Manatee County, Florida

POPULAR REPORT
A FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR ITS CITIZENS

FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020
Think of a town you have visited or lived in. What comes to mind first? Chances are the first thoughts your mind will conjure is of the visual images of the area. It could be a unique building with unmistakable architecture, a popular restaurant or business with recognizable advertising, a park or sports facility where everyone roots for the home-team, a theatre where the latest and greatest are shown, or a highly photographed natural feature or piece of public art. These are our landmarks. Every locale has them. They anchor us in time and place. They help give direction while at the same time revealing what we, as a community, value.

Manatee County’s oldest landmarks were mostly geographical. They were recognizable because they stood out from the rest of the landscape. They served as wayfinding devices before maps and roads were readily available to guide travelers through the uncharted wilderness. Some were man made but looked natural, such as the shell middens at Emerson Point. Others were constructed as homes, which evolved into other uses, like the tabby house on the south bank at the mouth of the Manatee River. Some were purely about function, such as the Cortez Beach Diving Platform – not so much pretty, as it was more about fun and designed to appeal to sun seeking tourists. Some are not as recognizable as they once were because they have been relocated, and their function changed – such as Old Cabbage Head, the steam locomotive that once served as Bradenton’s unique welcome sign; or the Albion Inn, which once was perched on the Cortez waterfront and now houses museum collections a few blocks inland.

While some stood for decades and even centuries, others marked but a brief point on our timeline. So why focus on what was rather than what is? In times of stress and change, studies have shown that nostalgia has the ability to raise optimism, evoke inspiration, boost creativity, and generate compassion and empathy. There is comfort in nostalgia because it grounds us in the past and provides a sense of continuity.

While we may see that our surroundings and what we value have changed over the years, we also know that many wonderful things are yet to come.

In Manatee County, the old and the new blend to create our present surroundings hinting at the solid foundations of our community on which we will continue to build a promising future.

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Collected in excess of $27 million in child support for the children of Manatee County.

The Violence Protection division aided in the filing of 884 injunctions for protection, commonly referred to as “restraining orders,” for victims of domestic, repeat, sexual, stalking and dating violence during the past fiscal year.

The Department of Financial Recovery (DFR) collects fines and court costs legally owed this fiscal year. Since its inception in July, 2004, the DFR has collected in excess of $13.5 million in fines and courts costs which may have gone uncollected.

Since January, 2008, our Indigence Examiners have collected a cumulative total of over $1.4 million. These monies previously went uncollected until responsibility was given to the Clerk.

183 children ages 10 to 17 participated in Teen Court and Teen Court Too and contributed over 2,572 community service hours to the community. Additionally, 89 youth volunteers donated over 979 hours of volunteer time to the community.

2,275 Manatee County students participated in the virtual and on-site educational programs offered at the Manatee Village Historical Park, the Florida Maritime Museum, the Palmetto Historical Park and the Manatee County Agricultural Museum. Historical Resources staff served 6,464 visitors in person and provided virtual outreach programs to 6,435 people throughout 2020.

Volunteers at the Manatee Village Historical Park, Florida Maritime Museum, Palmetto Historical Park and Manatee County Agricultural Museum donated over 2,000 hours of community service.

Received our 41st consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for our 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Received our 22nd consecutive GFOA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for our 2019 Popular Report.

The Division of Inspector General issued 13 audit reports, 6 project reports, and one investigation report. The Division also provided approximately 1,400 consulting and project hours in the form of assistance to other departments and agencies. In addition, the Division provided 460 hours in assistance to the external audit firm in performing the annual audit of the County’s financial statements, thereby reducing the cost of the audit services.

Kept minutes at 114 meetings and work sessions for 12 Boards or Committees.
A Message from Angelina “Angel” Colonneso
Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

I am pleased to share with you the 2020 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for Manatee County. This document will help you understand our county’s financial performance and well-being for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020 in a valuable, summarized format that every resident can use. Our stewardship of the county’s investments, on behalf of our citizens, is a responsibility we take very seriously.

When we choose the theme of each year’s CAFR, we look for an engaging subject that we can use to tell a story both in words and pictures. Like no other year in recent history, we have all looked forward to the promise of 2021. Through all the challenges brought forth in 2020, many of us found ourselves yearning for simpler times and the comfort that nostalgia can bring. For those of us who grew up here, our childhood recollections of Manatee County were nothing short of lively, if not fantastical. As we traveled daily down the same roads that led tourists to the beach and beyond, seeing an oversized statue of a seahorse on our daily route was nothing out of the ordinary for us. Quirky signs and structures dotted our landscape and grew to become familiar landmarks, which we remember fondly when we think of “home.”

I was raised in Manatee County and as a young girl, I recall trips to Palmetto, where my father was born and raised, across the Green Bridge. Always as we made our trek home, it seemed to me that the bridge started with the large seahorse, and ended with the sight of Old Cabbage Head, the steam locomotive turned-welcome sign sitting right outside the Bishop Planetarium. From seahorses to steam trains - only here could you grow up with that experience. Since those days, the original seahorse has been demolished, though I was happy to see its likeness return this year. Old Cabbage Head no longer welcomes visitors to Bradenton from the riverside, but rather from the gates of its current home at Manatee Village Historical Park.

I also recall trips to Anna Maria Island where, as my family rode out to fish on the City Pier, we would pass a funny little jail – one with no windows and no doors or roof. The old Anna Maria City Jail beckoned tourists to stop and take a picture for the folks back home to enjoy. After all, it’s not everywhere you can find a structure with such character, or a sense of humor for that matter!

Growing up, many great evenings of entertainment were had with carloads of family and friends at the Trail Drive in Theatre, which stood just across the Manatee-Sarasota County line on Tamiami Trail. Speaking of history, it was where I first saw Star Wars with my family when it was released in 1977. We still keep this tradition as a family along with our “newer” generation of kids. With its neon sign and huge projection wall, the entry to the drive-in created an air of excitement about what cinematic adventure awaited us within. Drive-in theatres, while not as common today, are a concept that we have seen revisited in the face of recent challenges. Here is a case where looking to our past not only brings the comfort of nostalgia, but can yield answers for the present and future as well. While several of the landmarks highlighted in this publication are still with us in some fashion, others have been lost to history. Some from times so long ago that most who walk among us today have no personal recollection of them. Regardless of whether they were originally created to lure visitors to the area, each has come to represent “home” for generations of Manatee County residents. We hope you will enjoy indulging in a little nostalgia with us.

Within the pages of this year’s Popular Annual Financial Report, we have provided an explanation of the County’s finances. Should you desire more information, the Finance Department of the Clerk of Circuit Court’s Office also produces the more detailed Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR meets stringent governmental accounting standards and is evaluated by rating agencies to assess Manatee County’s financial stability, leading to favorable interest and insurance rates.

It is also with great pleasure that I can report that for the 41st year, our 2019 CAFR received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. While the responsibility for the accuracy of the data lies with me, the recognition of receiving this prestigious award goes to our Finance Department. All four financial reports prepared by this office; this Popular Report, the Manatee County CAFR, the Port Manatee CAFR and the Manatee County Public Utilities System Annual Financial Report, are available online at www.manateeclerk.com, or on CD. These reports are available by contacting our Finance Department at (941) 749-1800, Ext. 6102. In addition, this Popular Report is available in hard copy and available in many locations throughout the county, including this office and the public libraries.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about Manatee County’s financial strengths. If you have comments or suggestions on how we can improve our Popular Report, please contact my office at (941) 749-1800 or by visiting our website at www.manateeclerk.com.

