

Dear Fellow Citizens of Leon County,

It has truly been a joy and an honor serving the citizens of Leon County.

As I vowed during my installation, I have spent my first 120 days immersed in learning about the County's various functions; and have met with and formed a greater appreciation for our staff, especially the women and men who keep our government working on a daily basis.

I have also been instrumental in positive dialogue and passage of essential policies, such as Mahan Gateway Corridor Designation, Fire-EMS Functional Consolidation, Multi-Modal Transportation District (MMTD), and Springs Protection. I believe my addition to the Commission has brought a gentler candor and decorum and thus efficiency in how we deal with the people's business.

I am pleased to announce that Chairman Bryan Desloge has appointed me to the following committees: the Downtown Improvement Authority, the Downtown Merchants and Business Association, the Public Safety Coordinating Council, and the Joint City/County/School Board Coordinating Committee on Public School Concurrency and Facility Planning. I serve as the Chair of the PSCC and Vice-Chair of the Public School Concurrency Committee, and I have had the honor of appointing citizens to the following committees: Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, Code Enforcement Board, Healthcare Advisory Board, Human Services Grant Review Committee, Miccosukee Recreation Council, Senior Outreach Advisory Council, Census 2010 Complete Count Committee, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency, and the Science Advisory Committee. Other appointments pending for the balance of the year are: the Charter Review Committee, Fort Braden Community Center Focus Group, Woodville Community Center Focus Group, Bradfordville Historic School House Committee, Water Resources Committee, and the Housing Finance Authority. My appointments reflect my commitment to have a diverse, dedicated group of citizens help shape our policies.

As I continue to work hard on the business in front of the Commission, I also need to turn my attention to my goal of seeking your active participation in all aspects of County government. For this reason, I have setup the following community meetings: (more details on back)

<u>Venue:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1. Community Room at the Amtrak Station	April 13, 2009	5:30 – 7:00pm
2. School Board's Aquilina Howell Media Center	April 23, 2009	5:30 – 7:00pm
3. Springwood Elementary School Cafeterium	April 30, 2009	5:30 – 7:00pm
4. Bradfordville Community Center	May 5, 2009	5:30 – 7:00pm
5. FAMU Viticulture Center, 6505 Mahan Drive	May 13, 2009	5:30 – 7:00pm

Each meeting will be about 90 minutes in a workshop environment to promote equal participation by all citizens, especially those who had not been previously engaged in our governance/political process.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you. I look forward to a continued open dialogue.

Sincerely,



Commissioner Akin Akinyemi * Phone: 850-606-5369 * Email: akinyemia@leoncountyfl.gov



Join us for a series of Community Workshops

Often times an initiative fails not because it lacks merit, but because of our leadership's inability to effectively communicate in a timely manner. I recently wrote a newspaper article to provoke meaningful dialogue that will result in significant improvements to our citizens' engagement process. In this article, I challenged all levels of leadership and citizenry to work together to bring about a change in how we reach out to our constituents and include them more effectively in our decisions. Change doesn't come without a clear understanding of what needs to be corrected and a concerted effort to bring it about. Therefore

I am asking that you please join me at one of these five workshops designed to actively seek your input on citizen engagement and other issues facing our community.

SCHEDULE OF WORKSHOPS		
Date	Location	Time
April 13, 2009	Community Room at the Amtrak Station (918 Railroad Avenue)	5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
April 23, 2009	Leon County School's Howell Media Center (3955 West Pensacola)	5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
April 30, 2009	Springwood Elementary School Cafeteria (3801 Fred George Road)	5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
May 5, 2009	Bradfordville Community Center (3439 Bannerman Road)	5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
May 13, 2009	FAMU Viticulture Center (6505 Mahan Drive)	5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Workshop Outline

- 5:30 – 5:35 pm: Welcome and Introductions
- 5:35 – 5:40 pm: Changing Modes of Communication
- 5:40 – 5:50 pm: Overview of County Functions and Contacts
- 5:50 – 6:05 pm: Accessible Government
- 6:05 – 6:15 pm: Break and Light Refreshments
- 6:15 – 6:30 pm: Environmental Stewardship/Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Living
- 6:30 – 6:45 pm: Economic Development
- 6:45 – 7:00 pm: Public Input on General Issues