

FROM THE DESK OF JIM CAMERON

JIM CAMERON CONSULTING LLC

February 2022

JIM CAMERON CONSULTING LLC brings 38 years of experience working with local governments and is now available to serve on a clientele basis for new land development projects, campaign assistance and more.

For more information, visit <u>www.JimCameronConsulting.com</u> or call me at **386-566-2140**.

"Days, nights, and weekends, *my guarantee still stands*. *If I don't return your call in eight business hours, I will pay you \$1,000 cash.*"

Congressional News

Build Back Better? With the stalemate in the Senate, President Biden's Build Back Better is at a standstill. However, he has suggested that lawmakers dice Build Back Better into chunks.

If Democrats pursue to go the budget reconciliation route, it would be exempt from filibusters. However, the Senate while in the 50/50 status, won't like see further action if **W Virginia Senator Joe Manchin** and **Arizona Senator Kyrsten Sinema** won't support eliminating the filibuster.



Meanwhile, **Senator Marco Rubio stated**, "This is not a plan to 'Build Back Better,' this is a plan to 'Build Back Socialist" (October 28, 2021). He expressed concern that the bill would hurt Florida hospitals, especially those that treat low-income residents and the uninsured. He signed on to a letter asking the Congressional Budget Office how the bill would affect states that did not expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

Senator Rick Scott stated, "Until we get inflation under control, we've got to put Build Back Better on hold. There's a day of reckoning for all this debt" (December 13, 2021). He cited a report from the Unv of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business finding that President Biden's "Build Back Better" proposal would increase U.S. debt by nearly \$2.5 TRILLION.





Cong Michael Waltz stated "Build Back Better" will add trillions of dollars to our national debt and drive our existing social programs towards bankruptcy even faster, We already hold \$29 trillion in federal debt, spent nearly \$5 trillion in COVID-19 relief over the last two years (\$1 trillion is still unspent), and President Biden signed a \$1 trillion spending bill earlier this week." (November 19, 2021).

House and Senate Propose FY 2022-23 Budgets...

On February 7, the **Senate Appropriations** Committee proposed a \$108.6 B budget for the next fiscal year..... <u>Sen Travis Hutson</u> voted **YES.**

Allocations are based on

- Human services: \$31.2B
- Criminal justice & corrections: \$40.3B
- Infrastructure: \$15.1B
- General gov't: \$18.3B
- Judicial branch: \$4.5B

The House proposed a \$105.3 B budget (PCB APC 22-01 General Appropriations Act)<u>Rep Tom Leek Rep Paul Renner</u> voted **YES.** Click here for a Summary

Allocations are based on

- Education: \$28B
- Human services: \$47.1B
- Criminal justice & corrections: \$5.3B
- Infrastructure: \$17B
- General Gov't: \$7.3B
- Judicial branch: \$635M

Once approved in Appropriations, both Senate and House budgets should go up for floor votes next week.

<u>Click here</u> for LOCAL projects in the proposed Senate budget. <u>Click here</u> for LOCAL projects in the proposed House budget.

It remains to be seen how either of these budgets may be seen by Gov DeSantis who proposed a \$99.7 billion budget last month.



Pop Up Events Legislation Moving

H 1435 Traffic & Code Enforcement/Pop

Up Events by Rep Tom Leek was approved by the House <u>Tourism In-</u> <u>frastructure Energy</u> <u>Subcommittee.</u> The bill seeks to assist local governments in responding to pop-up e.g. Truck



events by authorizing the sheriff or chief county/city official to designate a special event zone in response for unpermitted events organized/promoted via a social media and attended by 50 or more persons and increases/disrupts the normal flow of traffic.

It also prohibits excessive noise from motor vehicles. Next Stop is **Judiciary Committee** (<u>**Rep Elizabeth Fetterhoff**</u> – member).



The Senate version <u>S 1954</u> by Sen Tom Wright was approved by the Community Affairs (Sens Jason Brodeur and <u>Travis Hutson</u> – voted YES).



3309 S Atlantic Ave Daytona Beach Shores

House & Senate Approve Legislative Districts...Congressional Districts on Hold

The Senate approved (<u>SJR 100</u>) 34-3 to set *their new lines* (Sens Tom Wright, Travis Hutson, Jason Brodeur voted YES). The House voted 77-39 for the same bill (Reps Tom Leek, Elizabeth Fetterhoff, Paul Renner voted YES)a combined bill that included Senate and House lines.

Attorney General Ashley Moody has 15 days to file a petition with the Supreme Court seeking a ruling on the validity of the redrawn legislative districts.

The court will have 30 days to issue an order, with opponents and the supporters of the maps able to file briefs. With the legislative maps moving forward, work on the congressional map has stopped. The Senate, House and Governor's office are still negotiating final details for Florida's 28 districts.

The new legislative and congressional districts must be set prior to June 13... candidate qualification for this year's elections.

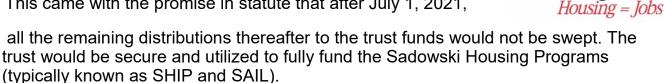
See proposed House and Senate districts on pages of this newsletter.

Sadowski

Housing Coalition

Please Contact House and Senate Members As Soon As Possible

In 2021, the Legislature permanently reduced monies going into the Sadowski Affordable Housing Trust Funds by 50%. This came with the promise in statute that after July 1, 2021,



The commitment was clear and understood by all parties. For Fiscal Year 21-22, the legislature kept the commitment and utilized all the monies in the housing trust funds for housing programs.

The House budget for FY 22-23 proposes only \$268.1 million for housing programs, which is substantially short of full appropriation.

Click here for more information.



Jim Cameron Consulting LLC

is now located at *The Fountainhead at Holly Hill*. You can stop by 1200 Center Ave Monday thru Friday or call me at 386-566-2140 to set a meeting.



County Council members and staff allocate ARPA Funds

County Council Allocates Federal Funds

The County Council held a workshop on February 1 to allocate \$107.5 million in coronavirus relief the county recently received under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Council had to consider NEW US Treasury guidelines which led to expenditure changes. However, a significant portion was allotted to infrastructure. SOME of the agreed upon expenditures included.....

- Southwest Regional Water Reclamation Facility: \$18.4 million
- Flood Control Projects \$10.5 million
- Southeast Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant: \$6.6 million
- Juvenile Assessment Ctr: \$5.4 million
- Broadband enhancements: \$5 million.

- Emergency Vehicle Operators Course: \$5 million
- Low Income Housing repair program: \$4 million
- Marine Science Center improvements: \$2.9 million
- Affordable housing: \$2.5 million
- 4-Laning Williamson (Beville Rd to Madeline Ave): \$2.3 million
- Beach renourishment facility study: \$1.5 million
- Small Business Resource Center:
 \$1 million
- Veterans Homeless Shelter: \$1 million

The County Council will FINALIZE these decisions at their February 15 meeting.



Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable Monday, March 14, 9 – 11 am Location – to be announced.....

This meeting is open to the public and elected officials from County government, Volusia School system, and Volusia cities.

Call Kevin Captain 386-822-5062 for more details.





State of the County Presentation

February 8 – the State of the County luncheon took place at the Ocean Center.

County Chair Jeff Brower stressed the need for more affordable housing throughout the county....for workers, veterans and seniors. He emphasized home ownership including tiny houses.

He also stressed that "growth cannot pay for itself..it only hands the bill to the next generation". He stated that responsible growth creates stability. He also wanted to open up beaches for county residents that already pay property tax and allow cars back in the core tourist district.

Click here for more information.

Volusia Economic Development Q4 Breakfast

Economic Development Director Helga van Eckert

reported that Volusia's unemployment rates at 4.0% (vs 4.5% December 2020). Florida unemployment is 3.6%.

<u>Click here</u> to see employment rates for cities.



