

GALT MILE NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GMCA
JULY/AUGUST 2017

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BROWARD E-911 RUNS A GAUNTLET

By Eric Berkowitz

Ever since the Broward County Office of Regional Communications and Technology (ORCAT) was empowered to install, oversee and govern the consolidated emergency 911 dispatch operated by the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), the County Board and BSO have been locked in a struggle for control of the County-wide system. Moreover, stakeholders and system advocates were perplexed by the County's refusal to replace former ORCAT Director and Broward's primary E-911 system architect Rick Carpani, who resigned in favor of the private sector on November 13, 2015, leaving subordinates and backup personnel to run an untested regional emergency dispatch operated by trainees who were admittedly poorly prepared.

While leaving a system necessary to the survival of both victims and responders in the hands of those who lacked the requisite E-911 training and/or experience, on January 5, 2016, the County Board hired consultant Fitch & Associates to examine the system, inspect the dispatch centers (AKA Public Safety Access Points or PSAPs) and identify the changes required to meet stakeholder expectations. Skull-blocked by the County decision to leave the system rudderless for a year while awaiting the Consultant's prog-

nosis, municipalities that supported the consolidation suddenly threatened to withdraw - including Fort Lauderdale.

Bolting Stakeholders

On February 18, 2016, Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner Bruce Roberts informed the Galt Mile Advisory Board that Fort Lauderdale was considering an independent emergency service. A few months earlier, when City Manager Lee Feldman expressed concern about "delays in dispatching, dispatching to the wrong addresses, dispatching with the wrong information," a discouraged Roberts added, "I don't think we can wait too much longer. We were assured we would not have any degradation of services." Roberts told Galt Mile officials that Feldman had already begun laying the groundwork since the consolidated County plan had repeatedly failed to meet stakeholder expectations.

In his May 2016 Newsletter, Roberts reported that a team had been formed with "key members from Information Technology Services (ITS), Fire, Police, Human Resources, Public Works

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and the City Manager's Office. The team meets weekly to discuss options regarding location, layout, technology needs, hiring and training of 911 staff, and project management." Roberts said the team planned to hire "a consultant with expertise in developing, managing and operating a 911 Communications Center." Fort Lauderdale officials claimed they no longer believed that the Broward Board either could - or would - fulfill its promise to build a countywide 911 Emergency System - and they weren't alone. Pembroke Pines City Commissioner Jay Schwartz and other municipal stakeholders also threatened to cut bait.

Sunrise Mayor Mike Ryan had consistently been one of the consolidation effort's most vocal advocates. Like Roberts and Feldman, Ryan rationalized the steady stream of inaugural-year fiascos as growing pains. When Carpani skated, Ryan and other apprehensive municipal stakeholders began tracking a litany of dispatch failures attributable to the absence of expert oversight.

Ryan bitterly complained that a system responsible for the lives of Broward residents was being mangled by inexperienced departmental subordinates who were unqualified to manage any E911 program, much less one of the largest and most complex emergency response consolidations ever attempted in the United States.

Stonewalled by the county for months, Ryan was joined by the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association and the Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County, which crafted a Joint Position Statement detailing how County PSAPs were operating "in a vacuum devoid of experience and expertise." Along with the Broward League of Cities, they collectively sent a letter to the County Commission, which they copied to the local media. They requested that the County Board or the Charter Review Commission create a new County Bureau to manage the Emergency 911 system. Calling it "The Office of the Director of Public Safety Communications," Ryan insisted that the new agency remain "independent of the county administration's office."

With discontent and confusion spreading across the County and Stakeholders jumping ship, County Administrator Bertha Henry embarked on a "Hearts and Minds" tour of Broward municipalities. After plying the Fire and Police Chiefs Associations with assurances of heightened collaboration, improving statistical response and a skybox view of the project, Henry launched her PowerPoint presentation at whistle stops in Oakland Park, Pembroke Pines, West Park, Wilton Manors and other waffling municipalities.

Fitch Phase I

Released on August 29, 2016, the first of two consecutive Fitch and Associates E-911 studies was contracted by County Administrator Bertha Henry to comparatively assess the system's performance metrics against national best practices. Information was distilled from interviews with County and BSO officials, ORCAT senior management, PSAP site managers and supervisory personnel, surveys submitted by call takers and admittedly unreliable data harvested from erratic legacy systems.

Given the longstanding conflict between BSO and the County Commission, a study recommendation to better define stakeholder roles was hardly a revelation. Another suggestion to measure response performance of the PSAPs by collecting public feedback might have proven productive if every high profile screw-up hadn't first been mulched into media fodder. Among its few contributive insights, the study confirmed that Stakeholder reservations about the County's E-911 program may have been overstated (not exactly a ringing endorsement).

In fact, Henry admitted that the issues addressed in the study were long known to stakeholders - and many were proactively corrected prior to the study's release. Although it packaged rote observations with recommendations that appeared superficial - almost cosmetic, a more definitive analysis promised in the second phase convinced troubled stakeholders to postpone abandoning the system.

Fitch Phase II

In contrast, the second Fitch report identified many of the issues that fueled stakeholder pessimism, and rolled out credible remedies. The Phase II assessment - published on December 22, 2016 - includes observational findings and 21 recommendations in four areas: Technology, Governance and Oversight, Performance Measures, and Effectiveness and Efficiency. When Fitch Phase II was released, raging criticism of the controversial consolidation cooled, as stakeholders anxiously awaited an indication that the County would act on this guidance.

Explaining that the recommendations will require significant organizational and cultural change, the Phase II Executive Summary underscores how carefully planning this change "is key to the System's ultimate success." Since the recommended improvements should only be introduced when they can be effectively assimilated, Fitch suggests implementing major changes sequentially rather than simultaneously.

Although the System utilizes emergency medical dispatching (EMD) software - a best practice for 911 centers, it lacks similar programs for fire or law enforcement call types. When BSO finally implements accredited Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD), it should be executed to completion before additional changes are initiated, such as certifying operators for Emergency Police Dispatch (EPD). Each certification area provides structured call processing for the respective discipline. While specialized EFD and EPD certifications are also considered best practices, implementing them in a deliberate and measured manner will help insure that each is layered onto a stable base service.

