



FROM THE DESK OF JIM CAMERON

JIM CAMERON CONSULTING LLC

September 2023

JIM CAMERON CONSULTING LLC has 40 years experience working with local government and is available to serve on a clientele basis for land development projects, campaign assistance and more.

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

*"Days, nights, and weekends, **my guarantee still stands.**
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August 24—County Staff held public input session regarding Transform386 Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) action plan.

The meeting summarized recent citizen input from the recent community sessions...regarding damage they sustained from Hurricane Ian and propose projects for recovery and future disaster mitigation.

Recovery and Resiliency Director Dona Butler, stated: "data has been received, analyzed and compiled into an action plan outlining our community's needs, recovery strategies and how we can better protect ourselves from future disasters. We encourage everyone to actively participate in the upcoming hearing, review the proposed plan, and share their valuable comments and feedback."

The draft of the action plan is available for the public's review at www.transform386.org.



About the Transform386 initiative:

Volusia has been awarded \$328.9 million in CDBG-DR funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to spearhead a comprehensive initiative called Transform386 which will play a pivotal role in enabling the county's recovery, revitalization and preparedness for future disasters.

More news to come.....



Be Stronger Than Before.....

[Click here](#) for more information.....



County Concentrates on Beach Recovery

County Coastal Division Director Jessica Fentress told Councilmembers that the County will focus on sand placement and dune nourishment projects...with funding from a \$37.6 million Fla Dept of Environmental Protection grant. Several dredging projects are already underway.

Fentress further pointed out that since the hurricane, the county has.....

- reopened 71 of 141 dune walkovers
- installed four miles of sand-filled TrapBags, to temporarily fortify the coastline;
- 16 OF 17 coastal parks are NOW open.

Seawall repairs are ongoing and that upcoming fall and winter repair projects include

- Sun Splash park seawall repair
- Dalia park ramp replacement
- Ed Peck park repairs as well as other projects.

The county will still pursue additional federal funds.

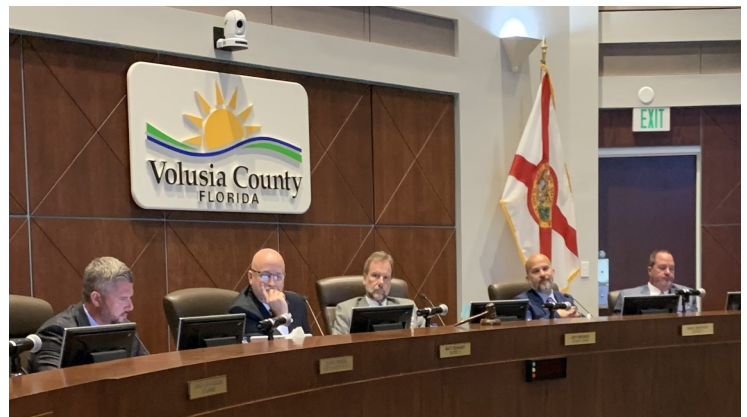
It's been **several months since Hurricane Ian inflicted nearly \$900 million dollars of damage and washed away tons of sand along Volusia's beaches.** Since then, more than 300 beachfront property owners, have sought funds and permits to rebuild sea walls and dunes to protect upland structures.

Following last year's storms, the Fla Dept of Environmental Protection allocated \$5 million grant for emergency sand placement whereby the county placed sand-filled TrapBags to prevent further erosion. In January, Gov DeSantis presented a \$37.6 million check to assist beach re-nourishment and Army Corps of Engineers dredged 60,000 cubic yards from the Inlet.

That said, restoration plans must be outlined in order to obtain county, state and federal permits along with pursuing insurance claims, federal or state disaster assistance/grants or low-interest loans funding for restoration work.

And the State's Coastal Construction Line requires any new construction EAST of the line meet tougher construction standards. And finally, with new seawall construction, the county requires to build a vegetated sand dune.

All in all, I'd like to commend city, county and state staff for their hard work in getting our beaches back to normal.



Click link below.....
[Volusia County Attainable Housing Dashboard](#)



County Council Drops Communications Tax

The county council held a special meeting August 30 to take up an ordinance to illuminate the collection of communication services tax after December 31, 2023.

The current communication services tax is 5.22%, which collects approximately an annual \$3 million in MSD fund, paid only by residents in unincorporated county and the council wants to eliminate this tax for those residents. However, the state communication services tax will still be charged.

County Council Approves Tourism Ad Budgets

August 2—County Council approved FY 2023-24 Advertising Authority Budgets

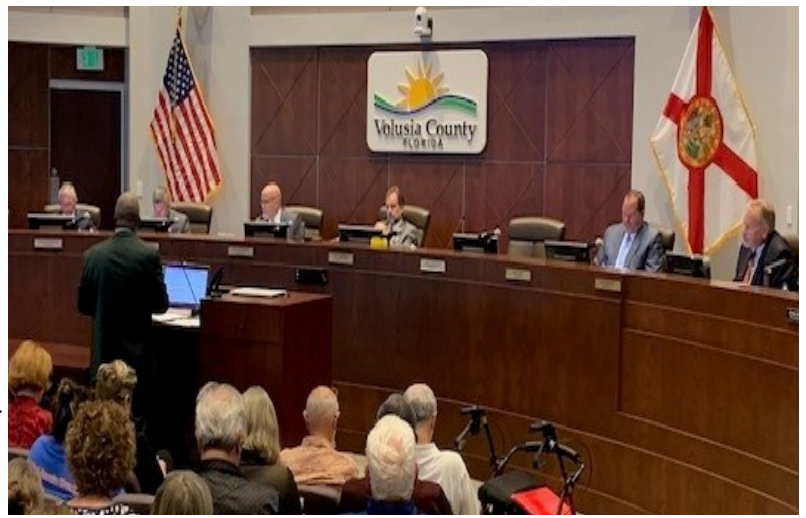
- Halifax Advertising Authority Budget \$22.3 million
- SE Volusia Advertising Authority Budget \$7.0 million
- W Volusia Advertising Authority Budget \$1.8 million

As for economic impact.....

Last year before the storms, Volusia had record year for tourism with over \$33.7 million countywide bed-tax collections which were more than 20% higher than the previous year, which also set a record.

This year, bed tax collections are down considerably. It appears the MAIN FACTOR appears to be the aftermath of last year's hurricanes damage to our beaches. Inflation could be another factor.

However, the Ocean Center hasn't seen any slowdown in conventions. Our market DID pick up with the recent Coke Zero 400 and hopefully with the Thanksgiving Turkey Rod Run car show...both at Speedway as well as Biketoberfest in October.



August 15— County Council took up 5-cent Local Option Gas Tax Revenue which generates about \$10.8 million annually....

- County \$6.2 million per year for the last five years
- Cities split \$4.6 million based on interlocal agreements

This money is used for

- Construction of new roads
- Resurfacing existing roads
- Paving dirt roads to increase capacity.

HOWEVER, the County' resurfacing program alone is budgeted at basically \$6 million about the same revenue

Volusia county council, several city commissions/councils held their first budget/tax rate hearings.....

August 5—County Council TENTATIVELY adopted a General Fund ad valorem tax rate of 3.39 mills which was lower than the rolled back rate of 4.41 mills. BUT because of new accounting procedures, the Public Safety tax rate 1.45 mills is now added which totals 4.84 mills...There WAS extensive discussion regarding Volusia Forever millage rate and capital projects..... Council's final budget hearing is Sept 19.

Look at the chart attached to my email for dates/times.....several entities on the chart have a powerpoint link to provide further information. This is YOUR opportunity to speak up about next year's budget and tax rate .



Volusia Economic Stats.....

County's Economic Report breakfast where **AviationEconomic Resources Director Cyrus Callum** presented the latest economic data.....

Based on 2020 numbers, 168,000 are employed in Volusia.... of those, 57,000 work here **but live outside Volusia**meaning 110,000 live and work here

Unemployment rates

Volusia 2.9% vs Fla 2.7 %

DB 3.0% Deland 2.7% Deltona 2.9

NSB 2.3% Ormond 2.2% Port Orange 2.2%

58 COMMERCIAL PERMITS valued at \$122 million in 2nd qtr....

Of this....

- \$42 m was multifamily
- \$26 m was warehousing
- \$24 m was retail

Followed by healthcare, municipal and leisure.....

- RESIDENTIAL PERMITS increased to 958 in 2nd qtr valued at \$350 million....
- 23 REDEVELOPMENT permits valued at \$14 million....compared to \$4 million in the 1st qtr.

Next Q Breakfast is Friday, November 18, 7:30 AM at Daytona Intl Airport



Cyrus Callum outlines Volusia Economic Stats



County Schools and Volusia United Educators settled their contract Friday after three bargaining sessions regarding instructional personnel..

The contract agreement includes

- an approx. \$5.9 million total increase to the compensation package;
- a 2% increase to the supplements;
- a retention bonus increase and removal of a 30-year cap;
- a maintained longevity bonus;
- agreement to the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation distribution plan.



**Volusia United
Educators**



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City hosts public meetings for residents following redistricting process

Newly redrawn maps effective Sept. 1

To ensure the city's six zones represent an equal number of residents, every 10 years, the city adjusts the boundaries of each zone in accordance with population shifts. The process to evenly distribute Daytona Beach's residents – called redistricting – has been completed, and new zone maps were effective Sept. 1.

