



PUBLIC WORKS: OPERATIONS

PEOPLE FOCUSED

The Public Works Operations division provides for the safety, comfort, and convenience of the public by creating, maintaining, and managing infrastructure and programs supporting transportation, roadside beautification, and stormwater maintenance.

This division oversees services supporting transportation infrastructure, rights-of-way, canopy roads, roadside beautification, stormwater maintenance, mosquito control, and programs that place an emphasis on efficiency, cost effectiveness, and environmental awareness.

Dale Walker has served as the division director since 2004 and has been an employee of Public Works for more than 35 years, receiving his designation as a Certified Public Manager from the Florida Center of Management in 1995. Walker oversees Right-of-Way, Stormwater, Alternative Stabilization, Transportation, and Mosquito Control programs.



Dale Walker

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PERFORMANCE DRIVEN

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- Part of an on-going effort to make Leon County roadways safer for citizens who require increased night-time visibility, Operations purchased scientific instrumentation to measure the retro-reflectivity of signs. With this new equipment, Leon County is exceeding the minimum standards and specifications as described in the Federal Highway Administrations Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Other improvements include utilization of super high intensity sign facing materials, utilization of raised pavement markers and thermoplastic pavement striping for greater visibility of the County's Arterial roadways.
- Leon County continues to provide innovation in the area of sustainability and community beautification. Operations provided several examples of this throughout the year:
 - » Assisted the Office of Sustainability in the installation of the 40,000-gallon rainwater capture cistern project at the Cooperative Extension facility. Operations was responsible for delivery of the tanks, excavation of the cistern tank pits, and hauling the related soil and fill sand.
 - » Initiated the first ever roadside litter recycling program through the Right-of-Way Management program and more than nine tons of roadside litter was recycled this year.
 - » Collected more than 2,770 discarded used tires through numerous neighborhoods and were processed at the County's recycling center. Collecting the tires also resulted in less breeding areas for mosquitoes.
 - » Expanded the Wildflower Pilot Project in two new areas and documented the wildflower growth in all of the designated areas.
- » Celebrated Arbor Day 2011 by joining with the City of Tallahassee to plant 91 native trees at Lafayette Park. About 100 citizen volunteers came to help beautify this historic park.
- » Planted 280 southern crabapple trees as part of Leon County's Adopt-A-Tree Program.
- » Updated Leon County welcome signs in partnership with Leon County Tourism Development, the Division of Engineering Services and Community and Media Relations.
- To address public concerns and requests, Operations responded to over 150 after-hours service requests as a result of downed trees and other emergency issues as well as addressed over 6,500 service calls associated with mosquito control.

 **Did You Know**
During this past year, Operations...

- Repaired over 45 miles of road shoulders
- Installed and repaired over 11,000 street signs
- Painted over 100,000 square feet of pavement symbols