

GALT MILE NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GMCA
APRIL 2019

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EDITOR'S COMMENTARY: Heather Moraitis' FEBRUARY 2019 Newsletter

By Eric Berkowitz

**District 1 City Commissioner Heather Moraitis' February 2019 Newsletter speaks to a collaborative process used by the City Commission, the City Manager, and department works to formulate spending plan priorities. To ensure that the City remains responsive to an evolving operational environment, the City Commission identifies and incorporates significant initiatives into The Commission Annual Action Plan (CAAP) for the fiscal year. The initiatives are thoroughly vetted by teams of City staffers who define project parameters and estimate required funding. These initiatives are then incorporated into the annual Operating Budget and Community Investment Plan (CIP).*

At the heart of this effort is the annual Commission Prioritization and Goal Setting Workshop, which took place on January 17 & 18, 2019, and distinguished critical objectives for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. To maintain the plan's relevance, the impacts of ongoing departmental cross-collaboration and quarterly progress reports are also passed to the City Commission. Why should we care? The taxes and rates we pay will fund these projects, either directly or through the repayment of bond obligations.

*Affordable Housing & the Homeless
Some of the initiatives characterized as "Top Priorities" have special relevance for the Galt Mile. Since the Galt Mile is unfortunately still earmarked as a lucrative squeeze toy for the homeless, it has also attracted those who prey on them, predators who also threaten our families. A City initiative to expand homeless outreach services was developed in conjunction with a new*

county-wide collaborative plan to end homelessness. While the Affordable Housing initiative is a key element to Broward's "Housing First" homeless plan, it will also help fill the nation's most egregious workforce housing gap, while benefitting cash-strapped families and the disabled.

*Sidewalks Policy
An initiative to revise the City's sidewalks policy might address two complaints by the neighborhood association. Due to the City's intermittent enforcement of color and structural sidewalk panel specifications mandated by Building Services design review, Galt Mile sidewalks have become a patchwork quilt fraught with tripping hazards. Following years of abuse by scofflaw contractors, it would be less expensive to simply replace the existing sidewalks than to replace hundreds of individual non-compliant panels.*

Additionally, the proliferation of electric scooters in Fort Lauderdale has proven anathematic in certain communities. Especially in neighborhoods with roads too narrow for a dedicated bike lane, a predisposition to cruise local sidewalks endangers elderly pedestrians who are understandably ill-equipped to dive for cover. Hundreds of Galt Mile residents have contacted the City and the neighborhood association, requesting a local scooter ban – mirroring prohibitions in Hollywood and Lauderdale-by-the-Sea. Similar concerns expressed in other City neighborhoods, and a growing number of serious accidents, have placed this issue on the City Commission's front burner.

*Infrastructure Recovery
Fearful of how increasing the millage might taint their political legacies, for decades, City Administrations neglected*



sewers, water treatment and distribution venues, and storm drains. The neglect extended to roads, sidewalks, seawalls, parks, municipal structures (i.e. FLPD Headquarters, City Hall, etc.), canals, wellfields, bridges, and other municipal infrastructure.

Instead of adapting inadequate infrastructure to meet the exigencies of advanced deterioration, economic expansion and population growth, Commissioners limited allocations to repairing catastrophic failures in aging sewers, storm drains and water lines originally built to service the city's population when it was a fraction of its current size.

Repeated City assurances of infrastructure sufficiency were belied by the increasing frequency of exploding water mains, sewer failures and backflowing storm drains that engulfed entire neighborhoods in salt-water ponds. Despite the specter of infrastructure collapse, water and sewer funds were annually hijacked and used to balance the budget.

Unprecedented public pressure forced the City to empanel an infrastructure task force, and quantify the impact of other chronic maintenance failures. Official findings confirmed that the City's future functionality would minimally cost \$1.4 billion to salvage heavily eroded infrastructure, \$1 billion for stormwater improvements, and roughly another half \$billion to upgrade roads, seawalls, sidewalks, bridges, etc. Whether financed through bond issues or direct levy, taxpayers and ratepayers will have to cough up roughly \$3 billion to help secure the City's future. The Utility Infrastructure initiative addresses those aspects of the projects that are planned for completion in the next fiscal year.

The Green Slime Initiative

Last September, toxic foul-smelling blue-green algae blooms were discovered in Intracoastal canals near Annie Beck Park and the Las Olas Isles neighborhood. Caused by discharges of excess water from Lake Okeechobee, the blooms feed on nitrogen from lawn fertilizers and pet waste and draw oxygen from the water. Toxic cyanobacteria that thrive in the bloom kill marine life and afflict people with respiratory and other health problems.

