

fiscal year 2007 to 2008

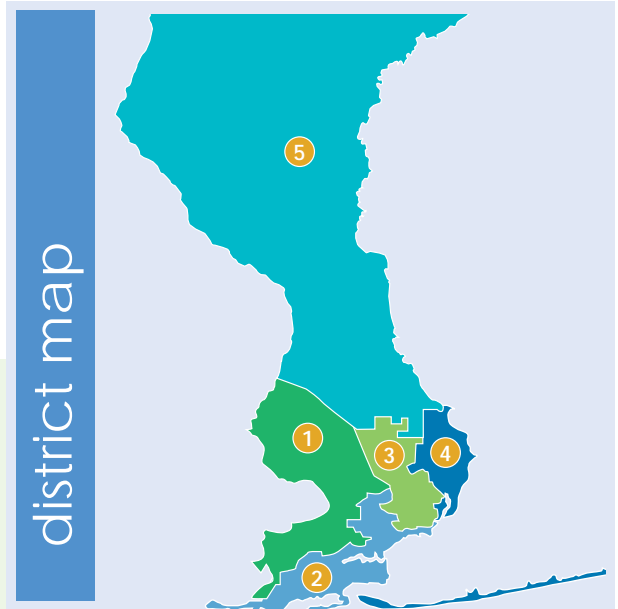
ANNUAL REPORT

my escambia



YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Escambia County is governed by the Board of County Commissioners. The county is divided into five districts with one commissioner elected from each district to serve a four-year term. Commissioners are chosen in partisan elections by voters from the districts in which they live. The board appoints a county administrator to be the chief administrative officer of the county, responsible to the commission for the orderly operations of matters within the board's jurisdiction.



Wilson B. Robertson
(850) 595-4910
district1@co.escambia.fl.us

DISTRICT ONE

Even though I have been in office a short time, working together we have positive things happening in Escambia County and District 1. We are working to improve economic development in our area to provide jobs and help improve our economy.

In District 1, we have made much needed road and drainage improvements. Within the next 12 months, Gulf Beach Highway and Sorrento Road will be resurfaced, and the Sports Complex on Bauer Road will see construction begin. Much progress has been made in the past few months to correct the problem with the Saufley C & D Landfill. Working with DEP and our state representatives, we believe this may become a reality. The health and safety of our citizens are at risk and I will do everything in my power to clean up this situation.

It has been a pleasure to serve the citizens of District 1 this short time and I look forward to representing you for years to come.



Gene M. Valentino
(850) 595-4920
district2@co.escambia.fl.us

DISTRICT TWO

The District 2 office remains focused on improving our economy and transportation. The recently adopted Regional Transportation Finance Authority will bring in hundreds of millions of dollars of new capital to fund road priorities that have been on hold for decades, not only for Escambia County but for our neighboring Florida counties as well. Every dollar spent on transportation infrastructure gives us a \$5.60 return back into our economy.

In District 2, we have in queue, under construction, or completed, more than \$220 million of infrastructure and road projects, not including the water line for additional pressure in the southwest section. Recently I presented Congressman Jeff Miller with Escambia County's top 22 projects for which we are seeking over \$300 million of funding. Topping the list was a \$30 million request for federal highway roadway resurfacing for the county. This request is in addition to the President's more than \$12 billion stimulus to Florida. Also included in the package is a \$10.8 million request for Perdido Key beach renourishment. In the next three to four years, we intend to use the Regional Transportation Finance Authority (RTFA), along with the Tax Increment Funding (TIF), to implement four-lane projects on Pinestead/Longleaf, Blue Angel Parkway, Sorrento Road and Perdido Key Drive.



Marie K. Young, Chairman
 (850) 595-4930
 district3@co.escambia.fl.us

DISTRICT THREE

In Fiscal Year 2007-2008, the county lowered the property tax rate from 8.756 to 8.017, and following that, lowered it again to 6.9755 the next year. This is better than a 20 percent reduction in the tax rate in a two-year period — the largest reduction in county history.

Across the board, the county has reduced costs and staffing to meet a much leaner budget. We have pledged to be good stewards of citizens' tax dollars and have responded accordingly. Next year will be even a leaner year with tougher choices. We again pledge to do our collective best to represent our constituents in a fiscally responsible manner.

