

# Howard W. Brown, Jr., ICMA-CM

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April 21, 2025

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
301 N. Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
Email: CtyAdmRecruitment@pbc.gov

## **RE: Application for County Administrator – Job ID 26024**

Dear Commissioners:

With great enthusiasm and a steadfast commitment to public service, I submit my application for the position of County Administrator for Palm Beach County. As a credentialed city manager, certified urban planner, and seasoned executive with over two decades of experience leading diverse municipalities, I bring a results-oriented leadership style, proven financial and operational management skills, and a deep understanding of local governance across multiple states—including Florida, California, Oklahoma, and Georgia.

My public service career includes transformative roles in some of the nation's most complex jurisdictions. I served as City Manager of Bell, California, located in Los Angeles County—the largest county in the United States—where I was appointed to restore transparency, community trust, and institutional integrity following a major governance crisis. My leadership not only stabilized the city but also contributed to landmark reforms that became a model for ethical governance nationwide.

In Florida, I served as Acting Assistant City Manager for a municipality in Miami-Dade County, the largest county in the state, where I provided high-level oversight of municipal operations and interdepartmental coordination. These experiences have equipped me with the tools to navigate politically nuanced environments, manage complex service delivery systems, and build high-performing teams that operate with efficiency and transparency.

Currently, I serve as Interim City and Town Manager in multiple jurisdictions and as a Senior Advisor to several Community Redevelopment Agencies throughout Florida and California. Through my firm, Local Government Consulting Group, LLC—based here in Palm Beach County—I have managed multimillion-dollar budgets, led capital improvement programs, and secured critical grant funding for infrastructure, economic development, and community resilience. I am proud to call Palm Beach Gardens home and am deeply committed to the continued success of our county.

I hold a Master's in Public Administration (MPA), am a Harvard University Senior Executive Fellow, and am a U.S. military veteran. I lead with integrity, empathy, and a vision for inclusive, data-informed governance that drives results and earns public trust.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Board to discuss how my leadership, experience, and vision can help advance the strategic priorities and future direction of Palm Beach County. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Howard W. Brown, Jr., AICP, ICMA-CM

# HOWARD W. BROWN, JR., ICMA-CM

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## CITY MANAGER & CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

A visionary leader with 25+ years of experience in both municipal government and the private sector. Proficient in planning, organizing, directing, coordinating, and evaluating results of day-to-day municipal operations focused on implementing policy directives by working independently and coordinating with various departments, agencies, and the public within the city. Adept at negotiations, community development, project management, and financial and budget knowledge to accomplish a vision.

**Leadership** □ **Budgeting and Financial Management** □ **Strategic Planning**  
**Development** □ **Program Implementation** □ **Communication** □ **Contract Negotiation**  
□ **Municipal Management**

## CAREER HISTORY

### **CEO and Founder of Local Government Consulting Group, LLC**

**October 1, 2018 – Present**

*Incorporated in October 1, 2018, Local Government Consulting Group is a local government consulting firm that specializes in providing specialized services in the Office of the City Manager, Community Development, and Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)*

#### **Interim Town Manager, Town of Century, FL (December 2023 to Present)**

- Provide part-time Interim Town Manager Services
- Oversee and serve as Chief Advisor to the Community Redevelopment Agency

#### **Interim City Manager, City of East Point, GA (February 2024 to October 2024)**

- Provided full-time City Manager Services
- Oversaw and served as Chief Advisor to the Tax Allocation District (TAD)

#### **Senior Advisor (Sub-Consultant), Miami Dade County, FL (January 2024 to Present)**

- Provide consulting services as a sub consultant for MHCP Colab. Serves as Senior Advisor to two (2) CRAs: NW 79<sup>th</sup> Street and NW 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Community Redevelopment Agencies
- Provide Economic Development Advisory services to two of the largest redevelopment agencies in Florida

**Planning Consultant:** *past experiences as a Planning Consultant on short term projects for the following cities: City of North Miami, City of Miami Gardens, and City of South Fulton, GA (January 2023 - December 2023)*

### **Village Manager, Village of Indiantown, FL**

**January 2019 – January 2023**

*Incorporated in December 31, 2017, the Village of Indiantown is unique, being the 413th municipality incorporated in South Florida.*

- **Negotiated a multimillion-dollar** interlocal agreement with Martin County saving the residents of the Village approximately \$1.5MM as a result of an interlocal agreement for Fire Rescue Services.
- **Created and implemented a 5-year Strategic Action Plan** together with the initial Village Council; we hit the ground running, achieving it within 3-years. Accomplished all goals within 3 year period
- **Negotiated and purchased a private Water and Sewer Plant for \$8.5MM**, subsequently satisfying 80% of the loan to purchase the asset forgiven; Negotiated a 0% interest rate over a 30-year term.

***City Manager, City of Bell***

***January 2016 – October 2018***

*The City of Bell, CA, is an incorporated city in Los Angeles County, California. \$32MM in annual operating and capital budgets, and 150+ employees serving a daytime population of 50,000+.*

- **Led the City through its first-ever recodification** of all city codes of ordinances, including retaining a consultant to conduct a charter review for Council Consideration. Led to several charter amendments that were approved by voters in the election.
- **Prepared a balanced budget**, successfully adopted by the Mayor and Council two years in a row despite declining property, sales taxes, and rising pension costs.
- **Organized several neighborhood groups, including Neighborhood Watch**, and met regularly with the community to develop a Strategic Plan focused on public safety

***City Manager, City of Muskogee, Oklahoma***

***January 2014 – January 2016***

*The City of Muskogee is an incorporated city located in the Tulsa, Oklahoma, metropolitan area.*

- **Oversaw day-to-day operations of all city departments** while managing a \$61MM operating and capital budget and 600+ employees serving a daytime population of more than 50,000.
- **Partnered** with Muskogee County, Oklahoma and facilitated a land swap with the County that produced the development of a multimillion dollar juvenile detention center and more than a million square feet of commercial development that included national big box retailers, restaurants and other personal service establishments.
- Oversaw the development of three fairly large capital projects involving a multi-use community center with flex space, runway improvements which included airport building improvements and a gateway and way finding signage project.
- **Collaborated with the Mayor and City Council to develop** an employee compensation plan and labor relations strategy for three collective bargaining agreements: Police, Fire Services, and non-uniformed employees.
- **Wrote the Muskogee 2020 Strategic Plan**, adopted by the Mayor and City Council.

***City of Opa-Locka, FL***

***January 2010– January 2014***

*The City of Opa-Locka, FL, is an incorporated city in Miami-Dade County, FL.*

***ACTING ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER (2013-2014)***

- **Led the reorganization of the Building Services Division** to reduce the budget deficit by 25% and created the city's first Certificate of Use program, generating \$1MM per annum.
- **Directly supervised and managed** Police, Human Resources, IT, Finance, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Community Development, Code Enforcement, and Building and Licensing Departments. Supported the City Manager in overseeing the departments.

***DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (2010- 2013)***

- **Prepared the city's first Annexation Plan** based on the Miami-Dade County Code and the State of Florida Annexation law.
- **Managed/directed all Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** funding, including project management/grant proposal writing.
- **Received 1.2 million dollar Community Challenge Planning Grant** – from the United States Housing and Urban Development Department. Only two cities within the state of Florida was awarded.

***Director, Planning and Development Services, City Of Albany, GA***

***October 2007– July 2010***

***Neighborhood Improvement Manager, City of Lilburn, GA***

***September 2002 – October 2007***

***Chief of Code Enforcement, City of Lauderdale Lakes, FL***

***June 2000 – September 2002***

## EDUCATION

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Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (2022)  
**Certificate, Program for State and Local Government Executives**

University of West Florida, Pensacola, Florida (1995)  
**Master of Public Administration**

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida (1993)  
**Bachelor of Science in Criminology**

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## CERTIFICATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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**Credentialed Manager**, International City Manager's Association (ICMA)  
**Certified Urban Planner**, American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) - Certification No. 24680  
**National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) Certifications:** ICS 100, 200, 300, 400, 700 & 800

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## GOVERNMENTAL MEMBERSHIPS

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International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Full Member  
Florida City and County Management Association (FCCMA), Full Member  
American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Full Member  
American Planning Association (APA), Full Member

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## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES & CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS

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Habitat for Humanity, Albany, GA  
Boy Scouts of America, Tulsa, OK and Indiantown, FL  
International Rotary Club of America, Rotarian, Tulsa, Ok, and Albany, GA

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## HONORS – AWARDS – PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

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National Defense Service Medal – Persian Gulf War, United States Army  
Humanitarian Service Medal - Hurricane Andrew Disaster Relief, United States Army  
*40 under 40* – most influential persons - Albany Herald, Albany, GA