, which will improve water quality and reduce the potential of stormwater impacts on adjacent properties.
- Through the use of Citizens Connect, the division has received more than 2,000 requests for services. In addition, the division has received over 8,500 requests for services via e-mail, telephone, personal contacts and other means.
- Refurbished 62 line miles of pavement striping to improve driver visibility on our roadways.
- Performed 5.9 miles of road resurfacing with Open Grade Hot Mix (OGHM). The OGHM pavement is more environmentally friendly asphalt, which provides for a certain degree of stormwater treatment within the asphalt mat.
- Performed on more than 832.20 acres of landscaped area maintenance throughout Leon County.
- Operates Mosquito Control Services, by providing Leon County residents with effective and environmentally sound mosquito control applications.
- During this past year, Operations:
  » Installed and repaired approximately 5,540 street signs throughout Leon County.
  » Painted more than 107,306 square feet of pavement traffic symbols.
  » Repaired over 71.64 miles of road shoulders.
  » Painted more than 71.64 miles of road shoulders.

Did You Know
By emptying and cleaning birdbaths and pets’ water bowls at least once or twice a week, you can stop mosquitoes from multiplying.
Goal Statement
To provide the best quality maintenance and repair at the most economical cost to taxpayers of Leon County.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Environment
- The Green Fleet Team provides input in the selection and purchase of a sustainable fleet. Currently, the County’s fleet is composed of 33 alternative fuel vehicles and 11 pieces of miscellaneous equipment. Four one-ton trucks utilizing unleaded gasoline and CNG were purchased in FY 2015.
- Recycling is part of the culture of the Fleet Division. More than 2,100 gallons of used motor oil have been recycled this fiscal year.
- The Fleet Management Division implemented the use of Echo Power Synthetic Blended recycled motor oil.

Did You Know
During FY 2015, Leon County downsized seventeen vehicles and trucks to reduce emissions and achieve greater efficiency.

Vehicle Repair & Preventative Maintenance

- To promote efficiencies within Fleet Management and improve the management of resources, the team:
  » Performed 904 preventative maintenance services.
- In order to properly manage the community’s financial resources, Fleet Management regularly pursues cost-saving opportunities such as:
  » Investing in new hybrid vehicles. The average MPG on hybrid vehicles improved in FY 2015 to 28.80 MPG.
  » The Fleet Division purchased four alternative fuel (CNG) vehicles during FY 2015.
  » Collected $366,743 in surplus vehicles and equipment auctions and $75,000 on buy-back equipment for a total of $441,743. Additionally, $966 was generated from used oil and scrap metal.
  » Purchased 2,390 gallons of Echo Power, Echo Friendly Recycled Motor Oil. Fleet also recycled 2,100 gallons of used motor oil.

Contact Us
(850) 606-2000
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Fleet
Mission Statement
To serve the people of Leon County as a responsible steward of public real estate and building infrastructure necessary to support County operations in a timely, professional and cost-effective manner.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Quality of Life
• Provided parking access cards to 56 persons with disabilities and 80 veterans for the parking lot at the Main Library at no cost.
• Collaborated with the John G. Riley Museum on their annual Blended Lives Program by reserving the lower bottom portion of the Gadsden Street parking lot to provide ample space so that tents may be set up to allow over 2,500 citizens to engage in a historical experience.

Economy
• Real Estate secured Cisco Systems, Inc. as a tenant in the Leon County Government Annex Building.
• Real Estate secured two new tenants in the Lake Jackson Town Center that complement other tenants and make a “neighborhood center.”

Environment
• Real Estate acquired a .9 acre parcel of vacant land adjacent to the B. L. Perry Branch Library to increase the green space.

Governance
• Real Estate designated a list of county owned parcels suitable for affordable housing projects to be built by the Leon County Housing Finance Authority.

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

PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE FOR COUNTY BUILDINGS

• Installed a new chiller at the Dr. B. L. Perry Branch Library. The new unit runs more quietly, requires less maintenance and can be monitored and adjusted remotely. The unit is estimated to have an annual savings of $14,030, resulting in a 5.34 year return on investment.
• Renewed Energy Efficiency for Leon County Government Annex Rooftop. The new roof includes the following upgrades:
  » New overflow drains
  » Thick layer of insulation where previously there was none
  » Highly reflective surface to reduce solar heat gain
  These measures will result in markedly lower energy consumption and greater comfort on the top floor.
  The roofing project followed a building facade waterproofing and painting project which required rooftop staging. Thus, damage to the new roof was avoided as a result of the work sequence now complete.
• Provided the newly re-named Leon County Government Annex’s exterior and interior main lobby area a fresh, new look. The interior of the first floor common area was refreshed, including new modern furnishings and fixtures, and an upgrade to the interior cabs of the elevators.
• Re-roofed the Leon County Welcome Center. The added insulation and the PVC reflective membrane will result in noticeably lower energy consumption and greater comfort.
• Continued new work on the Leon County Jail and Sheriff’s Administration Building, including a recently completed re-roofing of half of the Jail and interior renovations in the detention pods to correct leaking showers, repair problematic walkways and other issues. Additional improvements include replacement windows for the Sheriff’s Administration Building and a new sign which will rename the facility in honor of the late Sheriff Larry Campbell.
• Renovated new office space for the Probation Department at the Community Service Building located on Appleyard Drive. The new location consolidates Probation with related offices of Pre-Trial and Drug Testing, leading to better operational efficiencies for the department.
• Assisted the Solid Waste Management Division with the replacement of an industrial “tipping” floor at the Solid Waste Transfer Station on Gum Road and with the rebuilding of truck scales at both the Transfer Station and Solid Waste Management Facility.
Mission & 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.

Permit and Code Services: Administer, centralize, coordinate, and facilitate licensing code compliance, citizen review boards, and 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 & SUPPORT

Development Services Division

- Continued to provide exceptional customer service to the community and ensured that all new development met or exceeded the minimum development requirements. During FY 14-15, Development Services reviewed 35 site and development plan applications, issued 30 concurrency certificates, reviewed 63 exempt subdivision applications, issued 158 Permitted Use Verifications, and reviewed 907 applications for land use compliance.
- Coordinated with the Keep It Rural Coalition (KIRC) to amend the Rural Future Land Use Category and develop new standards for the Rural zoning district to further protect the rural character of the Rural Land Use Category.
- Worked extensively with the Buck Lake Alliance and the developer of Fallschase to draft design standards for the Village Center within The Fallschase development. These design standards will ensure architectural harmony and unification of future buildings throughout the commercial component of Fallschase.

Environmental Services Division

- Staff completed a three year process for entry into the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Community Rating System (CRS) Program. On May 1, 2015, Leon County was accepted into the CRS Program at a Class 6 rating, which will provide a 20% savings on 628 citizen flood insurance policies in Leon County for a recurring annual cost savings of approximately $93,364.
- Continued to protect the community’s natural features by reviewing and approving 46 Natural Features Inventories, 120 site plans, 26 operating permits, 480 single-family permits, 217 operating permit renewals, and 85 environmental permits. Also provided customer service to over 1,700 call/walk-in customers and performed more than 7,500 environmental inspections.
- Division staff assisted Planning staff in a Comprehensive Plan text amendment for a volume control stormwater standard in the Lake Protection Future Land Use Category. The implementing Land Development Regulations were approved by the Board on July 7, 2015. This change will promote development activity and improve the overall stormwater treatment and water quality protection for Lake Jackson.

