



October 2024

Dear Community Members,

The month of October had a rough start, with a major storm crossing through our state, reminding us that hurricane season is still here. Thankfully, we were spared from a disaster with Hurricane Milton, and I continue to pray for those who were impacted by the recent storms. There is still about one month until hurricane season is over, and it is never too late to get prepared. Visit [Broward.Org/Hurricane](https://www.broward.org/hurricane) for all your storm readiness needs.

Additionally, I had the honor of presenting two proclamations, first recognizing as October Breast Cancer Awareness Month and second declaring October 21-27 as United Against Hate Week.



Convention Center Update

Broward County is excited about the progress the Convention Center Expansion and Headquarter Hotel. We are nearing completion and I'm extremely enthusiastic for the grand opening of this magnificent project that will boost our local economy. The ongoing construction phase of the project is progressing and scheduled for completion in Fall 2025. The project site currently has a steady stream of



activity, employing over 300 people on the field on any given day. As is typical with large scale projects like this one, the Convention Center expansion project faced some challenges which include fluctuating market conditions, supply chain restraints and more. I commend the County's team for diligently working with the developers to mitigate any delays. The developers agreed to contractual final completion dates as follows: Convention center (East Expansion) – August 2025, Convention and Visitors Bureau Building, Plaza and Hotel – November 2025. For more information on the progress of this transformational project please visit Broward.org/CCExpansion.



CVB Building - Progress Photograph 09.29.2024



Hotel – Progress Photograph 09.06.2024

Port Everglades Cruise Update

The Board of County Commissioners recently approved the extension of the user agreement between Port Everglades and Royal Caribbean Group through September 30, 2030. Port Everglades and Royal Caribbean Group are also exploring facility upgrades for Cruise Terminal 29 to accommodate newer ships across the company's fleet. According to an analysis by national maritime economic consultancy Martin Associates, this agreement will boost the local economy to the tune of \$581.9 million in business revenue annually through increased cruise activity from 2027 to 2030. The port will welcome at least 1.3 million guests annually, and 355 vessel calls each year. It would support 4,095 jobs in the region annually, including 1,829 direct local jobs, 1,221 indirect jobs and 1,046 induced jobs. I want to personally thank the Port Everglades team for their tremendous work to continue this partnership, which continues to bring visitors to our area and boost our local economy. For more information on the incredible things happening at Port Everglades, please visit PortEverglades.net.



Fort Lauderdale International Airport Update

The Broward County Aviation Department recently announced that they have received a \$16 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration as part of funding investments in U.S. airport facilities. This funding will go towards the replacement of approximately 14 passenger boarding bridges and associated ground power and pre-conditioned air units at the airport. In all,

FLL is replacing 39 passenger boarding bridges across three terminals to improve the travel experience and operational efficiency. This boarding bridge replacement project is targeted for completion in late 2026 at an estimated cost of \$46 million. This was a highly competitive federal funding process, and I commend the Aviation team on their great efforts!

2024 Presidential Election



This year, I've been fortunate enough to serve on the Canvassing Board with Supervisor of Elections, Joe Scott. The Canvassing Board has several responsibilities. These include certifying logic and accuracy testing on voting equipment, reviewing and accepting signatures on Vote-by-Mail ballot envelopes, reviewing damaged and poorly marked ballots, reviewing provisional ballots, certifying results of the election, conducting a post-election audit and conducting recounts. It is vital that voters clearly mark their intended choices.

With Election Day only a couple days away, voters are encouraged to make an election plan and get out to vote. Thankfully, there are several ways to make your voice heard this election season. (1) If you've already ordered your vote-by-mail ballot you can return it by mail, or by dropping it off at any early voting location. (2) Early voting locations are now open from 7am to 7pm through Sunday, November 3. Visit [BrowardVotes.gov](https://www.browardvotes.gov) to find the location nearest you. (3) The last day to cast your vote is Tuesday, November 5. On Election Day you must go to your assigned precinct.

Additionally, I was happy to sponsor an agenda item to waive bus and paratransit fares on the last two days of early voting, Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3, as well as on election day Tuesday November 5. We encourage everyone to get out and cast your vote this election. For more information on this year's election, please visit [BrowardVotes.gov](https://www.browardvotes.gov).



Tourism Sponsorship Program

Visit Lauderdale in collaboration with the Office of Economic and Small Business Development (OESBD) will host a webinar to educate the community about opportunities for event funding through the Tourism Sponsorship Program.



Webinar Details:

- **Date:** Friday, November 8, 2024
- **Time:** 10:30am – 11:30am
- **Registration Link:** <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/8b4598e4-0d55-4c98-88d2-930b69f841a7@9483ae6c-808a-4f02-98a1-8154c0b35bfd>

During this webinar, you will discover:

- **Funding for Tourism-Driven Events:** Learn how our sponsorships can support events that primarily attract visitors from outside Broward County.
- **Eligibility Criteria:** Understand what it means for an event to be "tourism-driven" and the criteria for qualification.
- **What We're Looking For:** Discover the specific qualities we value in sponsored events.
- **Application Tips and Timelines:** Get expert advice on crafting a successful sponsorship application and understand the application process.

To learn more about Visit Lauderdale's work in the world of tourism in our community visit VisitLauderdale.com and to learn about more opportunities for small business and economic development visit Broward.org/EconDev.

Reminders:



Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show will be held October 30 to November 3, 2024. Celebrating its 65th anniversary, this annual event has become a cornerstone of the marine world, drawing over 100,000 attendees annually and generating a substantial \$1.79 billion in economic impact for the region. For more information, please visit FLIBS.com.



Daylight savings time ends November 3. This is a quick reminder to make sure to change your non-automatic clocks back one hour. While we gain an hour of sleep, this time change also means that our evenings get darker at an earlier time.



King Tides continue to be expected in the following dates this fall, October 30 - November 4, November 12 – 19 and December 12 – 16. Broward County encourages all to monitor weather conditions. Stay alert. Drive carefully. Do not drive through standing water; turn around and find an alternative route.

As always, I am truly thankful to serve you and Commission District 4. If I can ever be of assistance, please contact me at 954-357-7004 or LFisher@broward.org. Also, follow me [@LamarPFisher](#) on X (Twitter) and on [Facebook](#).

Best regards,



Lamar P. Fisher
Broward County Commissioner
District 4

Additional Resources:

- Libraries: Broward.org/Library
- Parks: Broward.org/Parks
- Business Assistance: Broward.org/EconDev
- Broward's Official Hurricane Site: Broward.org/Hurricane
- Mosquito Control Services: Broward.org/Mosquito
- Fort Lauderdale International Airport: Broward.org/Airport
- Port Everglades: PortEverglades.net