



ANNE M. GANNON CONSTITUTIONAL TAX COLLECTOR

presents

# Property Matters

August 2017

Dear Friend,

This August as Palm Beach County children return to school, safe driving is more important than ever. According to AAA, the greatest risk schoolkids face is getting on and off the bus. In this issue of *Property Matters*, we offer motorist and school bus safety tips to help keep our youngest residents safe.

Don't forget – Tourist Development Tax is due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month. Also, the Property Appraiser mails a “Truth in Millage” (TRIM) Notice of Proposed Property Taxes to all property owners in August. This notice is not a bill. If you have questions about the notice, please contact the Property Appraiser's office.

Best regards,

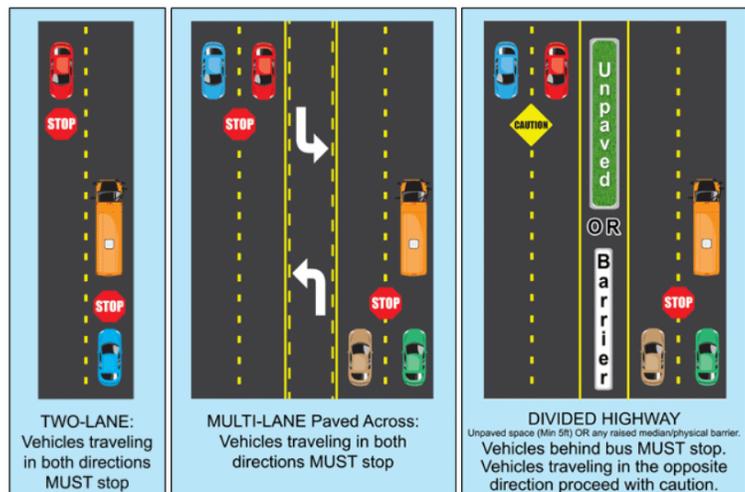
Anne M. Gannon

## Back to School

Students head back on August 14, which means the morning and afternoon commutes will get busier. Safe driving is more important than ever. Many drivers don't know the laws relating to school busses.

### Motorist and School Bus Safety Tips:

- All drivers moving in either direction on a two-way street must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal, and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children AND the school bus stop arm is withdrawn.
- On a highway divided by a



paved median, all drivers moving in either direction must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal, and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children AND the school bus stop arm is withdrawn.

- On a highway divided by a raised barrier or an unpaved median at least 5 feet wide, drivers moving in the opposite direction do not have to stop for the bus (painted lines or pavement markings are not considered barriers). However, these motorists should slow down and watch for students loading or unloading from the bus.
- Be alert and watch for children especially near schools, bus stops, school buses and in school parking lots.
- Pay extra attention to lower speed limits in school zones.
- Watch for and obey signals from school crossing guards.
- Only drive or park in authorized areas to drop off or pick up children at school.

## Tourist Development Tax Supports County Tourism

Tourist Development Tax (TDT) plays a vital role in sustaining our local community by strengthening our economy and supporting our County's tourism industry. Examples of this support include tourism promotion and the funding of beach restoration, cultural events and new professional sports facilities. All of which attract visitors to our beautiful Palm Beach County.

Palm Beach County residents who rent and/or lease any unit six months or less are required to pay Tourist Development Tax. Funds are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month and are collected on a monthly basis. Failure to collect and pay this tax is a crime that negatively affects our communities for residents and visitors alike.

If someone you know is renting but not collecting and paying the required Tourist Development Tax, call our anonymous tip line at 561-355-3547.

## Check Your Mailbox

This month, the Property Appraiser mails "Truth In Millage" (TRIM) Notice of Proposed Property Taxes to property owners. This is not a bill. These notices provide information on any proposed changes in the millage rate (tax rate) of each taxing authority and lists your property's market and assessed value. They also list exemptions applied to your property. Owners looking to appeal the market value of their property must do so with the Property Appraiser Value Adjustment Board by September 15.

Do you have a new mailing address? Verify your address and report any errors to the Property Appraiser's Office at (561) 355-2866. We use the information they have on file to mail your 2017 property tax bill in November.