

# STATE / LOCAL WEEKLY REPORT

## February 25- March 1, 2013

\*The weekly report comprises a variety of media sources, including news articles, lobbyist reports and information gathered through the OIA.

### **LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

The following are additional bills that have potential impacts on the County that have been filed for the 2013 session that begins Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> :

#### **1. Wage theft preemption**

SB 1216, filed on Wednesday by Senator Rob Bradley (R – Orange Park), would preempt local wage theft ordinances, and provide for such claims to be heard in county court. Based on BCC action on item 11A10 at the December 18 BCC meeting (<http://www.miamidade.gov/govaction/matter.asp?matter=122398&file=true&yearFolder=Y2012>) we don't intend to take a position on SB 1216 absent further BCC direction. A link to SB 1216 is included below.

#### **2. Water/sewer service outside city limits**

HB 733 by Rep. Debbie Mayfield (R – Vero Beach) would require any municipal utility that sells water outside the city's limits to be regulated by the Florida Public Service Commission and also would provide that a municipal utility cannot extend the utility service into the unincorporated area without the consent of the BCC. This bill arises from the City of Vero Beach providing utility services beyond its city. A link to HB 733 is included below.

#### **3. Value Adjustment Board; agricultural classification**

SB 1200, filed Tuesday, by Senator Wilton Simpson (R – New Port Richey), would delete authorization for a Value Adjustment Board on its own motion to review lands classified as agricultural, historic or high-water recharge. SB 1200 also would remove authorization for the board of county commissioners to reclassify as nonagricultural certain lands contiguous to urban development and delete a presumption that land is not being used primarily for agriculture if its purchased for a certain amount above its agricultural assessment. A link to SB 1200 is included below.

#### **4. Rental of property re: homestead property tax exemption**

SB 342 by Senator John Thrasher (R – St. Augustine) would provide that a homestead property may be rented for up to 30 days per year without affecting homestead status. SB 342 passed out of its first committee last week. There is an identical House companion bill, HB 279 by Rep. Charles Hood (R – Daytona Beach). A link to SB 342 is included below.

**5. Improvements for wind resistance or renewable energy property assessed value re: property assessed value**

SB 1064 by Senator Jack Latvala (R – Clearwater) would provide that improvements to residential property related to renewable energy or wind resistance would not be considered in determining assessed value. There is a similar House companion bill, HB 277 by Rep. Michelle Rehwinkel-Vasilinda (D – Tallahassee). A link to SB 1064 is included below.

**6. Reduction in maximum interest rate on tax certificates**

SB 1062 by Senator Jack Latvala (R – Clearwater) would reduce the maximum interest rate on tax certificates from 18 percent to 12 percent. There is an identical House companion bill, HB 421 by Rep. Larry Ahearn (R – St. Petersburg). A link to SB 1062 is included below.

**7. Public record exemption, financial information in response to solicitation**

SB 1152 by Senator Gwen Margolis (D – Miami) would exempt from public records any financial statement that a governmental entity requires of a prospective bidder. There is a similar House companion bill, HB 403 by Rep. Holly Raschein (R – Key Largo). A link to SB 1152 is included below.

**8. Preemption of alarm system ordinances, permits**

HB 973 by Rep. Jason Brodeur (R – Sanford) would preempt local ordinances related to low-voltage alarm systems. HB 973 also would require local enforcement agencies to make uniform basic permit labels that are valid for one year available at a cost of no more than \$60. A link to HB 973 is included below.

**9. Florida Fire Prevention Code; exemption of certain businesses and agricultural operations**

HB 971 by Rep. Jake Raburn (R – Valrico) would exempt from the Florida Fire Prevention Code (1) agricultural operations with fewer than 50 full-time employees and that is not used by the public for direct sales; and (2) businesses located in 1-, 2- or 3- story building from any 2-hour or longer fire-rated wall requirements. A link to HB 971 is included below.

**10. Building construction**

SB 1252, filed today by Senator Wilton Simpson (R – New Port Richey), makes changes to the Florida Building Code and product approval statutes. SB 1252 also would revise requirements for online sewage treatment for certain additions to single-family homes, increase the penalty for unlicensed contractors from \$500 to \$2,000 and allow 75 percent of fines to be retained by the local government rather than the current 25 percent. A link to SB 1252 is included below.