Respectfully,

Angelina “Angel” Colonneso
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Manatee County, Florida for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.
ABOUT THIS REPORT

THE POPULAR REPORT PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE OPERATIONS OF MANATEE COUNTY’S CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES:

Board of County Commissioners and Port Authority
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller
Property Appraiser
Sheriff
Supervisor of Elections
Tax Collector

This report also provides an overview of the areas of responsibility for each county department and the Constitutional Officers.

The financial information presented here is in summarized form, is expressed in thousands, and does not substitute for the County’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report outlines the County’s financial position and operating activities for the year in great detail and in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. A copy of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report can be found on the Clerk’s website at www.manateeclerk.com.

Our Popular Report includes condensed information from its statement of net position and a condensed statement of activities with previous year comparative data as well as an overview of county functions and historical data. This Popular Report, because of its summary nature, does not conform to generally accepted accounting principles and associated reporting standards set forth by applicable governing bodies.

The presentation reflects county operations divided into two major categories:

**Governmental activities** are those primarily supported by tax dollars for services such as libraries, emergency medical services, law enforcement and transportation. The governmental category can be further subdivided between operations and capital activities. Capital project activities are dollars spent to construct, acquire or improve major facilities of the government.

**Business-type activities** offer goods and services of the County for sale and are intended to be self-supporting. Examples are Port Manatee and the County’s water and sewer system.
MANATEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Manatee County is a non-charter county established under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Florida. The Board of County Commissioners is the legislative body for Manatee County and is made up of seven residents elected by county voters. The commissioners’ offices are in the County Administrative Center where public meetings are held. The commissioners also serve as the Port Authority board.

In addition to the seven County Commissioners, voters elect five constitutional officers: Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections and the Tax Collector.

Encompassing 740 square miles, Manatee County has six incorporated cities within its borders, each governed by city councils elected by residents of the respective city:
- Anna Maria
- Bradenton
- Bradenton Beach
- Holmes Beach
- Longboat Key
- Palmetto

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Board of County Commissioners and the Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller share in the fiscal responsibility of Manatee County. The Commission and the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller are separately elected constitutional officers and vested with separate powers, according to Florida law. This separation of power provides checks and balances within the county government to help safeguard the assets of the County.

The Board of County Commissioners is responsible for adopting an annual budget for all departments under the commissioners. The budget, prepared by the Department of Financial Management and presented to the commissioners for approval, governs expenditures by the departments. It is illegal for department managers to exceed their budget.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller is responsible for safeguarding Manatee County assets and is personally liable for any losses due to illegal payments. A key part of this responsibility is the control of county funds. Only the Clerk can disburse funds. Before monies are disbursed, all expenditures go through a rigorous pre-audit process. The Clerk must ensure that all expenditures are legal, budgeted and in compliance with county policies and procedures. As an extension of these responsibilities, the Clerk’s office also prepares the financial statements of the County.

The County’s Utility System bonds have been assigned a AAA rating by Fitch and an Aa1 rating by Moody. These ratings indicate that the County is likely to meet its debt obligations with a low probability of default. As a result, the County will generally have a lower cost of borrowing funds for capital projects.
The following graphs provide comparative government-wide information, giving a broad overview of Manatee County’s financial position for both its governmental and business-type activities. The values are computed under similar financial rules as private sector financial statements.

- **Governmental activities** are those primarily supported by tax dollars for services such as public safety, transportation, human services and general government.
- **Business-type activities** offer goods and services for sale and are intended to be self-supporting through the charges for those goods and services.

Components of the County’s financial positions include:

- **Current and other assets** are assets that one can realistically expect to convert to cash, sell, or consume within one year.
- **Capital assets** include the County’s long-term investments in land, buildings, equipment, improvements, infrastructure, and construction in progress. These assets are used to provide services to the community and are not available for future spending.
- **Deferred outflows of resources** represent a consumption of net position that relates to a future period.
- **Long-term liabilities** represent debt obligations that exceed more than one year. These include pension liability, compensated absences, other post employment benefits, closure liability; as well as, bonds, notes, and loans payable that are used to finance large projects and equipment purchases.
- **Other liabilities** include debt obligations due within one year. These are also made up of the debt obligations similar to long-term debt, but also include accounts and claims payable, accrued payroll, unearned revenue, and deposits.

**Deferred inflows of resources** represent an acquisition of net position that pertains to a future period.

Total net position is comprised of three categories:

- **Net investment in capital assets** is the value of all of the County’s capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and any debt outstanding that is associated with their purchase or construction.
- **Restricted net position** are those assets that have a restriction placed on them, typically by third parties; unspent bond proceeds and related debt and funds set aside for the payment of debt are good examples of these asset types.
- **Unrestricted net position** makes up the last component of net position, representing the resources that are available to finance the County’s on-going operations.

Changes in net position over time are an indication of an improving or deteriorating financial position. Governmental activities’ net position increased by $64,179 and business-type net position had a $68,424 increase in total net position from September 30, 2019 to 2020, reflecting a positive and stable fiscal position for the County.

In the below graphs depicting the changes in net position for governmental activities, we can see the $54,113 increase in capital assets, net of depreciation and the $62,306 increase in investment in capital assets. These are mostly the result of donated public domain infrastructure and transportation projects including the 44th Avenue East, Fort Hamer Road.
and Erie Road expansions. The $103,662 increase in long-term liabilities reflects a large increase in the net pension liability for governmental activities and the refunding of certain short-term debts resulting in increased long-term debt.

The business-type activities of Manatee County show significant differences in various categories from the prior year’s amounts. The increase of $54,803 in capital assets is due to continuing increases by the utility system for capacity enlargement, connectivity and processing improvements, including the purchase of a biological water treatment unit in fiscal year 2020. The increase in net investment in capital assets of $34,501 is reflective of an increase in capital assets and less outstanding debt used to acquire those assets. The $33,573 increase in unrestricted net position reflects positive balances from continued growth within the County in its tax base and charges for services that may be used to meet ongoing obligations.

The following comparative, government-wide Condensed Statement of Activities and related graphs present the revenues, expenses and changes in net position. Increasing revenues which outpace increased expenses suggests that Manatee County is continuing to experience an increase in overall growth, coupled with controlled spending. Components of these condensed statements include:

• **Program revenues** consist of charges for services, operating grants (grants for daily business activities), capital grants (grants for capital projects and assets) and contributions.

• **General revenues** consist of property taxes, other taxes, state revenue sharing, interest income, miscellaneous revenues and intergovernmental transfers.

• **Other expenses** for governmental activities consist of physical and economic environment, human services, culture and recreation functions, interest payments on debt and intergovernmental transfers.

Overall:

• Revenues increased by around $23 million in the current year and expenses increased $32 million over the prior year’s levels, compared to an $85 million and $52 million increase in revenues and expenditures, respectively, between fiscal years 2019 and 2018.

• In the general revenue category, a $19 million increase in property taxes represents housing growth and a continued increase in assessed property values even amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

• Expenses for governmental activities increased $20 million largely due to additional Public Safety staff expenses and operating supplies due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The prior year also saw increased expenditure activity of $45 million due to additional Public Safety staff, building renovations and vehicle replacement programs for the Sheriff and Emergency Services.

• A modest increase of $2 million in the current year and $19 million in the prior year are for business-type activity charges for services. Water and sewer offset the decreases in Port Authority, Transit System and Civic Center charges for services, attributable to the impact of COVID-19, with a $10.5 million increase in the current year as a result of
continued growth in the number of residents served as well as increased consumption due to drier weather.

