

2026 State Legislative Priorities

Priority Funding:

- ✚ FY2027 State Appropriation Requests: Lakes of Emerald Hills Flood Control and Lake Maintenance (\$600,000); Adult Day Care Center (\$250,000); Marine Public Safety Initiative (\$188,000); and Boulevard Heights Community Center Senior Programming Expansion (\$170,000)
- ✚ FY2027 Cultural Facilities Grant (Division of Cultural Affairs): Sunset Park Project (\$500,000)
- ✚ FY2027 General Program Support (Division of Cultural Affairs): Cultural Concert Series Program (\$25,000)
- ✚ FY2026 FRDAP Grants: Carlton Montayne Park Improvements (\$200,000) and Oak Lake Park Improvements (\$200,000)
- ✚ 2025 Resilient Florida Grant: Rainbow Drive Flood Resiliency (\$500,000); Southern Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (SRWWTP) Pump Station (\$6,100,000); and SRWWTP Electrical Building Elevation (\$6,900,000)
- ✚ FY2027 Department of Elder Affairs Appropriation: Fred Lippman Multi-Purpose Center Programming/Services

Policy Topics to Monitor and Engage:

- ✚ Revenue Preservation – Safeguard predominant revenue streams such as ad valorem taxation or offer stable revenue replacement strategies of equal value to fund critical municipal services
- ✚ Vacation Rentals Regulations – Authority restored to local governments
- ✚ Resiliency Measures – Including but not limited to sea level rise, water quality, and other environmental issues
- ✚ Property Insurance - Mitigate rising homeowners/commercial insurance rates and reforms to Citizens
- ✚ Condominium Assessments Resulting from Recertification Inspections – Expand financial assistance programs to fund necessary structural and electrical repairs for economically vulnerable condominium owners
- ✚ Affordable Housing Programs and Funding
- ✚ Building Code and Other Growth Management Policies
- ✚ Communications Services Tax – Maintenance of current rates for municipalities
- ✚ Cybersecurity Efforts – Expand through state resources
- ✚ Economic Development Opportunities Funding – Expand through state resources
- ✚ Home Rule Preservation and Defense Against Preemption Efforts
- ✚ Homelessness/Public Camping – Mitigate impact of HB 1365 (2024) on municipalities
- ✚ Historic Structures – Defense against preemption of regulation
- ✚ Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program – Continued funding to assist with recruitment efforts
- ✚ Live Local Act – Pursue legislative clarification pertaining to highest allowable height via local zoning regulations
- ✚ Local Business Tax Receipts (LBTRs) – Preservation of a municipality's ability to levy
- ✚ Resilient Florida Trust Funds Preservation
- ✚ Seminole Gaming Compact
- ✚ Sovereign Immunity and Claim Bill Reform
- ✚ Vessels and Waterways Issues – Including the protection and enhancement of anchoring limitation areas designated at the county-level
- ✚ Zoning During/Following Emergencies – Preserve municipal authority to implement zoning, land use, or redevelopment regulations following declared emergencies

Executive Branch:

- ✚ Assist City staff with agency grant opportunities (i.e. Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, Historic Preservation Grants, Resilient Florida Grant Program, Water Protection Grants)
- ✚ Continue to assist City staff (Department of Public Utilities and Department of Design and Construction Management) with issues pertaining to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
- ✚ Continue to serve as the City's liaison to the Executive Office of the Governor and other relevant state agencies, such as the: Florida Department of Commerce, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC)