

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER**

**JAMES CLASBY**

**DISTRICT 1 NEWSLETTER**



**Edition #5**

**Dear Friends and Neighbors,**

Welcome back to the District 1 Newsletter! I'm excited to share highlights from an active summer and the month of July as we continue working to make St. Lucie County a great place to live, work, and thrive.

This update features recent events, key projects, and ways you can stay involved in our community. As always, feel free to contact my office at [clasbyj@stlucieco.org](mailto:clasbyj@stlucieco.org) with any questions or to schedule a meeting. Your input is always appreciated!

**Respectfully, Commissioner James Clasby, MPA**

# Community Highlights

## National Health Transport Inc Facility Tour

I had the honor of meeting the men and women at **National Health Transport** who serve our community through both ambulance services and non-medical transportation. These are the folks working behind the scenes in the private sector to make sure our residents get the care and mobility they need. I'm grateful for their dedication and the work they do here in St. Lucie County and across the Great State of Florida.



## Indian River Drive Freeholders

Great discussion at the Indian River Drive Freeholders meeting with our St. Lucie County Sheriff Richard Del Toro and St. Lucie County Public Works Director. I appreciated the opportunity to join them and speak directly with the residents of Indian River Drive. Always valuable to hear your concerns and work together toward real solutions.



## Regional History Center Tour

Got a full tour of the **St. Lucie County Regional History Museum** with **Historical Society President Nancy Bennett**. Always great to learn more about the people and places that shaped our community. Respecting our history and traditions is key to making good decisions for the future.

Located at **414 Seaway Drive, Ft. Pierce, FL 34949**



# Special Meetings



## Meeting with St. Lucie County Tax Collector Chris Craft

Had a very productive meeting with St. Lucie County Tax Collector Chris Craft to review his proposed FY2026 budget. Gaining a clear understanding of the needs and priorities of our Constitutional Offices is essential to ensuring thoughtful fiscal planning and effective collaboration as we work toward a balanced and responsible county budget.

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## Meeting with Port St. Lucie Mayor Shannon Martin

I had an insightful lunch meeting with Mayor Shannon Martin at Moonswiners in Ft. Pierce! It's always good to sit down and work toward solutions that benefit the entire community.



# Special Meetings



## Learning From Experience: Budget Talk with Ed Fry

Met with former St. Lucie County Clerk of Court Ed Fry this week to discuss the county's proposed budget and how we might be able to lower the millage rate this year. Always great to hear insights from those who've served before and care about fiscal responsibility.

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## United Way of St. Lucie & Okeechobee Meeting

Had a great introductory meeting with Thomas Epsky, CEO of United Way of St. Lucie & Okeechobee, along with Tatum Kelly, Vice President of Development, and Jenna Norvell, Senior Officer of Strategic Partnerships.

We discussed United Way's impactful work in the areas of health, education, and financial stability, upcoming events, and opportunities for collaboration. There next event is on **November 16th, Homegrown Brunch at Adams Ranch!**



# Special Meetings

## Community Collaboration in Harmony Heights

This week we welcomed residents from the **Harmony Heights HOA** to talk about ongoing projects, community concerns, and future priorities. I was joined by dedicated staff from Public Works, Code Enforcement, Administration, and Road & Bridge, who provided valuable updates on current water quality projects, as well as upcoming and long-term efforts aimed at enhancing infrastructure and services in the area.



# Board and Committee Updates



## St. Lucie County Fire District

At the July 16, 2025, meeting of the St. Lucie County Fire District Board meeting, members recognized several promotions within the department and heard special presentations, including updates on the Fluid Secure fuel tracking system and the Community Connect program, both aimed at improving operations and community outreach. The Board approved the minutes from the June 11, 2025, meeting along with routine financial reports, including disbursements, authorized spending, budget revenue, investment activity, and ambulance billing. Revisions to the Procurement Policy and Procedure Manual were also approved. During the meeting, the Board reviewed and discussed key upcoming initiatives, including the project agreement for the renovation and rebuild of Fire Station No. 10, the proposed tentative budget and millage rate for fiscal year 2025/2026, and the setting of budget hearing dates.

The next Fire Board meeting is scheduled for **August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 3:00 PM.**



## St. Lucie Transportation Planning Organization

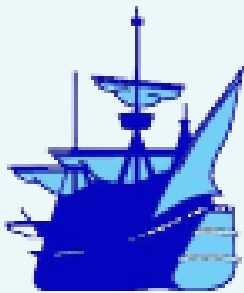
There was no Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) meeting held in July, but preparations are underway for the next meeting on **Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 2:00 PM.**

Key items on the agenda include:

- US Highway 27 Freight Rail Bypass Project
- St. Lucie ATMS Master Plan Update-Scope of Services
- Regional Bus Route Update
- Reimagine Mobility 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Needs Plan Workshop

Stay informed and engaged as we plan for the future of mobility in our region!

# Board and Committee Updates



## Treasure Coast Council of Local Governments

During the July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting of the Treasure Coast Council of Local Governments (TCCLG) included a joint meeting with Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities hosted by the City of Okeechobee. The program was presented by Immediate Past President of the Florida Association of Counties and Okeechobee County Commissioner, Terry Burroughs. He shared valuable insights of the conversation regarding property taxes across at a state and local level. We also enjoyed a very informative short film presented by Derek Hankerson, President of the Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservationist and Constituent Service Representative for Congressman Brian Mast.

The next Treasure Coast Council of Local Governments (TCCLG) meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>**!



## Indian River Lagoon Council

In preparation for the upcoming IRL Council Board of Directors meeting on **August 22, 2025**, I've been meeting with staff from our Environmental Resources Department, Administration, and Port, Inlet, and Beaches Department to gather updates on current and upcoming projects that directly impact the Indian River Lagoon.

The Council will receive water quality reports covering the northern, central, and southern segments of the lagoon. It's essential that we clearly communicate St. Lucie County's ongoing efforts and initiatives to ensure we remain competitive for future grant funding and continue advancing our mission of improving water quality and overall lagoon health.

## Special News



### Newsletter Shoutout

This month, we're excited to welcome **State Representative Dana Trabulsy of District 84** to her new office located in St. Lucie County's Administrative Building (2300 Virginia Ave, Fort Pierce, FL 34982, Suite 125).

Her presence here offers a great opportunity for closer collaboration between our constituents and county leadership.

Stay informed on legislative updates and community initiatives- subscribe to Representative Trabulsy's District 84 newsletter! Just follow the link to the landing page to sign up.

**<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/xT5Wpar>**

## Special News

At the end of last month, I had the opportunity to attend the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) Annual Conference, where I officially completed the Certified County Commissioner (CCC) program through the Institute for County Government (ICG). This program involves 47 hours of in-depth coursework focused on county government operations and leadership. For the first time since the program was established in 1995, all five St. Lucie County Commissioners- including myself, Commissioner Larry Leet, and Commissioner Erin Lowry, who also completed the program this year- have now earned this certification. It was great to connect with colleagues from across the state, and I'm proud to bring this additional knowledge back to serve our community.



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### Budget Season: Workshops & Upcoming Meetings

The St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners is well into budget season, with several important workshops open to the public. Our Fiscal Year Budget Workshops were held on July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, featuring presentations from both county staff and local non-profits, providing a more in-depth look at the budget and funding priorities.

On July 15, we held a special informal budget meeting where my fellow Commissioners and I had the opportunity to sit down with staff for a detailed, line-by-line review of the proposed budget. This meeting allowed us to take a closer look at the numbers, ask questions, and focus on the efficiency of our budget process. The Sheriff and members of the public were also in attendance to observe the discussions.

I encourage all residents to stay engaged in this process and take advantage of these opportunities to learn more about how your tax dollars are being invested in our community.

# Special News

## St. Lucie County Key Dates:

- **September 4, 2025-** FY26 First Budget Hearing **Tentative**
- **September 18, 2025-** FY26 Second Budget Hearing **Final**



## Municipal and Board Budget Meetings

### City of Port St. Lucie

Monday, September 8, 2025, 5:30pm  
Monday, September 22, 2025, 5:30pm

**Location:** City Hall Council Chambers, 121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.,  
34984

### City of Fort Pierce

Monday, September 8, 2025, 5:00pm

**Location:** 100 N U.S. Hwy 1, Fort Pierce, FL 34950

### St. Lucie County School Board

Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 5:00pm  
Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 5:00pm

**Location:** School Board Room, 9461 Brandywine Lane, Port St.  
Lucie, FL 34986

### St. Lucie County Fire Board

Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 5:01pm  
Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 5:01pm

**Location:** St. Lucie County Fire District Commissioner Chambers,  
5160 NW Milner Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34983

# Meetings



## St. Lucie County Meeting Portal Page

The St. Lucie County Meeting Portal is a valuable resource for staying informed about local government activities. It provides easy access to agendas, minutes, and recordings of meetings. It's a convenient way to stay updated on upcoming meetings, review past discussions, and follow important decisions being made in our community. I highly recommend using this tool to stay connected and engaged with local initiatives.

### Upcoming BOCC Meeting Dates:

- **August 5th, 6:00 pm**
- **August 12th, 9:00 am**
- **August 19th, 9:00 am**

[Access Here](#)

## **New Meeting Times Coming October 2025**

Starting in **October or 2025**, the Board of County Commissioner Meeting schedule will be updates as follows.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month (Regular Meeting): **6:00 pm**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month (Informal Meeting): **9:00 am**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month (Regular Meeting): **6:00 pm**

# Meetings Requests

If you'd like to request a meeting or have any questions, feel free to email my aide, Christine Westenhaver, at **christine.westenhaver@stlucieco.gov** with the details of your request, and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

I'm also always looking for opportunities to connect with residents. If your HOA, neighborhood association, or community group would like me to attend a meeting or event to discuss issues that matter to you, please don't hesitate to reach out. I value these conversations and believe they're key to making a positive different in our community.

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## FOLLOW FOR MORE