Reflected in the spending, the County continues to be committed to providing basic governmental services and public safety expected by its citizens while dealing with the unplanned and unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The County continues to monitor its workforce in order to continue to provide high levels of customer service during the continued uncertainty. Spending for general government, public safety and utilities activities accounted for 74% of the expenses in the current year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manatee County Statement of Activities</th>
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<td>(In Thousands)</td>
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### GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

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<td>Program revenues</td>
<td>$314,814</td>
<td>$132,389</td>
<td>$123,278</td>
<td>$291,405</td>
<td>$299,727</td>
<td>$256,106</td>
<td>$410,219</td>
<td>$432,095</td>
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<td>General revenues</td>
<td>403,152</td>
<td>391,745</td>
<td>359,849</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>401,847</td>
<td>392,336</td>
<td>380,210</td>
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<td>Total revenues</td>
<td>555,966</td>
<td>524,113</td>
<td>483,127</td>
<td>291,800</td>
<td>300,318</td>
<td>256,487</td>
<td>847,766</td>
<td>824,431</td>
<td>730,594</td>
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### BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES

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<td>General government</td>
<td>109,084</td>
<td>105,999</td>
<td>99,834</td>
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<td>109,084</td>
<td>105,999</td>
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<td>Public safety</td>
<td>232,600</td>
<td>220,021</td>
<td>192,286</td>
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<td>232,600</td>
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<td>Transportation</td>
<td>48,507</td>
<td>46,774</td>
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<td>46,774</td>
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<td>Utilities</td>
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<td>187,176</td>
<td>176,582</td>
<td>172,978</td>
<td>187,176</td>
<td>176,582</td>
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<td>Port Authority</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17,630</td>
<td>16,255</td>
<td>15,408</td>
<td>17,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>90,024</td>
<td>96,754</td>
<td>89,128</td>
<td>21,162</td>
<td>20,857</td>
<td>18,865</td>
<td>120,186</td>
<td>117,611</td>
<td>102,992</td>
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<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>469,215</td>
<td>469,548</td>
<td>424,358</td>
<td>225,948</td>
<td>213,664</td>
<td>207,252</td>
<td>715,163</td>
<td>683,242</td>
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### TOTAL

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<tr>
<td>Total transfers</td>
<td>(2,572)</td>
<td>(4,783)</td>
<td>(5,284)</td>
<td>2,572</td>
<td>4,783</td>
<td>5,284</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changes in net position</td>
<td>64,179</td>
<td>49,782</td>
<td>53,487</td>
<td>66,424</td>
<td>91,407</td>
<td>54,499</td>
<td>132,603</td>
<td>141,189</td>
<td>107,986</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning net position</td>
<td>1,248,914</td>
<td>1,189,132</td>
<td>1,145,645</td>
<td>1,220,768</td>
<td>1,129,361</td>
<td>1,074,862</td>
<td>2,469,682</td>
<td>2,328,493</td>
<td>2,220,507</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ending net position</td>
<td>$1,313,093</td>
<td>$1,248,914</td>
<td>$1,199,132</td>
<td>$1,289,192</td>
<td>$1,220,768</td>
<td>$1,129,361</td>
<td>$2,002,285</td>
<td>$2,469,682</td>
<td>$2,328,493</td>
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GENERAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are used to account for tax supported activities. The classifications of certain financial transactions are recorded per fund accounting requirements. The primary differences between the government-wide statement of revenues and expenses on the preceding pages and the governmental fund statistics on this page are:

- **Government Fund Revenues** include all proceeds from the sale of capital assets, but exclude donations, net revenue of internal service funds and certain deferred revenues.

- **Government Fund Expenditures** include capital outlays for the acquisition of new assets, expenditures for the repayment of principal of long term debt, but exclude deferred expenses and annual depreciation and amortization charges.

### Revenues

During fiscal year 2020:
- Revenues in the general government funds increased by approximately $20 million from the prior fiscal year, with $19 million attributable to an increase in ad valorem taxes due to increasing assessed property values and $11 million from an increase in intergovernmental revenues, mainly from federal transportation and CARES Act grants.

- These increases were offset by a decrease in interest income of $4.9 million and traffic infrastructure contributions by $3.7 million from the previous fiscal year.

For fiscal year 2019:
- Revenues in the general government funds increased by approximately $32 million from the prior fiscal year, with $18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ad valorem taxes</td>
<td>$258,156</td>
<td>$239,454</td>
<td>$221,469</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other taxes</td>
<td>$66,562</td>
<td>$66,667</td>
<td>$65,116</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licenses and permits</td>
<td>$43,828</td>
<td>$40,732</td>
<td>$40,038</td>
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<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>$88,906</td>
<td>$77,497</td>
<td>$78,569</td>
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<td>Charges for services</td>
<td>$45,950</td>
<td>$47,867</td>
<td>$44,160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fines and forfeitures</td>
<td>$6,246</td>
<td>$6,575</td>
<td>$7,070</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>$8,668</td>
<td>$13,558</td>
<td>$6,621</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessments</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$2,803</td>
<td>$6,497</td>
<td>$5,345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$8,673</td>
<td>$10,776</td>
<td>$8,911</td>
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**Total Revenues:**

- **2020:** $529,810
- **2019:** $509,671
- **2018:** $477,322
million attributable to an increase in ad valorem taxes due to increasing assessed property values and $7 million from an increase in interest income.

- The increase in charges for services of $3.7 million is attributed to additional ambulance revenue of $1.7 million and parks revenue, primarily from the Premier Sports Complex acquired in fiscal year 2018.

Expenditures

For fiscal year 2020:

- Expenditures increased $38.2 million from the prior fiscal year. Capital project expenditures increased $18.2 million as there were major beach renourishment projects ongoing during fiscal year 2020 as well as the replacement of the Public Safety radio system.
- The General Government increase of $6.1 million and the $8.1 million increase in Public Safety expenditures is largely due to the COVID-19 impact on employee compensation and operating supplies.

During fiscal year 2019:

- Expenditures decreased $13.6 million from the prior fiscal year. Capital project expenditures decreased $11.7 million as there were significant improvements made to the Manatee County detention facility and large software purchases made in 2018 that were completed in 2018 or were reaching completion in fiscal year 2019. The $18.7 million decrease in debt service is due to the County’s refinancing of the Revenue Improvement Note, Series 2016 in the previous fiscal year.
- Public safety expenditures increased $6.7 million related to the Sheriff’s office renovations, vehicle replacements, and personnel services.
The office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, an elected public trustee, was established by the Florida Constitution over 180 years ago. Responsible for over 925 separate duties, the Clerk is accountable to the citizens of Manatee County, not to any elected official, thereby creating a system of “checks and balances” at the county level that has served the public well.

The Clerk oversees a complex organization that performs a wide range of record keeping, information management and financial management in the judicial system and county government. The Clerk serves as the:

- Chief Financial Officer, accountant and auditor to the Board of County Commissioners, and Port Authority.
- Custodian of public records, public funds and public property.
- Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts 12th Judicial District.
- Collector and distributor of court fines and fees, child support and alimony payments and statutory assessments.
- Custodian of court records and ensures that the courts’ orders, judgments and directives are carried out within the parameters allowed by law.

