

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV
Location: Pensacola, FL
Quarter ending: December 31, 2016

ISSUE/description: 5. GROWTH MANAGEMENT. Planning for the needs of the future.
Balancing growth versus preservation of lifestyle and environment.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News at 6PM	11/03/16	06:00PM/2.5 minutes	News	*

* The traffic backup heading onto Pensacola Beach can stretch for miles on a busy summer day. Now there's a proposal to speed things up, by automating all the toll booths on the Bob Sikes Bridge. Moving traffic smoothly and quickly through the tollgates has been a longtime quest for Commissioner Grover Robinson. He explains that equipment was installed over the summer to turn every lane into a Sunpass lane, so everyone goes through the toll booth at thirty miles an hour, with no more backup on the bridge and into Gulf Breeze. He said the county would make efforts to place current toll booth employees in other positions.

2. Channel 3 News at 10PM	11/14/16	10:00PM/2.5 minutes	News	**
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** The future of the Port of Pensacola is once again in flux. On Monday night, council members met to discuss putting together a committee to look into how Pensacola's front porch should be used. Thomas McCulley, president of the Pensacola Propeller Club, said "Six dollars and 90 cent return on every dollar that's put into a seaport infrastructure is a huge return. I don't think you're going to get that from any other business." The question the council is hoping to address is whether the 50-acre property should continue to be a place for international trade or something that would attract people to come downtown, or a combination of both. In 2011, Mayor Ashton Hayward put together a committee to identify improvements at the port, evaluate market opportunities and find the best use for the layout. The committee made numerous recommendations for a new Port business model, but Council Member Brian Spencer said not much was done with it to his knowledge. He said with a growing downtown and historical register, it was time to revisit the issue to see if there are better options for the waterfront property.

3. Channel 3 News at 5PM	11/15/16	05:00PM/1.5 minutes	News	***
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*** Pensacola is looking to launch a massive infrastructure overhaul. City hall is asking the city council to approve a \$15-million loan to improve and expand Pensacola Energy's natural gas lines. Pensacola Energy Director Don Suarez says \$11-million will go towards replacing a lot of the older cast iron gas mains and lines with newer ones made of polyethylene. The \$4-million will go towards putting in new lines as the area grows. Suarez said they want to do the work quickly, within 3 years, because the city is also asking the council to approve a massive repaving project, and they want to do the gas line replacement work simultaneously.

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4. Channel 3 News at 6PM	11/15/16	06:00PM/2.5 minutes	News	****

**** A large road expansion that goes from four to six lanes is causing a stir in one area neighborhood where gridlock is already an issue. The transportation agency says the wider lanes with a strip for bicyclists will lead to fewer traffic accidents and less congestion. Local residents say what's really needed is a traffic light at the busy intersection. The expansion will have three lanes in each direction with nothing to slow drivers down.

5. Channel 3 News at 6PM	12/28/16	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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***** Uber has been testing its self-driving cars in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and San Francisco, and soon Phoenix, Arizona. Florida Senator Jeff Brandes tweeted the company, letting them know Florida is ready for their cars. Earlier this year, Florida became the first state to allow autonomous vehicles to be used with or without a driver, no permit required. However, the law states there must be an operator in complete control. Brandes believes having the foresight to create that statute sets Florida apart from the rest. However, Uber told Channel 3's Jackalyn Kovac, the company won't bring its driverless cars to the Sunshine State due to the lack of state-wide legislation. Currently, it's up to cities to create their own regulations regarding ride-sharing companies. The company said because of that, it's hard for its drivers to travel from city to city. Brandes is planning to introduce a bill after the start of the Florida 2017 session that would regulate background checks, insurance and other details that have been left up to the cities.

6. Channel 3 News First at 4	12/29/16	04:00PM/2 minutes	News	*****
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***** It's been 20 years since the last apartment complex was built in Century. Now, there's plans for a new 50-unit apartment complex. "This is going to be a great boost for century," said Century Mayor Freddie McCall. "Fifty units to us is a lot of units, so it's going to be well needed for Century and it's going to be a blessing for people in Century." McCall said housing has been a problem in the town for quite some time. He's been working on this project for two years. Some apartments will be set aside for low income families. Residents like Nicole Burt said that's great news because affordable housing is hard to find.