

The Honorable Steve Geller

SFRPC Chair

Senator Steve Geller served as Broward County Mayor during FY 2021. Elected to District 5 in 2016, he currently represents all or part of Cooper City, Southwest Ranches, Davie, Plantation, Sunrise, and unincorporated areas including part of the Seminole Reservation and all of Broadview Park. Geller serves as Chairman of the Broward County Water Advisory Board, Chair of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, and serves on the Executive Committee of the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) and on the Broward County Cultural Council. Geller also serves as Chair of the South Florida CEDS Strategy Committee established pursuant to the SFRPC's responsibilities as U.S. EDA's Economic Development District for South Florida. He was recently re-elected Chair by his colleagues on the SFRPC.

Prior to his current service as a Broward County Commissioner, Geller was elected to the Florida Legislature in 1988 at the age of 29. He served in the Florida Legislature for 20 years; nine years in the House of Representatives followed by 11 years in the Florida Senate. Geller was respected by both Political Parties and chaired legislative committees under the leadership of both Democratic and Republican Presiding Officers. Geller chaired the Regulated Industries Committee in the House of Representatives, and the Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Community Affairs Committees in the Senate. Geller served two terms as Chair of the Broward County Legislative Delegation and two terms as Chair of the Hendry County Legislative Delegation. At the time of his retirement from the Florida Senate due to term limits, Senator Geller was the Minority (Democratic) Leader of the Florida Senate. Geller has also served as National President of two legislative organizations: the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) and the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States (NCLGS). Geller was born in the City of New York, New York in 1958. He has lived in South Florida since 1965. He attended Florida State University for college and law school, where he was a member of AEPi Fraternity. He has lived in South Broward since his graduation from Florida State University College of Law in 1982. He is married to Laurel Geller and they have two children Marc and Ben.



*Broward County
Commissioner, District 5,
and Former State Senator*



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Douglas Bournique

TCRPC Chair

Mr. Bournique is Executive Vice President and General Manager of the Indian River Citrus League, a grower trade association representing growers and commercial packinghouses along Florida's east coast stretching from Daytona to the West Palm Beach Canal in Palm Beach County. The District has approximately 45,000 acres of commercial citrus which is grown primarily for the fresh fruit market. For more than four decades, Doug has led the charge on water, legislative, and marketing and regulatory issues facing agriculture and fresh Florida citrus. Proving that his impact reached beyond the Indian River District, Doug received strong statewide recognition for his many contributions and the importance of his role in the resurrection and sustainability of fresh Florida citrus in the face of its current trials.

Doug's background in water is extensive going back to the mid 1970's, when he was Director of the Environmental Affairs for the Sugar Cane industry. Since then, he has worked on the Upper St. Johns Project, the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, the Upper East Coast Water Supply Plan, Indian River Citrus BMPs Steering Committee and is currently a member of the South Florida Water Management District's Water Resources Advisory Commission, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, Indian River Lagoon Council and serves on St. Johns River Water Management District Governing Board. He is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions including the 2018 John T. Leslie Award of Excellence presented for recognition of an individual for outstanding leadership and service on behalf of the Florida fresh citrus industry.



Gubernatorial
Appointee



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Dr. Tim Townsend

Professor of Environmental Engineering
University of Florida

Tim Townsend is a Professor in the Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences at the University of Florida and is the Executive Director of the Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management. Dr. Townsend's area of expertise is solid and hazardous waste management and sustainable materials management. Current research topics of interest include beneficial use of waste materials, PFAS chemicals and their impact on solid waste management systems, sustainable waste disposal operations, and resource recovery from waste.



Sue Flak

Recycling Coordinator & Marketing
Director, Indian River County Solid Waste
Disposal District

Susan Flak is the Recycling Coordinator and Marketing Director for Indian River County. She is responsible for implementing and managing the Solid Waste Disposal Districts recycling and waste diversion program. Susan works to increase incoming residential and commercial recyclable materials to help Indian River County reach or surpass recycling goals and requirements.



Jay Leshetsky

Regional Mill Buyer, Pratt Industries, Inc.

Jay has been the Key Accounts Manager at Serio-Us Lock for 23 years and has been in sales for over 35 years.

While at Serio-Us Lock he has spearheaded the development of their current dealer network while maintaining and growing the business with other key accounts.

Recently Jay has led the efforts for the new product introductions from Serio-Us Lock. That includes the new, "Gravity Plus" lock for the plastic two wheel carts as well as new locks for rear load and front load dumpsters.



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Dawn McCormick

Director of Communications & Government Affairs, Waste Management Inc. of Florida

Dawn McCormick is responsible for external and internal communications along with community relations activities for Waste Management Inc. of Florida, manages the company's Government Affairs activities in Tallahassee, and coordinates the company's Recycling Improvement initiatives in the state.