Did You Know

The Building Plans Review and Inspection Division recently implemented the final phase of the ProjectDox application review and submittal program allowing building permit applications to be accepted and reviewed electronically.

Development on Bannerman Road
Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy
- Continued to update the 100-year floodplain data in GIS for on site-specific analysis received during the development review process to ensure future development is permitted outside of flood prone areas, and to provide a database to assist property owners and consultants with the design of proposed developments.
- Developed examples of acceptable standard solutions to expedite environmental permitting for additions to existing single-family homes.
- Continued to implement a legislative mandate to continue suspension of fees for environmental permit extensions.
- Formed a citizen committee and engaged in a needs assessment of the Bradfordville Study Area and implemented provisions of the Land Development Code.

Quality of Life
- Implemented a property registration program for abandoned real property to ensure vacant properties are adequately maintained.
- Revised the Rural zoning district to protect the rural character of the Rural Future Land Use Category.
- Integrated low impact development (LID) standards into the Land Development Regulations.

Environment
- Revised the Lake Protection zoning district standards to ensure the continued protection of water resources and provide more sustainable development within the Lake Protection Future Land Use Category.

Governance
- Continued to offer after-hours and weekend building inspections for certain types of construction projects.
- Developed and implemented multiphase electronic building permit application submittal and plans review process.

Permit & Code Services Division
- Development support through customer service is critical. During the year, more than 9,845 walk-in customers were assisted, over 25,219 phone calls were answered, and over 320 online Citizens Connect service requests were addressed. Additionally, 723 contractor licensing customers were supported over the phone or in person.
- Staff responded to 3,388 code compliance calls from citizens, reporting issues such as public nuisances, junk, illegal dumping, or illegally removing trees or filling wetlands, resulting in 1,140 site inspections, and the presentation of 61 cases before the Code Enforcement Board for resolution.
- Implemented the amended Sign Code Ordinance approved by the Board on May 13, 2014, to address illegal signs in the right-of-way in unincorporated Leon County.
- Implemented the Abandoned Property Registration (APR) Ordinance approved by the Board on March 12, 2013. This ordinance establishes a registration program to protect neighborhoods from becoming blighted through distressed and abandoned properties with mortgages in default. To date, 993 properties have been registered.
- Division staff implementing the Compliance Certification Letter Fee Resolution approved by the Board on July 7, 2015. The Resolution provides for the recovery of associated costs of research and processing of open code violations, lien research requests and the issuance of Compliance Certification Letters by the Code Compliance Program.
- Division staff implemented the Refueling Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Ordinance approved by the Board on January 29, 2014. The Ordinance provides for the regulation of gas stations to ensure that persons with disabilities are provided equal access in refueling their vehicles.
Mission Statement
To implement the Blueprint program in a timely and cost-effective manner, utilizing sound but innovative business practices while keeping the citizenry informed and involved.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights
Blueprint 2000 (BP2000) is a division of the Department of PLACE (Planning, Land Management, and Community Enhancement). BP2000 plans, designs, and constructs infrastructure and environmental projects funded from the one-cent local-option infrastructure sales tax. BP2000 is managed by the Intergovernmental Agency Board, which consists of the seven Leon County Commissioners and the five City of Tallahassee Commissioners. BP2000 also works with a 13-member Citizens Advisory Committee and technical staff from City and County departments.

The City and the County Commissions agreed to a joint management approach for the implementation of BP2000 projects, which are allocated 80% of the funds generated from the one-cent local-option sales tax. Additionally, 10% of the one-cent sales tax revenue is allocated to support County projects, and 10% is allocated to support City projects, as approved by the respective Commissions.

PLACE emphasizes the desire to create a livable, sustainable community and coordinates BP2000 and Planning activities for Leon County and the City of Tallahassee.

Contact Us
(850) 219-1060

PRESERVE, PROTECT & ENHANCE THE COMMUNITY’S QUALITY OF LIFE

- Blueprint 2000 is committed to preserving, protecting and enhancing the community’s quality of life through holistic and coordinated planning, transportation, water quality, environmental and green space projects.
  - The Smokey Hollow Heritage Sidewalk Project was constructed to create a sidewalk connection from the Smokey Hollow Commemoration within Cascades Park to the John G. Riley Center/Museum along the west side of South Meridian Street. Improvements included landscaping and aesthetic treatments to ensure an attractive connection to the John G. Riley Center/Museum.
  - Constructing a 2.5-mile Capital Circle Northwest/Southwest road project, which includes widening the roadway to six lanes and providing facilities for bicycles and pedestrians, an enhanced median and border landscaping. A 90-foot bridge will be constructed over Gum Creek improving the hydrology of Gum Swamp. Additionally, wildlife crossings will be constructed under the roadway north and south of the bridge. Construction will be complete in 2016.
  - Adding trails and stormwater improvements to the FAMU Way Extension, a new east-west roadway currently under construction between the current end of FAMU Way at Wahnish Way and Lake Bradford Road that will enhance the existing FAMU Way corridor between Wahnish Way and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. These added features will also improve area mobility and water quality. Construction began spring 2014 and will be complete in 2016.
  - Constructing the Capital Cascades Crossing pedestrian bridge and trail. This project includes a multi-use trail that extends three city blocks and connects the Cascades Park segment of the trail to the east with the FAMU Way segment of the trail to the west. The Capital Cascades Crossing is an expansion of the award winning Cascades Park as it “carries” Cascades Park across Monroe Street to Adams Street where it joins FAMU Way, which is currently under construction. There will be seating, landscaping and a variety of amenities along the trail, similar to those found on the Franklin Boulevard segment, which was completed in 2013 and the Cascades Park segment which was completed in 2014.
  - Magnolia Drive Multi Use Trail. This project constructs multi modal improvements along Magnolia Drive from South Adams Street to Apalachee Parkway. The proposed improvements include the installation of sidewalks, multi-use trails, streetscaping, and signalization at the intersection at Jim Lee Road as well as landscaping and improved lighting along the corridor. The trail is funded by Blueprint 2000 and will be administered by Leon County Public Works.

Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service
The Florida Planning and Zoning Association presented the Outstanding Design Excellence Award to Blueprint 2000 for the Cascades Park project. This award is for a development which exhibits superior form and function.
ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

Goal 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/Support Highlights

Quality of Life
- Identify projects that may be advance-funded as part of the Sales Tax extension.
- Initiate a comprehensive review and revision to the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Reformat the existing online Comprehensive Plan to modernize its appearance and increase usability.
- Evaluate the existing Comprehensive Plan amendment process, and identify opportunities for further streamlining.
- Protect the rural character of our Rural Land use category.
- Work with the City of Tallahassee and Blueprint to implement the Sales Tax extension, including the Economic Development portion.
- Institute a Sense of Place initiative for the Fairgrounds.

