



# Leon County

## Board of County Commissioners

301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 606-5302 www.leoncountyfl.gov

Commissioners

October 1, 2007

BILL PROCTOR  
District 1

JANE G. SAULS  
District 2

JOHN DAILEY  
District 3

BRYAN DESLOGE  
District 4

BOB RACKLEFF  
District 5

CLIFF THAELL  
At-Large

ED DePUY  
At-Large

PARWEZ ALAM  
County Administrator

HERBERT W.A. THIELE  
County Attorney

Members of the Board of County Commissioners  
Leon County Courthouse  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

The Honorable Chairman and Commissioners:

I am pleased to present the Board the adopted Fiscal Year FY2007/2008 - 2011/2012 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The FY08 capital budget is \$42,150,316 representing an increase of 9.7%. In addition, the budget includes a \$40,522,926 reserve for future capital projects to fund mandatory and essential capital projects for the next five to eight years.

Though Leon County experienced additional property tax revenue over the past several years, a significant portion of these funds were committed to infrastructure improvements. By directing the funds towards capital, the County was not starting new programs which would have had on-going operating expenses. As many of these projects were only partially funded or included in the capital projects freeze, during the final budget adoption, these funds were redirected to help address the property tax reform initiative.

One of the key components in balancing the FY08 budget was to reprioritize previous and future funding allocated to capital projects. Specifically, the following has occurred:

1. The discontinuation of funding non-mandatory capital projects (i.e. new branch libraries, new community centers) and reallocating previously appropriated funds to mandatory projects (i.e. the Courthouse), maintenance and essential projects. The capital section of the budget document provides a complete listing of the projects that are being discontinued.
2. Where possible, the reallocation of projects previously funded through general revenue to dedicated capital project funding (i.e. moving any stormwater/water quality projects to sales tax funding).

3. The elimination of previous and future funding for the Tharpe Street widening project, and the establishment of a sinking fund with these resources to address resurfacing and intersection improvements for the next five to eight years. This approach significantly reduces the Transportation Trust Fund's reliance on a general revenue subsidy previously projected to reach over \$4.0 million annually within the next five years. This will allow the County adequate time to address the long term needs of transportation and appropriate funding mechanisms.
4. The utilization of the general/fine forfeiture fund balance to support the future capital improvement program's general revenue mandatory, maintenance and essential projects. Assuming modest annual growth to the fund balance, this approach will be evaluated yearly to ensure fund balances do not decrease below fiscally acceptable levels.

The following provides a summary of funded capital projects. The focus of the capital program is to maintain the existing infrastructure of the County and to fund mandatory and essential projects.

*Culture and Recreation* – FY2008 total \$703,350, highlights include:

- Capital Cascades Greenway \$200,000 from the sales tax extension to create trailheads, public parking and other public access features
- Greenways and Trail Management \$75,000
- Parks Playground Equipment \$145,000
- St. Marks Headwaters Greenways \$100,000 to create a stream crossing for vehicles which is required by the Department of Environmental Protection

*General Government* – FY2008 total \$9,607,789, highlights include:

- Courthouse/Courthouse Annex (Bank of America, BOA): \$6,873,985 to support renovations necessary as part of the construction of new courtrooms/court related space in the Courthouse and related relocation of existing functions to the BOA
- Courtroom Technology \$95,000
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Incremental Basemap Update \$285,500 (per the GIS interlocal agreement the City of Tallahassee is responsible for 50% of this cost)
- Justice Information Data Warehouse \$325,000 supports the data utilized by the justice community include the Sheriff, Tallahassee Police Department, Court Administration, the Clerk's Office, the Public Defender, State Attorney and Probation Services, to provide further integration with State standards and other counties in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit
- Network Backbone Upgrade \$150,000 to provide redundant links for disaster recovery and replacement of routers and switches throughout the entire network
- Remote System Center \$140,000 funding to complete the redundant data center as part of the County's continuity of operations plan (COOP)

*Health and Safety* – FY2008 total \$9,636,148, highlights include:

- Joint Dispatch/Radio Communications \$2,000,000 to be utilized to fund a new radio communication system and to support a new joint dispatch facility to be jointly funded with the City of Tallahassee which will benefit all the public safety agencies in the County (Sheriff, EMS, Fire, and Police)
- Jail Roof Replacement \$1,475,220 to continue setting aside funds for the future replacement of the jail roof
- Renovation of the Jail Annex \$771,785 provides the final funding necessary to complete the conversion of the existing Jail Annex and associated space to support an increased jail population
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Facility \$4,179,820 provides the next phase of funding for the EMS Facility to be located at the corner of Blair Stone and Miccosukee Roads by replacing the currently utilized modular building with a hardened structure for both staff and equipment, as well as, adequate training space for the paramedics and EMTs

*Solid Waste* - FY2008 total \$1,150,113, highlights include:

- Heavy Equipment Replacement for the landfill and transfer station \$875,500

*Stormwater* – FY2008 total \$3,644,690, highlights include:

- Killlearn Acres Subdivision Flood Mitigation \$1,170,609
- Lexington Pond Retrofit \$400,000 to be funded from the County's share of the Blueprint 2000 Water Quality funds
- Rhoden Cove Retrofit \$800,000 to be funded from the County's share of the Blueprint 2000 Water Quality funds

*Transportation* – FY2008 total \$17,408,226, highlights include:

- Arterial Collector and Local Resurfacing \$2,380,000
- Buck Lake Road \$2,0229,000 provides continued funding for various intersection improvements along Buck Lake Road
- Community Safety and Mobility \$1,200,000 which provides funding for the Aenon Church Road sidewalk and other sidewalk projects
- Gaines Street \$3,276,604 towards the \$10.7 million commitment the County has made pursuant to the Downtown CRA Interlocal Agreement with the City
- Intersection and Safety Improvements \$3,027,000
- Miccosukee Road Complex \$1,600,000 from the Transportation Trust Fund balance to support the overall construction of the balance of the complex build-out including crew truck sheds for vehicles and equipment
- Open Graded Cold Mix Stabilization \$1,841,414

Capital Project Reserves \$40,522,926:

- General Government \$14,039,917 is supported through dedicating a portion of the general fund fund balance to ensure funding over the next several years to support the County's general government capital program including: projects such as geographic information systems, playground equipment, computer and network infrastructure, stormwater and general vehicle replacement.
- Resurfacing and intersection improvements \$26,483,009, which are supported by reallocation of the previous sales tax funds accumulated for Tharpe Street to fund resurfacing and intersection improvements for the next five to eight years.

Through your efforts made at the numerous meetings and workshops, the residents of Leon County will continue to receive the highest quality of services while benefiting from the largest property tax reduction in our history.

I would like to express my personal thanks to the Board in providing the necessary guidance in preparing this document. I sincerely appreciate the efforts of the entire organization in the professional and sincere manner in which they have approached this task. I would like to personally thank each of the Constitutional Officers and members of the Judiciary for working closely with the County in developing this budget.

I look forward to working with the Board during this fiscal year in preparing for the impact of the possible passage of the January property tax reform referendum, and other reforms that may occur in the 2008 state legislative session.

Sincerely,



Parwez Alam  
County Administrator