

Mayor Teresa Jacobs Orange County, Florida

Following eight years of service as an Orange County Commissioner, Teresa Jacobs is now serving her second term as Mayor of Orange County, Florida. Orange County operates under a strong Mayor-form of government wherein the Mayor serves as both the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman and voting member of the County Commission. Orange County has a population of 1.2 million residents and is home to the City of Orlando and twelve other municipalities. In addition to policy direction and operational oversight, Jacobs directs the creation of the county's annual \$3.6 billion budget.

Mayor Jacobs is a well-known champion of ethics reform and strong public participation. She is focused on maintaining Orange County's status as a world class destination for visitors and the region's number 1 ranking for tourism. Through the branding campaign that she initiated, "Orlando. You Don't Know the Half of It," she is boosting awareness of the region's exploding capabilities in translational medicine and bio research, higher education, high tech, digital media, and modeling, simulation and training.

The Mayor is a staunch advocate for protecting Orange County's superb quality of life, and for leading far-reaching sustainability efforts to ensure a healthy and prosperous future. In addition to nurturing a thriving economy with long-term promise, Mayor Jacobs is deeply committed to strengthening the safety net for those in need, with special emphasis on impacting domestic violence, child abuse, homelessness, and drug and alcohol addiction.

Through strategic partnerships with government agencies, higher education, the business and economic development community and a broad coalition of faith-based and non-profit organizations, Mayor Jacobs is committed to making Orange County the best place to live, work and raise a family.