



August 2010

Greetings,

As Mayor, I am committed to the City of Orlando continuing to be fiscally responsible and accountable to you, our citizens and tax payers. Just as each of you are feeling the impacts of these tough economic times, so is the City of Orlando as we face a reduction in revenues and an increase in costs. In order to bridge the budget gap, the Orlando City Council has two choices -- raise taxes or cut costs. Just like we did last year, we have chosen to cut costs and reduce the size of our City government rather than imposing a tax increase on our residents.

The work to reduce the budget is not easy. We are having to reduce or eliminate many of the programs and services our residents tell us they value. We have to separate what we do as a City government into "must haves" and "wants". That's what we are doing. We are confident that the FY 10/11 budget we will adopt is a budget that preserves the core City services you depend on every day. I assure you that on September 20, we will adopt a budget that will continue to put our City in position to endure this hardship and surge ahead once our national economy recovers.

The City's new fiscal year (FY 10/11) begins on October 1, 2010 and ends September 30, 2011. I encourage you to stay informed about our budget process. I invite you to attend the two budget public hearings we are hosting in September.

The first public hearing is on Monday, **September 13, 2010 at 5:01 p.m.** and the second and final public hearing is on Monday, **September 20, 2010 at 5:01 p.m.** Both hearings will be held at City Hall (400 S. Orange Ave.) in Council Chambers on the second floor. You may watch these public hearings on Orange TV aired on Bright House channel 199 or go on-line to cityoforlando.net, click on "Watch Orlando on TV" in the lower right hand box of the home page.

If you would like additional details about the City's FY 10/11 budget to-date, visit cityoforlando.net/budget/index.htm. On this web page you will find the budget presentations that staff and I have given at City Council meetings at this point.

My regards,

Mayor Buddy Dyer

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONS • EXECUTIVE OFFICES
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NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING

August 2010

A Message from OPD Chief Val Demings – Having spent the past 26 years at the Orlando Police Department (OPD), I know that the police cannot do this job without the help and partnership of our community. Even with numerous officers out on the street patrolling our City, we rely on the citizens of Orlando to help us by calling in suspicious activity. It is through this partnership that together we will make a difference in crime. I am proud to share with you the latest Good Citizenship awards that were recently presented at a ceremony on June 16, 2010.

Commander Bruce Chatterton, Major Ronald Diaz, Captain Lance Kennedy - OPD entered into a partnership with Metro Defense Services private security and Cambridge Property Management after a triple homicide at the Windsor Cove Apartments. The dedication of Commander Chatterton and his staff has drastically reduced the responsibility of OPD to staff Windsor Cove. Violent crime has been reduced at the complex and so has the number of OPD officers needed.

Andrea Butler, Carone Rodgers, Ranaldi Ward - Carone Rodgers, Andrea Butler and Renaldi Ward were in the area of a Family Dollar store when they witnessed a male pick up a chunk of concrete and throw it through the closed business. Due to the witnesses' keen observation skills and willingness to assist OPD, officers were able to locate and detain the suspect who was still in possession of the stolen property.

Ronald Eugene Glass – OPD searched approximately six hours for a missing child that did not board the school bus to go home. While working as a hotel clerk, Ronald Glass viewed the story on the news. Noting that the juvenile was sitting in the lobby of the hotel watching television, he immediately telephoned 911, spoke to the missing juvenile and kept him calm until the Police arrived. Approximately 23 minutes after the news broadcast this story, the missing juvenile was reunited with his mother.

Charles and Emily Irvine - Emily Irvine witnessed a male crawling through a broken window of her neighbor's house. She called her dad, Charles Irvine who called 911 and drove home. When he arrived, he witnessed the suspect climbing out of the window carrying property. Charles stayed on the phone with 911, followed the suspect and provided updated locations which allowed OPD officers to apprehend the suspect 3 blocks away from the burglary.

Omar Hamid, Araxad Valdez - Omar Hamid and Araxad Valdez observed a woman standing at a bus stop on Semoran Blvd. A male pushed her to the ground, took her purse and entered a green van. Witness Hamid went to help the victim, flagged down responding police units and provided a description of the suspect and the vehicle he was driving. Witness Valdez followed the vehicle to an apartment complex and updated the police with the vehicle's location. The suspect was arrested and further investigation linked him to six other cases.

