

News and Updates



March 31, 2025

President's Message

Congratulations to the four cities selected as internship host recipients: Crystal River, Flagler Beach, Lauderdale Lakes, and Palm Beach Gardens.

2025 FCCMA Annual Conference – Registration is now open for the FCCMA Annual Conference in Orlando! The conference will be held May 28-31 at the Rosen Shingle Creek. Register by May 9, 2025, for the early bird registration rate. Click [here](#) to register. We have amazing speakers lined up for the conference. This year's keynote speakers are Mark Zeigler, Kyle Schelle, and Jia Jiang. Visit our conference [webpage](#) and click on the speakers' photos to learn more about them.



Elections – On February 28th, the FCCMA Nominating Committee convened to interview candidates for the 2025-2026 Board of Directors. The Committee is recommending Satellite Beach Assistant City Manager Suzanne Sherman as President-Elect. Suzanne currently sits on the Board as Vice President. Hardee County Manager Terry Atchley has been recommended as Vice President, and Greenacres City Manager Andrea McCue for the open At-Large Director seat. The Slate of Officers for the program year 2025-2026 will be presented to the general membership at the Annual Business Meeting on Friday, May 30, during the conference.

April Webinar – Don't miss our upcoming FREE Coaching Webinar, "Emergency Management for Senior Officials." As leaders of their communities, FCCMA members are uniquely positioned to unite the various community stakeholders to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from various emergencies. Click [here](#) to register.

2025-2026 FCCMA Committees – Are you looking to get involved and contribute to the Association? Sign-ups for the FCCMA committees will open next month. Participating in a committee is a fantastic way to connect with colleagues, share expertise, and contribute to shaping the future of FCCMA.

You matter!

Mark

2025 Annual Conference

A Message from Keynote Speaker Kyle Scheele



REGISTER NOW!!



Florida City and County Management Association

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 28-31, 2025
Rosen Shingle Creek

Keynote Speakers Include:



Kyle Scheele

*Motivational Author and
"Patron Saint of Crazy Ideas"*



Mark T. Zeigler

*Senior Lecturer, Florida
State University*



**Journeys Session featuring
FCCMA's Past Presidents**

Be sure to check fccma.org for conference schedule updates as they become available.

REGISTER NOW!!

Pre-Conference Sessions

- So You're Going to be a City/County Manager (Emerging Leaders)
- Ethics Session*

Session Topics Include:**

- AI in Your Toolbox
- Aligning with Florida Cybersecurity Law
- Bridging Gaps to Care
- Cities and Counties Working Together to Provide Efficient Transportation Systems
- How to Bounce Back from a Termination
- Mastering the Media
- Performance Evaluations and Manager Contracts
- Mastering Personal Strategic Planning
- Shaping Culture with Process Improvement and Innovation Training
- Strategic Planning Reimagined
- Student Research Spotlight

*Additional registration fee required.

**Final topics may be subject to change.

Registration is Open Now!
Early Bird Deadline is May 9

Cost

Members	\$550
Additional Registrant from Same Government	\$520
Nonmember Government	\$760
Corporate	\$1800
Student/Retired	\$85
One-Day Registration (Government Only)	\$325
So You're Going to be a City/County Manager*	FREE
Ethics Session*	\$75
Adult Guest	\$150
Child Guest	\$75

*Pre-registration required.

Housing Information

The **Rosen Shingle Creek** will serve as the conference hotel. It is located at 9939 Universal Boulevard in Orlando. FCCMA has secured the special rate of **\$199** per night, single or double. Self-parking is discounted to **\$12** per day. The cut-off date for reservations is **April 25, 2025**.

NOTE: The hotel will not accept any reservations at this time. You will receive complete housing instructions with your paid registration confirmation.

Questions?

Please contact Carol Russell at crussell@flcities.com or 850.701.3607.