**SB 342 - Rental of Homestead Property**

General Bill by Thrasher

Rental of Homestead Property: Revising criteria under which rental of homestead property is allowed for tax exemption purposes and not considered abandoned, etc.

Effective Date: 07/01/2013

Last Event: 02/21/13 S Now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax on Thursday, February 21, 2013 11:27 AM

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2013/1216>

### **SB 1064 - Assessment of Residential and Nonhomestead Real Property**

General Bill by Latvala

Assessment of Residential and Nonhomestead Real Property: Excluding the value of certain installations, changes, or improvements made after a specified date from the assessed value of residential real property; requiring a nonrefundable filing fee for a petition to the value adjustment board; specifying additional exceptions to the assessment of homestead property at just value; repealing provisions relating to the property tax exemption for renewable energy source devices, etc.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013, and applies to assessments beginning January 1, 2014.

Last Event: 02/25/13 S Referred to Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Appropriations on Monday, February 25, 2013 10:26 AM

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2013/1064>

### **SB 1062 - Delinquent Real Property Taxes**

General Bill by Latvala

Delinquent Real Property Taxes: Revising the interest rate applicable to delinquent real property taxes, etc.

Effective Date: 07/01/2013

Last Event: 02/25/13 S Referred to Community Affairs; Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Appropriations on Monday, February 25, 2013 10:26 AM

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2013/1062>

### **SB 1152 - Public Records/Financial Statement/Road or Public Works Project Proposal**

General Bill by Margolis

Public Records/Financial Statement/Road or Public Works Project Proposal: Revising an exemption from public records requirements for any financial statement that an agency requires a prospective bidder to submit in order to prequalify for bidding or for responding to a proposal for a road or public works project; providing an exemption from public records requirements for any financial statement that a governmental entity or agency requires a prospective bidder to submit when bidding in response to an invitation to bid, submitting a letter of interest, or responding to a request for proposals or an invitation to negotiate pursuant to a public procurement, etc.

Effective Date: 10/01/2013

Last Event: 02/25/13 S Filed on Monday, February 25, 2013 9:33 AM

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2013/1152>

### **HB 973 - Low-Voltage Alarm System Contracting and Permitting**

General Bill by Brodeur

Low-Voltage Alarm System Contracting and Permitting: Requires local enforcement agencies to offer for sale to contractors uniform basic permit labels; requires contractors to post unused label in specified place before commencing work on low-voltage alarm system project; requires contractors to submit uniform notice of installation of alarm system within specified period after completing work; prescribes form for such notice; provides inspection procedures & requirements for low-voltage alarm system projects; prohibits specified local governments from adopting or maintaining certain ordinances & rules.

Effective Date: upon becoming a law

Last Event: Filed on Thursday, February 21, 2013 4:25 PM

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=50235>

### **HB 971 - Florida Fire Prevention Code**

General Bill by Raburn

Florida Fire Prevention Code: Exempts certain local governments from specified minimum fire-flow requirements in code; exempts certain businesses from 2-hour or longer fire-rated wall requirement in code; exempts certain agricultural operations from code.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013

Last Event: Filed on Thursday, February 21, 2013 3:30 PM

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=50230>

### **SB 1252 - Building Construction**

General Bill by Simpson

Building Construction: Specifying that certain actions relating to onsite sewage treatment and removal are not required if a bedroom is not added during a remodeling addition or modification to a single-family home; authorizing a local building department to retain 75 percent of certain fines collected if it transmits 25 percent to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; prohibiting any provision of the International Residential Code relating to mandated fire sprinklers from incorporation into the Florida Building Code, etc.

Effective Date: 07/01/2013

Last Event: 02/27/13 S Filed on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 12:03 PM

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=50374>

## **LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

### **Session Outlook:**

Provided by the Florida Current

## **HEALTH CARE**

Although Florida's 2013 legislative session will commence next week, the bill expected to generate much debate has yet to be filed.

The Legislature convenes Tuesday tasked to decide how Florida will implement the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Select committees in the House and Senate are expected to make recommendations, which will generate bills, early in the session, if not in the few days remaining before it starts.