Zone 1 – Commissioner Monica Paris

Previous zone population: 11,424

New zone population: 12,189

Zone 1 encompasses the southern portion of Daytona Beach's beachside and mainland. This zone includes the beachside neighborhoods south of Silver Beach Ave., and on the mainland, the area surrounding the Daytona Beach Golf Club along S. Ridgewood Ave. and the area generally between Shady Place and Beville Road.

How did redistricting change the zone's boundary? The boundary was expanded to the west to Yorktowne Drive and now includes the Pine Lake subdivision.



Zone 2 – Commissioner Ken Strickland

Previous zone population: 9,625

New zone population: 12,179

Zone 2 spans the beachside and mainland. On the beachside, the zone runs from the northern city limits to International Speedway Blvd. and on the mainland from George W. Engram Boulevard west to Nova Road and north to the Holly Hill city limits.

How did redistricting change the zone's boundary? On the beachside, the boundary was expanded to the south to ISB and now includes Main Street. On the mainland, the boundary was expanded to the south from Madison Ave. to George W. Engram Blvd./Fairview Ave.



Zone 3 – Commissioner Quanita May

Previous zone population: 9,991

New zone population: 12,162

Zone 3, in the central section of the city, spans the beachside and mainland. On the beachside, Zone 3's area is between International Speedway Blvd. south to Orange Ave. and on the mainland, from George W. Engram Blvd. south to Shady Place.

How did redistricting change the zone's boundary? The boundary was expanded to the west to the Daytona Beach International Airport and south to Shady Place. The district now includes Samuel Butts Park and parts of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's campus.



Zone 4 – Commissioner Stacy Cantu

Previous zone population: 15,385

New zone population: 10,827

Zone 4 is on the western edge of Daytona Beach. It includes the Pelican Bay subdivision and all areas west of I-95 from the northern to the southern city limits. This includes the rapidly growing LPGA area west of I-95.

How did redistricting change the zone's boundary? This zone maintains the area west of I-95 to the western edge of the city's boundaries including Latitudes Margaritaville, Mosaic and the LPGA communities. The zone continues to include the Pelican Bay development and the new Amazon distribution center.



Zone 5 – Commissioner Dannette Henry

Previous zone population: 13,442

New zone population: 12,028

Zone 5 is on the mainland and encompasses the area east of I-95 including N. Williamson Boulevard and Clyde Morris Boulevard, from Dunn Avenue north to the Ormond Beach city limits; North Street, west of Nova Road, to just south of LPGA Boulevard including the neighborhoods along Jimmy Ann Drive and the Derbyshire Park and Sports Complex.

How did redistricting change the zone's boundary? The boundary was expanded to the west to I-95 and now encompasses The Tanger Outlets and Tomoka Town Center, Buc-ee's, the Oasis Development and Advent Hospital.



Zone 6 – Commissioner Paula R. Reed

Previous zone population: 11,642

New zone population: 12,174

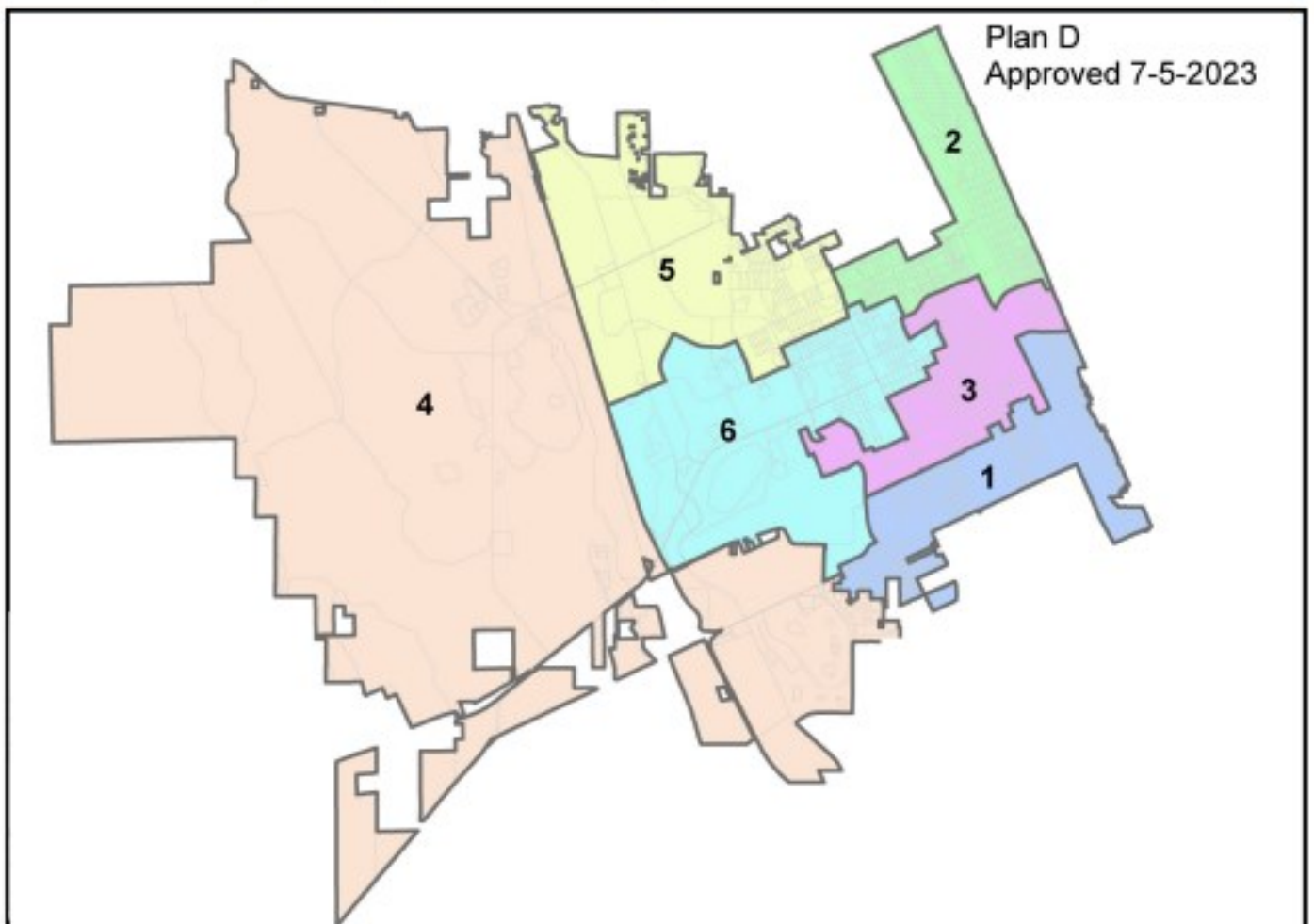
Zone 6, which is on the mainland, runs along the International Speedway Blvd. corridor from about Charles Street to the east to I-95 to the west. The northern boundary is roughly North Street and runs south to Orange Avenue. Zone 6 includes the Daytona Highlands neighborhood surrounding Tusawilla Park.

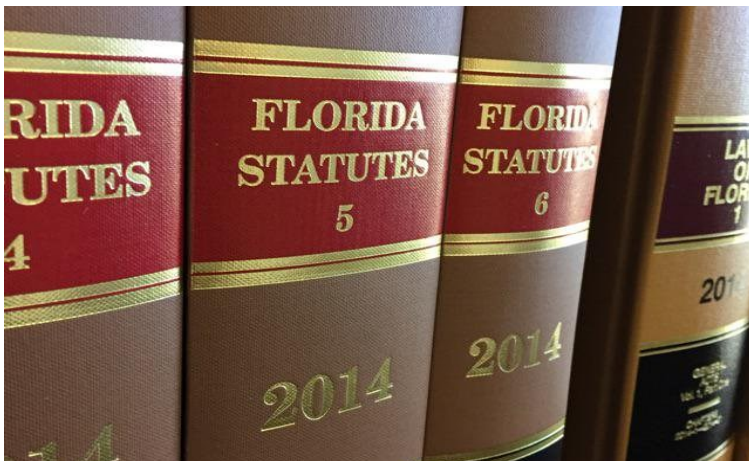
How did redistricting change the zone's boundary? The boundary was expanded to the west to I-95 and as far south as Beville Road. The zone now includes the Daytona International Speedway, Indigo Lakes development, the Volusia Mall and Daytona Beach International Airport.



Residents are invited to meet their respective commissioner and learn about recent and future projects in their zone. All meetings begin at 6 p.m.

Date	Zone	Commissioner	Location
Tuesday, Oct. 3	6	Paula R. Reed	Cherry Community Center 925 George W. Engram Blvd.
Thursday, Oct. 5	2	Ken Strickland	Schnebly Recreation Center 1101 N. Atlantic Ave.
Tuesday, Oct. 10	3	Quanita May	Dickerson Recreation Complex 308 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	1	Monica Paris	Dickerson Recreation Complex 308 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Thursday, Oct. 12	5	Dannette Henry	Yvonne Scarlett-Golden Community Center 1000 Vine Street





New Florida State Laws 2023.....

