



## October 2026 Edition



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Fall in Palm Beach County has a rhythm and character all its own, bringing with it a renewed sense of connection and purpose. As we enter this autumn season, it is the perfect time to pause, take a step back, and count our blessings. Living in paradise, it can be easy to take for granted the warm sunshine, the surf, and the simple everyday conveniences that so many across the country dream of enjoying.

Our greatest strength will always come from one another, seen in the neighbors who organize food drives, volunteer at local shelters, and offer a helping hand to those who need it most. No matter if we are united by family ties, shared faith, or simply the streets we call home, we remain one united Palm Beach County family. By serving one another with compassion and sharing ideas, we continue to build a community where everyone feels welcomed.

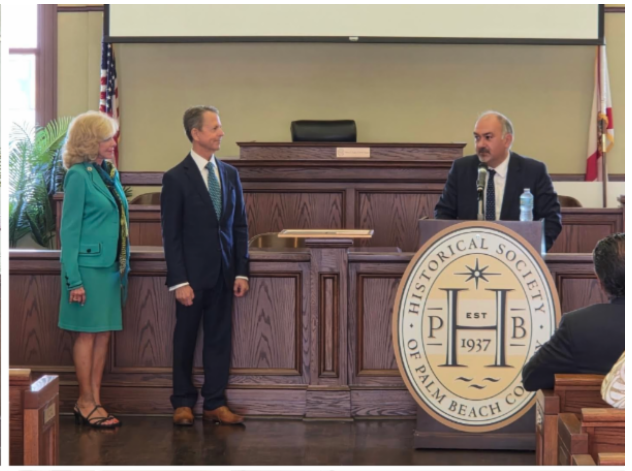
As your Commissioner, I truly believe we stand at a pivotal moment. This is a time calling for optimistic readiness as we strengthen our resilience, embrace progress, and meet every challenge with unity and resolve. Guided by new leadership and our enduring shared values, we will move forward together with pride, vigilance, and confidence.

Fighting for you,



Maria Sachs, Commissioner

**October is Italian American Heritage Month!**



PBC Comm. Maria Sachs joins PBC Comm. Gregg Weiss, PBC Comm. Joel Flores, PBC Administrator Joseph Abruzzo & Consul General of Italy in Miami Michele Mistò for the presenting of an official proclamation declaring October of 2026 as Italian American Heritage Month at the Historic Palm Beach County Courthouse in West Palm Beach. *(Photo Source: Office of PBC Comm. Maria Sachs, Dist. 5)*

As a proud Italian American, I was deeply honored to sponsor and introduce an official proclamation designating October in perpetuity as Italian American Heritage Month in Florida. Bringing this state resolution to Palm Beach County is a privilege.

This milestone brings my work full circle from 2014, when, as a Florida State Senator, I authored Senate Resolution 720, which was unanimously approved 40–0 and signed by then-Governor Rick Scott to designate October across Florida as Italian and Italian American Heritage Month. Sponsoring this proclamation locally continues that vital work of honoring the enduring roots, courage, and monumental contributions of the generations of Italian Americans who helped build both our state and our nation.

On October 6th, we honored Consul General of Italy, Michele Mistò, with a proclamation followed by a reception at the Historic Courthouse for aficionados of Italy.

The Italian American journey has shaped every facet of our culture and governance, defined by public servants like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, and Governor Mario Cuomo, as well as cultural icons who transformed the world stage, from Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin to Madonna and Lady Gaga. Today, that vibrant heritage thrives right here across South Florida through our community's hard-working families, civic leaders, students, and entrepreneurs who continuously enrich our local economy and cultural fabric. Gathering at our historic courthouse to reaffirm our enduring friendship with Italy is both a celebration of our proud heritage and an inspiring commitment to Palm Beach County's shared future.

## **Canyon Park Dedicated to Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations**



PBC Comm. Maria Sachs (2nd from L) joins PBC Mayor Sara Baxter (L), PBC Administrator Joseph Abruzzo (R) and Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations (COBWRA) President Barbara Roth (2nd from R) in presenting COBWRA's new recognition plaque at Canyon District Park. *(Photo Source: COBWRA)*

Canyon's park was created with a dream from the Executive Board of COBWRA and developed with the work of our Parks and Recreation department. I thought it was only proper to honor this dream come true, with a plaque dedicating the park to COBWRA.

Palm Beach County Mayor Sara Baxter, County Administrator Joseph Abruzzo, and COBWRA President Barbara Roth at Canyon District Park, officially unveiled a permanent recognition dedicating this park to COBWRA for their decades of steadfast grassroots leadership.

