



Dear Residents,

It is an honor and privilege to be your voice and to represent you, the citizens of our coastal communities from Deerfield Beach to Fort Lauderdale. As your County Commissioner, I look forward to continuing to improve our resident's quality of life by focusing on several key issues in our community. Here are some recent headlines from around the County.

### **Spring Break**

It is Spring Break in our beautiful District 4 communities and as you may have already noticed hundreds of tourists are enjoying our beautiful spring weather this month. Florida is one of the most popular spring break vacation destinations in the United States, and there's more than just warm weather and white sand. I happily welcome all visitors to our community this month to enjoy the many different activities Broward County has to offer.

As tourists and residents enjoy the amenities of our community, I encourage you to recognize all the helpful and courteous hospitality industry employees', including; valets, lifeguards, housekeepers, taxi drivers, servers, baggage handlers and all the amazing people in the hospitality industry. Tourism in Broward County creates new jobs and contributes to our economic vitality. Approximately 14 million people a year visit Broward County and spend \$11.4 billion in the local economy. Our 26 miles of beaches generate more than \$548 million annually in economic activity. I want to thank all the visitors and residents (staycationers) that help contribute to Broward County's economy.

### **Sea Turtle Nesting Season**

March 1<sup>st</sup> was the official start of the sea turtle nesting season in Broward County. During this season, adult females emerge from the ocean at night to lay their nests and use natural light from the moon and stars to orient back to the water. Unfortunately, artificial lighting near the beach can disrupt this process and cause turtles to become disoriented. To reduce the amount of artificial lighting reaching the beach in Broward, local coastal municipalities enforce lighting ordinances during sea turtle nesting season, March 1st - October 31st. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation (FWC) Commission has established the following criteria for "sea turtle-friendly" lighting; keep fixtures low, keep fixtures shielded from the beach; and have long wavelength bulbs.

If you live or have a business by the beach you can visit the links below, which provide resources for "sea turtle-friendly" lighting.

- [The FWC Criteria for "Sea Turtle-Friendly" Lighting](#)
- [Local Coastal Municipalities Lighting Ordinances](#)
- [The FWC List of Certified Fixtures](#)

For more information, please visit [Broward.org/NaturalResources/BeachandMarine/SeaTurtles](http://Broward.org/NaturalResources/BeachandMarine/SeaTurtles).

## Property Taxes Due

Your 2018 Property taxes are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and the County's Tax Collector's Office will once again offer Express Drop-Off Service for tax payments on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> and Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 10AM to 4PM at the rear entrance on Brickell Avenue of the County's Main Government Center, 115 S. Andrews Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

To submit tax payments by Express Drop-Off service on March 29th and April 1st:

- Payments must be made by check only (personal or certified), no cash or credit card payments can be made at the Express Drop-Off. All checks must be in US Funds, issued by a US Bank Account.
- Payments must be for current 2018 tax bills only. No delinquent tax payments can be accepted.
- You must have your 2018 current tax bill with you. Your bill will be stamped and returned to you as proof of your payment receipt.
- Only full payment of the March amount due will be accepted. No partial payments can be accepted.

To submit payments before the Express Drop-Off service dates property tax payments can be made by the following methods:

- Online payments at [broward.county-taxes.com](http://broward.county-taxes.com)
- Using your bank's Online Bill Pay Service
- Mailing a check payable to Broward County Tax Collector, Processing Center, P.O. Box 849375, Hollywood, FL 33084-9375
- In person at the Broward County Tax & License Office, Governmental Center, 115 S. Andrews Ave., Room A-100, Fort Lauderdale, 8:30AM to 5PM, Monday through Friday; all forms of payment are accepted
- At any Wells Fargo Bank Branch located in Broward County

For more information, call 311 or 954-831-4000, or visit [Broward.org/RecordsTaxesTreasury](http://Broward.org/RecordsTaxesTreasury).

## Broward County Libraries

Library customers can now borrow MERGE Virtual Reality Headsets in District 4 at the Deerfield Beach Percy White Branch Library, located at 837 E Hillsboro Blvd, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441 and at the Pompano Beach Library, located at 50 W Atlantic Boulevard, Pompano Beach, FL 33060. Broward County Library and MERGE, the leader in augmented and virtual reality learning products, now let library customers check out and take-home MERGE AR/VR (Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality) Headsets for use in conjunction with the MERGE Cube. The MERGE Cubes and MERGE Headsets bring 3D content to life and users can access over 300 kid-safe VR and 360 video experiences from sources such as NASA, National Geographic, Disney Google and even your Android or iOS smartphones. The MERGE Headsets are available at 9 Broward County Library locations as part of a unique pilot program. For more information on all the wonderful things going on in our Broward County Libraries, please visit [Broward.org/library](http://Broward.org/library).

Once again, I'd like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as your County Commissioner. Please sign up at [Broward.org/Commission/District4](http://Broward.org/Commission/District4) to receive email updates from our office. You can also follow me on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/) and like my [Facebook](https://facebook.com/) page. 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 [LFisher@broward.org](mailto:LFisher@broward.org).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Fisher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lamar P. Fisher  
County Commissioner  
District 4