

MISSION STATEMENT & PRIORITIES

Leon County Government is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the outstanding quality of life, which has made our community a desirable place to live, work and raise our children. Through the provision of cost effective superior services, County Government will ensure the promotion of orderly growth for the economic health and safety of its citizens.

(Adopted FY 1994/1995)

Every year, the Board of County Commissioners assesses our ever-changing environment and provides County Administration with the necessary direction to focus the County's resources and efforts on accomplishing the most pressing issues. The following represents the Top 10 priorities of the Board of County Commissioners for 2002.

1. STORMWATER ISSUES

- Examine flood control in unincorporated areas and watershed studies
- Research joint stormwater utility
- Implement the Blueprint 2000 water quality program
- Update stormwater fee study
- Address regional stormwater treatment
- Continue lake restoration

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Diversify the local economy
- Attract clean industry
- Review enterprise zones
- Benchmark Charlotte, N.C. and other progressive areas
- Review growth management policies
- Review Innovation Park's policies for eligible industry
- Conduct long-range planning
- Create "business-friendly" image
- Look at incubators, including local college and universities
- Maintain quality of life to draw companies
- Review Quick Response Team to retain companies
- Recruit specific target industry
- Improve Board/Economic Development Council interaction
- Consider transfer of development rights from rural areas to inside the urban service area
- Address expanding broadband infrastructure
- Examine the role of Florida State University Medical School and Tallahassee Memorial Hospital in economic development
- Support establishing Tallahassee Memorial Hospital as a teaching hospital in the Legislature

3. JAIL POPULATION MANAGEMENT

- Address mental health issue
- Expand use of the Global Positioning Satellite system and electronic monitoring
- Examine the over representation of minorities
- Address pretrial issues
- Consider the role of the Neighborhood Justice Center

4. STATE FUNDING CUTBACKS

- Research local and regional impacts of layoffs
- Examine impact on service delivery
- Consider legislative advocacy for state workforce
- Review the fiscal impact on education and local programs

5. SOUTHERN STRATEGY

- Review school closings at Bond and Wesson Elementary, Belle Vue Middle and SAIL
- Prepare a county resolution to the school board
- Include an environmental component in the Comprehensive Plan for Southern Strategy
- Schedule workshop with the school board
- Examine schools and their economic development impact to neighborhoods
- Inquire about proposed location of new schools, Comprehensive Plan requirements and public input
- Research standards for location of new school in the urban core

6. CODE OF ETHICS

- Outline role of Commissioners and aides
- Notify the public of policies
- Conduct a workshop, including campaign contributions
- Request registration by paid lobbyists
- Develop process for investigations
- Contact National Ethics Council for sample guideline
- Develop pre-screening process for ethics complaints

7. JOINT DISPATCH AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

- Address antiterrorism
- Examine management and administrative issues related to establishing one center

8. CHARTER GOVERNMENT

- Conduct a workshop
- Prepare a Simple Charter

9. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REFORM

- Add alternative dispute resolution
- Review deadlines and determine needed changes
- Include input from all citizens

10. CHILDREN'S ISSUES/YOUTH CENTER

- Review role of JARC Program, Youth Centers, Boys and Girls Clubs
- Consider a permanent line item in the budget
- Examine late night media program
- Explore Community Human Services Partnership prioritization of children, elderly and disabled
- Address summer jobs, employment program
- Review youth charged as adults