She is Chair of the National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) Florida Chapter, and Board Member and Past Chair of the Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation. She is a member of Leadership Florida's Class XXXIV.



Karen Moore

Environmental Administrator of the
Division of Waste Management, Florida
Department of Environmental Protection



Karen Moore is currently the Environmental Administrator for the Waste Reduction (Recycling) and Waste Registration Section for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Karen has over 25 years of environmental experience, previously working as a recycling coordinator in North Carolina and the Department's Recycling and Petroleum Restoration Program.



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Christopher Perry

Recycling Education & Outreach
Coordinator, Florida Department of
Environmental Protection

Christopher Perry is a planner with Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Waste Reduction and Recycling Program. He manages the Public Sector Recycling reporting program, the Recycling Business Assistance Center, and specializes in education and outreach through partnership initiatives including Florida State University's Sustainability Fellowships Program, Florida Food Recovery Coalition, and a variety of the department's campaigns to increase recycling participation and reduce waste.



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Ramana Kari, P.E., BCEE

Chief Engineer, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County



DRamana Kari, P.E., BCEE is the Chief Engineer of the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County and has been serving in that capacity since 2013. He has the overall responsibility for the operations of Renewable Energy Facilities No. 1 & 2, the Biosolids Processing Facility, the Recovered Materials Processing Facility, engineering and environmental compliance for all Authority facilities, public affairs, education, and recycling. He is also responsible for the design, permitting, and construction of the Authority's facilities and infrastructure.

Mr. Kari has nearly 30 years of industry experience including 20 years as a consultant with leading civil & environmental engineering firms managing various solid waste management and civil/environmental engineering projects for public and private clients.

He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Florida and is a Board-Certified Environmental Engineer (Solid Waste specialty). He holds a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Civil Engineering and an MBA in International Business. Mr. Kari is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), Florida Engineering Society (FES) and served on the board of the American Public Works Association (APWA) Gold Coast, Florida Chapter. He also serves on the board of the Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management.



Dan Pellowitz

Executive Director, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

Dan Pellowitz is the Executive Director of the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA) and has served in that capacity since 2018.

He has 31 years of solid waste management experience, all with the SWA, which owns and operates a highly respected and award-winning integrated solid waste management system serving the residents and businesses of Palm Beach County, Florida. Prior to his appointment by the Governing Board to Executive Director, Mr. Pellowitz previously served as the Managing Director from 2010 until 2018, the Assistant to the Executive Director from 2007 through 2010, and prior in various roles providing cost, operational and financial analytical support for the organization.

Mr. Pellowitz is highly knowledgeable in all aspects of the operation, financing, and administration of solid waste management and recycling programs, but is most proud of his role as a member of the team that planned, financed, designed, and constructed the SWA's Renewable Energy Facility No. 2, the newest, cleanest and greenest waste-to-energy facility in the United States.



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Alisha Lopez

Clean Cities Director

South Florida Regional Planning Council

Alisha is a native Floridian who received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of Central Florida. While there, she developed valuable research, data, and policy analysis skills to quantify and analyze important policy issues, such as the impacts of weakening water restrictions, as part of her work in the University Internship Program. Alisha brings her passion for collaborative partnerships and alternative energy solutions for transportation to her work with the Coalition.

During her tenure as Director of the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition, Alisha has increased Coalition membership by 25% and developed numerous alternative fuel educational programs for Coalition Members. Her responsibilities include the identification of funding opportunities and assisting Coalition Members in the development of funding proposals to expand alternative and renewable fuel use and infrastructure within Southeast Florida. In addition to her responsibilities as Director of the Coalition, she was recently elected to the Drive Electric Florida Board of Directors. She is the Infrastructure Committee Chair of Drive Electric Florida and is developing best practices and permitting guidelines for the state to promote the growth of electric vehicle use as one of many alternative fuel options that advance the energy, economic, and environmental security of Florida.

Notable projects include working with the region's counties to identify and submit for approval "Alternative Fuel Corridors" to the Federal Highway Administration for designation and increased infrastructure funding assistance, achieving re-designation of the Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition from the U.S. Department of Energy, and hosting a Southeast Regional Clean Cities meeting on behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy. Her immediate goals include a renewed focus on fuel technology outreach and education, provision of technical assistance and best practices, and creating cleaner air quality for the region.



Jessica Winter

Recycling, Education & Marketing
Manager, Public Affairs & Recycling
Department, Solid Waste Authority of
Palm Beach County



Jessica Winter has 25 years of experience in marketing; communications; operations; project, program, contracts and grants management; and human resources. Her experience spans government, nonprofit, corporate and military organizations. She has led teams of two to 400, performing complex tasks locally and globally. Jessica got her start in the solid waste industry in 2011 when she led the Division & Conference Programs Department at the Solid Waste Association of North America. She is currently the Recycling, Education & Marketing Manager for the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County.