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

PLANNING TODAY FOR TOMORROW’S COMMUNITY

- In collaboration with former residents of Smokey Hollow, the Riley House Museum, and Blueprint 2000, the DesignWorks studio developed a concept to commemorate the Smokey Hollow community, which covered much of the area that is now Cascades Park. The first phase of the Commemoration was completed and opened to the public in March 2014.
- The DesignWorks studio developed concepts to beautify a portion of the Lafayette Street along the rear wall of the Parkway Shopping Center:
  - Proposed improvements include two designated loading and unloading zones, landscaping, solid waste relocation, architectural screening fence, artistic façade improvements and the addition of a sidewalk along the north side of Lafayette Street.
  - The improvements provide both an aesthetic improvement as well as a safety improvement to the service area of the Parkway Shopping Center to further enhance the walkability of the corridor to Cascades Park and adjoining neighborhoods.
- Relaunched the Bike Tallahassee website as a central access point for all cycling-related information in Leon County. The updated bike route map is more user-friendly and include destination-specific routes, such as the Huntington-St. Marks Trail Connector. Users are also able to map their own ride using identified bicycle routes and other on and off-road cycling facilities. Bike Tallahassee provides regional cycling information for both residents of and visitors to the Tallahassee-Leon County community.
- Instituted a Sense of Place for the fairgrounds by identifying the first key actions to making improvements at the North Florida Fairgrounds and to position it as an economic engine for the community.

Did You Know
You can ride your bike from J.R. Alford Greenway to the Leon County Main Library downtown along a network of trails, bike lanes, and local roads. To learn more, please visit: www.BikeTallahassee.com
Mission and Goal Statements

Office of Resource Stewardship: To provide leadership and coordination of services through the Office of Sustainability, the Division of Solid Waste, and the Cooperative Extension Program, 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/Support Highlights

Environment

- Continued expansion of the County Community Garden program through grant support for five stakeholder gardens, including three school gardens, across the community.
- Initiated a program that educates all new employees on Leon County’s recycling and sustainability initiatives through a presentation given by staff.
- Provided Workplace Sustainability Training with Leon County employees to implement sustainable day-to-day practices on the job.
- Developed dashboard metrics for County fleet to assist in attaining fuel conservation goals.
- Hosted a Sustainable Communities Summit in January 2015 with a theme of “Food for Us” exploring the community’s connection to food.

To date, the County has supported four community gardens on County lands and 15 additional stakeholder gardens, all with grants and technical support. These gardens provide many social and environmental benefits. Hundreds of citizens of all ages are getting to know their neighbors better, engaging in healthy exercise, learning how to grow food, sharing fresh produce with people in need and enhancing properties.

- Continued efforts at the Sustainable Demonstration Center at the Leon County Cooperative Extension facility on Paul Russell Road have added interpretive features that enhance public understanding of the “net zero” building’s many sustainable features, which include a 60 kilowatt photovoltaic array, a geothermal heating and cooling system, and a unique rainwater collection system that stores 40,000 gallons of water for use in the site’s diverse ornamental and vegetable gardens, as well as a new orchard. This facility highlights the County’s ongoing commitment to reduce County Government’s own carbon footprint, realize energy efficiencies, and catalyze similar efforts elsewhere in the community.

- Leon County is committed to effective collaboration with community partners. Among the initiatives carried out with leadership from Leon County in conjunction with community organizations are:
  - Community Carbon Fund (CCF) - Leon County is a partner with Sustainable Tallahassee in the CCF, which assists organizations that serve the poor and disadvantaged in

GROWING GREEN TOGETHER

Leon County received the 2015 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award in the category of County Resilience: Infrastructure, Energy & Sustainability for the Leon County Sustainable Communities Summit.

Contact Us

(850) 606-1800
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Sustainability
implementing energy upgrades at their facilities. Energy conservation upgrades cut utility costs and allow more funding for core services, while also reducing carbon emissions and utility load. Emissions have been reduced by more than 200 metric tons annually.

» Local Food Movement Leadership – The Office of Sustainability has formed a partnership with the City of Tallahassee and Sustainable Tallahassee to support an initiative entitled the Good Food Program. The program focuses on increasing public awareness of local food initiatives, increasing community involvement in the local food scene, and increasing gardening in the City and County.

• Leon County hosted the Sustainable Communities Summit, with the theme of “Food for Us,” on January 24th, 2015. The event was an immense success, with more than 300 citizens in attendance. The Summit provided a forum for discussing how the community as a whole could assist in making our food system healthful, affordable, and locally-focused. This was achieved through multiple interactive break-out sessions, where the attendees themselves came up with ideas for how to implement local food projects and voted on those they believed to be most impactful. The Summit also featured two keynote speakers from across the country, Karen Washington and Philip Ackerman-Leist, both who inspired the community and joined our good food family. Following the event, Leon County hosted a post-summit round table meeting, during which goals and next steps were identified based on the discussion and community input at the Summit.

• Leon County Government in partnership with Sustainable Tallahassee hosted a tree planting at J.R. Alford Greenway.

• Developing a new initiative to educate Leon County employees on how to make small changes to benefit the environment, connect with the community, and strengthen the economy. These initiatives are geared toward the workplace, but translate into daily life changes that can create a positive ripple effect in the community. The team is hosting interactive workshops that encourage departments to take a more proactive approach to how they contribute to Leon County’s internal culture of sustainability.

Did You Know
The Office of Resource Stewardship is now on Facebook!
www.Facebook.com/LeonCountyORS

Kate Sullivan School Garden
Goal Statement
To provide an integrated solid waste management system dedicated to excellent customer service and responsible fiscal and environmental stewardship.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Environment
• Additional shelters were constructed to allow better protection of Household Hazardous Waste drop offs at the Rural Waste Service Centers.
• Decreased the overall operational hours of the Rural Waste Service Centers. This reduction of hours resulted in an annual savings of $133,000.
• Evaluated the long-term policy implications of the following options, taking into consideration the potential fiscal, environmental, operational and neighborhood impacts: a complete closure of the landfill; redirect Class I Solid Waste from the Transfer Station to the landfill; and a hybrid solution that includes both Class I Solid Waste disposal at the landfill and through the Transfer Station
• Dual purposed a closed solid waste disposal cell for event parking at Apalachee Regional Park. The parking lot has a capacity of 3,000 vehicles.

CUSTOMER SERVICE, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP & INNOVATION

• Leon County’s Hazardous Waste Center continued to be a one-stop location for hazardous waste and electronics disposal that promotes the reuse and recycling of these products.
  » Processed 394 tons of potentially hazardous material from 10,102 residents, of which 240 tons was removed from the solid waste stream through recycling or reuse.
  » The Swap Shop continued to promote the reuse of household products. The program receives usable household products, such as paint, pool chemicals, and polishes, all of which are available to the public at no charge. This includes returning 40 tons of household products to the community through the Swap Shop and 5,870 gallons of re-blended latex paint through the ReNew Paint program.
  » The Florida Chapter of the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association recognized the Household Hazardous Waste Program with its Longstanding Service Excellence award for more than twenty years of outstanding service to the Leon County Community, Golden Bung for dramatic improvement in collection event participation, and the Pickled Skunk Brains for successful handling and processing of unique or unusual materials.

• Leon County continues to strive toward state benchmarks for recycling:
  » Achieved 51% recycling rate.
  » Recycled over 265 tons of electronic scrap.
  » Partnered with the Sharing Tree, a community resource for reuse and recycling of art supplies and other materials that would otherwise be destined for a landfill.
  » Turned yard debris into free mulch for our citizens.

• Leon County Transfer Station processed 174,000 tons of solid waste to be disposed of at the Springhill Landfill and removed and appropriately disposed of 37 tons tires from the solid waste stream.

