



December 2018

Palm Beach County District Six

Thank You for Your Support



On November 20, I finished my year as Mayor of Palm Beach County and I was sworn in for my second four-year term as your District 6 County Commissioner.

I want to thank everyone who supported me these last four years. It has been the honor of my life working for you. I look forward to continuing our work another four years.

There has been so much progress in District 6--and throughout the county--during my first term. I'm excited to share with you some of our highlights.

Glades

Economic development in the Glades has been one of my top priorities from day one. Progress continues on the extension of rail service from Miami to South Bay in order to establish an inland logistics center. With the help of our legislative partners, Pahokee received more than \$2 million for renovations for their marina. We continue to lure new businesses to the Glades bringing jobs and economic growth, including Tellus (80 new jobs and growing) and Project Paper (which is expected to bring over 200 new jobs and a new large manufacturing facility). And, a new data center has been approved on the edge of the Glades.

Improvements

Just in the last year, nearly 600 affordable housing units have been added to the region. Since January 2015, over \$332 million has been invested in the Glades for numerous improvements, such as roads, water pipes, and the stormwater system. The County donated a gymnasium to the Belle Glade Boys and Girls Club for the Club's expansion, and we are working with Bank of America to possibly house an upgraded Youth Empowerment center and the Student ACES program in their former building. Another wonderful addition is the \$3 million renovation of Orange Bowl Legacy Field at Pioneer Park.

Thanks to Senators Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio, full federal funding has been appropriated to expedite the completion of the Herbert Hoover Dike. The Army Corps stated they will seek to hire Glades residents for this work. I am also proud that we were able to get the reservoir approved south of Lake Okeechobee, while balancing the needs of the agricultural and environmental communities, to reduce algal blooms in the estuaries to our east and west.

Opioid Epidemic and Substance Use Disorder

When my former Chief of Staff, Johnnie Easton, lost her daughter to an opioid overdose, I vowed to do everything I could to help save other families from this unimaginable grief. During the last two years, we have had incredible successes in our fight against the opioid epidemic. We successfully pushed Gov. Scott to declare a public health emergency. I believe this was a defining moment that led to President Trump declaring a national emergency. At the county level, I serve on the Sober Homes Task Force, and along with my fellow commissioners I pushed to develop a comprehensive county response plan, add treatment capacity, hire a drug czar, implement a successful fire rescue medication-assisted treatment pilot program, file a lawsuit to hold opioid manufacturers and distributors responsible for their role in the epidemic and to recoup dollars spent by the county in this fight, and establish an addiction receiving facility (which is expected to open in January).

The Acreage

In the Acreage, two new significant infrastructure projects are funded and one is under construction now: a new community center and a new Fire Station 22. I have consistently pushed to get additional firefighters stationed in the Acreage, and I am

happy to report that in the FY 2019 budget additional positions have been approved and the new station is on schedule to open in November 2019. Furthermore, the County continues our legal battle to get the State Road 7 extension built.

Human

Trafficking

Another of my top priorities has been to combat human trafficking. Palm Beach County became the first county in Florida to pass a local ordinance requiring awareness signs to be posted in adult entertainment facilities to help uncover human trafficking rings and provide hotline access to victims. Additionally, we updated our dancer registration ordinance to help people recognize the signs of human trafficking. The tourism industry also partnered with the County and implemented training for local industry leaders and employees.

Women

and

Families

Some other accomplishments on behalf of women and families that I am particularly proud of include reinstating the Advisory Commission on Women, passing a paid parental leave program for county government employees, and establishing a privacy room for nursing mothers at the South County Courthouse.

Leadership

Activities

I have also taken on various leadership activities to not only enhance my skills, but to give Palm Beach County a greater voice throughout the state and country. To this end, I currently serve as 1st Vice President of the Florida Association of Counties, serve as one of two Florida representatives on the National Association of Counties (NACo) Board of Directors, chair NACo's Agriculture and Rural Affairs Policy Steering Committee, and was one of only twenty-five women across the country selected this past year to participate in the Women in Government Leadership Institute. Currently, I am also a member of Leadership Florida's Class XXXVII.

It has been an honor to receive recognition from the community for my advocacy efforts. Some highlights include the Palm Beach County Medical Society Heroes in Medicine Award (2018), the Palm Beach County Substance Abuse Awareness Coalition Community Leader of the Year (2017), the Florida Association of Counties

Marlene Young Presidential Award for Outstanding Advocacy (2017), and the Champion of the Glades Award (2016).

Highlights as Mayor

It has been a privilege to serve for the past year as Mayor of Palm Beach County. One of my top priorities was to use this leadership role to raise awareness of the opioid epidemic. I held a Mayor's Forum to discuss ways we can continue to face the crisis and--with my fellow commissioners--held a listening session to hear directly from the public. I pushed for the county to file a lawsuit against those responsible for the epidemic and to get an addiction receiving facility opened. I am happy to report that the facility should be open in early 2019!

