

From the Desk of Commissioner Marci Woodward

A Message from Marci

I attended the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) conference in Seminole County earlier this month. It was inspiring to see so many county commissioners from across the state working together to address our shared challenges.

I was particularly impressed by the healthy debate and discussion that took place in the various committees. I'm confident that the results of our legislative conference in November will be beneficial for all of Florida.

Our delegation from Palm Beach County and South Florida was strong and well-represented. There is power in numbers!

I am just getting started on LinkedIn and I'm already hooked! Connect with me at [linkedin.com/in/commissionerwoodward/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/commissionerwoodward/).

District 4 Improvements

There are lots of upgrades in the works at Ocean Inlet park including new docks, a seawall, and safety improvements to the A1A crossover and lifeguard tower!

This 11-acre park has two waterfront areas for visitors to enjoy. Take a walk along the beachfront and intracoastal, which feature a marina, kayak launch, and ocean observation deck.

The park also has picnic areas, playgrounds, restrooms, shower facilities, and is open from sunrise to sunset.

One of its unique features is a fishing pier that is open 24 hours!

Palmetto Park Rd. Bridge Update

Below is a recent update from the Engineering and Public Works Department on the Palmetto Park Road Bridge project.

The roadway contractor has started placing concrete for driveways and sidewalks and base rock east and west of the bridge for upcoming asphalt paving.

The bridge contractor has completed the eastbound bridge demolition and is preparing to install the bridge columns.

Modifications were necessary for the southern bridge columns due to the proximity to overhead electric lines; however, county engineers and the contractors found a solution with minimal disruption.

The bridge columns are expected to be installed in the upcoming weeks, and crews will start forming pile caps. After completion of those tasks, the bridge decking will be installed.

The project schedule now shows completion in late December 2023 due to additional work required to avoid the overhead electric lines.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work to enhance our infrastructure. Your support is invaluable as we navigate through these phases of progress.

County Helps First-time Homebuyers

Palm Beach County is offering up to \$100,000 to help first-time homebuyers purchase a home.

Funding is available for acquisition, acquisition/rehabilitation, new construction, down payment, and closing costs.

Apply online from October 10-31, 2023.

For more information visit, <https://discover.pbcgov.org/HED/Pages/default.aspx>.

Nonprofit Spotlight

Get ready to witness an exciting fusion of generations as Fuller Center and The Volen Center team up to create an intergenerational day center at The Volen Center.

This innovative program facilitates meaningful interactions between seniors and children, promoting play and educational engagement that benefits both age groups.

Intergenerational centers have long been recognized for their profound positive impact, yet they remain a rare gem in many communities.

The establishment of this center marks a significant milestone as one of the few intergenerational centers in southern Palm Beach County.

The center will be open to all children in the area from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Affordable tuition, meals, and snacks are available for enrolled students.

Open enrollment is underway, and parents are encouraged to contact Elen de Paula at edepaula@fullercenterfl.org or call 561-391-7274, ext. 121.

Local Government 101

Public Comment

Citizens may offer comments to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on regular agenda items, items listed for public hearings and during Matters by the Public, which is usually held on the first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

BCC meetings are held in the Robert Weisman Governmental Center, 6th floor Commission Chambers, 301 N. Olive Avenue, West Palm Beach.

During Matters by the Public, citizens are welcome to address any issues under the jurisdiction of the board.

Anyone wishing to speak is requested to complete a “Comments by the Public” card (available in the chambers) and give it to the Public Affairs staff member near the podium.

When your name is called, please step up to the open podium and state, for the record, your name, and address and stay within your allotted time.

It is important to note that the board generally refrains from entering into immediate dialogues with the public during the time. Complex and critical issues require careful consideration, and it can be challenging to provide accurate responses on the spot.

For individuals seeking more detailed information or assistance with their concerns, we recommend reaching out directly to your county commissioner's office.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person there is an option to submit your public comment electronically on the county’s website.

Your participation is greatly valued as it helps shape our community and the decisions made by the Board of County Commissioners.

If you require assistance, please contact our office at 561-355-2204 or email Mwoodward@pbcgov.org.