Contact Us
(850) 606-1800
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/SolidWaste

Did You Know
Free mulch is available all year long to county residents at all Rural Waste Services Centers.
Goal Statement
To provide researched-based educational programs and information on horticulture, agriculture, natural resources, forestry, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development, empowering citizens of Leon County to make decisions and behavior changes that contribute to an improved quality of life and a more sustainable community.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Environment
- Leon County’s Cooperative Extension Division trained over 435 commercial landscape maintenance and land management professionals resulting in more than 4,269 certifications and/or continuing educational units. This ensures compliance with pesticide application laws and other regulations.
- Over 150 people attended “Grow Healthy, Eat Healthy” workshops, held at six library branches, in conjunction with the Seed Library. Participants learned how to grow the seeds they could check out and how to prepare the vegetables they would harvest. Six additional workshops will support the fall seed packet launch.
- In partnership with the IRS and with funding from a Bank of America grant, certified volunteers electronically filed tax returns through the Virtual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. More than 142 rural households filed their 2014 taxes resulting in over $132,000 refunded to taxpayers (average tax refund $930.00). Such service costs average $160 and “rapid refunds” cost even more! This is a burden to low-income citizens who do not always understand how to file on their own. The participants also received access to financial services.
- Talquin Electric employees and contractors attended classes to learn proper tree trimming techniques and tree management. These practices help employees work more efficiently to improve tree safety, aesthetics, and reliability of electrical power.

Quality of Life
- 458 limited resource adults completed an 8-week series of in-depth nutrition education classes through the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). 85% of adults reported at least one positive change in their diet. Nutrition education programs reached nearly 500 low-income senior citizens with nutrition education.
- Engaged more than 7,300 youth in 4-H programs and activities. Involvement in 4-H enhances decision making, leadership, and communication skills. Nearly 150 youth increased their skills and knowledge in environmental stewardship and other life skills by participating in 4-H day and overnight camping.
- Leon County Extension provided educational assistance to 11 community gardens and 25 school gardens resulting in nearly 30,000 pounds of food.
- Classes have included topics such as herb gardening, beginner gardening, Master Gardener, and container gardening. Nutrition and food preservation classes help backyard gardeners safely and healthfully prepare and store their harvest.
- Leon County began the Great Tree Challenge, a unique way for citizens to document the size and history of notable local trees.

CULTIVATING SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR LIFE

- Conducted Smarter Lunchroom assessments at 17 Leon County School lunchrooms. The assessments help schools implement small changes to help children make healthful choices and help fight childhood obesity.
- 4-H youth development programs help youth learn by doing. In 4-H activities, children learn about the environment, nutrition, sewing, gardening, robotics, and more. 4-H youth also develop leadership and citizenship skills.
- In partnership with Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare, citizens attended nutrition programs at 11 different community sites during National Nutrition Month. Nearly 500 citizens learned about proper hydration with water to reduce sugar intake from convenience beverages like juice and soda.
- Macon Community Garden

Contact Us
(850) 606-5200
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/CoopExt
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.

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

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

**Quality of Life**
- As mandated by State law, Leon County paid more than $2.8 million as a Medicaid match for Medicaid patients’ hospital stays and for nursing home residents.
- Continued to support, fund and administer the Community Human Service Partnership (CHSP), in partnership with the City and United Way, by allocating $825,000 for human services programs.
- Provided an early budget discussion item regarding primary healthcare, including mental healthcare services, and options to maximize resources to meet the healthcare needs of the community including those individuals served through the local criminal justice system.

**Preserving & Improving the Health and Welfare of Citizens**

- Provided funding to community healthcare partners (collectively “CareNet”) as part of a Countywide effort to offer critical health services to uninsured and low-income residents. Leon County’s investment in health services has helped realize a return of $5.23 for every $1 of County tax revenue contributed to CareNet.
  - Leon County contributed $1.3 million to help fund the more than 11,500 visits for primary care and mental health services for uninsured and low-income residents at Neighborhood Medical Center, Bond Community Health Center, and Apalachee Center.
  - Leon County provided $168,826 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 $2.7 million.
- Leon County committed $500,000 to support the construction of the Comprehensive Emergency Services Center. With help from numerous community partners, the building centralizes services to address homelessness in the community by relocating the Shelter and the Renaissance Community Center. This move helps foster new investment and commercial development potential in the Frenchtown community.
- Leon County continued to build local and national partnerships to provide eligible residents critical and life-saving prescription drugs at reduced costs:
  - Uninsured residents with limited income have received over 15,000 prescription medications, valued at more than $925,000, through the CareNet partnership with FAMU Pharmacy and Neighborhood Medical Center.
  - Leon County residents used Leon County’s free Prescription Discount Card, made possible through the County’s partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo), to fill more than 1,900 prescription medications not covered by insurance.

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

The Kearney Center Grand Opening
Goal Statement

To promote safe, sanitary and affordable housing through homeowner education, counseling, and home rehabilitation & replacement in the unincorporated areas of Leon County.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy

- As an approved Advisor Agency for the federally-funded Florida Hardest Hit Foreclosure Prevention Program, Leon County Government secured a Principal Reduction Loan for five Eligible Homeowners statewide, and financial relief for three Leon County eligible residents, which gives them time to find new or sufficient employment, avoid foreclosure, and stay in their homes. Leon County homeowners who are unemployed, underemployed, or have reduced income may be eligible for assistance through the Unemployment Mortgage Assistance Program or the Mortgage Loan Reinstatement Program.
- Leon County continues its work as an Advisory Agency for the federally-funded, Florida Hardest Hit Foreclosure Prevention Program. Leon County residents can receive up to $42,000, providing homeowners the time to find new or sufficient employment, so they may avoid foreclosure, and separately receive up to $50,000 to lower their overall mortgage debt. These efforts also help mitigate property value loss for all of Leon County.
- Leon County continuously identifies opportunities to participate in federal and state programs beneficial to the community with respect to housing.
  » More than 300 Leon County homeowners and prospective home buyers were educated on how to maintain a home and how to prevent foreclosure during the County’s fall and spring Home Expos. During the home expo events, attendees also participated in hands-on demonstrations, learning how to paint, pressure wash and perform minor roof repairs.
  » 57 first-time homebuyers purchased a home in Leon County through the Leon County Housing Finance Authority’s Down Payment Assistance Program, funded in conjunction with Escambia Housing Finance Authority. Veterans are the only category of buyer for this program that will not have to be first-time buyers.
  » As a result of Leon County’s participation in the implementation of a home owner association neighborhood revitalization project for low-income families, seniors, disabled, and Veteran home owners (Crown Ridge Estates), Leon County was presented with the “Best In Class” 2015 Achievement Award for its 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service.

Did You Know

To assist citizens with issues related to housing, Leon County Government procures grant funding from several federal & state institutions. During the last fiscal year, more than $2.6 million dollars in grant funding for affordable housing has been accessed.
Goal Statement
To assist veterans and their dependents in securing all entitled benefits earned through honorable military service, and to advocate for veterans’ interests in the community.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy
• Helped veterans and their dependents with processing benefit claims and obtaining other benefits entitled to them through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and other Federal Agencies.
• Continued to fund and administer Leon County’s Active Duty Grant Program, to help offset financial obligations for active duty service members and their families.
• Continued to fund Leon County’s Veterans Emergency Assistance Program, which provides veterans in need with emergency financial support for expenses such as rent, utilities, temporary shelter and transportation for medical treatment.
• Continued to support the annual Operation Thank You event by hosting fourth annual Operation Thank You on Armed Forces Day to honor and recognize the service of Korean War veterans.
• Continued to partner with Career Source Capital Region by referring Veterans who require assistance with obtaining employment job search skills.

