

# 2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA PRIORITY ISSUES



## POLICY INITIATIVES

### Community & Urban Affairs

#### Code Enforcement Anonymous Complaints

**SUPPORT** amending Florida law, relating to county and municipal code enforcement, to restore the authority of county code inspectors under s. 125.69(4)(a), F.S., and s. 162.06(1), F.S., and code enforcement officers designated under s. 162.21, F.S., to act on a complaint submitted anonymously.

- Florida Association of Counties supports.

### Finance, Tax & Administration

#### Building Inspection Funds

**SUPPORT** changes to the Florida Statute regarding building inspection funds, which has severely limited local government's ability to ensure they carry forward enough funds to cover pending inspections.

- Florida Association of Counties supports.

#### Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) Extension

**SUPPORT** expanding the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) to allow all eligible FRS employees to extend their participation in DROP for up to 36 months beyond their initial 60-month eligibility period. This would match the DROP participation extension now permitted for eligible law enforcement officers.

- Florida Association of Counties supports.

#### Public Records Exemption

**SUPPORT** amending s.119.071, F.S., to grant a public records exemption to allow the protection of the County/City Attorney, and their Deputy, and Assistant Attorneys.

- Florida Association of Counties supports.

#### Stop Expansion of Uses of Tourist Development Taxes

**OPPOSE** any legislation that would expand the use of Tourist Development Taxes beyond those uses outside of tourism marketing activities.

- Visit Florida supports.

#### Short-Term Rental Tax

**SUPPORT** legislation that codifies full collection and remittance of the tourist development taxes by short-term rentals and requires a Florida Department of Revenue number, or similar unique property identification number, be included in short-term rental advertisements.

- Visit Florida supports.

### Funding for Visit Florida

**SUPPORT** public funding for Visit Florida so Florida's tourism industry can create jobs, promote economic growth, keep residents' tax base low and generate sales tax revenue.

- Visit Florida supports.

#### State Aid to Public Libraries Grant Program

**SUPPORT** funding State Aid to Public Libraries Grant Program.

- Florida Libraries Association supports.

#### Public Library Construction Grants

**SUPPORT** funding Public Library Construction Grants Program.

- Florida Libraries Association supports.

### Health Safety & Justice

#### Financial Responsibility for Medical Expenses of Arrestees, Pretrial Detainees, or Sentenced Inmates

**SUPPORT** amending Florida law, capping medical costs of an arrestee, pretrial detainee, or sentenced inmate at 110 percent of the Medicare allowable rate if no formal written agreement exists between the county or municipality and the third-party medical care provider. State Corrections has this same cap.

#### Emergency Pediatric Training for EMS Practitioners

**SUPPORT** amending Florida Statute to require additional advanced pediatric emergency care instruction to existing curriculum.

### Water & Environmental Sustainability

#### Municipal Solid Waste-to-Energy Program Funding

**SUPPORT** funding the Municipal Solid Waste-to-Energy Program.

- Florida Association of Counties supports.

#### Conversion of Private Wells and Septic Tanks

**SUPPORT** recurring funding for conversion programs designed to move private wells to potable drinking water and private septic tanks to public wastewater collection systems. **SUPPORT** greater flexibility for programs that address the costs incurred by residents connecting to sewer and the proper abandonment of septic systems.

- Florida Association of Counties supports.

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## LOCAL FUNDING INITIATIVE REQUESTS

### **CR579/Prospect Road/Happy Hill Road Roadway Improvement Design Phase (\$1,500,000)**

The design phase for this project will include the widening of Prospect Road – from Williams Cemetery Road to SR 52 – to four lanes, with a 7-foot bike lane, a 6-foot sidewalk and a new roundabout at SR 52 at Prospect Road/Happy Hill Road.

### **Sidewalks: Cypress Creek Road and Parkway Boulevard (\$2,000,000)**

Cypress Creek Road sidewalk, from Carpenter’s Run Boulevard to SR 54, will benefit Denham Oaks Elementary. Parkway Boulevard sidewalk, from Pine View Elementary to Collier Parkway, will benefit Pine View Elementary.

### **Anclote River Park Additional Boat Ramps and Parking (\$2,900,000)**

Provide two additional boat ramps and 100 new parking spaces, with sufficient boat trailer parking, to Anclote River Park. This would raise the county boat ramp total from eight to 10 - increasing boating access in Pasco by 25%.

### **Mitchell Park Revamp (\$4,200,000)**

Upgrades will include fencing, lighting, two parking lots, a concession stand/restrooms, three diamond playing fields, and five rectangular playing fields. We’ll also correct underlying drainage and irrigation issues to ensure all areas remain accessible in all weather conditions.

### **Robert J. Strickland Park Seawall and Beach Sand (\$2,000,000)**

Install an 850-foot living seawall that includes crevices for small natural organisms to live, thereby filtering the water and improving water quality. Expand the beach with 3,600 cubic yards of sand, giving the community a larger recreation area.

## PASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



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