

# Orange County Commission Board Meeting

## October 22, 2019

**For the Record; I adamantly OPPOSE the proposed Orange County "TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX" We need to put an end to reckless spending and reckless growth management – NOT more taxes!**

- **We have the funds today, but the state and the county elect to give away OUR tax dollars to mega corporations like Universal instead of addressing the transportation needs of the Orange County Residents.**
  - **\$125 million from Orange County and \$16 million from the State to support Universal's new theme park.** Universal should pay for its expansion including the new road they need to get there.
  - **Additionally, the new Universal Park will eliminate affordable housing that is available today.** I am unaware of anything being done to address this problem that will be created with Universal's new park. Gentrification
  - **What is the environmental impact of this new theme park?** We cannot afford to create more flood zones and destroy more wetlands.
- **Orange County and the City of Orlando gave a total of \$9 million dollars to Universal for a pedestrian bridge, but refused to provide a pedestrian bridge for UCF – where several students have been killed.**
- **Tourist Development Taxes are wasted on venues that are not needed.** Transportation infrastructure and Mass-Transit should have a higher priority. You need to be a leader for change in the use of these tax dollars. I have no doubt the majority of Orange County taxpayers believe traffic gridlock and mass-transit need to be addressed ahead of building new venues that can be provided by the public sector.
- **Orange County Residents already pay excessive and regressive transportation taxes via the toll roads.** With the exception of I-4, Orange County has no fully accessible expressways. The toll taxes are excessive and regressive. I encourage ALL FLORIDIANS TO SIGN THE PETITION THAT GIVES US THE RIGHT TO VOTE ON TOLL TAXES!
- **Direct funds towards viable solutions for Mass-Transit. 1) Create a bus-hub system that would make it possible for people to use mass-transit over the personal automobile. SunRail is useless without an effective bus system. Shutdown SunRail and fix Lynx. First things first.**
  - **Note Volusia County has backed out of funding SunRail.**