



Dear Imperial Point Neighbors,

The south Florida winter season is here, and what a wonderful time of the year! As the days get shorter and the nights become longer, I’m hopeful everyone is enjoying the weather, while taking time to enjoy the holiday season and beyond. This is a great opportunity to check in with your family, friends and neighbors, especially those who may be lonely this time of year.

Homelessness

The Board of County Commissioners recently held a workshop to discuss homelessness and provide direction to County Administration in response to Florida House Bill 1365. HB 1365 went into effect on October 1, 2024. It prohibits overnight camping or sleeping in public spaces. As I’ve reported before, the County takes a housing first approach to homelessness. We fund about \$26 million through our General Fund which provides for the county’s shelters, permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing and transitional housing. This funding also supports the outreach efforts which include, the street outreach team, airport and transit teams, medical respite, mobile sanitation, case management and more. Additionally, the County receives about \$18 million in grant funding that also supports the program described above.

Broward County also funds a homeless prevention services funding through the Family Success Division of about \$36 million from the General Fund. These funds assist with crisis assistance such as rent, mortgage, utilities and/or security deposits, financial capability programs, case management, eviction and foreclosure prevention and more. An additional \$32 million is received through grants for the support of the programs described above.

Conversations continue for the best path forward. Administration and the Board recently had a lengthy discussion regarding Pallet Shelter Villages and the possibility to create the first ever village in Broward County. The most difficult decision is location. After much deliberation, unfortunately the commission could not come to a consensus.

I believe we should continue with our short-term goals at this moment. This includes, restoring and increasing shelter bed capacity at the North and Central Homeless Assistance Centers and the Salvation Army. The County should also continue using best practices that

already exist in the continuum of care, that assist in serving the unhoused individuals and families through the existing network of services. To learn more about the services provided by the county to residents in our community, either on the brink of homelessness or already there, please visit, Broward.org/Homeless.

If you or anyone you know are experiencing homelessness, call the Homeless Helpline at 954-563-4357, 8AM to 7PM daily.

NatureScape Emerald Award Applications

Calling all Imperial Point residents! NatureScape Broward is now accepting NatureScape Emerald Award applications through January 3 for homeowners, businesses, municipalities, schools and government facilities which have created and maintained model Florida-friendly landscapes or completed exceptional projects that demonstrate visible ecological practices. The application process can be accessed through the Nature Scape website provided below. Winners will be recognized at the 23rd Annual Water Matters Day event held March 8, 2025, at Tree Tops Park. If you have any questions regarding the application, please contact Anthony Gross at NatureScape@broward.org. For more information, please visit broward.org/NatureScape/EmeraldAwards.



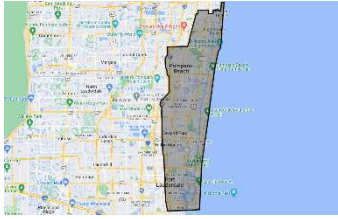
Port Everglades Cruise News

Port Everglades recently welcomed the arrival of Princess Cruises' newest ship, *Sun Princess*. Being one of the three busiest ports in the world it is always exciting welcoming these gigantic water vessels to our community. Port Everglades beat its own cruise passenger record with a preliminary count of 4,010,919 guests embarking and disembarking during Fiscal Year 2024, which ended September 30, 2024. We anticipate seeing a record of 4.4 million cruise passengers during fiscal year 2025.

Gaining national attention, during the American Association of Port Authorities' Annual Convention, the Port received the Lighthouse Award for "Excellence in Cruise Practices - Large Port" for its innovative digital [cruise guide](#). I want to personally congratulate the entire Port Everglades team on their tremendous effort in growing the Port's cruise portfolio. As the holiday season comes and goes, this is a great opportunity for residents to start planning your 2025 vacation! Visit PortEverglades.net for all your Port Everglades and cruising needs.



Reminders:



Municipal Holiday Events

With the holiday season here, many municipalities have several holiday events. Check out your municipal website for the latest information on any holiday event near you. For a full list of the District 4 websites please visit Broward.org/commission/district4.



Manatee Season

November 15 marks the beginning of the state-wide manatee season which runs through March 31. Seasonal speed limit zones and manatee protection zones are implemented throughout the state as air and water temperatures drop.



Small Business Saturday is November 30. Remember to shop local! [Check out 12 Top Farmers Markets in Greater Fort Lauderdale](#). Find resources for small business [here](#).



Holiday Fantasy of Lights starts November 23 to January 4 at Tradewinds Park & Stables. This drive-through show offers larger-than-life holiday light displays. Tickets are available online. For more information, visit HolidayLightsDriveThru.com.

As always, I am truly thankful to serve you and Commission District 4. If I can ever be of assistance, please contact me at 954-357-7004 or LFisher@broward.org. Also, follow me [@LamarPFisher](#) on X (Twitter) and on [Facebook](#).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Fisher".

Lamar P. Fisher
Broward County
Commissioner
District 4

Additional Resources:

- Libraries: Broward.org/Library
- Parks: Broward.org/Parks
- Business Assistance: Broward.org/EconDev
- Broward's Official Hurricane Site: Broward.org/Hurricane
- Mosquito Control Services: Broward.org/Mosquito
- Fort Lauderdale International Airport: Broward.org/Airport
- Port Everglades: PortEverglades.net