

PUBLIC SERVICES

PUBLIC SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Led County's efforts to form a new functionally consolidated Fire/EMS entity and the development of a Countywide fire services fee with the City of Tallahassee that would provide residents with enhanced fire-rescue and emergency medical services. This will allow residents to benefit from greater efficiency in both departments through the addition of first-response personnel at Leon County's five rural fire stations, resulting in a total of 18 new responders.
- Spearheaded a total overhaul of Leon County tourism, consolidating all tourism marketing into a single organization within Leon County government, branded as Visit Tallahassee.
- Facilitated a comprehensive effort establishing the County's first Citizen Charter Review Committee in preparation for formal review of Leon County's Home Rule Charter in order to be better reflective of the people and to serve them in achieving a more responsive and efficient form of government.
- Formally established the Office of Sustainability and hired a full-time Sustainability Coordinator to further the County government's energy savings and move toward a more sustainable future, both through governmental operations and efforts within the community, such as energy conservation, waste reduction, recycling and green building practices.
- Initiated effort to secure federal funds through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Economic Stimulus Package) through education, outreach and collaborative efforts with area agencies.
- Managed preparation, response and recovery for Tropical Storm Fay, which inundated Leon County with more than 17 inches of rain over a 72-hour period in August 2008. Comprehensive post-storm review revealed response strengths and identified areas of weakness on which to build.
- Developed Public Safety Coordinating Council's Annual Report, highlighting the County's jail population trends, demographics and alternative programs aimed at reducing jail overcrowding.
- Coordinated government resources for a massive, multi-agency, multi-disciplinary community project for a selected Leon County family for the popular ABC show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."
- Investigated lobbying expenses and reduced the County's state contract costs by half while maintaining the same level of service.
- Completed several innovative changes to the County's Land Development Code, streamlining the development review process, providing greater flexibility in the use of property, and facilitating smarter development.
- Realized a return of more than \$5 in community benefits for every \$1 of County tax revenue expended for the County's primary healthcare program.
- Grew County's communication efforts by increasing citizen opportunities to provide input and ideas for improving County programs and services through traditional broadcast, new media, as well as grassroots community engagement.



Did You Know

In FY 2008/2009, Leon County was awarded more than \$15 million in grant monies for projects, including law enforcement and court-related services, disaster recovery, affordable housing, park development and local economic stimulus activities.

For more information contact:

Don Lanham
Director
Grants Program
(850) 606-5328
LanhamD@leoncountyfl.gov



Vincent S. Long
Deputy County Administrator
606-5300
LongV@leoncountyfl.gov

The mission of Public Services is to maintain Leon County's high quality of life through services that address the public's health, safety and welfare. The Public Services department is comprised of Intergovernmental Affairs, Public Information, Library Services, Cooperative Extension, Health & Human Services, Growth & Environmental Management, Emergency Medical Services, Grants, Planning, Tourism Development and Blueprint 2000.

The Deputy County Administrator provides leadership and direction to division directors, as well as the core group of professional staff who perform policy analysis, legislative coordination and public relations activities. Long also works closely with the County Administrator to execute the Board's highest priorities.

