



- I** nfrastructure and roads
- N** ew public safety facilities
- V** ibrant neighborhoods and affordable housing for families
- E** nhanced recreation opportunities
- S** afety improvements for pedestrians
- T** ransportation connectivity

Program Highlights:

- No new taxes
- Leverage Orange County’s superior fiscal position
- Bond financing of excess sales tax revenue while rates are historically low
- Long-lasting infrastructure projects
- Project construction within next five years

The program will result in new jobs, critical infrastructure and an enhanced quality of life for generations to come.

“As a result of Orange County’s high credit rating, historically low interest rates and the rising cost of construction, consistent with our Board’s fiscally conservative philosophy, the best time to invest in long-term infrastructure and public safety needs is now. Building a vibrant economy where creativity, innovation and opportunity will flourish is a wise investment for our future.”

Mayor Teresa Jacobs

\$300 million in total for projects that are currently unfunded or only partially funded, but have been identified as an existing or future need; and that will have an impact, and a useful life that meets that matches or exceeds the length of time for required financing.

- **\$200 million** for new roadways and expansion of existing roadways that will relieve traffic congestion throughout Orange County.
- **\$30 million** for district capital projects (\$5 million per district) to be used for one-time projects that have minimum operating impact; these projects will be identified in consultation with District Commissioners and will become part of the County’s Capital Improvement Program.
- **\$30 million** for Fire Rescue infrastructure and equipment that includes \$18 million for three (3) new fire stations, \$7 million for necessary fire apparatus and equipment, and \$5 million as an allocation for a potential regional fire training center funded through partnerships with other agencies and possibly State and Federal grants.
- **\$20 million** for parks and enhanced recreation facilities.
- **\$15 million** for pedestrian safety and intersection improvements that would include enhancing various features such as sidewalks, crosswalks, signals, turn lanes, updated signage, and other necessary improvements.
- **\$5 million** for housing initiatives to further promote the development of affordable family housing.

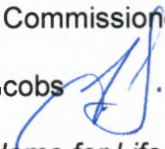


ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR

TERESA JACOBS

P.O. Box 1393, 201 SOUTH ROSALIND AVENUE, ORLANDO, FL 32802-1393
PHONE: 407-836-7370 • FAX: 407-836-7360 • Mayor@ocfl.net

June 12, 2015

TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Mayor Teresa Jacobs 
SUBJECT: **INVEST** in Our Home for Life

Over the last several months, the Board has had discussions about the County's unfunded infrastructure needs, fiscal challenges in Fire Rescue, and the growing problem of affordable housing for families and children. I appreciate all of the Commission's feedback and input on these pressing issues. Each of you has shared needs identified in your respective districts. Commissioner Edwards' concerns about transportation infrastructure issues in east Orange County, in particular, led to a broader discussion of countywide needs.

This morning, in the State of the County address, I proposed a \$300 million initiative called **INVEST** in Our Home for Life that will provide Infrastructure, New public safety facilities, Vibrant neighborhoods and affordable family housing, Enhanced recreation opportunities, Safety improvements for pedestrians, and Transportation connectivity throughout Orange County. It is my intent that these projects be spread throughout our County, that they benefit citizens in a variety of ways, and provide long-term benefits. This ambitious yet achievable capital investment program is the recognition of our responsibility to provide our community with the infrastructure that future generations will require to succeed.

The fiscal restraint exercised by the Board of County Commissioners over the last several years has built a strong financial position that will allow us to embark on this endeavor without raising taxes. With that in mind, **INVEST** in Our Home for Life will be funded by leveraging improved sales tax collections resulting from our booming tourism market, as well as increasing economic activity throughout Orange County. As a result of our high credit rating, historically low interest rates and the rising cost of construction, consistent with our Board's fiscally conservative philosophy, the best time to invest in these long-term infrastructure and public safety needs is now.

As previously stated, the total initiative is \$300 million, for projects that are currently unfunded or only partially funded, but have been identified as an existing or future need; and that will have an impact, and a useful life that meets or exceeds the length of time for required financing.

In order to touch and improve many different facets of our citizens' lives, as part of our upcoming budget, I am recommending funding for this initiative to be allocated in the following manner:

- \$200 million for new roadways and expansion of existing roadways that will relieve traffic congestion throughout Orange County.
- \$30 million for district capital projects (\$5 million per district) to be used for one-time projects that have minimum operating impact; these projects will be identified in consultation with District Commissioners and will become part of the County's Capital Improvement Program.
- \$30 million for Fire Rescue infrastructure and equipment that includes \$18 million for three (3) new fire stations, \$7 million for necessary fire apparatus and equipment, and \$5 million as an allocation for a potential regional fire training center funded through partnerships with other agencies and possibly State and Federal grants.
- \$20 million for parks and enhanced recreation facilities.
- \$15 million for pedestrian safety and intersection improvements that would include enhancing various features such as sidewalks, crosswalks, signals, turn lanes, updated signage, and other necessary improvements.
- \$5 million for housing initiatives to further promote the development of affordable family housing.

Staff will schedule briefings with each of you to provide additional details regarding this initiative. I hope you share in my excitement about the positive impacts these improvements will have throughout Orange County. I look forward to discussing the *INVEST in Our Home for Life* initiative in more detail during our upcoming budget discussions.

TJ/KP

c: Martha O. Haynie, Orange County Comptroller
Ajit Lalchandani, County Administrator
Deputy County Administrators
Assistant County Administrators
Department Directors
Division Managers