Together, we've made a difference for the citizens — especially in District 3 who are to be commended for their participation and involvement in the county's citizens' survey used to measure service and the overall satisfaction of county government. "The Listener Group," who conducted the survey, indicated that District 3 residents were significantly more satisfied with county services than the other four districts. Wow! I'm proud to be your commissioner and have the opportunity to continue serving you.

It takes patience, but it's a good feeling to bring tasks to closure and we're fortunate to have completed several drainage, road resurfacing and sidewalk projects. To address the demand for family and community activities, we are continually in negotiations with the school board for the facility and property located in Wedgewood.

Thank you for your continued support. It is my pleasure to serve you.



Grover C. Robinson IV, Vice Chair
 (850) 595-4940
 district4@co.escambia.fl.us

DISTRICT FOUR

There are many projects ongoing in District 4. In Ferry Pass, the Zone 2 drainage project is currently under construction, as is resurfacing for Copter Road. On Olive Road, we are in the midst of engineering and design work for sidewalks and other traffic and safety mitigation improvements, such as a new guardrail at the intersection of Ninth Avenue and Olive Road.

On Pensacola Beach, the new fire station is under construction after being destroyed by Hurricane Ivan. We also purchased additional lifeguard stands from the fourth cent bed tax, and we have been working with the SRIA in evaluating improvements to the core area of the beach. Finally, Pensacola Beach residents will soon be able to watch Escambia County BCC meetings on cable television through an agreement that county staff has diligently worked on with Mediacom.

We are cooperating with the City of Pensacola to serve both county and city residents in the District 4 area. Currently the Tryon Branch Library is under construction, and the City of Pensacola should be moving forward in the development of "soft" clay courts at Roger Scott Tennis Facility, which will enhance recreational and tourist activities in our community. These projects are examples of how the two governmental entities, the City of Pensacola and Escambia County, are coordinating together to maximize taxpayer dollars for the use of their citizens.



Kevin W. White
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DISTRICT FIVE

In spite of the difficult economic times, much progress and many improvements have been made in District 5 during fiscal year 2007-2008.

Between transportation improvements, drainage additions and dirt road paving projects, District 5 has spent approximately \$2.8 million of the Local Option Sales Tax. Some of the projects included drainage projects on Whitmire Drive and Ten Mile Creek; paving of Cedartree Lane, Crowndale Road and Nowak Road; widening at Highway 97; traffic signals and turn lanes at Nine Mile Road and Hummingbird Lane; and intersection build design for Ten Mile Road and Ashton Brosnaham.

In addition, our Parks Division has begun work at the Santa Maria Park including a walking path, parking, new equipment and one ball field, and have acquired property for the Bratt Community Park.

As your county commissioner, I will continue to work with the citizens of Escambia County and staff to achieve our goal in enhancing our quality of life and promoting a safe and healthy community. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Citizens of Escambia County,

Our annual report for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 illustrates how, through careful research of resources, we have been able to provide services with less funding. We identified five key areas of focus - restoring public trust and confidence, fiscal accountability, and improving our economic development role, infrastructure and customer service. Staff committees studied these issues, created plans to address them, and measured their progress as they met their goals. The year also saw a reorganization from 16 departments to six bureaus, reducing duplication, improving our budgets and streamlining our services. This report documents our progress and how we are working as a team to better serve you.

The commissioners, our employees, and I never forget we work for the citizens of Escambia County, and we are all committed to meeting your needs. Please feel welcome to call or e-mail if you have any questions as you read this report.

Sincerely,



Bob McLaughlin
County Administrator
(850) 595-4900
bob_mclaughlin@co.escambia.fl.us



The county administrator is appointed by and serves the Board of County Commissioners as chief administrative officer of the county. It is the responsibility of the county administrator to implement all decisions, policies, programs and motions made by the board through the bureau chiefs and personnel who report directly to him. The County Administrator's Office also recommends an annual county operating and capital improvement budget, and coordinates the Board of County Commissioners' meetings, agendas and workshops.

Robert R. "Bob" McLaughlin is known for the quality of his work, vision and leadership abilities. After a 23-year career with the Army Corps of Engineers, he joined the county in 1996, was appointed assistant county administrator in 2002 and county administrator in 2008.

McLaughlin earned his master's degree in engineering management from George Washington University with a minor in management, and his bachelor of science degree in engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point. He is a member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Florida City/County Management Association (FCCMA), National Association of County Administrators (NACA), and the University of Central Florida's Benchmarking Consortium.

COUNTY

attorney

The Office of the County Attorney represents the Board of County Commissioners and its administrator in all civil legal matters. The county attorney is responsible for prosecution and defense of all lawsuits brought by or against the county, representation of the county at administrative hearings, drafting or review of ordinances and resolutions, and approval of all contracts or written instruments as to form and legal sufficiency. The



attorney also renders legal opinions for the Board of County Commissioners, some constitutional officers and the county administrator, and, upon request, provides legal support for county boards and advisory committees.

The Office of the County Attorney is committed to carrying out its mission to provide quality legal services to the Board of County Commissioners and to the county administrator in a timely, professional and cost-effective manner.

Alison Rogers is the county attorney. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in 1991 and received her juris doctorate from the University of Florida College of Law in 1994. She began working for Escambia County in 1999 and received her board certification in city, county and local government law in 2003.



PUBLIC SAFETY



Public Safety, the bureau that never sleeps, is responsible for keeping citizens safe from man-made and natural disasters. The bureau saw many accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

- The Emergency Operations Center activated on August 23, 2008 for Tropical Storm Fay and again on August 30, for Hurricane Gustav - both federally declared disasters.
- Public Safety provided equipment and personnel support for the 2008 Blue Angels Air Show held on Pensacola Beach, July 10-13, 2008.
- The bureau purchased three ambulances with the proceeds from the Local Option Sales Tax III. This purchase enhanced the EMS division's ability to respond more quickly and safely to emergency calls, while reducing maintenance expenditures as a result of retiring the fleet's two oldest ambulances.
- Ambulance services collected a record of \$8,983,400. Despite best efforts by the EMS Billing Office, however, the same fiscal year saw \$4,125,115 in bad debt write-off.
- The bureau received a \$71,879 grant from the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, to improve and enhance pre-hospital emergency medical services, as well as a \$1,374,852 award from the State E911 Grant Program to replace 9-1-1 equipment at three Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs).
- Public Safety awarded bids for the replacement of the Gonzalez and Big Lagoon radio towers. Both hollow leg, non-galvanized steel structures were constructed in 1981, exceeding the state recommendation for replacement of communications towers no later than 20 years following construction. Funding allocated for this construction was rebudgeted for replacement of these towers with solid leg, galvanized steel towers built to newer, more stringent standards, including wind loading of 140 mph. The one remaining tower, aged in excess of 26 years (Don Sutton site), is in critical need of replacement in the very near future to avoid disruption of the emergency communications loop system.
- Emergency communications processed 166,934 9-1-1 calls, including 14,776 fire dispatches, 50,286 EMS dispatches and 101,872 administrative calls.
- The bureau initiated the unification process of the volunteer and career fire departments. This included consolidation of surplus equipment, eliminating duplication of purchasing and resulting in a savings in supplies and equipment of more than \$82,000.
- Fire Rescue's Special Operations Team received a perfect score in the Annual State Operational Readiness Evaluation.
- Hurricane-rated doors were installed at the McDavid and Walnut Hill fire stations, funded by the State Wind Mitigation Grant.

PUBLIC WORKS

INFRASTRUCTURE BRANCH:

Park and Marine Maintenance Division

Improvements completed during Fiscal Year 2007-2008 include:

- Coordinated base preparation and paving of 4,540 linear feet of walking track
- Improved six parks and installed three pavilions
- Inspected and updated playgrounds at 76 locations, replaced six playground units and updated nine fall surfaces and ramps
- Updated/improved or added 19 handicapped parking spaces and associated access paths
- Completed final preparation of new ball field at Don Sutton Park, including improvement of adjacent drainage
- Secured 800 linear feet of maintenance area with fencing, stabilized 40,000 square feet of parking, added a dog park, and improved drainage at Ashton Brosnaham Park
- Built 10 backstops at Treasure Hills Park and Jim Bailey Middle School

Engineering Division

Staffed by engineers, technicians and clerical professionals — Engineering's primary role is to oversee capital improvement projects. This includes a range of transportation management services, including road resurfacing, dirt road paving, lane widening and stormwater management services projects. In Fiscal Year 2007-2008, the division was responsible for 26 projects — with a total design and construction cost of \$16 million.