When Governor Rick Scott declared a state of emergency in seven counties due to the algae last July, he included West Palm Beach but omitted Broward. After performing more than a dozen tests in Fort Lauderdale, a Florida Department of Environmental Protection report advised "Results to date for this specific sampling indicate low levels of toxins." However, given the State's failure to prevent red algae on the west coast from covering local beaches with dead sea life, the City will launch its own prevention and mitigation initiatives. Read Commissioner Heather Moraitis' February 2019 newsletter elsewhere in this edition. - [editor]*

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From the Desk of Commissioner **HEATHER MORAITIS**

By Heather Moraitis

Planning for the Future!

One of the most important duties the Commission annually undertakes is setting the City's strategic priorities for each fiscal year. This collaborative process is an essential planning component to help ensure we are focusing on what is most important to our neighbors. It is also a key element that guides the preparation of our annual budget to make sure proper funding and resources are being allocated to support our goals.

This year, the Commission agreed to meet in January in order to get a head start on identifying these important objectives. The 2019-2020 Commission Prioritization and Goal Setting Workshop took place over a two-day period, January 17 and 18, and included extensive discussions on a wide range of topics affecting our City. After much deliberation, the following items were identified as our top priorities for the upcoming fiscal year.

Top Priorities:

• **Affordable Housing: Incentives**

Focus on developing incentives to encourage developers to construct more affordable housing in our community.

• **Water Quality and Algae Blooms**

Test and monitor our waterways to determine sources of algae blooms, provide mitigation strategies, and educate the public on preventative actions.

• **Homelessness Response and Action Plan**

Build upon programs to assist the homeless including community court, rapid rehousing, reunification, food repatriation, day respite centers, and other permanent housing solutions.

• **Critical City Infrastructure: Utilities**

Strengthen our critical utility infrastructure by implementing a comprehensive, citywide plan investing over \$460 million in water and sewer projects.

• **Stormwater Management Master Plan: Implementation**

Carry out a comprehensive plan to provide and construct solutions for stormwater challenges.

• **Sidewalk Policy: Review**

Review the sidewalk policy and make recommendations for improvements.

With guidance from the City Manager, staff will further define the scope of these priorities, and identify resources, milestones and deliverables for each initiative. The priorities will be incorporated into the City Commission Annual Action Plan and integrated into the City's Annual Operating Budget and Community Investment Plan. Updates on the progress being made toward achieving each goal will be provided to the City Commission throughout Fiscal Year 2020.

I look forward to sharing periodic updates on our progress toward achieving each goal. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please give me a call at 954-828-5033 or send me an e-mail at hmoraitis@fortlauderdale.gov.

Please Join Us for a Pre-Agenda Meeting

April 1: Beach Community Center (3351 NE 33rd Ave.), 6 to 7 p.m.

April 15: George English Park Community Center (1101 Bayview Dr.), 6 to 7 p.m.

Apply Today to Serve on a District 1 Advisory Board

The following boards are available to serve on for District 1:

- Cemetery System Board of Trustees
- Community Appearance Board
- Education Advisory Board
- Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee

If you are interested, please apply online.

Feel free to contact our office or Erica Franceschi at EFranceschi@fortlauderdale.gov or 954-828-5288 for any questions.

For More Information

Sign-up for Email Updates/Newsletters to get additional links to important city information, upcoming events, photos, commission agendas and meeting reminders for district meetings. Please contact District 1 Assistant Melissa Coningsby, MConingsby@fortlauderdale.gov or 954-828-5033, to receive emails or to schedule an appointment.

Follow Commissioner Moraitis on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn [@heathermoraitis](https://www.linkedin.com/company/heathermoraitis)



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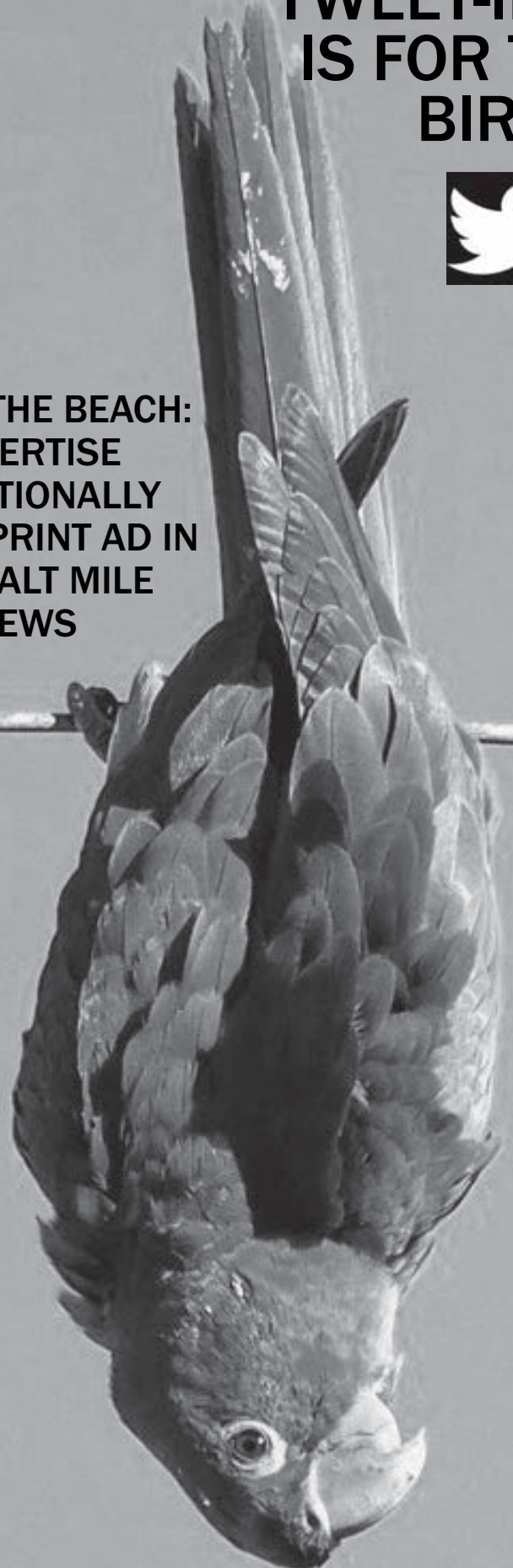
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EDITOR'S COMMENTARY

State Rep. Chip LaMarca's FEBRUARY 2019 Newsletter

By Eric Berkowitz

EDITOR'S COMMENTARY

**In his February 2019 update, District 93 Florida House Representative Chip LaMarca reviews his inaugural legislative output. Despite the constraints placed on rookie lawmakers and a long-standing tradition of carrying water for the legislative leadership, LaMarca still managed to sponsor House Bill 325 - entitled "Coastal Management". While fighting to realize the Segment II Beach Renourishment, LaMarca had to circumvent funding roadblocks in Washington DC and Tallahassee. LaMarca also clarifies his position on the controversial mandate forcing associations to retrofit a costly ELSS.*

Beach Management Funding Fiasco
The Land Acquisition Trust Fund was supported by every Florida Governor since its 1963 inception - until former Governor Rick Scott began gutting appropriations to virtually every State environmental program, and blocked revenues to the LATF. When he quashed funding for the enforcement of safe drinking water standards, angry Florida voters approved Constitutional Amendment 1 in 2014, restoring a funding source for the State's Land Acquisition Trust Fund that the Governor couldn't molest.

Although Constitutionally charged with crafting an equitable system for distributing beach maintenance resources collected in the Land Acquisition Trust, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) instead devised a politically-driven ranking system from hell.

From 2012 to 2016, FDEP channeled one-third of Florida's beach renourishment funds (\$52 million of \$149.5 million) to the five counties represented by former House Speaker Steve Crisafulli (R - Merritt Island) and then Senate President Joe Negron (R - Stuart). This 4-year insider pork-fest left less than an average \$20 million annually to reverse the effects of tidal erosion along Florida's entire oceanfront - the nation's second longest State coastline (after Alaska).

Fixing a Broken Beach Wallet
As the sole Republican on the Broward Board of County Commissioners, Chip LaMarca was annually charged with carrying the County's legislative wish list to Republican Tallahassee, which typically included a plan to create an equitable funding vehicle for beach projects in Broward and Florida's other 8,430 miles of eroding coastline.

To stop FDEP from bartering beach funds for political capital, in 2017, LaMarca teamed with Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association President Debbie Flack, and recruited former Representative George Moraitis (R - Fort Lauderdale) in the House, and former Senator Jack Latvala (R-Clearwater), who Chaired the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee in the other chamber.

In 2017, Latvala sponsored Senate Bill 1590 - Coastal Management, which would revise how

Florida prioritizes beach and inlet projects while annually cloistering \$50 million to rehabilitate eroded beaches. While Latvala's bill was unanimously approved in the Senate, George Moraitis' companion House Bill 1213 died on the calendar while awaiting a hearing in its final vetting committee.

Early in the following year's 2018 legislative session, an undeterred Latvala refiled his Coastal Management legislation as Senate Bill 174, and Moraitis again filed a companion as House Bill 131. Although Latvala's bill quickly revived the previous year's unanimous approval in the Senate, when Latvala later became embroiled in a sex scandal that led to his resignation, powerful former House Speaker Richard Corcoran slammed Latvala, and Moraitis' bill faded into oblivion.

Having relentlessly supported this beach funding fix, when LaMarca won the District 93 Statehouse seat vacated by a term-limited Moraitis, he reincarnated the twice-failed Coastal Management bill as House Bill 325 on January 17, 2019. A few days later, Senator Debbie Mayfield (R - Melbourne) filed a companion Senate Bill 446 on January 23, 2019.