**Finance**

The Finance Department is responsible for carrying out the Clerk’s duties as the County’s chief financial officer and comptroller for the Board of County Commissioners and Port Authority. Those duties include:

- Pre-auditing disbursements made on behalf of the County.
- Processing payroll for the Board and the Clerk.
- Managing the County’s investment portfolio.
- Maintaining the records and conducting annual physical inventories of capital assets for the Board, Clerk, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections and Tax Collector.
- Preparing financial reports.

Each year, the Finance Department produces the County’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the Public Utilities System Annual Financial Report, the Manatee County Port Authority Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the Popular Report, as well as individual statements and reports for the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

The Clerk of the Court is the official record keeper of all instruments required by law to be recorded. Official records are documents such as deeds, leases, mortgages, tax warrants, evictions or other documents relating to the ownership, transfer or encumbrance of real or personal property. Official record documents are electronically scanned, indexed and made available on the Clerk’s website, www.ManateeClerk.com, upon being recorded.

**Inspector General**

The purpose of the Division of Inspector General is to provide independent and objective assurance and consulting engagements designed to add value and improve operations of Manatee County Government. As a service to management and the taxpayers of Manatee County, and in fulfilling the Clerk of the Circuit Court’s role as county auditor, the Division of Inspector General:
• Measures and evaluates the operational efficiency and effectiveness of various Manatee County departments and agencies.
• Evaluates internal controls as well as compliance with a complex environment of federal, state and local laws, regulations, policies, and procedures.
• Reports to the Board of County Commissioners, the County Administrator, and the public on how well Manatee County departments comply with these rules.
• Provides consulting services to Manatee County departments that include independent analysis, review, and recommendations for new and continuing processes upon management’s request.

The Division of Inspector General is also staffed with Certified Fraud Examiners (CFEs) who can professionally investigate allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, irregularities, employee misconduct, and other illegal acts within Manatee County Government’s operations. Employees reporting suspected wrongdoing are protected by the Whistle Blower’s Act from retaliation by management and other employees. Reporting can be done anonymously using the Division’s fraud hotline at (941) 742-5938, or by using an on-line fraud reporting form.

Courts
The Florida Constitution charges the Clerk of the Court with the responsibility of maintaining the records of both the circuit and county courts, and ensuring that the court’s orders, judgments and directives are carried out within the parameters allowed by law. The Clerk’s office does this by:
  • Processing new cases
  • Preparing court dockets
  • Attending all criminal proceedings and recording disposition of cases
  • Determining indigence
  • Collecting criminal fines
  • Pursuing financial recovery, and
  • Preparing and recording judgments.

The Clerk is required by law to summon jurors who are needed in trial courts and pay the jurors for their service. Criminal, civil and traffic court case management information is available on-line on the Clerk’s website, www.ManateeClerk.com.
PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Child Support Program
Child Support Program began operation under the Clerk in 1985, when collections were approximately $5,000 per month. That figure has grown to over $2 million per month. Staff attorneys represent the Department of Revenue in civil litigation involving paternity establishment, child support establishment, modification and enforcement.

This department handles cases in which the person owing support or the person due support lives either in Manatee County, Florida, another state, or a foreign country where reciprocal agreements exist for child support services. By law, these services are provided to parents or caregivers who receive public assistance, Medicaid and/or food stamps for the child in their care. Parents or caregivers not receiving such assistance may request child support services free of charge.

Enforcement of Child Support orders for non-compliant parents can be done through several methods such as:

- Drivers’ license suspension
- Wage withholding
- Interception of Internal Revenue Service refunds, Reemployment Assistance benefits, lottery winnings and other income sources.

Court-ordered child support payments are processed through the State Disbursement Unit.

Teen Court & Teen Court Too
Teen Court and Teen Court Too were established by the Clerk to provide early intervention of young offenders to prevent a pattern of criminal behavior. Children, ages 10-17, who meet certain criteria are referred to the programs by the Juvenile Assessment Center, the State Attorney’s Office, law enforcement agencies, juvenile court and school resource officers.

Teen Court and Teen Court Too volunteers, who are in elementary, middle and high school, perform the roles of prosecuting and defense attorneys, clerks, bailiffs and jury. Local attorneys, who volunteer their time, act as the judge and are the only adults directly involved in the proceedings. Offenders accept the consequences of their acts through community service, serving on jury duty for other Teen Court cases and any other disciplinary measures sanctioned by the Teen Court jury.

Violence Protection
The Clerk’s Violence Protection Advocate division provides assistance to victims of domestic, repeat, dating, stalking and sexual violence. They help victims by explaining the procedures involved in filing a petition, processing the temporary injunction, attending the hearing for final injunction and requesting modifications, reporting violations of injunctions and assisting in the criminal prosecutions.

Historical Resources
The Historical Resources Division is responsible for the management of some of our most important historical preservations:

- Visitors to the Manatee Historical Village Park experience the lifestyles of pioneer families. The park includes the first county courthouse, a sugar cane mill, a pioneer farm, a boat works, a schoolhouse, a steam train, a blacksmith shop and a church as well as the Wiggins General Store.
- The Manatee County Historical Records Library, the first archival library of its kind in Florida, was opened in 1979. It is housed in a 1918 Carnegie Library. Deed books, marriage licenses, probate files and County commission records, as well as court minute books, are archived there for use by historians and genealogists.
- At the Palmetto Historical Park, visitors experience life through the eyes of local pioneers. They can visit Palmetto’s first post office and library, do a lesson on the slates in the one-room schoolhouse, and even experience old-fashioned chores in the turn-of-the-century cottage. The park also features a military museum and a re-imagined chapel.
- The Manatee County Agricultural Museum highlights the important role agriculture has played in our community. At the museum, visitors can explore the past through photographs, machinery, exhibits, slides and video presentations.
- The Florida Maritime Museum is housed in the restored 1912 Cortez Schoolhouse. The museum is dedicated to the gathering, presentation and interpretation of Florida’s maritime heritage, with special emphasis on the historic fishing village of Cortez.

Public Access
The Public Access Department centralizes the everyday public records requests and provides access to the public for electronic records searches. They also review all electronically filed documents and perform necessary redactions of confidential information pursuant to Florida law. Public Access completed 5,727 phone, email, postal mail and walk-in record requests during fiscal year 2020.
Support services encompasses the following departments:

**Board Records** maintains the records of the official actions of 12 boards and committees in Manatee County, including the Board of County Commissioners. This includes taking minutes of the board meeting and keeping the official records, as well as files and exhibits of official actions. Board Records keeps electronic minute books, scans documents, and offers on-line verification of those minutes and documents, improving the on-line availability of the records to the public. The Board Records Department also takes on the role of administrator for the Value Adjustment Board and Tax Deed Sales.

**Clerk’s Technology Services** plans, assembles secures, and maintains the information systems needed to support the duties of the Clerk of the Court in a timely efficient manner. The department’s Director of Technology Services, analysts, programmers, technicians and support staff ensure that the Clerk’s computer system and software applications fulfill present needs, as well as plans for the future. They are also responsible for storing and destroying, as approved by law, the records of various court departments.

**Human Resources** department is responsible for all typical human resource functions within the Clerk’s Office. From recruiting new employees to training and supporting staff, HR maintains productive working relationships with Clerk employees, while also administering policies, programs and benefits packages, looking for new approaches and innovative practices in all areas of HR management to help develop the Clerk’s employees’ full potential for serving the citizens of Manatee County.