Roads Division

Roads Division worked on projects including the following:

- Major rehabilitation to the following holding ponds: Ashton Brosnaham (two), Chimney Pines, Glynn Key, Valley Grande, West Roberts Road, Wonderlake, and Woodside
- Major drainage and ditch projects including: Tate Road/Tate School Road, Countrywalk, Beulah Road, Breastworks Road, Mullet Road, La Paz, and Kathy Circle
- Paved two parking lots at Lexington Terrace and the entrance to the Perdido Kids Park for Parks Division
- Completed one mile of open graded cold mix road overlays throughout the county
- Completed 37,884 work orders

Fleet Maintenance Division

- Assisted all bureaus in assessing light vehicle usage, resulting in the downsizing of the light vehicle fleet by 42 pieces, and procured auction services for those pieces of equipment, netting \$137,390
- Fuel Distribution completed the fuel facility at the Nine Mile Road location and began the mandated tank replacement at the Escambia County Area Transit location
- Completed 6,349 repair/maintenance work orders



FACILITIES MANAGEMENT BRANCH:

Design and Construction Team Division (DCAT)

- Started construction on fishing bridge – \$10,774,391 – to replace one destroyed by hurricanes
- Began design construction on Central Office Complex – an 80,000 square foot facility which will house at least six divisions when complete
- Developed Leonard Street central energy plant - \$2,800,142
- Initiated Old Courthouse restoration
- Broke ground on new Pensacola Beach Fire Station – to replace one destroyed by hurricanes
- Completed other hurricane repairs and mitigation projects - \$60,000,000

Mosquito Control Division

- Completed fogging missions in 43 areas
- Responded to 861 service requests (each within 48 hours)

Maintenance Division

- Completed 22,062 work orders; 1,578 annual preventative maintenance work orders (PMs); 853 semi-annual PMs; 1,559 quarterly PMs; and 4,462 monthly PMs

Custodial Section

- Performed custodial duties at the M.C. Blanchard Judicial Center (333,689 square feet), ensuring security in these services with an in-house staff
- Managed custodial services and maintenance contract for 52 additional county facilities

Telecommunications/Utilities Section

- Processed 1,307 work orders, with 805 (62 percent) performed by in-house staff)
- Tracked all contract labor and material costs (a 12 percent increase over the previous year)

NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITY SERVICES



The Neighborhoods & Community Services Bureau (NCSB) encompasses a diverse array of service-oriented divisions providing vital programs to the community. With a mission of service and assistance, the branches and divisions of the bureau — Community Affairs (CA), Extension Services (ES), Neighborhood Redevelopment (NR) and Solid Waste (SW) — have worked hand-in-hand to accomplish the following:

- Developed community enhancements and infrastructure improvements (NR/Community Redevelopment Agency) - \$4,244,000
- Provided conservation program practices and plans (NR/Natural Resources Conservation) - \$737,864
- Improved and/or restored existing recreational areas, waterways and trails (NR/Water Quality) - \$1,450,000
- Performed infrastructure improvements, renovations, projects and upgrades (NR/Neighborhood Enterprise Foundation, Inc.) - \$946,145
- Constructed artificial reefs and permitted new reef sites (NR/Marine Resources) - 14
- Recommended acquisition of the Mahogany Mill site for a large coastal public boat ramp (NR/Marine Resources)
- Hosted 249 adult athletic teams in soccer, flag football and softball leagues and/or tournaments (NR/Parks Programs)
- Pensacola Civic Center ranked “top spot” by Venues Today Magazine, with 323,136 entering its doors during the year
- Finalized negotiations for the acquisition of the Old Molino Elementary School site for a proposed community center (CA/Community Services)
- Provided \$936,046 for public social services and \$95,500 as part of the City/County Human Services Agency Appropriations funding initiative (CA/Community Services)
- Realized a five percent increase in ECAT annual ridership over previous year (CA/ECAT)
- Assisted citizens with 2,047 pet adoptions and 1,215 redemptions, while continuing to decrease the number of animals euthanized (CA/Animal Services)
- Provided education programs to area residents concerning agriculture, natural resources, family and consumer sciences, horticulture, 4-H, marine interests, wind damage mitigation and energy efficiency (ES)
- Recruited 55,122 volunteer hours to assist with community service projects, 4-H youth development, gardening, landscaping, and agriculture awareness with a value of \$958,020 (ES)
- Florida Yards & Neighborhoods agent designed landscape and green roof for county’s new LEED certified central office complex (ES)
- Kept disposal and recycling costs per household at a minimum with \$25.80 for disposal and \$14.59 for recycling (SW/Recycling)
- Provided 21 recycling drop-off centers in the county (SW/Recycling)