HB 5, eliminates Enterprise Fla, the state's business-recruitment agency whereby their duties/programs will be shifted to the Dept of Economic Opportunity, which will be renamed the Dept of Commerce AND the Secretary of Commerce will serve as the Governor's chief negotiator for business recruitment and expansion. This NEW Commerce Dept WILL

- Promoting the state as a pro-business location for new investment;
- Promote the sports industry in Florida;
- Encouraging and oversee international trade development

As well as other duties.....

HB 1379, directing \$100 million a year from real-estate taxes to the Florida Forever land-acquisition program and requiring a plan on how to improve water quality in the Indian River Lagoon watershed. It also allocates more funds to Florida Forever and improves the land acquisition process which may encourage more land-owners in the Florida Wildlife Corridor, to consider selling their lands to the state for conservation/preservation of critical natural resources.

HB 121 raised income eligibility limits for the state-subsidized healthy Kids insurance program increased FY 2023-24 enrollment by 16,000 children....meaning \$10 million additional state and federal expenditures. This law requires the Fla Healthy Kids and Agency for Health Care Assn AHCA to develop 3 to 5 premiums/co-payments for families based on their income levels. In total, 2,4 million kids are enrolled in the KidCare program which receives state and federal funds.I LIKE THIS LEGISLATION.....IT AIMS TO HELP THOSE 2-3 JOBS PER WEEK PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK FAMILIES. And remember, our friend, Linda Merrell RIP, get initiate this legislation.

HB 1 Student Scholarships....there have been nearly 430,000 applications have been received from students for a scholarship under the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship and the Family Empowerment Scholarship. This was based on House Bill 1 which expanded school choice for Florida students.

The Fla Tax Credit and Family Empowerment Scholarships provide funds to attend participating private schools, transportation to any public schools in addition to other options. Fla has the largest expansion of School Choice in the nation.

2022 - Volusia County had \$301 million wealth influx. It's the amount of Adjusted Gross Income from people migrating INTO the County.



State CFO Jimmy Patronis

sent a letter to Illinois SB owners highlighting a recent decision by Illinois officials to eliminate cash

bail in the name of “social justice reform”. In fact, Illinois prosecutors have reportedly pleaded with the court warning that the “elimination of cash bail will put dangerous criminals back on the street, instead of keeping them in jail or forcing them to post cash bail as they await trial.”

Patronis also pointed out where the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police has stated “eliminating cash bail is a slap in the face to local law enforcement” and that any business wanting to move to Fla to contact him.

Space Florida Board has selected Space Force colonel Col. Robert Long as its next president and CEO. He’ll be replacing Frank DiBello, who has led the aerospace economic development entity since 2009.



Long is the commander at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California where he held a somewhat similar role to the group leader that oversees launches from the Space Coast.

He’s had extensive experience with the Air Force before transitioning to the Space Force...and was stationed Cape Canaveral where he’s experienced numerous launches.

He wants to develop Space Florida’s relationship with the new Space Force presence, which includes the military’s STARCOM HQ coming to Patrick Space Force Base.

He noted Fla needs to pursue more launch capability with a potential 400 launches a year.



Five years after China became a full member of the WTO (World Trade Organization), US trade deficit with China nearly tripled.

Before China joined the WTO, US was the largest trading partner of 152 countries in the world. Today, US is the largest trading partner of only 57, and China is the largest trading partner of 128. Ouch!

From – Sen Marco Rubio’s new book, Decades of Decadence



Volusia Matters' Sept 6 program includes local/state news....

CLICK HERE for Podbean Podcast

CLICK HERE to list on Apple Podcast

SPECIAL Episode 33 includes Volusia Matters news.....

- *Volusia Beach Recovery*
- *County Cities Property Tax Hearings*
- *Meeting Dates for your calendar*
- *City/County Updates*
- *Congress Grapples with Another Govt Spending Deadline*

Gov Desantis' and Sen Rubio's Staff Liaisons Visit Volusia

Brandon Frey (representing Gov DeSantis) and Ryleigh Wogoman (representing Sen Marco Rubio) were in Volusia recently.....while here, they met with Miller Leaman Manufacturing, Hope Place, City of Ormond Beach, City of Daytona Beach, SnapSpace Solutions - Disaster Shelters/Housing, NASCAR Pevonia Skin Care.

For years, these central Fla liaisons have come here every few weeks to meet local business and community leaders and participate in city county events. Other reps include Barry Cotton, Zane Ertel , Ernie Audino, Amy Dunn

If you'd like to arrange a future visit to your business or organization, call me at 566-2140

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Sylvie Hennessey, Rob Livingston, Ryleigh Wogoman

New County Staff Appointments.....



Michael Ryan is the **County's new Community Information Director**.....taking over for **Kevin Captain** who now heads Emergency Medical Services. With over 20 years of experience, he began as Director of Communications Director for Flower Mound, Texas and later became Communications Director for St. Johns County. He also owns Creative Communication Strategies. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Communications/Journalism from University of Texas.

Clint Mecham as the **County's new Emergency Management Director.**

A former firefighter, he later became Emergency Management Director for Salt Lake County, Utah. He has extensive experience in responding to emergencies/natural disasters in other parts of the nation. He has numerous emergency management certifications as well. Glad to have on board Clint!



Bradley Burbaugh is the **County's new Community Services Dept Director**. He was previously Resource Stewardship Director connected with the ECHO and Volusia Forever programs. He'll be taking over for Dona Butler (see next article). He earned a PhD in Agricultural Leadership from Virginia Tech and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of North Fla.



Former Community Services Director **Dona Butler** has been put in charge a new **Recovery and Resiliency Office** i.e. the **Transform386** project which will manage a \$328 million federal hurricane recovery HUD grant. Dona has had numerous assignments with the County in past years and was most noted for leading the The Path Forward - Affordable Housing Initiative which was accepted by County Council in July, 2022.



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Sue Bower (Cong Michael Waltz) is taking a well deserved retirement. She was recently honored by Ormond Beach City Commission.....for 24 years, she served Congs John Mica, Ron DeSantis and Mike Waltz.

She plans to spend more time with her grandkids in NC, traveling, Bible studies and more! Thank you for all your help over the years Sue! We're gonna miss ya.





Candidates update.....

Municipal Election Results

Ponce Inlet Council Seat 3

[Arun Iyampilia](#) 216

[Henry Skip White](#) 770

Port Orange Council Dist 2

[Tracy Grubbs](#)* 3,186

[Sara Jones](#) 3,000

Lake Helen Mayor

[Vernon Burton](#) 333

[Kelly Frasca](#) 221

Lake Helen Zone 1

[Heather Rutledge](#) elected

Lake Helen

[Lynda Donato](#) elected

Ponce Inlet Mayor

[Lois Paritsky](#) - re-elected

Ponce Inlet

[Gary Smith](#) - re-elected

General Election

(8/20/2024) (11/5/2024)

Supervisor of Elections

[Lisa Lewis](#)

State Attorney

[Larizza, RJ](#) (REP) *

Sheriff

[Mike Chitwood](#)*

Tax Collector

[Will Roberts](#)*

County Chair

[Jeff Brower](#)*

[Don Burnette](#)

[Randy Dye](#)

County Council District 2

[Matt Reinhart](#)*

School Board District 2

[Krista Goodrich](#)

[Angela Kopnicky](#)

School Board District 4

[Donna Brosemer](#)

[Merrick Bruner](#)

New Smyrna Beach Mayor

[Fred Cleveland](#)*

Deltona Commission Seat 6

[Dominic Nick Lulli](#)

Orange City Mayor

[Councilmember Kelli Marks](#)

[Councilman William O'Connor](#)

Ormond Beach Mayor

[Jason Leslie](#)

[Susan Persis](#)

Ormond Bch Commission Zone 3

[Barbara Bonarrigo](#)

[Kristen Deaton](#)

US Congress - House District 7

[Mills, Cory](#) (REP)*

[Pastrana, Allek](#) (DEM)

Fla Senate District 7

[George Anthony T Hill](#) (DEM)

[Gerry James](#) (REP)

[Tom Leek](#) (REP)

Fla House Dist 27

[Stephen Wayne Shives](#) (REP)

[Beckie Sirolli](#) (REP)

Fla House Dist 28

[John Navarra](#) (DEM)

[Bill Partington](#) (REP)

Fla House Dist 29

[Webster Barnaby](#)* (REP)

Fla House Dist 30

[Chase Tramont](#)* (REP)

[Justin Albert Davis](#) (DEM)



Daytona Regional Chamber's Candidate Bootcamp— POSTPONED

Anyone interested in running for political office needs to learn certain aspects of campaigning, and what's expected of a candidate. **Elections Supervisor Lisa Lewis**, campaign managers, and elected

officials will share what to expect when running for local, state, and congressional office. For more info, call Nancy Keefer at 255-0981.





FITCH rating service DOWNGRADES US' LONG-TERM RATINGS FROM "AAA TO AA+ where they **BASICALLY** said, *"US Govt is not addressing fiscal/debt matters as they should....case in point.....the June bipartisan agreement to suspend the debt limit until January 2025"*. These repeated debt-limit political standoffs and last-minute resolutions have eroded confidence in fiscal management. Tax cuts and new spending initiatives have meant successive debt increases over the last decade. And.....there's been only limited progress in addressing rising social security and Medicare costs due to an aging population.....

Now this is causing concern on Wall Street **BECAUSE** **SOME** investors who are required to put money only in AAA-rated securities may need to look elsewhere potentially nudging up interest rates.....Still, there's growing concern about another debt limit stalemate in Washington and threaten another government shutdown.