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

• Leon County understands that behind every veteran’s benefits claim is a veteran in need. In FY15, the Leon County Veteran Services Division:
  » Assisted more than 4,500 veterans and dependents in person.
  » Facilitated claim actions that resulted in Leon County veterans receiving more than $8.8 million in new awards.
  » Managed the Veterans Resource Center, where veterans will have access to resources to assist them with employment needs.
  » Sent “welcome” letters to all separating veterans who designated Tallahassee as their home of record or as the place they will be relocating to after separation. These letters provide a wealth of information regarding services provided by Leon County’s Veteran Services and other community resources dedicated for veterans.
  » Provided veteran benefits presentations for “Senior Days” at all senior center events throughout Leon County.
  » Maintained strong relationships with community partners by attending United Vets monthly coordinating meetings.
• To honor and recognize the service of Korean War veterans, Leon County hosted the 2015 Operation Thank You event. The event included the presentation of colors, performance of the National Anthem, remarks from Korean War veterans and formal recognition of the Korean War veterans. Over 300 citizens attended the event.
• Leon County developed and approved funding for the Veterans Emergency Assistance Program, which provides emergency financial assistance to help qualifying veterans meet critical, basic needs such as, rent, mortgage, and utilities.
• Leon County was a partner of Honor Flight Tallahassee, which transported 78 World War II veterans and support personnel to Washington, D.C. to visit memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifice. An Honor Flight trip is provided at no cost to veterans, and is entirely funded by local fundraisers and community support. Leon County contributed staff support and $15,000 to help offset the costs of this event.
• Leon County continues to support the North Florida Veteran Stand Down. Leon County contributed staff and $10,000. Leon County Veteran Services processed claims and provided benefits classes to Homeless Veterans during the three-day event.

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

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:
VETERAN SERVICES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.
Leon County Government is dedicated to serving veterans. In 2015, Leon County served more than 4,500 veterans and dependents with face-to-face consultations. For his or her service, a veteran has earned many benefits. But sometimes, the application process can be complicated. Leon County staff works to help veterans and their spouses process medical claims, retirement benefits, and even receive assistance for certain approved emergency needs like heating and cooling.

But being a one-stop shop for local veterans is not the whole story of what Leon County does. In 2015, Leon County engaged the community on veteran events such as Honor Flight, Operation Thank You, and the Veterans Day Parade. Leon County supported Honor Flight Tallahassee, a program that flies World War II veterans – at no cost – to Washington D.C. to visit memorials dedicated to their service. Leon County Emergency Medical Services staff and others served as chaperones on the day-long trip. For some of the attendees, that day was their first chance to see the memorials honoring their service. Leon County also honored veterans at home. With the 2015 Operation Thank You event, Leon County recognized the service of Korean War veterans. Over 300 veterans, family members and guests participated in the celebration, including more than 150 Korean War veterans who stood at attention as they were presented with a Korean War Commemorative Challenge Coin and a replica of the Leon County Proclamation.

Did You Know
Leon County Veteran Services is able to provide assistance to eligible dependents long after a veteran passes away.
Goal Statement
To empower citizens to answer local needs through volunteerism and community engagement.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights
Governance
• As a part of Leon County’s Summer Youth Training Program, 63 students were introduced to the world of volunteerism and civic engagement in 2015. Each student participated in meaningful service projects and opportunities to learn more about how decisions are made in local government. Feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive; many students reported that they now have a better understanding of how policies and programs are developed, and more importantly, how necessary it is for young citizens to use their voices, skill and talents to contribute to the community.
• Volunteer Services, in its role as the County’s Emergency Support Function coordinating volunteers and donations, trained more than 225 County employees and volunteers to support Leon County’s Emergency Operation Center during critical activations. Advanced emergency training curriculum was created for “leadership” volunteers, creating a well-prepared team of staff and citizens.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

RESPONSIVE VOLUNTEERISM & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

• Leon County continued to leverage the vast talents and resources of the community’s residents for the benefit of a diverse group of organizations and individuals.
• Through internships and volunteer service, more than 5,000 citizens volunteered in Leon County government programs and special events and contributed over 120,000 hours of service.
• VolunteerLEON is the only local resource that provides the Florida Volunteer Administration Certificate Program, a comprehensive volunteer management training series that provides up-to-date, practical guidance for the major areas of volunteer leadership and management. In March 2015, 35 participants from all parts of the state traveled to Leon County to attend the highly acclaimed training series.
• VolunteerLEON’s Internship Program connects students to meaningful resume-building internships. The success of this hands-on learning program has generated more interest than available positions. Evaluations of the internship program by participating students and County department supervisors indicated satisfaction rates greater than 95 percent.
• VolunteerLEON continues to play a leadership role in the activities of Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), an association of non-profits and government agencies that participate in all phases of a disaster response and recovery. A full-scale Volunteer Reception Center exercise was conducted in May 2015, providing an opportunity for COAD members, Emergency Management, Leon County’s Management Information Systems staff, and disaster volunteers to practice, test, and evaluate steps and systems.
• VolunteerLEON staff, volunteers, and interns participated in 30 community events. Also staff conducted presentations and outreach on program services by speaking at workshops and serving on panels, attending volunteer fairs, and assisting with community events.

Contact Us
(850) 606-1970
www.VolunteerLEON.org

Volunteers form a flag line at Operation Thank You

Summer Youth Program at America’s Second Harvest
Leon County’s annual 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance program received a 2015 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties. In addition, the program received the “Best of Category” designation, indicating that the 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance was the most outstanding program nationwide in the Volunteer category. Resource Center.
HUMAN RESOURCES

Mission Statement
To provide professional, reliable and innovative programs and consultative services to attract, train and retain a high-performing and diverse workforce, within a healthy and supportive work-life balanced environment, while insuring compliance with federal, state and local employment regulations.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights
Governance
• Expanded electronic Human Resources business processes including applicant tracking, electronic timesheets and employee self-service.
• Continued to operate the Value-Based Design Program that offers incentives in the form of reduced health insurance costs for employees participating in County Wellness Programs.
• Conducted the Wellness program, Live Well Leon, which promotes healthy employee lifestyles and a healthier workplace.
• Continued to train all county employees through the Customer Experience Training program, which provides the necessary tools to best deliver the WOW! in customer service.
• Utilized new learning technology to help design and deliver Leadership and Advanced Supervisory Training for employees.

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

ATTRACTIONS, TRAINING AND RETAINING A QUALITY WORKFORCE

• Encouraged employees to engage in healthy behaviors, which promotes a healthier workplace and reduces employer costs. The Well-Being Team held the 2014 Well-Being Fair in partnership with over 65 participating community and business vendors. Over 550 Leon County Government employees attended.
  » Live Well Leon hosted 80 seminars for employees with professional guest speakers from the health and wellness industry.
  » Live Well Leon partnered with Tallahassee Memorial Hospital’s Diabetes Center and Weight Watchers for onsite programs.
• Reinforced workplace safety through the Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, and Stalking in the Workplace policy and employee handbook.
• Leon County was a responsible steward of the community’s resources, by doing the following:
  » Implemented the Banner financial system’s Self-Service Module to efficiently provide employees with online access to their personnel information.

2014 Corporate Cup Challenge Winners

Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service
Leon County received the Working Well Shooting Star Award for the fifth year in a row for demonstrating outstanding Wellness Programs at Work.

