



Broward County Attorney's Office

Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report



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Dear Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Commissioners,

As I enter my ninth year as County Attorney, I am again pleased to report that the County Attorney's Office ("CAO" or "Office") is operating at a very high level. We are blessed to have the team that, as a result of the Board's support, we have been able to assemble. We believe we are right-sized and have the right mix of talent to ensure we will remain a high-quality law office for the foreseeable future. I am also proud that, based on the quantitative analysis we routinely perform, we provide our service at an "all-in" hourly cost that provides great value to the Board and the County. By any objective measure, the CAO operates with great efficiency.

This year, on multiple occasions when the County faced novel challenges—whether in the form of new legislative mandates from state or federal leaders or complex litigation occurring in parallel with high-stakes negotiations—we compiled cross-disciplinary teams of attorneys who analyzed the facts and the law, offered a range of solutions, and worked as long and as hard as necessary to achieve favorable results.

This annual report is divided into two sections: the first section provides a snapshot of a few of the most significant matters handled by our Office this year; the second section provides examples of matters we routinely handle for the County's agencies and officials.

It remains my honor to serve the Board and to lead the County's law firm.



Andrew J. Meyers

Broward County Attorney

SECTION ONE: SOME OF OUR MOST SIGNIFICANT MATTERS FROM FY2025

Solid Waste:

- **Waste Management Agreement.** Working in coordination with senior County staff, our Office prepared and negotiated a complex agreement with Waste Management Inc. of Florida (“WMIF”) to ensure that WMIF is legally bound to perform certain voluntary commitments it made to the County regarding solid waste. Among a number of other benefits to the County, the resulting agreement provides for increased capacity at WMIF’s Okeechobee facility for municipal solid waste, unlimited capacity for construction and demolition debris and yard/bulky waste, significant savings in transfer station and transportation costs, contingency disposal services and capacity for storm-related debris, and an October 1, 2027, end to the acceptance of municipal solid waste at Monarch Hill landfill.

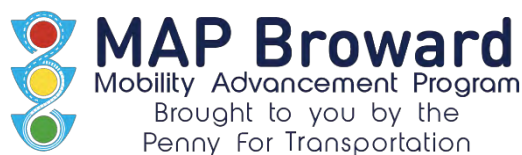
- **Monarch Hill Expansion and Litigation.** Our Office prepared the necessary ordinances to permit the vertical and horizontal expansion of Monarch Hill landfill. We also defended the validity of these ordinances in Chapter 164 proceedings, administrative litigation, and circuit court litigation instituted by the cities of Coconut Creek and Deerfield Beach. While aggressively preparing for a scheduled August 2025 final hearing in the administrative litigation, we worked closely with Mayor Furr and County Administration to negotiate and draft a global settlement of the pending disputes generally seen by all parties as a “win-win.” The settlement resolved challenges that could have significantly delayed WMIF’s efforts to expand Monarch Hill. Such delay could have resulted in substantial negative financial consequences for the County and all municipalities within Broward County that utilize Monarch Hill for any type of waste disposal. If WMIF obtains the approvals required for both contemplated expansions of Monarch Hill (vertical and horizontal), the settlement and the above-referenced WMIF agreement equip the County to continue to meet its statutory obligation to provide capacity for the region’s solid waste disposal needs for the next several decades.

- **Solid Waste Authority.** Following the creation of the Solid Waste Disposal and Recyclable Materials Processing Authority of Broward County, Florida (“Authority”), our Office continues to provide legal support to the County in connection with the Authority’s preparation of a Master Plan and drafting of a Facilities Amendment, which are post-formation conditions that must be satisfied over the next year for the Authority

to remain positioned to help create the type of solid waste “flow control” that can result in lower general disposal costs, thereby creating funds that may potentially be used to establish a more robust, regional recycling system.

