



A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY: 2015 LEON COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT IN BRIEF

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

On September 29, 2015, I presented the 2015 Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners. It is now my pleasure, as Leon County Administrator, to present this report to the residents of our community.

2015 was another year of significant progress for Leon County toward realizing an ambitious vision for our community and setting the standard for performance, fiscal stewardship and best practices for local governments everywhere. We completed major infrastructure projects, launched bold policy initiatives, and enhanced efficiencies, created innovations, and improved service delivery to our citizens. Overall, from our operations and finances, to our core practices and organizational culture, we are stronger today than we were even a year ago.



Vincent S. Long

The Annual Report shows County employees living our "People Focused, Performance Driven" culture through our core practices, and our continued focus on aligning the optimized resources of Leon County government with the Board's top priorities: to grow and diversify our local economy; to be a responsible steward of our natural resources and protect our environment; to enhance Leon County's quality of life, so it is a place where people are healthy, safe and connected to their community; and to continuously improve how we serve you.

The Annual Report highlights measures Leon County has taken to engage citizens as co-creators of their community; game changing infrastructure projects that came to life, sparking revitalization and private-sector investment; and strategic initiatives that are enhancing our quality of life and growing our local economy.

Through the vision and leadership provided by the Board of County Commissioners, and hard work of dedicated employees, I am proud to report that in 2015, Leon County has proven to be a government that our citizens can believe in and others can benchmark against. What follows are excerpts from the Annual Report. I invite you to read the full report and view the Annual Report video at www.LeonCountyFL.gov/AnnualReport and I always welcome your feedback.

PRESERVING LIFE, IMPROVING HEALTH, PROMOTING SAFETY

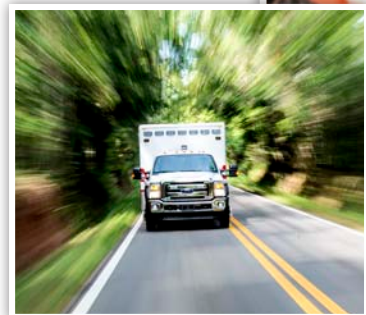
Leon County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) received 36,729 calls for service in 2015; a 36% increase since 2004, which was its first year of operation after Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare discontinued its ambulance service. EMS' Heart Ready initiative has improved cardiac arrest survival rates to 35% upon arrival at the emergency room, which is 400 times better than the 7% national average. EMS trained more than 1,600 residents in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and in the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs).

Cardiac Survival Rate

7% National Average

35%

Leon County



INSPIRING A LOVE OF READING AND A LIFE OF LEARNING

The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System welcomed more than 1 million visitors in 2015, a number greater than the population of Rhode Island. Leon County residents checked out more than 1.7 million books and other media, and downloaded 65,000 eBooks and audio materials from its collection. To further increase access to digital resources, Leon County unveiled a new online catalog featuring improved search options and quick access to online resources, services and information. You may learn more about Leon County's libraries and download eBooks and audio books at: www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Library



2015 LEON COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT VIDEO

This year's Annual Report video visually engages citizens in the accomplishments of their County government like never before by telling a year-long story of County services in the community.



To view the video, please visit:

www.LeonCountyFL.gov/AnnualReport

TRANSFORMING AND RENEWING THE COMMUNITY

Leon County Government celebrated Domi Station's first year of success. In just one short year, Domi Station has gone from a newly renovated space with fresh paint to a thriving business incubator with over 125 members and 35 companies. Those in attendance learned how the startup businesses in Leon County's first business incubator have brought in outside investment, created new jobs, and generated almost a million dollars in revenue. Also, Leon County's Capital City Amphitheater has brought in some of the largest names in the industry from the Pink Floyd Experience, to Wilco, to The Avett Brothers and The Beach Boys. Lastly, voters approved the Leon County Sales Tax in November. The penny sales tax projects will create and promote jobs right here in Leon County. This penny sales tax will shape our community for generations to come.



INVESTING IN THE COMMUNITY AND CREATING JOBS (FY15 & FY16)

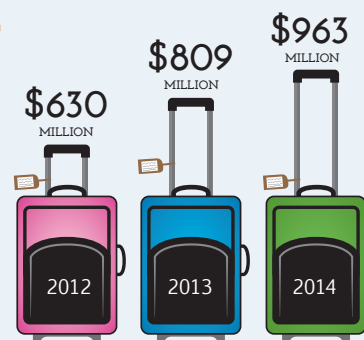
Over the past few years, the Board has focused resources on maintaining jobs, investing in the community, and making local infrastructure improvements. These steps include committing \$90.7 million towards capital projects. Based on analysis performed by the Economic Development Council, for every \$1 million spent, 9.2 jobs are created; therefore, 781 jobs were created from these capital project investments.



TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Economic Impact

Through the Capital City Amphitheater concert series and many other tourism-related events, Leon County has seen the tourism economy grow to an almost \$1 billion industry.



PROVIDING TRANSPARENCY AND ENGAGING CITIZENS IN MEANINGFUL WAYS

Leon County has a long history of promoting citizen involvement to guide policy and shape our community. Since 2012, the nationally-recognized Citizen Engagement Series has provided greater opportunities to build trust through meaningful engagement. The Citizen Engagement Series sessions enhance transparency and convey the relevance of County government through immersive hands-on exercises that offer a glimpse into the decision making process that shape the community.



VALUING VETERANS

Leon County Government is dedicated to serving veterans. In 2015, Leon County served more than 4,500 veterans and dependents with face-to-face consultations. For his or her service, a veteran has earned many benefits. But sometimes, the application process can be complicated. Leon County staff works to help veterans and their spouses process medical claims, retirement benefits, and even to receive assistance for certain approved emergency needs like heating and cooling. But being a one-stop shop for local veterans is not the whole story of what Leon County does. In 2015, Leon County engaged the community on veteran events such as Honor Flight, Operation Thank You, and the Veterans Day Parade.

