



# LEDGER

YOUR SOURCE FOR MUNICIPAL FINANCE NEWS, UPDATES, EVENTS AND MORE

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Jonathan McKinney  
Assistant City Manager -  
Internal Services /  
Finance Director  
City of Port Orange**

## A Note From Our President



### Jonathan McKinney - A Highlight

John McKinney, the 2022-2023 FGFOA President has been a member of FGFOA for over 14 years. He has served on the Board of Directors since 2014. John has served as a chair for various FGFOA Committee's as well as an instructor for the Certified Government Finance Officers Program. He is currently a founding and active member in the local Volusia/Flagler Chapter of the FGFOA. John's contributions to FGFOA include the rewriting of the CGFO exams and the revising of the Government Resource Manual.

John earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting from the University of Central Florida and a Master of Business Administration with

an emphasis in finance from Stetson University. He became a Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO) in 2007 and a Certified Redevelopment Professional (FRA-RP) in 2014. John McKinney is currently the Finance Director for the City of Port Orange, prior to that he served as Finance Director of New Smyrna Beach, and Assistant City Manager/ Finance Director for the City of Edgewater. John states that his biggest contribution has been giving a voice to small Governments as a Director of the FGFOA.

## Committee Chair Reports

### CGFO Certification Committee

**Jeremy Baker**

**Committee Chair**

Director of Finance

South Florida Regional Transportation  
Authority (Tri-Rail)



There are now 553 active CGFO's in the certification program. There are currently 276 CGFO candidates which includes 15 new candidates since October. Due to the concern that 85 of these new candidates are at risk of not completing their certification requirements within their 5-year period due to CGFO testing being cancelled because of Hurricane Ian, the Board has approved an extension of their 5-year renewal period which will now end 06/30/2023. Spring reviews and exams are currently open for registration.

[CLICK HERE](#) for all updates for this program.



### Conference Program Committee

**Lorrie Brinson**

**Committee Chair**

Business Manager, Affordable Housing  
Services  
Hillsborough County

The Conference Program Committee has been busy finalizing the sessions and speakers for the 2023 Annual Conference which will be held at the **Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel** in Orlando from **June 24-28, 2023**. Our new format will include an Innovation Awards Luncheon as well as a Business Breakfast. The FGFOA Board of Directors has also approved a photographer to take professional headshots on site. We will provide updates via our e-bulletins, and you can get all of the details on our website.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see the Annual Conference page which will post updates as they become available.

## Educational Programs Committee

**Anna Otiniano, CGFO**  
**Committee Chair**  
Director of Finance  
City of Plantation



The Educational Programs Committee is always busy looking for new and intriguing content for our webinars. They have recently updated their Policies and Procedures manual as well. If you'd like to serve on this committee, you can apply online.

[CLICK HERE](#) for all updates on this event!



## Event Host Committee

**Sharon Almeida, CGFO**  
**Committee Chair**  
Assistant Controller  
Village of Wellington

The Event Host Committee is excited to announce the Tuesday Night Event location for the 2023 Annual Conference will be SeaWorld! More details will follow soon. [CLICK HERE](#) for all updates on this event!

## Professional Development Committee

**Lewis Chazan**  
**Committee Chair**  
Accountant I  
City of St. Petersburg



The Professional Development committee recently completed pairing for the Mentor/Mentee program. They will hold monthly discussions on Dynamic Leadership and much more! [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about this program and to get involved. [CLICK HERE](#) to get more information on this committee.



## 2023 School of Governmental Finance Committee

**Elizabeth Anne Walter**, MBA, CGFO, CPFIM  
Budget & Grants Manager  
South Florida Regional Transportation Authority

The new chair for the 2023 School of Governmental Finance has been chosen; it is Elizabeth Walter. She and the committee are already busy reviewing session titles and speakers for the 2023 SOGF which will be held at the **Luminary Hotel in Fort Myers**, Florida, **October 14 - 20, 2023**. [CLICK HERE](#) for all updates on this event!

## Technical and Legislative Resources Committee

**Derek Noonan**  
**Committee Co-Chair**  
Audit Manager  
Auditor General, State of Florida

**Stephen Timberlake**  
**Committee Co-Chair**  
Special Projects Manager  
City of Boca Raton



The Technical and Legislative Resources Committee monitors GASB updates and Legislature movements. They are constantly watching for information that may affect FGFOA members. [CLICK HERE](#) to view this page of our website which can show you more about what this committee does.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all GASB updates.

## In the News!



### Longtime Largo finance director retires, gets accolades

Though Kim Adams retired at the end of May, '22 after 35 years as the city of Largo's finance director, he's "not off the hook," his successor told him.

"Don't worry; I'll call you," Rebecca Spuhler said when Adams told her to reach out to him if she needed his help.



**CLICK HERE to read the full article**

During his long tenure, Adams worked for five city managers and numerous city commissioners while addressing several challenges. He's helped steer the city through tough economic times, notably the Great Recession, and the "long unprecedented recovery" — in his words — from the event.

## **2023 financial services industry outlooks**

(Deloitte Insights)

The path toward a brighter future is rarely linear or easy to find.

Over the past two years, the financial services industry has demonstrated its ability to successfully navigate unprecedented levels of uncertainty. From real estate to insurance to investment management to banking and capital markets, financial services organizations across the globe faced the pandemic with remarkable resilience and adaptivity, helping people, organizations, and governments get back on their feet.

