

IN

# Doing Things For You!

Pinellas County 2017 Accomplishments



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## At Your Service... Board of County Commissioners

#### At-Large Districts



Janet C. Long Commissioner District 1 ///// (727) 464-3365



Pat Gerard Commissioner District 2 (727) 464-3360



## Charlie Justice Commissioner District 3 (727) 464-3363

## Single-Member Districts



**Dave Eggers** Commissioner District 4 (727) 464-3276



Karen Williams Seel Vice Chairman District 5 (727) 464-3278



John Morroni Commissioner District 6 (727) 464-3568



**Kenneth T. Welch** Chairman District 7 (727) 464-3614

## Message from Your Board



We are pleased to present you our 2017 Doing Things Accomplishments Report. The following pages highlight many of the things done in 2017 to fulfill Our Vision: To Be the Standard for Public Service in America.

In 2017, we achieved many milestones, including the passage of the Penny for Pinellas renewal referendum with an impressive 83% voter approval. Along the way, we continued to **Deliver First Class Services** by expanding our community outreach efforts and launching a new storm readiness mobile app. To **Ensure Public Health, Safety and Welfare**, we coordinated preparation for, response to and recovery from Hurricane Irma.

**Practicing Environmental Stewardship**, we implemented stormwater and wastewater solutions through our countywide Wastewater/Stormwater Task Force.

To **Foster Economic Growth and Vitality**, we hosted the 2017 Economic Symposium and discussed strategies to position our community and region for continued economic success. Supporting a **Quality Workforce**, we engaged employees through development opportunities and launched a mentoring program to introduce youth to careers in public service.

By building meaningful partnerships, investing in our employees and broadening our public engagement, we were able to continue to demonstrate the great value of local government to our Citizens.

As your Board of County Commissioners, we thank you for your continual trust and support. We look forward to achieving new successes as we maintain a unified vision and progressive leadership into the future.

John Mourni Pat Gerard Chahjshun Oave Eggen Karen Williams Seel Kenneth T. Welch ganet C. Genz



Our Vision: To Be the Standard for Public Service in America

# Pinellas County's Strategic Plan:

Mission:

Pinellas County Government is committed to progressive public of authority, and responsible management of public resources to



## **Deliver First Class Services**

- 5.1 Maximize partner relationships an
- 5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public
- Ensure effective and efficient delivery 5.3
- 5.4 Strive to exceed customer expectation



## Ensure Public Health, Safety and Welfare

- Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services 2.1 to ensure a safe and secure community
- 2.2 Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need
- 2.3 Provide comprehensive services to connect our veterans and dependents to the benefits they have earned
- Support programs that seek to prevent and remedy the causes 2.4 of homelessness and move individuals and families from homelessness to permanent housing
- Enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety 2.5



# Practice Super Environmenta

- 3.1 Implement green technologies
- 3.2 Preserve and manage enviror historical assets
- 3.3 Protect and improve the qualit natural resources
- 3.4 Reduce/reuse/recycle resource and solid waste



## Create a Quality Workforce ir

- Recruit, select, and retain the most diverse 1.1
- 1.2 Leverage, promote, and expand opportu
- Make workforce safety and wellness a pi 1.3
- Maintain a fair and competitive comper 1.4

# Doing Things to Serve the Public

policy, superior public service, courteous public contact, judicious exercise meet the needs and concerns of our citizens today and tomorrow.

## <mark>to the Public</mark> and Our Customers

public outreach resources of county services and support

### ior Stewardship

and practices where practical mental lands, beaches, parks, and

of our water, air, and other

including energy, water,

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### Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

- **4.1** Proactively attract and retain businesses with targeted jobs to the county and the region
- 4.2 Invest in communities that need the most
- 4.3 Catalyze redevelopment through planning and regulatory programs
- 4.4 Invest in infrastructure to meet current and future needs
- 4.5 Provide safe and effective transportation systems to support the efficient flow of motorists, commerce, and regional connectivity
- **4.6** Support a vibrant community with recreation, arts, and culture to attract residents and visitors

## a Positive, Supportive Organization

and talented workforce

ties for workforce growth and development

ority

sation package

# **Pinellas** County Serving You All Year





293,000 acres treated to prevent mosquitoes



6,800 pets adopted or returned to their owners from the animal shelter



**184,000** patients transported via ambulance to healthcare facilities



Nearly 1 million calls handled by dispatchers at the Regional 9-1-1 Center

## **Citizen Values Survey**

Your trust and confidence is important to us. Each

year, we conduct a Citizen Values Survey to hear from you and your neighbors about what we are doing well and what we can do better. This helps us invest in initiatives that improve your quality of life.

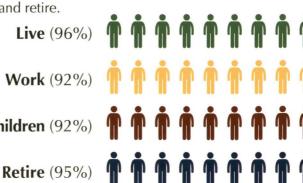


You Highly Recommend Our County

More than 9 out of 10 respondents indicated that they would recommend Pinellas County as a place to live, work, raise children and retire.

Work (92%)

Raise Children (92%)



4

**Every day,** more than 1,800 Pinellas County government employees work to provide first class services to our residents, businesses, visitors and partners.



364,000 truckloads

of material processed at the Solid Waste Scalehouse. These trucks would stretch from Pinellas County to New York.



7,000 customer service requests responded to via the Doing

Things! mobile app



213,000 hours worked by county volunteers, saving taxpayers more than \$5 million



10,700 pounds

of pollutants removed through street sweeping to protect water quality



17 trillion gallons

of safe, quality drinking water delivered to Utilities customers



### **11 trillion gallons**

of wastewater treated at our water reclamation facilities

### You Believe Our Future is Bright

You are confident that our community will continue to prosper.

#### Quality of Life in Pinellas

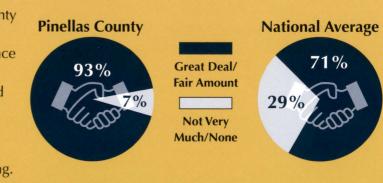
71% of our Citizens think our quality of life is better or just as good as five years ago.

85% of our Citizens think our quality of life will be better or just as good five years from now.

#### You Are Confident In Us

Your trust and confidence in our *Doing Things*! continues to far exceed the national average for local government.

Pinellas County Citizen trust and confidence ratings outperformed the national average as captured by Gallup polling.



# Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

We strive to provide a positive customer experience for all through timely, quality and cost-effective local services.

# Taking You Behind the Scenes



Dozens of county residents graduated from our Pinellas Citizen University (PCU). The program gives a behind-the-scenes look at our services and operations. Sign up for the spring 2018 session at **www.PinellasCounty.org/CitizenU**. 500 Citizens have completed PCU since it began in 2002.

### Listening to You



Your feedback matters to us. We launched the **"Voice of the Customer"** survey tool across the organization to provide a consistent method of collecting, measuring and responding to your input.

# Did You Know?

Pinellas County has the lowest per capita debt among Florida counties. This is the result of a strong focus on maximizing your tax dollars and using a pay-as-you-go approach to fund capital projects.

#### **Your Voice**



"Pinellas Citizen University was one of the best things I ever did, because I learned so much about Pinellas

and the inner workings of the County. I have recommended this class to numerous friends." Kristin Chambers, PCU Graduate and County Volunteer

## Conversing with You



Your input is important to help guide our future decisions. Through our annual Community Conversation, held at St. Petersburg College – Seminole Campus, we engaged many of you in person, via phone, online and even through Facebook Live.

## Helping You Prepare



In 2017, evacuation zones changed for more than 85,000 properties, with 20,000 assigned an

evacuation zone for the first time. Download our new emergency preparedness tool "Ready Pinellas" to know your zone and obtain up-tothe-minute disaster preparedness information. The app also offers a link to Spanish language resources.

#### Your Penny, Your Priorities



To gather broad input on Penny for Pinellas future priorities, we hosted three community open houses and conducted an online survey. Thousands of county residents participated and shared their thoughts on how to invest future revenue of the 1-percent sales tax. With 83% voter support, the Penny will be renewed from 2020-2030 to fund long-term, capital infrastructure projects such as:

#### North County

East Lake Library expansion, East Lake Road improvements, Dunedin Causeway Bridge, Wall Springs Park expansion

#### Mid County

Belcher Road/Gulf-to-Bay Boulevard intersection project, 102nd Avenue and 126th Avenue improvements

#### South County

Lealman community center, San Martin Boulevard Bridge replacement, flood prevention projects

#### Beaches

Fort De Soto Visitor Center, Tierra Verde community center, stormwater projects, public safety equipment

For an expanded list of projects and additional Penny facts, visit **www.PinellasCounty.org/Penny**.