Lori Campbell Baker Debbie Mehlis Georgia Turner Helga van Eckert

Local Tourism Execs Lori Campbell Baker (Daytona Beach CVB), Debbie Mehlis (New Smyrna Beach SVAA) Georgia Turner (W Volusia Tourism Advertising Authority) outlined their advertising campaigns. They spoke of changing demographics and how their adapting to the COVID situation.

They concurred that Ocean Center events, increased traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport as well as a strong holiday season influx has made a positive difference.

Commercial Space Industry Opportunity Overlay....in a move similar to what the County approved in May 2020, the Cities of Edgewater, New Smyrna Beach and Oak Hill are amending their Comprehensive Plans' Future Land Use Element to create a Commercial Space Industry Opportunity Overlay. In conjunction with the County, this move should facilitate the process of locating new aerospace-related companies in southeast Volusia.



Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable

January 10.....the **Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable** met in Deltona.... At the meeting....

County Community Services Director Dona Butler told of the recent Housing Summit on December....3 committees were formed regarding funding, land use and **Sr Asst County Attorney Paola Sofia** updated the group on Opioid Litigation... County and 4 cities are still in litigation. The effort is being led by the State Attorney General reimbursement of expenses to local governments related to opioids. This could mean significant NEW money coming to County and City government.

Click here for additional details.



New Appointments and Career Changes...

DB Shores City Manager Mike Booker will retire July 8. He served 22-years in the Shores where he oversaw a new City HQ Bldg., Police/Fire complex, a new Community Center, development of McElroy Park plus 10 pickleball courts and a tennis complex.

More so, Mike was always a premier ambassador to the Shores....a class act....he always me feel welcomed whether it be a City Council meeting, Special event, or an office visit. We wish you the best Mike, you've served us well!

DB Shores Assistant City Manager and Finance Director Kurt Swartzlander was selected by the City Council to serve as their next City Manager, effective July 2022. He was previously Finance Director in Holly Hill.

He has an MBA from Stetson University. He and his wife, Stacy, have four children: Sydney, Kinsley, Jadon and Jackson.

Kurt has always been great to work with.... providing any answers you need. Look forward to working with you in the future!





Madison Miller was announced as **Volusia Teacher of the Year** at this year's ceremony on February 23. From Chisholm Elementary, she was selected from 70 nominees representing schools countywide. She will now represent Volusia in the state Teacher of the Year program. Congratulations Madison!

Dr. Scott Fritz was selected as a 2021 Superintendent to Watch by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA). He and 19 other superintendents nationwide who were selected for their innovative and effective use of technology to engage and inform the school community, and to expand two-way communication and outreach efforts





Volusia County Schools' graduation rate for the 2020-21 school year increased by 4.2%. The 91.9% graduation rateits highest ever. The district's graduation rate has grown more than 13% over three years. Volusia County's graduation rate surpasses the state average of 90.1% by 1.8% for the first time.

Last month, the County Council confirmed **Arden Fontaine** as deputy director to the Public Works Dept. He started 2001 as a geographic information system (GIS) specialist in the Public Works Dept serving in different capacities over the years. He will be working with **Dept Director Ben Bartlett** who took over the Dept in October.









Zane Ertel, Tom Self, Amanda Thorpe, Barry Cotton with Synergy Medical Billing's Jayson Meyer, Jeanette Duerr

Area Staff Visits Volusia County

... periodically, staff members Ernie Audino (Cong Michael Waltz) Zane Ertel (CFO Jimmy Patronis), Barry Cotton (Senator Rick Scott), Tom Self (Senator Marco Rubio) and Amanda Thorpe (Gov Ron DeSantis) come to Volusia for special events and to visit local businesses/organizations.

Recent visits included Elected Officials Roundtable, **Synergy Medical Billing**, Volusia Economic Q4 Breakfast and State of the We're proud to have this relationship with their offices because it's important to build a close working rapport within our community.

Each staffer takes notes and relays "Volusia's input back to their home office".

Call me and I'll be glad to schedule a visit with your office.