LaMarca's objective hasn't changed - to unlock resources for a series of beach projects planned to stabilize the entire Broward coast - including intermittent emergency fills at storm-damaged Segment II hot spots along the Galt Mile beach.

LaMarca on ELSS
LaMarca is also aware of a priority legislative concern expressed by his Galt Mile constituents - the Engineered Life Safety System (ELSS) opt-out legislation currently navigating the Statehouse and Senate. After Representative Michael Grieco (D - Miami Beach) filed House Bill 647 on February 5, 2019, it was referred to the House Business & Professions Subcommittee, where it was found favorable by a vote of 8 yeas vs. 7 nays on March 6, 2019; and forwarded to the House Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee for review.

Commenting on the ELSS opt-out legislation and whether association homeowners should have the right to collectively decide for themselves how to most productively expend resources for the protection of their home and loved ones, LaMarca states that he is "supportive of giving the residents of ours and other communities the ability to choose how best to keep their homes protected and safe from possible catastrophes," and promised to "follow all of the bills that have been filed and see what committees that I have the opportunity to weigh in on this issue."

LaMarca will realize this opportunity when Grieco's HB 647 is explored by the House Government Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, where LaMarca serves as a member. He can also help debunk "towering Inferno" horror stories

LaMarca Commentary...Continued

by Sprinkler Association lobbyists, as no Florida fire-related death or injury has ever been attributed to the absence of an ELSS, and a single sprinkler head in an apartment foyer will not safeguard residents against a fire. As explained by Fort Lauderdale Fire Marshal Jeff Lucas, an ELSS was never conceived to protect building residents.

Action in the Tallahassee Trenches

On February 18, 2019, Senator Jason Pizzo (D – Miami) filed Senate Bill 1152, a companion ELSS opt-out bill in the other chamber. On March 19, 2019, Pizzo's Senate bill was scheduled for a hearing by the Senate Committee on Innovation, Industry, and Technology - the first of three Committee stops.

Seeking to protect a \$multi-billion windfall extorted from association homeowners, fire sprinkler association lobbyists have deployed several strategies to defeat the opt-out bills. One of these required the services of a puppet lawmaker. During last year's Senate elections, a former Statehouse Representative named Ed Hooper solicited special interest campaign contributions to outspend his opposition, and win the District 16 Senate seat in Pinellas County.

Colluding with the fire sprinkler associations, Senator Hooper filed Senate Bill 908 on their behalf. Hooper's bill mandates the installation of fire sprinklers or an ELSS in Florida high-rise associations and provides a \$500 per day penalty for impacted associations that fail to comply by December 31, 2022.

You can help our association advocates win this pitched battle in the Florida Legislature. Associations across Florida threatened with an ELSS assessment joined to form the "Florida Association of Condominiums to Support Self-Determination" or FACTSS. At ground zero of this relief effort, FACTSS maintains a website (<https://factss.org/>) that offers relevant information and critical news. Among these updates are email links to the members of legislative Committees currently vetting the various bills. Since the fate of these bills rests with these lawmakers, they need to know your take on this \$multi-billion rip-off.

*In addition to the testimony offered at Committee hearings, many of these lawmakers will decide how they should vote based on the feedback they receive from residents affected by this scam mandate. Visit the FACTSS website at <https://factss.org/>, where you can inform vetting committee members of your support for House Bill 647 and Senate Bill 1152 - and your vehement opposition to Senate Bill 908 (Hooper's attempt to sell you out). Simply put, is it worth a few minutes of your time to avoid a crushing and pointless assessment? Its time to make your voice heard. Read Representative Chip LaMarca's February 2019 Newsletter, elsewhere in this edition. – [editor]**

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE Chip LaMarca

FEBRUARY 2019 UPDATE

Eric,

I am continuing to monitor things at the local level dealing with the GMCA (library progress and road issues.)

As you know, as Members we have six bill slots, and with leadership requests many of those end up being used for priority issues. That being said, we have managed to focus a couple of those slots for issues that are important to the district. This chart shows the six bills in yellow, other bills I have decided to cosponsor in white, a local bill in blue and local appropriations in green.

HB 325: Coastal Management

I have placed a tremendous priority to maintaining that the 700 miles of Florida's beaches are healthy as ours are in Segment II. You can see that this is a continuation of the work that I have been doing over the past eight years.

HB 9 Community Redevelopment Agencies

This bill is to maintain transparency, oversight and accountability to the CRA's in Florida so that the people and businesses funding these entities know where their money is going and how it is being spent. It requires a two-thirds vote of all voters in a county to create a new CRA or extend the time of an existing CRA. It also requires that the members of the CRA Board take four-hour of ethics training.