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



During Fiscal Year 2007-2008, the Development Services Bureau (DSB), comprised of the Building Inspections; Environmental Permitting; Long Range Planning and Development Review; Geographic Information Systems (GIS); and Projects, Contracts and Grants divisions has met numerous challenges with assertiveness and optimism. Despite significant reductions in personnel from 135 to 82, through attrition and non-replacement of vacated positions, the DSB has consistently maintained a 90 percent or better customer satisfaction rating.

In the past year, staff has experienced reorganizations and reassignments, while simultaneously undergoing arduous cross-training efforts to continue providing the same levels of service to which its customers are accustomed. Among some of the most significant achievements are:

- Implementation of the new Accela Permitting software, enabling “real time” access for inspection results and permits, a citizen access portal for searching county permits and licensing, and eventual implementation of an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System for contractors to request inspections 24 hours a day
- Engagement of the Evaluation Appraisal Report (EAR) based amendment process and public school facilities element project; review and revisions to Land Development Code, chapters four, six, seven and nine; pursuit of mitigation grant monies; and review and management of over 400 applications, variances and conditional uses, plan amendments and code changes
- Data development/maintenance for more than 100 GIS users; completion of Census Bureau programs to improve 2010 census data; public awareness and 4-H leadership youth programs; assistance with economic development studies, law enforcement/crime analysis software; re-mapping of fire district boundaries; and mapping of weather-related disasters, wireless towers and well locations
- Establishment of a projects/contracts/grants division to provide project management, oversight, resource coordination and grant writing for the entire bureau

CORRECTIONS

The mission of the Corrections Bureau is to work interdependently to provide the citizens of Escambia County with excellent protective services, ensure efficient delivery of services, and provide effective criminal justice alternatives that promote a safe environment. The divisions of the bureau are Community Corrections, Environmental Enforcement and the Road Prison.

Community Corrections

The Division of Community Corrections is committed to providing alternatives to incarceration that ensure public safety, promote responsible behavior, and encourage positive lifestyle changes for the citizens of Escambia County. During the Fiscal Year 2007-2008, Community Corrections achieved many accomplishments.

Misdemeanor Probation officers performed investigative work, probation counseling, issued warrants, worked closely with other agencies, and supervised over 3,258 sentenced probationers.

Community Confinement provided intensive probation supervision for over 343 defendants and supervision for 339 defendants via various electronic monitoring devices. The Domestic Violence Intensive Supervision Unit (DVISU) provided intensive supervision for over 100 defendants who committed battery domestic violence offenses.

Check Restitution is designed to assist and educate chronic worthless check writers, as well as enable worthless check offenders to pay restitution and fees prior to arrest. This program supervised over 4,399 cases and collected restitution for Escambia County businesses, in the amount of \$844,549.01.

The Work Release Program houses qualified and/or court-ordered offenders who have been sentenced to serve a period of incarceration. These offenders are allowed to continue their employment while serving their sentence at the work release facility. The program was successfully completed by 411 inmates.

Pre-Trial Release assists in alleviating overcrowding of the jail, and has provided intensive supervision for over 2,273 defendants. Defendants released to this program must comply with court-ordered conditions, while awaiting a date for their case to be adjudicated. The forensic mental health staff is a component of the Pre-Trial Release Program.

Pre-Trial Diversion is most often utilized by first-time offenders as referred by the court. The offender is required to complete conditions, and if the conditions are completed successfully, the offender's case will be closed and will not appear on his/her record. Pre-Trial Diversion has a high successful completion rate, and 3,102 defendants were supervised.

Community Service Work is designed to place individuals who are ordered by the court to complete a specified number of community service work hours with agencies throughout the county. There were 670 placements in Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

Court Services ensured the dispersal of accurate court information and provided courteous service to more than 5,000 Escambia County citizens.