## **Feeding Our Families**

To provide hungry families with fresh and nutritious meal choices, we hosted two Farm Share food distribution events.





With the help of our community volunteers, we distributed approximately 31,500 pounds of food to nearly 750 households. That's enough to feed more than 2,600 adults and children.

#### **Your Voice**



"I think this is wonderful, it provides a lot to those who do not have much and helps give back to the community. We thank Pinellas County very much."

Pamela Blaylock, Pinellas County resident

#### **Download Our App**

#### Supporting Our Veterans



We worked with our community partners to publish a Veteran & Military Resource Guide as a convenient tool that includes available resources and services for our Veterans and their families. View the guide online at

www.PinellasCounty.org/Veterans

#### Keeping You Informed



We launched our very own Doing Things!

TV to tell you the stories of how we work together with our community partners, residents, businesses and visitors to make Pinellas a better place to live. Watch online by searching for PCCTV1 on YouTube, and share with your neighbors.

#### **Ensuring Your Safety**



All Parks and Conservation Resources employees are now certified in CPR and AED to ensure safety at all parks and recreational facilities. This will better enable them to assist you if a health emergency arises. 

 Image: Contract of the second seco

If you see a problem in your neighborhood, reporting it is just a few taps away with our "Doing Things For You" mobile

app. Report issues like pot holes, illegal dumping, damaged

road signs and graffiti. Search "Pinellas County" in the Apple App Store or Google Play. More than 7,000 issues were addressed through the app last year.



#### Hurricane Maria: Assisting in the Aftermath

To help families who have evacuated to Florida from the devastation of Hurricane Maria, we partnered with Allegiant Airlines for a food and supply drive at St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport. Donations were provided to evacuees from Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and other areas as they rebuild their lives.



# Ensure Public Health, Safety and Welfare

We ensure rapid and effective emergency response; facilitate disaster preparedness and recovery; coordinate health and other social services for those in need; offer consumer protection services; and respond to animal safety and welfare concerns.

#### **Protecting Our Pets**

To encourage responsible pet ownership and animal welfare, we approved changes to the animal ordinance. Kennels, pet dealers and hobby breeders are now required to have properly issued permits.

On average, Animal Services adopts out at least one animal per hour for every hour the adoption center is open. In 2017, our staff found a home for more than 5,100 cats and dogs - a 25% increase from 2016. To adopt a pet or donate, visit **PinellasCounty.org/AnimalServices.** 



We upgraded our kennels at Animal Services, providing 31 new spaces that feature enhanced bedding, expanded room for large dogs and easier food and water access. This project was supported by the Penny for Pinellas.

### **Combating Mosquitoes**

To help you eliminate mosquito breeding areas around your home, we hosted two free tire disposal events in partnership with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Through this effort, we collect more than 1,600 old or unused tires from residents throughout the County.

#### **Training for Emergencies**



To better prepare our County staff, municipalities and agency partners to serve you in disaster, we hosted FEMA's Emergency Management Institute training for more than 470 individuals at our Emergency Operations Center.



#### Honoring Our Heroes



We care about our local heroes. As a designated 2017 "Purple Heart County," our policies and initiatives create awareness for the service and sacrifice of veterans and active members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

### Age-Friendly County

We became certified through AARP as part of the national network of Age-Friendly Communities. From hosting events such as Falls Prevention Awareness Day and promoting the FirstCare Ambulance Membership Plan, to integrating walkable communities into the County's Comprehensive Plan – many departments are actively *Doing Things!* to better serve and meet the needs of our aging population.

## Accessibility for All

We formed the Council for Persons with Disabilities to ensure the needs of persons with disabilities are reflected in our policy decisions. The council provides advice on issues relating to accessibility, programs, services and discrimination.

## 😥 Did You Know?

In 2017, we became the first county in the Tampa Bay region to provide bullet-resistant vests and helmets for fire and medical rescue teams. The new gear enables them to respond to victims sooner and in closer proximity during an active shooter scenario.



