

# Commissioner Wilson's District 1 Newsletter

Community updates and a look at Tuesday's Board of County Commissioners meeting



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## Hey West Orange County,

Happy 2025! I hope the holiday season afforded you some time to relax and recharge. The memories of 2024 are carrying us into the new year feeling ready for whatever challenges come our way — below are just a fraction of the experiences I'll remember forever!





On the legislative side of things, we are continuing to see progress in certain areas and ramping up efforts in others. Our breakthrough conservation policies regarding trees, wetlands, stormwater maintenance and more will continue to be tested in 2025. This gives us opportunities to find and close any loopholes that might remain.

The schools, parks, trails, and major roadway improvements are coming to our district, but they can never come fast enough. We will continue to ask for your assistance in making sure the county knows that our residents want infrastructure, and more so, we *deserve* to be kept as safe and healthy as possible. We are moving forward in West Orange County — let's keep it that way in 2025!

To view the full BCC Agenda, complete with clickable links with more info on each item, [click here](#).

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for daily updates on all things West Orange County, and feel free to reach out to us at [district1@ocfl.net](mailto:district1@ocfl.net). We would love to hear from you.

Certain apps may cut off the end of this email, so **If you're using Gmail, make sure you click the ellipses at the bottom of the newsletter to view the rest of it.**

## Happening in Our District



**Want to get more involved in our community? We'd love to hear from you!**

There are countless ways to make a difference—whether it's

supporting community outreach efforts with organizations like [Hope Along the Way](#), giving out essential resources with the [Central Florida Diaper Bank](#), or representing our district on a county advisory board.

Please reach out if you'd like to get involved!



# ORANGE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

{ HEAR DIRECTLY FROM YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT  
REPRESENTATIVES AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! }



**THURSDAY, JANUARY 9 AT 9 A.M.**



**201 S. ROSALIND AVENUE, ORLANDO**

This Thursday starting at 9:00 a.m., Florida lawmakers will use our BCC chambers for the Orange County Legislative Delegation! If you're passionate about anything from expanding uses of our Tourist Development Tax to supporting home rule for rural protections, come provide a public comment directly to those who will represent us at the upcoming state Legislative Session.

The meeting will be broadcast on Orange TV (Spectrum channel 488) and online [here](#).

[Click here](#) to find more info on your state representatives.



# COLD WEATHER SHELTER

Supplies needed!



Temperatures are expected to drop significantly this week! To prepare for a potential freeze, local homeless outreach nonprofit Matthew's Hope is in need of the following items:

- Lightweight Blankets
- Pillows with Cases
- Warm Lightweight Clothing
- Running/Mesh Style Shoes
- Cold Weather Socks
- Hand Warmers

If you are able to help our neighbors in need, Donations can be dropped by Monday through Friday 8am to 4pm or Saturday 8am to Noon at 611 Business Park Blvd. #101.

For more info, [click here](#). Stay warm and stay safe, D1!

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# WINTER GARDEN BRANCH

## WILL BE CLOSED FOR A REFRESH

### JANUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 15

La sucursal de Winter Garden estará cerrada por remodelación del 6 de enero al 15 de febrero

Nearby branches include:  
Las sucursales mas cercanas son:

West Oaks Branch  
1821 E. Silver Star Rd.  
Ocoee FL, 34761

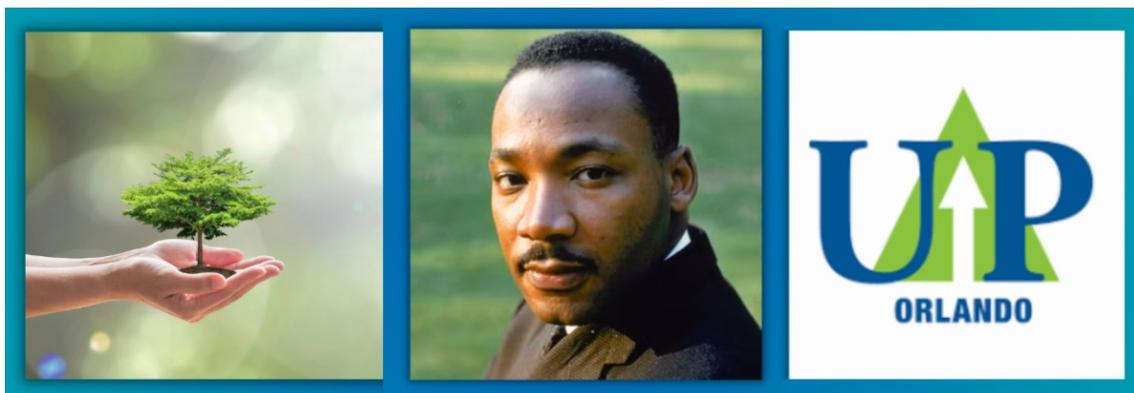
Windermere Branch  
530 Main St  
Windermere, FL 34786

Hiawassee Branch  
7391 W. Colonial Drive  
Orlando FL, 32818

Heads up: The OCLS Winter Garden Branch is closed for a refresh, and will re-open on February 17th. See above list of nearby library locations!