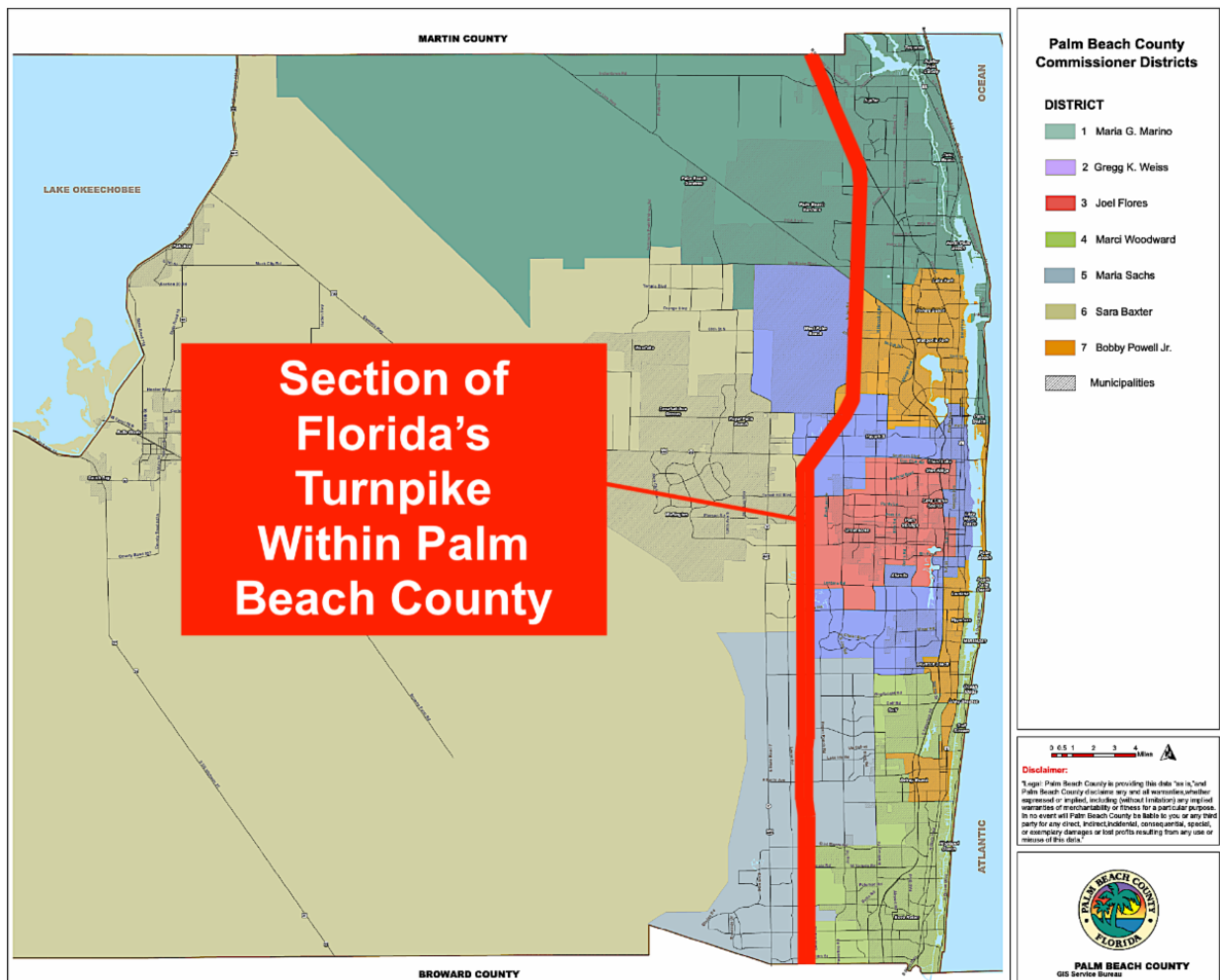
Transformed from former agricultural reserve land into a premier 54-acre regional recreation destination, Canyon District Park stands as a direct testament to COBWRA's visionary advocacy for preserving open space and expanding green infrastructure across western Boynton Beach. Today, this vibrant park serves as an essential community hub featuring illuminated baseball, softball, and multipurpose sports fields, pickleball and tennis courts, shaded playgrounds, walking trails, and modern fitness facilities that benefit residents of all ages.

?Standing alongside our dedicated local leaders to dedicate this 54-acre treasure reminds us of the extraordinary public spaces we can achieve when active civic coalitions and county government work together for the future of Palm Beach County.

# Century Village Boca Raton Discussion: Turnpike Walls



PBC Comm. Maria Sachs introduces Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Project Manager Carlos Estrella, PE (top left photo) and PBC County Engineer David Ricks, PE (top right photo) to the audience at Century Village. (Photo Source: Office of PBC Comm. Maria Sachs, Dist. 5)



(Photo Source: Office of PBC Comm. Maria Sachs, Dist. 5)

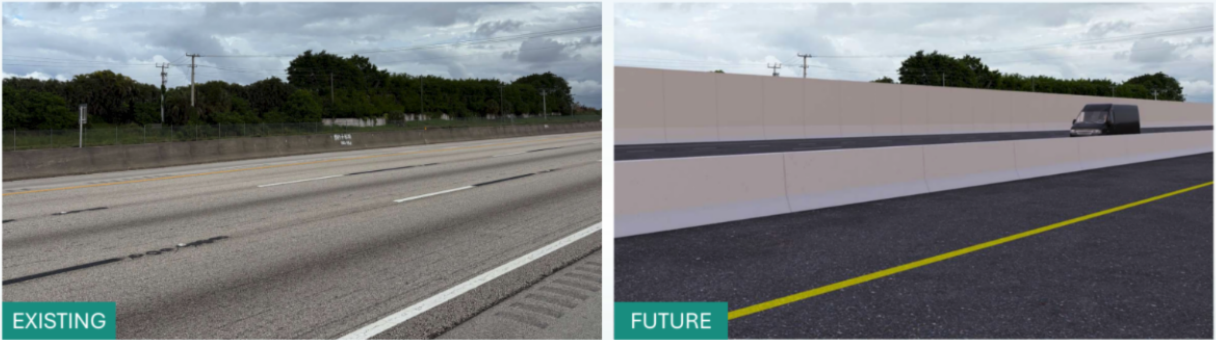
## Roadside Walls



Shoulder Mounted      Right of Way

FDOT

## Community Buffer



EXISTING      FUTURE

Subject to change pending final engineering design.  
Looking Southeast from Florida's Turnpike.

FDOT

(Photo Source: Florida Dept. of Transportation / Florida's Turnpike Enterprise)

I was proud to introduce County Engineers as well as the Turnpike Authority Engineers who traveled from Orlando, to discuss the height and placement of future Turnpike. Alongside President of The Century of Boca Raton Umbrella Association (COBRUA) Milton Fischberger and his fellow officers: First Vice President Carolyn Hanes, Second Vice President Syd Schwartz, Treasurer Mona Lloyd, Financial Secretary Helene Harris, Budget Director Frieda Spiro, Recording Secretary Alan Pearlman, and Sergeant-at-Arms Bertha Wexler.

As your County Commissioner representing District 5, I know firsthand how vital it is to protect the peace and safety of our neighborhoods, especially since roughly 16 miles of Florida's Turnpike weave directly through District 5, representing a sizeable portion of the highway's Palm Beach County corridor since its inception in 1957. Because Florida's Turnpike is funded by us, the general public, through its self-funded user-fee system, our toll-paying community deserves to see those investments directly benefit our quality of life.

?During our meeting, we focused on the planning and future development of upgraded Turnpike barrier walls designed to deliver substantial noise mitigation and enhanced security for Century Village residents bordering the highway. Hearing directly from our community is essential to effective governance, and I remain steadfastly dedicated to working hand in hand with transportation partners and COBRUA leadership to ensure District 5 secures the infrastructure protections it rightfully deserves.

## PBC Animal Care and Control Spotlight



I'm **ZOE!** If you need a new furry pal, then I'm your kitty!

Adopted pets are spayed, neutered, vaccinated, treated for ticks/fleas, micro-chipped & more.

If you're interested, please call **(561) 233-1200** and provide reference number **A2343779**.

I'm **MR. NIBBLES!** If you need a new furry pal, then I'm your pup!

Adopted pets are spayed, neutered, vaccinated, treated for ticks/fleas, micro-chipped & more.

If you're interested, please call **(561) 233-1200** and provide reference number **A2346003**.



*For more on pets needing a forever home in Palm Beach County visit:*  
**<https://secure.pbc.gov/snap/home>.**

**Please contact us with any questions or concerns.**

**561-355-2205**

**MSachs@pbc.gov**

**Commissioner Maria Sachs | District 5  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners**

PBC Commission District 5 | 301 N. Olive Avenue | West Palm Beach, FL 33401 US



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