

# DATELINE

## Update from PBC District 6

My experience as a member of the Board of County Commissioners can only be described as incredible. The board has debated, discussed, disagreed, deliberated and delivered decisions based on extensive research by very talented members of the public and staff alike. There were compromises made on both sides of the issues we made decisions on, some I agreed with, some I didn't.

The issues that come before the board are very complex and require a balance of historical knowledge, forward thinking, as well as strong moral and ethical fortitude. In the time I've been on the board, we've deliberated issues such as same-sex marriage, adult entertainment establishments,

Ag Reserve density, allocation of tourist development tax funding, location of a major league spring training baseball stadium, millions of dollars worth of economic development incentives, solid waste incineration, Glades unemployment, State Road 7, and regional planning council membership, and that's just a sampling of some of the bigger issues!



Commissioner McKinlay

I have also been in constant contact with our state and federal officials to keep Palm Beach County's needs at the top of their funding appropriation list during their respective budget deliberations. We have a lot of county needs that warrant attention on the state and federal level and I will continue pushing our needs and priorities to the forefront with them.

It is truly a pleasure to be your representative and while I've met many of you over the years, I look forward to meeting even more of you as my staff and I go out into the community. Our Glades office is open and we are currently putting the finishing touches on the brand new office space. We will be completely moved within a couple of weeks and I look forward to holding meetings there on Glades issues.

In closing, I would like to invite everyone to my upcoming Glades Economic Forum on April 9th at 6:00pm in the Pahokee High School Auditorium. County staff will be presenting on current and future projects and we will also have a presentation from Guy Harvey Outpost on their proposal for the Pahokee Marina.

Please feel free to contact me or my staff at the numbers below if you have questions or concerns.

Until next month...

### Sexual Assault Awareness Month

At the Board of County Commissioners meeting on March 10, 2015, Commissioner McKinlay presented a proclamation declaring April 2015 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in Palm Beach County.



*Pictured) l to r): Alicia Perez, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc. Coordinator of Victim Services Brandy Macaluso, State Attorney Advocate/Trial Coordinator Annette Andre, Donna Rosado, Jackie Valerio, Atisha Robinson-Latimore, Victim Services Team Supervisor Ellen Craddock-Day, Victim Services North County Office Team Supervisor Carol Messam-Gordon, Division of Victim Services & Certified Rape Crisis Center Senior Program Manager Rob Shelt, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Victim Services Team Supervisor Holly DiBenedetto, Justice Services & Victim Services Director Nicole Bishop, Victim Services Victim Advocate Almaria Thompson, Victim Services & Certified Rape Crisis Center Sexual Assault Outreach Coordinator Sharon Dougherty-Duminuco.*

### District 6 Contact Info

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 Belle Glade, FL 33430

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**IN THE COMMUNITY****Glades Local Employee Incentive Passed**

*Palm Beach County commissioners pose with PEACE youth leaders after passing a Glades job incentive program that would repay contractors doing work for the county up to 30 percent of the pay and benefits of Glades employees. The program was well received by many Glades residents and local pastors.*

**PBC Supports Economic Development in Glades Region**

Palm Beach County is an active partner with the Glades communities in making major investments in infrastructure and public works, affordable housing communities, and business expansion and relocation projects; and, has initiated countywide policies to support employment in the Glades – all vital to building and sustaining economic development. These investments and initiatives include, but are not limited to the following:

- \$100 million investment in ensuring safe and reliable water service through the construction of the Lake Region Water Treatment Plant and Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department's absorption of the three Glades city utilities;
- Investment of more than \$13.2 million toward the construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable housing;
- Investment of more than \$11 million in low-interest loan financing targeted exclusively for economic development

projects in the Glades;

- Secured nearly \$2 million in federal planning grant dollars to develop the Glades Region Master Plan, which is intended to serve as a guiding blueprint to enhance economic competitiveness focusing on major employment centers, and includes recommendations for priority infrastructure improvements totaling more than \$177 million in the areas of transit, roads, drainage, water and wastewater, which are essential to improving economic conditions in the Glades;
- Established the Glades Employee Incentive Program to encourage contractors to hire Glades residents on County projects. The program will provide an incentive payment to contractors and their subcontractors who employ Glades residents, recovering up to 30% of the employee's wages, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per project. This program will supplement the Glades Local Preference Ordinance which provides bidding preferences for Glades businesses.

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**IN THE COMMUNITY****New Artwork at Bill Bailey Center**

The new artwork at the Bill Bailey Community Center/Boys & Girls Club in Belle Glade, was unveiled at a special luncheon held earlier this month. The new murals are the result of “Art of the Community Day” which was held last September.

The community mural project was created by youth in the Boys & Girls Club After School teen program and in collaboration with Palm Beach County Art in Public Places and the Solid Waste Authority.

The Body Graphix Mural Project was facilitated by Sharon Koskoff, a professional artist with 40 years of experience specializing in painting large-scale public spaces and diverse community installations. The exchange of planning, problem solving, and formulating ideas, was an exciting way to engage with the community.

The new murals were installed and unveiled at a ceremony on March 19th. The new artwork replaces the original murals created in 2002 by Glades and area students and teachers on the south wall.

**Pahokee Marina Roundtable**

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay hosted an early morning meeting in Pahokee on February 27 with representatives of various regulatory agencies to discuss improvements to the Pahokee Marina and, more importantly, to develop a plan of action.

The objective of the meeting was to identify costs associated with repairing damage caused by hurricanes and major storms since 2004. Commissioner McKinlay and Legislative Affairs Director Todd Bonlarron will be bringing these issues to the attention of state lawmakers during the upcoming Florida Legislative Session.

One needed improvement is a wave attenuator to protect docked vessels from wave action within the marina. Restoration of the Pahokee Marina is a key component of the Glades Master Plan and long-term economic stabilization of the Lakes Region.

Noted marine wildlife artist and conservationist Guy Harvey has proposed a commercial resort outpost at the marina which would be a major tourism draw. Contract discussions are underway with Pahokee city officials.

“I’m very excited about the possibilities that await Pahokee with the recent Guy Harvey Outpost proposal for the marina. This will be an incredible economic engine for the entire Glades area,” said Commissioner McKinlay.

Agencies represented at the meeting included Palm Beach County, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Senator Marco Rubio’s office, the City of Pahokee, and the Pahokee Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner McKinlay will host a follow up meeting soon to discuss progress.



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# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Glades Area Earns USDA Rural Development Award

CareerSource Palm Beach County along with the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, the Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic Alliance, Palm Beach State College, the School District of Palm Beach County, and the cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay have been jointly selected to receive the 2014 Community Development Award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development

This national award is presented annually to recognize collaborative efforts in increasing employment and sustainable economic development in rural areas. One winner is recognized in each of USDA Rural Development's 47 regions. The Glades area of western Palm Beach County was named this year's winner for the USDA region that includes all of Florida and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

CareerSource Palm Beach County Director Steve Craig will join other county, city, education, and business leaders for the award presentation by USDA State Director Richard Machek on Thursday, April 9, at 11 a.m., at CareerSource Palm Beach County's West Career Center, 1085 South Main Street in Belle Glade.

## Canal Point Baptist Church Day



At the Board of County Commissioners meeting on March 10, 2015, Commissioner McKinlay presented a proclamation to Pastor Bill Taylor declaring March 1, 2015 as "Canal Point Baptist Church Day" in Palm Beach County.

## Chamber Trustees Welcome Commissioner McKinlay



The Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches welcomed Commissioner McKinlay at the Trustees' Luncheon in January. She spoke about her first few months in office and some of the important issues facing Palm Beach County.

## \$3.8M for Glades Infrastructure



Commissioner McKinlay addresses residents of the Glades Region at a press conference announcing \$3.8M in transportation improvement funds for the tri-cities. Elected officials onhand said they are committed to increasing economic activity and job creation as part of Governor Scott's Rural Areas of Opportunity program.

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**IN THE COMMUNITY**

## Opening of SR7/60th Street Extension

On January 7, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay welcomed officials with the Indian Trail Improvement District and Wellington, Royal Palm Beach and Loxahatchee Groves, along with dozens of Acreage residents for the opening of a one-mile extension of State Road 7.

The much-anticipated project extends SR7 from Persimmon Blvd. north to 60th Street, then west on 60th Street to Royal Palm Beach Boulevard. The total project cost was \$9 million; construction began three years ago.

The new north-south, two-lane segment of SR7 has a posted speed limit of 45 mph and will relieve some of the current traffic on Persimmon Boulevard. The three-quarter-mile segment of 60th Street consists of three lanes, one in each direction and a center turn-lane. The posted speed limit



on 60th Street is 40 mph.

This project is the second in a three-phase plan to extend State Road 7 all the way from Okeechobee Blvd. to Northlake Blvd. Phase 1, from Okeechobee Blvd. to Persimmon Blvd., opened in 2009.

In a few months, construction of 60th Street from 120th Avenue North east to Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, and replacement of the existing Royal Palm Beach Boulevard bridge over the M-Canal are scheduled to begin.

## Lake Worth Lagoon Boat Tour



Commissioner McKinlay was a guest speaker during the Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative Boat Tour on January 26. She shared her perspective on the value of the lagoon and efforts to restore and protect it.

Lake Worth Lagoon is Palm Beach County's largest estuary. More than \$80 million in legislative and matching funds has supported 49 habitat and storm water projects since 1998.

About 100 attendees including local government officials, business representatives, community organization leaders, educators and concerned citizens toured the Lake Worth Lagoon to see firsthand the enhancements and improvements.

## Special Taxing Districts Meeting



On February 10, Commissioner McKinlay hosted a meeting at the County Governmental Center to review priorities of local special taxing districts and collaborate on items of mutual interest such as roads and traffic, drainage and flood control, reclaimed water, equine management, and environmental issues. Districts represented included Indian Trail, Acme, Seminole, Loxahatchee Groves, Pine Tree, Northern Palm Beach County and Highland Dunes, and the Cypress Grove CDD (GL Homes).

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**IN THE COMMUNITY****Unity Rally Shows Support for Law Enforcement**

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay and other elected officials addressed the crowd of 500 residents who attended the rally to show their support of law enforcement. Attendees described the rally as a very moving and inspiring.

**Stalking Awareness Month**

At the Board of County Commissioners meeting on Jan. 13, 2015, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay presented a proclamation declaring January 2015 as National Stalking Awareness Month in Palm Beach County. Pictured here (l to r): Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, Inc. (AVDA) Anti-Stalking Advocate Katie Powers, Legal Aid Society Attorney Stephanie Cagnet, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Palm Beach County Director of Victim and Justice Services Nicole Bishop, AVDA President & CEO Pamela O'Brien, AVDA Program Services Director Jennifer Rey.

**Community leaders gathered for candle lighting ceremony**

Recent events prompted two local officials to call on the community to show their support for all those in the field of law enforcement. Palm Beach County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay and Indian Trail Improvement District Supervisor Michelle Damone hosted a Unity Rally featuring a peaceful candle light ceremony at the Wellington Amphitheater on Forest Hill Boulevard.

"Certain issues just light a fire under me and force me stand up for the things I believe in" said Damone. "Together we are stronger if we stand with our men and women in public safety as they protect and serve us" she added.

Commissioner McKinlay said she was pleased that local officials, community leaders, and residents turned out in numbers to show their support and gratitude for the dangerous situations that public safety personnel willingly respond to on a daily basis. "Many people may not realize how many times a day these people put themselves and their family on the line for our safety, and they do it willingly," McKinlay said.

"Over the past few months police have been taking unfair bashing over recent events across the country. We are getting sick and tired of being wrongly portrayed as the BAD GUYS. We are not. We want our community to know POLICE CARE ABOUT YOU," said Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association President John Kazanjian.

Local leaders shared their thoughts on peace, faith, safety and support. The event ended with a moment of silence in honor of those lost in the line of duty.

palm beach county district six

# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Flags for the Cure Football Tournament Raises \$30K



*In 2008, the Acreage Girls Flag Football League (AGFF) set out to raise money to help find a cure for cancer. Now the AGFF along with the hundreds of men, women, boys and girls of our community join forces with the American Cancer Society and together raise the money to find a cure for all cancers with the Acreage Flags for the Cure Flag Football Tournament. To date, the event has raised \$138,000 to benefit the American Cancer Society.*

## WEF Great Charity Challenge Distributes \$1.5 Million



In February, the Wellington Equestrian Festival held its Great Charity Challenge, which distributed approximately \$1.5 million to 34 lucky Palm Beach County charities that were chosen at random to be represented in the Pro-Am team relay competition. The top prize of \$150,000 was won by Wellington’s Danny and Ron’s Rescue. The event features a sliding scale for the balance of the proceeds down to \$15,000 for 34<sup>th</sup> place, ensuring that everyone is a winner. Commissioner McKinlay helped randomly select the wild card charities the night of the event.

*(L-R) Mark Bellisimo, Equestrian Sports Productions CEO, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Wellington Councilman John McGovern, PBC School Board member Erica Whitfield.*

palm beach county district six

# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Summer Camp Scholarship Program

Applications for the Summer Camp Scholarship Program are now being accepted in the Palm Beach County Human Services Area offices. Please contact the office closest to you to make an appointment to submit your application. Offices are open **Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

- Riviera Beach: 561.694.7450, 1440 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
- Delray Beach: 561.274.3130, 225 South Congress Ave.
- Belle Glade: 561.996.1630, 38754 State Road 80.

## Register for PBC Summer Camp

Registration began **March 24** at some locations for summer camp provided by the Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation Department. There are fun, safe and affordable summer camp programs throughout the county for children age 6-15.

General camps include lunch and snack, T-shirts, and weekly field trips. One-week specialty camps are also offered in nature, aquatics, and golf. For program details, locations and registration forms visit [www.pbcparcs.com](http://www.pbcparcs.com) and click on things to do, then summer camp.

### General Camp Dates & Pricing

Session I: June 15-July 10 (no camp on July 3)

Session II: July 13-August 7

Youth Camp: \$340-\$380 (varies by location)

Teen Camp: \$380-\$420 (varies by location)

## Florida's free VPK program for Summer

Summer 2015 and Fall 2015/2016 enrollment is now open for Florida's free Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program. Parents can enroll online, make an appointment for an office visit using the online system or attend a community outreach event. To be eligible to participate in the VPK program, children must be 4 year old by September 1, 2015, and live in Florida. Kiosks for parent use are available at Family Central's offices at 3111 S. Dixie Hwy, Suite 222, West Palm Beach. No appointment is necessary. Staff is available to assist parents to complete the application and copy required documents. For more details about required documents, please visit [www.familycentral.org/pbvpkparents](http://www.familycentral.org/pbvpkparents), call the Parent Warm Line at 561.653.2458 or email [pbvpk@familycentral.org](mailto:pbvpk@familycentral.org).

## DCF/FWC summer camp for foster children

The Florida Department of Children and Families is partnering with the Florida Wildlife Commission to provide a free, six-day overnight camp experience for Palm Beach County foster girls and boys, ages 8-15, this summer. This includes youth in group homes, foster homes or relative home care. The camp will be held from **June 14 – 19, 2015** at the Everglades Youth Conservation Camp in Palm Beach Gardens.

If you know a child who would like to attend and want more information, please contact Clay Walker at 561.227.6686 or [clay.walker@myflfamilies.com](mailto:clay.walker@myflfamilies.com).

## Prime Time Palm Beach County holds Afterschool Symposium 2015

Prime Time Palm Beach County will hold its Afterschool Symposium 2015 on **May 7, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., and May 8, 8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** This year's theme, Destination Healthy Children: A Journey to Wellness, will focus on the experiences in out-of-school-time (OST) programming that underscore various aspects of wellness. The symposium will attract about 200 OST professionals who serve a myriad of organizations – public, private, faith-based, urban, suburban, rural, large and small.

Prime Time is interested in showcasing products and services that focus on helping children and youth develop habits that lead to positive mental and physical health. If your organization provides resources and services for school-age youth that are interactive, innovative and interesting, enhance youth development and create fun experiences, please contact Prime Time for exhibitor registration. As an Exhibitor, your organization will be listed in the Prime Time Palm Beach County Afterschool Symposium 2015 Program. In addition, exhibitors will:

- Generate on-site sales and new sales leads
- Establish or enhance your market presence
- Meet with a variety of out-of-school time professionals all under one roof
- Demonstrate your products and services
- Boost your company's image and increase visibility

For more information, contact Paola Cedeno, Community Engagement Specialist at 561.600.9539 or [pcedeno@primetimepb.org](mailto:pcedeno@primetimepb.org).



# federal legislative **UPDATES**

During the week of February 23rd, County Commissioners and staff held meetings in Washington D.C. with federal legislators and officials to discuss the county's federal legislative agenda. They met with Senators Rubio and Nelson and Representatives Deutch, Hastings, Murphy, and Frankel to discuss various issues such as the Herbert Hoover Dike and sober homes. Commissioners and staff also attended a meeting of the White House Intergovernmental Affairs/Council on Environmental Quality.

## Highway Bill Funding

The most recent short term extension to the Highway Bill expires this May, and Chairman Shuster has remained very publicly committed to passing a six year bill prior to that deadline. The idea behind the six-year cycle is to give state officials necessary certainty on the flow of federal



*Palm Beach County officials presented the 2015 Legislative Agenda to Congresswoman Lois Frankel during the National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. (L-R) Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Executive Director Rachel Ondrus, Palm Beach County Mayor Shelley Vana, U.S. Congresswoman Lois Frankel, Palm Beach County Legislative Affairs Director Todd Bonlarron, Palm Beach County Commissioner Mary Lou Berger and Palm Beach County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay.*



*Legislative Affairs Director Todd Bonlarron, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay and St. Lucie County Tax Collector Chris Craft weathered the snow in Washington, DC.*

dollars used to fund years-long transportation projects. Schuster said that “every day, week that goes by that we don’t have a funding solution, it makes it difficult.” Some other members are beginning to seriously talk about a short-term extension because state DOTs are making decisions about the summer construction season now. Failure to have funding set could derail summer construction plans, impacting employment.

**THE HOUSE:** The House also took up two bills dealing with the EPA. First, under H.R. 1029, the Environmental Protection Agency’s disclo-

sure requirements would be modified for members of its Science Advisory Board. The bill increases the opportunities The House Judiciary Committee scheduled a two-day markup to consider four as-yet unnumbered immigration bills that would:

- Authorize state and local governments to assist in the enforcement of federal immigration law.
- Require all U.S. employers to use the E-Verify electronic employment verification system.
- Change various laws relating to immigration asylum cases.
- Provide for the return of undocumented children who enter the U.S. without a parent or guardian.

## palm beach county commission action

**DATA BANK****January 13, 2015:**

**Glades employment** – approved standard construction contract language establishing the Glades Employee Incentive Program. It pays contractors up to 30 percent of new employee wages when they hire Glades-area residents for county projects.

**Apprentice incentive** – approved the Voluntary Apprentice Incentive Program for county construction projects on a two-year trial basis. The program allows contractors who pay at least \$25,000 in apprentice payroll to be reimbursed 20 percent (maximum of \$100,000) for voluntarily using apprentices participating in state training programs. For construction projects of \$20 million or more, the minimum apprentice payroll expenditure is \$50,000 with maximum reimbursement of \$200,000.

**Para-transit** – authorized staff to negotiate for the purchase of 10 para-transit vehicles leased by Two Wheels, Inc., a subcontractor of Metro Mobility. The county is ending its contract with Metro Mobility to provide Palm Tran Connection's para-transit service. Two Wheels is not one of the three new contractors, and the company says it cannot make its lease payments due to early termination of the Metro Mobility contract.

**Pilot project** – approved \$20,000 for implementation of the Abundant Community Initiative Pilot project in the Cabana Colony, Plantation and San Castle communities. The funding, available in the Office of Community Revitalization's (OCR) Community Connect initiative budget, will be used to contract with a resident in each pilot community to spearhead project implementation.

**Purchasing** – approved an amendment to the Local Preference in Purchasing Ordinance to make local preference available to all procurements governed by the purchasing code, instead of only those exceeding the mandatory bid or proposal amount of \$50,000. The board also approved amendments to the Purchasing Code and Recycled Paper Product Procurement ordinances.

**Cooperative Extension** – approved a funding agreement with the Friends of the Mounts Botanical Garden for a gardener position at Mounts Botanical Garden. The Friends will pay 60 percent (\$29,937) of the annual salary and benefits and the county 40 percent (\$19,960) for a total of \$49,897.

**Next Generation 9-1-1** – approved a new systems architecture analyst position to assist in the maintenance, troubleshooting and technical planning of the Public Safety Department's Next Generation 9-1-1 network. The position with the Information Systems Services Department is funded entirely through state-provided 9-1-1 revenue.

**Annexation** – approved an interlocal agreement with the village of Palm Springs for the annexation of two enclaves consisting of five parcels totaling 1.87 acres. The property is generally located south of Diamond Road, east of Military Trail and west of Kirk Road.

**February 3, 2015:**

**Baseball complex** – approved key provisions of an interlocal agreement with the city of West Palm Beach for development of a Spring Training baseball complex for the Washington Nationals and Houston Astros. The agreement authorizes the exchange of 1.8 acres of county-owned property downtown for 143 acres of city-owned property at 45th Street and Haverhill Road, and the provisions by which the two teams will be solely responsible for development of a city park on Haverhill Road.

**Village Professional Park** – approved the sale of 9.92 acres of vacant county-owned property on Forest Hill Blvd. west of State Road 7 to Village Professional Park, LLC for \$1.15 million. The parcel is located within the Wellington Medical Arts District; Village Professional Park was the highest responsive bidder.

**Loxahatchee Groves** – agreed to sell a 1.34-acre parcel at F Road and Southern Blvd. to the town of Loxahatchee Groves in the amount of \$20,000. The land must be used for public purposes and cannot be resold to a nongovernmental entity without the county's consent.

**State Road 7** – adopted a resolution expressing objection to FDOT's postponement of construction funding for State Road 7 from 60th Street to Northlake Bou-

levard to Fiscal Year 2020.

**Fire Rescue** – approved an emergency services agreement for mutual assistance, automatic aid, and dispatch services with the city of Delray Beach for a 10-year period beginning April 1, 2015.

**Coast Guard** – ratified a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center to utilize the county's Next Generation 911 technology to provide GPS location information for smartphone maritime users.

**Radio P25** – approved the Public Safety Radio P25 migration path recommendation report.

**Drug Court** – approved a budget transfer of \$125,000 from the Domestic Violence Trust Fund to the Drug Court program to offset a \$209,000 shortfall. The remainder will come from the Crime Prevention Trust Fund (\$74,000) and the Drug Abuse Trust Fund (\$10,000).

**Environmental ordinances** – approved on preliminary reading and to advertise for public hearing on March 10 revisions to the Petroleum Contamination Cleanup Criteria and Pollutant Storage Tank System Compliance ordinances. There are no material changes.

**March 10, 2015**

**Uber** - approved a temporary operating agreement (TOA), effective through September 30, between the county and Rasier, LLC, a subsidiary of Uber Technologies, Inc. The TOA allows Uber to operate a vehicle-for-hire company in Palm Beach County and sets forth the terms and conditions Uber agrees to comply with, including insurance, background checks, driver history reports and standards, and vehicle safety requirements.

**Baseball complex** - approved an access agreement and a due diligence and planning services agreement needed to gather information to negotiate an operative agreement for a proposed Spring Training baseball stadium and sports complex. The board also approved a budget transfer of \$5 million from the First Cent Tourist Local Option Tax Fund (bed tax) to establish a project budget.

**Project Pisces** - conceptually approved Job Growth Incentive Grants totaling \$500,000, with the city of Riviera Beach providing matching funds totaling \$247,500 for Project Pisces. The company plans to make a \$6.5 million capital investment on renovations and equipment at its corporate headquarters in Riviera Beach, creating 275 new jobs over three years at an average salary of \$57,500.

**Project Diamond** - conceptually approved a 10-year ad valorem tax exemption not to exceed \$3 million as the local financial support for Project Diamond., which is building its regional headquarters in Palm Beach County. The company plans to create 450 new jobs at an average annual wage of \$85,000 and will be required to maintain the new jobs locally for five years. The project is estimated to have an economic impact of \$662.4 million over that same period.

**Legal services** - approved a three-year contract with Gordon & Doner, P.A., for legal services relating to personal injury protection (PIP) insurance claims associated with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue emergency transport services. Gordon & Doner was the unanimous choice of a five-member selection committee, following an open RFP process.

**Kratom** - approved on preliminary reading and to advertise for public hearing on April 21 an ordinance pertaining to the posting of health warning signs at businesses where the herb kratom and products containing kratom are sold.

**Environmental ordinances** - approved revisions to the Petroleum Contamination Cleanup Criteria and Pollutant Storage Tank System Compliance ordinances.

**Roads** - authorized staff to ask the South Florida Water Management District to postpone until June 26 the repurchase of lands for the future realignment and extension of Seminole Pratt-Whitney Road. Funding is available from a previously approved line item in the five-year road program.

**Fire Rescue** - approved a lease agreement in the amount of \$78,975 for the continued use of 4,050 square feet of space in the Grove Market shopping center in Loxahatchee for temporary Fire Rescue Station 22.

**Investment policy** - adopted a resolution approving a series of revisions to the investment policy as recommend by the Investment Policy Committee.