Fitch is one of three major credit ratings firms, along with Moody's and S&P Global Ratings. In 2011, S&P downgraded the US credit rating amid a debt-limit standoff — the first time the US was removed from a list of risk-free borrowers. Fitch's downgrade is the second in US history. Future downgrades by Fitch or other two agencies could threaten America's fiscal health.




On a related note.....


last June, the Federal Reserve paused hiking interest rates.....however, on July 26, they increased interest rates by .25 percent boosting the federal funds rate to 5.5 percent.



With this move, the Fed has now raised rates 11 times during this economic cycle in an effort to reduce inflation to 2 percent.



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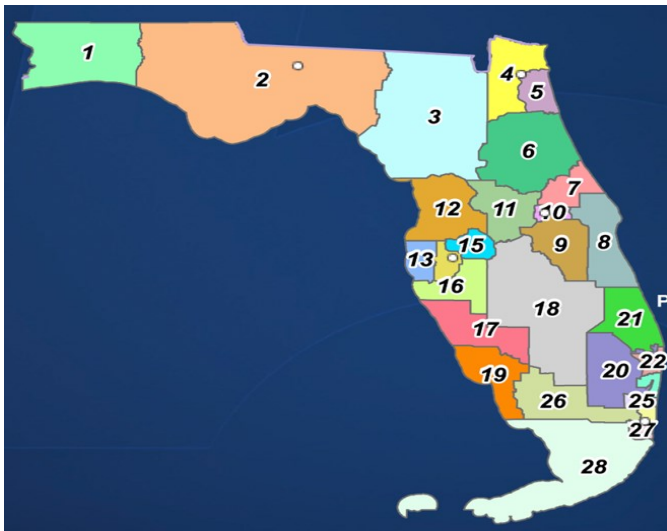
Fla's 5th Congressional District ?

There could be a change in north Fla's 5th congressional district where black voters make up a sizable share of the population, if voting rights groups prevail in an ongoing legal battle.

This goes back to that Congressional District map sought by Gov DeSantis around Duval, Gadsden and other Counties that had previously been represented by a Black Democrat....Cong Al Lawson.

Several voting rights groups argue the current map violates the state constitution, which protects minority-access districts in the state. Plaintiffs hope to have the district changes prior to the 2024 elections.

The case is now in Leon County Circuit Court and could be appealed to the Fla Supreme Court.....which would have to issue a decision by December, under a recent agreement in the case.



The State is arguing that prioritizing race is unconstitutional. The matter of compactness of a district also comes into play. Currently, Fla's Supreme Court is made up of mostly DeSantis appointees. However, could the map later go before a federal court? The outcome could play a role in which major party takes the US House after the 2024 elections. Republicans hold a 5-seat majority but similar redistricting map cases are being heard in Georgia and Alabama.



St. Johns River Water Management District

Gov DeSantis REappointed 3 members to the St. Johns River Water Management District Bd.

- Ryan Atwood, of Mount Dora, is the Owner of Atwood Family Farms and H&A Farms.
- Ronald Howse, of Cocoa, is the President and Founder of Real Deal Development Group and HOWSECO, LLC.
- Chris Peterson, of Winter Park, is President of Hell's Bay Boatworks, Inc.

A poster for a '2023 Mini JOB FAIR & APPRENTICESHIP EXPO'. The event is organized by the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber of Commerce. It is held on Thursday, September 14th, from 12PM to 4PM. The location is the Riverside Pavilion at 3431 S Ridgewood Ave, Port Orange, FL 32129. The poster features a word cloud with terms like 'job', 'business', 'fair', 'hiring', 'work', 'employment', 'recruitment', 'employee', 'wages', 'occupation', 'search', and 'unemployment'. Logos for CareerSource Flagler | Volusia and Riverside Pavilion are also present.



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The National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) is proposing a 15% rate reduction applicable to businesses that provide workers' compensation coverage. **It would take effect in January.**

The key factor in the proposed rate decrease is favorable loss data derived from 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Nationwide, workers' compensation rates reflect positive trends.

In the coming weeks, the Fla Office of Insurance Regulation will review the recommendation and issue a final decision on its authorization.

The county council held a special meeting August 30 to take up an ordinance to illuminate the collection of communication services tax after December 31, 2023.

The current communication services tax is 5.22%, which collects approximately an annual \$3 million in MSD fund, paid only by residents in unincorporated county and the council wants to eliminate this tax for those residents. However, the state communication services tax will still be charged.

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 ART INSTRUCTION FINE ART LIFE VINCENT COFFEE & WINE BAR

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 5-8 PM**

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 444 S Beach St, Daytona Beach**

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Halifax Historical Museum
 A silent auction will be presented with proceeds to benefit the Halifax Historical Museum

Halifax Historical Museum
 Permanent Address: 2000 1st St

Golden Magnolia

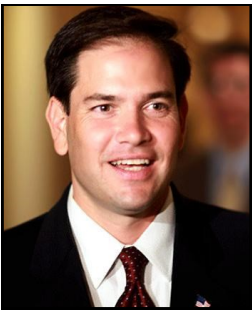
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- Also Florida ranks No. 1 nationally in total pilots No. 2 in commercial service; and No. 4 in air cargo tonnage.

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Senators Rick Scott, Marco Rubio reintroduced legislations to ensure states receive the federal funding to provide high-quality instruction to students learning English. It would particularly help students from Puerto Rico needing to learn English. Between 2010 and 2017, Florida's Puerto Rican population rose to 27 percent to 1.1 million.

Both **Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott sent a letter to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** voicing concerns about the potential exhaustion of the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) amid the 2023 Hurricane Season, when communities may need resources from FEMA. They want more details regarding current funding levels and plans future natural disasters. Earlier this year, they introduced the Disaster Relief Fund Replenishment Act to provide \$11.5 billion in needed funding to ensure the federal government can uphold its obligation to quickly deploy emergency funding and resources to communities and Americans impacted by natural disasters.



Cong Michael Waltz recently spoke of his concerns about China enhancing its presence in the Western Hemisphere. "This could significantly affect the US in terms of food security, energy and critical minerals.....everything that we need to function as an economy and leader of the free world is in our hemisphere." Waltz worries about China establishing a military presence in Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua. "China wants to replace the US as the world's most dominant economic superpower. He wants to shift reliance on supplies from China and build relations with India, which has similar resources. India is an ally, holds US values and could become a significant economic trade partner AND provide a market to Fla's farmers.



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Jim Cameron Consulting Newsletter: September 2023



Congress to Face ANOTHER Spending Deadline

US Senate Washington yesterday after a month-long recess....And with the House returning, their first order of business will be funding the government before a September 30 deadline or face a government shut down.

The Democrat-controlled Senate and Republican-controlled House are far from agreement regarding spending priorities.