• Continued to expand electronic business processes, including the electronic timesheet system, which automates the time entry for staff and increases efficiency and accuracy.
• Provided more than 2,629 hours of work-related training.
• Leon County amended its Employee Recognition Program to better reinforce its commitment to innovation, efficiencies, and core values.
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/Support Highlights

Quality of Life
• Continued technology infrastructure support of the Public Safety Complex for telephone, audio/visual, and network infrastructure, and a shared data center for the PSC. Adding digital signage for the tenant offices for enhanced communications.
• Enhancing the Emergency Information Portal.
• Participating in a justice community team to design and implement the Court’s e-filing solution, and providing courtroom technology with web mapping support.

Governance
• Supported approximately 345 servers, 1,674 desktop and 425 laptop computers, 254 tablets, 231 printers, 442 smart phones, and 496 network devices. Also provided asset management of computer and peripheral equipment, and an on-site computer training facility.
• Provided the infrastructure and data content of the Tallahassee-Leon County Geographic Information System (GIS) program, which celebrated its 25th anniversary of supporting the Property Appraiser, the Sheriff’s Office, and County and City offices such as the Utilities, Public Works, the Growth Management Departments, and Planning.

Employed a team approach to provide the best service to citizens and visitors to our community:
• Expanded online services with Trailahassee.com, to include mapped recreational trails with access, parking and usage information provided through a GIS overlay.
• Developed the award winning Procurement Connect web portal with Purchasing for access to Leon County bids, RFPs, and other procurement information.
• Working with Administration, provided a visual mapping interface for the award winning Penny Sales Tax Education Outreach Program.
• Expanded and enhanced wireless data connectivity for most County offices.

• Exercised responsible stewardship of the community’s resources:
  » Continued integrating GIS with work order management.
  » Expanded the County’s enterprise phone system to include the Property Appraiser’s Office and Court Administration, increasing number of extensions to 3190.
  » Consolidated 37 copier contracts to a single vendor and condensed printer inventory and toner consumption with savings of $52,000 per year.

• Provided online services to maintain peak efficiency and accessibility:
  » Developed, deployed and supported Leon County’s website and Intranet, with online services such as Citizens Connect and Your Checkbook, the Citizens Connect Mobile App, and Tallahassee-Leon County’s GIS website.
  » Provided televised/online Board meetings in partnership with Comcast.
  » Expanded the Leon Information Channel on channel 16 to CenturyLink Prism customers. Programming includes recent commission meetings, various announcements and job listings.
  » Enhanced the County’s website with a mobile responsive site for smart devices.

Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service
Received the 2015 Digital Counties Survey Award for technology use within the government highlighting operational efficiencies, transparency, and citizen engagement.

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

Did You Know
Nearly 2 million individuals visit the Leon County website each year.
Mission 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/Support Highlights
Governance
- Expanded opportunities for increased media and citizen outreach via social media, and through additional distribution partners.
- Continued to operate and update the website www.LeonPhotos.org to easily and efficiently provide public access to high-resolution photos from County events.
- Improved equipment infrastructure to expand coverage of Board meetings and County events, on CenturyLink Channel 16 and Comcast Channel 16 and through the County’s website. Such improvements keep citizens better informed and to enhance transparency and public access.
- Continued public education and community outreach for Club of Honest Citizens and Leon County Sales Tax Committee.
- Continued to develop Leon County’s Crisis Management Communication Plan.

EDUCATION, INFORMATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- Community and Media Relations (CMR) continued to enhance the community’s access to Leon County Government, and to promote transparency and accountability.
  » Exceeded benchmarks for the marketing campaign of the Citizen Engagement Series, which fosters an informed and engaged citizen-driven debate.
  » Continued to work with County staff to accurately respond to public records requests in a timely manner.
  » Issued approximately 300 news advisories, releases, and notices detailing County activities; facilitated approximately 30 press conferences, community meetings, and events.
  » Actively worked with media partners, including print, television, radio and online sources to provide accurate and timely information.
  » In partnership with Leon County EMS, CMR facilitated the community-wide Press the Chest event, instructing a record-setting crowd of 750 attendees on proper CPR techniques.
- In Partnership with the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), Leon County helped promote the 2015 Annual Neighborhood Awards Reception. The awards recognized neighborhood and neighbors of the year through seven respective categories.
- In Partnership with the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), Leon County helped promote the 2015 Annual Neighborhood Awards Reception. The awards recognized neighborhood and neighbors of the year through seven respective categories.
- CMR delivered more than 100,000 bulletins via the County’s digital media subscription service, GovDelivery, which provides subscribers with free, up-to-the-minute news at their fingertips.
- CMR prepared and distributed printed and digital materials on behalf of the County and its departments and divisions.

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

Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service
Mission Statement
To provide information to the Courts, which support judicial custody release decisions, and provide alternatives to incarceration to persons 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/Support Highlights

Economy
- Collected data to determine what resources offenders believed they needed to assist them to successfully complete their court ordered sentence. Employment, transportation and education were identified as the greatest areas of need. To date, 118 defendants have been referred to community partners for one or more services.

Quality of Life
- Administered more than 14,700 alcohol tests and in excess of 10,300 drug tests for court-ordered County probationers and defendants released while awaiting trial.
- Supervised more than 2,700 offenders sentenced to the Community Service and Work Programs, who provided in-kind labor for roadway, greenway, park and facilities maintenance, as well as general public services, valued at $519,406.

COURT SERVICES, CASE MANAGEMENT & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Leon County supports the safety of the entire community, and assists the Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives’ (IDA) clients to become productive and responsible citizens.
  » Maintained an average monthly caseload of 1,600 County probationers and Supervised Pretrial Release defendants.
  » Recovered more than $67,000 from probationers for crime victims through court-ordered restitution.
  » Performed more than 7,400 criminal history reviews and demographic assessments on new arrestees to assist the court in making release decisions.
  » Administered more than 25,000 court-ordered drug and alcohol tests and collected more than $230,000 for testing services.
- Public safety is a critical responsibility of the County. In cooperation with the Leon County Public Safety Coordinating Council, comprised of the State Attorney, Public Defender,
  » Office Intervention and Detention Alternatives participated in court hearings held during the second annual Veterans Stand Down event by providing pretrial and probation services for homeless veterans. This participation led to the creation of a Veteran’s Court which is set for implementation in October 2015.

Did You Know
In an effort to provide continuity for defendants from arrest through sentencing, the Probation Division is relocating to Appleyard Drive to share space with Pretrial Release. This initiative provides improved customer service and a greater cost savings to the citizens of Leon County.
Mission Statement
Office of Financial Stewardship: The mission of the Leon County Office of Financial Stewardship is to provide sound financial management, ethical procurement services and asset control to the Board of County Commissioners, County Administrator, and Board departments, offices and divisions, while minimizing long-term costs associated with accidental losses, in order to support effective decision making and ensure responsible stewardship of County resources.
Office of Management & Budget: The goal of the Office of Management & Budget is 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/Support Highlights
Governance
• Demonstrated its commitment to responsible stewardship with the development of the FY2015/2016 budget. The budget is balanced without increasing the current 8.3144 mileage rate. The total estimated tax collections for FY2016 will be $4.9 million or 4.5% more than FY2015.
• Revised business plans as part of the Leon LEADS Strategic Planning process transitioning to a five-year planning cycle that spans from FY2012 through FY2016. The Business Plan is a road map and a broad plan of action for accomplishing the Board’s priorities, and serves as a gauge to assist the department in measuring outcomes of the plan.

