

# Open Government



[www.broward.org](http://www.broward.org)



Stay Connected



- Received a NACo Award, from National Association of Counties, for a Web-based application used to register lobbyists and document lobbyist activity, in support of transparency and ethics in government.

Broward County is committed to providing the public open and easy access to programs, services and information about how the business of the people is conducted.

The Board of County Commissioners enacted a Code of Ethics in August 2010, adopting recommendations of an Ethics Commission created by voters in November 2008. The Code establishes guidelines for the behavior of public servants and transparency in government. It requires disclosure of elected official and employee activities related to lobbying activities, campaign fundraising, charitable contribution fundraising and outside/concurrent employment, which are all maintained online in searchable databases. Additionally, a charter provision was passed in November 2010, that provides for an Office of Inspector General to detect misconduct and conduct investigations.

E-government was expanded with new services that reduce costs and enhance customer convenience, such as online tax payments and online tax certificate sales. A centralized Public Records Request system was created to facilitate timely response to requests for government documents.

More than 30 Twitter, Facebook and YouTube sites, mobile device apps and a variety of e-newsletters are now being used to help inform residents about local government programs, services and events.

The County's Web Site, [www.broward.org](http://www.broward.org), was upgraded to a faster and more flexible software system that reduces its cost and increases the efficiency, usability and accessibility of content. Free translation into more than 50 languages is now available. The Web Site supports the programs and services of more than 60 agencies, programs and services. In FY 2010, it averaged more than 15 million page views per month.

Broward County Commission meetings are broadcast live on participating cable channels and webcast live on [www.broward.org](http://www.broward.org). More than 507,000 cable subscribers in Broward County have access to television coverage of these meetings.

The Broward County Call Center serves as a single point of contact for resident information and handled over 359,000 calls in 2010.

Residents are encouraged to "stay connected" with local government through all these venues. For more information, visit [www.broward.org/opengovernment](http://www.broward.org/opengovernment).