### Clerk of Circuit Court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$12,919</td>
<td>$12,861</td>
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OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

PROPERTY APPRAISER • CHARLES E. HACKNEY
• Annually appraises over 194,000 parcels, including 3,600 new homes added to the tax roll for 2020
• Annually appraises over 12,600 tangible personal property accounts
• Maintains current property ownership records for assessment purposes
• Maintains the county section maps and aerial photos
• Administers all property tax exemptions
• Analyzes and approves all new homestead applications, including over 9,800 in 2020
• Produces the ad valorem tax roll annually
• Provides data updates at: www.Manateepao.com

SHERIFF • RICK WELLS
• Provides law enforcement services to Manatee County
• Responsible for all county inmate care, custody and control
• Provides bailiffs and security for court system
• Provides countywide, specialized explosive response capability
• Conducts education programs at the jail, including GED Preparation and LIFE (Leading Inmates to Future Employment)
• Conducts the Alcohol and Drug Recovery Pod program at the jail
• Provides support to the Manatee County School System through the School Resource Officer Program
• Provides Special Team Support, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Dive Team, Marine, Aviation, Mounted Patrol, Special Response Team (SRT) as requested to city law enforcement jurisdictions
• Contracts with DCF to provide child protection services
• Provides sexual predator unit to monitor sexual offenders
• Maintains comprehensive emergency services unit to respond to natural disasters
• Supervises Road Gangs for county maintenance
• Operates juvenile booking facility
• Contracts with the City of Anna Maria for law enforcement services
• Provides drug drop boxes for secure disposal of prescription drugs
• Provides parking SAFEZONES for citizen’s internet transactions (i.e. Craigslist)
• Provides daily information to the public, including crime prevention tips and feature stories about Manatee County Sheriff’s Office, through a variety of social media platforms including:
  • www.ManateeSheriff.com
  • Facebook.com/ManateeSheriff
  • Twitter.com/ManateeSheriff
  • Instagram.com/ManateeCountySheriff

PRINCIPAL PROPERTY TAXPAYERS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TAXPAYER</th>
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<td>Florida Power and Light Company</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Mosaic Fertilizer LLC</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulfstream Natural Gas System LLC</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace River Electric Co Op, Inc.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee Memorial Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gulf Coast Factory Shops</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMG Academy LLC</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frontier Florida LLC/Verizon Florida, Inc.</td>
<td>86,989</td>
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<tr>
<td>93 FLRPT LLC</td>
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ASSESSSED VALUES

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<tr>
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<th>Net Assessed Value</th>
<th>Tax Collections</th>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$25,951,635</td>
<td>$172,383</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$28,219,084</td>
<td>$187,433</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$30,541,289</td>
<td>$202,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$33,338,703</td>
<td>$221,303</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$36,030,205</td>
<td>$239,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$41,693,993</td>
<td>$258,153</td>
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SHERIFF • RICK WELLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Net Assessed Value</th>
<th>Tax Collections</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$41,693,993</td>
<td>$258,153</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS • MICHAEL BENNETT
• Educates and registers voters and maintains accurate voter registration files
Registered voters as of September 30, 2020: 270,356
Eligible voters in the last general election (November 2020): 273,427
Eligible voters in the last primary election (August 2020): 262,517
Conducts all national, state, local and special taxing district elections
Uses the state certified optical scan voting system
Equips all precincts with disability compliant voting equipment
Provides electronic poll book at all precincts and early voting sites
Expanded website at: www.votemanatee.com

TAX COLLECTOR • KEN BURTON, JR
Collects ad valorem taxes and tourist taxes
Registers and titles vehicles, boats and mobile homes
Issues concealed weapon licenses, hunting and fishing licenses and disabled parking permits
Provides Florida driver license services, including driving tests, and transfers of valid out-of-state driver licenses
Pre-registers driver license customers to vote in accordance with the National Voter Registration Act
Performs high speed remittance processing of utility bills for Manatee County Utilities, City of Bradenton, and City of Dunedin and assists in payment processing for EMS.
Returned $4.7 million in unused revenue to the County
Various service links are available on www.taxcollector.com

Supervisor of Elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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Tax Collector

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<tbody>
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PROPERTY TAX RATES

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>COUNTY</td>
<td>6.4326</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCHOOL BOARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
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<td>UNINCORPORATED MSTU</td>
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<td>FISCAL YEARS 2020-2016</td>
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</table>

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BETSY BENAC, CHAIRMAN
VANESSA BAUGH    REGGIE BELLAMY   STEPHEN JONSSON   MISTY SERVIA
PRISCILLA WHISENANT TRACE   CAROL WHITMORE

The Board of County Commissioners governs Manatee County. It has seven members: one elected from each of five districts and two elected at-large for alternating four-year terms. The members select their chairman and vice-chairman for one-year terms.

Board meetings are held Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and are open to the public. The Commissioners also sit as the Manatee County Port Authority and elect officers separately for that entity.

The board makes policy decisions, which are implemented by an appointed county administrator who directs the activities of employees.

The Board of County Commissioners budgets and provides funding for the various county departments and the operations of the constitutional officers. Fees collected by the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller and the Tax Collector provide funding for the budgets of those offices.
ADMINISTRATION

The County Administrator is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to implement the Board’s policies, budget and programs. The Administrator oversees all county staff and departments and is responsible for managing county programs, facilities and services to residents. Public relations, intergovernmental relations, legislative affairs, long range planning, impact fees and the Citizen’s Action Center are managed through the County Administrator’s Office.

COVID-19 brought unprecedented challenges for the County in 2020, affecting all departments, constitutional officers, agencies, businesses, non-profits and citizens. Taking the lead from the Governor’s Office, the County coordinated testing sites around the County. The workforce shifted to its emergency management functions and remote working environment to continue services. The County also coordinated the up to $70m of CARES Act funding disbursements, resulting in over 1,700 applications for reimbursement for COVID-related impacts to residents, business owners, nonprofits, community partners and local governments.

BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The Building and Development Services Department is responsible for maintaining the County’s Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan for unincorporated Manatee County, as well as monitoring and regulating construction to protect public health and safety. The Building/Regulation Compliance program consists of permitting intake, contractor licensing, plans review, floodplain management, inspections, and administrative functions. The Planning and Development program provides land development information and requirements to developers and citizens. Code Enforcement conducts compliance for the land development code, county ordinances and building codes and responds to and follows up on complaints of potential violators.

CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

The Convention and Visitors Bureau promotes our destination to prospective tourists both nationally and internationally. It also manages the Bradenton Area Convention Center, the Powel Crosley Estate, and the Premier Sports Campus, which facilitate hundreds of events annually.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

The County Attorney’s Office functions as an in-house law firm providing legal advice to the Board of County Commissioners and its various operating departments. The County Attorney’s Office also represents the Board in state and federal courts and in administrative law settings. The Risk Management Division of the County Attorney’s Office works to reduce the County’s exposure to liability and to enhance the operational safety of county employees and of the general public. Risk Management administers the County’s self-insurance program by evaluating and adjusting claims against the County. The County Attorney reports directly to the Board of County Commissioners.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Financial Management Department (FMD) develops, reviews and implements the county budget, capital improvement plan and related county policies and financial analytics which contributes to the County’s strategic planning. They work closely with county departments, the county administrator and the Board of County Commissioners in all areas of financial management. FMD provides procurement services for county departments and other agencies. Budget and procurement documents are available online at www.mymanatee.org/departments/financial_management.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Department (HR) administers the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Personnel policies of the Board of County Commissioners; provides employment services, including recruitment, onboarding, orientation, employee retention and retirement programs; provides employee career development and training programs; administers the County’s performance management and merit pay programs; administers the drug free workplace program;
provides labor relations services; and provides workforce planning and job classification services. HR also administers the County’s employee health benefits program, including medical, dental, prescription, deferred compensation, life insurance, long term disability, health care spending accounts and wellness programs and services.