HB 341 Motor Vehicles and Railroad Trains

This bill was brought to us by the SFRTA/Tri-Rail to clarify the existing law that is confusing and groups trains with motor vehicles for the purposes of accident investigations. It currently requires passengers on a train that may not have been a witness to anything (due to the linear nature of the path of trains) and remain on the train for hours during an investigation.

HB 727 Hazing

This bill is of critical importance to all college and university students, but specifically for the family of Andrew Coffey, after the loss of their son at Florida State University. Andrew was a resident of Lighthouse Point and this bill would offer protections for hazing incidents for students outside

of the Greek system, in other collegiate programs. It would also offer fellow students the protection of amnesty should they find it necessary to contact the authorities in the event of a person being in danger of their health or life.

HB 943 Driver License Reinstatement Days

This bill requires each judicial circuit to establish Driver License Reinstatement Days program for reinstating suspended or revoked driver licenses. It provides event scheduling requirements and authorizes the waiver of certain fees for driver license reinstatement.

HB 1129 Public Lodging Establishments

This bill defines the term "hosting platform" and requires certain public lodging establishments to display license number in all advertising for rentals. It provides civil penalties and requires the Division of Hotels & Restaurants of DBPR to adopt rules & authorizes division to revoke, or refuse to issue or renew, vacation rental licenses.

HB 1185 Downtown Development Authority of the City of Fort Lauderdale

This is a local bill and would merely extend the term of the existing Fort Lauderdale DDA to enable building and boding of the proposed City/County Government Campus, as well as the new Federal Courthouse. It does not create any additional taxes or expand the existing DDA boundaries.

I am happy to talk about the remaining items, which are mostly appropriations that were submitted to us by many of the local municipalities and non-profit organizations.



HB 9	Community Redevelopment Agencies	First Named
HB 99	Shark Fins and Ray Parts	Cosponsor
HB 325	Coastal Management	First Named
HB 341	Motor Vehicles and Railroad Trains	First Named
HB 379	Animal Welfare	Cosponsor
HB 675	Public School Transportation	Cosponsor
HB 727	Hazing	First Named
HB 741	Anti-Semitism	Cosponsor
HB 857	Firefighters	Cosponsor
HB 943	Driver License Reinstatement Days	First Named
HB 1129	Public Lodging Establishments	First Named
HB 1185	Downtown Development Authority of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County	First Named
HB 1401	Film, Television, and Digital Media Targeted Grant Program	Cosponsor
HB 2233	Florida Atlantic University - A.D. Henderson University Lab School	Cosponsor
HB 4741	Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Septic to Sewer	First Named
HB 4743	Broward County Sheriff's Office - Real Time Crime Center	First Named
HB 4745	Pompano Beach Deep Well Replacement	First Named
HB 4747	Broward County State Attorney Liaison Program	First Named
HB 4749	Nancy Cotterman Center - Human Trafficking Coordination / Outreach	First Named
HB 4751	Foster Family Recruitment & Stability Project	First Named
HB 4753	Fort Lauderdale Cordova Road Seawall Replacement Project	First Named
HB 4755	Nova Southeastern University - Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program	First Named
HB 4757	Replacement of Henderson Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU)	First Named
HB 4759	Broward College - STEM Center on North Campus	First Named
HB 4761	Employment and Income Verification Services	First Named
HB 4763	Pompano Beach Stormwater Master Plan Area-9 NE 4th St and NE 3rd St	First Named
HB 4765	Pompano Beach Reuse Expansion Project Phase I	First Named
HB 4767	Broward County Board of County Commissioners - Ryan White Part A Test and Treat Program (TnT)	First Named
HB 4919	Children's Healing Institute - Parent Aide Child Abuse Prevention Services	First Named
HB 4921	Ligature Mitigation at South Florida State Hospital, South Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center, and Treasure Coast Forensic Treatment Center	First Named
HB 6035	Homestead Tax Exemptions	Cosponsor
HB 7025	OGSR/Treatment-based Drug Court Programs	First Named
HB 9125	Feeding South Florida Mobile Pharmacy	First Named
HB 9171	Riverside Drive Streetscape Improvements Project	First Named
HB 9173	McNab Road Streetscape Improvements Project	First Named
HB 9253	FIRST Robotics Teams Grant	First Named

Specifically, with regard to ELSS and the multiple bills that have been filed by House and Senate Members, I am supportive of giving the residents of ours and other communities the ability to choose how best to keep their homes protected and safe from possible catastrophes, which include natural disasters, fires and events caused by failure of existing mechanical systems. I have always maintained that the safety of our residents comes first, and have committed to working with the professionals tasked with the protection of our people. I have also been working and listening to Ellyn Bogdanoff on this issue. I will follow all of the bills that have been filed and see what committees that I have the opportunity to weigh in on this issue. Please let me know if there are any issues specific to the GMCA as we move forward and thank you for your continued support and friendship.