Jennifer Campbell, Ora Clay, Vincent Robinson - When Jennifer Campbell, Ora Clay and Vincent Robinson witnessed a residential burglary to their neighbor's house, they obtained a suspect description and a vehicle license plate for the suspect vehicle. The suspect had previously been identified as a known habitual criminal. For their willingness to get involved, all of the stolen property was returned.

I am also proud to announce that applications are now being accepted for the upcoming Teen Police Academy. Modeled after the popular Citizen's Police Academy, the Teen Police Academy gives youth an opportunity to learn about law enforcement. Sessions include a field trip to the jail and presentations with the Homicide Unit, crime scene technicians, the Drug Enforcement Division and School Resource Officers. This 6-week program will begin on September 1, 2010 from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the Orlando Police Department. To obtain your application, please call Officer Tia Pruitt at 407.246.2095.

Get involved in stopping and preventing crime:

Reporting Crime & Suspicious Activity – call 911

Neighborhood Watch – 407.246.2369 - For more information about starting or joining Neighborhood Watch please contact:

Kea Council	Commission Districts 1, 2, 6	407.246.3773
Georgeanna Butler	Commission Districts 3, 4, 5	407.246.3628

Crime Prevention Presentations/Residential Crime Prevention Surveys – 407.246.2461

Operation Identification – 407.246.2369 – Marking or taking pictures of your property to prove ownership.

Crimeline – 1.800.423.8477 - Available 24 hours a day, taking anonymous tips on any felony criminal activity. Spanish speaking operators available. (If you witness a crime in progress, you should call 911)

Drug Hotline - 407.246.CRAK (2725) – An anonymous hotline for citizens to report drug activity to the Orlando Police Department.

Illegal Gun Bounty Program - call CRIMELINE at 1.800.423.8477. CRIMELINE, along with the City of Orlando, sponsors the very successful Illegal Gun Bounty Program. You are eligible for a **\$1000.00** reward for information that leads to an arrest, a gun recovery and a weapons charge. You can also remain anonymous.

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Neighborhood Champion Award - In recognition of the many unsung heroes that work hard to keep their neighborhood a great place to live, Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer created the Neighborhood Champion Award, which he will present at the annual Neighborhood and Community Summit held in the spring of each year. This award is geared towards City of Orlando residents, 18 or older, that demonstrate exemplary dedication and commitment to neighborhood improvement and sustainability. These individuals are the kind of citizens that consistently make a positive impact in their neighborhoods through their volunteer efforts, neighborhood organizations, or Citizen for Neighborhood Watch groups. Nominations may be submitted throughout the year by completing the online nomination form located on our website, CityofOrlando.net. The nominee's efforts will need to have occurred between February 1, 2010, and February 1, 2011, to be eligible. We will contact the nominator and the nominee after the selection process has been held in March of 2011.

National Night Out 2010 (NNO) - August 3rd is your night to shine!!! How will you support Safe Neighborhoods in the City Beautiful? Call 407.246.2369 to receive your registration material or visit CityofOrlando.net/police. All registered parties are eligible to receive a Block Party Package that will aid in your NNO celebration. Your Party Package will contain t-shirts, a banner, stickers, coloring books and many other goodies for you and your neighbors to enjoy. For more information about upcoming events, please visit cityoforlando.net.

Leadership Training – Community Connections Workshop



"Connecting Neighbors and Neighborhoods"

A PARTNERSHIP OF:
Orange County Neighborhood Services Division and the
City of Orlando Office of Communications & Neighborhood Relations

Hosted by City of Orlando and Orange County Government

Topic: **Neighborhood Conflict Resolution**

Date & Time: Saturday, August 14, 2010, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Orange County Internal Operations Center, 450 E. South Street

Overview: Often times, confrontation and resolving conflicts are part of being a neighborhood leader while serving on a neighborhood association board of directors. Learn from experts how to survive neighborhood conflict and confrontation. Topics will include the stages of conflict, tips on staying cool, calm and in control when under fire and much more. **See**

enclosed flyer for details.

Registration: To register for this workshop, please call Orange County Neighborhood Services at 407.836.0035 or register on-line at ocfl.net/CommunityConnections.