### Human Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$1,594</td>
<td>$1,602</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The Information Technology Services Department (ITS) promotes the successful day to day business of Manatee County Government. Under the direction of the County Administrator, ITS collaborates and partners with BCC Agencies, Constitutional Officers, and the Courts. The Department manages services that offer and support Application and Systems, county fiber network, Telecommunications, Radio Repair, Network Infrastructure, Security, and Customer and Business Services.

### Information Technology Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$11,191</td>
<td>$10,067</td>
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</table>

### NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

The Neighborhood Services Department is made up of four divisions:

- The **NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS** division identifies, connects, works with, and provides resources to the neighborhoods to guide neighborhoods who are willing to help themselves become a better place to live. Additionally, this division assists with the revitalization of existing or aging neighborhoods by awarding small neighborhood improvement grant funds. Opportunities are provided to residents to voice concerns regarding their area in-person and via their own Publication the Neighborhood Connections Magazine.

- The **LIBRARY SERVICES** division, Florida’s Library of the Year in 2016, provides resources, services and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) based programs and critical literacy initiatives. They provide engaging programs for all ages, serve as community centers and provide access to meeting rooms, computers and technology. The Library makes available a large, relevant collection of physical books and a unique family resources as well as digital content featuring eBooks, eAudio, streaming music and movies, and full text articles for the educational and recreational pursuits of every age.

- The **HUMAN SERVICES** division encompasses various Sections, who oversee programs designed to assist vulnerable and/or at-risk youth and disabled, elderly or economically/socially disadvantaged individuals to meet the most basic of human needs.
  - Veterans Services is charged with the delivery of services for the County’s nearly 40,000 veterans as well as their dependents. These benefits encompass healthcare, disability compensation, long-term and low-income pension as well as housing and education.

### PROBATION SERVICES

- **PROBATION SERVICES** division administers pre-trial and post-sentence services to the County and circuit courts. Services focus on providing the least physically restrictive alternatives to incarceration as possible through meaningful supervision by offering pre-trial intervention, pre-trial release, misdemeanor probation supervision and the Offender Work Program which enables offenders to work throughout the community to avoid jail time, maintain their jobs and continue to provide for themselves and their families while creating taxpayer savings such as decreasing the costs of incarceration.

### Neighborhood Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
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<td>$20,431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Parks and Natural Resources Department is a diverse department that oversees and administers a multitude of recreational, athletic, and...
COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
General Government Operations

nature opportunities throughout our public parks and natural preserves system including beach renourishment projects for Anna Maria Island. They also support the Board of County Commissioners for federal legislation and appropriations initiatives.

- The **RECREATION** division manages over 40 parks and facilities where staff supervises, coordinates and implements county aquatic, athletic, fitness and racquet sport programs and rentals to the public, enhancing the quality of life for over 500,000 participants annually.

- The **NATURAL RESOURCES** division manages nearly 30,000 acres of conservation lands for the protection of natural resources, maintenance of the ecosystem services they provide to our community, and to provide nature-centered recreation. The largest and most frequently visited of these preserves are Robinson, Emerson, Rye and Duette.

- The **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION** division protects natural systems (air, water, soil, and habitats) through regulatory and management programs related to storm water, air pollutants, fertilizer/landscaping, pollutant storage tanks, hazardous materials, and phosphate and mineral mining.

- The **AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION SERVICES** division provides educational programs which brings the resources of the University of Florida to Manatee County to solve local problems, provide educational opportunities, promote economic enhancement and improve the quality of life for all. Examples of programs include school and community gardens education, environmental sustainability, red tide education, 4-H youth development, Florida Friendly Landscaping, the Master Gardener volunteer program and many more.

- The **PROGRAMMING, VOLUNTEER AND EDUCATION** division hosts a variety of interpretive hands-on education programs, passive recreation activities, and volunteer service opportunities in Manatee County’s parks and preserves, serving over 10,000 participants while providing over 500 programs annually. This team is also responsible for permitting special events within the parks and preserves as well as hosting regular Signature Events attended by thousands of residents and visitors.

- The **ECOLOGICAL AND MARINE RESOURCES** division designs and implements large scale landscape restoration projects to improve environmental quality and habitat values in addition to management of waterway issues including waterway and coastal aids to navigation, information signs, County-owned boat ramps and artificial reefs.

**CONSTRUCTION SERVICES** completes minor construction and renovation projects and provides vertical construction management resources for county-owned facilities.

**PROPERTY ACQUISITION** manages land purchases, easements, land exchanges, leases, vacations and acquisition of property for capital improvement road projects.

**ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY** implements energy efficient measures to promote sustainability county-wide.

**SURVEY** provides survey services for county departments and ensures compliance with State and County rules and regulations for recorded plats.

**RECORDS MANAGEMENT** oversees electronic records retention and copy services for County departments and is responsible for mail and courier services for both the County departments and Constitutional Officers.

**PARKS MAINTENANCE** maintains all County parks and certain other non-park facilities covering over 1,162 acres and approximately 2.6 miles of beaches.

### Property Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budget</strong></td>
<td>$17,838</td>
<td>$15,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
<td>$15,321</td>
<td>$14,136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PUBLIC SAFETY**
The Public Safety Department’s mission is to serve and protect its community with compassion, honor and commitment.

- **ANIMAL SERVICES** enforces state and local animal control statutes and ordinances, shelters impounded animals, promotes responsible pet ownership through education of owners on spay/neuter and leash rules, and facilitates adoptions through its own programs and those of its animal rescue partners in the community.

- **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER** (ECC/911) processes 911 calls from the community, dispatching and coordinating fire, emergency medical services resources and law enforcement agencies throughout the county. ECC also oversees 311 services which responds to citizens and visitors questions with information as needed.

- **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** plans for and assists in mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery for countywide disasters, including training, public awareness, and technical assistance for disaster plans and procedures.

- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** (EMS) provides basic and advanced life support treatment along with transport services throughout the entire county. EMS also oversees the Community Paramedicine program which is geared towards improving access to appropriate healthcare for Manatee County’s medically vulnerable, underinsured, and medically underserved citizens.

- **BEACH PATROL** is responsible for protecting our residents and visitors while they visit our public beaches. More than just lifeguards, Beach Patrol provides basic life support and advanced life support emergency medical services. Life-saving measures are being performed before an ambulance arrives.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
The Public Works Department is comprised of two support sections and twelve divisions within three operational business centers:

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:**
- **ADMINISTRATION** provides clerical support to the Public Works Director and Deputy Directors.
- The **EMPLOYEE RESOURCE CENTER** coordinates personnel matters, safety/training and acts as an emergency liaison with the County Emergency Operations Center.
- **FISCAL OPERATIONS** supports the financial management of Public Works cost centers and the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