Ernie Audino, Volusia Economic Resources' Cyrus Callum, Zane Ertel

Elections 2022 Click the candidate link for more info.

Current Congressional/Legislative Candidates

August 23 (Primary), November 8 (General)

Governor

Charlie Crist (DEM) **Website** Ron DeSantis (REP) *Incumbent Website Nikki Fried (DEM) Website

Attorney General

Jim Lewis (DEM) **Website** Ashley Moody (REP) *Incumbent Website

Agriculture Commissioner Rvan Morales (DEM) Website Wilton Simpson (REP) <u>Website</u>

Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis (REP) *Incumbent Website

Candidates' district will change. See new district maps on pages 16-19

Congressional District ?? Charles Davis (REP) **Website** Joe Hannoush (LPF) **Website Gerry Nolan** (NPA) Website **<u>Richard Thripp</u>** (DEM) Website Michael Waltz (REP) * Incumbent Website

Congressional District ?? Erika Benfield (REP) Website Joseph Cavagna (REP) <u>Website</u> Jeremy Liggett (REP) Website

Alek Pastrana (DEM) Website Anthony Sabatini (REP) Website Florida Senate District 7 Travis Hutson (REP) *Incumbent Website Gerald James (REP) Website

Florida Senate District 9 Jason Brodeur (REP) *Incumbent Website

Florida Senate District ?? Tom Wright (REP) *Incumbent Website

Florida House District ?? Paul Renner (REP) *Incumbent Website Timothy Sharp (REP) Website

Florida House District ?? Tom Leek (REP) *Incumbent Website

Florida House District ?? Elizabeth Fetterhoff (REP) *Incumbent <u>Website</u> John Navarra (DEM) Website

Florida House District ?? Webster Barnaby (REP) *Incumbent Website

NEW Florida House District 30 Chase Tramont Website

Current County Council and School Board Candidates

County Council, At-Large Sherrise Boyd Website Jake Johansson Website Heather Post Website

County Council, District 1 Wallace Bailey Website Barb Girtman Website Ronnie Mills Website

County Council, District 2 Danny Fuqua Website Paul Zimmerman Website

County Council, District 3 Danny Robins Website

County Council, District 4 Troy Kent Website Rob Littleton Website Kenneth Smith Website

County Council, District 5 Victor Ramos Website David Sosa Website

School Board, District 1 **Georgeann Carnicella** Website **Jaclyn Carrell** Website Jamie Haynes **Website** Ginny Beth Joiner Website School Board, District 3 Justin Kennedy **Website** Kim Short **Website** Jessie Thompson **Website** School Board, District 5

School Board, District 5 Ruben Colon Website Fred Lowry Website

Elections 2022 Click the candidate link for more info.

City Filed Candidates August 23 (Primary), November 8 (General)

Daytona Beach City Commission, Zone 1 **Ruth Trager** Website

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 3 Quanita May **Website** Steve Miller Website

Daytona Beach Shores Mayor Nancy Miller Website

Daytona Beach Shores Council Seat 1 **Richard Frizalone** Website

Davtona Beach Shores Council Seat 3 Mel Lindauer **Website**

Edgewater Mayor Diezel Douglas Depew Website

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 1 Lori Tolland Website

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 2 Travis Craig Sargent Website

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 3 Susan Persis **Website**

DeLand Mayor Christopher Cloudman Website **Buz Nesbit** Website **Reginald Williams** Website

Deland Commission Seat 3 Jessica Davis Website

Deltona Commission Zone 1 Thomas Burbank Website

New Smyrna Beach Mayor Russell Öwen Website

Port Orange Council District 2 Cathleen (Kat) Atwood Website

Ormond Beach Mayor Bill Partington Website

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 4 Harold Brilev Website **Brian Nave** Website

LOOK FOR OTHER CANDIDATES TO FILE SOON!!!!