Story Time at Leu Gardens on Monday, August 2, at 10 a.m. hosted by Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children - Orange County Library System's storytelling program makes sharing stories and songs with your little one so much fun. Enjoy this indoor event the **first Monday** of each month at 10 a.m., excluding holidays. **It's Free!** Explore the 50-acre botanical gardens, including the butterfly garden with amazing chrysalis displays after story time. Leu Gardens is located at 1920 North Forest Avenue, Orlando, 32803. For more information please contact Leu Gardens at 407.246.2620 or visit leugardens.org for details. Arrive early, parking is limited.

Story time schedule:

- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Infants (up to 18 months)**
- 10:20 – 10:35 a.m. Toddlers (18 months to 2 year olds)**
- 10:40 – 11:00 a.m. Preschool (3 to 5 year olds)**

Date Night at Leu Gardens – Duplicity, Friday, August 6, Gardens open at 6 p.m., movie at 8:30 p.m., weather permitting. Enjoy an outdoor movie in a beautiful garden setting. Patrons may bring a blanket or chairs and dinner picnic basket. Garden Admission is \$7.00 plus tax adult and \$2.00 plus tax child; Garden Members receive free admission on all Date Nights. Admission is collected at the door. For more information call 407.246.2600 or visit leugardens.org.

NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING

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Keep Informed about your City – Subscribe to “City News” – *City News* is the City of Orlando’s weekly electronic newsletter delivered to your e-mail every Friday. *City News* keeps you up-to-date on what is happening in Orlando by featuring a message from the Mayor, City Council updates and information on City programs, services and events. If you would like to receive *City News*, please go online to subscribe at cityoforlando.net/elected/subscribe2/index.htm.

Nothing in the drain but rain - Orlando lakeshores are great places to enjoy summertime picnics, celebrate special events and enjoy nature. Unfortunately, these same activities can also result in large amounts of littered debris and trash. Litter is a concern for both the aesthetic nature of the lake, and the health and safety of the environment and local wildlife.

Please remember to collect any trash, large or small, from your yard, street or the shoreline before it ends up in the lake. This includes yard debris like grass clippings and leaves. The only thing that belongs in the street or storm drain is rainwater! In fact, Stormwater Utility Code 31.19 states: “It is prohibited to discharge any polluting matter into the streets and/or storm systems...Violators may be subject to a civil penalty, a citation, pollution abatement costs, and/or action by the City of Orlando Code Board.” Please contact the City of Orlando Stormwater Hotline at 407.246.2370 to report illicit discharge or dumping into any part of the stormwater system. Thank you in advance for your participation in keeping Orlando beautiful!

Hurricane and Disaster Preparedness Information – The Office of Emergency Management has produced a short video titled “Disaster Preparedness...A Way of Life”. This video contains a lot of great information and tips to make sure you are prepared in case of a Hurricane or another natural disaster. The video is available online at cityoforlando.net/emergency. You may also obtain a copy to show at your association meetings, by calling the Office of Communications and Neighborhood Relations at 407.246.2169 or emailing susan.harris@cityoforlando.net. The City encourages you to share this important information with your members and neighbors. For more information about Hurricane preparedness visit cityoforlando.net/emergency or call the Office of Emergency Management at 321.235.5437.

Graffiti Hotline: 407.254.GRAF (4723) - Residents can call in and report graffiti to 407.254.GRAF (4723). This information clearinghouse, managed by Keep Orlando Beautiful, streamlines the process for graffiti removal by working in tandem with City departments and the OPD Gang Enforcement team to aggressively locate and remove graffiti. Residents can also report graffiti online by going to cityoforlando.net/public_works/graffiti/Graffiti.aspx.

2010 Tree Adoption Program - City of Orlando residents who want to receive two free trees to plant in their landscapes should register upon arrival and provide proof of Orange County residency (such as driver’s license, photo I.D., or utility bill). Trees are distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. The give-away supply is limited to two 7-gallon trees per household. Trees may not be planted on public property or retention ponds. Orange County/University of Florida IFAS Master Gardener volunteers will be on hand to answer landscape questions. **The next Tree Adoption Program is August 14 at Ft. Christmas Historical Park located at 1300 Ft. Christmas Rd., Christmas FL, 32709** For more information about the program or other dates, please contact the Orange County/University of Florida IFAS Extension Education Center, 407.254.9200.



