



301 S. Bronough St., Suite 300 • Post Office Box 1757 • Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757
850.222.9684 • Fax: 850.222.3806 • Website: flcities.com

Florida League of Cities Announces 2025 Florida Municipal Achievement Award Winners

Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach, Oldsmar, and Pinecrest recognized for innovation and impact

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 15, 2025

CONTACT: Kelli Gemmer

kgemmer@flcities.com / 850.701.3606

TALLAHASSEE, FL – The **Florida League of Cities (FLC)**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, announced the winners of the 2025 Florida Municipal Achievement Awards. This annual awards program recognizes cities for innovative efforts in four categories: Economic Advancement, Environmental Stewardship, Local Action, and Public Engagement.

This year’s award-winning cities and their projects are:

- **Economic Advancement Award** – City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville Small and Emerging Business (JSEB) Certification Program
- **Environmental Stewardship Award** – Village of Pinecrest, Community Composting and Everglades Earth Cycle
- **Local Action Award** – City of Oldsmar, Oldsmar Support Services Alliance
- **Public Engagement Award** – City of Jacksonville Beach, Take 2 Tuesdays Video Series

“Florida’s cities are constantly developing creative, community-driven solutions to meet local needs and improve residents’ quality of life,” said **FLC President** and **Cocoa Mayor Michael C. Blake**. “It is truly inspiring to see what has been accomplished thanks to local leaders who have turned these visionary projects into reality. A heartfelt congratulations to the 2025 Florida Municipal Achievement Award winners!”

The **Economic Advancement Award** recognizes a municipal program that strengthens the local economy. The **City of Jacksonville’s** Small and Emerging Business (JSEB) Certification Program supports local emerging businesses by connecting them with capital, education, and contracting opportunities. To ensure equitable access to resources, JSEB has facilitated more than 50 outreach events across all 19 districts of Jacksonville. Over the past two years, the number of JSEB-certified businesses has doubled, with participating companies earning more than \$106 million in city contracts. The program’s five-pillar approach, focused on legislation, education, community, capital, and contracts, offers a replicable model for economic development.

The **Environmental Stewardship Award** celebrates environmental leadership and sustainability. The **Village of Pinecrest's** award-winning sustainability initiatives include a free community composting program that has diverted over 90,000 pounds of food waste from landfills, a USDA-funded Everglades Earth Cycle project in partnership with the Miccosukee Tribe, and Floating Flower Islands that naturally filter pollution in local waterways. These programs combine environmental innovation with community engagement, offering a model for cities of all sizes and proving that measurable and adaptable environmental solutions can emerge from small municipalities to create regional impact.

The **Local Action Award** honors a single, citywide effort that meets a specific local need. Following a devastating hurricane season, the **City of Oldsmar** created the Oldsmar Support Services Alliance to coordinate relief among local nonprofits, churches, businesses, and volunteers. The Alliance mobilized over 430 volunteers, served nearly 12,000 meals, and provided direct support to nearly 5,000 households. This collaborative response has since been adopted into the city's emergency operations plan as a model for future disaster resilience and is scalable for cities of any size.

The **Public Engagement Award** highlights programs that enhance transparency, civic participation, and public trust. The **City of Jacksonville Beach's** "Take 2 Tuesdays" is a weekly two-minute video series that simplifies city topics from lifeguard recruiting to code enforcement and shares them on social media. With more than 60,000 views and consistent public interaction, the low-cost, in-house series has become a trusted platform that connects residents with their local government in a clear and consistent way that meets today's communications challenges with authenticity and clarity.

All winning cities will be honored with a trophy and featured in the League's Quality Cities magazine, website, and social media channels.

###

Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in "Local Voices Making Local Choices," emphasizing the impact citizens and city leaders have in shaping Florida's communities. For more information, visit flcities.com.