[Register Now](#)

Member News and Updates

The following membership applications have been received:

- **Leondrae Camel**, District IV, City Manager, City of South Bay, Full Member
- **Gary DeMarzo**, Township Administrator/Personnel Officer, Upper Township, Subscriber Member
- **Dominic Hamilton**, District III, Chief Information Officer, City of Indian Harbour Beach, Affiliate Member
- **Karen Hayes**, District II, City Clerk, City of Palatka, Full Member
- **Jeffrey Oris**, District IV, Assistant City Manager, City of Delray Beach, Full Member
- **Sandy Pfundheller**, District VI, Parks & Recreation Director, City of North Port, Affiliate Member
- **Tracy Quandt**, Marketing Manager, Brightly Software, Corporate Member
- **Lexi Rando**, District I, Master of Public Administration, Florida State University, Student Member
- **Lorri Shaban**, District VIII, President, True North Marketing + Public Relations, Corporate Member
- **Eve Sweeting**, District VI, Legislative Manager, Charlotte County, Affiliate Member
- **Nicholas Walsh**, District III, Support Services Director, City of Satellite Beach, Full Member

If no current member comes forth with a reason why these applicants should not be approved as members, he/she will be approved for membership.

From Our Partners



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Remember the MITs

Members-in-Transition (MITs)

Please take a minute to show support for the MITs by emailing or calling the members of your district. A phone call or an email can go a long way to help someone temporarily out of work. You can also help if you have any job opportunities or special projects available for which one of our MITs may be qualified.

With current technology, the project could even be done from the MIT's home. Some of the MITs have provided their resumes and indicated their areas of expertise. The resumes and areas of expertise are now available on the [FCCMA website](#). Also, please keep FCCMA staff informed of any FCCMA members who may be eligible for MIT status. You can email [Carol Russell](#).



Nominate a Life Saver: Recognizing FCCMA Members Who Hire Members-in-Transition

Are you a Member-in-Transition (MIT) who has been hired by an FCCMA member, or do you know an FCCMA member who has hired an MIT? If so, consider nominating them for the prestigious Life Saver Award!

Since 1993, FCCMA has been dedicated to supporting full members who have separated from their local government. A key part of this effort is encouraging FCCMA members to hire MITs for special projects and/or interim positions whenever possible.

The Life Saver Award recognizes FCCMA members who have made a significant impact by hiring an MIT, helping to provide them with the opportunity and support needed during their career transition.

If you know an FCCMA member who has hired an MIT since June 2024, please email FCCMA staff at FCCMA@flcities.com to submit a nomination.

Let's celebrate those who play a crucial role in supporting our members in transition!

The FCCMA Podcast



Tune in to learn from the public servants in your communities.

Streaming now on all major podcast platforms.



#FCCMAPODCAST

Each month, the Florida City and County Management Association (FCCMA) produces podcasts featuring FCCMA members, strategic partners, and other important staff from state agencies. These podcasts are a great way to learn about initiatives that are working in certain cities and counties, important changes that could impact your community, and more about your fellow FCCMA members.

- **Honoring a Legacy: Dan Kleman's Insights on Leadership**
A tribute to the late Dan Kleman.
- **#170 A Vision Without Implementation is a Hallucination**
John Drury, City Manager, Tavares
- **#171 Mentorship and Professional Development in City Management**
Josh Starr, USF ICMA Student Body President and Communications Manager, City of Auburndale

[Click to Hear the Latest FCCMA Podcasts](#)

Call for Podcast Guests!

[CLICK HERE](#)

Do you or someone you know have a compelling local government story or unique expertise? We're seeking guests to share insights on leadership, innovation, and community impact. Click to find out more!

Perspectives

Local government leaders across Florida discuss historic preservation vs. modernization.



FCCMA 2025 Photo Contest

Congratulations to the City of Wauchula, the FCCMA 2025 Photo Contest winner! This photo will be featured on the cover

of the 2025-2026 Membership Directory.



By Katie Wheeler, Communications Coordinator, City of Wauchula

The winning image is an awe-inspiring aerial view of one of the boardwalks in Peace River Park.

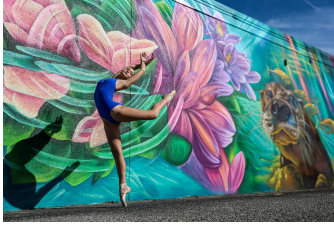
Photographer 863Aerials said, "This photo was inspired by the natural beauty of the Peace River area. As someone who grew up on and around the river, hunting for fossils and fishing, it has always been a special place for me and my family. My favorite way to capture the beauty and majesty of the area has always been through aerial photography and videography; this particular shot was captured while I was working on a personal video project of the Peace River Park."

Wauchula is often called the "Heart of Florida," and it's easy to see why. Our city is known for its warm, welcoming community, rich history, and stunning natural features. From our agriculture to our historic downtown and, of course, the iconic Peace River, there's so much that makes Wauchula unique.

The Peace River is a local treasure, offering opportunities for kayaking, fishing, fossil hunting, and simply taking in the incredible wildlife and scenery. It's a place where families and friends come together, making memories that last a lifetime.

Thank you to FCCMA for this honor, and congratulations to everyone in Wauchula for being part of what makes our city so remarkable. We're excited to continue sharing the beauty of Wauchula with the world!

FCCMA Photo Contest Runners-Up



**City of Zephyrhills
1st Runner-Up**



**Alachua County
2nd Runner-Up**



**City of St. Cloud
3rd Runner-Up**

Featured Member



Meet John Elias, Director of Public Works, Charlotte County

How long have you been an FCCMA member and why did you join?

I have been a member since 2019.

Are you an ICMA member? Why did you join, and how long have you been a member?

I am not.

Why did you select a career in public service?

It started as an entry-level job 36 years ago and blossomed into a career in public service that has spanned my life. I truly love being a public servant.

Have you always been in the public sector, or have you had experience in the private sector?

Yes, but I have done some work in the private sector.

Please tell us about your current position and give a brief job description if you are not a City Administrator/Manager.

I serve as the Director of Public Works. My team is responsible for all things that occur in the ROW, in addition to Solid Waste, Mining, and Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control. We are responsible for the 8th largest road network in Florida. We are comprised of approximately 300 full-time staff.

Please describe your typical day.

Messaging for the team, meetings with division managers, keeping our administration apprised of any developing situations, and discussing hot topics with members of the community and elected officials.

[Read More](#)

Member Article



Mixed-Use Redevelopment Needed to Save Florida

***Ray Liggins P.E., Village Manager,
Village of Royal Palm Beach***

Florida's environment provides the foundation for this state's quality of life and is the cornerstone of its economy. Tourism officials market Florida's distinctive lifestyle, and economic development leaders promote it to attract new business. Residents enjoy the many benefits this lifestyle offers. Recently, Florida's population surpassed New York's, with 22 million residents and an additional 116 million tourists.

Florida's population in 1968 was 6.4 million.

Today's population is more than 22 million.

In 2070, moderate estimates have our population over 34 million.

How will Florida accommodate 12 million new residents and protect our environment and farmland? The answer is redeveloping our cities, towns, and villages with mixed-use, compact urban redevelopment. To accommodate the anticipated new residents, conserve our natural areas, and protect our waterways, springs, and farmlands, cities, towns, and villages need to identify, plan, and provide **preferred mixed-use urban development**. If successful, we have the potential to reduce Florida's development footprint by almost two million acres, increase protected natural lands by almost six million acres, and continue to provide eight million acres for farming. (1)

If you Google "renaissance or rebirth of the city," you get books, articles, and stories of people of all ages returning to the city. There are many reasons for the change in wanting to be in a city.

[Read More](#)

Events and Trainings



Emergency Management for Senior Officials

April 3, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

ICMA Practice Areas: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, and 14

Program Summary:

One of local government management's most sacred duties is to provide for the general welfare of their communities. This is no different in the State of Florida.

As leaders of their communities, FCCMA members are uniquely positioned to unite the various community stakeholders to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from various emergencies.

This panel discussion will bring together local government members, emergency management, and public works communities to discuss stakeholder engagement, building/funding resilient communities, public information/communications, and workforce development.

Speakers:

- Bart Diebold, City Manager, City of Pinellas Park
- Billy Ingram, Assistant Public Works Director, City of Largo
- Cathie Perkins, Emergency Management Director, Pinellas County

[Register Here](#)



Electric Vehicles: The Pros and Cons You Should Know Before Making the Leap

May 1, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

ICMA Practice Areas: 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12

Program Summary:

Join us for an insightful hour-long webinar featuring the Pinellas County Fleet Director, Pinellas County Senior Departmental Administrative Manager, and UF faculty as they discuss the critical transition of public fleets from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles (EVs).

The Pinellas County Fleet Director and Senior Departmental Administrative Manager share their experience transitioning a large public fleet to EVs and discuss the challenges, logistics of fleet management, and the essential infrastructure required for the transition. Gain valuable insights into vehicle selection, costs, charging networks, maintenance considerations, and more.

This webinar is ideal for public fleet managers, administrators, and anyone interested in the future of sustainable transportation. Don't miss this chance to learn practical strategies, overcome challenges, and understand the steps in successfully transitioning a public fleet to electric vehicles.

Register today to reserve your spot and take a step toward a cleaner, greener future for public transportation!

Speakers:

- JP Gellermann, UF/IFAS Extension Director, Pinellas County
- Don Moore, Fleet Division Manager, Pinellas County
- John Neal, Senior Departmental Administrative Manager, Pinellas County

[Register Here](#)

Upcoming Webinars

Save the date for future webinar offerings!

April 3, 2025	Emergency Management for Senior Officials
May 1, 2025	Electric Vehicles - The Pros and Cons you Should Know Before Making the Leap
June 5, 2025	Interagency Coordination: Real Time Crime Center
July 10, 2025	Creating Robust Strategic Plans for Local Governments: Ensuring Impact, Measuring Success, and Framing Your Story
August 7, 2025	Best Uses of Opioid Settlement Monies
September 5, 2025	Cybersecurity

Jobs

Below is a list of active FCCMA job advertisements accessible on our website.
[Click here](#) for details.

ALACHUA COUNTY – Systems Analyst

ALACHUA COUNTY – Tourist Development Manager

ARCADIA – Floodplain Coordinator

ATHENS/CLARKE COUNTY UNIFIED GOVERNMENT, GA – Manager

BISCAYNE PARK – Police Chief

BISCAYNE PARK – Village Manager

BOCA RATON – Transportation Analyst

BOYNTON BEACH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT – Director

CLEARWATER – Division Controller

CLEARWATER – Fire Chief

CLEARWATER – Public Works Assistant Director

CLEARWATER – Stormwater Operations Director

DAYTONA BEACH – Budget Manager

DELRAY – Budget Manager

DORAL – Inspector General

LAKE COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND

COMPTROLLER – Inspector General Auditor II

LAKE COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND

COMPTROLLER – Senior Inspector General Auditor

LAKE WALES – Growth Management Director

LEON COUNTY – Special Projects Coordinator

MAITLAND – PLANNER III

MAITLAND – Purchasing Manager

MARION COUNTY – Risk Asset & Claims Analyst

NEDERLAND, TX – City Manager

NEW SMYRNA BEACH – Mobility and Parking Director

NICEVILLE – Finance Director

OCOE – Finance Director

DUNEDIN – Director of Parks and Recreation
EDGEWATER – City Engineer/Deputy Director
EVANS, CO – Police Chief
FERNANDINA BEACH – Capital Project Manager
FORT MYERS BEACH – Town Manager
HARDEE COUNTY – Senior Planner
HOLLYWOOD – City Attorney
HOMESTEAD – Senior Risk Analyst – Human resources & Risk
JACKSONVILLE BEACH – City Clerk
LADY LAKE – Finance Director

PERRY, GA – Community Development Director
PINELLAS COUNTY – Director of Housing and Community Development
RICHMOND, TX – Economic Development Director
SEMINOLE COUNTY – Deputy Director of Utilities
SUGAR LAND, TX – Assistant City Manager/Chief Financial Officer (ACM/CFO)
TALLAHASSEE – Strategic Innovation Consultant or Strategic innovation Senior Consultant
TAYLOR COUNTY – Director of Engineering
TIFTON, GA – City Manager

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