Chip LaMarca
State Representative
Florida House District 93

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<p>11 Barrett-Jackson Palm Beach Collector Car Auction (Through 4/13) South Florida Fairgrounds-WPB 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Info.: 480.421.6694</p> <p>Art & Soul CIRC Hotel (1780 Polk St.), Hollywood 6 to 9 p.m. Info.: 954-940-5344</p>	<p>12 Rock the Ocean Tortuga Music Festival (Through 4/14) Fort Lauderdale Beach Park 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Info.: 1-615-498-7548</p> <p>Annual Pineapple Jam Dinner and Auction Historic Stranahan House Museum 6 to 9 p.m. Info.: 954-524-4736</p>	<p>13 Goliath Gauntlet Sheridan House, Davie 7:30 a.m. Info.: 954-583-1552</p> <p>Spring Garden Festival and Plant Sale (Through 4/14) Fairchild Tropical Garden 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info.: 305-667-1651 ext. 3392</p>
<p>18 Fort Lauderdale Int'l Auto Show (Through 4/21) Broward County Convention Center Info.: 305-981-1448</p> <p>The Bourbon Experience Stache Drinking Den + Coffee Bar 6 to 10 p.m. Info.: goriverwalk.com</p>	<p>19 Friday Night Sound Waves The Fort Lauderdale Beach Hub 6 to 9 p.m. Info.: https://fridaynightsoundwaves.com</p> <p>Las Olas Wine & Food Festival Las Olas Blvd. (SE 6th Ave. - SE 11th Ave.) 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Info.: 305-255-3500</p>	<p>20 2019 Egg Hunt Triathlon & Duathlon & Kids Aquathlon CB Smith Park 7 a.m. Info.: 954-213-6699</p> <p>2nd Annual Pirate Festival Esplanade Park 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info.: 954-424-0731</p>
<p>25</p> <p>M.O.P.'s Golf Tournament DeerCreek Country Club, Deerfield Beach 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Info.: 561-245-1188</p>	<p>26 Pompano Beach Seafood Festival Atlantic Blvd & A1A (Pompano) Info.: 954-638-1475</p> <p>Taste the Islands Experience DeerCreek (Through 4/28) The Fort Lauderdale Historical Society 5 to 10 p.m. Info.: 954-200-5110</p>	<p>27 Jack & Jill Flip Flops on the Dock 2019 Fort Lauderdale Yacht Club 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Info.: 954-463-8772 ext 206</p> <p>Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Drop-off Events Mills Pond Park 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info.: 954-828-8000</p>
<p>2</p> <p>SunFest (Through 5/5) Intracoastal Waterway (along Flagler Dr from Banyan Blvd to Lakeview Ave, WPB) Info.: 561-659-5980</p>	<p>3 West Palm Beach Antiques Festival (Through 5/5) South Florida Fairgrounds, WPB Info.: 941-697-7475</p>	<p>4 Fort Lauderdale Air Show (Through 5/5) Fort Lauderdale Beach 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info.: 321-395-3110 http://fortlauderdaleairshow.com</p> <p>Ft. Lauderdale Take Steps Walk Huizenga Plaza 4 p.m. Check-in & Festival Start Info.: 561- 218-2929 x6</p>

THE FUN CONTINUES !

- MAY 5**
Wings for Life World Run 2019
BB&T Center, Sunrise
7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Info.: <https://www.wingsforlifeworldrun.com>
- MAY 7**
"Birdies for Birch" Golf Tournament
Lago Mar Country Club, Plantation
Noon Registration; 1 p.m. Shotgun Start
Info.: 954-566-0660
- MAY 10**
Michelle Obama
BB&T Center, 7 p.m.
Info.: <https://www.thebbtcenter.com>
- MAY 15**
Fort Lauderdale Career Fair
Marriott Fort Lauderdale North
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Info.: 877-561-5627
- MAY 17-19**
22nd Annual Redland International Orchid Festival
Fruit & Spice Park (24801 SW 187th Ave.), Homestead
Info.: info@redlandorchidfest.org
- MAY 18**
3rd Annual Ocean Brews & Blues Festival
Main Beach Parking Lot (149 SE 21st Ave.), Deerfield Beach
3 to 8 p.m.
Info.: 954-480-4429
- MAY 18**
The Color Run
Huizenga Plaza
7:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Info.: goriverwalk.com
- MAY 21**
Light Up The Night
The Addison Boca Raton
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Info.: 954-979-7124
- FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS, GO TO THE CALENDAR AT WWW.GALTMILE.COM**

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 Hub, 300 S. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd., 7 to 11 a.m., Info.: 954-709-3197

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

Fridays (through May): Friday Night Music, El Mar Drive between Village Grille/Pump and 101 Ocean, 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., Info.: www.lbtsevents.com

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

Sundays (through May): Farmer's Market at El Prado Park, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Info.: 561-714-2745

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

Tuesday & Thursdays (Through April): Seaside Yoga and Meditation, El Prado Park, 7 to 8 a.m., Info.: 954-850-7361 (weather permitting)

EDITOR'S COMMENTARY: Lamar Fisher's FEBRUARY 2019 Newsletter

By Eric Berkowitz

* In his February 2019 Newsletter, District 4 Broward Commissioner Lamar Fisher urges the formation of a statewide opioid addiction task force, as described in his January 29 County Commission resolution. Citing the adoption of similar panels in other states, Fisher believes that the opioid crisis would be more effectively addressed in Tallahassee. Fisher reports having hosted a productive January 17 meeting of the Mayors and City Managers of municipalities within District 4, notes that the Transportation Surtax Oversight Board has been empaneled, applauds a two-year extension approved for the Paratransit Riders Choice Pilot Program for the disabled, encourages constituents to assist the Complete Count Committee with the 2020 Broward Census, invites residents to enjoy a new game for cash prizes managed by the Broward Water Partnership, and reports Broward's participation in the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress' American Folklife Center, as the anecdotes of Broward Veterans collected at the Main Library in downtown Fort Lauderdale will be archived in the Library of Congress. Read Commissioner Lamar Fisher's February 2019 Newsletter elsewhere in this edition. – [editor]*

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*WINE FLIGHTS
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BROWARD COMMISSIONER

LAMAR FISHER

JANUARY 2019 UPDATE



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.

Opioid Task Force Resolution

In January, I sponsored a resolution urging the Florida Legislature and Florida Governor to create and provide funding for a statewide opioid addiction task force. Florida ranks fourth in the nation for total health care costs attributed to opioid abuse and eleventh in the nation for deaths resulting from drug overdoses, with the state's drug mortality rate doubling since 1999. Although several counties, including Broward County, have created task forces to develop plans to address opioid addiction within our communities, a statewide approach is necessary to make a measurable impact in the fight against the opioid epidemic. Several states, including, but not limited to, Illinois, Indiana, Montana, Ohio, Rhode Island, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming have adopted a statewide approach to address the opioid epidemic and the multitude of problems it causes.

Residents throughout the state of Florida, in rural and suburban communities alike, are confronting opioid addiction and resulting overdose deaths. As our community continues to struggle and cope with opioid misuse and abuse, through the application of routine practices, a Florida statewide task force could collectively and aggressively help affected communities mitigate and curtail damage caused by the opioid epidemic. I thank my fellow Commissioners for passing this resolution unanimously and look forward to working with our State legislature in order to make a measurable impact in the fight against the opioid epidemic.

District 4 Mayors Meeting

On January 17th, 2019 I held the first District 4

Mayors Meeting. All Mayors and City Managers from the eight cities I represent were invited to attend. One of my promises during my campaign was that I would be here for my cities and their residents. In order to do this, I've scheduled three District 4 Mayors Meeting throughout the year. This will give us the opportunity to discuss the issues of concerns in each city and will give me the opportunity to provide any guidance or resources that Broward County government may be able to assist with.

The very first meeting was a success, many Mayors and City Managers attended. We discussed overall key issues including the Transportation Surtax, homelessness, traffic signalization, waste management issues and many more. More specifically, each representative for each city was given an opportunity to express their residents' concerns. I'm also glad to report that this was a great opportunity for all the of the cities I represent to meet and engage with each other, providing for another avenue for community leaders to communicate experiences and learn from each other.

Transportation Surtax: Oversight Board Appointed

One of the key elements of the Transportation Surtax, which was approved by Broward County voters in the November 2018 election, is the creation of an independent Oversight Board. The members of the Oversight Board for the Transportation Surtax are a group of volunteers that have been appointed to oversee the administration of funds collected from the one-cent surtax. The Board will be responsible for reviewing projects for eligibility, monitoring revenues and expenditures, and offering transparency and accountability to the public. Board members will serve a four-year term and meet at least quarterly.

For more information regarding the Transportation Surtax, please visit Broward.org/PennyForTransportation.

TOPS Riders Choice Program Extended

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners recently approved the continuation of a successful pilot program that provides transportation to people with disabilities who can not use the regular bus service. The Paratransit Riders Choice Pilot Program allows ADA eligible customers to call a taxi or licensed transportation network provider when they need a ride. The program has been extended for two more years and is intended for individuals who cannot drive or use traditional transportation to get around town. For more information on the Riders Choice Program please visit Broward.org/BCT.

The Census Needs You

The Census is coming in April 2020 and residents are encouraged to help our community count. The kickoff meeting of the Complete Count Committee was held in January, but volunteers are still needed. Many thanks to those across the County who have already agreed to participate. A correct count is critical for Broward County as Census numbers are used to determine federal representation and funding of human services, housing and other programs. For more information visit Broward.org/Census2020.