The decision whether to expand Medicaid to nearly a million more Floridians could thrust a grand experiment in managed care by the state into the national spotlight. The ACA calls for extending Medicaid coverage to people living on up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level, about \$15,000 for an individual, \$29,000 for a family of four.

The federal-state program currently provides health care to more than 3 million Floridians.

To persuade states to expand the program, the federal government will pick up the full cost for the first three years, beginning in 2014, and then tapering to 90 percent of the additional cost of the newly eligible by 2020.

Although Gov. Rick Scott said he believes in a different approach, he dropped his opposition to the ACA last week and called on lawmakers to lower Medicaid income requirements and to include childless adults.

The governor announced his support for expansion the same afternoon that Washington approved his request to move nearly all Medicaid recipients into managed-care programs. Expansion and managed care would place about 4 million people into a managed-care program that supporters contend can use digital technology to reduce costs and improve quality of care and access.

Rep. Matt Hudson, R-Naples and chairman of the House Health Appropriations Subcommittee, said that last year lawmakers divided the state into 11 managed-care regions in order to provide the same resources to the rural interior that are found along the urbanized coast. The idea is to provide a patient in Pinetta, near the Georgia border in sparsely populated Madison County, with the same quality of care as one 66 miles away in Tallahassee, a city with a regional health center and university medical school.

Other states have experimented with managed care in their Medicaid program, but not on the scale that Florida is and may do.

The Senate appears more receptive to expansion but some members clearly have reservations, as Scott does, and question the costs and whether the federal government is a reliable partner.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling upholding the ACA provides states the option to opt out of expansion and puts a very contentious decision in the Legislature's lap.

Republicans in the House appear skeptical about the benefits proponents contend the ACA will deliver. When hospital executives explained to the House select committee that the ACA would cover some of the nearly \$3 billion a year in uncompensated care they provide, panel members seemed unimpressed and later commented the executives lacked data.

House Speaker Will Weatherford said he believes in a social safety net and lawmakers will decide who gets covered by it.

Both select committees are expected to make their recommendations in the first week of the session.

These are the main health care issues before the Legislature:

#### AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Description: Lawmakers face three decisions on implementing the ACA: whether to set up a state exchange, to expand Medicaid to people under the age of 65 and earning up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level, and how to reconcile state regulations on health insurance with ACA requirements.

##### Outlook:

Exchanges -- For at least the first year of the ACA the state has defaulted to a federally run online site where people shop for insurance and see if they qualify for federal subsidies. Sen. Joe Negron, R-Stuart, chair of the select committee, has said a libertarian streak in him leans towards state-run exchanges but others on the committee say let the feds do it.

Expansion -- The Florida Hospital Association is pressuring lawmakers to expand Medicaid. It says the state would reap an additional \$26 billion over 10 years and the money would support an additional 56,000 jobs. The governor is for it, the House appears reluctant, the Senate noncommittal. The key may very well be Negron, who has spent much of his career in Tallahassee wrestling with reducing the cost of Medicaid.

Reconciliation -- In some instances Florida has stronger consumer protection for insurance than is in the ACA. State regulators are far behind the curve, though, only recently beginning work on bringing regulations into compliance with the federal law.

#### DIAGNOSIS RELATED GROUPS

Description: A DRG is either a common-sense, data-driven, cost-saving reimbursement plan or a poorly designed scheme that will wreck Florida's safety-net hospitals. Starting July 1, if the Legislature does not intervene, the state will pay hospitals based on the illness being treated instead of receiving a flat fee for each day a Medicaid patient is at the hospital.

Outlook: Last year lawmakers approved a plan to switch to a DRG reimbursement plan. It replaces a set of complex formulas calculating per-diem rates with a model based on illness and

treatments. Nonprofit hospitals say they were denied effective input in developing the model. The Agency for Health Care Administration defends the process, pointing to six public meetings, and says it is set to implement a DRG model in July. Sen. John Thrasher, R-St. Augustine, urged AHCA and the hospitals to resolve their differences or else the Legislature will step in, and Thrasher warned, then nobody will be happy. During committee hearings AHCA basically ignored complaints from the Florida Hospital Association and Safety Net Hospital Alliance, and its spokesmen focused on the process used to develop the model. Tony Carvalho, of the Safety Net Hospital Alliance, urged lawmakers to step in and delay the transition. He noted that at stake is a \$3-billion re-appropriation by an executive agency. Carvalho's group includes 12 children's hospitals providing almost two-thirds of all children's care in the state and which stand to lose \$90 million under the recommendation. "We don't believe that is good policy," Carvalho said. But it's a policy put in place by lawmakers last year.