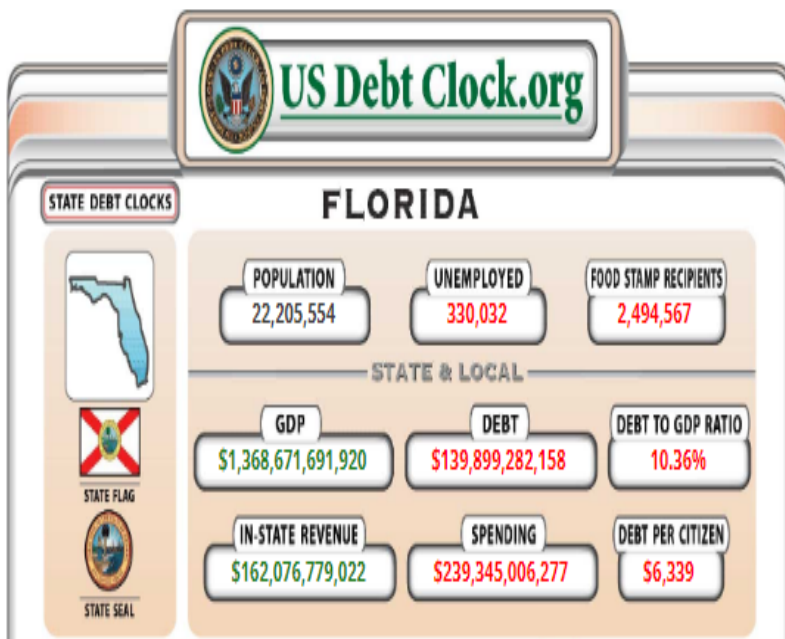
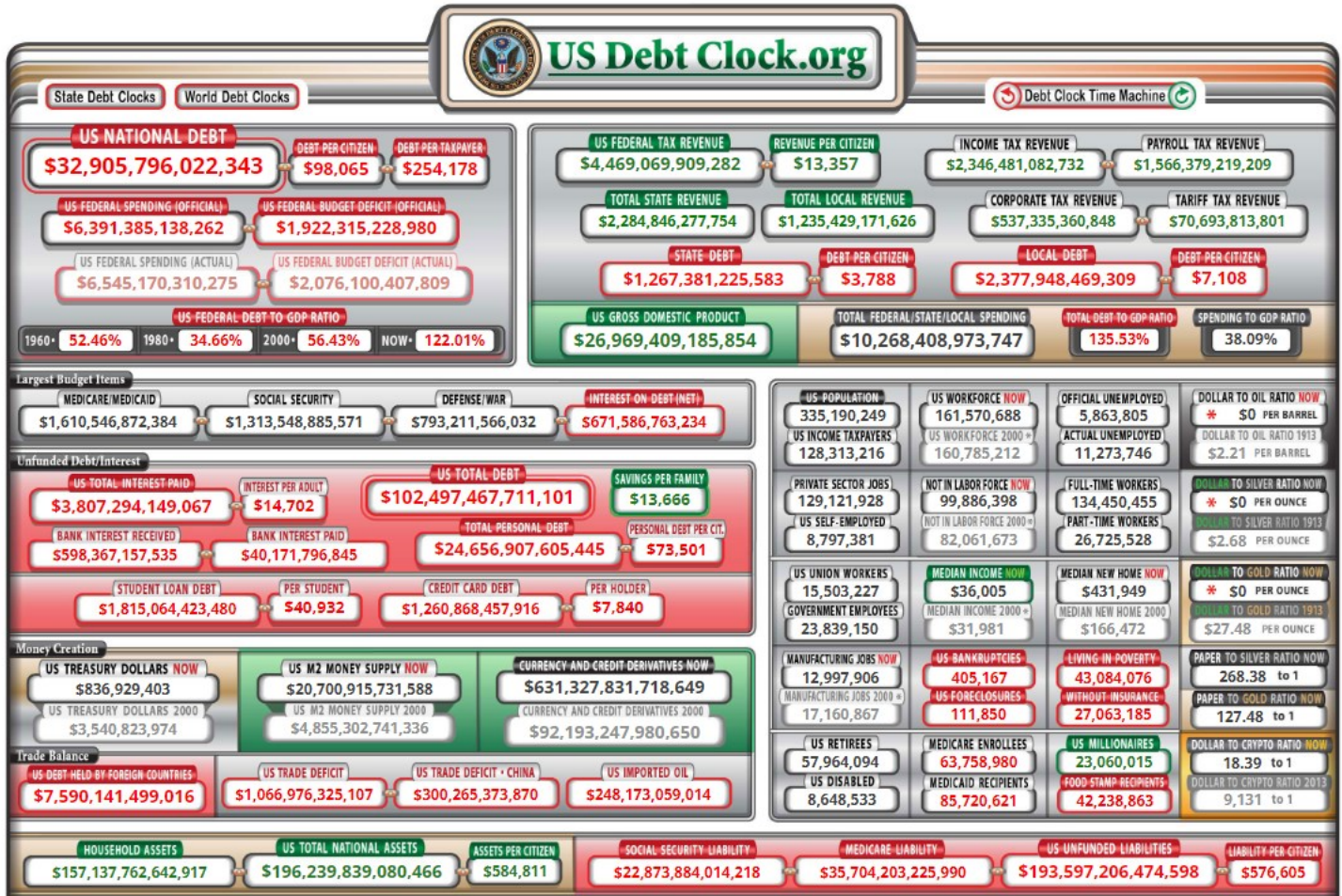
However, the real drama could play out in the House where Speaker McCarthy has to get from the conservative Freedom Caucus...again it's somewhat reminiscent of last June's showdown on whether to extend the nation's debt ceiling....and what will this mean to the stock market....AND on a somewhat related note, the Federal Reserve Bd meets Sept 19-20 to determine what to do about interest rates.

Cong Cory Mills was appointed to a Select House Committee which is addressing how the US to confront China...in other words, Chinese companies doing business in the US AND promoting a ban on TikTok in the US, limiting US pension fund investment as well as controlling technology investments in China.



Mills also expressed his concerns about the growing \$36.6 trillion national debt and its impact on US credit

....when my daughter, Holley was little and wanted something....she'd say, "you don't need money Dad, just write a check."



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CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION for VOLUSIA COUNTY



[Sen. Marco Rubio](#)

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[Appropriations](#); [Foreign Relations](#); [Small Business/Entrepreneurship](#);
[Committee on Intelligence \(Vice Chair\)](#); [Special Committee on Aging](#)



[Sen Rick Scott](#)

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[Cong Michael Waltz](#) (R - 6)

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[Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence](#)



[Cong Cory Mills](#) (R-7)

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COMMITTEES – [Armed Services](#); [Foreign Affairs](#)

VOLUSIA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

Session - March 7 - May 5

	<p>Sen Travis Hutson R – District 7 420 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 Aides – Hunter Clary, Katherine Babcock, Danielle Curbow, Mat- thew Kauffman</p>	<p>Committee Assignments Fiscal Policy, Chair Appropriations Committee on Education Banking and Insurance Commerce and Tourism Education Pre-K -12 Finance and Tax Regulated Industries Rules Joint Legislative Budget Commission</p>
	<p>Sen Tom Wright R – District 8 416 Senate Office Bldg (850) 487-5008 Wright.Tom@flsenate.gov District Office 4606 Clyde Morris Blvd Suite 2-J Port Orange, FL 32169 386-304-7630 Legislative Assts – Charlene Gagnier, Diane Suddes, Amanda Wheeler, Christopher Morris</p>	<p>Committee Assignments Military, Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security, Chair Commerce, Tourism, Vice Chair Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Environment, Natural Resources Fiscal Policy Governmental Oversight and Accountability Select Committee on Resiliency</p>
	<p>Rep Tom Leek R – District 28 418 Capital (850) 717-5028 Tom.Leek@myfloridahouse.gov District Office 1540 Cornerstone Blvd, Ste 240 Daytona Beach 32117 386-238-4865 District Secretary – Lynnette Phillips Legislative Asst – Stephanie Wohlford</p>	<p>Committee Assignments Appropriations Committee <i>Chair</i> Joint Legis Budget Commission <i>Chair</i> Commerce Committee Judiciary Committee</p>
	<p>Rep Chase Tramont R District 30 1301 Capital 850-717-5030 Chase.tramont@myfloridahouse.gov District Office 3731 S Nova Rd Port Orange 32127 Legislative Aide: Duncan DeMarsh District Aide: Beri Bastian</p>	<p>Committee Assignments Commerce Committee Insurance & Banking Subcommittee Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining Judiciary Committee Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee Ethics, Elections, Open Govt Subcommittee</p>

	<p>Rep Webster Barnaby _ R – District 29</p> <p>300 House Office Bldg (850) 717-5029 Webster.Barnaby@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>District Office 736-5042 120 S Florida Ave Deland 32720</p> <p>Legislative Asst – Darryl Boyer District Aide - Robb Marcantonio</p>	<p>Committee Assignments <u>Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee</u> Vice Chair</p> <p><u>Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Vice Chair</u></p> <p><u>Commerce Committee</u></p> <p><u>Judiciary Committee</u></p> <p><u>Ways & Means Committee</u></p>
	<p>Rep Stan McClain R – District 27</p> <p>418 Capital 850-717-5027 McClain.Stan@myfloridahouse.gov</p> <p>District Office (352) 732-1313 315 Southeast 25th Ave Ocala, FL 34471-2689</p> <p>Legislative Aide: Ryan Thomas District Aide: Jennifer Treiber</p>	<p>Committee Assignments <u>Ways & Means Committee</u> Chair</p> <p><u>Education & Employment Committee</u></p> <p><u>Choice & Innovation Subcommittee</u></p> <p><u>Rules Committee</u></p> <p><u>Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee</u></p>



Volusia Matters

Host: Jim Cameron

Broadcasting from Fountainhead

The home of Synergy Billing in Holly Hill

Addressing City, County, Legislative and Congressional issues and their impact on Volusia County



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DB City Commission Supports Affordable Housing

August 16 - Daytona Beach city commissioners donated 7 city-owned lots to Mid-Florida Housing Partnership to create affordable homes for low- and moderate-income families.

These lots are located in the Downtown AND Midtown Redevelopment Area. In the last few months, the City donated 20 lots to on-profit organizations including Homes Bring Hope, Red River Group and Habitat for Humanity.

Commissioners appear to be in consensus about the need for affordable housing.

Local Government Links

[Click here](#) for a FY 2023-24 Tax Rate/Budget Matrix.