**ENGINEERING SERVICES:**
- **ROAD/BRIDGE ENGINEERING** performs engineering and permitting for the County's roadway, sidewalk, and intersection improvement projects through the use of computer-aided design (CAD & Civil 3D). They also provide technical support for the construction of county CIP projects, perform conceptual studies and cost estimates, and assist Growth Management with reviews of county thoroughfare designs.
- **UTILITY ENGINEERING** reviews private residential and commercial development utility plans, CIP project design and construction, and completes conflict resolution with the Florida Department of Transportation. They continue to support county operations and provide CAD support, permit preparation and water/wastewater computer modeling.
- **STORMWATER ENGINEERING** is responsible for the review and approval of proposed stormwater management systems associated with the land development review process; design, permitting, and inspection of county stormwater management facilities; management of Watershed Management Plans (WMP) in cooperation with Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD); and monitoring and maintaining the County's 24-unit near-real time rain and stream gauge network. The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) section is responsible for editing and maintenance of geodatabase systems utilized throughout the department for asset management and service request tracking using Cityworks and E-Builder Project Management Software.
- **INFRASTRUCTURE INSPECTIONS** inspects all horizontal commercial, development and CIP construction projects.
- **PROJECT MANAGEMENT** provides oversight to support the planning, design, land acquisition and construction elements for the transportation, stormwater, potable water, wastewater, and solid waste capital improvement programs. Recently completed and continuing notable projects this year include:
  - Extension of 44th Avenue East, over the Braden River and over I-75 to Lakewood Ranch Boulevard
  - Fort Hamer Road extension
  - Major improvements along Moccasin Wallow Road from US 41 to I-75 and from I-75 to US 301

**FIELD OPERATIONS SERVICES:**
- **FIELD MAINTENANCE** maintains, repairs and improves approximately 1,479 miles of paved and unpaved roadway and related rights-of-way. They maintain over 186 miles of canals, an estimated 36,309 stormwater inlets, all roadside ditches, retention ponds, stormwater pipes and off-road pipes and associated structures. The Field Maintenance Division also manages over $2.5 million in contracted maintenance and repairs for countywide street sweeping, pond mowing/spraying, ROW mowing, sidewalk repair, tree removal, tree trimming, and shell road rebasing.
- **FLEET SERVICES** operates a county-wide fleet asset management program with 1,812 assets of various types and classes. The Fleet Division has four full-service maintenance facilities, each with a parts distribution center. The fleet team also collects and analyzes vehicle repair, utilization, and life cycle data while managing the asset replacement process to maintain a safe and efficient vehicle fleet.
- **FUEL/INVENTORY OPERATIONS** maintains inventory used by all Public Works' divisions and disposes of county-wide surplus items. Staff manages fuel and distributes over 1.5 million gallons of gasoline and diesel annually. Customers include all county departments and several outside agencies including the Sheriff's office and Fire Rescue Departments.

**TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT:**
- **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING** responsibilities include planning for the County's multi-modal transportation needs, engaging the public in County transportation planning efforts, implementing and maintaining the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan, prioritizing proposed capital projects, determining road right-of-way needs, ensuring transportation concurrency implementation and compliance, undertaking traffic study reviews, preparing transportation-related development orders, and maintaining concurrency records for transportation, school, and utility infrastructure.
- **TRAFFIC ENGINEERING** manages traffic signal system timing and coordination for over 100 traffic signals around the County and operates the Traffic Management Center (TMC) for the County-maintained portion of the traffic signal system. The TMC works with FDOT and provides real-time travel-related information through the SMART TRAFFIC website, @941_traffic Twitter account, and Waze. Operating the TMC includes support activities such as Advance Traffic Management System (ATMS) data analysis to proactively address traffic issues and efficiently implement signal timing changes in response to traffic incidents, special events, and planned construction activities. The team monitors signal health/performance and maintains 4 dynamic message signs, 122 miles of fiber optic cable communication and over 490 intelligent transportation system devices. The team also reviews development applications, capital project plans & temporary use permits, and provides design support for traffic signal, signing, and pavement marking projects. They maintain and manage the County crash database, manage the County’s Traffic Calming program, conduct over 800 traffic studies per year in response to citizen requests, and collect traffic counts at over 300 locations throughout the County.
- **TRAFFIC OPERATIONS** provides maintenance for 241 State and County signalized intersections, 4,100 street lights, 319 flashing beacons and school zone flashers, 20 permanent count stations, over 55,000

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$32,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$29,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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traffic signs on County roads, and approximately 1,500 linear miles of long line pavement markings on over 400 miles of paved County roads.

The Redevelopment and Economic Opportunity Department (REO) was created in October 2016 to focus County efforts on the redevelopment and revitalization of urban areas of the county and to create greater economic opportunities for residents and businesses through housing, community and economic development projects and programs. This includes a strong emphasis on job retention and creation through working with local businesses, implementing redevelopment strategies in the Southwest District (SWD), and providing opportunities for affordable rental and homeownership projects. The department consists of three programs:

• The REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM encompasses the Southwest County Improvement District, commonly referred to as SWTIF or SWD, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on June 3, 2014. This tax increment district became effective October 1, 2014 with a 30-year life span. In the district, 50% of tax increment revenues are directed to support redevelopment, economic development, and infrastructure improvements that attract investment, increase the tax base, create jobs, improve infrastructure connections, and brand the district.

• The ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM seeks to retain and expand existing local business, and attract new businesses to the area. Growing the economic base of the County through targeted industry jobs in manufacturing, bio/clean technology, life sciences, information technology, financial and professional services, corporate headquarters, and sports performance makes this happen. The Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption (EDAVTE) provides an additional incentive in the County’s Economic Development toolbox for qualified new or existing businesses to relocate or expand to foster local economic growth and increase employment.

• The COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM administers over $10 million in grant program funds from the state and federal governments for affordable housing and community development activities for low to moderate-income residents. These programs include the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) program, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, Home Investment Partnership (HOME) program and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program. These programs work together to realize the County’s goals of a diversified economic tax base and improved quality of life with better economic opportunities for residents and businesses.

The County provides utility services through various operational and fiscal management divisions under a number of county departments. In 1991, the County combined its existing Water and Wastewater Systems, Solid Waste System and Stormwater Management System into one public utility. The UTILITIES DEPARTMENT operates the County’s water, wastewater and solid waste systems.

• The Water Division operates, maintains and monitors the County’s drinking water supply, water treatment facility, laboratory and distribution system including meter reading and water conservation efforts.

• The Wastewater Division manages pumping stations, gravity and force main lines and three regional treatment plants that process wastewater into effluent usable for urban and agricultural irrigation.

• The Solid Waste division operates and maintains the Lena Road Landfill, scalehouse and recycling program. The Utilities Customer Service and Billing Collections division provides services to system customers.

The PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, through the efforts of the Field Maintenance Division and

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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PUBLIC UTILITIES SYSTEM</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating and non-operating revenues</td>
<td>$209,498</td>
<td>$204,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant and Contributions</td>
<td>50,528</td>
<td>62,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>(155,117)</td>
<td>(145,995)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess of revenues over expenses</td>
<td>104,909</td>
<td>120,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation and amortization</td>
<td>(31,772)</td>
<td>(30,590)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net after depreciation</td>
<td>$68,545</td>
<td>$86,113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BCC COURT FUNDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Board of County Commissioners funds various costs to assist in the support of the state court system in addition to those costs expended by the Clerk of Circuit Court, including court costs, court administration costs, Public Defender and State Attorney costs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BCC Court Funding</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>$3,511</td>
<td>$3,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPRIETARY OPERATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stormwater Engineering, maintains and ensures the flood carrying capacity of the Stormwater drainage system and develops and implements the Stormwater Management Plan. The department also provides engineering services for utilities projects, reviews construction plans, and provides survey locations and record support services for the Utilities System.

The INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT develops and maintains a digital base of geo-referenced information about the County’s public utilities infrastructure and produces graphic displays of the information.

The AGRICULTURE AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT administers the water conservation education program for the County Utilities System.