Tweaking the Technology

The report lists technological pitfalls that muddy any analysis of the system's shortcomings. The absence of an effective link between the County's PSAP phone system and Computer-Aided Dispatch system (CAD) impairs any comprehensive evaluation of System performance. Also, County staff is unable to directly access phone and radio system data. In roughly half the calls, an event in the CAD could not be linked to the unique Call Detail Record (CDR) that initiated the incident. The Phase II report states that linking the 911 phone records with the associated CAD incident records is "An absolute priority."

The report recognizes that many system limitations due to obsolete legacy technology would be resolved by the installation of new software and hardware, such as the PremierOne CAD and PremierOne Mobile systems that were recently installed and discussed by LaMarca. Other snags should be cured when the County dumps the archaic Public Safety Radio System in 2018, and replaces it with a \$40 million APCO (Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials) Project 25 trunked radio system.

In describing the upgraded CAD functionality, ORCAT Acting Director Brett Bayag said "This multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency, and multi-discipline CAD system interfaces with all Broward County Regional Consolidated E-911 systems vital to receiving, processing and implementing rapid response to 911 calls, and will greatly enhance service to people in Broward County Regional Consolidated E-911 systems vital to receiving, processing and implementing rapid response to 911 calls,

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and will greatly enhance service to people in Broward County during emergency situations." Bayag leaked some butter, "Over the past three years the project team's focused efforts included working collaboratively with professionals and experts in the fields of public safety technology, dispatch operations, law enforcement, and fire rescue, all of whom worked tirelessly to implement this new state-of-the-art system." According to Fitch, Bayag's "Kumbaya" working relationship is somewhat overstated, as public safety officials were often omitted from the loop.

Cooler Heads and Best Practices

Under "Governance and Oversight", Phase II seeks to remedy the ongoing slugfest between ORCAT and BSO for control of the system. Since "Low levels of trust exist among major stakeholders," the report recommends that "Operational Oversight (by BSO) and System Governance (by the County) should be redefined to strengthen the role of end-users," referring to public safety officials whose input had been marginalized by the two Big Dogs.

Fitch disparages how the County commonly usurps operational decisions that should instead be determined by public safety officials. It cites the need to better balance "the logistical concerns of the Operator (BSO), and the financial and system governance responsibilities of Broward County." To more productively use the airways, the report also recommends a reduction in radio traffic by both fire/EMS and law enforcement units that fail to effectively utilize mobile data terminals (MDTs) and mobile computing devices (MCDs).

While the system is capable of closest unit response to life-threatening emergencies, which was demanded by Broward voters in 2002, response was still dictated by jurisdiction. Seemingly a holdover from when each of Broward's eleven disjointed dispatch systems placed a higher priority on turf protection than on saving lives, officials in Plantation, Fort Lauderdale and Miramar have since expressed trepidations about subsidizing adjacent municipalities. From 2012 to 2014, Sunrise, Tamarac, Davie, North Lauderdale and Lauderdale used vehicle locators in each of their fire-rescue fleets to dispatch the closest unit anywhere within the five cities. It worked like a charm.

Although Broward complied with a mandate to fund first unit response infrastructure, the charter doesn't specifically require implementation, a semantic loophole exploited by foot-draggers. Fitch concluded that this had to go. Instead, a Phase II no-brainer directed fire-rescue agencies to develop, approve and implement countywide nearest unit response protocols irrespective of municipal boundaries.

This second report didn't endear Fitch to system operator BSO. Blowing off a BSO request for an additional \$2.3 million to hire more staff, Fitch retorts "In total, the current funding of the

system is sufficient. There should be no need for further overall funding." In fact, they consider BSO overstaffed in call taker and Fire Assignment positions. In stating "recommendations to increase resources in certain areas are balanced by recommendations intended to improve the overall efficiency of the System," Fitch exhorts BSO to work smarter.

For example, BSO dispatchers filed a class action grievance over excessive mandatory overtime last August, as they are routinely forced to work three or four additional hours each day. The grievance states "BSO has failed to staff the communications operator's classification, causing an unreasonable amount of mandatory overtime which is negatively affecting their professional and personal lives." Fitch admonishes BSO that filling vacant positions expeditiously would reduce excessive mandatory overtime that could alternatively be used to maintain full staffing.

County call centers in Coconut Creek, Sunrise and Pembroke Pines service the North, central and South Broward regions. Except for Coral Springs and Plantation, which fund in-house dispatch services, Broward's remaining 29 municipalities participate in the consolidated County system. The report prompts the County to warehouse revenues sufficient to complement the three PSAPs with two additional 911 facilities in the future.

Pieces Fall into Place

As the County began implementing actionable Phase II recommendations and response times plummeted, so did stakeholder concerns. In addition to a new system-wide Incident Management Tracking System and Quality Improvement Program, a tidal wave of new technology streamlined access to accurate performance data. The resulting scorecard meets best practices benchmarks and exceeds average nationwide response times.

While stakeholders haven't yet recaptured their initial enthusiasm, the complaints have abated, and have often been replaced by accolades. For medical calls, EMDs now serve as first responders. Specially trained operators are certified to relay medical instructions in life-threatening situations, including CPR, relief from respiratory distress, labor/delivery protocols, stroke and seizure triage, and other life-saving medical interventions.

Originally, 911 calls routed to any of the three PSAPs could only be fielded by that center's operators, whose geographical training was limited to the surrounding area. After ramping up a countywide geographical training program, the network installed an automatic call distributor. All incoming calls are now accessible to each of the three regional centers on a single queue, enabling operators in every PSAP to take calls from anywhere in Broward on a first in – first answered basis. This enhancement expedites response times while buffering the impact of regional staffing shortfalls.

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The County used a \$346,828 grant from the Department of Homeland Security to install a single site 700 MHz Overlay System that will strengthen back-up capability in the event that the primary system becomes impaired or overloaded and strengthen interoperable communications capabilities with other existing 700MHz interoperable systems.

A new fire station alerting (FSA) system is interfaced with the new CAD system, while an upgraded Alphanumeric Paging System (APS) provides fire rescue and other personnel alphanumeric pages of emergency dispatch calls for service. The System will be fully upgraded by the end of next year, when the \$60 million state-of-the-art radio system replaces the 30-year-old inherited clunker. On May 23, 2017, the Broward Board cut a deal with Motorola to install a new 700 MHz APCO Project 25 Phase II system (the most advanced system of its kind). In the interim, County staff will specify the final tower sites in Hollywood, Tamarac and Parkland.

