

FEBRUARY 2022

Dear Community Members,

This month we honor Black History Month, celebrate love with Valentine’s Day and check on our hearts for American Heart Month. The month of February is jammed packed with events around our County. I encourage you to check out Broward.org for great events at our [libraries](#) and [parks](#) in celebration of Black History Month. You can also work on your heart health at one our amazing parks, some even offering workout classes!

Tunnel vs. Bridge

A major project for the advancement of our community and an extremely difficult question to answer has been headlining news the past couple weeks. As we move forward with the Broward Commuter Rail, which alternative option is the right one?

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has provided several community workshops. Community leaders have taken positions and residents, which are the most impacted have also made decisions. I’ve read many emails from associations and residents, attended several workshops, and taken a tour of the most impacted neighborhoods.



The Broward County Commission will make a final decision but there is still more discussion that must happen. The Boards decision for a locally preferred alternative **will**

not be taking place on February 22nd as originally planned, I do believe there is much more to analyze and discuss as we look at all the options. For more details about this project please visit BrowardCommuterRailStudy.com.



Joint Government Center Update

Much conversation has been circulating regarding the Joint Government Center Campus project in the past few weeks and I'd like to set the record straight. With the magnitude of this project, many parts are moving to make sure this complex P3 project moves forward. Broward County and City staff have been diligently working with several partners. Staff has been meeting with consultants, outside council, the Federal Transit Administration and they have continue working to address the site contamination that was discovered last year. County administration is committed in turning over a clean, developable site to the selected developer team.

Simultaneously, the County's Transportation Department is working on plans to temporarily relocate bus terminal operations. Both City and County staff also continue working on co-habitation issues or concerns, like IT or security, just to name a few. I believe we have a great partnership with the City and look forward to bringing this project to fruition, providing the efficiency our residents deserve.



Bertha Henry's Retirement and Welcome Monica Cepero



Broward County Administrator Bertha Henry is retiring at the end of the month and we sure are going to miss her! After 22 years in the County and almost 15 as County Administrator, she has led our County through many successes and in a time of crises from several hurricanes, unfortunate shootings to the ongoing pandemic. Bertha has also successfully maintained our economic engines, while moving major expansion projects forward at the airport and seaport. I wish Bertha a well-deserved and truly relaxing retirement!

I'd like to take this opportunity to also welcome Monica Cepero as our new County Administrator. Monica has worked alongside Bertha for many years and brings much experience and knowledge to her new role. I look forward to continuing to work with Monica and her staff.

Water Reuse Pipeline Expansion

In February, I was excited to join my colleagues and several members of the community at the ribbon cutting ceremony on a new 10-mile underground water reuse pipeline system. The pipeline runs from the Broward County North Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant through Quiet Waters Park to the Hillsboro Canal, then continues along its banks to northwest portions of the County. A great accomplishment for our area, the pipeline will allow Broward County's Water and Wastewater Services and regional partners to transport up to 16 million gallons of water per day through the pipeline. This investment will further

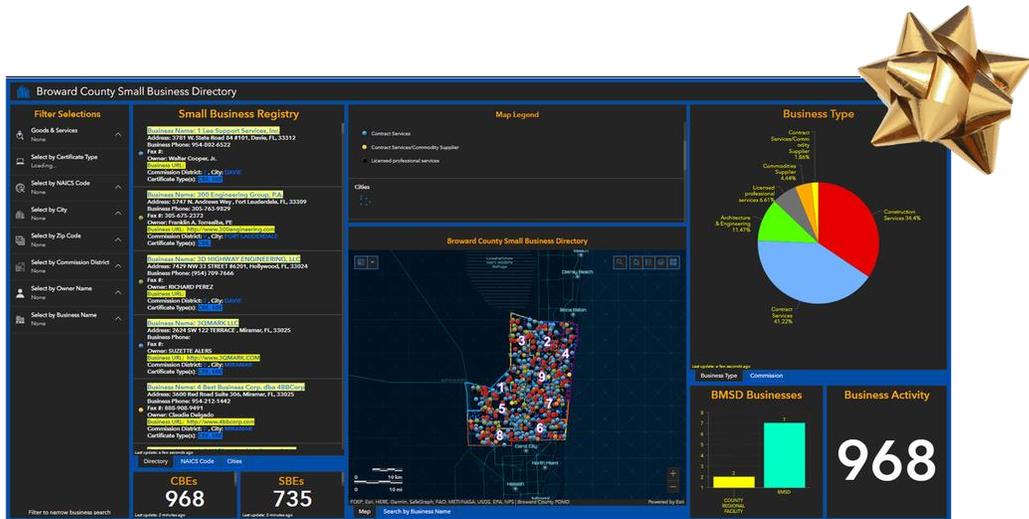


promote the County's commitment to regional water resources conservation and resiliency.

Small Business Dashboard

Broward County's Office of Economic Development (OESBD) recently launched a new dashboard providing the opportunity for anyone to search the County's Small Business Directory. Finding a certified small business in Broward County just got easier. You can search the directory by the type of service, zip code, city, business name and more. OESBD also developed a new Broward County Incentives Story Map, which provides developers investors and small businesses access to economic incentives and information. Both dashboards come with a brief tutorial for convenience, and they can be found below.

[New Small Business Directory Dashboard/ Tutorial](#)
[New Broward County Incentives Story Map/ Tutorial](#)



Recent County Commission Actions:

1. On February 8, 2022, the Board approved a participation agreement, which will settle and release the County's opioid claims against Endo Pharmaceuticals. The settlement funds will ultimately be used to combat the Opioid epidemic in Broward County.
2. On January 25, 2022, the Board approved a memorandum of understanding which divides the costs for a regional solid waste and recycling generation study and report between the County and participating municipalities. This is the first step in understanding the County's solid waste and recycling needs.
3. On January 25, 2022, the Board approved the recommendations of the Animal Care Advisory Committee to reduce the cost of a Breeder Permit and to increase the civil penalties for failing to obtain a Breeder permit, among other recommendations. These actions will assist to promote the humane treatment of cats and dogs and would assist in reducing the number of homeless animals.

4. On the January 25, 2022, the Board approved a resolution affirming our overall support for the efforts of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and their recommendations as part of the draft South Atlantic Coastal Study (SACS) released in October 2021. This included specific endorsement of the priority recommendation for funding of a comprehensive Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project Study and a request to elevate the ranking and accelerate the timeline for the recommended Back Bay Study for Broward County. This action further acknowledges the County's commitment to address flood risk and resilience under conditions of sea level rise.



To read, watch or join in our County Commission Meetings please visit broward.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=15

Broward County Resources

- COVID-19 Resources: Broward.org/Coronavirus
- Emergency Rental Assistance: Broward.org/RentAssistance
- Broward County Libraries: Broward.org/Library
- Broward County Parks: Broward.org/Parks
- Pet Adoptions: Broward.org/Animal

I am truly thankful to serve you and Commission District 4 and to serve everyone in Broward County as your Vice Mayor. If I can be of any assistance, please contact me at 954-357-7004 or LFisher@broward.org. Also, follow me ([@LamarPFisher](https://twitter.com/LamarPFisher)) on Twitter and Facebook ([@ViceMayorLamarFisher](https://facebook.com/ViceMayorLamarFisher)).

Best regards,



Lamar P. Fisher
Broward County Vice Mayor
Commission District 4