



JANUARY 2026

Dear Community Members,

As the nation bears itself through major cold fronts, South Florida is also experiencing slightly cooler weather than usual this week. While for many of us this just means we bundle up a little more in the mornings, for those who are experiencing homelessness, cold weather fronts can be a terrifying situation. In our community, I must applaud the efforts of our Broward County team, alongside community partners who work collaboratively to provide expanded capacity and transportation to shelters, for any homeless person that may have had to otherwise sleep on the cold street. If you have questions or need additional information on the homeless plan for your area, contact the Homeless Helpline at 954-563-4357.

Port/Convention Center Traffic Concerns Update

Broward County continues working collaboratively with the city of Fort Lauderdale, Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to address the traffic concerns around the NE 17th Street Causeway, Convention Center and Port Everglades in the past couple weeks. We understand the frustration our residents feel traveling through this area with the increased traffic.

To address the increased traffic, the County, led by the Port, convened a Traffic Management Taskforce that meets monthly and includes BSO, County staff from Visit Lauderdale, Highway Construction & Engineering, Venues Management, City staff from Transportation and Mobility, Police Department, and the FDOT. The Traffic Management Taskforce is actively working on multiple initiatives that will improve traffic flow management. This includes a coordinated communication effort, allocating sufficient resources from all stakeholders, conducting reviews, installing/replacing signage for enhanced visibility, and road modification to increase vehicle capacity. County Administration is pursuing these initiatives with the field support of BSO, the City's Police Department, FDOT and the Port's security staff. Continued coordination will effectively manage the traffic impacts resulting from the areas continued growth.

I'm confident with the extra attention on this corridor, especially during heavy traveling season and/or major conventions, we will be able to effectively manage traffic impacts into the area. I will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary. Additionally, I encourage everyone to continue to promote the Convention Connector Road as an alternative to taking 17th street to go to the Convention Center. For more information on the Connector Road, please visit [Bypass Road, Broward County Cuts the Ribbon on Progress](#).

[Convention Center Connector - Virtual Drive](#)



Port Everglades Sand Bypass Update



Recently, my office has received inquiries and/or concerns from residents about the Sand Bypass Project. As you may remember, after decades of planning, design and permitting, Broward County began construction of the long-awaited Sand Bypass Project at Port Everglades. This effort is a long-term strategy which will aid in providing a supplemental sand source for the Broward County Segment III Shore Protection Project.

I want residents to know that Broward County is committed to delivering an environmentally beneficial and economically impactful project for the community while protecting our offshore resources and following all State and Federal permit requirements. Most recently, Broward County's Public Works and Environmental Services Department, Natural Resources Division, Beach Program Manager, provided the following update.

- Construction of the sand trap is approximately 42% complete.
- The County is not removing any artificial reef as part of this project, nor do we have documentation of an artificial reef in the project area.
- To ensure timely completion of the project, construction at night is necessary.
- Due to the unpredictability of offshore conditions, especially in the winter months, the contractor needs the flexibility of working 7 days a week to complete the project.
- This information was previously shared to residents in the area. The County is in constant contact with the contractor to ensure that their equipment is operating safely and properly.

I will continue to provide updates through this newsletter. Residents are also encouraged to visit Broward.org/Beaches for more information.

Broward County Consumer Alert

Broward County wants to alert residents and business owners of a recent email scam claiming to come from Broward County's Housing and Urban Planning Division. If you have filled out a plat application and received an email from planning.broward@USA.com, please be aware of the following:

- ALL County emails end in broward.org
- When an application is submitted to the Housing and Urban Planning Division, payment must be submitted WITH the application
- Broward County only accepts checks, NOT wire transfer payments



Customers are also encouraged to report it to the Consumer Protection Division at 311, by phone or online. Learn more about the County's platting application process by visiting, [Broward County's Urban Planning Division Platting website](#).

Tri Rail Receives Transportation Security Award

The South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) recently received the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Gold Standard Award, recognizing the agency's continued commitment to transit security and preparedness. This marks the second time SFRTA has received recognition, previously earning the Gold Standard Award in 2013. The TSA Gold Standard Award is given to transit agencies that demonstrate excellence in maintaining security protocols and readiness. Receiving this award for a second time demonstrates SFRTA's continued focus on improving security operations. I applaud SFRTA's security personnel and law enforcement partners who operate daily across the Tri-Rail system's three-county service area. Additionally, I'm proud to continue serving on the SFRTA Board representing Broward County, making sure this much needed resource stays on our tracks for residents who use it for work or the many visitors who enjoy the perks of getting out of the car and on to the train. For more information on Tri-Rail, please visit Tri-Rail.com.



Broward County's Volunteer Opportunities

With a new year, new goals, challenges and opportunities also come. If you have been eager to volunteer, Broward County offers a variety of volunteer opportunities throughout many of our departments. Most exciting, I wanted to share three unique opportunities provided below.



FLL 2026 Triennial Full-Scale Emergency Exercise will be held March 5 - 8pm-12:30am (overnight). FLL is looking for volunteers to play the role of passengers (triage victims) and Family Reception Center members for their upcoming 2026 "Operation Night Owl," taking place on Thursday, March 5. Deadline to register is Tomorrow, January 30! [Register Here](#).



Broward County's Parks and Recreation Division needs volunteers. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities at each park site, and they can accommodate a variety of schedules. For additional information, please contact the [Volunteer Coordinator](#) at 954-357-8708. [Support Parks Volunteers](#)



Broward County's [Visit Lauderdale](#) will proudly host the [U.S. Travel Association's IPW](#) May 17-21 at the Broward County Convention Center. Volunteers are needed to greet attendees, staff welcome stations, assist at information desks, and support tours. This is an opportunity to witness world-class hospitality in action and connect with tourism leaders from across the globe. Visit [VisitLauderdale.com/IPW/Volunteer](#) for more information.

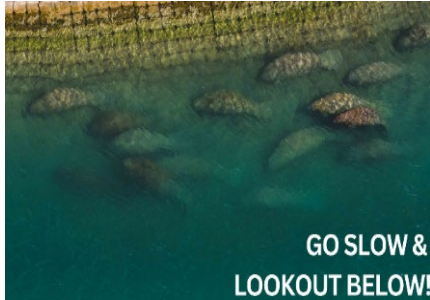
Reminders & Events:



Cultural Divisions **Ignite Broward** returns February 13-22 at four district locations across the County. This free annual light and technology art festival will feature large-scale, immersive installations, interactive sculptures, projection mapping, and sound experiences by local, national, and international artists.



The Bus Safety Roadeo will take place on Sunday, February 22 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm, at the Amerant Bank Arena, Gate 7, in Sunrise. This is a family-friendly event, which is open to the public and free to attend, with food trucks, children's activities, and an awards ceremony at 12:30 pm. [Learn More.](#)



Manatee Season runs through March 31. During the colder months, these gentle giants begin to migrate to our warm water refuges. Residents and visitors are 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