Play Conservation Pays and Win

Broward County residents are encouraged to play a new online game introduced by the Broward Water Partnership. Residents who play can show off how much they know about conservation, climate change and sustainability. You can play for a chance to win thousands of dollars in cash and prizes, with the first prize winner receiving \$5,000 in cash; two second place winners receiving \$1,000; and three, third place winners each receiving \$500 in cash! For more information please visit Conservationpays.com.

Continued on page 16

Veterans: Share Your Stories

The Broward County Historical Archives at the Main Library in downtown Fort Lauderdale is calling all local veterans and civilians who have served with the United States military to record their stories for free. Veterans who would like to tell their stories can meet with a Special Collections librarian for a video interview, which the librarian tapes. A copy of the interview is given to the veteran and the librarian sends another copy to the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress' American Folklife Center. Archivists at the Library of Congress will acknowledge the veteran's donation and preserve it for future generations. The record will be cataloged and made available to researchers and the public.

Library staff will videotape oral history interviews at the Main Library by appointment. If interested in submitting your story, contact Erin Purdy to arrange an interview at 954-357-7363 or epurdy@broward.org. For more information on the wonderful things going on at a Library near you please visit Broward.org/Library.

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 Broward.org/Commission/District4 to receive email updates from our office. You can also follow me on Twitter and like my Facebook 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.

Once again, I'd like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as your County Commissioner.
Best regards,

Lamar P. Fisher
County Commissioner
District 4



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Market Share Report

Published: March 2019

Location: Broward County

Date Range: 3/1/2018 - 2/28/2019

Price Range: \$0 - No Limit

Source: Trendgraphix, Inc.



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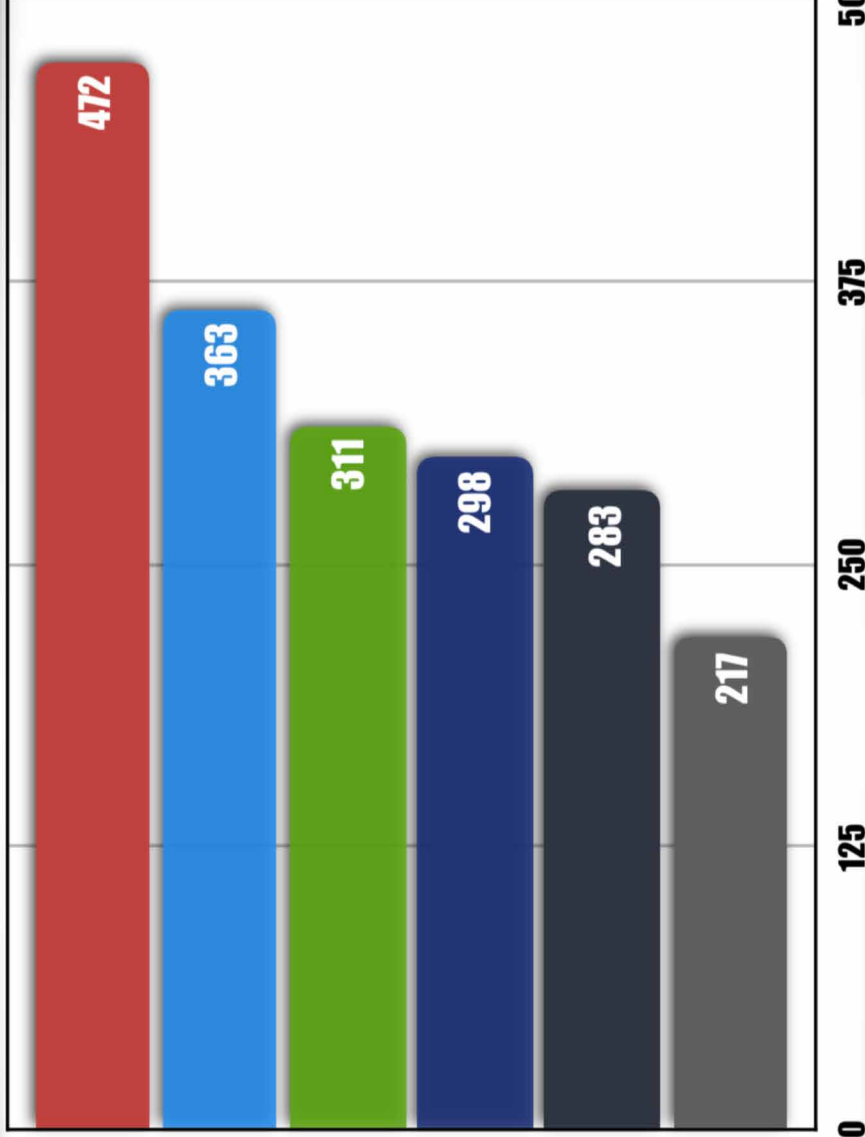
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