

2008
Florida League of Cities
City Manager of the Year
Award Nomination



D. Mike Good
City Manager

Submitted by the
City of Hallandale Beach

The City of Hallandale Beach has had the honor of having D. Mike Good for a City Manager for the past six years. Good's history with the City did not begin as City Manager, but began twenty-three years ago as a mechanic in the Public Works Department. A single working father with four daughters, Good set an example by attending college and graduating with a bachelors and masters degree while working full time for the City. His dedication to his work and Community shined above all others as he rose through the ranks to Director of Public Works and was ultimately chosen by the City Commission in 2002 to lead this great City as City Manager.

His dedication to this City, its residents, businesses and employees surpasses that of any other City Manager. Those who know Good know that he wears many hats and duly acts on many occasions as City Manager, friend, confidant, counselor, father, mentor/educator, and brother, son and uncle. He is there for everyone no matter how big or small and has created a family atmosphere within the City. Even when he worked full time, raised four daughters and attended school, he coached Hallandale Beach's local youth baseball team, transporting the children on nights and weekends and filling in as a coach, mentor and parent for the youths.

Good's number one priority as City Manager is to make sure that all employees, residents, businesses and Community members are offered the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the City. Under Good's management, the City has increased the number of Boards and Committees available for participation by the Community. These Boards and Committees provide the Community an opportunity to not only voice their opinions but actually participate and make a difference in the City. Good understands that you cannot always count on the Community coming to you, but you must go out into the

Community. Each year the City Manger in conjunction with the City Commission hosts five annual Town hall meetings, one for each quadrant of the City. In addition to the Town Hall meetings, Good attends neighborhood association meetings, Safe Neighborhood District Advisory Council meetings, and numerous homeowners association meetings, to name a few. His hands on approach set him apart from others who have filled those shoes in the past. His strong ties to the Community coupled with his long history with the City make him a household name.

Good is a visionary. He is not only working for today but looks far into the future of the City. Understanding the need for public transportation, Good established the City's first mini-bus system. Under Good's leadership, ridership has increased from a few hundred a month to over 14,000 a month, particularly due to Good's directive to allow riders to ride for free. Good understands the needs of the Community and the essential need to connect with the surrounding cities. He recently spearheaded negotiations with the City of Aventura and the City of Hollywood to connect the three cities mini-bus routes, and further is working to implement a tri-city trolley system that will provide free direct transportation between the three cities. He understands that we cannot live in a bubble but need to work with our neighbors.

As a visionary, Good has recognized the changing demographics of the City and the need to evaluate and upgrade City programs and services. Over the past several years Good sought out and acquired several parcels of land to expand the Cities current parks system. Under his direction, this past year the City purchased the properties adjacent to the City's largest park doubling its size. This park expansion adds to the future City Town Center. The Town Center will connect the Park to the City Hall complex which

includes City Hall, Police Department, Parks and Recreation Office, the City Cultural Center, Police Athletic League office, County Library, Mini-bus hub, and the Post Office. Directly across from City Hall Complex is a mixed use development under construction which will be incorporated into the Town Center by a pedestrian bridge. The development will include 750,00 sq.ft of retail, hotel, movie theater, offices, and 1500 residential units, and Good was able to negotiate construction of affordable housing units to be incorporated (all with a minimum of 1.2 acres of open space) into the Town Center.

To ensure the park expansion is incorporated properly to fit the needs of the Community, Good created a Parks Evaluation Committee composed of City staff from each City department. The Committee met this year over several months and performed a complete walkthrough of each of the City parks both during the day and at night. Upon completion of their intake and recommendations, the City will soon host a series of town hall meetings to receive input from the public. Once all the information is collected the City will hire a professional to design and build the Parks.

As a lifetime public servant, Good strives to provide any and every opportunity for the City residents and businesses. Under Good's direction the City established a business academy for small and new business owners. Spearheaded by Good, the City of Hallandale Beach's business academy, in partnership with the City of Hollywood and Florida Atlantic University, offers "Marketing Your Service Business" seminars and free individual analyst sessions to help businesses target and define their market and identify customers.

Good understands the current and future needs of the City from programming needs to the needed infrastructure under the ground. Since the City has recently seen a

substantial increase in development, Good has handled the pressure of development by working with developers to ensure that those developers assist in funding city programs and infrastructure, beyond their impact fees. Good created several trust funds for affordable housing, transit, parking alternatives, infrastructure, park improvements, and more to be funded primarily from contributions and grants.

This year, Good proudly opened the City's state of the art Membrane Water Treatment Plant which he oversaw the design as the Public Works Director. As a result of Good's smart financial planning, funding for construction of this \$26 million plant has been incrementally budgeted over a period of five years; therefore, there will be no increase in water rates to the taxpayers. While looking at the future, Good also identifies the need to preserve the City's history. For that reason, a Historical Village was formed by preservation of the 1925 Curci House and the move of the 1906 Moffitt House. Good is also preserving the first school house form 1916.

Good has proven to be a natural leader among not only his employees, the Community and Commission, but among his peers as well. He is a member of FCCMA, ICMA, Broward County/City Managers Association, American Public Works Association, and Kiwanis to name a few. What sets Good apart from other City Managers is his ability to conquer the impossible. When all others say it can't be done, Good's motto is those who believe and work hard, can and will overcome the impossible together. He lives by that motto everyday and leads by example for all to follow.

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