

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.

CITY OF THE YEAR

Name of Municipality Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

BEST PROJECT

Name of Municipality Nominated _____

Nominated Project _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

BEST OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

SERVICE MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated WILLIAM R. WHITSON

Title ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER Department CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Nominated by PORT ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

BEST CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

BEST LEADER OF THE YEAR - EXECUTIVE OR ADMINISTRATIVE

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

BEST LEADER OF THE YEAR - COMMUNITY

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____

(Name of City/Town/Village)

[OVER]

Person Completing Nomination Form

Please print or type.

Name KENNETH W. PARKER
Title CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK
Government CITY OF PORT ORANGE
Address 1000 CITY CENTER CIRCLE, PORT ORANGE, FL 32129
Telephone Number 386-506-5501 Fax 386-756-5208
E-mail Address KPARKER@PORT-ORANGE.ORG

Nomination Certification

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

Signed *Kenneth W. Parker*
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

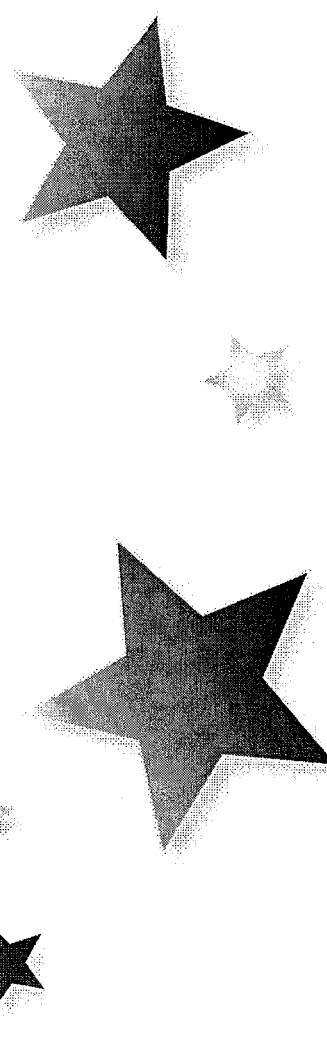
In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

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



Florida League of Cities - Cities of Excellence Awards
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION
William R. Whitson, Assistant City Manager

William Whitson has been the Assistant City Manager in Port Orange since January 1998. William has played a vital role in the City's Economic Development effort, the development and implementation of the City's Technology Plan, implementation of the City's CDBG entitlement program, managing the implementation of the City's fiber optic initiative, developing and implementing the City's SHIP program, and a variety of other initiatives. William heads up the City's legislative affairs and coordinates the City legislative program with the City's legislative consultant in Tallahassee. William has been heavily involved in the cooperative initiative in Volusia County having chaired a working group of local government managers determined to enhance the overall emergency communications during emergency and non-emergency situations. The group has submitted a plan to the Volusia Council of Governments for consideration.

In May 2005, he was elected as President of the Florida City-County Management Association. FCCMA is the third largest professional local management association in the world. Only the International City-County Management Association and the California City Management Association are larger. William personally committed to cycle from Pensacola to Key West to raise money for the FCCMA Foundation and to promote the values of professional local government management. William started his ride in Pensacola on December 27. He rode the entire length of the State in 17 days visiting each of the FCCMA Districts.

William's trip across Florida raised more than \$17,000 for the Foundation, the largest single fundraiser ever for the Association.

Also during his term, he met with editorial boards throughout the state of Florida promoting the values of professional management and the ethical standards advocated by FCCMA and its members.

During his term, the FCCMA Board authorized the solicitation of proposals from colleges and universities for a Center of Excellence in Local Government. The Center is designed to train individuals to be local government managers. Also, it will marry the best in academic thought with the practitioners. The Association received 7 proposals. FCCMA will make a final determination in the fall of 2006. He continues to chair the Center of Excellence in Local Government Committee for FCCMA. Also, he now chairs the FCCMA Foundation.

In September 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast. The Port Orange City Council, like most cities and counties, wanted to help the impacted communities. Fortunately, William had a strong connection with Long Beach, Mississippi. He had lived in Long Beach and knew a number of people there. He made contact with the City of Long Beach. The City of Port Orange ascertained that Long Beach would be a good fit. William became the point person for the Long Beach effort. He began contacting others throughout the State of Florida. Ultimately 12 local governments from throughout the

State of Florida were coordinated by William to respond to Long Beach. Over 200 individuals were involved over an 11-week period to Long Beach.

The Port Orange Mayor and City Council encouraged not only governmental involvement but the community was also encouraged. to become involved in the recovery effort, too. Both businesses and citizens volunteered, made donations, held fundraisers and a variety of other activities and efforts to assist Long Beach residents in their recovery. William served as the liaison for this effort.

For example, the citizens and businesses donated gifts for the school children to guarantee each student would have a Merry Christmas. A semi-truck load of gifts was provided to Long Beach by members of the Florida Coalition. It is estimated that gifts, money, and other items provided by residents and businesses exceeded \$100,000.

William has represented the City of Port Orange and the Florida Consortium of governments at a variety of meetings and conferences as an advocate of an integrated task force approach to emergency response to other communities. He has spoken at the ICMA Best Practices Conference in Charleston, South Carolina; at a conference in Ft. Lauderdale of business and governmental leaders; and represented ICMA at an emergency management association meeting in Atlanta. Additionally, he met with Governor Bush and with representatives of the State Office of Emergency Management as an advocate of forming standing teams and task forces to respond to emergencies in the state of Florida as well as being prepared to respond to other needs and emergencies

outside the state, when needed. William will be part of a team that is presenting a two hour workshop on emergency management at the upcoming ICMA conference in San Antonio in September.

William continues to work on the City of Port Orange wireless initiative looking at ways to use technology to make Port Orange employees more productive as well as enhancing the service delivery options to City residents. He continues to head up the team looking at the City's tower initiative. This initiative is designed to lease city land for communication towers. Although related to the City's wireless initiative, it is designed to produce a revenue stream to the City for allowing towers to be placed on selected sites.

William is heading up the City's workforce housing effort. He is helping to identify monies and resources to help meet the growing demand for affordable workforce housing in Port Orange. It is with pleasure that the City of Port Orange nominates William Whitson as Florida's Employee of the Year.