During my term as mayor, I also held a roundtable discussion on school safety after the Marjory Stoneman Douglas tragedy, as well as one with Sen. Lauren Book to discuss human trafficking.

Furthermore, I secured Palm Beach County as the host of the inaugural National Association of Counties Farm Bill Summit. This event brought county commissioners and staff from all over the country to learn more about one of our county's most important industries--agriculture. I believe this Summit helped lead to last week's passage of a new Congressional Farm Bill.

I am also proud to have presided over record attendance and dollars raised at this year's Mayor's Ball! This annual event raises significant funding to help the homeless in Palm Beach County. It was an awesome event that included an impromptu performance by Vanilla Ice and Assistant County Administrator Todd Bonlarron!

Other activities that I worked on in the past year include changing our code to allow for cottage homes, drafting a revised workforce housing ordinance, exploring opportunities to re-purpose old strip malls and box stores for affordable housing, and working to provide easier opportunities for solar energy.

Moving

Forward

In the next four years, I will continue to advocate for my priorities: developing the Glades economy, combating the substance use disorder epidemic, establishing affordable and workforce housing, and keeping our kids safe. I will continue to push for a healthier Lake Okeechobee, up-staffing at all fire stations, and to protect fire fighters from exposure to cancer-causing materials.

While my term as mayor is over, I look forward to continuing to work with my fellow commissioners on behalf of all Palm Beach County residents. I want to congratulate our new Mayor Mack Bernard and Vice-Mayor Dave Kerner! Our county remains in great hands under their leadership.

And finally, thank you to my staff--Kelley Burke, Joseph Sophie, and Lisa Wilson; to all county staff; and to all of the members of our community who have helped me over the past four years--I couldn't do it without you, and we're not done yet!



Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!

My staff and I wish you and your family happy holidays and a wonderful new year! We hope 2019 brings you much joy, and we look forward to representing you in the coming year.

Michelle McGovern Day

My last act as Mayor of Palm Beach County was to declare November 20 Michelle McGovern Day. Michelle, Senator Bill Nelson's State Director, is one of my dearest friends. She gave me an opportunity when I most needed one to come work for Senator Nelson and her--a decision that was instrumental to me getting to where I am today.

As Senator Nelson leaves the Senate after three terms, it was essential that Michelle be recognized for all that she has done for Palm Beach County. She has worked for Senator Nelson since he took office in 2001. She has tirelessly devoted herself to helping Floridians attain assistance from the federal government and proved herself an essential partner to the county's local officials by helping them connect and collaborate with the federal government. I can't thank her enough for all of her work to help the Glades region, including her support of Senator Nelson's successful effort to secure the remaining funding to complete the Herbert Hoover Dike ahead of schedule.

She also found time to mentor countless young women, inspiring them to pursue and excel in public service careers and volunteer work, while also serving the community in numerous roles--including as President of both the Forum Club and SunFest.

Thank you, Michelle, for everything. I know that no matter what role you take on next you will be an incredible success!



George Wedgworth Way

On October 18, a sign-unveiling ceremony was held in Belle Glade to rename West Sugar House Road to George Wedgworth Way. George Wedgworth was an agricultural icon and founder of the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative. His agricultural efforts made a tremendous impact not only in Palm Beach County, but throughout the state and country. I was excited to work with county staff to make this significant honor happen and to join George's family and the Cooperative for the ceremony!



Ethical Governance Day

On October 24, I joined with fellow public officials, judges, attorneys and community leaders with civic government experience to share my knowledge and personal insights with students at Forest Hill High School for Ethical Governance Day. We emphasized to this next generation of voters the importance of respecting the right of every individual to engage in civil dialogue on important issues. Ethical Governance Day has been held for several years in Miami-Dade County; this was the inaugural event in Palm Beach County, and we look forward to bringing these presentations to other schools throughout the county.

I want to thank all who participated--Circuit Court Judge Samantha Schosberg Feuer; School Board Members Erica Whitfield, Chuck Shaw, and Karen Brill; Greenacres Mayor Joel Flores; Danielle Sherriff from the State Attorney's Office; Cindy Guerra from the Clerk's Office; Sarah Shullman and Christie Kelley from the Commission on Ethics; and Angie Pagan from the Florida Association of Criminal

Defense

Lawyers.

And a special thank you to Forest Hill High School Principal Mary Stratos for the opportunity to speak to her amazing students!



Commissioner McKinlay Appointed to NACo Board of Directors

Commissioner McKinlay was recently selected by the Florida Association of Counties Board of Directors to serve as the Florida appointee on the National Association of Counties Board of Directors. Commissioner McKinlay will fill the unexpired term of former Commissioner--and now State Representative--Chip Lamarca. Her experience and dedication to uniting county governments along with her long-standing history representing local, state, and federal policy will allow her to serve Florida and counties across America.

State of the County Address

On November 15, I delivered the State of the County Address at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches. Things are going well for Palm Beach County!

Tourism, agriculture, biotechnology and transportation continue to be main components of economy.