Click here to see status of ACTIVE (PROPOSED) STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION for VOLUSIA COUNTY



Sen. Marco Rubio (R)

284 Russell Senate Office Bldg. Washington DC 20510 marcorubio@senate.gov 202-224-3041

Chief of Staff – Mike Needham Regional Director – Tom Self <u>thomas_self@rubio.senate.gov</u>

201 S Orange Ave Ste 350 Orlando, FL 32801 407-254-2573

COMMITTEES

- <u>Appropriations</u>
- Foreign Relations
- <u>Small Business and Entrepreneurship</u>
- <u>Select Committee on Intelligence (Vice</u> <u>Chairman)</u>
- Special Committee on Aging
- <u>Commission on Security and Cooperation in</u> <u>Europe</u>



Sen Rick Scott (R) 716 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 <u>Rick scott@senate.gov</u> 202-228-0493

Chief of Staff – Craig Carbone Regional Director – Barry Cotton barry_cotton@rickscott.senate.gov

225 E Robinson St Orlando, FL 32801 407-872-7161

Cong. Michael Waltz (R - 6)

213 Čannon House Office Bldg. Washington DC 20515 <u>michael.waltz@mail.house.gov</u> 202-225-2706

Chief of Staff – Micah Ketchel Legislative Director – Walker Barrett Dist. Staff – Ernie Audino, Sue Bower

1000 City Center Circle Port Orange, FL 32127 386-238-9711

COMMITTEES

- <u>Committee on Armed Services</u>
- <u>Commerce, Science, Transportation</u>
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- <u>Budget</u>
- Special Committee on Aging

COMMITTEES

- <u>Armed Services</u>
- <u>Science, Space, and Technology</u>

VOLUSIA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION (1 of 2) Session February 11 – March 11



Sen Jason Brodeur R - District 9 311 Senate Office Bldg. (850) 487-5009 Brodeur.jason@flsenate.gov

District Office-922 Williston Park Pt Ste 1300 Lake Mary, FL 32746 (407) 333-1802

Legis Assts - Zack Brodersen, Robbie Vogan Secretary - Victoria Mohebpour



Sen Travis Hutson R – District 7 416 Senate Office Bldg. (850) 487-5007 Hutson.Travis@flsenate.gov

District Office 4875 Palm Coast Pkwy NW, Ste 5 Palm Coast, FL 32137 386-446-7644

Legislative Asst – Hunter Clary Aides – Danielle Curbow, Matthew Kauffman



Sen Tom Wright R – District 14 320 Senate Office Bldg. (850) 487-5014 Wright.Tom@flsenate.gov

District Office 4606 Clyde Morris Blvd Suite 2-J Port Orange, FL 32169 386-304-7630

Legislative Assts – Diane Suddes, Christopher Morris, Charlene Gagnier



Rep Tom Leek R - District 25 402 House Office Bldg. (850) 717-5025 Tom.Leek@myfloridahouse.gov

District Office 1540 Cornerstone Blvd, Ste 240 Daytona Beach, FL 32117 386-238-4865

District Secretary – Lynnette Phillips Legislative Asst – Stephanie Benedict

Committee Assignments

- Environment-Natural Resources, Chair
- Health Policy, Vice Chair
- <u>Agriculture, Environment, General Govt</u>
- <u>Appropriations Subcommittee</u>
- <u>Health, Human Services</u>
- <u>Appropriations Subcommittee</u>
- <u>Children, Families, and Elder Affairs;</u>
 <u>Community Affairs</u>

Committee Assignments

- Regulated Industries, Chair:
- <u>Appropriations</u>
- Education Appropriations Subcommittee
- <u>Commerce and Tourism</u>
- <u>Community Affairs</u>
- Education
- <u>Rules</u>

Committee Assignments

- <u>Military, Veterans Affairs, Space, Domestic</u> Security, Chair
- <u>Criminal/Civil Justice Appropriations</u> <u>Subcommittee, Vice Chair</u>
- Commerce and Tourism, Vice Chair
- <u>Transportation</u>
- <u>Transportation, Tourism, Economic</u> <u>Development Appropriations Subcommittee</u>
- <u>Finance and Tax; Children, Families, Elder</u>
 <u>Affairs</u>