# SERVING YOU DURING

In September, Pinellas County and all of Florida were impacted by Hurricane Irma. We activated our Emergency Operations Center (EOC), located within the Penny for Pinellas-funded Public Safety Complex, to coordinate preparedness, response and recovery efforts with our partners to keep our community safe.

# By the numbers 250

employees worked around the clock at the EOC

#### 200+

local, state and federal partners coordinated response

445,400 sandbags distributed

> 2,013 pets sheltered

Nearly **65,000** calls received at the Citizen Information Center

#### 595

miles of roadways and 15 bridges inspected and cleared by Public Works hours after the storm passed

#### 375,000

cubic yards of storm debris collected from unincorporated Pinellas County

Your Voice



Partnering to Provide Shelter Pinellas County Schools and the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County coordinated space for more than 23,000 people at 17 shelters. Local fire districts transported hundreds of residents with special needs to shelters.

#### Partnering to Provide Food

Human Services partnered with Feeding Florida, the Salvation Army and other local community groups to provide food to residents after the storm.



#### Partnering to Provide Transportation

Local fire districts transported hundreds of special needs residents to shelters. The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority waived fees for residents to use buses during the evacuation. Human Services and partners coordinated transportation for hundreds of homeless residents to access shelters.

#### Partnering to Keep Us Safe

First responders including law enforcement, fire rescue, emergency medical services and 9-1-1 operators worked overtime to ensure residents and visitors were safe.

Special thanks to all of our partners for working with us to protect our community!

### Stories from the Shelter – Dunedin Highland Middle School



When Hurricane Irma came through Pinellas County overnight

overnight between Sept. 10 and 11, the power went out at Dunedin Highland Middle School, a shelter for residents with special needs and pets. When generator power initially failed, employees from our Fleet Management division traveled in the midst of the storm to repair the generator, restoring power to those who needed it most. While the power was initially out, an



11-year old dog became overheated. An emergency medical technician and an Animal Services employee sprung to action, reviving the dog. Another dog had an adventure of its own at the

shelter, delivering four puppies that night. Her owners named the first girl Irma.





"Many people and businesses I talked to were impressed with Pinellas County's response to Hurricane Irma and how organized they were in the process of securing areas in the county and ensuring that residents were able to evacuate in an effective way as the storm increased in intensity." Mary Ann Renfrow, Tierra Verde resident

# Practice Superior Environmental Stewardship

We are committed to responsible environmental practices that protect our beaches, green spaces and waterways, and help preserve the distinctive natural characteristics of our county for the benefit of future generations.

#### **Cutting Energy Costs**



We reduced our energy consumption by more than half a million dollars at our water plants by making facility enhancements, including upgrading pump stations. By reducing energy costs, you continue to receive an affordable water utility rate.

# S Did You Know?



Pinellas County is home to 21 regional parks and preserves, which includes more than 20,000 acres of environmental land. Many of these have been supported through the years by the Penny for Pinellas. In 2017, these green spaces attracted nearly 18 million visitors.

#### Preserving Our Coasts



Several major beach nourishment and stabilization projects are either underway or forthcoming for segments of our coastline, including Upham Beach, Sand Key, Indian Rocks Beach and Treasure Island. Our beach nourishment program, a partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the state and local communities, provides vital resources to mitigate and protect our shores against the effects of erosion.

We partnered with the Southwest Florida Water Management District to construct a bridge at Fort De Soto Park to enable better water flow, improving water quality and coastal habitat.



#### Protecting Water Quality



The Wastewater/Stormwater Task Force marked its first anniversary. The cooperative partnership between County, city and agency partners has met regularly to reduce sanitary sewer overflows in the county, including the creation of an action plan to mitigate wastewater and stormwater issues.

We implemented a new Stormwater Manual in a continued effort to protect the quality of our surface waters. The goals: reduce the impacts of flooding, ensure development and capital projects, accommodate the effects of sea level rise and promote redevelopment.

#### **Providing Quality Water**



To continue providing you with safe drinking water, we made facility improvements to the S.K. Keller Water Treatment Plant and Operations Center. The facility distributes up to 55 million gallons of drinking water per day to more than 900,000 residents and visitors.

#### Lighting the Way



You may have noticed that the traffic signals, overhead message signs and lights underneath our bridges now use LED lighting, which consumes up to 90% less power than regular bulbs. This dramatic decrease in electricity consumption saves you \$100,000 annually.



#### Linking Nature Trails





With the completion of a 5-mile segment of the Florida Coast-to-Coast Connector, our Fred Marquis Pinellas Trail became the first link in a 250-mile network of trails that will cross Florida.



### **Promoting Eco-Friendly Habits**

If you attended our first Eco Fun Festival, you discovered how making small changes at home can protect our environment. In fact, our recycling efforts made a big impact in 2017. For the second year in a row, we had the top recycling rate in Florida with 2.1 billion pounds of countywide recycled material.



Recycling Highlights: By The Numbers

432,000 pounds of household chemicals

**1.5 million** pounds of household electronics

**2.5 million** pounds of metal

**84 million** pounds of ash

#### **Your Voice**



"The trail serves a lot of different uses. It's a fabulous closing of the gap to Pasco County. I can't wait to ride it all the way over to Titusville to go surfing someday. There's a lot of success that can be gained from regional teamwork. It makes me proud to live in Pinellas County." **Richard Hartman, recreational** cyclist and avid runner

# Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

Investments in community revitalization, infrastructure, and effective transportation systems are vital to attract businesses and high-wage jobs. Providing access to recreation, sports venues, and cultural events and exhibits serves to draw residents, businesses and visitors to the region.

#### Housing That's Affordable



To increase housing opportunities for our local workforce, we provided \$1 million in Penny for Pinellas funding for a new apartment complex. The new Garden Trail Apartments in Clearwater provides homes for 76 residents and their families who earn 60 percent of the area median income or below.

We also broke ground on Palms of Pinellas, a mixed-income development in Largo that will provide nearly 100 homes for our working families. The Penny for Pinellas helped make this possible through \$938,000 in funding support from the County.



#### Supporting Youth Sports

To provide our youth with the benefits of team building, sportsmanship, health and wellness, we provided \$160,000 to support Seminole Junior Warhawks Athletic Association, Seminole Youth Athletic Association and Cross Bayou Little League.

#### Encouraging Community Growth

We updated our Land Development Code to better fit our changing community and encourage economic growth. The code provides a new regulatory and review structure that is more in tune with our current redevelopment needs and environment.

#### **Easier Commutes**

Progress is being made on the 118th Avenue North Gateway Expressway project, a new elevated roadway that will speed the commute from I-275 to U.S. 19 and the Bayside Bridge. The project is expected to be completed in 2021.

#### Jobs for Our Residents

As of September, the labor force in Pinellas County was over 500,000. At 3.1%, the county's unemployment rate was its lowest since April 2006, and more than 1% lower than the national rate.

### Walkable Communities



To increase safe pedestrian and cyclist access in the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area, we partnered with Forward Pinellas on a \$50,000 grant to enhance 54th Avenue North as part of the "Linking Lealman" project.

#### Paving the Way



63 Road lane miles milled & resurfaced

#### 94

Miles of ditches maintained for drainage/flood control

**371** Potholes repaired within 72 hours

**17,004** Public Works customer service calls handled

23,507 total acres mowed

## **Enhancing Our Community**

Following a public input process in 2016, we allocated \$7.1 million in funds received through the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill settlement to several community projects, and many are now complete. County staff continues to work with partners to move other projects forward.



Veterans Memorial Plaza at Crest Lake Park, Phase II





Community Access Project for At Risk Youth

#### **Promoting Our Destination**

We are making strategic investments with tourism tax dollars to invest in community events and upgrade facilities, such as Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Clearwater Marine Aquarium, in support of a vibrant community with recreation, arts and culture.

#### Developing Small Businesses

The Small Business Development Center helps connect local entrepreneurs to resources designed to accelerate their growth. In 2017, FSBDC clients included eleven new start-ups that are ready to launch. Client companies are projected to create or retain more than 650 jobs and invest over \$11 million to grow their businesses.

