



Good Morning!

It was a beautiful week here in District 17 and I hope you have had the chance to go outside and enjoy the cooler weather!

Please sign up for mobile alerts through your county, so you are informed of COVID-19 vaccine appointments as they are made available. If you live in Brevard County, please text "BrevardEOC" to the number 888777 to sign up for these alerts. If you live in Indian River County, please click [here](#) to sign up. If you need assistance with signing up, you may call the County at 772-226-3900 and they will help you.

I consider it a great honor to represent all of the citizens and visitors of District 17. Please share [this link](#) with your friends and family so that they too can sign up for the Mayfield Minute. If you or someone you know needs my assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office. My staff and I are here to serve you!

Governor DeSantis COVID Vaccine Distribution Update

Governor Ron DeSantis announced four new actions the state is taking to continue our proactive approach to increase vaccinations and reaffirmed his commitment of placing Florida's Seniors first.

The four new actions the Governor announced are:

- 1) Expanding access to vaccine with additional state-supported sites:
 - Governor DeSantis has directed the Florida Division of Emergency Management to work with the Florida Department of Health to identify state-run COVID-19 testing sites that are able to convert into vaccine sites.
- 2) Deploying the vaccine into underserved communities:
 - Governor DeSantis has directed the Florida Division of Emergency Management to identify places of worship and other locations in underserved communities where the vaccine may be administered. Florida has begun a pilot program in Escambia County, where over 500 seniors have received their vaccine and have been scheduled for their booster shot, which they will receive at the same location.
- 3) Reinforcing vaccination efforts with additional staff:
 - Governor DeSantis has directed the Florida Division of Emergency Management to immediately hire 1,000 contract nurses to support vaccination efforts. These nurses will be deployed throughout the state to assist at the vaccination sites. This includes public sites run by the state or counties and private sites such as medical centers and hospitals. These nurses will supplement the personnel already in the field, including 800 Florida National Guardsmen, who have been supporting the state's response since the beginning of the pandemic.
- 4) Continuing to prioritize long-term care facility residents.

- There is no time to waste as we vaccinate Florida's most vulnerable residents. Governor DeSantis has directed the Florida Division of Emergency Management to assume additional responsibilities regarding the administration of vaccines in more than 3,000 assisted living facilities throughout the State, supplementing and accelerating the efforts being undertaken by CVS and Walgreens, pursuant to their agreement with the federal government.

Governor Ron DeSantis also announced that Hard Rock Stadium is opening as the first state operated COVID-19 drive-thru vaccination site. The Miami Hard Rock site began administering the first doses of the vaccine on Friday, January 8. Additional sites will be announced as the state receives additional doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

I will continue to provide updates as I receive them.

Tallahassee Committee Week Information

This week I will be traveling to Tallahassee for the first Committee Week of the 2021 Legislative Session. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Florida Senate will be observing the following protocols:

- Senators and all Senate Professional Staff, will be tested prior to each interim committee week.
- Committee blocks have been reduced so no more than three committees are meeting at one time. This schedule will allow us to utilize the committee rooms with the largest seating area for Senators, to accommodate appropriate social distancing.
- Input from various stakeholders and members of the public is critical to the legislative process, and the Senate will work diligently to ensure Floridians have access to their elected officials as we consider important legislation for our state.
- As such, the Senate worked in partnership with Florida State University to reserve three remote viewing rooms at the Leon County Civic Center, which will provide the opportunity for members of the public to view meetings and virtually address Senate committees in a safe, socially distant manner.
- Each committee notice published in the Senate calendar will include the room number within the Civic Center where members of the public may gather should they wish to address the committee.
- Appearance cards will be available on site at the Civic Center. Guests will be asked to complete these cards upon check-in, and the completed cards will be delivered to each committee room by a courier in time for public comment.
- Only Senators and professional staff will be allowed entrance to the Capital. All meetings requested with Senators will therefor will be held virtually.

To view the Florida Senate Committee Week One calendar, please click [here](#).

District 17 Highlights

Brevard Legislative Delegation Meeting

On Thursday January 7th, we held the Brevard County Legislative Delegation Meeting. Many of Brevard's citizens expressed their concerns along with various organizations who outlined their priorities. Members of the Delegation included myself, Senator Tom Wright, Representative Tyler Sirois, Representative Placencia, Representative Thad Altman and Representative Randy Fine.

Citizen concerns covered a wide range of topics including education, mental health, and the environment, just to name a few.

If you were unable to attend but still wish to express your concerns over an issue affecting

our district, please contact my office. My staff and I are here to serve you!

FDOT Public Meeting Notice

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will host a public hearing regarding project plans on State Road A1A from Cocoa Isles Boulevard to St. Lucie Lane in Cocoa Beach, on Tuesday, January 12, at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of the project is to improve pedestrian safety along the corridor by constructing midblock crossings at four new locations and to provide minor pedestrian enhancements at side streets. The public hearing is being held to present information and receive community feedback. The Department is offering multiple ways for the community to participate in the hearing. All participants, regardless of platform they choose, will participate in the same live hearing.

Should you wish to attend virtually, you may join the Virtual Public Hearing (VPH) from a computer, tablet, or mobile device. A virtual public hearing is a free live presentation or webinar over the internet. For this option, advance registration is required by clicking [HERE](#). Once registered, participants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the hearing online. Please note, Internet Explorer cannot be used to register or attend this webinar.

Participants may join the hearing in listen-only mode by dialing 1-866-952-8437 and entering the passcode 519-151-473 when prompted. Callers may submit comments directly to the project manager by contacting the project manager Su Hao at 386-943-5161.

You may attend in person by going to Ocean Landings Resort, 900 N. Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931. The Department requests advance registration for this option to ensure all attendees are accommodated safely and according to social distancing guidelines. To register for the in-person option, please contact the project manager Su Hao at 386-943-5161.

Indian River State College Foundation

The Indian River State College Foundation enhances access and quality of education for students by attracting and managing private contributions from individuals, corporations, and private foundations. The IRSC Foundation awards more than \$3.5 million in scholarships each year to assist students in gaining a college education. Learn how to apply for IRSC Foundation Scholarships for the 2021-2022 Academic Year [here](#).

The deadline to submit your application is January 31, 2021. For more information, contact the IRSC Foundation at 772-462-4786.

Follow me on Facebook and Twitter, and visit my [Senate website](#)



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