The Public Utilities System’s capacity to pay the principal and interest due on its bonds is referred to as “revenue bond coverage.” Although the system is required to maintain revenue bond coverage of at least 115%, the coverage during the current fiscal year was 293%.

CONVENTION CENTER
The Bradenton Area Convention Center provides meeting space for trade shows, sporting events, exhibitions, conferences and private parties. The Powel Crosley Estate provides conference space and an indoor/outdoor venue for both public and private events. These facilities are managed by the Convention and Visitors Bureau and facilitate hundreds of events annually.

TRANSIT SYSTEM
The Manatee County Transit Division, through the Manatee County Public Works Department, operates fixed-route public transportation services throughout Manatee County and into neighboring counties, including Sarasota County and Pinellas County. Fixed-bus routes generally operate Monday through Saturday, from 5:30 AM to 7:00 PM. A trolley service is provided on Anna Maria Island (i.e., AMI Trolley), and operates on a 20-minute service frequency and until 10:30 PM, 365 days a year. The Transit Division also operates a demand-response paratransit service (i.e., Handy Bus) for persons with disabilities who cannot use the fixed-route bus service. Emergency transportation service to area shelters during emergency events is also a core function of the Transit Division operation.

PORT MANATEE
Port Manatee is the closest U.S. deepwater seaport to the Panama Canal, serving bulk, breakbulk, container, heavy lift, project and general cargo customers. The port generates more than $3.9 billion in annual economic impact for the local community, while supporting more than 27,000 direct and indirect jobs, without the benefit of ad-valorem taxes. In fiscal year 2020, an all-time-high 88,466 twenty-foot-equivalent container units (TEU) crossed Port Manatee docks, up 54.6 percent from the preceding 12-month period, when the port saw moves of 57,239 TEUs. Just a few of the Port's ongoing projects:

- Port Manatee advanced an $8.3 million dockside yard expansion. Construction started on the container yard which will add 9.3 acres to the existing 10-acre paved facility adjoining Port Manatee’s Berth 12 and 14 docks. Completion is targeted for June 2021.
- Improvements to the Port’s cold storage warehouse 2 has been completed. This added six new loading docks.
- A portion of the railroad track re-build and upgrade was completed and will continue by adding eleven railcars worth of usable space as well as repairing defective track structures.

The Port Authority has loans and revenue bonds payable outstanding, which are secured by and are solely payable from pledged revenues
of the Port, primarily net operating revenues and investment earnings. The Port Authority has committed in its bond authorization resolution to maintain certain financial ratios while these bonds are outstanding. The Port Authority was in compliance with its covenants for the year ended September 30, 2020. For more detailed information about the Port, see the Port Authority Financial Schedules at www.manateeclerk.com.

**INVESTMENT INFORMATION**

During fiscal year 2020, the County’s investment portfolio ranged from $1,021 to $1,243 million. Although most of this money is obligated to various projects, it is invested to provide interest income that is budgeted as a revenue source. The Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller invests this money according to a written investment policy approved by the Board.

This policy dictates how the County’s money or portfolio can be invested and it:

- assures that any investments are of a minimum risk. Although sometimes higher interest rates are bypassed to do this, the primary concern is to prevent any principal being lost through unsafe investments.
- assures liquidity, or that cash will be available as needed to pay any bills.
- considers yield or interest rate. If risk and liquidity are the same for different investments, the final selection will be based on the highest yield.

The Clerk invests frequently, diversifying the portfolio to generate the highest yield possible. During fiscal year 2020, the investments made by the Clerk earned an average of 1.5490% and generated $18 million in investment earnings. The chart below is a breakdown of the portfolio at fair value, by types of investments.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAPITAL PROJECTS</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaches</td>
<td>$10,995</td>
<td>$647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>11,329</td>
<td>4,703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>10,014</td>
<td>9,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads &amp; drainage</td>
<td>27,524</td>
<td>27,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Manatee</td>
<td>8,105</td>
<td>989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water &amp; sewer</td>
<td>46,063</td>
<td>24,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid waste</td>
<td>2,033</td>
<td>652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$116,063</td>
<td>$67,885</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**US Government Instrumentalities** 17.78%

**US Treasury Securities** 11.56%

**Florida Local Government Investment Trust** 7.04%

**Local Government Surplus Trust Funds** 60.24%

**Institutional Cash Fund** 3.38%

**Florida Local Government Investment Trust** 7.04%

**Total** $1,116,971 100.0%
### Demographic/Economic

#### 2020 Principal Employers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Percentage of Total County Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manatee County School Board</td>
<td>5,634</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publix</td>
<td>2,577</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beall’s Inc.</td>
<td>2,363</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>2,183</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee County Government</td>
<td>2,053</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee County Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Tomato Growers</td>
<td>1,139</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropicana Products, Inc.</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota</td>
<td>889</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMG Academies</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number of individuals employed within Manatee County: 164,422

Sources:
(1) Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Bureau of Workforce Statistics & Economic Research, Manatee County Government and Manatee County Sheriff’s Department
(2) US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

### Graphs

- **Population vs. Residents per Government Employee**
  - Bar graph showing the relationship between population and residents per government employee from 2011 to 2020.
  - Y-axis: Population (0,000 to 450,000)
  - X-axis: Years (2011 to 2020)
  - Legend: Population, Residents per Government Employee

- **County vs. Federal Unemployment Rates**
  - Line graph comparing county unemployment rate and federal unemployment rate from 2011 to 2020.
  - Y-axis: Unemployment Rate (%)
  - X-axis: Years (2011 to 2020)
  - Legend: County Unemployment Rate, Federal Unemployment Rate
How to Contact Manatee County Government

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Manatee County Courthouse
1115 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34205
www.manateeclerk.com
(941) 749-1800

CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM
1115 Manatee Avenue West
2nd floor
Bradenton, Florida 34205

CHILD SUPPORT HEARINGS
Judicial Center
1051 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34205

HISTORICAL RECORDS LIBRARY
(Carnegie Library)
1405 Fourth Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34205

MANATEE VILLAGE HISTORICAL PARK
1404 Manatee Avenue East
Bradenton, Florida 32408

PALMETTO HISTORICAL PARK
Palmetto Carnegie Library
515 Tenth Avenue West
Palmetto, Florida 34221

FLORIDA MARITIME MUSEUM
AT CORTEZ
4415 119th Street West
Cortez, Florida 34215

MANATEE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM
1015 6th Street West
Palmetto, Florida 34221

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Administration Building
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34205
www.mymantee.org
(941) 748-4501

PROPERTY APPRAISER
915 Fourth Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34205
www.manateepao.com
(941) 748-8208

SHERIFF
600 301 Boulevard West
Bradenton, Florida 34205
www.manateesheriff.com
(941) 747-3011

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
600 301 Boulevard West
Suite 108
Bradenton, Florida 34205
www.votemanatee.com
(941) 741-3823

TAX COLLECTOR
819 301 Boulevard West
Bradenton, Florida 34205
www.taxcollector.com
(941) 741-4800

Driver License Office
904 301 Boulevard West
Bradenton, FL 34205

Lakewood Ranch
6007 111th Street East
Bradenton, Florida 34211

North River
4333 U.S. Highway 301 North
Ellenton, Florida 34222

First Manatee South County Tag Agency
5756 14th Street West
Bradenton, FL 34207

Self-service kiosk locations at Publix grocery stores:
Lockwood Commons
4240 53rd Avenue East, Bradenton

Beachway Plaza
7310 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton

Parkwood Square
9005 US Highway 301 North, Parrish

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