Buy Local Orlando - Connects Orlando's businesses with the buying power of our local community. Visit buylocalorlando.net to register for and print your **FREE Buy Local Orlando** consumer card and start saving money through special offers and discounts offered at **Buy Local Orlando** merchants. For more information, visit buylocalorlando.net or call the City's Economic Development Department at 407.246.3109. **Strengthen Orlando**

is the City's comprehensive economic action plan to sustain our community and ensure Orlando remains in position for future growth and prosperity. It is a uniquely local effort designed to work within and alongside the federal economic stimulus plan. The **Strengthen Orlando** plan focuses on enabling residents to better connect with vital information and much-needed resources during tough economic times. To help Orlando's families gain access to critical resources, the **Strengthen Orlando** plan also serves as a clearinghouse. For more information visit StrengthenOrlando.com.

Update on Community Venues

[Amway Events Center](#), [Citrus Bowl](#) and [The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts](#)

Looking for Information - Go online to the City's website – cityoforlando.net and click on the "Community Venues" icon in the center towards the bottom of the page or here is the direct link - cityoforlando.net/elected/venues/. If you have questions that are not addressed on the City's Community Venues web pages, or would like to have a Community Venues presentation at your association meeting, please contact Susan Harris by phone at 407.246.2779 or email susan.harris@cityoforlando.net.

JOBS – The Community Venues BLUEPRINT Employment Office is located at 1200 W. South Street, Orlando (corner of Orange Blossom Trail and South Street.) - 407.246.3721. Anyone interested in finding a job with one of the Venues, should go to the BLUEPRINT Employment Office for registration and referral. The office will also provide supportive services to eliminate barriers to employment, if needed. Examples of supportive services are resume writing, bus passes, childcare, tools and mentoring.

Performing Arts Center Speaker's Bureau - The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts is spreading the word! Eager to share its mission and vision for a premiere arts and cultural destination in Downtown Orlando, the Dr. Phillips Center has created a speakers bureau comprised of staff, consultants and volunteers to speak to community-based organizations in Orlando and the surrounding Central Florida region. The team will be traveling to local professional, civic, educational, non-profit and neighborhood organizations to present and answer questions about the purpose and progress of the Dr. Phillips Center, as well as provide the direct cultural and economic impact it will bring to the community. The ultimate goal of the speakers bureau is to share the positive momentum leading up to groundbreaking this September and engage all residents in the project. If you are a member of any local organization that would like a member of the Dr. Phillips Center's speakers bureau to present to your group, please contact Rachel Steele, Associate Director of Communications, at rachel@drphillipscenter.org.



Building Citizenship in the Community: Back to Basics

Increasing civic awareness and participation in the City of Orlando in partnership with the Florida League of Cities.

Citizen participation is vital to a democratic government. Volunteering is one way to become involved in your government. The City highly values its many volunteers and will always strongly encourage citizen involvement in the policy-making process as a City board member. Most City boards are created by an ordinance to provide advice and recommendations to City Council on diverse matters of public concern, such as zoning, municipal planning, housing codes, downtown development, the park system, public art, historic preservation, building and fire codes.

Board members should have the expertise necessary to accomplish the board's objective and a reputation for integrity and community service. Interest or experience in the area of board service is desired. All boards, unless otherwise noted, have a majority of members who are City of Orlando residents. Most board members are appointed for two-year terms. Generally, boards meet monthly with meeting times varying in length according to agenda items to be addressed. Regular attendance is required. All appointment Information forms are reviewed by the Nominating Board, which forwards their recommendations to the Mayor for appointment or reappointment, subject to confirmation by City Council.

