



A Message from Marci

Season's Greetings from District 4! It's hard to believe 2023 is already coming to an end. It has been an interesting year for me.

All the clichés fit. I went from baptism by fire to drinking from a firehose to keeping my head above water in short order.

However, I must say, my staff, the county staff and many players from around the county have helped me navigate the sometimes rough waters of local government.

I'm regularly asked, "How do you like it?" My answer is, "I give it a 4 out of 5," and I think that's pretty good!

Since assuming office, the Board has voted on nearly 3,000 agenda items, spanning a wide array of crucial sectors such as airports, facilities and development, community services, water utilities, fire rescue and numerous other essential areas.

I took on various initiatives including, establishing a Veteran Services Advisory Board, addressing Ag Reserve land concerns, enhancing transparency in overseeing workforce housing and bolstering connectivity within our transportation network.

Additionally, our office has been responsive to various resident concerns, taking action across multiple fronts including the following:

Addressing mosquito concerns: we activated the county's mosquito control team to effectively address issues in Spanish River Park near the dog park .

Resolving overgrowth challenges: our request for Code Enforcement to inspect the CVS on Military

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Trail/Coconut Ln. led to the property owner rectifying landscaping concerns and removing obstructions.

Enhancing safety: we engaged with the Florida Department of Transportation to review and repair nonoperational streetlights along Palmetto Park Rd. and I-95, ensuring improved visibility for the community.

Expediting infrastructure improvements: our efforts resulted in expediting the permit process for new poles and LED lights on Military Trail in Boca Raton, prioritizing better lighting for the area.

Prioritizing road safety: we initiated engineering for a traffic signal implementation at 6853 SW 18th Street, Boca Raton, addressing concerns and enhancing traffic flow.

Expediting community projects: our initiative facilitated the completion of the Caloosa Park Playground, demonstrating our commitment to timely recreational space enhancements.

Supporting community services: we coordinated with Palm Tran to donate surplus buses to local nonprofit agencies, promoting community outreach and transportation accessibility.

Improving infrastructure: we advocated for and supported the resurfacing of Camino Del Mar from SW 18th St. to Camino Real, enhancing road conditions for residents.

We are eager to maintain an open dialogue with our constituents. Please use any of the forms of communication on the sidebar to reach out to my office with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your trust, collaboration and unwavering support throughout this journey. Wishing you a happy and healthy holiday season.



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 bridge contractor is installing steel rebar and

We are here to help!

Office Telephone:

timber formwork in preparation for the pile caps for the mid-span of the bridge.

Additionally, crews placed concrete for intermediate bents #2 and #3, and timber formwork was removed.

Concrete sheet piles were installed on the west side of the bridge.

Upcoming work includes concrete placement for pile caps and continued pile driving on the east side of El Rio Canal. The project is scheduled to be completed in spring 2024.

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.

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Upcoming
Meetings:

BCC Zoning
January 4, 2023
9:30 a.m.

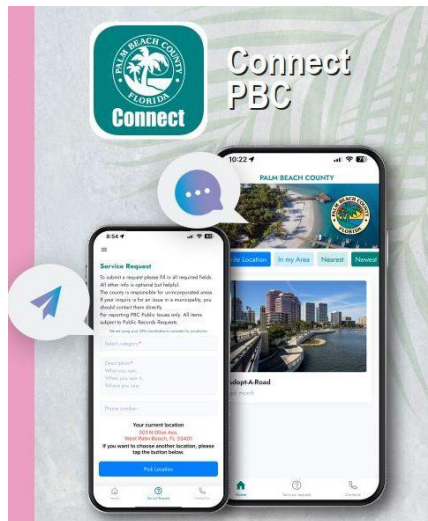
BCC Meeting
January, 23, 2024
9:30 a.m.

BCC Zoning
January 25, 2024
9:30 a.m.

BCC Workshop
January 30, 2024
9:30 a.m.



Download the New Connect PBC App



Check out Palm Beach County's new Connect PBC app designed for seamless service requests, vital updates on community matters and staying in the loop with local events.

Notably, residents can customize alerts tailored to their location, making it a breeze to stay informed

about road closures, trash collection schedules and crucial updates impacting their areas.

Download (Iphone)

Download
(Android)



Milani Park Public Outreach Meeting

Palm Beach County, in collaboration with Highland Beach, will be hosting a public outreach meeting to discuss the park's future on Thursday, February 1,

2024, at 6 p.m. at the Highland Beach Library conference room (3618 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach, FL 33487).

County staff will present an overview of the park's current status and future plans, followed by an opportunity for public comments.

We encourage you to attend the meeting and share your thoughts and suggestions.

Residents may offer comments and/or concerns to the board by filling out a comment card (available in the chambers).



Holiday Wrap Up



Boca Raton Street Parade

Boca's streets turned into a wonderland of dancing, lights and festive floats at their annual Holiday Street Parade!

Congrats to the parade winners: Spanish River Silver Sound, Organic

Movements and Tendler Orthodontics!

They made the parade extra special with their wonderful performances and decorations. Great job!

The Mayor's Holiday Lunch

Cheers to Mayor Sachs for hosting an unforgettable holiday lunch featuring a taste of Palm Beach County's agricultural heart!

I left with a bag of vegetables, including cabbage, bok choy, peppers, tomatoes, zucchini, squash, cucumber and more!

Thank you for reminding us all that sometimes the best things in life come straight from the farm.



Holiday Toy Drives



Our office dedicated an afternoon to visiting local toy drives carrying a sleigh-load of goodies to brighten the holiday season for kids in need.

