Mayfield Minute - August 25, 2019



Good Morning!

This past week the Brevard Legislative Delegation had the opportunity to present more than \$1.5 million to Brevard County to support some great projects in our community. During the 2019 Legislative Session, I am proud that we were able to secure funds for the following initiatives:

 \$500,000 for the Brevard County Septic to Sewer Conversion project. The project will support conversions for 1,019 homes, removing an estimated 33,500 lbs of pitrogen pollution from entering the Indian I



nitrogen pollution from entering the Indian River Lagoon each year.
\$500,000 for the Brevard Reentry Portal. This project is a collaboration of My Community Cares, the Brevard Reentry Task Force, Brevard Homeless Coalition and the Florida Dept of Corrections to facilitate the successful reintegration of exoffenders returning to Brevard County.

 \$513,500 for the Brevard Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to support the construction of a new EOC which will provide better emergency communication, preparedness, training, response, recovery and mitigation for our citizens and visitors.

I consider it a great honor to represent all of the citizens and visitors of District 17. Please share <u>this link</u> with your friends and family so that they too can sign up for the <u>Mayfield</u> <u>Minute</u>.

If you or someone you know needs my assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office. My staff and I are here to serve you!

Scam Alert: Equifax

Attorney General Ashley Moody has issued a Consumer Alert warning of a new phishing scam targeting Floridians who were victims of the Equifax data breach.

In 2017 there was a data breach that impacted nearly half of all Americans. More recently an agreement was reached between Equifax and State Attorney's Offices which set up a \$425 million fund to help those affected by the breach. Scammers are now sending phishing emails that impersonate Equifax encouraging consumers to enter personal information on a webpage that looks like the Equifax claims page to once again gain access to personal information.

"Online bad guys are trying to make a bad situation worse for millions of Americans whose personal information was exposed in the Equifax data breach." said Attorney General Ashley Moody. "Scammers have set up fake claims sites and are sending phishing emails to drive consumers to their sites in an attempt to exploit victims of the Equifax data breach. This is a truly despicable scam. Do not fall for it. To file a claim, go directly to the Equifax claim page."

The Attorney General warns consumers never to respond to unsolicited emails asking for your Social Security number, bank account details or other personal information. Anyone that was a victim of the Equifax data breach and would like to file a claim should visit the official claims website <u>EquifaxBreachSettlement.com</u>. The deadline to file a claim is January 22, 2020.

If you do receive the phishing emails you are encouraged to forward directly to the Federal Trade Commission at <u>spam@uce.gov</u>. You may also report fraud to the Florida Attorney General's Office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or by visiting <u>MyFloridaLegal.com</u>.

Last Mile Completion Program

Eastern Florida State College and Indian River State College are among 19 state colleges that are advancing Governor Ron DeSantis's Last Mile Completion Program. This program helps students who left college with 12 or fewer credit hours remaining to complete their first degree.

"Sometimes our circumstances in life, whether they be family emergencies or finances, prohibit us from reaching milestones in the time we thought we would," said Governor DeSantis. "The Last Mile Completion Program will provide comfort to those students who must put their degrees on hold, knowing there is a pathway and new re-entry point for them when they're ready to return. This program also benefits Florida when these students are entering the workforce prepared for their chosen profession."

To be eligible to participate in the Last Mile Completion Program students must be a Florida resident, be in good academic standing, within 12 credit hours of completing their first degree, and have attended a regionally accredited postsecondary institution within the past 8 years.

Florida colleges supporting the Last Mile Program include Eastern Florida State College, Indian River State College, Broward College, College of Central Florida, Daytona State College, Gulf Coast State College, Lake Sumter State College, Miami Dade College, Northwest Florida, Palm Beach State College, Pasco-Hernando State College, Polk State College, Santa Fe College, Seminole State College, South Florida State College, St. Petersburg College, Florida Manatee-Sarasota, Tallahassee Community College, Valencia College.

"I want to thank these college presidents for their belief in this program. They each agreed to use existing resources to help these students now and not wait for funding to be granted by the State Board of Education and the Florida Legislature," said Florida Department of Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran. "It is proof of their commitment to their students and our state, showing us exactly how government should work everyone coming together and putting our students' success first." The Last Mile Completion Program will create a pathway for many returning students to earn their degree, and continue to develop Florida's talent pipeline to fill workforce needs.

District 17 Highlights

MLB Named Commercial Service Airport of the Year

The Orlando Melbourne International Airport (MLB) was recently named the state's top commercial airport by the Florida's Department of Transportation (FDOT).

"Being named Commercial Service Airport of the Year is a testament to Team MLB's dedication to bettering our airport, our community and Florida aviation," said MLB Executive Director Greg Donovan.

The award is selective to airports that have proven exceptional aviation safety, completed aesthetic improvements, and shown innovative management solutions throughout the year. MLB was applauded for a list of accomplishments including: rehabilitating all three runways, constructing a new air traffic control tower, a 26.5% increase in aircraft operations, a 4.7% increase in annual passengers and announcement of two new nonstop routes to Philadelphia (PHL) and Washington (DCA) on American Airlines, being awarded #1 most scenic airport approach in the USA, and completing Terminal Transformation Phase 1 reconstruction of the U.S. Customs Federal Inspection Station.

Indian River County Needs Assessment Survey

A Community Needs Assessment is being conducted in Indian River County to gain information on the current needs of our community. The survey is being conducted by Q-Q Research Consultants on behalf of Indian River Community Foundation, the United Way of Indian River County, the Florida Department of Health in Indian River, and the Children's Services Advisory Committee.

The purpose of the survey is to identify community strengths and assets in our community to better understand how to support local residents. Questions included in the survey revolve around the quality of services for children, economic opportunity, housing, health, and seniors. The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete, and responses will be kept confidential. <u>Click here</u> to provide your input.

Brevard Legislative Delegation Meeting

The Brevard County Legislative Delegation Meeting will be held on Wednesday, **September 25, 2019** from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the Canaveral Port Authority Commission Room located at 445 Challenger Road, Cape Canaveral.

Delegation members include myself, Senator Tom Wright, Representative Tyler Sioris, Representative Rene Plasencia, Representative Randy Fine and Representative Thad Altman. We will be meeting in preparation for the 2020 Legislative Session, which will begin on January 14, 2020. The primary purpose of this meeting is to allow government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and local citizens to address the Delegation and present their legislative priorities for the upcoming session.

If you would like to participate in the Delegation Meeting, please complete the <u>Electronic</u> <u>Appearance Form</u> by September 6th, and mail six (6) copies of all necessary supporting documents to Senator Tom Wright's office by September 11th. For more information please contact Lindsey Swindle at <u>Swindle.Lindsey@flsenate.gov</u> (Mailing Address 4606 Clyde Morris Blvd, Ste 2J, Port Orange, FL 32129).

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