## OPTOMETRISTS V.S. OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Description: The battle between optometrists and ophthalmologists to expand optometrists' prescription authority is in its third decade. Proposals to allow optometrists to prescribe oral medicine in addition to drops and creams are moving through both chambers. Ophthalmologists argue optometrists don't have adequate training to prescribe drugs.

Outlook: The optometrists have hired at least 11 lobbyists to work the issue during the session. The ophthalmologists counter with seven, and the Florida Medical Association is on their side. Senate President Pro Tempore Garrett Richter, R-Naples, is sponsoring the bill for optometrists. Optometrists are allowed to prescribe oral medication in 47 other states, but Florida lawmakers have been debating this issue, in the words of the 31-year-old House sponsor Rep. Matt Caldwell, R-Lehigh Acres, "... longer than I've been alive."

### Key Players:

Gov. Rick Scott has angered some in the Republican Party with his call for Medicaid expansion and alienated the tea party wing. One observer tweeted that he hopes Obamacare covers the knife wound in the back Scott delivered with his announcement. However, Scott, a former hospital executive who says he wants to keep taxes low, says the choice is between Florida's tax dollars paying for healthcare in other states or here at home.

Sen. Joe Negron, is chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Appropriations Committee. As a past chair of the House Appropriations Committee (2005-2006) he has a firmer grip on the state's finances and the cost of healthcare for the poor than most lawmakers. He said he intends for the select committee to make a recommendation on the ACA early in the session. An effective debater, Negron is an influential voice who's often a good indicator of where lawmakers are headed.

Sen. Eleanor Sobel, D-Hollywood, is chair of the Children, Families and Elder Affairs Committee and vice chair of the Health Policy Committee. Sobel said she is committed to passing legislation to strengthen protection of people living in assisted living facilities. Sobel praised Scott's decision on Medicaid expansion.

Rep. Richard Corcoran, R-Lakeland, is chairman of the House Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and also leads the Health and Human Services Committee. Corcoran is in line to be House Speaker for the 2017 session.

Rep. Matt Hudson, R-Naples, is chair of the Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee and vice chair of the select committee. Hudson sees digital technology as a tool to improve access, identify waste and control costs. Like Corcoran and Weatherford, he questions whether expanding Medicaid is in the best interest of the state.

#### Key Committees:

Senate Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Senate Appropriation Subcommittee on Health and Human Services

Senate Children, Families and Elder Affairs Committee

House Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

House Health & Human Services Committee

House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

House Health Innovation Subcommittee

#### PPACA /Part-time Workers

The House Select Committee on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will recommend the state extend insurance coverage to its part-time workers. Florida would face a penalty of more than \$300 million if it failed to offer health coverage to state workers who work more than 30 hours a week, those classified as "Other Professional Services."

A Revenue Estimating Conference projected the cost at \$35.6 million for the first year. Gov. Rick Scott supports extending the coverage but did not include an allocation in his budget recommendation to the Legislature. As part of its recommendation to the House, the committee will write a bill extending the state health insurance program to nearly 9,000 workers in state agencies and universities.

None of the committee members indicated opposition to extending coverage to the part-time and temporary employees, so Chairman Richard Corcoran, R-Land O' Lakes, directed staff to start drafting a bill for the committee to discuss "in a week or two."

Lawmakers also are wrestling with bringing state regulations into compliance with the federal health care plan. In some circumstances, Florida offers stronger consumer protection than found in the ACA and in others are more industry-friendly than the federal government. Wences Troncoso, deputy commissioner of the Office of Insurance Regulation, included a draft of a letter of collaboration between OIR and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that detailed how the two would ensure insurance companies comply with the new regulations. That got the attention of Republicans.



Essentially, the draft -- an official letter may arrive in Tallahassee as early as Friday -- stated OIR would continue to check rates and filings for compliance with state laws and would notify the feds if it sees anything at odds with the ACA.

Corcoran said the committee will have two meetings Monday, one a joint informational meeting with the Senate PPACA committee and the second in the House to continue the discussion.