## BCC Preview: Proclamations

- Recognizing January 17th as Florida Arbor Day.
- Recognizing January 20th as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Recognizing January as United Against Poverty Month.



# BCC Preview: Consent Agenda

**Re-Appointment of several District 1 representatives who donate their time and expertise to serve on various county boards:**

- DJ Culberson to the Membership and Mission Review Board
- Linda G. Sibley to the Orange County Citizen Corps Council
- David Boers to the Planning and Zoning Commission
- Joshua France to the Tourist Development Tax Grant Application Review Committee
- Big Sand Lake Advisory Board: John D. Jennings, Alan C. Charron, Rick Barry, Victor Jaworski, and Christopher J. Scott
- Albert Gallof to the Butler Chain of Lakes Advisory Board

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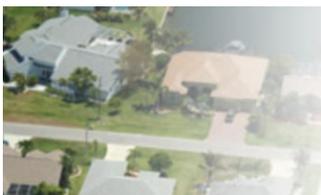
**Approving the issuance by the Capital Projects Finance Authority of its Senior Living Revenue Bonds to finance the construction, installation and equipping of a senior living community with approximately 261 senior living apartments.**

- These facilities will be located at the northwest corner of Conroy and Vineland Roads, Orlando, and will consist of approximately 151 independent living units, 78 assisted living units, and 32 memory care units.

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**Approval of the Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board recommendations.**

- Avalon Home and Property Owners' Association, Inc. (Lake Avalon Rural Settlement) will be receiving a grant to replace three community signs
- The Trails of Winter Garden Homeowners' Association will be receiving a grant for entranceway landscaping.
- [Click here to learn more about the neighborhood grants offered by Orange County!](#)



## Neighborhood Grants

Funding for neighborhood improvement projects

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**Approval of contracts for provision of community services with the following organizations:**

- The Community Life Improvement Center — providing entrepreneurship/financial programming for youth in West Orange County.
- The Gift of Swimming, Inc. — providing survival swim lessons to Orange County children who, in most scenarios, would not have the access or ability to afford them.
- Future Leaders Community Development Corporation — Providing programming to improve essential reading and math skills for children in Kindergarten through 7th grade.
- Health Care Center for the Homeless — providing health programming for youth, with the goal of advocating and encouraging the adoption of healthy lifestyle behaviors and physical activity.
- Joshua's House Foundation: vocational program for special needs students designed to equip them with the skills and support necessary to achieve gainful employment or self-employment.

## BCC: Discussion Agenda

### Item B-1: Resolution to set a Revised Preliminary Reclaimed Water Charge Schedule.

The County's Reclaimed Water rates were originally established in 2002 when reclaimed water was viewed as a disposal issue. Since that time, the view of reclaimed water has evolved to recognize it as a valuable resource that is critical to the County's water resources planning efforts. As such, the reclaimed water rate structure needed review and updating to reflect this new environment. Representatives from Orange County Utilities will present this information to the Board.



*Pictured: the Hamlin Water Reclamation Facility, which opened last year and serves over 40,000 of our residents.*

## BCC: Work Sessions

## Item A-2: Tiny Road Roadway Conceptual Analysis Study.

The Transportation Planning Division has completed the Roadway Conceptual Analysis Study for the improvement of Tiny Road. The purpose of the study was to develop the most appropriate road alignment with stormwater facilities and bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, while minimizing environmental impacts. This study included two community meetings to get resident feedback, as well as discussions with nearby schools and HOAs.

The proposed design will have roundabouts at three intersections and horizontal curvature at their approaches to encourage lower speeds with 11-foot travel lanes in each direction. A 22-foot median is introduced at the intersection with Hamlin Groves Trail and extends to just north of Orchard Hills Boulevard. A continuous 10-foot shared-use path on both sides is proposed as part of the Horizon West trail system.

Staff will present these recommendations, then a future public hearing date will be scheduled.