[Volusia County Council](#)

[Daytona Beach City Commission](#)

[Ormond Beach City Commission](#)

[Port Orange City Council](#)

[Holly Hill City Commission](#)

[South Daytona City Council](#)

[DB Shores City Commission](#)

[DeBary City Council](#)

[Deland City Commission](#)

[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](#)

Sept 5 - 9 am/ 19 - 4 pm Admin Bldg

Sept 6, 20 - 6 pm City Hall

Sept 5, 19 - 7 pm City Hall

Sept 5, 19 - 6:30 City Hall

Sept 12, 26 - 6 pm City Hall

Sept 12 - 6 pm City Hall

Sept 12, 26 - 6 pm City Hall

Sept 6, 20 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Sept 6, 18 - 7 pm City Hall

Sept 6, 18 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Sept 11 - 6:00 pm City Hall

Sept 21 - 7 pm City Hall

Sept 12, 26 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Sept 7, 21 - 6 pm City Hall

Sept 8, 22 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Sept 21 - 6:00 pm City Hall

Sept 12, 26 - 12:30 pm Deland

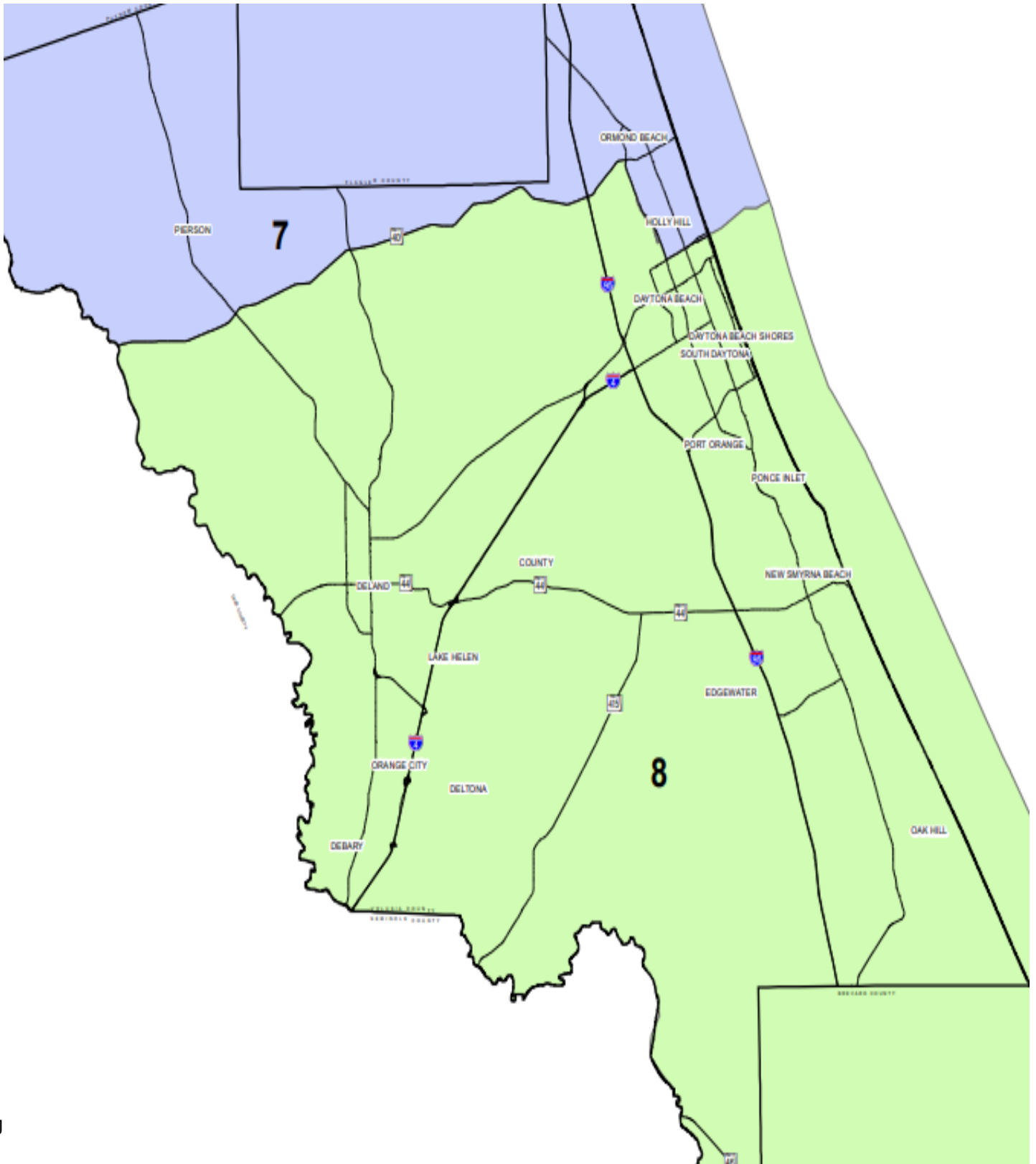
Sept 27 - 9 am Airport



Elections 2022

Florida Senate Districts 7 and 8

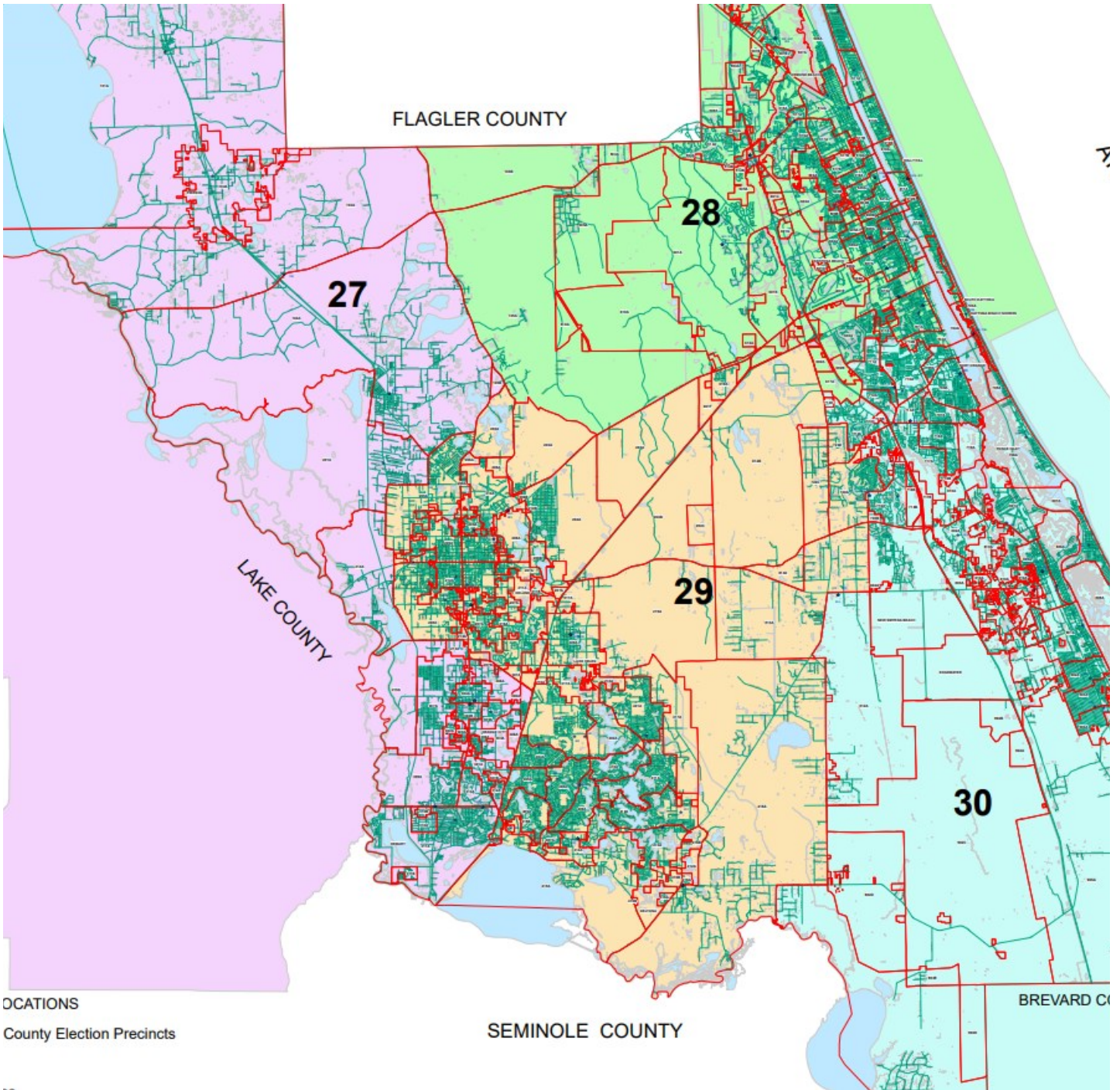
Volusia area



Elections 2022

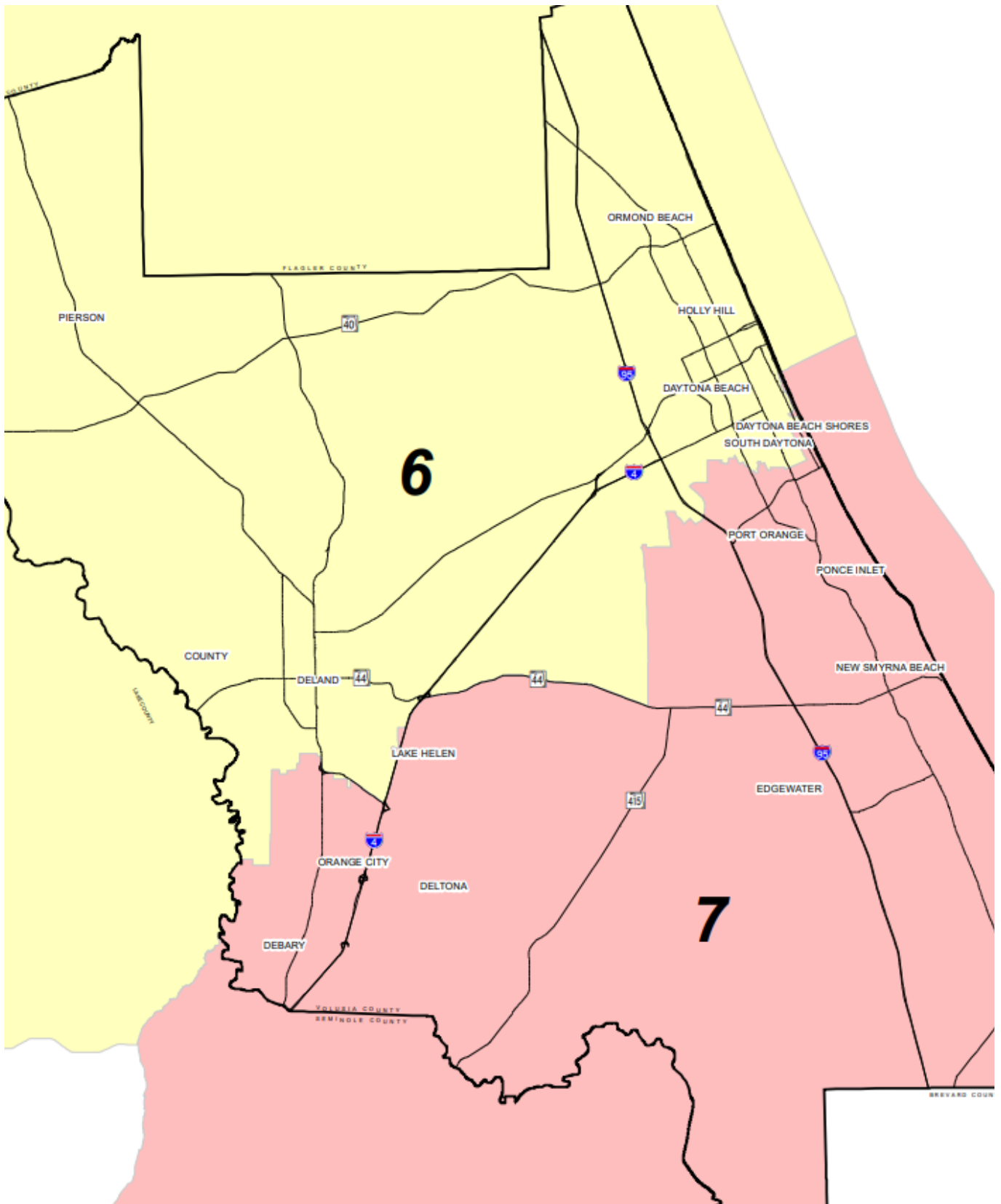
Official Florida House Districts

Volusia area

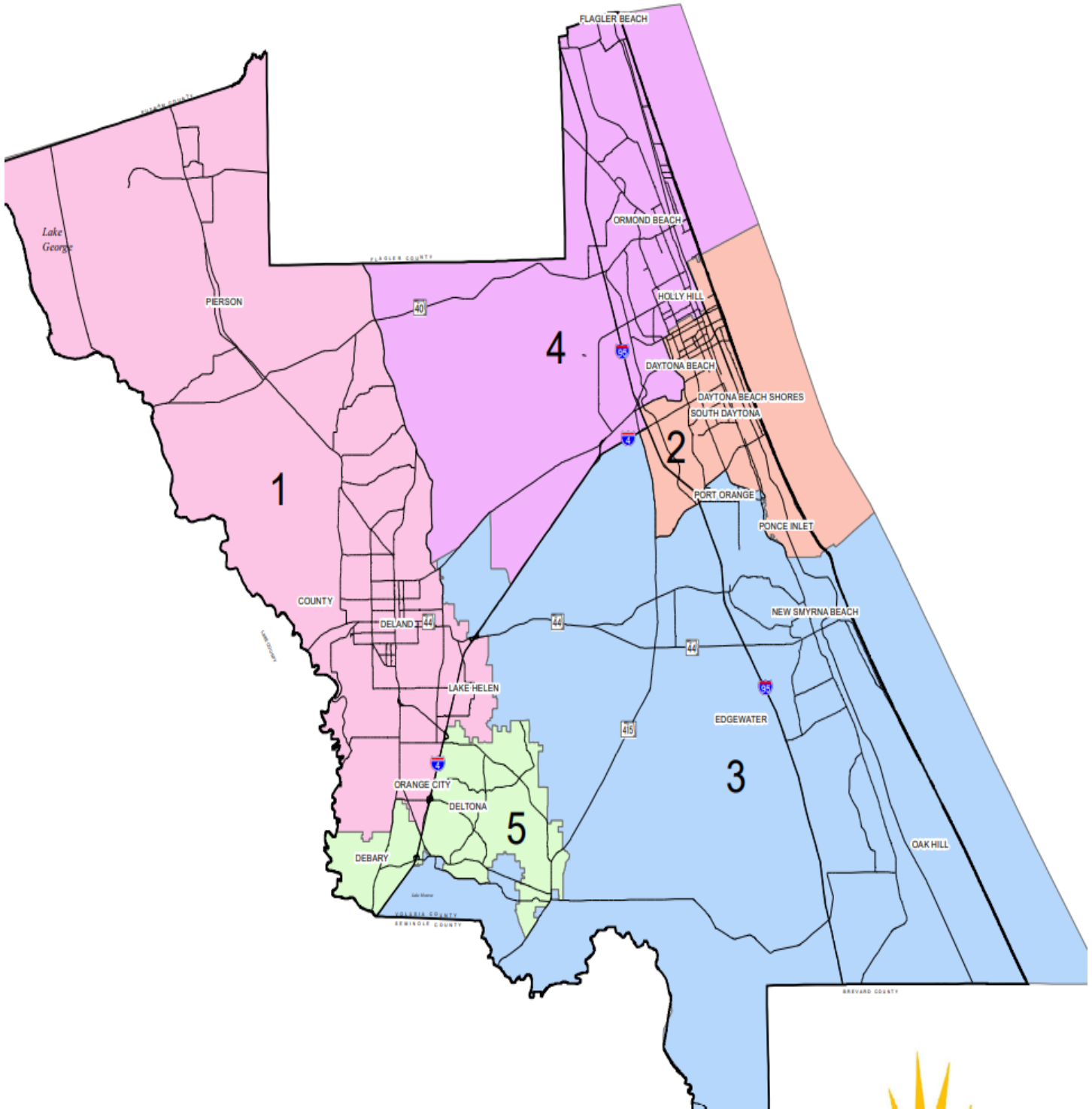


Elections 2022

Congressional Districts 6 and 7

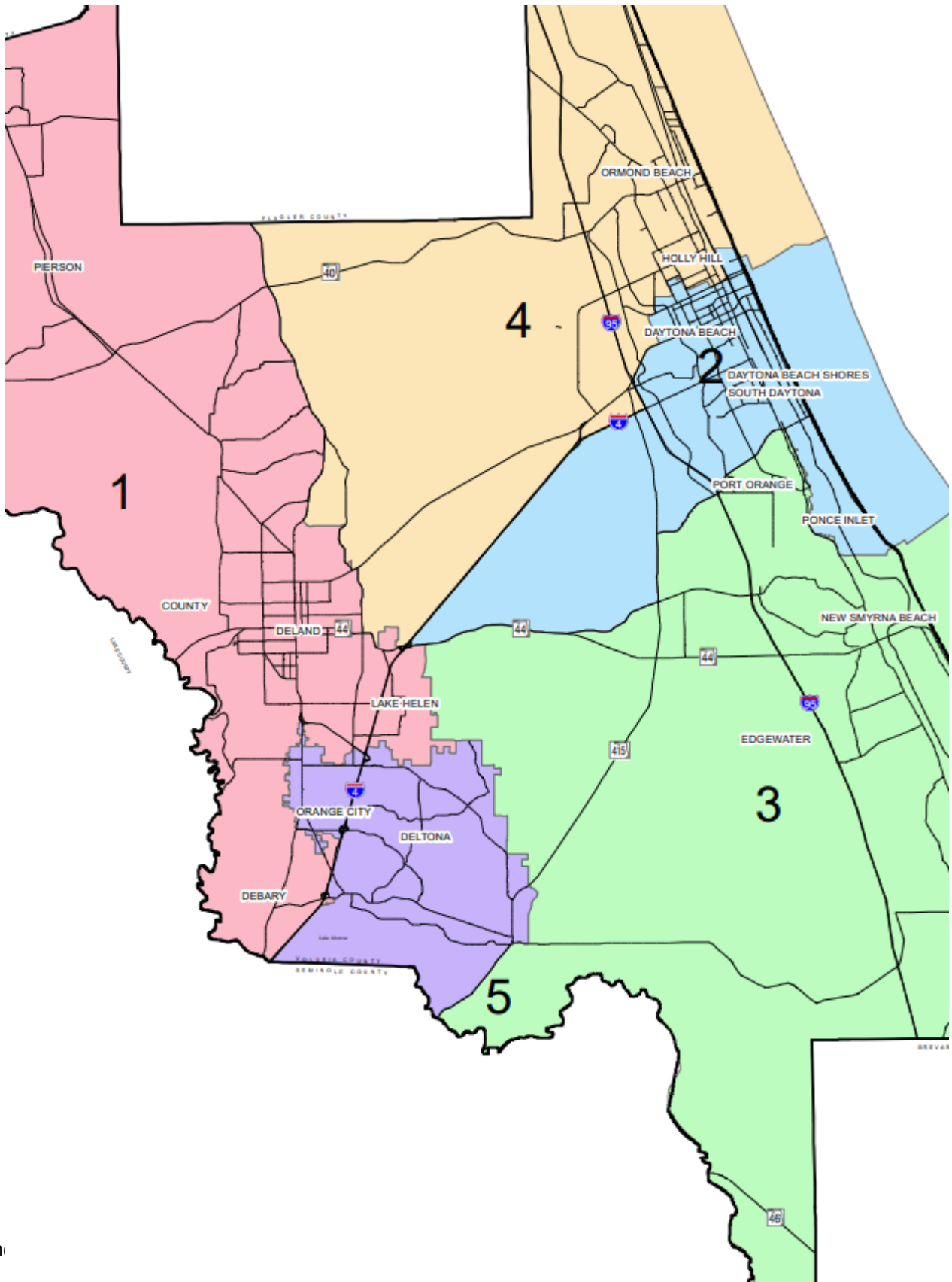


Volusia County Council Districts



Elections 2022

Volusia County School Board Districts





What are you reading?