Unfortunately, plans to install a new Local Government Radio System were delayed when Davie contractor and low-bidder Control Communications, Inc. – a dealer for Motorola – declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy before completing the project. The company's cash-flow dilemma was fueled by the Broward Aviation Department's failure to timely perform its part while installing a new aviation system in Fort Lauderdale – Hollywood International Airport. The County has since embarked on a procurement process with a Motorola-authorized channel partner qualified to successfully complete the project by 2018.

The sloppy BSO training regimen that triggered the initial high-profile gaffes is now fully accredited – certified by the Commission on Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), the National Academy of Emergency Dispatch (NAED) and Project 33 certification from the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO). Medical dispatch is also certified for EMD by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED), the gold standard for emergency dispatch centers and public safety agencies. Comparable certifications for fire-rescue (EFD) and law enforcement (EPD) are undergoing the arduous multi-year process required for an Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE).

The beefed up training and improved employee discipline have immeasurably increased the productivity of caller inter-



views, enabling dispatch to better equip response units with accurate addresses, reliable descriptions of suspects and/or victims and otherwise relevant incident data. Bound by new management protocols that meet national best practice standards, supervisory personnel insure that the system exceeds a County requirement that 90% of the calls are answered within 10 seconds, after which the data is crunched and seamlessly forwarded to first responders.

Watch and Wait...

The steady stream of eerie blunders that reliably provided local media with a ghoulish libretto of slapstick anecdotes has dried up. At the June 2017 Galt Mile Advisory Board meeting, Fort Lauderdale Vice Mayor Bruce Roberts confirmed that the Broward Emergency Dispatch has finally met the City's expectations, although still a work in progress. The response times in Broward County are consistently among the fastest in the U.S. In short, if forced to rely on Emergency 911 in Broward County, your chances of getting out with your skin have never been better.

That said, stakeholders are closely monitoring how ORCAT and BSO adhere to the Fitch script, which could determine if Broward's E-911 Dispatch remains among the nation's most effective emergency response networks. Specifically, stakeholders are leery about whether the County and BSO can refrain from reviving the smack down over control of the system, a conflict which Fitch blames for undermining their mutual objectives and alienating stakeholders – and a fast track back to square one. •



EDITOR'S COMMENTARY:

Chip LaMarca's JUNE 2017 Newsletter

By Eric Berkowitz

In his June 2017 Newsletter, District 4 Broward Commissioner Chip LaMarca concludes that a significant increase in local property values should sufficiently enhance the County's ad valorem revenues to cut taxes without impacting services; details competitive improvements to Port Everglades' Southport Turning Notch, describes how a long-term agreement between the Port and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. will mutually enhance revenues; observes how these improvements helped elevate the Fitch Rating outlook on Port bonds from "stable" to "positive". LaMarca applauds a Broward County Libraries Division program that temporarily enables free internet access for veterans, active military members and their dependents; congratulates ten County departments for winning a record 16 National Association of Counties Achievement Awards; invites participation in the Broward Academy's ten-week educational series that examines the panoply of County Government services; and verifies that a key County E-911 Dispatch upgrade was approved for installation - as 30-year old intermittently operational radios are recycled into bullets and bottle tops.

Tax Break with a Poison Pill

After examining the County Budget process and the Property Appraiser's rosy June 1, 2017 Estimate of Taxable Values, LaMarca suggests benchmarking survival of the recession with a celebratory tax cut. Armed with data drawn from the "FY 18 Tax Supported Funds Update" distributed at the June 6 Broward Budget Workshop, LaMarca shopped his concept to the other County Commissioners.

Not surprisingly, LaMarca's plan failed to resonate with his Commission peers at the June 15 Budget Workshop, where his millage reduction was unilaterally rejected. Undeterred, LaMarca aspires to recruit his District 4 constituents to assist with convincing the Broward Board to reconsider his proposal. His timing might have been better. A few days earlier, Broward Mayor Barbara Sharief returned from Tallahassee, where she lobbied Broward lawmakers to oppose a bill specifically designed by Senator Tom Lee for House Speaker Richard Corcoran to wreak fiscal havoc in Florida's local governments.

House Joint Resolution 7105 (HJR 7105) will place an amendment on the November ballot proposing an additional \$25,000 Homestead Exemption on properties valued from \$100,000 to \$125,000. When queried about his hardline support for the bill, Corcoran clarified that his real objective is to usurp the right of local officials to regulate local issues - maliciously characterizing City and County governments as "wasteful, unaccountable and lazy," (see related commentary accompanying Bruce Roberts' newsletter elsewhere in this edition).

Corcoran has repeatedly stated that Florida legislators better represent the interests of constituents than local governments because "State lawmakers are more responsive to their concerns and less susceptible to special interests." Notwithstanding whether this questionable epiphany was sourced from a California Psychic or some heritable polemic, Corcoran's marginalization of Home Rule is largely anathematic to the Conservative Republican culture in Tallahassee.

When an analysis of the amendment's fiscal impact revealed that it would wholly obliterate the local economies in 29 Florida Counties, lawmakers were forced to file a second bill (HB 7107) that would

serve as a safety net - and replace the lost revenues in those counties. If the measure is approved by the electorate in November, of the estimated \$645 million that would be lost to local governments across the State in 2019, a whopping \$73.5 million would be stripped from Broward County and its 31 municipalities.

Although LaMarca intimates that the 9.3% jump in property values will flesh out a substantial ad valorem dividend, the annual 3% "Save our Homes" tax cap on Homesteaded properties will sharply limit the resulting increase in tax revenues, and preclude local governments from monetizing recovering property values sufficiently to offset the looming deficit.

Given the county's intention to mitigate a shortage with spending cuts instead of a tax increase, Broward Administrator Bertha Henry has already advised the county's constitutional officers to trim their respective budgets. The County Board will soon have to decide where else to drop the budget axe. Traditionally, it begins with programs scheduled to sunset followed by a selective hiring freeze that understandably exempts public safety job titles.

Since one County Commissioner habitually recommends defunding resources in other Commissioners' districts, Galt Mile residents may once again be forced to circle the wagons around the Galt Mile Library. A key destination site for thousands of local residents, this small rented site on a shoestring budget is the only resource provided to the neighborhood in exchange for being one of Broward's largest annual contributors of tax revenue.

Currently working with the Galt Mile Community Association and local Library advocates on a long overdue expansion, LaMarca has helped shield the Library from similar budget-based threats in the past. Should the need arise; he vowed to do so again.