Transportation Surtax:

- **Transportation System Surtax Interlocal Agreement.** The CAO drafted and, with significant assistance from senior County staff, negotiated a comprehensive Third Amendment to the County’s interlocal agreement with municipalities regarding transportation surtax proceeds. Developed in conjunction with the Broward County City Managers’ Association, the updated program established by the amendment provides municipalities a formula-based distribution of surtax funds each year for transportation rehabilitation and maintenance projects or on-demand transportation services, as well as a grant match program through which municipalities can use surtax funds to pay the local match for certain state or federal grants. The amendment was approved by the Board on June 10, 2025, and will be in effect commencing the start of Fiscal Year 2026. Our Office is also updating the project-specific municipal funding agreements and County code provisions to reflect the amendments to the interlocal agreement.



- **PD&E Contract for the Airport/Seaport/Convention Center Connector.** Our Office negotiated and drafted an \$18.5 million agreement for project development, environmental studies, and the preliminary engineering design for a proposed fixed guideway route from the planned FLL Intermodal Center to Port Everglades and the Convention Center.

- **Municipal Surtax Projects.** The CAO, in collaboration with Mobility Advancement Program (“MAP”) administration, drafted and reviewed numerous municipal project-specific funding agreements and construction-phase amendments for more than \$120 million of surtax-funded municipal capital projects, which include road, sidewalk, greenway, and drainage improvements in municipalities throughout Broward County.

Convention Center Expansion, Hotel, and Civic Arena:

- **Convention Center Expansion and Hotel Construction.** Our Office has continued to be involved on a near-daily basis with the County’s construction and administration

teams as the Convention Center Expansion and Hotel project nears completion. We routinely reviewed project schedules, work authorizations, claim impact notices, and project communications between the County and the developer; addressed contract interpretation and construction issues; and provided guidance on miscellaneous project matters. We participated in monthly meetings of the Convention Center Task Force, which includes County project staff and County Auditor's staff, to discuss each aspect of the project. We are also proactively engaged in efforts to resolve or reduce post-construction claims, seeking to head off the type of complex litigation that routinely results from construction projects of this magnitude.

- **Future Operation of the Convention Center and Hotel.** The CAO has also been engaged in drafting agreements that will govern the operations of the Convention Center, Hotel, and related spaces, as well as the integration of Convention Center and Hotel operations. We worked with staff to finalize an agreement with North Star Research Corp., d/b/a HVS Convention, Sports & Entertainment Facilities Consulting, to monitor operation of the Hotel by Omni Hotels Management Corporation ("Omni"), and various other agreements with vendors to provide services and to utilize retail spaces at the Hotel. We have also worked with Visit Lauderdale, Omni, and the operator of the Convention Center to coordinate the shared use of the newly developed plaza adjacent to the expanded Convention Center.

- **Panthers Agreement.** Our Office played a key role in negotiating and drafting an amended operating agreement among the County, the Florida Panthers Hockey Club, Ltd., Arena Operating Company, Ltd., and Sunrise Sports & Entertainment, LLC (collectively, the "Panthers Parties"), and the related amended license agreement. The updated agreements establish a long-term commitment between the County and the Panthers Parties with revised financial and operational obligations, including the Panthers Parties' commitment to community investment, youth programs, and enhanced marketing support for the County. The terms of the amended operating agreement had to be carefully tailored to comply with legal restrictions related to the funding sources that will facilitate funding of capital improvements under the revised agreements.



SECTION TWO: ANNUAL LEGAL SERVICES

While our primary client representatives are the Board and County Administration, the CAO also provides continuous counsel for the County's various departments, divisions, sections, and offices. This section provides representative examples of the work we provided this year.

Affordable Housing: This year, our Office provided legal support for solicitations, loan agreements, declarations, land use restrictions, and other financing documents related to over \$29 million in County loans—funded by the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, other General Fund dollars, and federal funds—to help facilitate the financing, construction, and availability of affordable housing throughout the County. Among other matters, we assisted the Housing Finance Division with four gap financing transactions that collectively will result in the construction or rehabilitation of approximately 293 affordable housing units in the cities of Fort Lauderdale, Pembroke Park, and Sunrise.

