



**HENDRY COUNTY**  
**Board of County Commissioners**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Infrastructure to Lay Foundation of Growth**

***Op-Ed by: Commissioner Darrell Harris***

**(March 23, 2017) – LaBelle, Fla.** – I have had the privilege of serving as a County Commissioner for District 2 for the 17 years. Continuing to create an environment for growth in all areas of the County has always been one of my top priorities. I have enjoyed having the opportunity to work with the dedicated staff members in Hendry County government. Together we continue to work with the residents of Hendry County to achieve our highest potential. However, there are still areas that have room to grow, and we would like nothing more than to fulfill those needs in the most efficient ways possible.

Putting our residents first has been and will always be my top priority. With our residents as our main focus we will create the highest quality of life possible and achieve growth. One of the ways we can achieve this is by investing in and installing infrastructure. Roads, sidewalks, sewer and water lines all to lay the foundation for growth in our county. Having infrastructure in place will enhance the overall quality of life in Hendry County in a variety of ways.

The Board of County Commissioners approved a project to construct sidewalks along Kell Mill Blvd to Crescent Ave. We have also approved sidewalks and paving projects for other various areas of District 2 and the rest of Hendry County including Fort Denaud Road. The sidewalks will complete the alternative transportation right-of way improvements in these areas. We believe that having sidewalks along these road is a public safety issue. But sidewalks are so much more. Many people walk, jog, or bike along our roadways as a primary source of recreation and exercise. The approved and future paving projects offer residents and visitors safe routes to reach your end destination. While public safety is a top priority, these projects compliment both safety and recreation directly improving quality of life experiences for our residents and visitors.

Sidewalks as a medium for increased recreational activities in Hendry County provide greater access to outdoor activities for families to safely ride bikes or walk dogs. We want to create an environment where an active lifestyle is easily accessible which will in turn allow people to develop higher physical and social capacities. Hendry County strives to build a sense of place that will easily turn strangers into neighbors. Sidewalks are shared spaces that allow for these interactions with our community to take place. Whether it is a fun run or a quick walk to pick up groceries, our goal is to connect our communities together.

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I look forward to building opportunities for recreational activities throughout our County and increase public safety. I will continue to make people my top priority and strive for the highest potential the County can reach. I will believe there is potential to reduce taxes on our residents, but we must remain committed to offering the highest quality of services to our residents. I believe that we can lay the foundation for continued growth, improve and ensure a quality of life in Hendry County for generations to come!

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***(Please feel free to contact us for an interview, discussion or questions.)***