

2024 Advisory Board Annual Reports

Advisory Board: Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Completed and the Board of County Commissioners approved the Recommendations and Evaluation of Brevard County Affordable Housing Incentives Strategies Report per FS Sections 420.9076 (4)(5) for 2024.
- Review of additional affordable housing incentives strategies, initiatives, and policies drafts including work with Planning & Development Department staff on revisions to code on accessory dwelling units.
- Worked with Planning & Development Department staff and consultants on the County Comprehensive Plan EAR based planning process for the Housing Element update.
- Briefing and discussion on revisions to Florida Senate Bill 102 (Live Local Act Legislation).
- Held well attended second countywide Affordable Housing Summit.
- Funded Community Housing Development Organization Project by Community of Hope known as Hammock Phase II Apartments in partnership with the City of Titusville.
- Reviewed 3 RFP applications and recommended funding of a local government contribution for a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Application to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), for Housing for Homeless Supportive Housing Inc. Apartment project for low-income seniors known as Forest Glen in partnership with the City of Titusville. Project anticipated to be funded by FHFC in 2024-2025.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Research additional revenue sources for housing development programs and the County Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- Research cost, scope, and feasibility for a needs study for Brevard County including relationships to transportation, transit, and land use.
- Provide support to changes in the county code for increasing incentives for the development of affordable housing.

Goals for 2025:

- Review and recommend initiatives and incentives that increase the production and preservation of affordable housing.
- Work with stakeholders on developing and preserving additional affordable housing inventory.
- Continue to review project request for proposals for affordable housing development.
- Support the use and development of the County Affordable Housing Trust Fund and emerging Community Land Trusts for long term preservation of affordable units.

Advisory Board: Art In Public Places Advisory Committee (APPAC)

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Reviewed and juried more than three hundred (300) art submissions for seventy-five (75) displays in 28 exhibit sites throughout Brevard County buildings and public locations in accordance with the Brevard County Public Ordinance (Chapter 34, Article II).
- Installed and maintained approximately 375 pieces of artwork on display countywide.
- Juried and approved the Celebration of Black History Month exhibit (2/8/24 – 3/28/24).
- Juried and approved Watercolors of Olde Brevard historical exhibit (6/13/24 – 8/15/24).
- Juried and approved space related art for the Space Coast Office of Tourism 3/21/24 – 7/25/24 and 7/25/24 – 11/21/24.
- Partnered with Brevard Cultural Alliance to facilitate sales of displayed artwork.
- Collaborated with Brevard County Organizations including Brevard Watercolor Society, Brevard Prevention Coalition, Senior Scene Magazine, and Senior Resource Center, to establish exhibit locations, coordinate artists, artwork and programming materials.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Maintain art displays in Brevard County Government Buildings and public spaces, providing opportunity for Brevard County visitors and residents to view and purchase artwork created by area artists.
- Promote continued development of Brevard County's rich cultural environment that supports visual arts for the economic and aesthetic benefit of Brevard's residents, community partners, and visitors.

Goals for 2025

- Continue to review, jury, and install artwork submitted to the Art in Public Places Advisory Board in accordance with Brevard County Public Art Ordinance (Chapter 34, Article II).
- Review and approve special Exhibit installations for the Board of County Commissioners.
- Collaborate with Brevard's cultural organizations to create a cohesive, strong and vibrant cultural community.

Advisory Board: Audit Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Provided oversight to the County's Internal Auditing Functions.
- Monitored the Productivity and Performance of the Internal Auditing Process.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Recommendations or suggestions have been incorporated through the formal Internal Audit Process including committee meetings. All audits have been reviewed by the Committee with comments incorporated into each individual audit. All final audits have been delivered via Agenda Report to the Board of County Commissioners for their consideration and published via County Website.

Goals for 2025:

- The Internal Auditors will work with the Audit Committee, who will review and accept the County's Annual Internal Audit Plan. Once accepted by the Audit Committee, the Internal Audit Plan will be provided to the Board of County Commissioners for acceptance with internal audits conducted according to industry standards.

Advisory Board: Board of Adjustment (BOA)

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Between October 2023 and September 2024, the BOA held 12 public hearings and decided on 57 variances.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- N/A

Goals for 2025:

- Continue to grant variances to the terms of this chapter, except for section 62-102, articles III, IV, V, VII, VIII, X, XI, XII, XIII, division 4 and article XV of this chapter, where such variances are in harmony with the general purpose and intent of such provisions and in accordance with general or specific rules therein contained.

Advisory Board: Brevard County Library System Advisory Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Completed review and approval of eight Library Services Policies and Procedures.
- Approved the new Art Exhibit Policy for the Library.
- Attended and supported numerous events, individually that supported the Library Services Director's initiatives including programs, events, and celebrations, i.e. - Summer Reading Kick-off, the unveiling of a mural at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 100-year celebration and visit from the Amy L. Johnson, Florida Department of State, Division Director of Library Services and Information System.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Continue to serve as a forum to advocate for the role of the Library System in promoting literacy and community engagement in Brevard.
- Assist in maintaining a full slate of engaged Board Members.
- Serve as ambassadors for Library Services in our community for all citizens.

Goals for 2025:

- Recommend technology and services that will help and improve patron experiences, including support of the new library app.
- Continue to develop and expand community partnerships and engage in connecting the library to these partners.
- Provide constructive feedback to the library by visiting locations as patrons and sharing experiences and observations.
- Support and attend Library System and individual library events.

Advisory Board: Building and Construction Advisory Committee (BCAC)

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Between October 2023 and September 2024, the BCAC met seven times and made recommendations to the Local Planning Agency and Board of County Commissioners on eight ordinances and one policy agenda.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- N/A

Goals for 2025:

- Continue to review and make recommendations to the Local Planning Agency and Board of County Commissioners concerning such codes, ordinances, or resolutions which may potentially impact the building construction industry in Brevard County.

Advisory Board: Citizen Budget Review Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Reviewed and discussed multiple programs including Parks and Recreation (Operations, Maintenance, Environmentally Endangered Lands, Budget, and Funding Sources), Public Works Facilities (Building and Maintenance Program), and Grant Management.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- The Citizen Budget Review Committee meeting scheduled for September 19, 2024, was cancelled due to lack of a quorum, therefore recommendations and suggestions for the Board have not been finalized by the Committee.

Goals for 2025:

- The Citizen Budget Review Committee meeting scheduled for September 19, 2024, was cancelled due to lack of a quorum, therefore this report and goals for 2025 have not been finalized by the Committee.

Advisory Board: Community Action Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Approval of the 2024 Community Action Plan.
- Approval of the 2023-2024 Community Services Block Grant Budget and Workplan.
- October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024: Monitoring and oversight of expenditures and outcomes of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). The LIHWAP Program ended December 2023.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Keep up the proactive efforts and initiatives to help better the lives of our clients.
- Keep track of every board member's volunteer activity and acknowledge achievements.
- Keep sharing the success stories of the Brevard County Community Action Agency's work and transformative initiatives.

Goals for 2025:

- To fill all vacancies on the Community Action Board.
- Boost community involvement and awareness of the board.
- Keep offering staff advice on how to best serve Brevard County's low-income citizens.
- Keep disseminating information about services offered by the CAA program to the Brevard County community.
- Stay up to date on modifications to funding source-related policies and procedures.

Advisory Board: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Reviewed applications and recommended funding for 10 public service agencies.
- Interactive Workshop to discuss updates/improvements to the Public Service RFP process.
- Reviewed 2024 Neighborhood Request for Projects.
- Reviewed and provided input to public service agency outcomes and neighborhood capital project progress reports.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Continue to review submitted CDBG public service applications.
- Attend future trainings to keep abreast of CDBG program rules/regulations.
- Continue to be the conduit disseminating information from advisory committee meetings and the communities they represent.

Goals for 2025:

- To fill all existing board vacancies.
- To address/prioritize Health and Safety needs within the identified neighborhood strategy areas (specifically lighting, drainage, and access in/out of identified neighborhoods).
- To build trust and understanding among residents and County officials regarding housing and community problems.

Advisory Board: Contractors' Licensing Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- The Contractors' Licensing Board held nine public meetings during the 2023-2024 fiscal year for the purpose of licensing and regulating contractors to maintain public health, safety and, welfare to Brevard County citizens.
- During that same time, the Board approved eleven candidates' qualifications for licensure.
- The Board accepted a policy change recommendation from the program director for the Eastern Florida State College Journeyman Air Conditioning apprenticeship program.
- The Board recognized and approved two county employees who demonstrated expertise as Code Inspectors, as specified in Chapter 22-564.
- The Board approved an initial monthly Citation Report (October 2023). The report identified licensed and unlicensed contractors who violated the Brevard County Code of Ordinances and received a citation. The implementation of the Citation Report is the result of the Lean Six Sigma Customer - Contractor Resolution Process project.
- The Board reviewed and discussed active permitting projects of an absent licensed roofing contractor. The Board determined no action was needed, as all permits were properly obtained and inspected in a timely manner and no complaints were received. The Board felt such action could negatively impact the contractor's customers.
- The Board authorized two Show Cause Hearing requests to determine if the contractor's certificate of competency license should be suspended or revoked.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- N/A

Goals for 2025:

- Advise the Commissioners and the County Manager in the enforcement, interpretation, amendment and implementation of Ch. 22, Article VI and any other building code, fire code, ordinance, law, rule, regulation, policy, or procedure established by the Commission relating to the construction industry.

Advisory Board: District 2 Canal Dredging Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Review of Indian River Channels Maintenance Dredging Project permit status and budget restrictions.
- Review and prioritization of Banana River Channels/Canals Project maintenance dredging funding options.
- Continued review of the Sykes Creek Dredging project status, community outreach and public notice regarding navigational restrictions and closures.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Preparation of data on district-wide navigational dredging funding priorities and funding options for the D2 Committee and Commission Office.

Goals for 2025:

- Develop scopes for Indian River Channels and Banana River Channels projects based on budget restrictions.
- Maintain and update as needed district-wide maintenance dredging prioritization schedule.
- Continue to serve as advisory committee to Boating & Waterways staff for project planning and development.

Advisory Board: Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Council

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Continue to monitor, make improvements, and work collaboratively with our local hospital partners as it pertains to hospital wall times by:
 - Emergency Department Wall Time Weekly Reports
 - Direct contact from the BCFR EMS Assistant Chief to Hospital Administrators 24/7.
 - Text notification by using new “free” software that allows live time reporting by EMS personnel is in the initial implementation phase.
- EMS-ED and Advisory Collaboration
 - **Level 0 MCI:** The MCI level 0 project consists of notifying local emergency departments when EMS crews are working an incident that entails multiple patients that exceed the resources being sent to the scene but is not large enough to meet the threshold of the Level I MCI. The goal is to be able to notify the local hospitals to allow them time to prepare for the incoming of more than one patient at the specific time from one incident.

- **Pulsara**: The Pulsara project consists of using a telephone app to convey patient information from the scene to the receiving hospital without having to transmit over the radio and provide the necessary information that cannot be sent to the hospital using the radio transmission. This project would consist of a 90-day trial and is being assigned only to five ambulance units during the trial. The trial is to begin December 1, 2024.
- **Tele911**: The Tele911 is a telephone app that would be used by our field paramedics to triage patients at home. By using the Tele911 app, the paramedic can consult with a physician who would then assume patient care thereby allowing the non-emergent low acuity patients to remain at home under the care of the telemedicine physician. The goal is to utilize the application for 90 days in the field to evaluate the system. If it adds value, then we would proceed with the initiative. The goal is to reduce the number of non-emergent patient transports, reduce the bottleneck at the hospital due to transports of patients who aren't required to be seen by an emergency physician and keep our units available for emergent 911 calls.
- **Alternate Destination Sites**: As a result of the increase in hospital wall times, Brevard County Fire Rescue is looking at the possibility of transporting non-emergent low acuity patients to alternate destination sites such as urgent care centers. The increased wall times commit our crews to be out of service at times up to two hours, and therefore not available to respond to emergency calls to sick and injured community members. The unavailability or delay in response has the potential to affect patient care, but also puts the organization at risk for liability.
- **UCAPIT**: Continue to work with our local hospital partners as it pertains to the implementation of the UCAPIT machines in the emergency departments to serve as an inventory control system for EMS consumable supplies and equipment. This initiative will result in a cost savings for the department as it pertains to supplies.
- **Medication Shortage**: The EMS Advisory Council, along with the EESG, continue to monitor and seek solutions addressing the medication shortage impacting EMS agencies across the country and how they can be of assistance to BCFR.
- **Coastal Health Care System**: Expanded the Coastal Health System transport plan at Port Canaveral. Coastal Health System is providing emergency and non-emergency scheduled transports from cruise ships and Port Canaveral. This has allowed BCFR to remain in-service for 911 responses, which has served to better align our resources dispatched with resources truly needed at the scene.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Continue to have the EMS Advisory Council meet and work together with the EESG to resolve county-wide issues that cannot be resolved on a day-to-day basis, for example, increased hospital wall times and increased requests for non-emergent transports. Having the standing committee allows quick coordination and communication for any medical issue involving the entire county wide medical delivery system. In addition, to meeting as required by ordinance and addressing EMS medical related issues, four new appointees were added to the committee as result of current members retiring or being promoted.
- The new appointees to the council are:
 - Titusville Battalion Chief Greg Sutton to replace Chief John Hustoles for the North-end Space Coast Fire Chief's Association seat.
 - Indialantic Fire Chief Keith Maddox to replace Chief Tom Flamm for the South-end Space Coast Fire Chief's Association seat.
 - Tammi Mullins will replace Nathalie Abbey for the Steward Hospital seat.
 - Dean Steve Salvo will replace Steve Gilmore for the Public Paramedic Training Center (Eastern Florida State College)

All appointments will be sent to the Board of County Commissioners for confirmation.

Goals for 2025:

- The EMS Advisory Council will continue to meet at a minimum as scheduled by ordinance; however, if required we will meet as required to complete assignments. The goal of the council is to work collaboratively on any current or potential EMS related issues in a timely manner, with the EESG, before they escalate and/or cannot be resolved at the operational level. We will also continue to empower EESG meetings to solve issues at the lowest level possible prior to escalating the Brevard County EMS Advisory Council. These meetings would also serve the purpose of ensuring current appointments to the EMS Advisory Council.

Advisory Board: Employee Benefits Insurance Advisory Committee (EBIAC)

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Presented to the EBIAC the current financial status of the Self-Funded Health Plan as the close of 2023 Plan Year.
- Reviewed current medical trends and projections for 2025.
- Reviewed Operating Projections for the Self-Insured Health Plan for the next 2 years.
- Discussed and voted on numerous plan changes to enhance the long-term financial sustainability of the program.
- Discussed and voted on plan design changes for the retiree Medicare Advantage + Pharmacy Plans.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- EBAC made numerous recommendations for plan design changes and premium increases which were subsequently approved by the Board of County Commissioners in its 5/21/2024 meeting.

Goals for 2025:

- Review impact of plan design changes implemented for 2025 plan year.
- Complete competitive procurement process for benefit administration services.
- Review options for improvements to the pharmacy program.

Advisory Board: Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Selection and Management Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Review of proposed revisions to the Malabar Scrub and Jordan Scrub management plans.
- Review of request to consider conversion of some areas of EEL managed lands into shorebird nesting habitat.
- Review of St. Johns River Water Management District request for EEL to manage Parrish Property in Titusville if acquired by the District.
- Review of DRAFT Financial Condition Assessment of the EEL Program performed by the County's auditor.
- Review and recommendations on DRAFT presentation scheduled to be presented by the Program Manager to the County Commission on February 6, 2024 regarding EEL funding.
- Review and approval of a Florida scrub jay translocation request from the Cruickshank Sanctuary in Rockledge to the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary in Malabar.
- Completion of required Annual Joint Meeting with EEL Procedures Committee and review of EEL Annual Report.
- Review and approval of a request to rename the Barrier Island Sanctuary to the Dock Ehrhart Sanctuary.
- Review of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission input related to shorebird nesting opportunities at the Thousand Islands Conservation Area.
- Review of DRAFT process for evaluating the benefit the Indian River Lagoon and St. Johns River of land parcels proposed for acquisition under the EEL Program.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Recommendation to approve bonding.
- Recommendation to rename EEL Barrier Island Sanctuary to the Doc Ehrhart Sanctuary.

Goals for 2025:

- Review and make recommendations regarding parcels of land submitted for public acquisition under the EEL Program.
- Provide technical review of land acquisition and outside funding proposals.

- Maintain and update, as needed, the county-wide strategy for land acquisition and management.
- Continue to serve as advisory committee to EEL staff for management plan development and implementation for all EEL Program acquired sites.
- Review and approve management plan revisions for BoCC consideration.
- Review and approve requests for species translocation requests on EEL managed lands.

Advisory Board: Health Facilities Authority

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Issued \$163,585,000 in tax exempt Hospital Revenue Bonds, Series 2024A (forward delivery) to Health First Obligated Group to refund the 2014 bonds to reduce debt service.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- None at this time.

Goals for 2025:

- Accept applications from qualified health facilities in Brevard County, Florida to finance and refinance construction of new facilities and expansion, improvement and upgrading of existing facilities at a reduced cost through the issuance of tax exempt bonds.

Advisory Board: Historical Commission

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Survey conducted for a Brevard County resident, who is the owner of a major archaeological site who desired to build a structure on adjoining property but wanted to ensure that construction would in no way harm the historic site.
- Set-up displays of actual and reproduction artifacts and demonstrated their uses for the education of the public at various events including the pioneer day and archaeology for autistic children, as well as annual events at the Pine Island Sams House, Conservation Area, and the Native Rhythms Festival.
- Sponsored a presentation by Jim Sawgrass, a Muskogee Native descendant who demonstrated the cultural heritage of the Muskogee peoples, ancestors of most of the Seminole Indians of Florida and Brevard County.
- Continued to organize and index the Weona Cleveland Collection donated to the BCHC.
- Fahey House (Cracker House) secured and cleaned up for eventual move to Field manor.
- Conceptual Plan received from Field Manor with regards to the Brevard Heritage Center at Field Manor.
- Provided information to two individuals from Texas and Maryland who are writing books on the Civil War and fishing lodges, respectively.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- N/A

Goals for 2025:

- Board members of the BCHC be more active in the planning and design of the BCHC website.
- Continue to compile stories as well as articles for publication and distribution of the Indian River Journal. If possible, and if the BCHC has sufficient funds available and time remaining at the end of the year, consider publication of a second edition of the popular Indian River Journal, in a "mini" format to save money while continuing to celebrate events in Brevard County History.
- Continue work with the North Brevard Historical Foundation on a phased work plan for the Brevard Heritage Center.
- Assist in the acquisition and restoration of historic structures and artifacts for the Brevard Heritage Center.
- Work on plan for BCHC presentations, lectures, exhibits, etc. for the Brevard Heritage Center.
- Develop Educational programs/publications for presentations to schools and student groups.
- Continue to identify and compile information for State historical markers.
- Continue to Identify and record oral histories.

Advisory Board: Housing Finance Authority

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Provided low interest first mortgage loans and interest free, deferred second mortgage loans for down payment and closing costs assistance to fifteen first time homebuyer families with income less than 100 - 120% AMI under an ongoing program.
- Preliminary approval of issuance of tax-exempt bonds for the acquisition and rehabilitation of Emerald Place Apartments, Titusville, which is expected to close in December, 2024.
- Preliminary approval of issuance of tax-exempt bonds for the acquisition and rehabilitation of Oak Meadows Apartments, Cocoa, which is expected to close in October, 2024.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- None at this time.

Goals for 2025:

- Continue homebuyer assistance program.

- Encourage and support the development of affordable and workforce housing through issuance of multifamily revenue bonds.
- Identify special housing needs in the County which can be met by the Authority.

Advisory Board: Investment Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Annual Investment Report for the year ended September 30, 2023 approved by the Investment Committee on November 17, 2023 and presented to the Board of County Commission on July 23, 2024.
- Met Quarterly to provide oversight of the County Investments in accordance with Board Policy BCC-49 & Florida Statutes 218.415.
- Provided oversight strategy between the Short Term / Long Term and MACM investment portfolios.
- Committee approved moving \$60 million from the Short Term portfolio into the Long Term (\$20 million) and MACM (\$40 million) investment portfolio.
- Reviewed and updated Board Investment Policy BCC-49 and Internal Control Procedures.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Committee will continue to look at opportunities that would enhance the County's Investments and make recommendations and suggestions to the Board when appropriate and needed.

Goals for 2025:

- Continue to provide oversight of the County's Investments by providing safety of principal, maintaining proper liquidity and achieve an investment return that is competitive with comparable funds and financial market indices.
- Continue to look at opportunities that would enhance the County Investments.

Advisory Board: Marine Advisory Council

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Review of past boating & manatee study data and review of a scope for a countywide study.
- Review and recommendations for options to increase boat launch and boat slip availability.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Recommendation of Anchoring Limited Area language and mapping in cooperation with the City of Melbourne.

Goals for 2025:

- Review and make recommendations on artificial reef project scopes and locations to assist in the acquisition of grant funding for the 2025 FWC Reef Grant Project.
- Provide input on additional locations for Anchoring Limited Area within Brevard's waterways.
- Continue to serve as advisory committee to Boating & Waterways staff for project planning and development.
- Review options for the scope and cost of a countywide boating use/user assessment.

Advisory Board: Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Added an additional 4 Bus Shelters for the Public's Safety through partnering with Space Coast Area Transit and the Public Works Department (Facilities).
- Leveraged MIRA's funds toward improvement projects by receiving multiple grants.
- Continuation of the Brownfield Project around the MIRA District.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Merritt Island, being an island, has limited land availability. Much of the infrastructure is at a half-century mark and any future redevelopment, if not managed properly, can strain existing capacities.
- Prioritize sustainable growth in Merritt Island while preserving agricultural lands, open spaces, waterfronts, and ensuring transportation safety.
- Require meticulous examination of each proposed project's capability with smart growth principles and infrastructure capacity.

Goals for 2025:

- Start construction of the Veterans Memorial Park Amphitheatre & Improvements.
- Start construction of the S. Courtenay Parkway Widening Project.
- Completion of the Revitalization at Griffis Landing.

Advisory Board: North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Collaborated with community organizations to address homelessness in parks.
- Worked with the Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department in the removal of over one ton of hyacinths from Chain of Lakes.
- Worked with volunteers to:
 - Plant 24 live oak trees at Sand Point Park.
 - Plant over 100 native plants to replace the sod along the Sand Point Park seawall. This will assist with reducing fertilizer pollution going into the lagoon.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- None.

Goals for 2025:

- Partner with community organizations on park beautification projects.
- Collaborate with park patrons and the local communities to develop recreational programming based on public input.
- Continue to advocate youth mentorship in North Brevard.
- Support continuing upgrades to Park's facilities.

Advisory Board: North Brevard Economic Development Zone (NBEDZ)

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Approved a financial assistance package for North American Properties' water line extension (NBEDZ board meeting date 10-13-23), and redevelopment assistance packages for downtown Titusville's proposed HydroSaurus Brewing (1-24-24), Orange Plumbing (8-9-24), and the Titusville Mall (SearsTown) property (7-12-24), a 22-acre commercial parcel in the city that currently contains no storm water retention areas.
- Finalized assistance agreements for the entrepreneurial GROW Project at former Gibson School (2-9-24), TGO Resort's (2-9-24) infrastructure improvement project, the College Aviation Program at Eastern Florida State College (8-9-24), and Project "Topaz" (5-10-24), a defense industry manufacturing project.
- Approved amendments to existing incentive agreements for Gen H2 (12-8-24), Pier 13/Hotpoint Development (9-13-24), Titusville Plaza, LLC (7-12-24), and Brevard Constructors (8-9-24).
- Reviewed and approved the NBEDZ's proposed budget for FY 24/25 at the May 10th meeting.
- Approved action to participate in an available buildings/lands database subscription service called ReSimplifi (8-9-24).
- Approved issuance of a support letter to economic development partner, Space Florida, in its attempts to obtain state and federal funding to improve wastewater treatment on Merritt Island and at NASA's Kennedy Space Center (5-10-24).
- Participated in ethics training by the County Attorney's Office at the August 9th NBEDZ board meeting.
- Approved a workforce assistance package for SpaceTEC Partners, Inc. (3-8-24), a technical training and industry certification and credentialing organization, for its new Defense Industry Training Center.

- As authorized agent for the county in matters related to the county-owned Spaceport Commerce Park in Titusville, the Zone approved inducements for several projects involving the purchase of land, including real estate offers from the Tampa-based firm, ICTC (7-12-24), and electronic components supplier Olympia LED (9-13-24). Also approved waiver on site plan requirements for Olympia LED (2-9-24).

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Recommendation of BOCC action to sell industrial land in the Spaceport Commerce Park in Titusville (county-owned business park) to developers/businesses that intend to make significant capital investments on the property and/or create new job opportunities.
- Recommendation of BOCC action to re-purchase lots in the Spaceport Commerce Park if buyers fail to commence building projects in a timely manner.

Goals for 2025:

- To induce new economic development projects within the NBEDZ geography, as a means of stimulating the creation of jobs and the increase in capital expenditures (thus expanding the tax base).
- To encourage, through the application of its programs, the redevelopment of existing buildings and lands within the NBEDZ geography.
- To identify and aid infrastructure improvement projects that will advance the economic well-being of the area, particularly the northern end of Brevard County.
- To act as an advisory board for the BOCC in matters relating to the county-owned Spaceport Commerce Park in Titusville.
- To consider possible changes to the NBEDZ's written strategic plan and recommend to the BOCC action of those changes.

Advisory Board: North Brevard Public Library Advisory Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Attended and Supported Library Events and Celebrations.
- Engaged in dialogue to learn about library technology and served as community ambassadors for changes and activities.
- Elected Board Officers and set meeting schedules for engaged discussions with the Library Services Director.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Continue to learn about all the resources the library offers.
- Attend more events and engage with using the new calendar of events and App being released, BCLS-Go.
- Look at ways to partner with schools and children.

Goals for 2025:

- Increase the number of new active Library Card holders.
- Encourage the community to learn about what is available at our Libraries.
- Continue to offer feedback and suggestions to the Library Services Director for content, services, and improvement considerations.
- Support and attend Library System and individual library events.

Advisory Board: North Merritt Island Dependent Special District Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- The North Merritt Island Dependent Special District Board did not meet between October 2023 and September 2024.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- N/A

Goals for 2025:

- Continue to meet the obligations under Ordinance 1998-64.

Advisory Board: Personnel Council

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- The Personnel Council shall meet as such times and places as designated by the chairperson or upon the call of the Director of Human Resources. Code of Ordinances of Brevard County, Florida Sec 82-6 (4).
- There were no Terminations or Discrimination Complaints elevated to this final level of the Grievance process.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- None required in 2024.

Goals for 2025:

- Hear appeals, receive evidence, and determine facts and affirm, modify, or reverse administration action taken concerning employees in accordance with Section 82-13 Code of Ordinances of Brevard County, Florida.
- Conduct any inquiry or study on matters pertaining to county service personnel upon the request of the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager, or the Director of Human Resources.

Advisory Board: Planning & Zoning Board / Local Planning Agency

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Between October 2023 and September 2024, the P&Z/LPA held 10 public hearings, making recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on 71 rezoning requests and/or small-scale plan amendments, 1 large-scale plan amendment, 1 policy, and 5 ordinances.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- N/A

Goals for 2025:

- Continue to serve as the recommending body for the Board of County Commissioners in matters concerning comprehensive planning, zoning, and land development, per Section 163-3174, Florida Statutes, Chapter 62, Article VI, Division 3, Brevard County Code of Ordinances.

Advisory Board: Port St. John Dependent Special District Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- The Port St. John Dependent Special District Board met two times between October 2023 and September 2024 and made recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on three rezoning requests and a small-scale plan amendment.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- N/A

Goals for 2025:

- Continue to meet the obligations under Ordinance 1996-30.

Advisory Board: Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC)

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Reviewed all 18th Judicial Circuit administrative orders to determine if they were outdated or required amendments.
- Alleviated the burden on the felony trial division by optimizing the court process through the implementation of early resolution dates, thereby minimizing backlogs within the judicial system.
- Maintained the inmate population at Brevard County Detention Center (BCDC) at a level that didn't exceed full capacity.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Assessment of the links between the homeless, substance abuse, and mental illness in the inmate population for managing population levels at BCDC.

- Evaluation of mental health facilities and substance abuse treatment facilities as alternatives to incarceration.
- If the number of inmates in the BCDC increases, explore strategies to reduce the population.

Goals for 2025:

- Continue to explore ways to balance public safety concerns with operational needs of the detention facility, while also prioritizing the health and welfare of the inmate population.
- Maintain regular meetings with the PSSC board members, focusing on the shared benefits for the citizens of Brevard County as stipulated by the administrative orders of the 18th Judicial Circuit.

Advisory Board: Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Accepted public comments throughout the year to inform annual plan update recommendations.
- Reviewed 14 funding proposals received for potential inclusion in the annual plan update.
- Considered revenue and inflation forecasts to revise 10-year revenue forecasts, cost estimates for future projects and contingency reserves, as needed.
- Hosted 27 presentations on lagoon water quality, solutions to pollution, project performance measures, and community engagement at 10 public meetings:
 1. Soil Health Matters to the Indian River Lagoon – Sally Scalera, Urban Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Coordinator, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County
 2. Brevard County Half-Cent Sales Surtax – SOIRL FY 23 Audit Report – Laura Manlove, Jaime Bardee, RSM US
 3. Internal Nutrient Cycling: Benthic Fluxes from Muck and Sediments in the IRL – Dr. Austin Fox, Assistant Professor, Florida Institute of Technology
 4. Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School Aqua Science Program – Cole Mannes, Assistant Principal, Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School
 5. Lessons Learned from Pond Watchers – Dr. Ernesto Lasso De La Vega, Water Quality Laboratory Manager & Founder and Director of Pond Watch, Lee County Hyacinth Control District
 6. Draft Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan Update 2024 – Marcy Frick, Tetra Tech, Inc., and Virginia Barker, Director
 7. The Role of Floating Treatment Wetlands in Reducing Nutrient Pollution - Steve Beeman, President, Beemats Floating Wetlands
 8. Benefits of Solar Powered Lake Circulators – Terry Williamson, Environmental Section Supervisor, Brevard County Natural Resources, Stormwater

9. Engaging Homeowners Associations as Citizen Scientists to Improve Stormwater Pond Management - Melanie Howarter, Associate Environmental Specialist, Brevard County Natural Resources, Save Our Indian River Lagoon
10. Comparison of Results of Different Oyster Reef Construction Strategies in the Indian River Lagoon – Dr. Melinda Donnelly, Assistant Research Scientist, and Dr. Paul Sacks, Field Research Technician, University of Central Florida
11. Four Years of Clam Restoration: Lessons Learned and New Directions – Dr. Todd Osborne, Associate Professor, Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience
12. Engaging the Community in Pilot Hard Clam Restoration in the Indian River Lagoon - Hope Leonard, Conservation Restoration Coordinator, Brevard Zoo
13. Results of Pilot Seagrass Transplanting Efforts in the Indian River Lagoon Using Nursery-Reared Shoalgrass (*Halodule wrightii*) - Olivia Escandell, Senior Conservation Manager, Brevard Zoo
14. Accelerating Seagrass Recovery in the Indian River Lagoon Through Infrastructure Investments by the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program – Daniel Kolodny, Chief Operating Officer, Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program
15. Sykes Creek Biological Monitoring – Dr. Kevin Johnson, Associate Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics and Professor of Biology, Tarleton State University
16. Mechanical Dewatering and Nutrient Stripping – Jake Little, President, Gator Aquatic Technologies
17. Pineda Dredge Material Management Area Temporary Use Agreement Update – Abbey Gering, Associate Environmental Specialist
18. Eau Gallie Muck Dredging Bid Results – Abbey Gering, Associate Environmental Specialist
19. From the “Ground” Up: An Initial Look at Groundwater Nutrient Concentrations Post-Septic and Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades – Laura Thompson, Environmental Specialist II, and Dr. Leesa Souto, Director of Operations, Applied Ecology
20. Water Quality Trends in the Indian River Lagoon – Don Deis, Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee
21. Brevard County Clean Waterway’s Act Compliance Plan for Wastewater Treatment and Septic Remediation – Felicity Appel, P.E., Kimley Horn
22. Developing an Adaptive Septic Remediation Plan – Dr. Claudia Listopad, President and Principal Scientist, Applied Ecology, Inc.
23. Rockledge Flow Equalization Basin Project – Brenda Keenan, Wastewater Practice Lead, Tetra Tech
24. Managing Pollutant Loads from Stormwater– Mark Nelson, PE, Jones Edmonds
25. Updates to the St. Johns River Water Management District’s Indian River Lagoon Feasibility Study – Mark Nelson, PE, Jones Edmonds

26. Let's Talk About Seagrass! Strategies to Improve Seagrass Messaging - Amy Durham Shea, Brevard Zoo and Oregon State University
27. A Case Study of Public Attitudes and Its Impacts on the Conservation of the Indian River Lagoon Watershed – Zanielle Wells, University of Central Florida Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Recommended approval of use of \$350,000 in SOIRL funding for 528 Causeway Feasibility Study to assess structural changes / causeway reductions where Highway 528 crosses the Banana River, to be reduced by any Grant funding received.
- Recommended consideration of adopting cost share modifications for sewer connections in the 2024 SOIRL Project Plan Update to better reflect actual costs to homeowners.
- Recommended the modifications to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan Update for new project recommendations.
- Recommended approval of the 2024 Project Plan Update for the Save Our Indian River Lagoon program.
- Recommended approval of ballot language, legislative intent and permission to advertise a Save Our Indian River Lagoon Infrastructure Sales Surtax ordinance to place a referendum on the November 5, 2024 ballot, and re-negotiating the existing municipal interlocal agreement for the sales tax.
- Recommended offering same cost share rates that were offered last year for the 2025 Save Our Indian River Lagoon Plan Update.
- Recommended downscaling of the Eau Gallie Muck Removal project, removing interstitial water treatment, with clauses for price escalation and de-escalation, with the potential to restore interstitial treatment if additional grant funds are secured.
- Recommended changes to the Citizen Oversight Committee:
 - addition of two ex-officio (emeritus) members to the Citizen Oversight Committee to provide historical context for new members.
 - combining Lagoon Advocacy and Education into one area called Lagoon Education/Outreach/Advocacy, and addition of Lagoon Commerce.
 - corrections and updates to Brevard County Code to fix grammatical errors.

Goals for 2025:

- Recommend changes for the 2025 Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan Update to adapt to evolving information, technical advancements, community requests and newer opportunities.
- Receive and consider public comments at monthly Oversight Committee meetings.
- Track the actual costs and benefits of project types through performance monitoring.
- Share the status and functional performance of implemented projects.

- Hold the program accountable for cost-effective implementation of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan and transparent expenditure of the Trust Fund.
- Foster awareness of pollution sources and personal pollution prevention opportunities.
- Host presentations on topics relevant to the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Program.
- Explore technological advancements for maximizing timely and cost-effective solutions.
- Review and make recommendations on the annual cycle of funding proposals.
- Review and make recommendations on contingency funding requests.
- Review revenue and inflation forecasts to revise revenue projections, cost estimates for future projects, and contingency reserves, as needed.

Advisory Board: South/Central Brevard Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Received training from Brevard County Assistant Attorney, Shannon Wilson, on Sunshine State Law, Public Records and Robert's Rules.
- Commissioners approved Resolution 2023-124 from request to Amend South / Central Advisory Board Bylaws regarding membership and voting.
- Roger Hardin new Chair. Elected Vice Chair Mary Jane Nail.
- Voted to reinstate Space Coast Rudder Busters as a Recreation Partner.
- Acknowledged the October 10, 2023 Interlocal Agreements between County and School Board with maintenance by Parks and Recreation to School Board properties.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Recommendation, by vote, to adopt Florida Statute, designating "premium beaches", thereby allowing parking fees to offset costs to county residents.
- Recommendation, by vote, to purchase old Lum's property to expand and enhance parking at the South Patrick Residents Association Park.
- Recommendation, by vote, for the Tourist Development Council to use tax revenue to provide lifeguards for Brevard County beaches.
- Recommendation, by vote, to reinstate the Wickham Park Advisory Board, separate from the South / Central Advisory Board and similar to the Wickham Board before its dissolution.

Goals for 2025:

- Set Meeting Dates.
- Evaluate, promote and recommend improvements in the provision of recreation activities, services and opportunities to the citizens and visitors to South/Central Brevard County.
- Serve as a recommending Board for organizations that wish to become Recreation Partners.

- Represent citizens of Commission Districts 1-5 and serve as liaison between the public and Board of County Commissioners, through the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Support continued upgrades to Parks and Recreation facilities.

Advisory Board: South/Central Brevard Public Library Advisory Board

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Elected Officers and set meeting schedules.
- Learned about new library offerings and shared with the community.
- Made recommendations for consideration for types of programming and online activities.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Consider additional young adulting programs presented at the library like finance management, such as adulting 101.
- Be mindful that the advisory board mandate is to "Support the operation, maintenance, and establishment of a free public library system."
- Visit our Libraries and use library resources.

Goals for 2025:

- Serve as a voice for the community to provide current knowledge, critical thinking, feedback, and analysis to library system staff.
- Provide ideas and feedback for public surveys regarding library services.
- Consider asking to rotate meetings to public libraries.
- Support and attend Library System and individual library events.

Advisory Board: Tourist Development Council

Accomplishments or Work Product for 2024:

- Reviewed and approved Budget for next fiscal year.
- Operated Marketing Committee, reviewed and approved Marketing and Media Plan for next fiscal year.
- Operated Sports Committee, created sports grant guidelines.
- Operated Cultural Committee, created cultural grant guidelines.
- Operated Capital Facilities Committee, evaluated and approved capital facilities grants.
- Operated Beach Committee, oversaw Tourism + Lagoon Grants from 2021-22.

Recommendations or Suggestions for the Board:

- Continue allocation of marketing funds annually.
- Continue funding of grant programs.
- Continue operation of Marketing, Capital Facilities, and Beach sub-committees.

Goals for 2025:

- Approve Budget for next fiscal year.
- Approve Marketing and Media Plan for next fiscal year.
- Operate sub-committees and approve grants for the following programs: Marketing Support Program, Tourism + Lagoon Grants.

The 2024 Advisory Board Annual Reports were submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for acknowledgement on October 22, 2024. For more information on Agenda Item F.19, as submitted, please [CLICK HERE](#) or go to the following URL address:

<https://brevardfl.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=1145453&GUID=B670172C-9477-4B6B-8F73-99F15CD2B503&Options=info|&Search=>