**CLICK HERE to read the full article**

## **Florida lawmakers propose \$50 million bridge loan for storm-ravaged localities**

(POLITICO Pro)

Lawmakers this week will consider a proposal that would create an emergency bridge loan for localities hit by Florida's last two major storms — and throw in another \$650 million into Gov. Ron DeSantis' state emergency fund. What it does: The bill, HB 1B in the House and SB 2B in the Senate, would create the Local Government Emergency Response Bridge Loan program with a one-time \$50 million allocation from the state's general revenue fund. The program is only available to local governments that were impacted by Hurricane Ian in September and Hurricane Nicole in November. The loans can only be used to continue government operations "or modify such operations to meet disaster-related needs," according to the bill. Lawmakers will hear the bill on Wednesday in the Senate Health Policy Committee. The measure was filed on Monday by state Sen. Ben Albritton (R-Wauchula), who said the bridge loan is meant for local governments such as Fort Myers Beach — which bore the brunt of Hurricane Ian and lost millions of dollars in property tax revenue.

**CLICK HERE to read the full article**



**[CLICK HERE for more information](#)**

## **New broadband funding for rural communities**

(WTXL Tallahassee)

Bringing high-speed internet to North Florida.

Several of our Big Bend counties, including Leon, Gadsden, Suwannee, Lafayette, Liberty and Hamilton, all receiving millions of dollars to deploy fiber-optic cable. People are excited to see the first steps taken to help improve internet access in Gadsden County communities.

"We could be just one road over from high-speed broadband and so with all of this coming to the county now it definitely opens up those avenues for everybody in the county and not just those that are on the main highways," said Elijah Key, one of the thousands of people affected by slow, poor quality internet connection in Gadsden County.

## **South Florida cities score most of \$275 million state money for sea level rise projects**

(Miami Herald)

South Florida is getting more than \$180 million of bigger pipes, stronger stormwater pumps and higher canals to deal with rising sea levels — the majority of this year's state funds.

Gov. Ron DeSantis announced the latest round of Resilient Florida grants Monday afternoon. South Florida cities, which face the highest risk to life and property value from the two feet of sea level rise expected in the state by 2060, took home most of the \$275 million pot.



**[CLICK HERE to read the full article](#)**



## Flagler County budget manager earns Certified Government Finance Officer designation

(Observer)

Flagler County Budget Manager Brian Eichinger has earned the designation of Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO) – considered to be the highest credentialed echelon within government financial management.

“The Florida Government Finance Officers Association’s CGFO Program is the largest state certification program in the nation,” said Financial Services Director John Brower. “This recognition furthers Brian’s credibility and distinguishes his career and the sustained impact he has, and will continue to have, in the vitally important budget and fiscal function within our organization.”

[CLICK HERE for more information](#)

## Florida lawmakers eye oversight of local utilities

(CBS News)

Florida House members Tuesday raised the possibility of giving state regulators more oversight of municipal utilities.

Members of the House Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee repeatedly touched on the issue as they received presentations about the Florida Public Service Commission and the state Office of Public Counsel.

The Public Service Commission regulates for-profit utilities such as Florida Power & Light and Duke Energy Florida but has little oversight of municipal utilities.

**CBS NEWS**  
**MIAMI**

[CLICK HERE to read the full article](#)



## Should Florida outlaw rent control? Why some cities oppose the proposal amid housing crisis

(SunSentinel)

As a new Florida bill calls for banning cities from being able to enact rent-control measures, it’s facing fresh scrutiny from elected officials who say it’s another instance of state overreach — especially as renters feel the squeeze of the housing crisis.

[CLICK HERE for more information](#)

The \$811 million affordable housing bill, recently unveiled by Florida's Senate president, would eliminate the possibility of rent-control laws — a limit on rent to prevent price gouging — by “deleting the authority of local governments to adopt or maintain laws, ordinances, rules, or other measures that would have the effect of imposing controls on rents.”

### Your Quality of Life – Brought to You by Your City

City services are woven into the fabric of our lives. The **Florida League of Cities** developed PSAs highlighting the variety of services, spaces and activities provided by municipalities of all sizes across the state. These videos are a great way to spotlight the important work you and your staff do daily.

“Your Quality of Life – Brought to You by Your City” showcases how city services, experiences and events impact and improve residents’ quality of life. The videos focus on services and programs that help residents feel **inspired** and **safe** and keep them **active** and **going**.



[CLICK HERE for more information](#)

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## 2023-2024 FGFOA Committee Applications Are Now Available!

Would you like to volunteer to create content for our School of Governmental Finance, the Annual Conference or our Webinars? We need volunteers to help keep FGFOA on the forefront of education and information.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all of our committee descriptions. See if one fits you!!

[CLICK HERE to apply](#)

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## Upcoming Events: Save the Date!





## Training and Events

### **2023 Government Finance Professionals Week**

March 20-24, 2023

[Click here](#) for more information and how to participate.

### **Leadership Class VI**

March 26-31, 2023

[Click here](#) for more information on this program.

### **Upcoming Webinars**

[Click here](#) for a full listing of webinar dates and titles.

### **CGFO Review and Testing Dates**

[Click here](#) for more information on the CGFO program.