Airport: Our Office provides legal counsel to the Broward County Aviation Department ("BCAD") on a wide range of regulatory, transactional, and litigation matters to support the operations of the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport ("FLL") and the North Perry Airport ("HWO"). This past year, we provided legal counsel on many projects including:

- **Passenger Boarding Bridges.** We provided continued legal support for a multiyear project to replace 39 terminal gate bridges at FLL, which has a current contract cost of approximately \$40 million. We supported staff in resolving various contractor-related issues and prepared a contract amendment incorporating required federal provisions to ensure the project's eligibility for \$16 million in federal grant funding.
- **Terminal 5 Project.** The Terminal 5 project, which consists of a new five-gate terminal at FLL, is managed by JetBlue Airways Corporation ("JetBlue") and is currently estimated at \$699 million. Our Office provided near-daily legal support to BCAD's construction and administration teams in managing JetBlue and the various contractors, design issues, and delays to help facilitate the successful completion of the project.
- **Automated People Mover ("APM") Circulator Project.** The APM project at FLL will construct approximately 16,000 linear feet of an elevated, dual-lane guideway to

navigate through Terminals 1, 2, 3, and 4 (and future Terminal 5), at an estimated cost of approximately \$1.2 billion. Our Office is actively engaged in discussions with BCAD staff and project consultants regarding the solicitation strategy and delivery method for the project, and we are drafting the contract for the infrastructure component and assisting with review of the competitive solicitation packages for the project.

- **Terminal Connectors Project.** This project, with an estimated cost of \$228 million, will create a post-security walkway at FLL, allowing passengers to move between terminals. Over the past year, we worked closely with BCAD’s construction and administration teams to support the completion of the project. This included collaboration to monitor progress, resolve design-related issues, manage contractor claims, and mitigate delays.

Appeals and Constitutional Law:

- **Presidential Executive Orders and Department of Justice Guidance.** Our Office regularly reviewed executive orders issued by President Trump and guidance from the United States Department of Justice and provided appropriate counsel to County Administration and potentially impacted County agencies.

- **Florida DOGE Legislation and Audit.** In response to newly enacted Senate Bill 2502 (2025) (“SB 2502”), which provides for, among other things, state review and audit of certain diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, our Office worked closely with County Administration and all County agencies, including most significantly with the Resilient Environment Department and Enterprise Technology Services Division, to conduct a full-scale review of County programs, regulations, and documents to confirm compliance with SB 2502 and to identify initiatives or nomenclature that could be reframed to avoid misapprehension. We also provided guidance to impacted agencies confirming the legality of current County programs and identified policy decisions for County Administration and the Board. In connection with the midsummer 2025 visit by the Florida DOGE team, we worked closely with County Administration to advise on relevant legal issues. Because of the scope and ongoing nature of this project, our project team includes approximately a dozen attorneys and paralegals.

- **Unauthorized Public Camping and Sleeping.** Last year, the Florida Legislature enacted House Bill 1365 (2024), which addressed unauthorized public camping and sleeping. This year, we continued to provide guidance to County agencies on compliance

issues and continue to hold monthly conference calls with municipal attorneys to ensure consistent legal positions and to coordinate local compliance efforts.

Bond Financing: Our Office counsels the Finance and Administrative Services Department (“FASD”) on a variety of finance matters, including providing ongoing legal advice regarding the County’s outstanding bond obligations. This year, we worked closely with FASD, outside bond counsel, and the County’s financial advisor to structure and document the issuance of a taxable revolving line of credit note in a principal amount not to exceed \$25 million. The financing was undertaken to fund capital improvements at the Broward County Civic Arena (“Arena”) and to refund a portion of certain outstanding bond obligations relating to the Arena. This line of credit provides the County with a flexible financing tool to fund certain capital projects at the Arena.

Class Action Litigation: Our Office represents the County, either directly or in coordination with outside counsel, in various class action lawsuits, and we regularly monitor nationwide class action settlements to identify opportunities for potential claims by the County.

- **Opioid Litigation.** Our Office continued to coordinate with our outside counsel team in the opioid multidistrict litigation (“MDL”), through which the County has received more than \$32 million to date, and expects to receive approximately \$88 million in additional funds over the next 15 years, to help abate the opioid epidemic.

