

Commissioner Gene Valentino's Accomplishments

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We are proud of our accomplishments since November, 2006. I remain focused on my promise to improve our economy and transportation, two of my commitments to you. It is essential we focus on a world-class economic development entity which is strategically designed to maximize the economic development solution so desperately needed in Escambia County.

NEW! Southwest Escambia County Sports Complex on Bauer Road.

- [Mahogany Mill Boat Ramp](#)
- [Southwest Escambia County Sports Complex](#)
- [Lowering the County's Debt](#)
- [Escambia County Experiences Economic Boost – 485 New Jobs!](#)
- [Perdido Key Fire Station, Visitor Information Community Center](#)
- [Downtown Pensacola Library](#)
- [Galvez Boat Ramp](#)
- [Warrington Sherriff's Office](#)
- [Maritime Person of the Year, 2009](#)
- [Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response, 2010](#)
- [Glynn Key Stormwater Wetland Project](#)
- [River Road sidewalk](#)

COMING SOON: New sidewalk on 61st Street next to Escambia High School; providing accessibility and safety to local residents, students, and teachers.

Current Projects: "... More To Come!"

- [Bauer Road Drainage Improvements](#)
- [Beach Haven NE Drainage & Sewer](#)
- [Fire Stations Pavement Repairs](#)
- [Grande Lagoon Subdivision Drainage Evaluations](#)
- [Gulf Beach Hwy / Patton Drive Intersection Improvement Study](#)
- [Hot In Place Resurfacing 2014 \(72nd Ave in District 2\)](#)
- [Innerarity Point Road Area Drainage](#)
- [Innerarity Point Road Sidewalks](#)
- [Jackson Lakes Improvements](#)
- [Lake Charlene Drainage System Modeling & Evaluation](#)
- [Merlin/Alconbury Resurfacing Group](#)
- [Myrtle Grove Athletic Park Parking Lot](#)
- [Myrtle Grove Sidewalks](#)
- [Navy Point Drainage – Phase 3](#)
- [Old Corry Outfall \(Pete More Ditch\)](#)
- [Old Corry Field Road Bridge \(South\)](#)
- [Sea Glades/Chavalier Drainage System Evaluation](#)
- [Southwest Greenway Connector Trail 3rd Addition](#)
- [Jail Campus](#)
- [Woodbridge – Motley Group Resurfacing](#)

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First Term Accomplishments

TRANSPORTATION: Update of projects within the Southwest Sector of Escambia County:

Blue Angel Parkway (SR 173) Four (4) Lane Project:

- PD&E in process, completed – July 2009 – \$1.3M
- Design in process, completed – December 2010 – \$2.0M
- Construction pending – Est. \$30.0M

Perdido Key Drive (SR 292) Four (4) Lane Project:

- PD&E/EIS completed – \$2.5M
- Design in process, will be completed – 2014 – \$3.3M
- Construction pending, est. completion – 2016-2017 – Est. \$40M

Pedestrian Sidewalks:

- Construction pending, est. completion – Dec 2014

Sorrento Road (SR 292) Four (4) Lane Project:

- Resurfacing Project completed – Late 2011 \$7.0M
- PD&E completed – December 2009 – \$1.3M
- Design in process, will be completed – Late 2015 – \$5.5M
- Construction pending, will be completed – 2016-2017 – Est. \$65M (Road and Bridge)

Gulf Beach Highway (CR 292A) Sidewalk Project:

- From Sorrento 5 miles east to Pleasant Grove section- completed date, 2012.
- Project cost of \$1.8M.

Bauer Road Sidewalk Project:

- Completed date, 2012
- Project cost of \$600,000.

PENDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS: In just District 2, in queue, construction, or completion there are over \$220-million of Transportation infrastructure projects under way. This does not include the water line for additional pressure on Perdido Key now being installed on Sorrento Road and the Southwest Park Project on Bauer Road. In 2009 on a trip to Washington D.C., Congressman Jeff Miller and I discussed Escambia County's top 22 projects. The commissioners continued to seek over \$300-million of federal funding in addition to the recent flooding disaster. Topping the list was a \$30-million request for Federal highway roadway resurfacing for the county. In this request and in others, we continue seek \$10.8-million for Perdido Key beach nourishment. This one-time financial injection is essential for jobs, quality growth, and health & safety improvements.