Do you have a book that you're reading now or recently read?
If so, text it to 566-2140

Jayson Meyer - The Four Steps to the Epiphany by Steve Blank

Chris Bailey—Wool by Hugh Howey

Scott Vanacore - Built to Last by Jerry Porres and Jim Collins

Abbas Abdulhussein - 4000 Weeks by Oliver Burkman

Alhadi Abduhl—Essays of Warren Buffet

Amanda Thorpe— President's Club Nancy Gibbs

Ammie Olsen - The Body Keeps the Score by *Blessed Van De Kolk MD*

Amy Dunn—Extreme Ownership by Jocko Willink

Ana Taylor—Four Winds by *Hanna Kristen*

Ana Ventura—Disney Ride of a Lifetime by Bob Iger

Anne Ruby—Man's Search for Meaning by V Frankel

Anthony Millitello— Essentialism by *Greg McKeown*

Antonio Antinori - Epoch Times

Barb Girtman— Magic of Thinking Big

Ben Johnson - House of Wolves by James Patterson

Mayor Bill Hall—A Tree the Grows in Midtown

Mayor Bill Partington - Mornings on Horseback by David McCullough

Billie Wheeler - Sold on Monday by Kristina McMorris

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

Bob Apgar—The Gardians by John Grisham

Bob Davis - So Help Me God by Mike Pence

Bob Fitzsimmons Vanishing American Adult by Ben Saase

Bob Williams - Fresh Expressions by Micheal Adam Beck

Brandon Young Bringing Up the Boss by Racheal Pacheo

Brook White—Le Corps Expéditionnaire Français En Italie, 1943-1944

Carl Persis—The Maid by *Nita Prose*

Charlie Lydecker - My Story by David Grohl

Christos Manavros - The Art of War for Executives by *Donald Krause*

Colby Allman— Rich Dad Poor Dad by Robert Kyosaki

Chris Tolland—House Advantage by Jeffrey Ma

Dale Ketchum—Spies by Caulder Walton

Dan Francati - Rational Bible by Dennis Prager

Dana McCool - The Prince by *Niccolo Machiavelli*

Danny Fuqua - In His Arms by *Tony Thompson*

David Batten— Roosevelt's War War within WWII

David Santiago - Believe In People by Charles Koch

Deb Dolbow - Change Your Thoughts, Change Your Life By Wayne Dyer

Debbie Phillips – How to Lead by *John C Maxwell*

Deric Feacher - Everybody Matters by Bob Chapman and Raj Sisodia

Mayor Derrick Henry—Finding Me by Viola Davis

Diego Handel— For Whom the Bell Tolls by Hemmingway

Duncan DeMarsh - Vanishing American Adult by *Ben Sasse*

Ernie Audino —The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien

Ed Kelley — Day of the Panzer by *Jeff Danby*

Elizabeth Albert - The Fourth Tier, Leadership and the Power of Charisma by *Dr Chris Colwell*

Erica Benefield - Think & Grow Rich by Napoleon Hill

Ernie Audino - Guns of August by Barbara Tuchman

Frank Molnar - 10X by Grant Cardone

Fred Cleveland Forces of Nature by Clay Henderson

Fred Guzman - Fred Guzman by Adam Grant

Fred Lowry - Simple Church by Thom S Rainer

Gary Kreisler - Camino Wind by John Grisham

Georgia McKeown - Boys from Biloxi by John Grisham
and Surviving the Forest by Adiva Geffen

Gigi Bennington - Fairy Tale by Stephen King
Breathless by Dean Koontz

Glenn Storch - Tropic of Stupid by Tim Dorsey

Greg Snell—Biography by Thomas Edison

Hardy Smith - The Undoing Project by Michael Lewis

Harold Briley - Out Book of Awesome by Neil Pasricha

Jake Johannsen- How to Save the West by Spencer
Klavin

Jami Gallegos - The Power of Knowing What You
Don't Know by Adam Grant

Jay Suarez—Forever Young by Mark Hyman

Jayne Fifer—The Fourth Turning is Here Neil Howe

Jeff Brower - Cadillac Desert by Marc Reisner

Jessica Lovatt - Queen of Shadows by Sarah J Maas

Jessie Thompson—Where the Red Fern Grows by Wil-
son Rawls

Judge Jim Clayton Lincoln on Leadership by D Phillips

Jim Morris The 5000 Year Leap by Cleon Skousen

Jim Rose - The New Map by Daniel Yergin

Joe DeBlasi - Holy Moments by Mathew Kelly

Joe Forte - Future of Work by Thomas Malone

John Danio—Into the Groove from TinFoil to Vinyl

Jonah Powers - Best Development Practices by Reid
Ewing

Joni Hunt - Smart Brevity by Mike Allen

Jordan Jiloty – The Indomitable Florence Finch by Robert
Mrazek

Joseph Faith - Start up Nation by Dan Senior

Joyce Shanahan—Human Element by Loren Nordgren

Kerry Karl - The Hobbit by Tolkien

Kathy Smith - Because of Bethlehem by Max Lucado

Kelli Consentino—Think & Grow Rich by Napoleon Hill

Kent Sharples— Boys in the Boat by Daniel Brown

Kevin Purucker Opening Chase by Cap Daniels

Kevin Reid— Wool by Hugh Howry

Larry Bartlett—Think Again by Adam Grant

Larry McDermott - 2034 by Elliott Ackerman

Loretta Arthur – Themann Hesse Fairy Tales by Her

Lori Toland—Gospel of Mark and Psalms

Lois Paritsky—The Defense Never Rest by F Lee Bailey

Mark Watts - The Poor Side of Town by Howard Husock

Mary Bennett— Judges List by John Grisham

Mary Greenlees - Violence Project by Jillian Peterson

Marty Shuster - Race Vehicle Dynamics by William & Douglas
Millikan

Matt Reinhardt - The Whistler by John Grisham

Mel Stack— 112263 by Stephen King

Sheriff Mike Chitwood—Code Breakers

Mike McLean - The Courage to be Free by
Governor Ron DeSantis

Mike Panaggio - Intelligent Exit by Mark Carmichael

Mike Scudiero - Hour of the Assassin by Matthew Quirk

Mayor Nancy Miller - Extreme Leadership by Jocko Wollink &
Leif Babin

Patrick Mooney - Political Prisoner: Persecuted, Prosecuted,
But Not Silenced by Paul Manafort

Paula Reed— The First Ladies by Victoria Murray

Penny Currie - Alcatraz #1259 by William G Baker

Randy Hartman—Forces of Nature by Clay Henderson

Ray Sanchez - Turtles All the Way Down by Mary Holm

Rep Webster Barnaby - All in Authority by Ralph Drollinger

Richard Bryan - Eat Drink Be Healthy Walter Willit

Rob Littleton- Never Split the Difference by *Chris Voss*

Rob Merrell— *A New Earth* by Eckart Tolle

Travis McGhee by John McDonald

Randy Hartman— Forces of Nature by Clay Henderson

Rose Ann Tornatore - More Beautiful Than Before by *Steve Leder*

Roy Johnson Book of Job

Mayor Santiago Avila – Emotional Intelligence 2.0 by Ray Smith

Shawn Richmond Woke by Vivek Ramaswamy

Sheriff Guindi - Explore Diabetes with Owls by *David Sedaris*

Sherry Brianza - The Real Anthony Fauci by *Robert*

Kennedy Jr.

Stacy Cantu - Because They Hate by *Brigitte Gabriel*

Stan Escudero - The Courage to be Free by

Governor Ron DeSantis

Steve Sather The Courage to be Free by *Gov Ron D eSantis*

Susan Persis - Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

Susie Dolan - Eat That Frog by *Brian Tracy*

Tami Kozinski - Generations by William Strauss

Ted Rover - Punching Waves by DJ Kadagian

Tom Coriale - Do What You Said You Would Do by Congressman
Jim Jordan

Tom Self - The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by *Rebecca*
Skloot

Toni Hunt— The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren

Sen Tom Wright - Full Throttle Leadership by *Steven Foster*

Travis Sargent - Can't Hurt Me by David Goggins

Vic Baker - Tucker by Chadwick Moore

Rep Webster Barnaby - Pirate Money by Kevin Freeman

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Jim Cameron—1619 Project



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- 11 Alternative / Special Center
- 9 High
- 7 Charter
- 2 Combination
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The School District has over 61,400 students, over 7,600 employees, Fla's 14th largest district.

