LAMAR P. FISHER
BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER
COMMISSION DISTRICT 4

Representing: Fort Lauderdale (part), Hillsboro Beach, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Lazy Lake, Lighthouse Point, Oakland Park (part), Pompano Beach (part), Sea Ranch Lakes, and Wilton Manors (part)

MARCH 2025

Dear Community Members,

Time has sprung forward in the month of March and while we lose an hour of sleep, we gain more sunlight on these wonderful south Florida evenings. In March we celebrate Women's History Month, as we honor and thank all the women in our lives that continue to make their mark on the world. Mid-March our towns turn green as many celebrate St. Patrick's Day with family fun-filled events and as the month comes to an end students go on their annual spring break vacation. Looking forward to a sunny month of April!
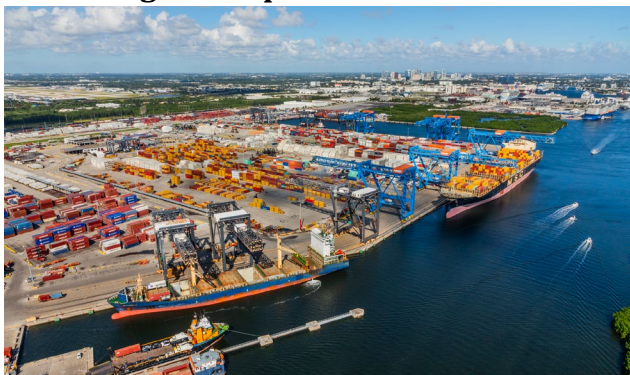
Port Bypass Road Update

Broward County is making great progress on the Port Bypass Road. Most recently, I alongside the city of Fort Lauderdale's Mayor took a tour of the project area. The Port Bypass Road construction began on May 1, 2024, and the overall project is about 50% complete. Most of the drainage, utility, and underground improvements were installed. The contractor made significant progress with the roadwork associated with the Bypass Road which includes barrier walls and fencing. Most of the bridge columns and caps are complete and they are now placing beams. The Bypass Road is scheduled to be opened to traffic by November 2025.

Check out the videos below which provide great visuals of what has been completed and what is to come in the coming months. For construction update on the Port's Bypass Road Project, visit Port Bypass Road.

Phase 1 https://youtu.be/210cqD35fRk	Phase 2 https://youtu.be/ZESqROstKlY

Port Everglades Update

Port Everglades first quarter of the 2025 Fiscal year is off to a great start. The port's total container throughput in TEUs (20-foot equivalent units) is up by 12% to 285,335 TEUs compared to 255,241 from the same period in FY24. Also trending upward is petroleum as measured by the barrels that are delivered to 12 counties in Florida and five international airports.

Additionally, Port Everglades' cruise business line is on course for a buoyant fiscal year based on double-digit growth during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2025. The wave of growth is also seen in the port's cruise passenger traffic, which is up by 27% to 1,349,313 guests versus 1,064,998 compared to the same period in FY24. The port anticipates setting a new cruise passenger record in FY25 with a forecasted 4.4 million guests, with some of the busiest months ahead. For more information, visit PortEverglades.net.

Homelessness Update in Pompano Beach
Homelessness is a major concern for all municipalities in Broward County but most notably there are major areas of concerns in our most populated cities. Most recently, I would like to share an update of the great collaboration efforts being made at the North Homeless Assistance Center (NHAC) in the city of Pompano Beach to discourage congregating and loitering in the area. Earlier this month, it came to our attention that the NHAC was in dire need of some hands-on work. Broward County's Housing Options, Solutions and Support Division (HOSS-D) quickly stepped into action, coordinating a meeting which included members from Broward Addiction and Recovery Center (BARC), Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Inc. (BPHI), the Taskforce and the City of Pompano Beach. The efforts were a major success as this collaboration was able to get 30 individuals that were outside of the NHAC engaged in services, 20 individuals received a bus pass, two individuals were placed at the NHAC, two individuals were placed at the

Central Homeless Assistance Center, three individuals were placed in ODS beds, one individual was referred to Elder Hope Haven (EHH), one individual was placed in a shared living unit, one individual was placed in BARC and one individual was working with BSO to reunify with their family member outside of the country.

Additionally, we worked with the city on a list of items that the team agreed would help discourage this type of activity outside of the NHAC. The city agreed to look into placing signage (encouraging donations to be brought to the NHAC and for loitering and dumping), possibly adding cement barriers to prevent cars parking to unload "donations" on the side of the road, increasing code compliance responses, license plate recognition tools (to identify who is dropping donations off) and long term, the addition of streetlights and a bus route along Blount Rd. I'm proud of our county team for taking the lead in getting all these groups together and finding solutions for those needed assistance. I would also like to thank the city of Pompano Beach for their efforts as well.

If you are experiencing homelessness, call the Homeless Helpline at 954-563-4357, 8AM to 7PM daily.

Broward County's Small Business Micro Grant is Back!
Broward County's Office of Economic and Small Business Development (OESBD) is gearing up to open the application portal for the very successful Small Business Micro Grant Program. As advertised last year, microgrants of $2,500 will be available to small business and distributed evenly throughout all districts on a first-come, first-served basis. Business owners must complete their application and submit all required documentation through the application portal which is set to open in May 2025. If you have any questions, please call OESBD at 954-357-6400. OESBD is also holding in person technical assistance sessions to provide assistance.

Visit our Micro-Grant Webpage

SCAN ME!

In-Person Technical Assistance Sessions

All in-person trainings will take place at Governmental Center East, Room 422
115 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL

- Monday, March 31, 2025, from 2PM-3:30PM
- Wednesday, April 9, 2025, from 2PM-3:30PM
- Friday, May 23, 2025, from 11:30AM-1PM

Register at Eventbrite

SCAN ME!

BROWARD COUNTY
SMALL BUSINESS
MICRO-GRANT Pilot Program

Reminders/Events:

For those living in the Fort Lauderdale area, this is a reminder of a couple major upcoming events that may increase traffic to your area.

🎸 **Tortuga Music Festival** will be held on April 4-6, 2025- Visit TortugaMusicFestival.com for more information.

✈️ **Fort Lauderdale Air Show** will be held on May 10-11, 2025. For more information, visit FortLauderdaleAirShow.com.

Library Hours Extended: The Main Library (100 S Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301) and Pompano Beach Library and Cultural Center (50 W Atlantic Boulevard, Pompano Beach, FL 33060) hours are extended to Monday through Wednesday from 10am to 8pm, Thursday through Saturday 10am to 6pm. Both these libraries will remain closed on Sundays. For more information, visit Broward.org/Library.

Spring break is here! **Broward County's Water Parks** will open daily March 21 thru March 31. Check out some amazing water splashing fun at C.B. Smith Park, Central Broward Park & Broward County Stadium, T.Y. Park, and Quiet Waters Park. Water parks will open again during the summer. For more information, visit Broward.org/Parks.

Sea Turtle Nesting Season runs from March through October. During this time, the Broward County Sea Turtle Conservation Program monitors the beaches daily, marking each nest by using colorful flagging tape and stakes. Last year, 3,184 nests were documented on Broward's 24-mile coastline. For more information, visit Natural Resources Division- Sea Turtles.

Broward County's Cultural Division continues to provide free online application workshops for the new **Arts and Cultural Festival and Events Sponsorship Program**. The upcoming workshops will be held on April 16 and May 13 at 10:30am. For more information, visit Broward.org/Arts.

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