

Person Completing Nomination Form

Please print or type.

Name Holly Li BAIRE
Title Communications COORDINATOR
Government CITY OF OLDSMAR
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Nomination Certification

This nomination has been voted on and approved by a majority of the city council/commission.

Signed Risa A. New
City Clerk

The judges will use the narrative and supportive information to select the award winners. Nominators/nominees are asked not to contact the judges directly.

Narrative

In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Supportive Information

Up to 10 pages of supportive information (newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, etc.), on 8-1/2" x 11" paper (single-sided) may be provided. Please do not include videotapes, DVDs, CDs or Power-Point presentations.

Submit nominations by **August 18, 2006:**

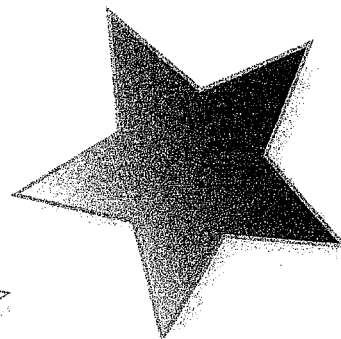
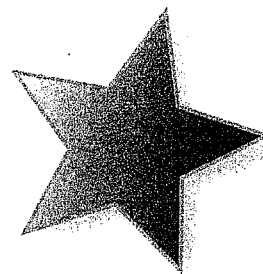
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence

301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)

P.O. Box 1757

Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757



2006 Florida Cities of Excellence Awards Program ▶ Nomination Form

Category (Please check one) See Award Criteria for more information. Please print or type. One nomination per page.

FLORIDA CITY OF EXCELLENCE AWARD
Name of Municipality Nominated City of Oldsmar
Nominated by Oldsmar City Council
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY SPIRIT AWARD
Name of Municipality Nominated _____
Nominated Project _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

MAYOR OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Title _____ Department _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

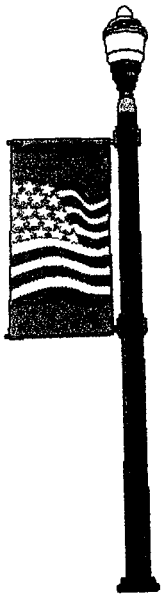
CITY CLERK OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY FINANCE OFFICIAL (DIRECTOR OR OFFICER) OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

OLDSMAR



*Founded by
R. E. Olds*

FLORIDA

Nomination

CITY OF EXCELLENCE

Submitted by: City of Oldsmar

City of Excellence: Oldsmar

Governance/ Administration

Oldsmar is a small city with big ideas.

This “little city that could” was founded on northern Tampa Bay by automaker R.E. Olds in 1913. Oldsmar, originally named Tampa Shores, had slow growth until the 1980s, and now has a population over 13,800.

City Leadership

The City of Oldsmar employs leaders that know the value of working together. “Everything has to be done as a team,” said Mayor Jerry Beverland.

“The Downtown Redevelopment Project is prime example of what you can do when you work together,” said Mayor Jerry Beverland. For the project, city officials are working with the Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and developers to redevelop the downtown area to include shops, offices, residences, and a new library.

Oldsmar has the benefit of having many employees that are very knowledgeable through their many years of public service. In all there are 25 employees that have worked ten or more years, and ten employees that have worked twenty or more years with Oldsmar. These capable leaders constitute make up the 144 city employees that has led Oldsmar to flourish.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

The City of Oldsmar is involved in many partnerships and joint programs with other cities, the county, the state, national and internationally. These partnerships include:

- Pinellas Planning Council- Oldsmar’s Mayor is Vice-Chair.

- Member of Pinellas Council of Mayors- Oldsmar's Mayor is the immediate past President.
- Planned the Regional Workforce Housing Seminar in cooperation with The Upper Tampa Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Tampa Bay Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
- Business Assistance Program with Oldsmar/Upper Tampa Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce and Pinellas County.
- Member of the Tampa Bay Library Consortium and charter member of the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative.
- Member of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- Participates in the county-wide closest unit Fire Rescue Dispatch.
- Manages the 300 acre Mobbly Bayou Wilderness Preserve in cooperation with Pinellas County.
- Adopted Slidell, Louisiana as it's "sister city" and provided them assistance after Hurricane Katrina.
- Member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and participated in the International Management Exchange Program, which sent Oldsmar's City Manager, Bruce Haddock, to Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu in India. There Haddock was able to share Oldsmar's emergency management plans with the city, which requested assistance after being severely hit by the tsunami.

