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Florida League of Cities Announces 2018 Florida Municipal Achievement Award Winners

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TALLAHASSEE – Three Florida cities are paving the way for innovations and excellence in municipal government, and now they’re being recognized for it.

The cities of Clermont, Miami Beach and Largo were recently announced as the 2018 winners of the 10th Annual Florida Municipal Achievement Awards. Each city took the top spot in one of three award categories:

- **City Spirit Award** – City of Clermont
- **Florida Citizenship Award** – City of Miami Beach
- **Environmental Stewardship Award** – City of Largo

“For the past decade, the Florida Municipal Achievement Awards have recognized cities that create standout programs to better serve their communities.” said Tallahassee City Commissioner and Florida League of Cities President Gil Ziffer. “These programs are perfect examples of cities at work, and the League is proud to recognize this year’s award winners for their success.”

The **City Spirit Award** recognizes a single, specific citywide effort to successfully address a local need. The **City of Clermont’s** winning entry, **The Oakhurst Project**, changed the crime-ridden neighborhood of Oakhurst into a crime-free neighborhood through a citywide effort that allowed police to spend a portion of their time beautifying the neighborhood and connecting with residents.

The **Florida Citizenship Award** focuses on city projects or programs that increase civic awareness and promote active participation in city government among residents. The **City of Miami Beach’s** winning entry, **MB Resident Connect**, is an electronic system that allows residents and others to set up keywords of interest and receive alerts when their topic is published on an agenda.

The **Environmental Stewardship Award** focuses on city programs that promote conservation, improve and protect environmental conditions, and/or provide environmental education and outreach programs. The **City of Largo’s** winning entry, **Freecycle Event**, allows staff to collect donated items that are used to create a marketplace. Residents receive a reusable bag that they use to ‘shop’ for free from thousands of items.

All three winning cities will receive a trophy, receive special recognition at a commission meeting and at the League's annual conference, and will also be featured in the League's award-winning magazine, *Quality Cities (QC)*, and on the League's website and social media outlets.

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Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities. Florida's cities are formed by their citizens and governed by their citizens. The League is founded on the belief that local self-government is the keystone of American democracy. For more information, visit www.floridaleagueofcities.com.