Port Everglades' Largest Expansion Project

The Panama Canal expansion (completed in June 2016) provided faster and cheaper shipping of goods between the United States and Asia while enabling American farmers and manufacturers to better compete with South American and European counterparts, including providers that currently benefit from cheap labor and primitive, low-maintenance infrastructure. The expansion triggered a frenzy of construction by East Coast seaports competing for a piece of the Post-Panamax Golden Goose. Managing the huge ocean going monsters that can now leapfrog between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans is generating huge windfalls for the handful of east coast ports configured to accommodate the 50% wider, 25% longer vessels with 50-foot drafts (AKA post-Panamax).

After 18 years of bumping up against foot-dragging Federal bureaucrats, Congressional gridlock and play for pay politicians while imploring the Army Corps of Engineers to undertake planned improvements, in May of 2015, the Corps finally released its Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement for "Port Everglades Harbor Navigation Study," a prerequisite for implementing three major Master Plan improvements. The plan would deepen Port Everglades' channel from 42 feet to 48 feet (plus two feet of allowable overdepth for a total of 50 feet), widen the channel entrance to allow entering and departing ships to safely skirt by

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vessels docked inside the Port, expand and deepen the Southport turning notch, build 5 new berths, replace any lost mangrove wetlands or coral and add an Intermodal Container Transfer Facility.

Instead of hauling containers to and from off-port rail terminals, or bucking road traffic on the Turnpike or I-95, on July 16, 2014, a public-private partnership funded by the port and the Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) opened an on-site Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF) to enable the seamless transfer of international containers between ship and rail, trimming the time required for bringing goods to market - and vesting the port with a significant competitive advantage over other Florida East Coast ports (like Port Miami).

In Washington D.C., the Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Review Board assesses whether locally approved projects provide national economic and environmental benefits - an eligibility prerequisite for Federal cost-sharing. On February 27, 2015, the Civil Works Review Board vetted the final environmental and economic feasibility studies before unanimously approving an appropriation of \$190 million to the \$374 million total cost of dredging the Port Everglades channel.

On June 26, 2015, Lt. General Thomas P. Bostick of the Army Corps of Engineers signed the Chief of Engineers Report for the Port Everglades improvements, certifying the project as environmentally sound and economically beneficial to the United States. The Chief's Report was a prerequisite for including the project in the 2016 federal legislation authorizing water and navigation-related projects (WRDA 16).

After hammering out a 2016 version of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA 16) in September, Congress passed the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act on December 10, 2016. Signed into law by President Barack Obama on December 16, 2016, the Act provides for the needs of America's harbors, locks, dams, flood protection, and other water resources infrastructure critical to the Nation's economic growth, health, and competitive muscle.

While the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (WRDA 16) is incorporated into Title I of the WIIN Act, Title II includes improvements to drinking water infrastructure around the

country and addresses control of coal combustion residuals, Title III improves water storage and delivery to drought-stricken communities, addresses federal dam maintenance backlogs, and approves water settlement agreements that benefit taxpayers and several Native American jurisdictions.

Most importantly, the Act loosens the Congressional stranglehold on seaport funding, pumping nearly \$16 billion into the Corps' cookie jar for waterways projects. Specifically, the law authorizes 30 USACE "Chief Reports" submitted to Congress since the enactment of the WRDA 2014 bill. Since Lt. General Thomas P. Bostick filed his Chief of Engineers Report on June 26, 2015, Port Everglades is one of the eight new navigation projects that were recommended for funding.

With the ICTF in full swing, Post-Panamax shippers have been flocking to Port Everglades like moths to a flame. As a result, Port Everglades has become berth constrained. Additional dock space for cargo ships is desperately needed, especially as the Port has become Florida's leader for containerized cargo volumes. As observed by LaMarca, the \$437.5 million Southport Turning Notch Expansion (STNE) will lengthen the existing deepwater turn-around area for large cargo ships from 900 feet to 2,400 feet and allow the Port to berth and service five additional monster vessels.

To utilize the existing cranes, the gantry crane rails will be extended to the full length of the enlarged Turning Notch. A separate \$41.4 million agreement to purchase three new Super Post-Panamax container gantry cranes at \$13.8 million apiece, to be delivered in 2019, was approved by the Broward County Commission on June 6 - with an option to purchase three additional cranes during the next 5 years.

Due to the seaport's proximity to Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL), the three new cranes will be specially constructed by Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industries Co., Ltd. Inc. (ZPMC) to meet federal height restrictions. The new low-profile cranes will be capable of handling containers stacked eight units high while reaching across 22 containers on a ship's decks. Port Everglades' existing seven gantry cranes in the Southport area, where the majority of the Port's containerized cargo handling takes place, are limited to containers stacked five units high and can reach out across 16 containers on a ship's deck.

Continued on page 12

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30 	31 Sea Turtle Walk Sebastian Inlet State Park 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Meet at: The Sebastian Fishing Museum (14257 North A1A), Vero Beach Info.: 321-984-4852	1 BINGO Galt Towers Social Room (4250 Galt Ocean Drive) 7:30 p.m. Info.: Cyndi Songer: 954-563-7268 Unleash Your Business Power Business Academy Chamber of Commerce (512 NE 3rd Ave.) 4:30 to 7 p.m. Info.: 954-828-5130	2 BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063 Family Night with the Food Trucks at Sunset Cove Amphitheater (12551 Glades Rd.), Boca 5 to 9 p.m. Info.: nfo@foodtruckinvasion.com
6 Sunday Jazz Brunch Fairchild Tropical Garden 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info.: 954-396-3622 Dwtwn Hollywood Dream Car Classic Hollywood Blvd. between 19th & 20th 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Info.: 954-825-1027	7 	8 BINGO Galt Towers Social Room (4250 Galt Ocean Drive) 7:30 p.m. Info.: Cyndi Songer: 954-563-7268 Council of Ft Lauderdale Civic Associations General Meeting City Hall, 7:30 p.m. Info.: 954-309-2101	9 BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063
13 6 to 10 p.m. Cultural Plaza, Lake Worth Info.: www Soulful Jazz Sundays Gulfstream Park 6 to 9 p.m. Info.: http://www.gulfstreampark.com	14 Food Truck Invasion 6 to 10 p.m. Cultural Plaza, Lake Worth Info.: www.lakeworth.org Commissioner Bruce Roberts: Pre-Agenda Meeting Beach Community Center, 6 p.m. Info.: 954-828-5033	15 BINGO Galt Towers Social Room (4250 Galt Ocean Drive) 7:30 p.m. Info.: Cyndi Songer: 954-563-7268	16 BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063 Hugh Taylor Birch State Park's Sunrise Paddle Ichetucknee River (North Entrance, off Elim Church Rd.) 6:30 a.m. launch Reservations: 386-497-1113
20 7th Annual Animal Adoption Fair War Memorial Auditorium 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Info.: 954-971-4432	21 	22 BINGO Galt Towers Social Room (4250 Galt Ocean Drive) 7:30 p.m. Info.: Cyndi Songer: 954-563-7268 Alzheimer & Dementia Support Broward Health Imperial Point Medical Library 2:30 p.m. Info.: 954-776-8961	23 BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063
27 	28 Demetri Martin Palm Beach Improv, 7:30 p.m. Tix/Info.: 561-833-1812	29 BINGO Galt Towers Social Room (4250 Galt Ocean Drive) 7:30 p.m. Info.: Cyndi Songer: 954-563-7268	30 BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063