Road Prison

The mission of the Road Prison is to provide a safe, secure and healthy environment for inmates remanded from the county jail, while providing inmate work crews to support the repair and maintenance of county roads and facilities. The staff of the Road Prison has provided the following services during the Fiscal Year 2007-2008:

Provided for the care, custody and control of inmates that were utilized on work crews

Farming: Use of inmates in soil preparation, planting, maintenance, harvest, and storage of crops and vegetables for use by the prison with the goal of reducing overall food costs

Fish Farming: Provided fish products maintained and harvested by inmates to further reduce food costs, with a goal of developing markets for surplus fish in the future

Inmate Training Programs: Provided welding, carpentry, horticulture/landscaping and plumbing training programs through a partnership with George Stone Vocational Training Center

Environmental Enforcement

The Environmental Enforcement Division took 291 code enforcement cases before the Special Magistrate in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008. They also worked 9,483 cases, with 8,752 cases abated by the owners.



MANAGEMENT & BUDGET SERVICES

Risk Management

- Averaged 4.51 out of 5 in ratings for training courses
- Enhanced safety library with DVDs for training purposes
- Performed 103 classroom hours in safety training (defensive driving, heat stress, work zone traffic safety) for 954 students
- Developed evacuation plans including drill exercises for Community Corrections, Building Inspections and Facilities
- Implemented a Hepatitis B program and bloodborne pathogens program for Community Corrections
- Minimized lost time expenses by placing 67 injured employees in temporary duty positions
- Transitioned self-insured workers' compensation program to fully-insured program, saving the county \$544,677
- Collected 82 percent (\$50,389) of funds due from not-at-fault accidents (pending request to bring recovery to 97 percent)
- Investigated 136 general liability claims and 72 accidents
- Held eight incident review meetings, reviewed 14 incidents
- Performed two indoor air quality tests and seven fire drills
- Reviewed 109 certificates of insurance and 24 contracts
- Secured commercial insurance at \$1,731,150 - over 50 percent less than the premium for fiscal year 2007 (\$3,509,803)
- Received favorable ratings from the Clerk's external audit

Human Resources

The Human Resources Division develops and administers policies, practices and systems to attract and retain the highest caliber workforce available. The following key projects were accomplished in Fiscal Year 2007-2008:

- Saved \$100,000 by adding executive recruiting
- Designed career ladders/competency pay plan
- Processed RFP for HR services competitive outsourcing – staff reductions
- Converted payroll periods to two week lag time format
- Implemented tobacco-free workplace practices
- Coordinated decertification election for ATU
- Implemented employee action teams and process improvement teams
- Established benefits committee of employees
- Designed and implemented a severance incentive program
- Implemented the Strategic Planning and Process Improvement (SPPI) and leadership workshops
- Revised new employee orientation process
- Coordinated Toastmasters' weekly on-site meetings
- Implemented subject matter expert program and training
- Held second annual Health and Wellness Fair
- Coordinated employee roundtable and breakfast with county administrator

Information Technology

During Fiscal Year 2007-2008, Information Technology focused on improved capabilities, functionality, citizen access, employee service, security, better interagency communications and cooperation to support divisions and bureaus in their goal to be responsive to the citizens. Our overall systems and network availability exceeded 99 percent. Accomplishments included:

- Enhanced fiber network
- Completed the implementation of Accela CRM, enabling Building Inspections and Environmental Enforcement to operate directly in the field
- Expanded wireless access
- Received 2,701 work orders and closed 2,627
- Taught 25 end user training sessions
- Supported 300 systems and applications
- Maintained 117 application servers and 98 personal computers
- Serviced 37 locations

Budget Office

The Budget Office handles the Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) Program, with 22 new MSBUs added to the assessment roll the fall of 2008 — 18 for street lighting and four for holding ponds.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Team began working with the Budget Office to close out hurricanes Katrina, Dennis and Ivan. They continue to work diligently with county staff to achieve this goal.

Property sales for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 were \$195,155 in the county's industrial parks and \$24,711 outside of the parks.

Office of Purchasing

The Office of Purchasing is the recipient of state and national awards from the Florida Association of Public Purchasing Officers and from the National Purchasing Institute for achievements in professional public procurement.

The staff of 10 (reduced from 14 in 2006) includes agents who are professionally certified through the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP), and several have completed the State of Florida certification program.

The office has generated hundreds of contracts in the areas of debris cleanup and demolition; restoration of beaches; paving; grading; stormwater projects; building construction; consulting contracts; professional services contracts; and maintenance, repair, operating and requirement contracts. These are also used by the area governmental entities. The office is responsible for the procurement of heavy equipment, such as automobiles, emergency vehicles and fire apparatus, and provides procurement for goods or services needed before, during and after an emergency declaration.

OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

The Office of Transportation and Traffic Operations has installed approximately 100 speed tables in Escambia County. This program is a petition driven process and is funded by the Local Option Sales Tax. In 2008, staff decided to modify the typical speed hump to a more preferable speed table.

New Street Name Signs: The Board of County Commissioners has allocated \$100,000 annually to replace old concrete street markers with new reflective nine-inch signs to ensure better visibility to traveling motorists and emergency responders. Work orders to replace 200 units have been issued.

Traffic Signals: Escambia County, in partnership with FDOT and with the assistance of an Economic Development Assistance (EDA) grant, has installed new traffic signals at the intersections of Nine Mile Road at Hummingbird Lane, and Nine Mile Road at Beulah Road. Escambia County, the City of Pensacola, and Santa Rosa County have acquired annual funds, between \$200,000 to \$300,000, for the next five years to continue traffic signal timing analysis to improve level of service for commuters and daily travel. Most traffic signal installations will be fitted with a new mast arm signal assembly to survive hurricane events, as funding permits.

Traffic Roadway Striping and Signs: Conducted approximately 300 investigations to determine the placement of needed traffic control signs, warning signs (280) and 50 miles of new and replacement roadway striping to ensure safety for motorists, visible school zones, and railroad crossing points.

Sidewalk Projects: Developed a coordinated "Safe Walk to School" action team to create a student-walking program to encourage fitness, reduce congestion, and minimize the existing carbon footprint.

Summary: Traffic staff is working with state partners enabling us to accomplish more projects with combined resources. Also, the ability to use in-house support from engineering, construction management, and road maintenance has allowed our local funds to go further. Truly, transportation solutions have been and continue to be a "team effort."

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND

communications

- Developed and implemented the first citizen survey of Escambia County residents, with an overall satisfaction rating of 3.67 on a one to five scale
- Developed and implemented the first employee survey of 1,100 county employees with more than 80 percent participation and an overall satisfaction rating of 3.6 on a one to five scale
- Established a Government Access Channel (Digital 98) - ECTV
- Negotiated with Cox Communications including capitol grant for equipment (\$86,000)
- Designed and managed coordination for the television channel and production of the studio (\$156,000 total project cost)
- Developed an ECTV Policy Guide
- Formed partnerships for programming with other government and education entities
- Developed a customer service training program and taught the three-hour class to all employees
- Produced an annual report, Local Option Sales Tax report card and commissioner newsletters for each district
- Created advertising campaigns for Regional Round-up (approximately \$20,000), Got Recycling (approximately \$10,000), Team Up to Clean Up (approximately \$10,000) and Be Ready Escambia (approximately \$10,000)
- Activated at the Emergency Operations Center for Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricane Gustav
- Developed ongoing promotions and public relations for county programs and services, including: news releases, flyers, events, ribbon cuttings, groundbreakings, as well as television, newspaper and radio coverage of the above



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| County Commissioners | |
| District 1 - Wilson Robertson | 595-4910 |
| District 2 - Gene Valentino | 595-4920 |
| District 3 - Marie Young | 595-4930 |
| District 4 - Grover Robinson | 595-4940 |
| District 5 - Kevin White | 595-4950 |
| County Administrator | 595-4900 |
| County Attorney | 595-4970 |
| Animal Services | 595-3075 |
| Clerk of the Court | 595-4310 |
| Community Transportation | 476-8130 |
| Customer Service | 595-4902 |
| ECAT | 595-3228 |
| Engineering | 595-3434 |
| Environmental Enforcement | 471-6160 |
| Extension Services | 475-5230 |
| Garbage Collection: | |
| ECUA | 476-0480 |
| (green or blue garbage cans) | |
| City of Pensacola | 435-1890 |
| (black garbage cans) | |
| Health Department | 595-6500 |
| Legal Services Hotline | 432-3999 |
| Official Records | 595-3930 |
| Planning & Zoning | 595-3475 |
| Property Appraiser | 434-2735 |
| Public Defender | 595-4100 |
| Public Safety | 471-6400 |
| Roads Division | 937-2120 |
| School Board | 432-6121 |
| Tax Collector | 438-6500 |

All numbers are 850 area code.

