

May 2022



FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

FBC-LEO extends wishes for a Happy Mother's Day



Photo by Karolina Bobek

In This Issue

- **President's Message**
- **FBC-LEO QR Code**
- **FBC-LEO Webinar**
- **FBC-LEO Online Directory**
- **Member News**
- **FBC-LEO Essay Contest**
- **From Our Partners**
- **Events & Training Opportunities**
- **Save the Date**
- **Find Us on Social Media**

President's Message



Greetings FBC-LEO Members and Friends,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you, once again, for your continuing support of FBC-LEO.

Through our efforts, we have made significant progress—offering solutions for our cities and thus addressing the needs of Florida's citizens. I am very proud of this and the support we have given to our members. And the good work continues!

Here are some important things to note:

- On May 17, at 2:00 p.m. ET, we will be presenting the FBC-LEO Solutions to the Affordable Housing Crisis in Florida webinar with host Jeff Branch, FLC Senior Legislative Advocate. [Click here](#) to register.
- The Online Membership Directory release has been moved to September to align with the incoming board of directors. Staff will offer another opportunity for headshots at the August Breakfast Meeting. But, feel free to send your headshot to fbcleo@flcities.com now, if you have not already done so.
- Registration for the FBC-LEO Annual Breakfast/Business Meeting on August 12 at 7:00 a.m. will open soon. Save the date to your calendars now.

We will be sending more information about the Breakfast/Business meeting in the coming weeks and look forward to seeing you all there. Please continue to send ideas and resources for upcoming educational opportunities. I hope to see you at the FLC Annual Conference, August 11-13, 2022, held at the Diplomat Beach Resort in Hollywood, Florida. Thanks again for all you do to make our cities great!

Sincerely,

Teresa Watkins Brown

President Teresa Watkins Brown
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

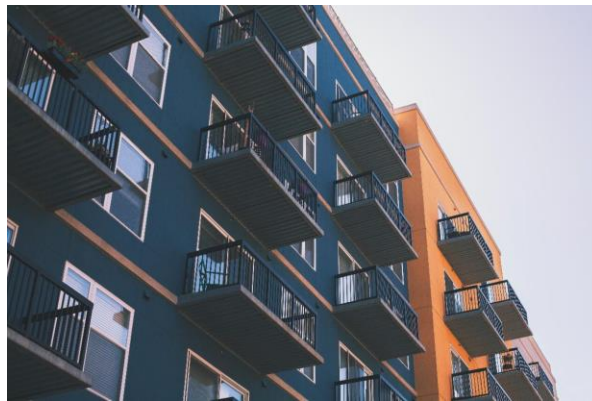
FBC-LEO QR Code

**Scan the QR Code to register for FBC-LEO events
and follow us on social media.**

SCAN ME



FBC-LEO Webinar



Solutions to the Affordable Housing Crisis in Florida

**Tuesday, May 17, 2022
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET**

The affordable housing crisis is a major problem threatening the economic growth and stability of many local communities. Florida currently leads the nation in housing unaffordability, with over half of its renters spending more than 30% of their income on housing. While there is no easy fix for the affordable housing crisis, there is a question that must be asked. How can we solve the affordable housing crisis?

Join host Jeff Branch and panelists as they explore the current state of Affordable Housing in Florida and what can be done to address this crisis in your communities.

Panelists Include:

Becky Lucas, Chief Executive Officer, Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties
Sean King, Director of Government Relations & Advocacy, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties
Jaimie Ross, President & CEO, Florida Housing Coalition

Hosts:

Councilwoman Teresa Watkins-Brown, FBC-LEO President, Ft. Myers
Jeff Branch, Senior Legislative Advocate, Florida League of Cities

Register Today

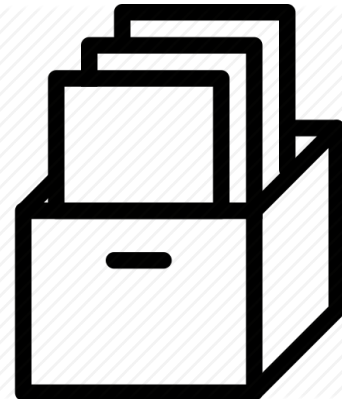
You will receive a confirmation email from "FLC Association Services" with the link to join the meeting. Beneath the Join Meeting link, you will have the option to add the meeting to your calendar, select your calendar type from the drop-down menu, and the calendar invite will download. Open the download and click save in your calendar.