AUGUST 4: Starlight Musicals (Brass Evolution), Holiday Park, 7 to 10 p.m., Info.: <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/>

AUGUST 5: Monster Jam, BB&T Center, 1 p.m., Tix/Info.: <http://www.bbtcenter.org>

AUGUST 5: Holidays to Spare! Holiday Mash Up Bowling Tourney, Brunswick Zone Margate Bowling Alley, Margate, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Info.: 954-537-3370

AUGUST 5-6: Dig The Beach Volleyball Pompano Beach, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Info.: 561-241-3801

AUGUST 5-6: South Florida Monster Jam, BB&T Center, Info.: 703-448-4000

AUGUST 8: Unleash Your Business Power Business Academy, Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, 4:30 to 7 p.m., Info.: 954-828-5130

AUGUST 8: Orchid Greenhouse Tour, Bonnet House, 11 a.m. to Noon, Info.: bonnethouse.org

AUGUST 12: Orchid Care Basics, Bonnet House, 10 a.m. to Noon, Info.: bonnethouse.org

AUGUST 12: John Mayer, BB&T Center, 7 p.m., Tix/Info.: <http://www.bbtcenter.org>

AUGUST 12-13: Back 2 School Weekend, Flamingo Gardens, 9:30 to 5 p.m., Info.: 954-473-2955

AUGUST 12-13: Florida Gun & Knife Show, South Florida Fairgrounds in WPB, Info.: 321-777-7455

AUGUST 16: Dog Days, Galleria Mall, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Info.: <http://www.galleriamall-fl.com>

AUGUST 25: Asia America Trade Show, Miami Beach Convention Center, Info.: 305-266-5700

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SEPTEMBER 1-4

Miami Fall Home Design And Remodeling Show
Miami Beach Convention Center (1901 Convention Center Dr.)
Info.: 305-667-9299

SEPTEMBER 3

2017 Labor Day at Tradewinds Park Sprint Triathlon | Duathlon
Tradewinds Park (3600 W. Sample Rd.), Coconut Creek
7:30 a.m.
Info.: 954-213-6699

SEPTEMBER 9

Moonlit Movies
Movie: Pete's Dragon
Jaco Pastorius Park (4000 N. Dixie Highway), Oakland Park
3 p.m.
Info.: 954-630-4507

SEPTEMBER 9

Davie Pro Rodeo
Movie: Pete's Dragon
Davie Pro Rodeo Arena (4271 Davie Rd.), Davie
7:30 p.m.
Info.: 954-680-8005

SEPTEMBER 9

6th Annual Brazilian Beat
Mizner Park Amphitheater (590 Plaza Real), Boca
6 to 11 p.m.
Info.: 561-367-7076

SEPTEMBER 9-17

46th Annual Miami International Auto Show
Miami Beach Convention Center
Info.: 305-981-1448

SEPTEMBER 17

Naked Feet 5K
Fort Lauderdale Beach Park (1100 Seabreeze Blvd.), 8 a.m.
Info.: 402-218-6966

SEPTEMBER 23

3rd Annual Riverwalk Fall Festival
Esplanade Park (32 E Las Olas Blvd.)
Noon to 4 p.m.
Info.: 954-468-1541 Ext. 205

<p>3</p> <p>Art of Wine & Food Series (Wine & Chocolate: How Sweet It Is) NSU Art Museum (1 Las Olas Blvd.) 6 to 8 p.m. Info.: 954-525-5500</p>	<p>4</p> <p>First Friday Food Trucks Flamingo Gardens 5 to 9 p.m. Info.: www.flamingogardens.org</p> <p>Friday Night SoundWaves Performer: Celebration Ft Lauderdale Beach Hub (Las Olas & A1A) 6 to 9 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Soul Bowl Bowling Tournament Strikes @ Boca (21046 Commercial Trail), Boca, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info.: 954-564-3512</p> <p>Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Drop-off Events 4300 NW 36th St, Lauderdale Lakes 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info.: 954-828-8000</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Friday Night SoundWaves Performer: Andrew Morris Band Ft Lauderdale Beach Hub (Las Olas & A1A) 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>3rd Thursdays Green Turtle Plaza, LBTS 5 to 8 p.m. Info.: 954-909-2200</p>	<p>12</p> <p>South Florida Tattoo Expo (Through 8/13) Coral Springs Marriott (11775 Heron Bay Blvd.) Info.: 954-868-7040</p> <p>Extreme Kayak Fishing Summer SLAM Series Pompano Beach Fishing Pier and Public Beach 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info.: joe@extremekayakfishing.com</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Friday Night SoundWaves Performer: Big Harvest Ft Lauderdale Beach Hub (Las Olas & A1A) 6 to 9 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Morning Training Gulfstream Park 8 to 11 a.m. Info.: 954-457-6284</p> <p>Downtown Hollywood Artwalk, Market & Mural Tour 1945 Hollywood Blvd. Info.: 954-924-2980</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Gilbert Gottfried (Through 8/26) Palm Beach Improv Tix/Info.: 561-833-1812</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Friday Night SoundWaves Performer: Grace & The Victory Riders Ft Lauderdale Beach Hub (Las Olas & A1A) 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>Hispanic Women of Distinction Signature Grand (6900 State Road 84, Davie) 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info.: 709-1622</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Int'l Ballet Festival of Miami Hispanic Cultural Center for the Arts of Miami Times vary Info.: 305-549-7711</p> <p>Gateway Classic Cars Cars & Coffee Gateway Classic Cars of Ft Lauderdale (4020 NW 1 26 Ave., Coral Springs) 9 a.m. to Noon Info.: 954-227-4202</p>
<p>31</p>	<p>FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS, GO TO THE CALENDAR AT WWW.GALTMILE.COM</p>	