The City has 21 Boards and three multi-jurisdictional boards. For descriptions and details on how to apply to serve on the following City boards, visit cityoforlando.net/cityclerk/boards/boards.htm:

1. Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (mandated by the State of Florida)
2. Audit Board
3. Building & Fire Codes Board of Appeal
4. Certification Board (Issues certification or recognition to businesses complying with minority and women-owned business definitions.)
5. Chapter 57 Review Board (Reviews complaints of racial, religious, gender and ethnic discrimination as well as appeals from denials of certification of minority and women owned businesses.)
6. Citizens Police Review Board
7. Civil Service Board
8. Code Enforcement Board (requires financial disclosure)
9. Downtown Development Board (must live, work or own property in Downtown Orlando)
10. Families, Parks and Recreation Board
11. Harry P. Leu Gardens Board of Trustees
12. Historic Preservation Board (requires City residency)
13. Housing Authority of the City of Orlando
14. Mennello Museum of American Folk Art Board of Trustees
15. Municipal Planning Board (requires financial disclosure)
16. Nominating Board (for City boards)
17. Criminal Nuisance Abatement Board (requires financial disclosure)
18. Orlando Utilities Commission
19. Public Art Advisory Board
20. Vehicles for Hire Appeal Board
21. Board of Zoning Adjustment (requires financial disclosure and City residency)

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL BOARDS

1. Orange Blossom Trail Development Board
2. Orange County Civic Facilities Authority
3. Orange County Library Board of Trustees

If you are interested in serving on any of these boards, you are encouraged to submit an application, even if there is not a current vacancy on the specific board. For more information about City boards and the appointment process, visit cityoforlando.net/cityclerk/boards/boards.htm or call Dawn Martin in the City Clerk's Office at 407. 246.2595.



Come one, come all to experience some of Orlando's best streets!!! The City of Orlando recognizes the important role neighborhood commercial districts play in the overall health of the City's neighborhoods. Sound neighborhood commercial areas contribute to a good quality of life. It can be a positive attraction and a competitive advantage in retaining existing neighborhood residents and attracting new ones. To meet this need, the City created Orlando Main Street. For more information, go to cityoforlando.net/economic/mainstreet. There is also a Facebook

page, which is facebook.com/orlandomainstreets.

Orlando Main Street Programs -

Audubon Park Garden District - APGardens.com and facebook.com/GardenDistrict

College Park Partnership - DowntownCollegePark.com

Downtown South Main Street - DowntownSouthOrlando.org and facebook.com/DowntownSouth

Ivanhoe Village Main Street - IvanhoeVillage.org and facebook.com/IvanhoeVillage

Mills/50 - Mills50.org and facebook.com/Mills50

Please come support our local businesses by participating in upcoming events:

Audubon Park Garden District

Community Market – Every Monday, 6 – 10 p.m. – Organic produce, fresh prepared foods, handmade goods from local artists and live music are featured at the Audubon Park Community Market in Stardust Coffee & Video's parking lot, or indoors if raining. Stardust is located at 1842 East Winter Park Road, Orlando. For more information, call 407.623.3393.

College Park Partnership

College Park Farmer's Market – Every Thursday, 5 p.m. 2807 Edgewater Drive.

Ivanhoe Village

First Fridays Art Stroll - Friday, August 6 from 6 – 9 p.m. in Ivanhoe Village. The stroll starts at Ivanhoe Row in the 1200 block of North Orange Avenue and meanders north. Be sure to visit The Imperial at Washburn Imports, a wine bar and beer garden at 1800 N. Orange Avenue, and Nora's Lake Ivanhoe Wine & Cigar at 1407 N. Orange Avenue for a glass of wine and good company.

Invitation to Upcoming City Events & Meetings:

To stay on top of City events, visit the City's web site at cityoforlando.net and click on calendar tab at the top and then click on the calendar you want to view. For Harry P. Leu Garden's event information go to leugardens.org. Please share this information with your neighbors.

Every Sunday	Orlando Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., southeast corner of Lake Eola Park.
Every Monday	Audubon Park Garden District Community Market, 6 to 10 p.m. See page 7.
Every Thursday	College Park Farmer's Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See page 7.
August 2	Story Time at Leu Gardens, 10 a.m. See page 3.
August 3	National Night Out 2010. See page 3.
August 6	Date Night at Leu Gardens, 6 p.m. See page 3.
August 6	First Fridays Art Stroll, 6 p.m. See page 7.
August 14	Community Connections workshop, 10 a.m. See page 3.
August 14	Streetscape Tree Adoption, 8 a.m., See page 5.