INFRASTRUCTURE: Our success with the use of the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) has distinguished Escambia County from neighboring counties which have no LOST. Local projects under way outside of Transportation include and are not limited to: Coral Creek Drainage and Pond Rehabilitation, Talladega Pond Restoration, Star Lake, Innerarity Point Road Paving & Drainage, Redoubt Reservation Drainage and 2nd & Sunset storm water & resurfacing project.

REPAVING: Additionally, as promised, nighttime repaving of State Road 292 is done. The work starts from Sorrento Road eastbound to Navy Blvd. We intend to use the TIF and the RTFA to implement several other county wide resurfacing projects. Escambia County was awarded \$8.7M in stimulus for county-wide resurfacing projects.

ECAT: Effective Summer 2014 a new and innovative bus route has been extended to Perdido Key Drive.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION FINANCE AUTHORITY (RTFA): State support is pending for my RTFA concept. This is a financial mechanism which will be used to 'back-up' the payments on bonds. The risk to the counties who signed-in to the RTFA will be nil. This allows us to enjoy a jump start to our area's road improvements which is so long overdue.

CREATED THE WEST END ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WEAC): A steering committee was designed and established to address issues related to the west end of Escambia County. Termed the WEAC it includes seven individuals from the community chosen to represent the interests of the west end of Escambia County. This committee provides the necessary insight to the county commission on issues related to the greater southwest region of Escambia County.

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1st TERM ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- River Road bicycle \ walking path completed. The entire River Road sidewalk system has now been placed on the county's "beautification program" for continued maintenance and upkeep – \$1.2 million.
- From June 2008 to July 2014 over 10,000 Code Enforcement cases were worked with 240 county abatements completed to date. There have been over 35 Code Enforcement sweeps in the same period.
- 2nd & Sunset storm water project completed – \$470,000.
- Navy Point road re-surfacing completed - \$650,000
- Chaseville/Frisco sidewalks and drainage project completed – \$500,000.
- Edgewater community sidewalks project, Phase 2 completed – \$750,000.
- North Loop Road resurfacing project was also completed – \$450,000.
- Roadway striping on Country Club and Bayshore completed – \$10,000.
- Fairway Park Restoration – \$23,000.
- Designed & built park at the end of Barrancas @ Bayou Chico – \$525,000.
- Modified Nature Trail @ Jones Swamp & PJC Warrington Campus – \$970,000.
- Eight separate traffic-calming projects completed – \$900,000.

ORDINANCES OF LAW:

- Panhandler Ordinance – (passed Spring 2007)
- Economic Development Incentives Ordinance – (passed October, 2007)
- Condo-Hotel Ordinance (passed – 2008)
- Littering Ordinance (passed)
- Nuisance Abatement (passed)
- Regional Transportation Finance Authority (pending)

ENVIROMENTAL ISSUES COMPLETED:

- Glynn Key Storm water Wetlands Project
- Jones Swamp cleaning & restoration
- Bayou Chico dredging & clean-up

COMPLETED ENGINEERING \ ROAD PROJECTS:

- Penn Haven Neighborhood road resurfacing – \$375K
- Jackson Street road resurfacing – \$550K
- Lake Charlene storm water project – \$127K
- Coral Creek sub-division road resurfacing and drainage- \$1.8 Million
- Dedication & Naming of Dub Blum Bridge – Pleasant Grove

COMPLETED PARKS & ATHLETIC FIELDS:

- Dedication of the Seth Simpson Field @ Jim Bailey Middle School – a school/county joint venture – \$350K
- Sportsplex on Bauer Road – land \$1.6 Million
- Sportsplex on Bauer Road - design and construction \$11 Million

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COMMUNITY RENEWAL AGENCY (CRA) – PROJECTS COMPLETED BY AREA:

Barrancas Redevelopment Area:

- Completed a rezoning project establishing two new zoning districts, Waterfront Mixed Use Zoning District and the Barrancas Redevelopment Overlay District. This made it easier to move into these areas.
- Completed redesigning and resurfacing of Old Barrancas Avenue to include bike lanes, on street parking, and medians. This team effort involved the Engineering Department, HDR Engineering, Neighborhood Enterprise Foundation, Inc. (NEFI), and the Barrancas Community Improvement Association - \$650K
- Completed a one-mile streetscape enhancement project along Old Barrancas Avenue including the installation of an irrigation system and native planting in the medians – \$350K
- Completed roadway and drainage improvements to support development of a 92-lot single-family residential subdivision. To secure CRA support nine of the lots in the subdivision were targeted for affordable housing – \$275K.
- Completed design and construction of a one-quarter acre Observation Garden creating a destination point and gathering spot for area residents and pedestrians enjoying the existing landscape improvements along Old Barrancas Avenue – \$295K
- Completed sidewalks along Lakewood Road – \$475K
- Funded a decorative lighting project in the Lakewood Cottages Subdivision – \$250K

Brownsville Redevelopment Area:

- Replaced a community signs that were damaged during Hurricane Ivan – \$175K
- Participated in and approved funding for “Operation Brownsville”, an initiative providing enhanced levels of law enforcement, code enforcement, and neighborhood renewal programs to the Brownsville redevelopment area – \$75K

Warrington Redevelopment Area:

- Completed sidewalk projects on Brigadier Street located in the Patton Drive neighborhood – \$175K
- Assisted the property owner, Wal-Mart Stores East, L.P., with obtaining Brownfields designation and facilitated in securing State Brownfields incentives.
- Designated a former service station located on the corner of Winthrop and Navy Boulevard as a Brownfields and provided funding to continue environmental assessment activities.
- Completed the redesign and installation of an educational, stormwater management project, Glenn Key Linear Park. The project included the removal of debris, redesign, and installation of a stormwater pond and boardwalk along an existing stream – \$975K
- Completed the installation of improvements for a two-mile waterfront park in the Navy Point neighborhood. The improvements included installing additional vegetation, benches, trash receptacles, exercise stations, dog stations, playground equipment, and a sidewalk linking the park to existing sidewalks within the neighborhood – \$875K.
- Completed construction of sidewalks on Boeing Street and Frisco Road located within the Edgewater neighborhood. The project included drainage repairs and enhancements – \$480K
- Completed road resurfacing of Boeing Street and Frisco Road – \$375K
- Initiated an enhanced law enforcement program throughout the Warrington redevelopment area. The program provides funding for additional deputies, enhanced code enforcement, and neighborhood renewal programs – \$100K
- Installed sidewalks along Chaseville Street in the Edgewater neighborhood – \$625K
- Resurfaced Chaseville Street and installed speed tables – \$250.
- Sidewalks on Cairo Street – \$280K
- Sidewalks on Winthrop Avenue – \$470K
- Sidewalks on Old Corry Field Road – \$750K
- Funded enhanced lighting on the Bayou Chico Bridge under construction by FDOT – \$350K.
- Funded appraisals that resulted in the acquisition of property for Jones Swamp Wetland Preserve to create a trail head at the end of Decatur Street – \$30K.
- Funded professional design services for the Jones Creek East Stream restoration – \$250K.

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Ongoing Redevelopment Activities:

- Funding of monthly energy costs for street lighting in the residential neighborhoods throughout the redevelopment areas located within District 2.
- Funding and administration of contracts with landscaping companies to provide maintenance service for the following streetscape projects and park: Old Barrancas Avenue, Navy Boulevard medians, Chief's Way and Warrington Gateway Park.
- Funding and staff support to complete 37 Clean Sweeps since November 2006. Of those 37, 12 Clean Sweeps were outside of the CRA, 10 in Warrington, 6 in Barrancas, and 9 in Brownsville.
- Continued administration of Commercial Façade, Sign, Residential Rehab, and Enterprise Zone programs. A summary of program activity in District 2 since 2006 follows:

Construction and Improvement Projects Specific to District 2

- Corral Creek Darinage and Pond Rehabilitation – completed – \$700K
- Redoubt Reservation Drainage – completed – \$280K
- Star Lake Bridge Replacement – completed – \$500K
- East Jones Creek Restoration – completed – \$450K
- 2nd Street Widening (LAP) – complete – \$600K
- Sunset Sidewalks – completed – \$150K
(65th and LaRua) Myrtle