First Saturday of Every Month: Beach Cleanup, Commercial Blvd. & the Beach LBTS (Meet at Pavilion), 9 to 9:30 a.m., Info.: 954-776-1000

First Saturday of Every Month: North Beach Art Walk, 3280 NE 32nd St, 7 to 11 p.m., Info.: 954-537-3370

Second Saturday of Every Month: Beach Sweep, Fort Lauderdale Beach Park, 1100 Seabreeze Blvd., 7 to 11 a.m., Info.: 954-593-8501

Second Saturday of Every Month: Burlock Coast Farmer's Market, Burlock Coast at the The Ritz-Carlton, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Info.: myfortlauderdalebeach.com

Second Tuesday of Every Month: Orchid Greenhouse Tours, Bonnet House, 11 a.m. to Noon, Info.: 954-703-2606

Mondays: Food Trucks at ArtsPark, 5:30 to 10 p.m., Youngs Circle in Hollywood

Thursdays: BHIP Farmer's Market, Broward Health Imperial Point Medical Arts Pavilion (633 N Federal Hwy.), 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sundays: Tour-the River Ghost Tour, Stranahan House & Water Taxi, 7:30 p.m., Tix.: 954-524-4736

Sundays: Las Olas Sunday Market, 333 East Las Olas Blvd. & SE 4th Ave., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Info.: 954-426-8436

Saturdays: Saturday Night Under the South Florida Stars, Fox Astronomical Observatory at Markham Park, Sunset to Midnight, Info.: 954-384-0442

Daily: Yoga on the Beach, Ocean Manor Resort (4040 Galt Ocean Dr.), 9:30 a.m. (weather permitting), Mats supplied, \$10 donation, Open to the Public, Info.: 754-701-0197 or 516-840-1455

It was originally anticipated that deepening the channel would spur a sufficient increase in Post-Panamax traffic to warrant comparably enhanced berthing and cargo management capabilities. To clarify why the project was expedited, Port Everglades Chief Executive and Port Director Steve Cernak explained, "Cargo ships are getting larger and several shipping lines already coming to Port Everglades from Europe and South America need Super Post-Panamax cranes now. The longer we wait, the higher the price, in addition to increasing our chances of losing important business. We cannot afford to wait until our harbor deepening and widening project is completed because the cranes are needed now." In short, the Port has become a victim of its own success.

*This two-part expansion project is the most expensive capital improvement agreement awarded in Port Everglades' history. "Moss/Kiewit" – a joint venture of Moss & Associates and Kiewit Infrastructure South Co. – has been named the managing general contractor for the STNE and Southport Crane Infrastructure Improvements project. The STNE is projected to yield a \$10.7 billion annual increase in economic activity related to the Port, and create 2,227 construction jobs in the near term and 5,529 regional jobs by 2027 when it is expected to be fully utilized at its maximum capacity. Read the June 2017 LaMarca Letter in its entirety elsewhere in this edition. – [editor]**



Chip LaMarca's

JUNE 2017 Newsletter

the taxable value of the property by the millage rate and divide by 1,000.

In the month of June, the Broward County Property Appraiser was able to provide the Board of County Commissioners with preliminary numbers for the County's taxable value. These numbers are then finalized in July. The preliminary June 1st estimate provided by the Property Appraiser for FY 2018 is \$177.3 billion. After adjustments by the Value Adjustment Board, this is a 9.3 percent increase from FY 2017. The overall General Fund Outlook as of June 2017 is a maximum appropriation increase of 6.3 percent for operations if there is no millage rate reduction. However, as your County Commissioner, it has been my goal to cut your taxes. To do this I have always advocated for the need to reduce the millage rate for Broward County residents. Looking at the FY 2018 budget, it will require a \$9.5 million reduction from property-tax supported budgets to reduce the millage rate by 1 percent. Providing I have the support of the rest of the County Commission, this reduction will still provide Broward County Government with sufficient funds to run the necessary services for our residents while also providing a financial relief for residents in Broward County.

Dear Broward County Residents,

I am honored to serve as your county commissioner, representing our coastal communities from Deerfield Beach to Fort Lauderdale and all of the amazing communities in between. Here are some recent highlights from around Broward County.

Preliminary Budget Forecast for Fiscal Year 2018

Broward County's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget is well underway, and discussions have already begun for the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget. The County Commission began initial discussions in March and will proceed through a series of workshops that culminate with two public hearings in September. At that time, the Operating Budget, Capital Budget and Five-Year Capital Program will be adopted and the new fiscal year will begin in October 2017.

One of the largest contributors to the County's overall budget is ad valorem property taxes. The Broward County Property Appraiser establishes the value of property and exemptions and also prepares and certifies the tax roll. The Board of County Commissioners, and other taxing authorities, set the millage rates, which are the rates at which property is taxed. In order to calculate a property tax rate, you can multiply

UPDATE: At our recent June 15th Budget Workshop, no other County Commissioner was willing to join me in reducing the millage rate even slightly as described above. There will be additional budget meetings when the County Commission comes back from summer recess. If you agree with me that we should reduce the impact of property taxes on Broward County property owners, then you may want to reach out to the other County Commissioners and let them know your concerns. Remember that we ALL represent you in local government.

Port Everglades Update

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved a \$437.5 million expansion project to add new berths for larger cargo ships and install crane rail infrastructure for new Super Post-Panamax Cranes. The Southport Turning Notch Expansion project will lengthen the existing deep water turn-around area for cargo ships from approximately 900 feet to 2,400 feet, which will allow for up to five new cargo ship berths. The existing gantry crane rails will be extended to the full length of the extended Turning Notch berth to utilize the existing cranes.