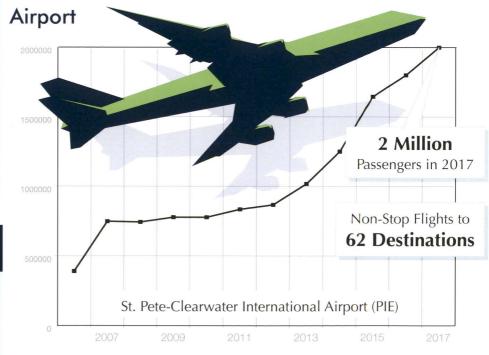
#### **Your Voice**



"Pinellas County offers resources that are invaluable to the launch and continual growth of small

businesses and the economic vitality of the community. The Small Business Development Center walked with our company hand and hand through obtaining the necessary certifications." Hayes F. Fountain, CEO, Widescope Consulting and Contracting Services





## Create a Quality Workforce in a Positive, Supportive Organization

Our workforce is our foundation, making it possible to deliver on the promise of our Strategic Plan. Our dynamic workplace includes a wide variety of positions to fit most interests and educational backgrounds. To develop our employees, we provide opportunities for personal and professional growth, as well as an excellent benefits package that includes competitive pay and health insurance. Learn more at **www.PinellasCounty.org/jobs**.

#### More than 1,800 Employees



**21,550** Combined years of service

**12 years** Average employee tenure

> **229** New hires in 2017

#### 3,400

Number of hours of learning for students in internships and externships

#### We Grow Leaders

Our inaugural class of the Leadership Enhancement And Development (LEAD) program graduated in December. LEAD took high-potential employees through a two-year course to provide a leadership pipeline for the future of Pinellas.

### We Value Wellness

Our Health and Wellness Program provides free membership at our Wellness Center, as well as discounts for other gyms, classes and programs. We also offer incentives for healthy behavior.

#### We Listen to Our Employees

We conduct employee surveys to enable our employees the opportunity to share input in shaping our workplace. Past feedback has resulted in additional training opportunities that have enhanced our services. Of all employees surveyed in 2017, 88% would recommend working for Pinellas County.

#### We Stay Competitive With Our Peers

We conducted a pay and classification study to better define job responsibilities, ensure competitive pay and support a strong workforce.

#### We Celebrate Achievements



We are continuously working to improve our delivery of first class services. Our annual In-Service Day gathering celebrated milestones and past achievements, and engaged employees in the *Doing Things!* for the year ahead.

#### **Your Voice**

"The tuition reimbursement program allows me to further develop my skills while still

serving the public. The opportunity to earn a degree opens many doors for my career, benefiting me and my family for a lifetime without the burden of a student loan." **Dontell Green, Transportation** 

System Technician II, Public Works

#### We Give Back



As part of our 31st annual bicycle drive, employees donated \$11,000 toward the purchase of 126 new bicycles for children of disabled veterans and families in most need during the holidays. The bicycle drive has been a holiday tradition for more than three decades.

We Uplift Our Community



Our Employee Choir performs at county-sponsored events. In 2017, the group provided inspirational music for veterans at the Honor Flight at Home, and sang seasonal tunes at the Holiday Lights in the Gardens.

## **Recognizing Our Talented Workforce**

We select an employee each month to award with a *Doing Things!* recognition for a continued commitment to **Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers**. Watch the "I Am Pinellas County" video series at **www.pinellascounty/doingthings** for an inside look at the services our employees proudly deliver to you every day.





**Barbara Soderlund** Solid Waste 10 years of service

**Steve Allen** Utilities 21 years of service





Stephens Office of Management & Budget 14 years of service

**Evelyn Esteva-**

Haxhi Muharemi Utilities 13 years of service



**LJ Wood** Public Works *17 years of service* 





Michael Swonger Veteran Services 3 years of service

Anousone Eicher Human Services 29 years of service

Matt Laverdure Vegetation Management 19 years of service



Yuan-Chen Kung Human Services 11 years of service





Clarethia Monroe

Utilities 8 years of service

**Clayton Parrott** Emergency Management *3 years of service* 





# **Doing Things! All-Stars**

*Doing Things!* All-Stars are selected among our *Doing Things!* recognition recipients. These employees have exceeded customer expectations in providing exceptional public service.



Natasha Suarez Community Development / Planning 7 years of service



Roberto Quijada Real Estate Management 16 years of service



**DJ Jones** Animal Services 25 years of service



**Robert "Bobby" Alexander** Public Works 29 years of service



**Chuck Fry** Utilities *30 years of service* 



# Awarding Excellence

The following awards highlight our dedication to meet your needs by achieving our Strategic Plan goals. These are just a few of the milestones we reached this year.

#### Convention & Visitors Bureau

- Visit St. Pete/Clearwater's new landing page, www.GulpCoast.com, won Best Travel Website and Outstanding Website from The Web Marketing Association
- 2017 Gold Service Award from Meetings & Conventions Magazine
- 2017 Business of Pride Award recognized by the Tampa Bay Business Journal

# Marketing & Communications

2017 Community Relations
PRestige Award from the Public
Relations Society of America,
Tampa Bay Chapter

## Office of Management & Budget

 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association

### Purchasing

 2017 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award from the National Procurement Institute

### Public Works

- Technical and Management Innovation Award from the Florida West Coast Chapter of the American Public Works Association, awarded to Stormwater GIS Drainage Maintenance Planning
- Curlew Creek Channel A project awarded Project of the Year in the Environmental category from the Florida West Coast Chapter of the American Public Works Association

#### St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport

- 2017 Air Carrier Airport Safety Award by the Federal Aviation Administration Southern Region
- 2017 Florida Commercial Service Airport of the Year Award by the Florida Department of Transportation
- National Weather Service "Storm Ready" distinction

#### Utilities

- Dunn Water Reclamation Facility 2016 Facility Excellence Award from the Florida Water and Pollution Control Operators Association

# With Partners We Keep Doing More

### United in Support Unidos en Apoyo



In November, we partnered with the Hispanic Outreach Center to host a panel discussion about resources available for Hurricane Maria evacuees from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



**Your Voice** 

"A lot of information was provided at this event that will help a lot of

people coming to Pinellas County. Having this initiative shows that we really care. I am very proud of being part of this county." Angeles Rodriguez, Palm Harbor resident

## Caring for Our Kids



We committed \$1.5 million to assist Pinellas County Schools in providing a nurse for every public school, ensuring the health of our youth.

#### Attracting **High-Wage Employers**



To maintain economic growth and attract new high-wage employers, elected officials and community leaders came together for the 2017 Pinellas Economic Leadership Symposium, held in partnership with Forward Pinellas, St. Petersburg College, the Urban Land Institute and the University of South Florida.

### **Cleaning Our Waterways**



With the support of our volunteers and our partners at Keep Pinellas Beautiful, we collected 5,300 pounds of debris in the Ridgecrest, Joe's Creek and Cross Bayou communities. Additionally, our water protection structures captured 1,100 pounds of trash in our parks. These initiatives help preserve our waterways for sea life and for your enjoyment.

Visit www.PinellasCounty.org to see how you can get involved in similar events.

## Mentoring Our Youth

As part of our workforce initiative to mentor our youth and encourage academic achievement,



we partnered with the Lealman Asian and Neighborhood Family Center for Pinellas Promise, a new



summer learning program for kids. In November, nearly 90 employees shared their stories with students during the Great American

Teach-In through a partnership with Pinellas County Schools.



**Your Voice** 

"It's super important to have this because it exposes the children to other careers that they

can have in the future." Molly Baird, **Pinellas County teacher** 

## **Student Voices**

"Thank you for teaching me all of these things so I can do it at home." Huy, 4th Grader **Pinellas Promise participant** 



"You guys did awesome. You guys taught me well, and thank you so much!" Rowan, 5th Grader **Pinellas Promise participant** 



Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To obtain accessible formats of this document, please call (727) 464-4062 (V/TDD). Funding for this report was provided by Pinellas County Government. 6,500 copies were printed at a cost of \$4,953 or \$0.76 each.

## Junta de Comisionados del Condado Pinellas Resumen del Año 2017

# ¡Haciendo Cosas Por Usted!

Nos enorgullece presentarle un resumen de nuestro Informe Anual de Logros cumplidos en el 2017. El informe ofrece un recuento de las muchas cosas hechas por su gobierno del Condado Pinellas para hacer de nuestra comunidad un mejor lugar donde vivir.

A continuación, le ofrecemos un breve vistazo sobre las principales historias del 2017 en su condado. Como su Junta de Comisionados, le agradecemos por otro gran año colaborando juntos para el bien de nuestro condado. Esperamos seguir trabajando por usted y ofreciendo el liderazgo para hacer cosas que nos llevarán a mayor nivel de éxito en el futuro.

Janet C. Long Commissioner Charlie Justice Ka Commissioner

Karen Williams Seel Vice Chairman Kenneth T. Welch Chairman John Morroni Pat Gerard Commissioner Commissioner

Dave Eggers Commissioner



#### Alimentando a nuestras familias

Para proveerle opciones alimenticias saludables a nuestras familias, organizamos dos eventos de Farm Share. Con la ayuda de voluntarios, distribuimos aproximadamente 31,500 libras de comida a unas 750 familias. Eso equivale a alimentar a más de 2,600 niños y adultos.

#### Protegiéndole antes, durante y después del Huracán Irma

En septiembre del 2017, activamos el Centro de Operaciones de Emergencia para proveerle a usted y a su familia toda la información y preparativos necesarios ante la amenaza del Huracán Irma. Por primera vez, preparamos videos en varios idiomas (inglés, español y language de señas) como medida adicional para mantenerle informado. Ofrecimos albergue a más de 23,000 residentes del condado y limpiamos cerca de 375,000 yardas cúbicas de ramas y árboles caídos a consecuencia del huracán.





"Mucha información fue provista durante este panel que será de gran ayuda para las personas que están llegando a Pinellas. Hacer este evento demuestra que realmente somos una comunidad que se preocupa por el bien de todos. Estoy muy orgullosa de ser parte de este condado." - Angeles Rodriguez

#### Ayudando a nuestros hermanos puertorriqueños y otras víctimas del Huracán María

A medida que residentes de Puerto Rico, las Islas Vírgenes y otras áreas desalojaban las islas devastadas por el Huracán María, el Condado Pinellas se unió al Centro de Apoyo Hispano y organizaciones comunitarias para difundir información de ayuda. El panel bilingüe "Unidos en Apoyo (United in Support)" tomó lugar en noviembre, seguido de



clínicas informativas en el centro. Cientos de familias e individuos han recibido asistencia escolar, médica y financiera a raiz de esta colaboración.



# Mejorando nuestras carreteras

En el 2017, trabajamos para ofrecerles carreteras y aceras más seguras a nuestros conductores y peatones. Reparamos más de 370 baches o grutas en las carreteras y repavimentamos más de 60 millas de carriles.



#### Mejorando la calidad del agua

En el 2017, completamos mejoras a una de nuestras plantas de tratamiento de aguas residuales, trabajamos en varios projectos de estabilización de arena en playas y nos reunimos con varias agencias para identificar maneras de seguir protegiendo nuestros recursos naturales de agua.

#### Facilitando más proyectos de vivienda asequible

Junto con otras agencias y municipios, inauguramos dos nuevos proyectos de vivienda asequible. En Clearwater, establecimos el complejo de apartamentos Garden Trail con 76 nuevas residencias. En Largo, inauguramos el Palms of Pinellas, que proveerá vivienda asequible a unas 100 familias.



# Atrayendo empleos y fomentando el desarrollo económico

Por primera vez en más una década, la tasa de desempleo en el Condado Pinellas bajó a 3.1%, con más de 500,000 ciudadanos empleados en septiembre del 2017. Nuestras agencias trabajaron juntas para promover la región por medio de talleres para nuevos negocios, una conferencia regional de desarrollo económico y proyectos de turismo. ¿Sabía usted que Latinoamérica es el mercado internacional de mayor crecimiento para nuestro turismo? Las visitas a nuestro condado desde países latinoamericanos aumentaron en un 19% este ultimo año.



#### Continuando proyectos con el Penny for Pinellas

El impuesto de ventas conocido como Penny for Pinellas fue aprobado por 83% de nuestros electores, dando paso así a más mejoras comunitarias y proyectos de carreteras, puentes, vivienda asequible, bibliotecas, parques y desarrollo económico, entre otros. Visite **www.pennyforpinellas.org** para más información.



Lea sobre nuestros otros logros del 2017 en www.PinellasCounty.org

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