

# FLAGLER BOCC HEADLINES



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## LIBRARY CALLING FOR AUTHORS TO TAKE PART IN 2ND ANNUAL 'BOOK FEST

Flagler County Public Library is making plans for its second annual Book Fest on April 6 and is calling on authors, as well as book illustrators, and publishers to be part of the event.

"I find out every day about the phenomenal talent that is here in our local and neighboring communities and there is a great opportunity to showcase the work of these individuals, and to offer presentations and workshops to residents and visitors," said Chief of Special Projects and Library Director Holly Albanese. "The turnout was tremendous last year, and I am looking forward to this year's event."

The Flagler County Book Fest will feature presentations, workshops, panel discussions, author signings, book sales, and a variety of activities for both children and adults. This will be a free event and open to the community from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first Saturday in April – April 6.

Participants will be asked to contribute to a workshop, class, or panel discussion. Those interested in showcasing their books can request an application at the Research Desk, or via email at [grose@flaglercounty.gov](mailto:grose@flaglercounty.gov). The deadline for applications is March 30.

"We are encouraging local authors, illustrators, and publishers to join us for this event," Albanese said. "The more participation we have, the more fun and successful every Flagler County Book Fest will be, now and in the future."



Scan me!

## FLAGLER BEACHES NEED YOU! PLEASE TAKE SHORT SURVEY TO WEIGH IN ON BEACH MANAGEMENT

It's personal. Flagler County beaches mean something to everyone, and now is the time to speak up.

It is for that reason that the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners asks its residents and businesses to take the short and **confidential** survey that will be sent countywide on February 12 through a text messaging system. While the text message will contain the Flagler County logo, the text message will be sent by the consulting firm PFM Advisors on behalf of the county.

"It is critical that we get input from our residents across the county," said Commission Chair Andy Dance. "We need to know from everyone how you use the beaches, and the value that you place on them."

The big question to answer is this: How do you feel about a Beach Nourishment Program to maintain the beaches in Flagler County?

The February 12 text message will look approximately like the above left with a link and working phone number.

**It is not click bait.** Please do not delete the text message, but rather respond to the link so that Flagler County will be provided with everyone's invaluable input.

All residents and businesses are not only invited to participate but encouraged to do so. In the event the text message is missed or not received, the survey is available at <https://surveys.reconmr.com/S2/1/Flagler/> or by scanning the QR code.

"We implore everyone to take just a few moments to complete this survey," Dance said. "It's confidential, and it's also crucially important to our community."

Additional information is available on the Flagler County website: <https://www.flaglercounty.gov/departments/engineering/coastal-management/bmp-survey>.

## 'TUNE IN' TO MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 5: BOCC REGULAR MEETING AT 9 a.m.  
FEBRUARY 13: PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AT 6 p.m.  
FEBRUARY 19: JOINT BOCC & PLANNING AT 3 p.m.  
FEBRUARY 19: BOCC REGULAR MEETING AT 5 p.m.

### LIVE STREAM

[www.youtube.com/flaglercounty/live](http://www.youtube.com/flaglercounty/live)

## FLAGLER COUNTY'S PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE 'GRAND AWARD' WINNER FROM THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF FLORIDA

Flagler County's pedestrian bridge over State Road 100 – newly dubbed the Flagler Greenways Pedestrian Bridge – is one of seven projects at the focus of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Florida Engineering Excellence Awards top tier Grand Award. The award will go to Kisinger Campo and Associates, the engineering company that designed the bridge for the county.

"Engineers are behind the everyday and the extraordinary, and the ACEC Florida Engineering Excellence Award is an opportunity to honor the amazing work they do to help ensure Florida remains a top state to live, work and raise a family," said ACEC Executive Director Allen Douglas in the organization's news release.

One of seven Grand Award winners will be further honored with the Florida Grand Conceptor Award. All the top seven are eligible to enter the national ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards competition, which honors projects worldwide.

Flagler County Engineering Department Project Manager Amy Stroger is pleased about the accolades the bridge is receiving. The Northeast Florida Regional Council earlier this month announced that it is the recipient of its Annual Regional Awards for Excellence in the category of Transportation.

"Kisinger, Campo, and Associates did an excellent job designing a unique, one-of-a-kind structure that would enhance the State Road 100 corridor leading to Flagler Beach," Stroger said. "The inspiration for the design was drawn from the A-frame shape of the Flagler Beach Pier."

The Pedestrian Bridge, situated between Colbert Lane and Old Kings Road, has more than two miles of added trails that will serve as a multimodal connection for the robust trail system that already exists in Flagler County. Benefits to the community are that it provides pedestrians and bicyclists with a safe way to cross a major, high-speed, four-lane thoroughfare. The ramps on and off the bridge are ADA compliant.

"This is a wonderful project that adds so many benefits to our community," said County Administrator Heidi Petito. "The project – and the people who worked on it – deserve this recognition."

## 'DO DATE' EVENTS

02/01/24 & 02/15/24 **Yoga at the Library | 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.**  
**Flagler County Public Library -- Palm Coast**  
2500 Palm Coast Parkway NW  
Registration required | 386-446-6763, press 2  
[www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyPublicLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyPublicLibrary)

## BREAKERS

### FDOT TO ATTEND FEBRUARY 2 'FIRST FRIDAY' WITH PROJECT DETAILS FOR BURIED SEAWALL TO PROTECT A1A

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) announced it will attend First Friday in Flagler Beach on February 2 to provide information about construction of a buried seawall expected to begin in February. It is the first of two seawalls the agency plans to build to protect State Road A1A.

"This is a great opportunity for residents to learn about the project," said Flagler County Administrator Heidi Petito. "FDOT is a wonderful partner and we appreciate their efforts to keep everyone informed."

The FDOT will have a looping video about the secant wall construction and project handouts providing a construction update. District Five Secretary John Tyler and members of the project team will be in attendance to answer questions.

The FDOT project members will be in attendance from 6 to 9 p.m. at Veterans Park, 101 N. Oceanshore Boulevard, Flagler Beach, at the intersection of County Road 100.

### FLAGLER COUNTY RECEIVES FDOT FUNDS FOR THE BULK OF THE LOCAL MATCH OF THE ARMY CORPS BEACH PROJECT

Flagler County received a wire transfer in the amount of \$13.6 million from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to cover most of the \$15.74 million local share required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the beach and dune nourishment project within the City of Flagler Beach.

The funds pay for the local share of the 2.6 miles of the federal project between South 6th Street to South 28th Street, as well as paying for the non-federal project extensions that take the project northward to North 7th Street and southward into the Gamble Rogers State Park.

"We are extremely grateful to FDOT for expediting its work. We cannot thank them enough. It saved us from having to dip into our reserves – something the Board (of County Commissioners) approved doing Monday if needed," said County Administrator Heidi Petito. "We are also very thankful for the assistance the Army Corps has provided to the county to expedite all the permits for the new extension."

More information is available at [www.saj.usace.army.mil/missions/civil-works/shore-protection/flagler-county/](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/missions/civil-works/shore-protection/flagler-county/).