Contact Us
(850) 606-5100
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/OFS

RESPONSIBLE PLANNING & MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY’S FINANCIAL RESOURCES

• According to the international rating agency Fitch, the “County’s financial profile is characterized by prudent, forward-looking budgeting, high reserve levels, and strong liquidity.” Even in a slowly recovering economy, Fitch continued to provide Leon County with a “AA” rating and a stable outlook.
• OMB requires semi-annual capital project reporting from capital project managers. The reports allow for more effective planning and allocation of funding for the Capital Improvement Program.
• Leon County has the lowest net budget ($750) per countywide resident among like-sized counties and has one of the lowest net budgets per county resident in Florida, with only eight other counties having lower budgets. Additionally, Leon County has six employees per 1,000 residents and ranks second lowest in employees per capita among all 67 counties.
• As an ongoing commitment to remain fiscal stewards of public dollars, the Office of Management and good Budget routinely conducts comprehensive management reviews of County operations and organizations it funds to ensure effective and efficient operations.

County Budget for Fiscal Year

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Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service

The Leon County Office of Management received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for the 25th consecutive year.

Did You Know
The Let’s Balance! Budget simulation game, developed by the Leon County Office of Management and Budget, is an innovative and engaging educational tool that has become a staple in the statewide Florida Association of Counties New Commissioner Training, part of the Summer Youth Program, and the Young Leadership Tallahassee program.
**Goal Statement**

**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.

**Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights**

**Governance**
- The Purchasing Division continued to expand the use of electronic documents, which allows vendors and other interested parties to obtain copies of solicitation documents in a more efficient and cost-effective manner, while promoting sustainability by reducing the use of paper.
- Risk Management employs the team approach to ensure that the County continues to maintain a safe working environment for its employees through the coordination of monthly Safety Committee meetings, with representation from a broad array of work areas. During these meetings, the Risk Manager and the representatives discuss potential safety improvements.

**Procuring and Managing Resources and Services, and Managing Risk**

- Purchasing serves citizens faster and more easily with an online procurement system called Procurement Connect. This new system provides vendors instant access to many different services and processes such as, instant access to bids, requests for proposal, invitations to negotiate and various other solicitation documents.
- Purchasing continues to provide value-added service to County staff through ongoing procurement customer service and support with policy interpretation, purchase orders, change orders, quotes, informal bids, contract preparation and other assistance. Purchasing also provides sales and customer support to County staff through ordering, stocking and issuance of operational consumable products valued at over $62 million during the fiscal year through more than 2,300 requisitions.
- An essential function of the Purchasing Division is maintaining the proper control records of all tangible personal property. In order to account for all property, Purchasing conducts an annual inventory. This past year, the inventory consisted of assets valued over $45 million.
- Leon County utilizes online auction services and on-site surplus sales to dispose of obsolete equipment that is no longer used by departments, in order to maximize the County’s investment. This past year, Purchasing conducted five on-site and online surplus sales/auctions resulting in a return of almost $420,000.
- As responsible stewards of the community’s financial resources, Purchasing mitigates risk to the County through utilization of bonding practices for vendor bids, vendor performance, supplier and subcontractor payment, and requires appropriate vendor insurance coverage.
- In order to ensure that Leon County continues to maintain a safe working environment for its employees, Risk Management Coordinated eleven sessions and conducted monthly site visits as well as:
  » Conducted annual driver license checks on all authorized drivers and coordinated random drug and alcohol testing.
  » Reviewed in excess of 500 criminal background checks on individuals wishing to volunteer.
  » Engaged citizens and employees alike by being proactive and having a personal presence. Risk Management maintains high visibility in the workforce, which assists in keeping risk management/safety forefront in employees’ minds and actions.

**Did You Know**

Leon County Purchasing has provided procurement services to the Gulf Consortium, a quasi-governmental organization created under the RESTORE Act. The Gulf Consortium is charged with developing a state expenditure plan to distribute a portion of the BP Gulf Oil Spill settlement monies.

**OFFICE OF FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:**

**PURCHASING AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Contact Us**

(850) 606-1600 (Purchasing)
(850) 606-5120 (Risk Management)
www.LeonCountyFL.gov/OFS

**Demonstrating Highest Standards of Public Service**

NACo 2015 Achievement Award Winner for the Implementation of Procurement Connect, an online procurement system which allows citizens an easier and faster way to obtain procurement information and documents.
LIVING OUR “PEOPLE FOCUSED, PERFORMANCE DRIVEN” CULTURE

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Department of P.L.A.C.E.
Planning
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Planning Manager
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Cherie.Bryant@Talgov.com
Leon County Government received eleven Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties. These awards recognize how Leon County provides cost-effective, high-quality service to citizens in categories such as Civic Education and Public Information, Financial Management and Information Technology.
ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS BOARD
Responsible for determining appeals of code-related (Land Development Regulations) interpretations and granting variances to the provisions of the LDRs based on documented hardship.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Reviews the established policies and procedures, ordinances, land development regulations, and adopted local government comprehensive plan and shall recommend specific actions or initiatives to encourage or facilitate affordable housing.

ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY BOARD
The Board is a citizen’s board in support of Tallahassee-Leon Community Animal Services Center.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
Reviews and makes recommendations on listing of properties of the Local Register of Historic Places and reviews changes to the exterior of properties zoned Historic Preservation, and issues Certificates of Appropriateness.

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, INC.
Provides for local representation in planning and evaluating health needs of a 14-county regional service district.

CANOPY ROADS CITIZENS COMMITTEE
Presents or discusses policies and programs affecting the preservation and maintenance of canopy roads; provides input on the values and goals of programs affecting canopy roads, and contributes continuous feedback and makes recommendations regarding the preservation of canopy roads to the City and County Commissions.

CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY CITIZENS MULTI-MODAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Makes recommendations regarding the development of an efficient, safe, and cost-effective transportation system that considers the needs of users of all modes of transportation, including bicycle/pedestrian and transit.

CAREERSOURCE CAPITAL REGION
Provides youth and adults with opportunities to develop and continuously upgrade their knowledge and skills in order to advance economically and socially.

CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD
Conducts hearings on cases involving violations of environmental, zoning, building, and junk ordinances and enters orders to enforce County laws.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN & GIRLS
Considers input and promotes awareness in the matter of the status of women and girls in the community regarding discrimination, employment, education, social services, health, etc.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CITIZEN’S TASK FORCE
Assists with CDBG program planning, implementation, assessment and oversight, as well as counsel and advise the Leon County Housing Program.

COMMUNITY HEALTH COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Provides a forum for citizen participation in healthcare planning and dialogue to address community concerns and problems regarding healthcare.

CONTRACTORS LICENSING AND EXAMINATION BOARD
Accepts and approves applications, including administers examinations for contractors licenses and issues contractors licenses.

COUNCIL ON CULTURE & ARTS
Coordinates and disseminates information regarding cultural events and opportunities.

DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CITIZENS USER GROUP
Provides Board recommendations regarding proposed ordinances that impact growth management and other issues pertaining to current planning, development review, and environmental compliance.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY
Assists institutions for higher education in construction, financing, and refinancing of projects.