- **PFAS Litigation.** Our Office worked with outside counsel to file claims in the per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”) MDL to participate in four nationwide drinking water settlements, through which the County is expected to receive approximately \$20 million over the next 13 years.

- **Insulin Litigation.** Our Office selected outside counsel to represent the County in the insulin MDL, in which state and local governments are alleging that insulin drug manufacturers and pharmacy benefit managers engaged in pricing schemes to dramatically increase the cost of insulin.

Collections and Enforcement:

- **Bankruptcy-Related Claims.** Our Office defends the County’s rights in bankruptcies filed by debtors that owe money to the County. The amounts owed are

typically real estate taxes or tangible personal property taxes (“TPP”). This fiscal year, we collected more than \$4.5 million through filed bankruptcy claims. One of our largest recoveries this year was in the Texas bankruptcy of Steward Health Care System LLC, the former owner of the Florida Medical Center in Lauderdale Lakes; our Office recovered approximately \$763,000 in TPP owed for prior years. In addition, by leveraging the County’s right to convert unpaid water bills into liens against real property, our Office recovered \$233,909.47 in unpaid water bills from the new owner of the healthcare facility.

- **Airline Bankruptcies.** Our Office represented the County and the Broward County Tax Collector in the bankruptcies of Spirit Airlines, Silver Airways, and Azul Brazilian Airlines. BCAD and the Tax Collector recovered fully in the first Spirit bankruptcy and are on track for a similar result in the Azul bankruptcy. The second Spirit bankruptcy was only recently filed, and we expect to continue advocating aggressively for the County’s right to repayment. In the Silver bankruptcy, our Office helped the Tax Collector fully recover the amounts owed and helped BCAD mitigate its losses by exercising rights to a contractual security deposit and asserting the County’s right to payment for post-petition services. We continue working toward potential additional recoveries for BCAD through the appointed independent trustee, who is pursuing claims on behalf of creditors.



Construction Management Division:

- **Medical Examiner’s Office and Crime Lab Combined Facility.** Our Office prepared the amended and restated consultant services agreement for the new facility, which will be located at 2000 West Commercial Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale, and provided counsel to the Construction Management Division throughout the negotiation of the amended and restated agreement. We also provided legal guidance and drafting in furtherance of resolving municipal liens on the property when the County purchased the site.
- **Courthouse Secure Parking Garage and Enabling Projects.** Over the past year, the Office provided support to the Construction Management Division with contract drafting

for, and administration of, the enabling projects that will prepare the courthouse site for the construction of a secure parking garage and plaza. We assisted in the preparation of the Final Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for the final component of the garage and plaza enabling project (i.e., the courthouse central and west wing demolition) and the preconstruction services work order for the garage and plaza construction.

Elections: Our Office provided legal support, training, and guidance to the Supervisor of Elections (“SOE”) and the Broward County Canvassing Board (“Canvassing Board”) for the November 2024 General Election and the March 2025 Municipal Elections. We provided training and guidance on new voter intent determination rules and the numerous changes to election and voter registration rules, including the effect of President Trump’s Executive Order 14248 titled “Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections.” We monitored and advised the SOE on court orders affecting the enforcement and implementation of state regulations and legislation, and represented the SOE in federal and state court actions challenging the enforcement and implementation of such laws.

Enterprise Technology Services Division (“ETS”): Our Office provided contract legal support for technology procurements for ETS and many other agencies. Prominent matters this year included agreements for new Libraries technology, a new Human Services Department records system, and public safety radio system improvements.

Environmental:

- **Beach Preservation Program.** Our Office negotiated an amendment to the consultant services agreement among the County, Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC (“Foth”), and Aptim Coastal Planning & Engineering, LLC. The amendment authorizes Foth to perform tasks necessary to establish an erosion control line along a portion of Pompano Beach, which is a prerequisite to the authorization of any beach renourishment project at that location.



- **Sand Bypass Project.** Our Office provided legal support to the Resilient Environment Department during a federal permitting delay for the Sand Bypass Project,

including counsel regarding federal regulations and permitting, the executed construction agreement, and minimizing risks of litigation. We also helped develop a final construction bid document for rehabilitation of the north jetty of the Port Everglades channel. Both projects will minimize sand deposition into the channel and will divert beach quality sand to beaches south of the Port.

- **PACE Ordinance and Interlocal Agreements.** Working in collaboration with County staff and industry stakeholders, our Office prepared, negotiated, and drafted enhanced interlocal agreements and new regulations that, collectively, should provide greater protection to PACE customers.

Ethics: Our Office prepared an amendment to the gift provisions of the Broward County Code of Ethics related to official events. Additionally, the Office assisted in responding to a compliance review by the Broward County Office of the Inspector General regarding gift disclosure requirements. We also provided regular guidance to Commissioners and their staff, County agencies, and advisory boards on a wide range of ethics issues, including voting conflicts, required disclosures, gifts, and waivers of conflicts.

Housing Finance Authority: Our Office acts as counsel to the Housing Finance Authority (the “HFA”), including serving as issuer’s counsel on the HFA’s tax-exempt and taxable financings for the acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of multifamily rental housing projects throughout Broward County. This fiscal year, we supported the HFA in closing on Woodsdale Oaks, a \$22 million conduit bond issuance that will finance the construction of 172 affordable housing units. In addition, our Office is actively working toward closing several additional bond transactions before the end of the calendar year. These upcoming deals will result in approximately 432 new affordable housing units being constructed or rehabilitated in Broward County, for a total of approximately \$107 million in multifamily bond financing.

Human Services: Our Office provides daily transactional assistance and legal counsel to six divisions and two sections in the Human Services Department.

Labor & Employment: Our Office provided legal guidance and services in connection with employment issues and litigation, agency investigations, employment policies, and compliance with evolving state and federal employment laws.

Land Use: Our Office provided legal guidance and support to the Board, drafted necessary documents and ordinances, and reviewed declarations and agreements regarding Land Use Plan and text amendments, including amendments for the promotion of affordable housing. Examples of this year's work include:

- **Local Occupational Licensing Ordinance.** Our Office prepared an ordinance amendment to ensure consistency with Chapter 2021-214, Laws of Florida, which was effective as of July 1, 2025, and expressly preempts the licensing of occupations to the state and supersedes local government licensing of occupations.

- **Speed Detection Systems.** We drafted an ordinance authorizing the placement and installation of speed detection systems on roadways maintained as school zones within the Broward Municipal Services District, and a resolution encouraging municipalities enacting speed detection system ordinances to utilize the County ordinance as a model.



- **Expedited Approval of Residential Building Permits Ordinance.** Our Office drafted an ordinance amending the Land Development Code to codify the expedited process for the issuance of a building permit before plat recordation and to explicitly list the requirements of the triparty agreement among the developer, the affected unit of local government, and the County, thereby further expediting the issuance of building permits prior to plat recordation.

Litigation – Commercial Litigation:

- **Courthouse Litigation.** In October 2024, the Board approved the final settlement of the multiparty lawsuit brought by a general contractor that sought more than \$31 million in connection with construction of the Broward County Judicial Complex, as well as the related qui tam claim. The favorable global settlement agreement, achieved at mediation in which Senator Geller participated as the Board representative, resolved all claims in exchange for the County's release of only \$1.1 million of the \$4.3 million held in retainage by the County.

- **Courthouse Beams Litigation.** Following completion of the main courthouse project, the Office initiated litigation on behalf of the County relating to certain construction and design defects. Concurrently with the litigation, we provided counsel to the Construction Management Division regarding the professional analysis and remedial efforts associated with these defects and worked with the contractor and the design professional in furtherance of achieving a favorable resolution of these issues.