Citizen Outreach and Involvement

One of Oldsmar's great strengths is the ability to connect with their citizens, and to put their citizen's needs first. The city does this through a variety of projects and initiatives.

Mayor Jerry Beverland goes out of his way to connect with the citizens. "A big goal for me is for the residents to always be able to reach me. Whenever I write a newspapers column, I end by giving my home phone number. I tell City Hall that if anyone calls for me to give them my home phone number," said Beverland.

Commitment to Oldsmar's citizens doesn't stop with the Mayor. Tim Jacobson, Senior Engineering Technician is another example of an employee that goes above and beyond the call of duty to reach out to citizens.

"The city is installing drainage ditches as a part of our Storm Readiness project," said Jacobson's supervisor William Proses, "The project was designed by a professional firm, but Tim still went door-to-door and talked to all the homeowners who would be affected by the project."

A project that inspired the entire city of Oldsmar was the 9-11 Memorial. The memorial was constructed through community donations. Ten thousand dollars in cash was raised, and another \$30,000 to \$40,000 in time, labor, and donated materials were added.

"It was really awesome to see the whole community come together and want to be part of the memorial. From the guy who moved bricks to the major companies, everyone was an important part of bringing this together," said Fire Captain Jerry Gabardi.

Other initiatives/events that brought the city together: petitioning the YMCA to open facility in Oldsmar, American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, City of Oldsmar's Service Awards Banquet, the Adopt-a-Street program, newsletter and website.

Technology

Oldsmar was the first city in Florida to achieve Storm Ready recognition from the National Weather Service because of technological innovations to include establishing a 24-hour communications and coordination center, installing electronics and systems for receiving and disseminating NWS warnings, and establishing ways to gather ancillary weather information via radar data or instruments to measure local conditions.

Besides warning and protecting citizens from danger, the Storm Ready recognition, combined with meeting other requirements, contributed to Oldsmar receiving a Class 6 rating from the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. The Class 6 rating may trigger up to 20% reduction in flood insurance premiums for Oldsmar residents and businesses.

Innovative Programs and Services

Oldsmar has developed some very large ideas resulting in some of the most state of the art facilities in the area.

Oldsmar's largest undertaking is to become an independent water producer. With reverse osmosis technology Oldsmar will eliminate its demand on Tampa Bay Water, accommodate future growth and add quality drinking water capacity. The design and permitting phases of this project were completed this year.

Almost a third of the land in the City of Oldsmar is parks and preserves. City officials' foresight and long-range planning made Oldsmar a west coast leader in environment preservation.

Oldsmar achieved an important environmental preservation goal by acquiring a key piece of waterfront property on Tampa Bay. A resident owned five acres of land on Tampa Bay, planning to sell the land to developers. Oldsmar's Mayor convinced the landowner to sell the land to the city for \$2,200,000.

"I thought I would have to talk the other officials into buying the property, but they jumped on board," said Mayor Beverland.

The City of Oldsmar's grant writer and parks director went to lobby the state to get money for the purchase of the land. With the Mayor's leadership, the city received \$1.1 million to help with the purchase of the Tampa Bay property from the Florida Communities Trust Board. This past year the park was developed into Veterans Park, which included relocating the 17-ton Veterans Wall Monument to the site.

Beside the Tampa Bay waterfront property, an additional area is being developed for a park in the southern portion of the city bringing the total number of 11 parks and preserves.

The parks have shown to be a very important part of Oldsmar quality of life. In a recent random survey of 1,200 citizens, 89% of respondents had visited an Oldsmar park in the last year, and 46% supported increased public access and recreational opportunities.

Oldsmar's efforts in the Mobbly Bayou Wilderness Preserve were recently recognized at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council's 14th Annual Future of the Region Awards as "a scenic vista and natural habitat in a quickly vanishing area."

Fiscal Management

For 13 years, the City of Oldsmar has complied before deadline and ultimately received an award for governmental accounting and financial reporting for the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Oldsmar reports its financial information through newspaper articles, the City's website, at public meetings and hearings, and in annual reports.