DECEMBER 2025

Dear Community Members,

The end of the year is near, a great time for reflection and Broward County has a lot to brag about this year! 2025 has been a major year for our community. With a strong and growing seaport and airport, while also providing our community with the resources that are needed. I look forward to next year continuing to build on this momentum as we make Broward County the best place to live, work and play for residents, families and visitors!

My District 4 team and I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday season and very Happy New Year!

Port/Convention Center Traffic Concerns

I understand that in recent weeks traffic around Port Everglades has increased. While the Convention Connector is open, and should relieve some of the congestion, I will continue to work with county administration on a better solution, especially for when we have major conventions combined with several cruise ships at our Port. Please stay tuned for more information.

Omni Hotel Officially Opens

On December 18, I was thrilled to attend the grand opening for the Omni Hotel. A magnificent addition to Broward's hotel inventory, by adding 801 guests' rooms, including 82 of the region's largest suites. As you might have guessed, the rooms feature spectacular views of the ocean, city and/or the intracoastal. Additionally, the hotel provides a range of on-site amenities including at least six distinct dining options, a full-service Mokara Spa, an

elevated pool deck with captivating views, a fitness center, and outdoor spaces designed to host a wide range of activities. We cannot forget the addition of 120,0000 square feet across three levels which help elevate the opportunities for convention space in Broward County and help bring larger conventions to our destination impacting our local economy.

Port Everglades Breaking Records

Broward County's Port Everglades continues to make incredible strides by breaking its own record across all three of its own business sectors; cruise, cargo and energy. For cargo, the port achieved its best year with 1,167,552 TEUs (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units). In the energy sector, Port Everglades affirmed its status as Florida's No. 1 petroleum port, moving 131,855,261 barrels of petroleum products. Cruise operations also surged to historic heights for the port. Port Everglades welcomed a preliminary count of 4,773,873 cruise guests in Fiscal Year 2025, an impressive 16% year-over-year increase. With the new cruise season featuring 40 cruise ships from 9 lines, plus a daily ferry, Port Everglades conservatively forecasts hosting even more cruise guests in Fiscal Year 2026. I was happy to participate in

Broward County's own new podcast *Broward Connects* to brag about all the great cruises joining Port Everglades and what that means for our community. Check it out!

Port Everglades - Broward Connects | Podcast on Spotify

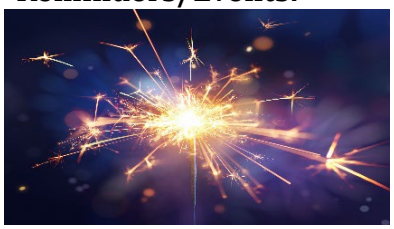
Holiday Travel Forecast and Tips

Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL) is expecting about 2.1 million travelers through January 5. This year, FLL ranked No. 2 based on booking data, and a record 8.03 million domestic travelers nationwide are expected to fly to their holiday celebrations, up 2.3% from 2024, according to AAA's year-end travel insights and forecast. Broward County's Aviation team provides travel trips for all who come through our airport this holiday season. From parking to packing tips, check out aviation's latest news release for a full list of traveling tips, Aviation's Traveling Tips News Release.

FLL's Stormwater Project in Edgewood Ends

Broward County Aviation Division (BCAD) completed the Edgewood Park Stormwater Improvements Project on October 21, approximately six weeks ahead of schedule. Although only approximately 2.5% of the airport's total drainage discharge flows into the permitted stormwater system within the park, restoring the system was essential to maintain functionality in accordance with its original design intent and regulatory requirements, ensuring continued support of airport operations. The project included restoring the original cross-sections of the park's existing drainage ditches, replacing the existing 24-inch stormwater pipe and associated culverts, and cleaning and inspecting other connected stormwater pipes under I-595 and within the property.

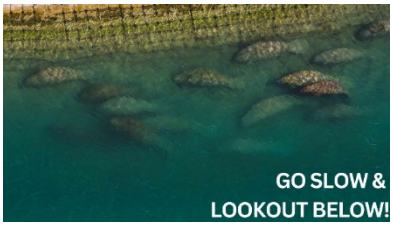
Reminders/Events:



Broward County's Visit Lauderdale provides a great list of **New Year's Eve Celebrations**. From fun full day family events to waterfront nightlife celebrations, find your preferred way to celebrate the new year. Greater Fort Lauderdale Rings in 2026 With Full-Day New Year's Eve Celebrations.

Broward County Parks' annual **Chip-a-Tree program** allows residents to dispose of their Christmas trees in an environmentally friendly way. Starting December 26, you can drop your tree off at a participating park through Monday, January 19. Visit Broward.org/Parks for more information.

Holiday Fantasy of Lights runs through January 3. There is still time to check out this family friendly drive-thru spectacular which runs nightly from 6-10pm. For tickets or more information visit, HolidayLightsDriveThru.com.



Manatee Season runs through March 31 as manatees migrate south for warmer waters. Residents and visitors are also encouraged to download the I Spy A Manatee app to report manatees and their activities, view manatee protection information and learn more about boating safety zones. For more information, please visit Broward.org/Manatees.

SoFloGo App
South Florida Commuters are encouraged to download the SoFloGo app, a regional transportation app that provides real-time information, live directions and alerts, mobile ticketing, and accessibility tools. For more information, please visit SoFloGo.com.

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