

Entry: 500

Rob Long

Started at: 10/13/2021 09:04 AM - Finalized at: 10/13/2021 04:42 PM

Page: NEAA Nomination Form
APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, October 22, 2021, 11:59 pm PST
All fields indicated by a red asterisk (*) must be completed
Category Local Public Service >250,000 (Individual)
NOMINATING AGENCY'S INFORMATION
Name & Title of Individual Submitting this Application Ali Bayat, Director, Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department
Submitting Agency's Name Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department
State (2letters) FL
Service Area Population of Submitting Agency 600,000
Social Media (Indicate all that applies) None Available
Agency Logo - Hi-Res Picture (jpg; or .png) Download File (https://vo-general.s3.amazonaws.com/1791819d-f6fc-46c3-b1b7-a1d38a2bd4d4/b0430f2f-2e3b-4c62-893b-2685f13b3721?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAJ4PRWO26HAX3IOCA&Expires=1723305978&response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3D%22WUD%20-%20color%20Transparency.png%22&response-content-type=image%2Fpng&Signature=Td%2BAgGkYq8pY1m3Jt%2Fghmy6tN6o%3D)
PROJECT / INDIVIDUAL NOMINEE'S INFORMATION
Is the individual being nominated for the public service award Elected or Appointed? Elected
Name of Nominated Project / Program or Nominee (as it will appear on the NEAA award) Rob Long

Nominee's Title

Chair, Palm Beach Soil & Water Conservation District

Nominee's Agency

Palm Beach Soil & Water Conservation District

Nominee's Address

420 S State Rd 7
Wellington Florida 33414 US

Nominee's Phone Number

561.356.6020

Nominee's Email

roblongpbc@gmail.com

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**Narrative Description: Project / Program or Individual (attach pdf, limited to 4 pages, double-spaced, 12pt)**

Download File (<https://vo-general.s3.amazonaws.com/1791819d-f6fc-46c3-b1b7-a1d38a2bd4d4/4b0fc7be-d258-49ae-a7cb-9732b793593a?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAJ4PRWO26HAX3IOCA&Expires=1723305978&response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3D%22Rob%20Long.pdf%22&response-content-type=application%2Fpdf&Signature=bYGxl3CmoqtoWp3bELBIxf5ftic%3D>)

APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION

Please contact btrombino@nacwa.org (<mailto:membership@nacwa.org>; btrombino@nacwa.org?subject=Who%20is%20Our%20NACWA%20Primary%20Contact%20for%20the%20NEAA%20application%3F).
if you do not know the name of your NACWA Representative (SUBJECT: Who is Our NACWA Primary Contact for the NEAA application?)

Signature of Individual Submitting Application (pdf/jpg)**Name of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative**

Ali Bayat

Title of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative

Director, Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department

Email of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative

abayat@pbcwater.com

Signature of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative (pdf/jpg)

Please review your application prior to finalizing it. All fields with a red asterisk (*) must be completed. If you have any questions in regard to submitting your application, please contact Bredy Trombino (<mailto:btrombino@nacwa.org?subject=Application%20Questions%20-%20PreCompletion>) at 202.533.1820.



Water Utilities Department

8100 Forest Hill Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33413
(561) 493-6000
Fax: (561) 493-6008
www.pbcwater.com



**Palm Beach County
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Robert S. Weinroth, Vice Mayor
Maria G. Marino
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County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker

October 13, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I am nominating Mr. Rob Long for the NACWA Public Service Award. He was elected in November 2016 for a 4-year term, then re-elected in November 2020 to the Palm Beach Soil & Water Conservation District (District) Board and has served as Chair for the last three years. The District serves the entire Palm Beach County. As a board member and a chair of Palm Beach Soil & Water Conservation District, he has done a great job educating the public and especially youth about water, wetlands and environment through his tenure. To mention some of his accomplishments, "The Ambassador of the Wetlands" program started during his time on the board. Also last year, the District expanded its largest program, the Agricultural Mobile Irrigation Lab to cover Broward and Miami Dade Counties, in addition to Palm Beach County. In addition, he uses his platform to inform the public on local water quality emerging concerns such as PFAs through regular op-ed's in the local newspapers. He has published over a dozen articles in the last couple of years. I would like to thank NACWA for considering this nomination and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Here is additional information about Mr. Long's accomplishments:

Ambassador of the Wetlands program

The program is based on a community partnership between Mounts Botanical Garden, Palm Beach Soil & Water Conservation District, and the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. It is a field trip program for 600+ high school students per year that promotes wetland stewardship, water conservation, and environmental education. It includes one full day of a hands-on, experimental field trip to both Mounts and the Refuge - where students learn to dip net and identify macroinvertebrates, followed by a reflective post-visit in the classroom - where water conservation behaviors and career opportunities are discussed.

Agricultural Mobile Irrigation Lab

The program funded through the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services covers Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach County. Because of this expansion, the Palm Beach Soil & Water Conservation District manages a larger service area than any other Soil & Water Conservation District in the state. This program consists of complementary irrigation expertise to agricultural growers by analyzing their irrigation systems and educating them on how to improve the efficiency of their systems and equipment. The practices reduce water quantity and improve water quality by reducing potentially hazardous runoff. This program accounts for the conservation of several hundred-million gallons of water per year.

General Public Education

Here are links to a few of Mr. Long's recent publications:

- [https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/opinion/columns/2021/08/03/point-view-west-palm-beach-should-ban-fake-turf-favor-real-grass/5423930001/\[palmbeachpost.com\]](https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/opinion/columns/2021/08/03/point-view-west-palm-beach-should-ban-fake-turf-favor-real-grass/5423930001/[palmbeachpost.com])
- [https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/opinion/columns/2021/03/17/long-brownfields-big-problem-poor-people-color-county/4654822001/\[palmbeachpost.com\]](https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/opinion/columns/2021/03/17/long-brownfields-big-problem-poor-people-color-county/4654822001/[palmbeachpost.com])
- [https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/opinion/columns/2020/11/29/point-view-delray-beach-must-clear-clean-up-its-water-issues/6436189002/\[palmbeachpost.com\]](https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/opinion/columns/2020/11/29/point-view-delray-beach-must-clear-clean-up-its-water-issues/6436189002/[palmbeachpost.com])

Sincerely,



Ali Bayat, P.E., PMP, Director
Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department