Committee Assignments

- <u>Redistricting Chair</u>
- Appropriations

VOLUSIA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION (2 of 2) Session February 11 – March 11



Rep Elizabeth Fetterhoff R -District 26

1401 Capitol Tallahassee (850) 717-5026 Elizabeth.fetterhoff@myfloridahouse.gov

District Office 120 S Florida Ave 3rd floor DeLand, FL 32720 386-736-5187

Legislative Asst – Valerie Clarke District Secretary – Francesca Audino

Committee Assignments

- Insurance & Banking Subcommittee Vice Chair
- <u>Judiciary</u>
- <u>Criminal Justice & Public Safety</u> <u>Subcommittee</u>
- <u>Rules</u>

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- <u>Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee</u>
- Government Operations Subcommittee
- Local Administration & Veterans Affairs
 Subcommittee



Rep Webster Barnaby R - District 27 1101 Capitol Tallahassee (850) 717-5027 Webster.Barnaby@myfloridahouse.gov

District Office 2730 Enterprise Road, Suite C Orange City, FL 32763 386-851-0799

Legislative Asst – Hunter Wilkins District Secretary – Hilda Quintero

Committee Assignments

- Insurance & Banking Subcommittee Vice Chair
- <u>Judiciary</u>
- <u>Criminal Justice & Public Safety</u> <u>Subcommittee</u>
- <u>Rules</u>
- <u>Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee</u>
- <u>Government Operations Subcommittee</u>
- Local Administration & Veterans Affairs
 Subcommittee



Rep Paul Renner R - District 24 418 Capitol Tallahassee (850) 717-5024 Paul.Renner@myfloridahouse.gov

4877 Palm Coast Parkway NW, Suite 1 Palm Coast, FL 32137 386-446-7644

Legislative Asst - Samantha Story

Committee Assignments

- Rules Committee, Chair
- <u>Appropriations Committee</u>

Local Government Links

Volusia County Council Daytona Beach City Commission Ormond Beach City Commission Port Orange City Council Holly Hill City Commission South Daytona City Council Daytona Bch Shores City Council **DeBary City Council Deland City Council** Deltona City Commission **Edgewater City Council** Lake Helen City Commission New Smyrna Bch Commission Oak Hill City Commission Orange City City Council Ponce Inlet Town Council School Board of Volusia **River to Sea TPO**

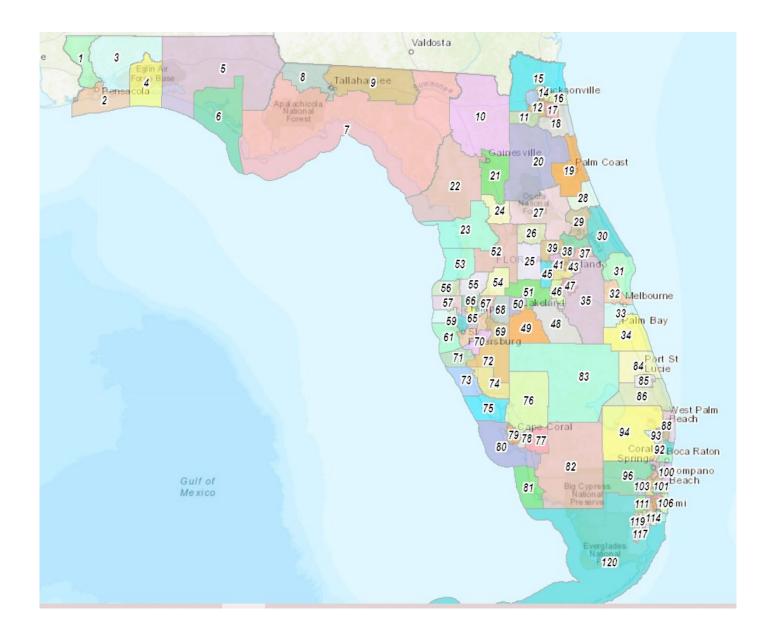
February 1, 15 - 9:30 am Admin Bldg February 2, 16 - 6 pm City Hall February 1, 15 - 7 pm City Hall February 1, 15 - 6:30 City Hall February 8, 22 - 6 pm City Hall February 8 - 6 pm City Hall February 22 - 6 pm City Hall February 16 - 6:30 pm City Hall February 21 - 7 pm City Hall February 7, 21 - 6:30 pm City Hall February 7 - 6:00 pm City Hall February 10 - 7:00 pm City Hall February 22, 25 - 6:30 pm City Hall February 14 - 6 pm City Hall February 22 - 6:30 pm City Hall February 17 - 6:00 pm City Hall February 22 - 5:30 pm Deland February 23 - 9 am TPO Office