Online FBC-LEO Directory

The release of the FBC-LEO online membership directory has been pushed back to September.

Being placed in your organization's online membership directory is an important membership benefit, that allows members to connect and network easily.

If you have not submitted your photo to fbcleo@flcities.com, please do so.



Member News



Welcome to our new FBC-LEO Members

Warmest welcome! We are delighted to have you as members of the FBC-LEO organization and look forward to getting to know you.

- **Terrye Y. Howell**, Commissioner, Lake Wales
- **Kassandra Timothe**, Councilwoman, North Miami

FBC-LEO Essay Contest

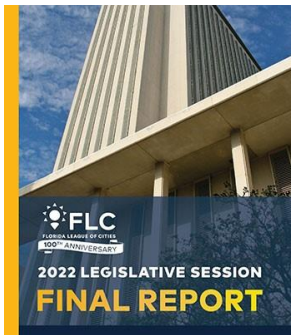


On May 3, 2022, FBC-LEO Membership Education Committee Chair, Commissioner Jessica Davis, DeLand, presented a \$1000 Scholarship to Taylor Watson, the 2022 FBC-LEO Essay Contest winner before the Ocoee City Commission.

Pictured left to right: Commissioner Larry Brinson, Commissioner Rosemary Wilsen, Mayor Rusty Johnson, Jalynn Watson, Jerrell Watson, Linda Watson, DeLand Commissioner Jessica Davis, Taylor Watson, Commissioner Richard Firstner and Commissioner George Oliver III.

[View All Photos](#)

From Our Partners



The **FLC 2022 Legislative Session Final Report** is available for viewing and downloading on the FLC website. This document summarizes key legislation the League tracked this session and is only a partial list of the 3,685 bills filed during the 2022 Legislative Session. Of these, only 285 bills passed both chambers and were presented to the Governor. The document will be updated as **Gov. Ron DeSantis** acts on passed bills.

[View Final Report](#)

US Department of Transportation Funding Opportunities

The US Department of Transportation released a timeline with anticipated dates for US DOT Notices of Funding Opportunities for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law programs. This list will be updated periodically with new programs and dates.

[View Resource Center](#)

Events & Training Opportunities

FLCities Strong Webinar
Monday, May 9, 2022
10:00 a.m. ET



Join host **Dr. Scott Paine** on **May 9 at 10:00 a.m. ET** for this special #FLCitiesStrong broadcast as the Florida League of Cities celebrates its **100th anniversary**.

Explore the initiatives of the League over the course of its first century and look ahead to the next.

Guests will also plunge into the third key element of the federal **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Funding for Water and Wastewater Treatment**.

Special guests include:

- **Carolyn Berndt, Legislative Director, Sustainability, NLC**
- **Lynn Tipton, Director, FLC University**

Register today!

**National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials
(NBC-LEO)
July 21-23, 2022
Nashville, Tennessee**



After two years of virtual gatherings, the **National League of Cities National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO)** will host their **Summer Conference, on July 21-23 in Nashville, TN.**

Join colleagues from across the country for impactful conversations, leadership development opportunities, mobile tours and a chance to connect with local leaders like yourself.

During the conference, you can expect to: engage in discussions on HBCUs, housing, gun violence, and more; meet peers passionate about communities of color, and explore issues unique to your role as an African American local elected official.

Register here.

Save the Date

SAVE THE DATE

Be sure all of the upcoming FBC-LEO events are on your calendar.

Annual Breakfast/Business Meeting

August 12, 2022

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. ET

Diplomat Beach Resort - Hollywood

General Membership Meeting

(In conjunction with FLC Annual Conference)

Registration opens soon.

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

6:00 p.m. ET via Zoom

Annual Membership Reception

Wednesday, November 30, 2022

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. ET

Embassy Suites Orlando

(In conjunction with FLC Legislative Conference)

Find Us on Social Media



Click on the icons below to follow us on Facebook, Indeed, YouTube and Twitter!



Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials