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**Vallance & Gray-Banks chosen as Volusia League of Cities employee of the year**

**City of New Smyrna Beach, FL** – The City of New Smyrna Beach is proud to announce two employees received distinguished service awards for employee of the year in each of the categories; ‘Economic Enrichment Employee of the Year’ and ‘Administrative Employee of the Year’ by the Volusia League of Cities (VLOC).

- Michelle Vallance was chosen to receive the VLOC Administrative Employee of the Year for her work as the Capital Improvements Manager for the City of New Smyrna Beach.
- Donna Gray-Banks was chosen to receive the Economic Enrichment Employee of the Year for her work as the Community Resource Manager for the City of New Smyrna Beach.

Both women were recognized by the Volusia League of Cities Annual Awards dinner in DeLand on May 26, 2017.

“Gray-Banks initially came to work for the City as a contract employee in 2011 and was brought on as a full-time City employee in 2013. Donna has a dynamic personality, she exudes a contagious happy energy, a positive attitude and gives 110% each and every day. She has a passion for the work that she does, and it is very evident in the results that she gets. She never misses dotting an “i” or crossing a “t.” Her diligent planning and hard work ensure that whatever endeavor she takes on will be hugely successful. The word “can’t” is not in her vocabulary, and when presented with a challenge she goes above and beyond that much harder until she finds a solution.”

**Congratulations Donna Gray-Banks on receiving Employee of the Year for Economic Enrichment**

“In May of 2014, the City’s large list of Capital Improvements Projects ranged from \$250,000 to \$10 M, and was diverse in terms of project type, size and impact. Michelle Vallance, a young professional who graduated from the University of Florida with an Architectural degree as well as a Master’s Degree in Construction Management from the University of Florida, was selected as the City Capital Improvements Program Manager. Vallance immediately began working with the City Manager’s Office as well as Department Directors and staff to establish a priority list, funding sources and a schedule to initiate these projects. Her attitude, level of enthusiasm added extra motivation to initiate and complete the projects list. Her efforts and vision has made a significant impact on these projects. In three, years her efforts to complete the long list of projects and a new list make her a standout employee.”

**Congratulations Michelle Vallance on receiving Employee of the Year for Administration**



*Michelle Vallance and Donna Jones-Banks*

**The City of New Smyrna Beach** is an eclectic Atlantic coastal community with seven miles of shoreline, artists' havens, thriving business and community development. The local population of 25,000 enjoy living where the *Boston Herald* stated, "It's a spot where history meets the arts, where amazing food choices meet breathtaking scenery, and where all kinds of fun can be found." The City employs over 200 people and is governed by the commissioner-manager form of government. For more information [www.cityofnsb.com](http://www.cityofnsb.com) or call City Hall (386) 410-2600.