Litigation – Personal Injury:

- **Fiscal Year 2025 Personal Injury Lawsuits.** Over the past year, the Office defended the County in more than 180 personal injury lawsuits, including bus passenger claims, vehicle accidents, premises liability claims, Animal Care incidents, negligent security claims, federal civil rights claims, and wrongful death cases. The Office resolved over 90 personal injury lawsuits this fiscal year, including resolving approximately half without any County financial contribution.

- **Indemnification Claims.** Our Office continues to enforce the County’s contract rights to shift the financial burden of litigation to the responsible vendors and their insurers. This year those efforts impacted more than 20 lawsuits, with 12 of them resolved to date without any County financial contribution.

Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”): Our Office provides continuous legal guidance to OMB in connection with the annual budget process and specialized funding matters.

Parks and Recreation: Our Office provides a full range of transactional, litigation, and regulatory support for the Parks and Recreation Division. Representative matters this year included:

- **Hollywood North Beach Park Shoreline.** Our Office assisted in the negotiation of an amendment for phase two consulting services for the Hollywood North Beach Park seawall hardening project and in the procurement of construction services for the project, which will create living shorelines with intertidal zones for mangroves and near-shore seagrasses.

- **Mooring Field at Hollywood North Beach Park.** Our Office provided comprehensive legal support for the development and opening of the mooring field at

Hollywood North Beach Park. After the Parks and Recreation Division obtained authorization from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to construct the mooring field, an adjacent landowner challenged the permit, prompting litigation before the Division of Administrative Hearings. Our Office represented the County in discovery and motion practice, and ultimately helped negotiate a settlement agreement, allowing the County to proceed with development of the mooring field. In addition to litigation support, we provided ongoing guidance relating to the mooring field, including preparation of use permits, liability waivers, and rules of conduct, all while ensuring compliance with applicable state and local regulatory frameworks.

Port Everglades: Our Office provides legal support to the Port Everglades Department in all aspects of its operations. This year that work included:

- **Everglades Company Terminal, Inc.** Our Office drafted a Marine Terminal Lease and Operating Agreement with Everglades Company Terminal, Inc. (“ECT”), leasing almost 40 acres of land to ECT for the operation of a modern container and cargo terminal yard facility. The estimated total guaranteed revenue to the County for the first ten years exceeds \$88 million.



- **King Ocean Services Limited (Cayman Islands) Incorporated.** Our Office drafted a Second Amendment to the lease and operating agreement with King Ocean Services Limited (Cayman Islands) Incorporated, which, among other things, extends the term through September 30, 2035, adjusts rates and the annual minimum guaranteed payment, and reclassifies the types of cargo that qualify for the negotiated rate versus tariff rates.

- **Managing General Contractor Services for Bulkhead Replacement Project.** We drafted an amendment to the County’s agreement with Moss & Associates, LLC, to reconcile the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the Bulkhead Replacement Project, Group 1. The contractor originally proposed a \$92 million increase, which the County was able to reduce through contract negotiations by more than \$30 million.

- **Florida International Terminal, LLC.** Our Office drafted a memorandum of understanding between Florida International Terminal, LLC, and the County to jointly apply for a Port Infrastructure Development Program (“PIDP”) grant in the amount of \$9 million for marine terminal improvements. This effort follows the successful joint

grant applications between the County and two other terminal operators, which were awarded \$53 million in PIDP grant funds in November 2024.

Public Communications: Our Office provides regular legal guidance and support to the Office of Public Communications (“OPC”) regarding public records questions, sponsorship opportunities, and other operational matters. Our activities this year included:

- **Public Records Symposium.** Our Office gave the keynote address at the County’s first public records symposium during National Sunshine Week, an annual event in March that promotes open government and public access to information. During the presentation, we provided training on Florida’s public records laws to agency staff.



- **Advantage Marketing Program.** Our Office collaborated with OPC to update the County’s Advantage Marketing Program. The updated marketing program enables agencies to efficiently cosponsor events, facilitates creative marketing opportunities, and streamlines the sponsorship process for recurring County events.

Real Property: Our Office provides legal guidance and support to the Real Property and Real Estate Development Division in property acquisition, development, management, leasing, and operations. Significant transactions this year included the following:

- **Sistrunk Boulevard Parcels.** Our Office negotiated and drafted two purchase and sale agreements for the acquisition of five adjoining parcels totaling approximately 0.95 acres at the corner of Sistrunk Boulevard and NW 27th Avenue in the Broward Municipal Services District. The parcels have been identified as a potential site for affordable housing development. Our Office is working closely with the Division to complete due diligence and advance the transactions toward closing.

- **Pompano Beach Ground Lease.** Our Office provided legal assistance, participated in negotiations, and drafted a 75-year ground lease for an approximately 5.1-acre parcel of County-owned vacant land located in the City of Pompano Beach. The tenant has subleased portions of the premises to two subtenants who intend to construct a mixed-use development that includes 467 units (of which at least 440 will be affordable housing rental units), commercial/retail space, structured parking, and related amenities.

- **Boulevard Gardens Transfer.** Our Office provided legal guidance and support on the conveyance of certain County-owned property located at 178 NW 27th Terrace in the City of Fort Lauderdale to United Way of Broward County, Inc., to be included as part of a project to construct 83 affordable multifamily rental housing units.

Records, Taxes, and Treasury Division: Our Office worked closely with County Administration to prepare an interlocal agreement with the Tax Collector for shared provision of services for the elected Tax Collector’s first year in office. Pursuant to the agreement, our Office provided a wide array of legal services and represented the Tax Collector in numerous contractual, litigation, and bankruptcy matters.

Solid Waste and Recycling Services:

- **Battery Recycling Ordinance.** We drafted an ordinance requiring certain retail stores to provide free, onsite battery collection and recycling services to customers for specified batteries weighing two pounds or less. This effort required coordination with Senator Geller, County Administration, the Resilient Environment Department, and Solid Waste and Recycling Services’ staff to research best practices, battery types, and local battery sales.

- **Wheelabrator Third Amendment to Disposal Agreement.** Our Office prepared an amendment to the agreement with Wheelabrator Environmental Services, Inc. (“Wheelabrator”), that permits an extension of the agreement through 2033, provides for reduced disposal fees, and imposes enhanced indemnification obligations on Wheelabrator concerning environmental matters.

Traffic and Highways:

- **Bridge Scour Protection Projects.** Our Office provided legal support for three bridge projects over the New River—the Andrews Avenue bridge, the Southeast Third Avenue bridge, and the Southeast Seventh Avenue bridge—which will protect bridge foundations and mitigate the risk of undermining, damage, and failure. Our Office also assisted with the FDEP grant agreements for funding the bridge scour protection projects.



- **Port Everglades By-Pass Road Project.** Our Office continued to provide legal support for the ongoing Port Everglades By-Pass Road project which, upon completion, will facilitate access to the Convention Center and improve traffic congestion on adjacent road segments of U.S. 1 and Southeast 17th Street.

Transportation:

- **Commuter Rail/BCR South.** Our Office participated in ongoing discussions with Brightline Trains Florida LLC (“Brightline”) and Miami-Dade County relating to potential commuter rail operations along the “Coastal Link Corridor” and analyzed the proposed partnerships, including the proposed track access arrangement. Our Office provided counsel at numerous meetings with Brightline, Florida East Coast Railway, the Federal Transit Administration, and Miami-Dade County relating to Brightline’s proposed operating arrangement and development structures to ensure that the County’s interests are protected. We prepared a proposed interlocal agreement with Miami-Dade County and worked with outside rail counsel to address specialized issues associated with the development of commuter rail and potential federal grant funding for the project.

- **Sheridan Street Bridge Design/Build Contract.** Our Office negotiated and drafted a unique \$10.6 million design/build contract to increase the vertical clearance of the Sheridan Street Bridge over Florida’s Turnpike. The County secured \$4 million from the Florida Department of Transportation and is seeking another \$4 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for this project.

Visit Lauderdale: Our Office assisted with more than 85 convention and tourism-related agreements for Visit Lauderdale, ranging from small events to very large activities that bring millions of dollars in economic activity to Broward County.