The County Commission also recently approved a long-term agreement with Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. (RCCL) replacing the current RCCL agreement, which expires at the end of 2017 and continues through September 2026. The agreement includes the investment of more than \$100 million for a complete makeover of Cruise Terminal 25, which is the preferential berth for RCCL. This will allow for the Port to build a facility that meets RCCL's expectations for the new generations of larger cruise ships.

In other Port related news, Fitch Ratings recently affirmed the 'A' rating on Broward County's Port Everglades outstanding \$167 million port facilities senior revenue and refunding bonds while also providing a revised Rating Outlook from Stable to Positive. This Positive Outlook is great news for Broward County as it reflects the expectation that the Port will continue to demonstrate strong financial performance in terms of coverage and leverage. Additionally, it reflects an anticipation that the Port will maintain its diverse maritime operations and increasing revenue growth.

Emergency Radio Upgrade

Since consolidation of the new Regional 911 system in October 2014, Broward County has initiated many projects and system upgrades to improve and enhance the performance of public safety response in Broward County. Most recent, the Board of County Commissioners voted to invest nearly \$60 million to replace a 30 year old public safety radio system. The system will be replaced in 2018 with one of the most advanced systems in the industry, a Motorola P25 system. The new system will improve communication between responding units during an emergency as well as with federal, state and regional agencies.

New Library Program Provides Free Wi-Fi Hotspots to Veterans

The Broward County Libraries Division recently launched an innovative initiative in conjunction with T-Mobile that provides 450 free Wi-Fi hotspots to local veterans, active military members and their dependents. The Veterans Connect Hotspots Program provides unlimited access to T-Mobile's 4G LTE network and increased access to information and technology for their users. The free hotspots will be loaned for one month to veterans, active military members and their dependents with valid military identification cards. Users then have the option to renew the loan three more times.

Many veterans have difficulty transitioning to civilian life. This program will now better assist veterans by encouraging education, self-development and career advancement through technology. In addition, the program encourages the use of Broward County Libraries' vast resources and services by members of the military community. Veterans, active military members and their dependents interested in participating in the Veterans Connect Hotspot Program will be able to check out the free hotspots at nine Broward County Library locations valid military identification.

For more information, please call 954-357-7444 or visit Broward.org/Library/Veterans.

Broward County Receives Awards

The National Association of Counties (NACo) recently awarded Broward County with 16 Achievement Awards. The annual awards recognize innovative, effective county government programs that enhance services for residents in a variety of areas. Several County divisions were recognized specifically for initiatives that promote environmental preservation and conservation, improvements in customer services, programs that help pets and persons experiencing homelessness, and internal activities relating to purchasing, risk management and employee communications. The award winning divisions are: the Human Resource Division, Libraries Division, Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division, Records, Taxes and Treasury Division, Enterprise Technology Services Division, Animal Care and Adoption Division, Purchasing Division, Public Works, Transportation Department and the Risk Management Division.

Broward County Academy

Class VI of the Broward County Academy will begin in just a few

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months and applications are now being accepted. The goal of the Academy is to increase resident involvement in local government, improve communication with the community, inform the community on the role, structure and complexity of County government, encourage community participation in volunteer opportunities, and build potential community leaders. The 2017 Academy sessions will begin on Tuesday, September 12th followed by nine consecutive Thursdays from 6-9PM concluding with graduation ceremonies on November 16th. The deadline to apply is Friday, July 14th. Applications for the Broward County Academy are available by clicking the link below, by emailing BrowardAcademy@Broward.org, or calling the Broward County Office of Public Communications at 954-357-6990. For more information please visit Broward County Academy.

The Resident's Guide to Government provides a convenient resource to help people stay connected to their local government. It includes contact information for County officials and Federal, State, and local agencies. Visitors can subscribe to E-news and social media sites. Please sign up at www.Broward.org/District4 to receive email updates from our office. If there is anything that we can do to assist you with your vision for a better Broward, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 954-357-7004 or by email at clamarca@broward.org.

As always, it is my honor to serve you.

Best regards,

Chip

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7 Deadly Mistakes That Will Cost You Thousands When You SELL Your Galt Ocean Mile Home

Ft Lauderdale - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't

get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get

Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free:

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JUNE/JULY 2017 Newsletter



MIAMI, FORT LAUDERDALE RANK AS TOP "BUY" MARKETS FOR RETAIL ASSETS (as reported in the RealDeal):

As the nation's retail market struggles amid store closings and mounting pressure from online shopping, South Florida stands out as a top market for retail assets, according to a newly released report. Ten-X's Retail Market Outlook ranked Miami as the top long-term "buy" market, based on demand, followed by Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Austin and Tampa. In Miami, retail vacancies dropped by 0.05 percent to 5.7 percent at the end of last year. Rents averaged \$23.37, and are projected to rise to \$25.79 by 2020, according to the report. Fort Lauderdale retail vacancies fell to 8.9 percent last year, with rents averaging \$17.86. Rents in Fort Lauderdale are forecast to rise to \$20.20 in 2020. Overall, retail vacancies were 9.9 percent nationwide at the close of 2016 and are projected to remain at that level in 2020.

SUN TROLLEY CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY:

In 1992, the transit service launched with Lolly the Trolley. Today, it's fully modernized with a new Tracker App that lets customers track each bus in real time; an updated website and a 24/7 customer service hotline. Riders run the gamut from snowbirds who spend a few months in town to locals who take the trolley to work. The nonprofit LifeNet4Families depends on it to deliver meals to the needy. Its busiest route - based on ridership per hour - is the airport link. Folks ride between Fort Lauderdale's international airport and the city's historic arts and entertainment district downtown. Additionally, the free on-demand Riverwalk Water Trolley ferries riders to eight points around the channel and to the Las Olas shopping and

restaurant row. Folks can call the hotline and take the option to speak with the captain for personalized service. In the future, the association plans to start guided tours for visitors. Areas under consideration include the developing Flagler Village Arts and Technology District.

PROPOSED CANAL CLEANING ASSESSMENT: The City of Fort Lauderdale owns 57 miles of navigable canals that require periodic dredging to remain navigable. In an effort to improve the level of service to our neighbors and maintain property values, we are considering implementing a proactive program to dredge City-owned canals on a seven-year cycle. The first two years of each seven year cycle of the dredging program would consist of surveying the condition of the City-owned canal system, prioritizing the dredging program for the upcoming five years, and designing and permitting of the canal dredging plan. During each year of the dredging plan, the canals to be dredged that year would be surveyed again to verify the current conditions prior to commencing dredging. A canal must also be surveyed after dredging to confirm that the construction work authorized was completed according to the specifications set during the design stage and shown in the plans.

FUNDING NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS: Implementing a proactive canal dredging program will incur costs associated with surveying, permitting and dredging. In order to fund the associated dredging costs, the City is considering an annual assessment for properties along the City-owned navigable canals. An ongoing dredging program could benefit property owners by maintaining access to the navigable canal and preserving property values. The assessment would be based on the number of linear feet of private property that front a City-owned canal. Only the cost of dredging navigable canals will be included in the assessment - the cost of dredging non-navigable drainage canals will be funded through the City's stormwater program.

For more information you can visit www.fortlauderdale.gov/canal. As part of the public input, please email or call us with your viewpoint on this issue.

ESTIMATED IMPACT OF APPROVED HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION BILL: As you may be aware, the Florida House voted 83-35 to put a constitutional amendment on the 2018 ballot that would allow homeowners to shield an additional \$25,000 of the value of their home from most property taxes. The additional exemption would not apply to taxes charged by school districts. The Senate approved the measure (HB 7105) in April. The measure calls for the average homestead exemption to jump to \$75,000 from \$50,000 on the first \$125,000 of a home's taxable value. The measure must be approved by at least 60 percent of voters to take effect. As a proposed statewide amendment to Florida's constitution, it cannot be vetoed by Governor Rick Scott. If approved by voters, this would apply to over 25,000 parcels in the City and the estimated annual revenue loss at the current millage rate would be \$2.5 million or 2.1% of the city's current ad valorem revenues. I will keep you updated as time goes on.

RECOGNIZING PARTICIPANTS OF THE FIRST NEIGHBOR LEADERSHIP ACADEMY: Office of Neighbor Support recognized the participants in the first City of Fort Lauderdale's Neighbor Leadership Academy Class at a Commission Meeting. The goal of the Neighbor Leadership Academy is to build community leaders. The first 20 participants in the Neighbor Leadership Academy are from all four Districts and were selected in conjunction with the Council of Civic Associations. The participants are ready to put their learned skills into action and will be organizing a Meet Your Neighbor Block Party in September 2017 as part of a Community Service Project. Each participant was presented with a City of Fort Lauderdale's Neighbor Leadership Academy Certificate and a Neighbor Support Pin in recognition of their participation. The following people represented District 1:

Peter Cooper, Coral Ridge Country Club
Roy Grimsland, Coral Ridge

Laura Depenbrock, Imperial Point
Diana Hanford, Knoll Ridge

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DISTRICT ONE PARTICIPANTS!

RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUNRISE BOULEVARD BETWEEN THE SEARSTOWN AND GATEWAY SHOPPING PLAZAS:

The Florida Department of Transportation, District 4, Planning and Environmental Management Office (FOOT) recently completed a planning study focused on improving traffic operations and safety along SR 838/Sunrise Boulevard between SR-5/US-1 at Searstown Shopping Plaza and the Gateway Shopping Plaza. Under existing conditions, the corridor is operating at capacity with heavy vehicular congestion and queues throughout the day. By year 2040, traffic volumes are expected to increase up to 66,500 vpd (vehicles per day). In general, existing intersection delays can be expected to double and vehicular

queues are expected to increase up to 34% at the critical left-turn movements. More notable, the existing triple eastbound left-turn lane at US 1/Gateway will exceed its capacity and significant delay and queues are expected. FDOT recommends the following improvements to address existing and expected conditions:

- **Corridor wide Improvements:** Includes upgrades to crosswalk ramps and sidewalks within the project limits to comply with ADA requirements, and signage modifications and additional pavement marking at specific locations.
- **Sunrise Boulevard at US 1/Searstown:** Improving the operations of the intersection by constructing an additional westbound left-turning lane (provides queue reduction of 28%) and installing a queue detection system on the eastbound direction. The queue detection system will be designed to relieve eastbound stopped traffic if queues reach a point close to the railroad tracks.
- **Sunrise Boulevard at NE 15th eastbound direction:** Install a dynamic lane system for the eastbound direction. It consists of the use of the inside through lane to be converted to a shared through/left by using a dynamic display signal creating an effective dual left-turn lane which will operate during peak hours only. It includes widening in the north approach to receive the dual lanes.
- **Sunrise Boulevard at US 1/Gateway:** Convert the existing signalized intersection to a multilane roundabout with an eastbound to northbound grade separated movement. This proposed 'flyover' ramp carries traffic destined to US 1 northbound relieving the at-grade movements. The combined improvements are expected to reduce delays by up to 58% during the peak hours. In addition, the roundabout conversion is expected to reduce the total intersection crashes by 44% based on nationwide studies and creates fewer pedestrian conflicts with less crossing distance. Bicyclists were considered in the roundabout concept for the Sunrise Boulevard intersection at Gateway. Bicycles are accommodated in the proposed design by providing a bike ramp from the roadway to a multiuse path around the circle.

A Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the improvements recommended above is proposed as an addition to the 2018/2019 Multimodal Surface Transportation Priorities List which will enable the programming of future available funds through the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization's 5-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as well as the Florida Department of Transportation's Draft Tentative Work Plan. The PD&E will further evaluate the recommendations listed above to determine the associated social, economic, natural and physical environmental impacts in order to develop the best solution for the multimodal, operational and congestion management challenges in this area. If you would like the entire memo and drawing attachment, let Robbi know and she will email it to you.

OFFICE CONTACT: Robbi Uptegrove – 954-828-5033; email: ruptegrove@fortlauderdale.gov

In addition to hosting two pre-agenda meetings twice a month, I am also available to attend your HOA meetings to update your neighborhood on what is going on in the City as well as answer any questions/concerns you may have. Please contact Robbi to schedule.

EMAIL LIST: If you would like to be on our email list so that you receive information pertaining to the City – especially District 1 (i.e. news releases, meeting notices, events), please let Robbi know and she will add you. •

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A surgeon in blue scrubs and a surgical cap is operating a da Vinci surgical system. The system's console, labeled 'da Vinci Xi SURGICAL SYSTEM', is in the foreground. The surgeon's hands are on the controls. In the background, other surgical team members are visible, and the operating room is brightly lit with overhead lights.

The surgery of the future is here. Broward Health Imperial Point offers a wide range of minimally invasive surgical services, including single-site incisions.

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