

# From the Desk of Jim Cameron...... Jim Cameron Consulting LLC August, 2021

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC brings 38 years of working with local governments and is now available to serve on a clientele basis...be it new land development projects, bids, campaign assistance.

For more information, go to my website, <u>www.jimcameronconsulting.com</u> Call my cell 566-2140...day, night, or weekends if you'd like to discuss further. And my guarantee still stands that if I miss your call and don't return it in eight business hours, I will pay you \$1000 cash.

### And at the State level.....

On July 19, Jim Cameron Consulting LLC stopped in Tallahassee for some visits. Meetings were held with Jamal Sowell, Enterprise Florida; Drew Meiner, Office of the Governor; Trey Price, Florida Housing Finance Corp; Andrew Wiggins and Nick Catroppo, Florida Chamber; Dominic Calabro, Florida TaxWatch; Bill Montford at Florida School Superintendents Assn.

The purpose of these visits is to build relations between Daytona Beach/Volusia and Tallahassee.



Jamal Sowell, Enterprise Florida



Trey Price, Fla Housing Finance Corp

#### Interim Legislative Committee Meeting Schedule

Senate and House Committees will meet the SAME weeks in Tallahassee

September 20 – 24 October 11-15 October 18 – 22 November 1 - 5 November 15 - 19 November 29 – December 3

#### County Council News.....

**Q 2 Economic Report** 

August 3.... Volusia Director for Economic Resources Helga Van Eckert reported new data to the Volusia County council.

She stated that 30% (60,000) of Volusia's TOTAL workforce (172,000) lives OUTSIDE the county. She also stated that half of the Volusia's working citizens are employed in other counties.



Cyrus Callum, Helga van Eckert address County Council

The biggest increase from 2020 was 6900 NEW employees in the leisure/hospitality field totaling 29,747 employees. The reason is that these employees could not work from home.

Helga also stated that Volusia's latest Unemployment Rate is 5.4% compared to Florida's 5.3% rate. She also noted that Volusia's rate decreased faster than State and US. Daytona Beach - 7.5%.... Deland - 6.1%.... Deltona - 5.8%

Residential construction permits are the highest since 2005. Daytona Beach – 437 permits; Deland-158 permits; unincorporated Volusia – 142 permits; Port Orange - 131 permits. She also commented that more permits are coming in for Redevelopment projects as well.

# **County Council Deliberates American Rescue Act Funds Allocations**

At a County Council (July 27) workshop, County CFO Ryan Ossowski discussed plans on how to utilize \$107.4 million via American Rescue Act Transition Fund.

Councilmembers debated the construction of "three respite buildings for paramedics" at a cost of \$1.8 million.



Other areas considered were affordable housing (including the Clyde Morris Landings Housing Incentive), Community Assistance, VOTRAN, Environmental Management and other categories.

Look for further Council workshops in the near future.

# City Commission/Council news.....



The Daytona Beach City Commission has called for a Special Election to replace **Zone 2 Commissioner Aaron Delgado** who announced his resignation at last night's meeting. A **Special Primary Elections (if necessary) will be scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, with a General Election on November 2.** Candidate qualifying will be **August 16-20.** Several individuals are already announcing plans to pursue this Seat. The City Commission will be working with a 6-member Commission until a replacement is elected.

# Staff Changes

**Ben Bartlett**— was approved by the County Council as the new Public Works director. He is the County's current Road & Bridge Director.

Bartlett will officially take over the position when the current Public Works Director, **John Angiulli**, retires on August 6 after serving the county for 27 years. Bartlett brings 25 years of experience to the table.



He began with Volusia County in 2016 and was previously public works operations manager for Orange City. He also has 17 years of private sector experience as a project manager and project engineer for a variety of civil construction projects.

He will oversee a \$205 million budget and approximately 435 employees.

Senator Tom Wright's DISTRICT office now includes.... Legislative Assistants Chris Morris and Diane Suddes. Chris had previous duties in Senator Wright's office and Diane previously worked with former Senator David Simmons' office.

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**Colleen Nicoulin** has been named interim-Executive Director for the River to Sea TPO, an independent organization responsible for the planning and programming of all Federal and State Transportation funds for Volusia and Flagler Counties. She's worked as the TPO's Senior Transportation Planner/Project Manager since 2017. Prior to that, she was a Project Manager with Lassiter Transportation Group. We know she'll do a fine job in this position.

Meanwhile, a committee is being formed to begin the search process for a new Executive Director.

# And we say good-bye to an old friend......

Lois Bollenback Executive Director at River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization will be leaving to take a similar position in Spokane Washington. She was previously GM for VOTRAN and moved to the TPO in 2009 and was promoted to Executive Director in 2012.



Lois was ALWAYS a superb host/participant for meetings.... a true joy to work with! We wish her well.

### Get Ready for Elections 2022!!!!!

Click the candidate link for more info....

#### Current Filed Candidates August 23 (Primary) November 8 (General)

Congressional District 6 Joe Hannoush (LPF) Gerry Nolan (NPA) Richard Thripp (DEM) Michael Waltz (REP)

Florida Senate District 7 Travis Hutson (REP) \*Incumbent

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

Florida Senate District 14 <u>Tom Wright</u> (REP) \*Incumbent Florida House District 24 Paul Renner (REP) \*Incumbent

Florida House District 25 Tom Leek (REP) \*Incumbent

Florida House District 26 <u>Elizabeth Fetterhoff</u> (REP) \*Incumbent <u>Jacob Johnson (</u>DEM) <u>John Navarra</u> (DEM)

Florida House District 27 Webster Barnaby (REP) \*Incumbent

#### **County Filed Candidates**

County Council, District 1 Wallace Bailey

County Council, District 2 Chase Tramont

County Council, District 3 Danny Robins School Board, District 1 Jaclyn Carrell

School Board, District 3 Jessie Thompson

School Board, District 5 <u>Ruben Colon</u> <u>Ronald Jungk</u>

#### City Filed Candidates August 30 (Primary) November 8 (General)

DeLand Mayor Christopher Cloudman Reginald Williams Port Orange Council District 2 Cathleen (Kat) Atwood

Deland Commission Seat 3 Jessica Davis Ormond Beach Mayor Bill Partington

New Smyrna Bch Commission Zone 2 Joel Paige

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

#### LOOK FOR OTHER CANDIDATES TO FILE SOON!!!!

### 2021 City Elections

Current Filed Candidates August 17 (Primary) November 2 (General)

Lake Helen Mayor Vernon Burton George Cameron Lane Lauren Olsen

Lake Helen Commission Zone 1 Kelly Frasca Heather Rutludge

Lake Helen Commission Zone 3 Rick Basso

Ponce Inlet Council Seat 3 Elizabeth Caswell David Loh

Ponce Inlet Council Seat 5 Gary Smith

Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable Monday, September 13, 12 noon Daytona Bch Intl Airport (Dennis McGee Rm)

Includes elected officials from Volusia's cities, county government and school system.

Open to the public and bring your own lunch.



Ponce Inlet Mayor Tony Goudie Lois Paritsky For information, call Kevin Captain 822-5062. For anyone interested in local government issues, this is a GREAT meeting to attend!

# Local Officials to Sharpen their Budget Pencils....

With the new fiscal year starting October 1, look for city and county government to conduct FY 2021-2022 budget workshops over the next several months.... see schedules below....

This is where they will be setting the Truth in Millage (TRIM) rate and plan their overall budgets for the coming fiscal year.

A comparative chart of cities, County and

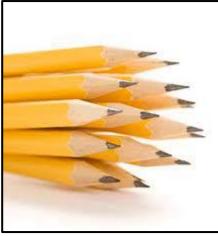
School Board budgets/tax rates are attached to this email. Look for regular reports to come thereafter.

Volusia County Council Daytona Beach City Commission Ormond Beach City Commission Port Orange City Council Holly Hill City Commission South Daytona City Council Daytona Beach Shores City Council DeBary City Council Deland City Council Deltona City Commission Edgewater City Council Lake Helen City Commission

#### **Click the link for Local Government**

August 3 / 17, 9:30 am Cty Adm Bldg August 4 /18, 6 pm City Hall August 4 / 17, 7 pm City Hall August 3 / 17, 6:30 City Hall August 10 / 24, 6 pm City Hall August 10, 6 pm City Hall August 10 / 24, 6 pm City Hall

August 4 / 18, 6:30pm City Hall August 2 / 16, 7 pm City Hall August 12/ 19, 6:30 pm City Hall August 2, 6:00 pm City Hall August 19, 7:00 pm City Hall



New Smyrna Bch City Commission Oak Hill City Commission Orange City City Council Ponce Inlet Town Council School Board of Volusia

**River to Sea TPO** 

August 10 / 24, 6:30 pm City Hall

August 9 / 23, 6 pm City Hall

August 10 / 24, 6:30 pm City Hall

August 19, 6 pm City

August 10, 3:30 pm District Office August 24, 5:30 pm Deland

August 25, 9 am TPO Office