



APRIL 2025

Dear Community Members,

With renewed energy after Easter and Passover festivities, we recognized April 22 as Earth Day, pledging to continue to do our part to heal our home, Earth. This month we also recognized April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention and wore denim to raise awareness about sexual violence and support sexual assault survivors. Additionally, April is recognized as 911 Education Month, a good time to encourage all to understand the 911 system in Broward County. To learn more, visit [Broward.org/911](https://www.broward.org/911). [Calling 911 - Know Your Location](https://www.broward.org/911)

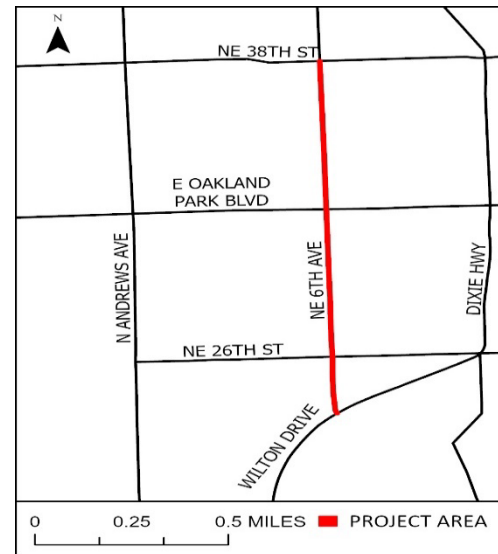


Broward Commuter Rail North Update

The Broward County Commissioners recently took a major step forward on the Broward Commuter Rail North (BCR-North) Project. The Board adopted a resolution and passed a budget resolution for \$20 million for the Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) activities for the project. As you may know, this project will provide greater connectivity and service to the northern portion of the County and ultimately Palm Beach County. The resolution supports the proposed Locally Preferred Alternative for BCR-North in order to move the process forward, without specifically designating a choice for the New River Crossing. This will allow for the City of Fort Lauderdale to continue their work on providing the County with a feasible option for the New River Crossing by October of this year. For more information about the project, visit [Broward.org/BCT/BCRNorth](https://www.broward.org/BCT/BCRNorth).

Drainage Work in Fort Lauderdale

Broward County's Public Works' Highway and Bridge Maintenance Division will be performing drainage system cleaning, inspection, and small repairs on NE 6th Avenue from Wilton Drive to NE 38th Street in Fort Lauderdale. Funded by the Transportation Surtax, the work is scheduled to begin Monday, April 28 and be completed in November 2025. Work will commence at the southern end of the project limits and advance north. During this work, one lane will be closed to vehicle traffic during off-peak hours, while the adjacent lane will remain open, with flaggers assisting these efforts. Driveways and sidewalks will be accessible throughout the duration of the project. For more information you can contact the Highway and Bridge Maintenance Division at 954-357-6040.



Small Business Resources and Events



Broward's Office of Economic and Small Business Development (OESBD) will once again host the Broward and Beyond Business Conference at the Broward County Convention Center on Friday, May 9 from 8am to 4:30pm. It's an exceptional event for local, regional, and national businesses, non-profits, and government agencies to attend, learn and network with industry experts and peers. Event attendees will have access to vendors in the exhibitor hall, along with informative panels about capital readiness, access to capital, marketing, technology and artificial intelligence (AI), film and television, government procurement, international trade,

and more. I am also very excited for this year's keynote speaker, Travis T. Mack who is the Chairman/CEO of Saalex Corporation, a nationally recognized federal aerospace and defense contractor and is the Founder/Fund Manager of Greenwood Self Storage Funds headquartered in my hometown, Pompano Beach. I encourage all to register and attend this free fantastic event! For more information, visit Broward.org/BizBeyond.

Additionally, OESBD will host a free webinar event in May providing support for business resiliency countywide in advance of the start of hurricane season. The event will focus on

what to consider before, during, and after a disaster - whether natural or manmade. For more information on this event and others hosted by OESBD, visit Broward.org/EconDev.

Port Everglades Update

Broward County's Port Everglades continues to grow its business in Cargo and continues to receive national accolades. This month, I had the opportunity to attend welcome ceremonies for two new cargo ships from Crowley and Accordia. The Crowley ship, *Quetzal*, which services the U.S., Dominican Republic and Central America, is notable in that it is powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), a cleaner fuel. Accordia's *M/V Challenger* ship launched a new full-container weekly service between Port Everglades, Cap-Haïtien (Haiti) and Mariel (Cuba). Accordia Shipping is the only 100% minority owned Vessel-Operating Common Carrier headquartered in Fort Lauderdale and proudly rooted in Broward County. We are excited to welcome the new services to Port Everglades as we continue to diversify the Port's portfolio.



Additionally, I want to give a major congratulations to Port Everglades and its staff for recently earning high marks from the North American Marine Environment Protection Association for its commitment to sustainability through the organization's Maritime Sustainability Passport Program. This notable achievement highlights the Port's dedication to environmental stewardship, social responsibility and governance best practices. For more about Port Everglades, visit PortEverglades.net.

Reminders:



Residents and visitors are reminded that the Department of Homeland Security will begin enforcement of **REAL ID** credentials starting May 7 to board federally regulated flights. Before heading to any US airport make sure your ID is compliant, featuring a gold star on the upper right-hand corner. For more information, visit [Real ID](https://RealID).



The Fort Lauderdale Air Show will be held May 3-4, featuring military and civilian aerial demonstrations including the U.S Navy Blue Angels and the Air Force F-22 Raptor Demo Team. For more information, visit FortLauderdaleAirShow.com.



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 workshop will be held on May 13 at 10:30am. For more information, visit Broward.org/Arts.



OESBD is gearing up to open the application portal for the very successful **Small Business Microgrant Program**. As advertised last year, microgrants of \$2,500 will be available to small businesses. The application portal is set to open in May. For more information, visit OESBD Small Business Grants.



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. For more information, visit Natural Resources Division- Sea Turtles.

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](https://twitter.com/LamarPFisher) on X (Twitter) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/LamarPFisher).

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