



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TO: Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager
FROM: Jill Hayes, Budget Director
SUBJECT: Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation #2025069

CEER #205069, titled Brevard County Board of Government Efficiency, was received by the County from Susan B Connolly.

Citizen Statement:

Not having sufficient budget funds to make our current infrastructure resilient and future ready in support of our growth.

Citizen Recommendation:

Donald J Trump established the Department of Government Efficiency in January 2025 for the purpose to maximize efficiency and productivity across federal agencies by reducing wasteful spending, eliminating unnecessary regulations and improving software and IT systems. I propose that we follow the lead and intent of our President and establish a similar entity for our County, as well as, be the lead for encouraging municipalities to the same."

Staff Analysis:

Establishing a new department or advisory board is a Board policy decision. The Board may take into consideration the following systems currently in place when determining whether to create a DOGE.

Florida Constitution - Article V, Section 16: Responsibilities of the Clerk of the Circuit Court

Under Article V, Section 16 of the Florida Constitution, the Clerk of the Circuit Court serves as the ex officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, acting also as the auditor, recorder, and custodian of all county funds. In the role of the County's Comptroller, the Clerk is tasked with the collection, safe depositing, investment, expenditure, and distribution of county funds, all in strict adherence to the law and administrative regulations. As an independently elected official, the Clerk's office audits each requested Board payment to ensure that all expenditures of County funds are authorized by law.

By having an independent elected official serve as the Comptroller, the county benefits from strong internal controls and enhanced fiscal accountability. The Clerk's dual role as custodian of county funds and as an independent auditor ensures that all financial transactions comply with applicable laws and regulations.

External Audit Requirements - Section 218.39, Florida Statutes

Section 218.39, Florida Statutes mandates that each county and county agency obtain an independent financial audit. This audit must be conducted in accordance with Chapter 10.550 of the Rules of the Auditor General, which provides specific guidelines for the audit process. These rules ensure that audits are executed consistently, comprehensively, and accurately.

A fundamental purpose of this required financial audit is to provide independent assurance to key stakeholders, including citizens, bondholders, debt rating institutions, and other governmental entities. By conducting these audits, counties and county agencies help maintain transparency, accountability, and confidence that resources are used efficiently and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Brevard County's Internal Audit Program

Brevard County has implemented a comprehensive internal audit program that includes independent audit reports conducted by both the Clerk's internal auditors and independent internal auditors contracted through competitive solicitation. The primary focus of the internal audit function is to assess efficiency and effectiveness in the use of county resources compliance with relevant laws, regulations, policies, procedures, contracts, grants, and agreements; adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls; areas related to fraud, waste, abuse, theft or other irregularities examined or reported.

Internal audits result in recommendations for improvement, helping to identify areas where economy and efficiency can be improved. An Audit Committee has been established to oversee the County's auditing functions, develop an annual audit work plan for internal auditing of the Board agencies and monitor the productivity and performance of the auditing process. Final audit reports are issued to the Board of County Commissioners and are made publicly accessible through both the Clerk's website and the County's websites.

Citizen Budget Review Committee

The Citizen Budget Review Committee (CBRC) has been established with the primary goal of assisting the Board of County Commissioners in reviewing the Brevard County budget. The

committee reviews and discusses various county programs to ensure the budget aligns with the Board's goals and priorities, and that these goals are being met in a cost-efficient and effective manner. Based on their findings, the committee makes recommendations and offers suggestions to the Board.

Countywide Lean Six Sigma Initiatives

Brevard County Government has integrated the Lean Six Sigma methodology into the organization, utilizing a data-driven approach to enhance efficiency, reduce waste, and improve customer satisfaction. This approach empowers the County to continuously refine operations and better meet the needs of the community.

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners reject CEER #2025069 because it is duplicative of existing programs as provided in the staff analysis, therefore does not enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of County government as required by Home Rule Charter.

CC: Frank Abbate, County Manager

Horst, Rachel

From: CEER@brevardfl.gov
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 12:08 PM
To: Horst, Rachel
Subject: A new CEER Recommendation has been submitted as ID #2025069

Recommendation # 2025069

Dear CEER Administrator,

Speak Up Brevard Recommendation ID #2025069 has been submitted. Please login to the CEER Application to start the recommendation evaluation workflow.

Contact Information:

Group/Organization

Name Susan B Connolly
Address 3901 Dixie Hwy NE #102, Palm Bay FL 32905
Phone (865) 924-4238
Email sbconnolly@aol.com
Alternate Email

Recommendation Information:

Recommendation ID 2025069
Recommendation Title Brevard County Board of Government Efficiency
Areas Affected all departments and operations of county government
Department Affected
Current problem Not having sufficient budget funds to make our current infrastructure resilient and future ready in support of our growth.
Recommendation Donald J Trump established the Department of Government Efficiency in January 2025 for the purpose to maximize efficiency and productivity across federal agencies by reducing wasteful spending, eliminating unnecessary regulations and improving software and IT systems. I propose that we follow the lead and intent of our President and establish a similar entity for our County, as well as, be the lead for encouraging municipalities to do the same.
Attachments No Documents were attached.

Please do not reply to this e-mail, as it will go to an unmonitored mailbox.