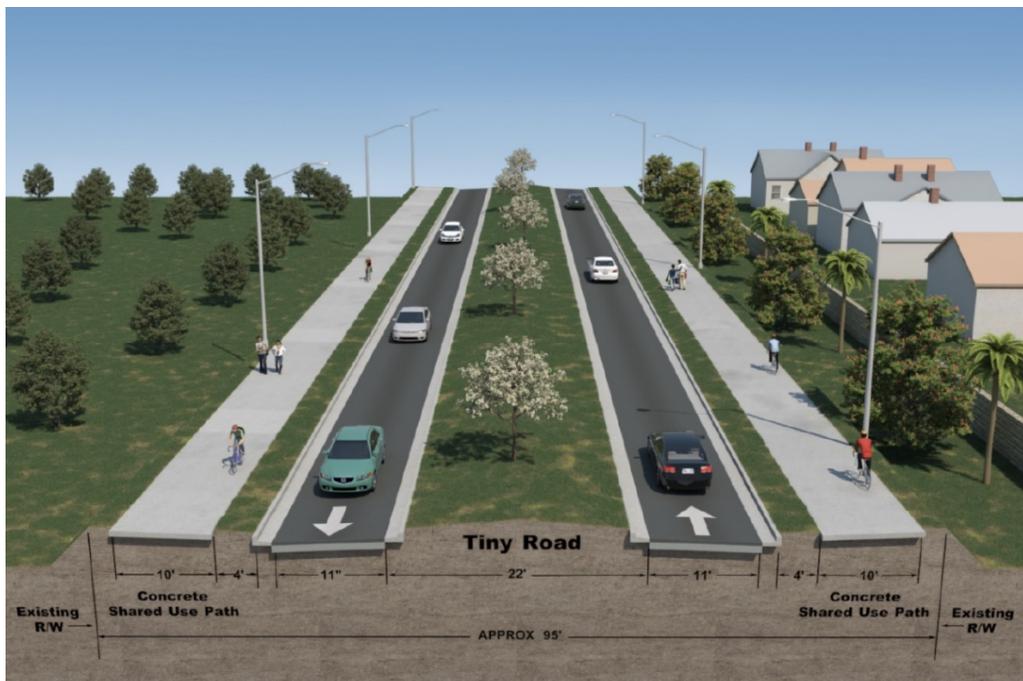


Figure 7.1: Preferred Typical Section

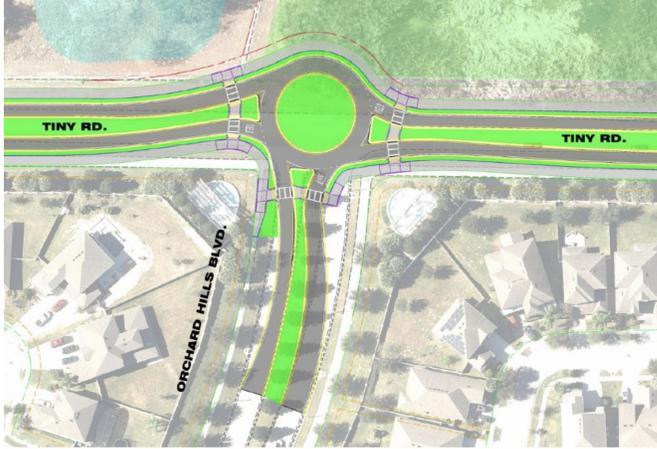


Figure 6.6: Build Alternative 1: Orchard Hills Roundabout



Figure 6.8: Build Alternative 1: Tilden Road

## BCC: Public Hearings

### Item E-6: Resolution to adopt a revised Water and Reclaimed Water Meter Charge Schedule

- The Board has analyzed the current costs for purchasing and installing water and reclaimed water meters and has updated and recalculated the corresponding fees and charges;
- This resolution will also consolidate the water meter and installation charges and the reclaimed water meter and installation charges into one schedule on one resolution.

### Item F-7: Amending Chapter 26 Article VI creating Section 26-111 "Public camping or sleeping, prohibition, notices, and penalties"

Last year, the Governor of Florida approved House Bill 1365. This bill prohibits counties and municipalities from authorizing or otherwise allowing any person to regularly engage in public camping or sleeping on any public property. It also authorizes a resident of the county, an owner of a business located in the county, or the Attorney General to bring legal action against the county or if they violate this Act.

Viewed by many as counterproductive and malicious toward our homeless population, this bill puts the county in the position of legally needing to pass an ordinance that prohibits public camping. On Tuesday, staff will present a draft of this ordinance for adoption.

Since this bill was passed, our board has discussed the need to do everything we can to provide resources to our nonprofits that provide shelter and services to the homeless, as well as a likely increase in need for more shelters in Orange County.

When HB 1365 passed in early 2024, I discussed its harmful ramifications with Scott Billue of Matthew's Hope. Watch our conversation below.



## ABC's of the BCC

The Board of County Commissioners meets every other Tuesday.  
Come on down!



Board of County Commissioners meetings occur every other Tuesday with a morning agenda and an afternoon agenda.

The early agenda allows public comment on any topic at 9:00 a.m., where a constituent may come to the Orange County Administration Building in person and give your thoughts on any item except for a public hearing, which is later.

Work Sessions or items on the Discussion Agenda are up for debate by the Board and are not voted on.

Public hearings begin after 2:00 p.m., which include zoning variances, public appeals, ordinances, and more. This is where constituents can submit public comments in person on a specific issue.

To attend the BCC, please find information [here](#).

As always, do not hesitate to reach out to our office with any questions or concerns at [district1@ocfl.net](mailto:district1@ocfl.net)

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