- Hotel bookings are in record numbers
- Property values and home sales are up
- Unemployment is way down
- Our economy is strong. It's growing. And it's thriving.
- The county again received AAA bond ratings this year from the three major credit-rating agencies -- Moody's, Fitch, and Standard & Poor's. With 3,069 counties in the United States, we are one of only 43 counties nationally to earn this distinction.

Forbes magazine recently named Palm Beach County to its list of America's Best Employers. Palm Beach County ranked No. 243 out of 500 nationally among large employers, and we ranked No. 10 among government services employers, the only one in Florida to rank in the Top 10.

Since inception of the penny surtax in 2017, County Engineering has:

- Resurfaced approximately 190 lane miles of roadway (\$15m)
- Re-striped approximately 50 road segments (\$2m)
- Repaired damaged underground drainage pipes at over 20 locations (\$1m)
- Upgraded 150 of the 193 existing school flasher systems



Recent BCC News

In memoriam – observed a moment of silence in honor of former President George H.W. Bush, who passed away on December 1.

Retirements – acknowledged and thanked Director of Airports Bruce Pelly and Information Systems Services Director Steve Bordelon, who are retiring.

Promotions – ratified the appointments of Laura Beebe as Director of Airports, Archie Satchell as Director of Information Systems Services, and Ramsay Bulkeley as Director of Planning, Zoning & Building.

Impact Fees – approved on first reading and to advertise for public hearing on January 15, 2019, an ordinance amending the Unified Land Development Code (ULDC) regarding countywide impact fee amounts and certain benefit zones. Based on the impact fee study, fees would be increased or adjusted to the full amount

allowed under the ordinance (95 percent of the amount calculated in the methodology) with the exception of general office which would be phased in over a two-year period up to the 95 percent amount allowed under the ordinance. Staff was directed to work with Associated General Contractors, the Economic Council and the School District prior to the January 15 meeting.

Opioids – directed staff to prepare a draft resolution for inclusion in the 2019 legislative agenda supporting establishment of a statewide opioids task force.

Youth Services – approved a contract in the amount of \$216,667 with the Children’s Home Society through June 30, 2020, with two one-year options at the county’s discretion. The contract includes funding for a family visitation/exchange program to be housed in a remodeled former group home. Youth Services Director Tammy Fields announced that Palm Beach County was named statewide County of the Year by the Guardian Ad Litem program for its support of the Florida Guardian Ad Litem program.

Homeless Resource Center – discussed estimated costs associated with establishing a second homeless resource center in Palm Beach County and directed staff to move forward with a detailed proposal.

Palm Tran – approved a one-year service contract with MV Contract Transportation Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$898,999 to operate Palm Tran’s Flex Route pilot project in the Glades region from December 21, 2018, through December 20, 2019.

Roads – adopted amendments to the 5-Year Road Program and approved the hiring of professionals to design, appraise and assist in the acquisition of land, right of way, and easements necessary to undertake the identified projects, including but not limited to the employment of real estate appraisers, engineers, certified public accountants, business damage consultants and experts, and other professionals deemed necessary.

Soccer – approved a concessionaire lease agreement with US Soccer 5, LLC for the operation of a mini-soccer complex at John Prince Park for \$48,000/year (\$4,000/month) for a period of 10 years with two 10-year extension options. US

Soccer has proposed making \$990,486 in capital improvements to include four 7v7 fields, two 5v5 fields, installation of a trailer/container for check-in, and an outdoor café/service/patio area.

Opioids – approved a resolution for inclusion in the 2019 legislative agenda urging the state legislature and the governor to establish and fund a statewide opioid addiction task force.

FPL – approved an agreement with Florida Power & Light (FPL) to prevent loss of power to residents of Palm Beach County for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023. Through the FPL Care to Share program, the Department of Community Services provides utility assistance to households at risk of being disconnected. FPL has provided over \$1.5 million since 2006, assisting more than 300 households per year. No county match is required.

Fire Rescue – approved an interlocal agreement with the School Board for Palm Beach County Fire Rescue to provide clinical field experience for students in a duly approved Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) training program at secondary schools in the county. The first three years will be a pilot program at Palm Beach Lakes and Wellington High schools.

BDB – approved revisions to the scope of services agreement with the Business Development Board (BDB) to include a new reporting format to facilitate monitoring and contract compliance, an annual report pursuant to Florida Statutes, and advising Housing and Economic Sustainability of meetings with Glades-focused business recruitment, expansion, and retention efforts.

PBSO – approved a contract with James B. Pirtle Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$26.3 million for construction of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) forensic sciences and technology facility. The approximately 87,000-square-foot secure lab/office/warehouse facility will have an impound lot for 800 to 1,000 vehicles. Funding is from public building impact fees, 2008 jail expansion bond proceeds, FY17, FY18 and FY19 infrastructure sales tax revenue, and ad valorem funds.

Workforce housing – approved a settlement agreement with Lennar Homes regarding required workforce housing units at Gulfstream Preserve, Silverwood Estates and Cambria Parc. These residential projects represent the first for-sale workforce housing units created through the county program.



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