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Barbara Alfano

PCB & Sustainability Section Manager,
Chemicals and Redevelopment Division,
United States Environmental Protection
Agency Region 4

Barbara Alfano manages the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 4 PCB & Sustainability Section. She joined the EPA in 1988, after working as a national wetland specialist for six years in St. Petersburg, Florida. Most of her EPA experience includes Superfund and Brownfields assessment and cleanup. For five years, she served as the regional EPA Brownfields Coordinator. Her background includes growing up in Pennsylvania and graduating from the University of South Florida in Tampa. Barbara feels privileged to collaborate with diverse communities in the southeast to protect human health and the environment.



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Jake Beeler

Regional Mill Buyer, Pratt Industries, Inc.



Jake Beeler is based near Atlanta, GA. with Pratt Industries. He is originally from Wichita, KS and relocated to Peachtree City 4 years ago. His current role is regional Mill Buyer at Pratt Industries and is tasked with supplying recovered fiber to recycle back into boxes. He has been in the waste and recycling industry almost two decades with roles in the waste service industry, sales & procurement, plant operations, national sales and buyer.

Jake was awarded the 2012 Pinnacle Award after his 1st year at Pratt as an area developer and has enjoyed the fast paced recycling industry ever since.

His wife and kids gets the free time but, he is an avid woodworker, pickleball junkie and dabbles in fantasy football.



Paul Storelli

President
Storelli Recycling

As president of Storelli Recycling Co., Paul allows his passion to fuel his position. Paul has an innate ability to analyze the market and bring together the right parties for mutually beneficial business relationships. Paul achieves productive and long-lasting results for his clients and caters to multiple levels of the recycling supply chains. As such, he is regularly selected as a consultant by international recycling corporations. Paul earned a Bachelor's degree in Finance in 2002 and, during his studies, he developed a passionate interest in and successful business leadership, international waste management brokerage, and furthering the services of his family company.



Bruce A. Welt, Ph.D.

Professor, Coordinator, Packaging Engineering Program, Agricultural & Biological Engineering Department, University of Florida/IFAS; Representative, Consortium For Waste Circularity



Bruce Welt is a professor at the University of Florida. Professor Welt played a key role in establishing UF's Packaging Engineering program. Dr. Welt earned a B.S. in chemical engineering from Clarkson University, M.S. in Food Science from Rutgers University, and a Ph.D. in Agricultural & Biological Engineering from the University of Florida. Professor Welt's recent work in Robust Advanced Recycling led to the grass-roots establishment of the packaging industry's Consortium for Waste Circularity (wastecircularity.org).



The Honorable Beam Furr

Broward County Commissioner & Council Member, South Florida Regional Planning Council

Commissioner Beam Furr is the elected Commissioner for Broward County Commission District 6, representing parts of Hollywood, Hallandale Beach, and Pembroke Pines. He also served as Broward County Mayor for the 2018 term.

As an elected official, Commissioner Furr has focused on environmental issues, solid waste, transportation, early childhood education, neighborhood redevelopment, economic opportunity, and the arts.

Since his time as a city commissioner, Commissioner Furr has been committed to finding innovative solutions on the issue of solid waste and recycling. As County Commissioner, he has taken the leading role on this issue and has spent eight years working with municipal partners and experts to develop a long-term plan that will benefit our environment and economy. Commissioner Furr serves as the County representative and Co-Chair of the Broward County Solid Waste Working Group. This Group brings together Broward County government and all municipalities within Broward County to develop a comprehensive solid waste and recycling system for residents. Since 2019, the Solid Waste Working Group has worked diligently to research facility needs, examine governing structures, conduct a waste generation study, and much more.

Commissioner Furr grew up in the areas he represents and works within the community to make our home a better place to live. Prior to serving on the Broward County Commission, he was a Hollywood City Commissioner for 12 years representing District 2. He currently lives in Hollywood with his wife and daughter.



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Sam Amerson, P.E.

Director, Utilities and Solid Waste
Department, Martin County

Sam graduated from Georgia Southern College with a Bachelor Degree in Engineering. From 1982-1991 he worked in the private sector. He then began his career in the public sector with St. Lucie County where he served as a staff engineer, solid waste director and then chief utilities engineer until 1995.

From 1995 to 2018, he was the public works director for the City of Stuart and is now the director of the utilities and solid waste department for Martin County.



Olga Espinosa-Anderson

Interim Director, Solid Waste Management, Miami-Dade County

Olga Espinosa-Anderson was appointed as the Interim Director for the Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) on July 5, 2023. In that capacity, she is responsible for overseeing the operation and administration of the largest, publicly operated solid waste collection and disposal system in the southeastern United States. The Department provides solid waste collection and disposal services, recycling services, code enforcement, and mosquito control services. DSWM has a budget of \$689M that includes 1,172 employees.

Olga has been a trailblazer in a historically man-dominated industry. Prior to her appointment, she was the Deputy Director of Administration for DSWM – the first female to hold this position. In that capacity, she oversaw all the administrative functions for the Department. Before then, she also made history by being the first female to hold the position of Assistant Director of Disposal Operations for the Department. In that capacity, she was responsible for overseeing the Code Enforcement Division, Landfill Division, and Transfer Division.

Prior to being an Assistant Director, Olga held the position of Procurement and Contracts Management Division Director for DSWM. She served in that capacity for approximately 11 years where she provided procurement leadership to DSWM. Before working in the procurement arena, she worked for Team Metro, a former Miami-Dade County Department, for 13 years in various management roles. She has been a County employee for over 34 years and has also worked for the Office of Community and Economic Development, as well as the Communications Department.

Olga holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration, Bachelor's Degree in Communication, Associates Degree in Business Administration, and a Certificate in Marketing. She has been a Certified Professional Public Buyer for approximately 15 years and has also been certified in landfill operations, as well as transfer operations, for over four years.

Throughout all her years of public service, Olga has exhibited an exemplary work ethic and has delivered excellence to our community.



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Notosha Austin

Interim Director, Solid Waste and Recycling Services, Broward County

Notosha Austin is the Interim Director for Broward County Solid Waste and Recycling Services. She has over 33 years in the solid waste and recycling industry and has a broad background in various waste diversion initiatives. She oversees landfill operations, household hazardous waste programs, solid waste collections and disposal services, provides recycling services to County facilities and directs other waste abatement programs.

Formerly, she served as Acting Chair of the Recycling and Solid Waste Advisory Committee for the City of Pompano Beach for a term of two years. In her capacity, she helped establish new recycling programs, updated codes and ordinances, and promoted recycling education. Notosha has a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix.



Himanshu Mehta, P.E.

Managing Director, Solid Waste Disposal District, Indian River County



Himanshu H. Mehta, P.E. is the Managing Director for the Indian River County Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD). Himanshu has been working in the Solid Waste / Recycling arena for the past 16 years after spending 2 years in the County's Utilities Department. Himanshu is a University of Florida graduate with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering. Himanshu worked in the environmental consulting industry for 9 years prior to joining Indian River County.

As Managing Director of SWDD, he is responsible for managing the collection, recycling and disposal of solid waste from unincorporated Indian River County and municipalities of Vero Beach, Orchid, Fellsmere, Sebastian, and Indian River Shores. He oversees the County's current solid waste management and disposal facility in Vero Beach, five customer convenience centers, a hazardous waste management program, and a recycling program.



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Rebecca S. Olson

Director of Public Utilities and Solid Waste, St. Lucie County

Rebecca was born in Indiana and lived in eight different states before settling in Florida. After serving in the US Navy for six years, she spent seven years in the nuclear power industry and a year abroad teaching English in places like Vietnam, the Czech Republic, and Poland. In 2015, she decided to call St. Lucie County home.

Rebecca has been with St. Lucie County for almost four years and has over 20 years of experience in the utilities sector (energy, water/wastewater/solid waste). In addition to FEMA certifications required for emergency management, she is a certified landfill operator, Six Sigma Green Belt certified, Executive Management certified, and holds a Master of Science in Management. She is currently pursuing a graduate certificate in Public Administration from Florida State University.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, trying new restaurants, and gardening. She has a 13-year-old daughter and lives in Port St. Lucie with her fiancé, four cats, and a dog.



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Cheryl Sullivan

Director of Solid Waste Management,
Monroe County

Cheryl Sullivan, Monroe County Solid Waste Management Director, started with Monroe County in 2014 as a Customer Service/Billing Agent, learning from the ground up to earn her current position. Ms. Sullivan is responsible for the daily operations of three transfer stations supporting the Florida Keys, pollution control, recycling, specialty hauling licenses, solid waste non-ad valorem assessments, and billing.

While at Monroe County, Ms. Sullivan has championed the importance of the sensitive and unique Florida Keys environment through community involvement initiatives such as Trash Talkers, Coast Love, Put a Lid On It, and yard waste composting giveaways, to name a few. She expresses the importance of personal responsibility for debris management, recycling right, and illegal dumping on land and sea. Ms. Sullivan believes that open and accurate communication is the key to success for any objective, goal, project, or endeavor.

Previously, Ms. Sullivan worked for Dell Computer Corporation as an Operations Manager in both technical support and manufacturing, emphasizing daily operations and project management. Ms. Sullivan was instrumental in developing a new customer service campus in Idaho and relocating manufacturing from Texas to Tennessee. Ms. Sullivan has extensive training in "Green Belt" project management, training, championing and teaching the "Change Agent and Lean" culture. Ms. Sullivan attended Middle Tennessee State University.