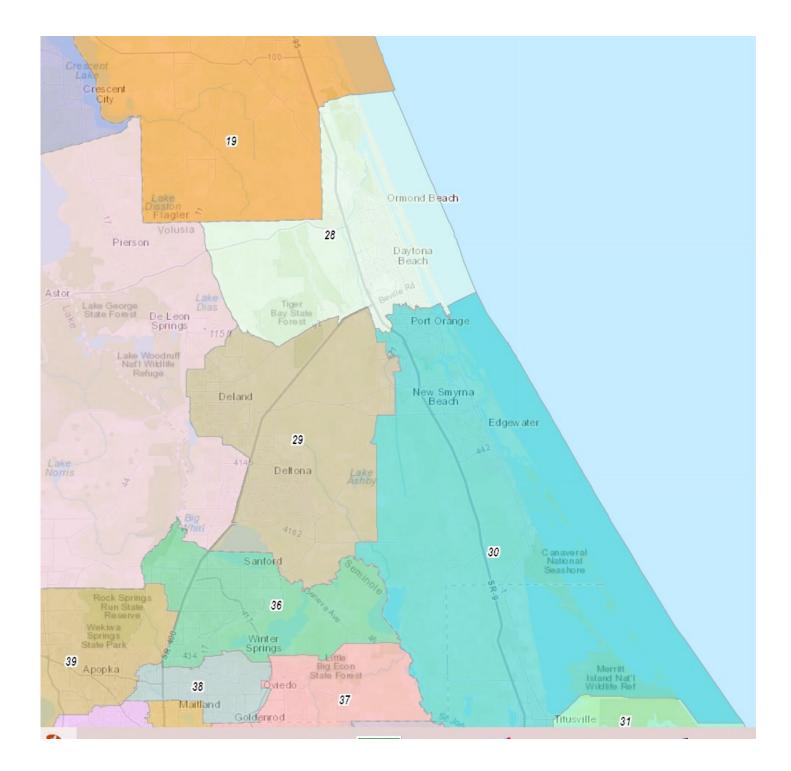
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Proposed Florida House Districts Map