Palm Tran Holiday Event

Michael and I joined the heart-warming celebration at Palm Tran's Holiday Recognition Event where dedicated employees were honored for keeping our buses rolling!



We had a blast at the unveiling of a brand new bus donated to Digital Vibez, a local nonprofit empowering youth through dance fitness, technology and arts.



Money Drop

The Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller's 26th annual "Money Drop" holiday concert was a huge success and raised \$3,000 for Friends of Foster Children!

This West Palm Beach-based nonprofit does amazing work supporting kids in foster care.

Clerk Abruzzo also presented five local nonprofit groups with checks for \$7,073.66 – an equal share of the \$35,368 donated by Clerk employees as part of the office's Dress Down program.

Constituent Services:

- Community Outreach
- Economic Development
- Environmental Protection
- Mental Health/ Substance Abuse Disorders
- Planning, Zoning & Building
- Infrastructure
- Public Safety
- Transportation
- Community & Veteran Services



Nonprofit Spotlight

The Marine Environmental Initiative (MEI) is a local nonprofit committed to safeguarding marine ecosystems and promoting environmental stewardship.



Its mission includes driving conservation through education by empowering students in the community with the knowledge of ocean conservation through hands-on experiences in aquaponics.

MEI also contributes to the community by donating fresh produce and fostering a sustainable cycle of learning and giving.

I recently presented a proclamation recognizing the organizations 11th anniversary to Executive Director Nicholas Metropulos.

[More information](#)



Local Government 101

Beyond our familiar role as county policymakers, did you know commissioners also wear another hat?

We often serve on a range of boards and commissions, tackling essential issues like health care, transportation, economic development and even regional waste management.

These additional duties connect us to diverse community needs and allow us to influence critical decisions beyond county lines, ensuring your voice is heard in more than just local government.

As your county commissioner, I serve on the following boards:

The **Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency** focuses on transportation planning and programming goals in Palm Beach County within the guidelines of federal, state and local laws and rules. [Learn more.](#)

The **South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (Tri-Rail)** plans, develops, operates, maintains and manages a public transit system to provide efficient transportation of people and goods

Budget Documents Now Available Online

We're excited to announce that the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY 2024) budget documents are now accessible on the county's website!

These comprehensive documents provide an in-depth understanding of our Annual Budget and Capital Budget for the upcoming year. Dive into the details and learn about our plans for the future!

[Digital Budget Book](#)

[Budget Fact Sheet](#)

[Capital Budget](#)

via railroad, buses and motor vehicles in the tri-county area of Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties. [Learn more.](#)

The **Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council** provides leadership, advocacy and coordination between local governments, state and federal agencies and the private sector to preserve and enhance the quality of the Treasure Coast's economic, natural, built and social environment. [Learn more.](#)

The **Palm Beach Cultural Council** supports arts and culture in Palm Beach County and provides services to cultural organizations and creative professionals including funding, education and marketing opportunities. [Learn more.](#)

CareerSource Palm Beach County helps area businesses to stay competitive through training grants and talent acquisition, and job seekers find new jobs through career assessments, training and employment assistance. [Learn more.](#)

Discover The Palm Beaches (DTPB) is the official destination marketing organization charged with promoting Palm Beach County as a leisure travel and meetings destination. DTPB plans and executes initiatives in a broad range of areas including sales, marketing, research, visitor services and industry relations. [Learn more.](#)

Other boards include:

- Kravis Center
- Homeless Advisory Board
- Children's Services Council
- South Florida Fair Board of Trustees
- Value Adjustment Board
- BioScience Land Protection Advisory Board
- Tourist Development Council
- Palm Beach Broadband
- Water Resources Task Force
- Business Development Executive Board
- Criminal Justice Commission
- Public Safety Coordinating Council
- Multi-Jurisdictional Issues Coordination Forum Executive Committee
- Circuit 15 Juvenile Justice Advisory Board
- Investment Policy Committee
- County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake "O"
- Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council
- Pal Mar Water Control District

Local Food Resources



More than one in seven Palm Beach County residents, including nearly 38,000 children, struggle to put food on the table each day. This holiday season, let's make sure no one goes hungry.

Food bank locator resources

United Way interactive Food Finder Map, click [here.](#)

Palm Beach County Food Bank distribution sites, click [here.](#)

Feeding South Florida distribution sites, click [here.](#)

There are many ways to help this holiday season including donating items such as boxed stuffing, canned vegetables with pop tops, instant mashed potatoes, gravy and other holiday favorites.



Meet the Staff



Caitlin Joyce
(cjoyce@pbcgov.org)

Caitlin has experience in county policy and services and constituent issues. She also oversees the newsletter.

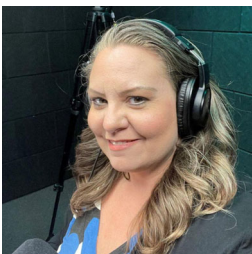
Currently, she is completing her MBA in business marketing at Florida Atlantic University, and in her spare time, loves to travel. She recently visited Egypt!



Christian Wright
(cwright@pbcgov.org)

Christian has been working with the county for five years. Besides county commissions, she's had the privilege of working in other departments such as water utilities, engineering and ISS. She's an expert at administrative and customer support.

In her spare time, you can catch her volunteering at local churches, donating to the less fortunate and feeding the seniors and children in her community.



Jessica Jansen
(jjansen@pbcgov.org)

Jessica comes from a long career in private sector management. On a typical work day, she is either at a district office or attending community events.

When she is not working, you'll often find her researching content for the podcast that she co-hosts or watching documentaries.

We welcome your feedback on our District 4 newsletter. Please let us know if you found this information helpful and what else you would like to know.

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