ENTERPRISE ZONE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (EZDA) BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Reviews, processes, and certifies applications for state enterprise zone tax incentives and provides assistance to businesses and residents within the Enterprise Development Zone. Ending December 31, 2015

HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY
Encourages investment by private enterprise and stimulates construction and rehabilitation of housing through use of public financing.

HUMAN SERVICES GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE
Evaluates human service funding requests during regular budget cycle and makes recommendations to the Board.

JOINT CITY/COUNTY BICYCLE WORKING GROUP
Provide recommendations regarding proposed cycling-related projects, improvements, events, and ordinances that are considered to be of community interest and for the betterment of the Tallahassee-Leon County community.

JOINT CITY/COUNTY/SCHOOL BOARD COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Fosters the coordination of comprehensive planning and school facilities planning programs.

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
Serves as a forum for community input concerning library programs and activities and as a liaison and advocate of the library.

MINORITY/WOMEN SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (M/WSBE) COMMITTEE
Reviews M/WSBE program.

PLANNING COMMISSION
Acts as advisory committee to City and County commissions seeking its advice and assistance in comprehensive planning and development in the Tallahassee area.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Created for the purpose of planning and financing capital projects in the form of research and development parks to encourage local economic development.

SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Evaluates scientific evidence and reports findings and recommendations pertaining to environmental issues.

STAGE (STRATEGIC TEAM FOR AMPHITHEATER GRAND ENTERTAINMENT)
In order to consider the input of the public in the matter of program entertainment for the Capital Cascades Amphitheater Program, provide input to the Division of Tourism Development.

TALLAHASSEE SPORTS COUNCIL
Provide a fact-finding source of community input and technical resources in developing recommendations regarding a sport tourism-related matter to be considered by the Tourist Development Council.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Develops plans for tourist development; makes recommendations for operation of special projects or for uses of tax revenue; reviews expenditures of revenue from development trust fund.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Addresses community-wide concerns such as flooding, recreational and community economic value, watershed management, and funding priorities.

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 the committees, visit www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Committees or call the Agenda Coordinator at (850) 606-5300.
**QUICK REFERENCE**

**BOAT LANDINGS**
- Ben Stoutamire Landing (off of SR 20 on Lake Talquin)
- Bull Headley Landing (South Lake Iamonia)
- Cedar Hill Landing (Cedar Hill Road on East Lake Jackson)
- Cee Landing (Cee’s Landing Road off of SR 20 on Lake Talquin)
- Faulk Drive Landing (Faulk Drive on West Lake Jackson)
- Fuller Road Landing (Fuller Road on West Lake Jackson)
- Hall Landing (Hall’s Landing Road off of SR 20 on South Lake Talquin)
- Lake Munson Landing (Munson Landing Road on East Lake Munson)
- Meginnis Arm Landing
- Meginnis Arm Landing

**COMMUNITY CENTERS**

**CAMPGROUNDS**
- Phone Numbers for Camping Information: Local: (850) 350-9560 Toll Free: (866) 350-9560
- Tower Rd. Campground
- 1208 Cee Landing Rd
- 20 RV Sites with 30 Amp hookups, Water, Showers, Dump Station

**PARKS**
- Apalachee Regional Park
- 7500 Apalachee Pkwy; 4 Multiuse fields (lighted), Soccer, Football, Restrooms/Concession Building, nationally recognized cross country running facility, radio controlled air field
- Canopy Oaks Community Park
- 3250 Point View Dr.; 2 Little League Fields (lighted), 2 Tennis Courts (lighted), Multisport Field (lighted), Concession/Restroom, Playground
- Daniel B. Chaires Community Park
- 4768 Chaires Cross Rd; 4 Tennis Courts (lighted), 2 Basketball Courts, Restrooms/Concession Building, 2 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), 1 T-Ball Field (not lighted)
- Fort Braden Community Park
- 15100 Blountstown Hwy; 2 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), Multisport Field (lighted), Restrooms/Concession Building
- J. Lee Vause Park
- 6024 Old Bainbridge Rd.; 6 Picnic Pavilions (available for rental), 26 Acres Open, Wooded Spaces, 1 Mile of Hard Surface Paths for Bikes and Pedestrians, Extensive Boardwalk, Restrooms, Playground, Volleyball Net
- J. Lewis Hall Sr., Woodville Park and Recreation Complex
- 1402 J Lewis Hall Sr. Ln.; 4 Little League Baseball Fields (lighted), Junior League Field (lighted), Softball Field (lighted), 2 Basketball Courts (lighted), Multipurpose Field (lighted), Youth & Tot 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)
- Jackson View Park
- 2585 Clara Kee Blvd.; Walking Trails, Picnic Area, Open Space, Observation Deck
- Kate Ireland Park
- 12271 Iamonia Landing Rd.; Picnic Shelter, Playground, Nature Trails, Restrooms
- Lake Henrietta Park
- 3305 Springhill Rd.; Walking Trail (Paved, 1.2 Miles Long)
- Lake Munson
- 5800 Crawfordville Hwy.; Picnic Shelter, Restrooms, Nature Trails, Landing
- Martha Wellman Park
- 5317 W. Tennesse St.; Walking Trail (8/10 Mile Long)
- Moccassee Canopy Rd. Greenway
- 5600 Moccassee Rd.; 14 Miles of Trails and 500 Acres of Open Space for Hikers, Mountain Bicyclists, Equestrians, Picnic Tables and Benches
- Moccassee Community Park
- 15011 Cramarble Rd.; Youth Playground, 2 Basketball Courts (lighted), 2 Picnic Shelters, 1 Little League Baseball Field (lighted), 1 Little League Softball Field (lighted), 1 T-Ball Field (not lighted), Concession/Restroom
- Okeehenpee Prairie Park
- 1294 Fuller Rd.; Walking Trail, Picnic Shelter
- Pedrick Pond
- 5701 Mahan Dr.; Walking Trail (7/10 Mile Long)
- Stoneler Rd. Park
- 5225 Stoneler Rd.; Little League Field (lighted), Baseball, Football, Soccer, Playground, Picnic Shelter, Playground, Concession/Restroom
- Tower Rd. Park
- 5971 Tower Rd.; Multiuse Field (lighted), Baseball, Football, Soccer, Playground, Concession/Restroom, Playground, Restrooms/Concession Building

**LIBRARIES**
- LeRoy Collins Main Library
- 200 West Park Avenue
- (850) 606-2655
- Dr. B. L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library
- 2817 South Adams Street
- (850) 606-2950
- Eastside Branch Library
- 1583 Pedrick Road
- (850) 606-2750
- Fort Braden Branch Library
- 16177 Blountstown Highway
- (850) 606-2900
- Lake Jackson Branch Library
- 3840 North Monroe Street
- (850) 606-2850
- Northeast Branch Library
- 5513 Thomasville Road
- (850) 606-2800
- Woodville Branch Library
- 8000 Old Woodville Road
- (850) 606-2925

**COMMUNITY RESOURCES**
- Cooperative Extension
- 615 Paul Russell Road
- (850) 606-5200
- Development Support & Environmental Management
- 435 N. Macomb Street, Renaissance Center, 2nd Floor
- (850) 606-1300
- Solid Waste Management Facility
- 7520 Apalachee Parkway
- (850) 606-1800
- Visitor Center
- 106 East Jefferson St.
- (850) 606-2100
- Volunteer Services
- 918 Railroad Avenue
- (850) 606-1970
EMPLYING 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.
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.