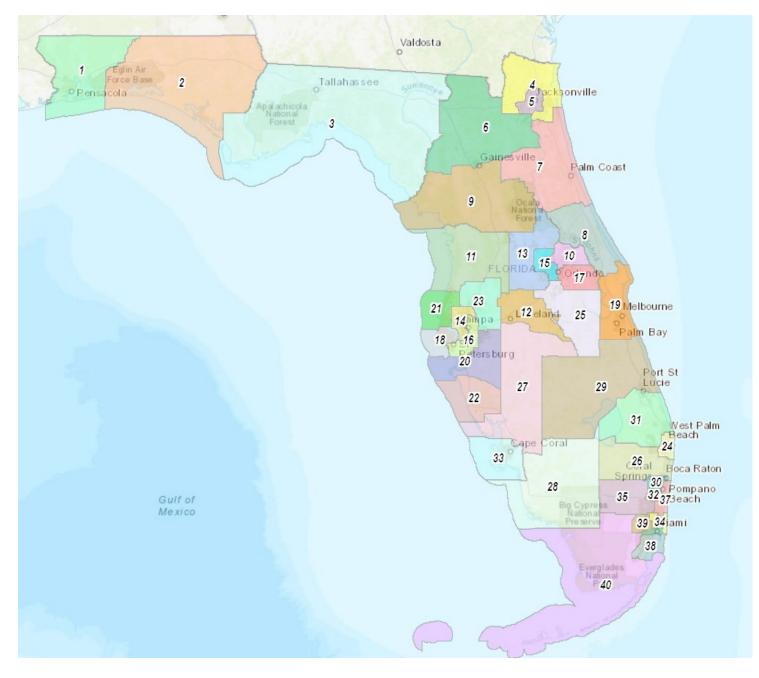


See House Districts in Volusia on next page......

Proposed Florida House Districts Map Volusia area

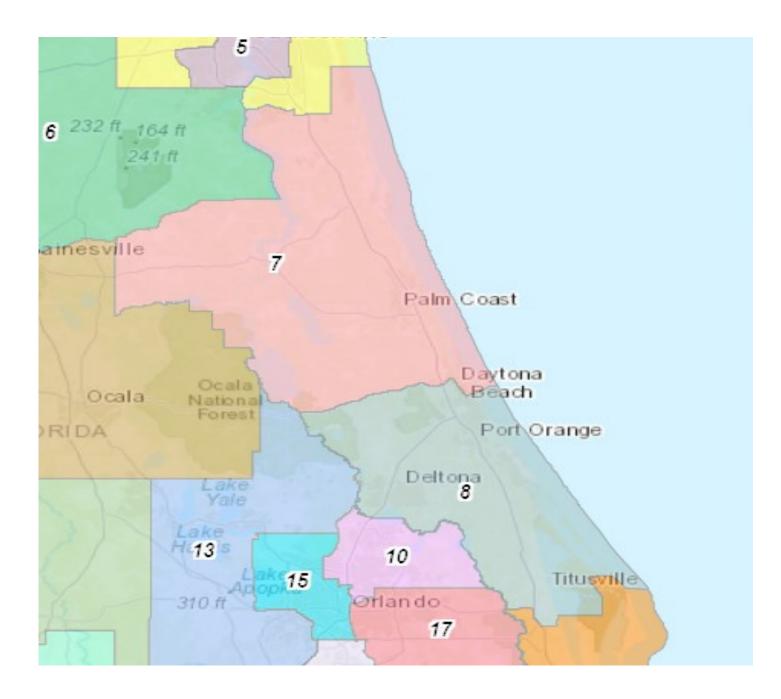


Proposed Florida Senate Districts Map



See Senate Districts in Volusia on next page......

Proposed Florida Senate Districts Map Volusia area





What are you reading?

Do you have a book that you're reading now or recently read? If so, email the name of it to <u>Jim@JimCameronConsulting.com</u> I'd like to list it in next month's newsletter.

Here is a list of our readers from last month.

Jayson Meyer The 5 AM Club *by Robin Sharma*

Ernie Audino Lessons in Leadership by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks The First Circle *by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn*

Dana McCool Franklin Delano Roosevelt—Champion Campaigner by Harold Gosnell

Mike Scudiero The Judges List by John Grisham

Stephanie Larret The 4 Disciplines of Execution *by Chris McChesney, Sean Covey, Jim Huling*

Bob Williams The End of Mental Illness by Daniel Amen

Rufus Johnson Good to Great by Jim Collins Tom Self The Grid *by Gretchen Bakke, Ph. D.*

Richard Bryan The Vitamin D Solution *by Michael F. Holick*

Loretta Arthur The Tibetan Book of the Dead *by The Dalai Lama*

Jane Pottmeyer Seven Habits of Highly Effective People *by Steven Covey*

Jim Cameron Killing the Mob *by Bill O'Reilly*

Many of these books are available via Kindle through the Volusia County Library. Go to <u>https://volusialibrary.org/</u> then click Digital Library. They have a GREAT selection of online books.