Corcoran said he expects four bills to emerge: one each on Medicaid expansion, the health exchanges, OPS employees and regulations. Corcoran expects committee debate on the proposals could begin as early as the second week of the session.

## **Environmental Permits**

For the third straight year, Rep. Jimmy Patronis has filed a comprehensive environmental permitting bill that is backed by business groups and raising concerns with others.

HB 999, filed Monday, would restrict cities and counties in requesting additional information for permit applications, extend the duration for state permits for boat shows and includes language from other bills about agricultural water supply planning.

Here's a link: <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=50269>

Groups supporting the bill include Associated Industries of Florida, the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Marine Industries Association of Florida, the Florida Pulp and Paper Association and Florida Farm Bureau.

But environmental groups, the Florida League of Cities and the Florida Association of Counties say they have concerns, though they have not yet taken formal stances on the bill.

During the past two years, those groups have worked with Patronis and business groups on reaching compromises as he pushed the bills through committees.

The bill restricts cities and counties from issuing more than three requests for information on a permit application before making a decision.

Ryan Matthews, son of Frank Matthews and legislative advocate for the Florida League of Cities, said his group is concerned about the bill and likely will meet with Patronis, R-Panama City.

Frank Matthews said doesn't see the bill as an infringement upon the authority of cities and counties.

## **Citizens**

Florida Association for Insurance Reform, a consumer advocacy group, announced Thursday it is filing a class-action lawsuit against Citizens Property Insurance Corp. over the state-run insurer's wind mitigation inspection program. The group alleges the program has resulted in millions of dollars of "back door" rate increases on homeowners.

The suit is filed in Broward County by a handful of plaintiffs, but FAIR executive director Jay Neal said that based on complaints about the program he and legislators in South Florida have received, many more plaintiffs will follow.

The wind mitigation inspection program began in July 2010 and wound down in December. Citizens inspected 360,000 structures during that period, checking for storm-proofing such as roof-to-wall attachments and wind-resistant shutters for doorways and windows. Changes to the form used by inspectors to certify credits for mitigation improvements increased the standards to qualify for the credits, and most homes inspected lost credits, increasing their premium. Customers often complained of losing credits for minor deficiencies such as missing a nail.

Overall, Citizens' increased premium through the program was \$191 million, but the \$70 million cost to run the program meant Citizens gained \$120 million in surplus.

This summer, after an outcry from consumers hit by the increase in premiums through lost credits, Citizens announced a plan to wind down the program and offer free reinspections to homes that lost credits.

Citizens counters that its inspections were conducted using forms approved by state regulators in 2007 and revised in 2010 and 2012, and all inspections were in keeping with the law and designed to validate credits, not increase premiums.

## **Courts**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A divided three-judge panel sided with online travel companies such as Expedia Inc. and Travelocity on Thursday in a dispute over how much tax they must pay on hotel rooms booked in Florida.

An appeal to the Florida Supreme Court, though, is likely.

The 1st District Court of Appeal panel voted 2-1 that tourist development taxes are due only on what the firms pay to the hotels, not the full amount they charge their customers.

The majority affirmed a prior decision by Tallahassee-based Circuit Judge James Shelfer in a lawsuit filed by 17 of Florida's 67 counties.

To read more, click the link: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2013-02-28/court-sides-with-online-firms-in-fla-dot-tax-dispute>

## **2013 Session Dates**

March 5, 2013	Regular Session convenes
May 3, 2013	Last day of Regular Session

### **Announcements:**

Miami-Dade County Days will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as it holds its Fly-In on Wednesday, April 3 – Thursday, April 4, 2013.

For more information, please click the link: <http://dadedays.com/>

## **LOCAL NEWS**

### **Miami**

On Thursday, Miami city administrators agreed to take whatever measures necessary to avoid losing out on \$5.8 million in federal community development funds.

The decision comes after of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development threatened to penalize Miami for failing to spend \$13.3 million in Community Development Block Grants over the past three years. Cities that do not adhere to a strict spending schedule can see their funding reduced.

Commissioners blamed the city administration for not spending the money fast enough. CDBG dollars can go toward affordable housing, economic development and anti-poverty programs. In Miami, they fund daycares like the Centro Mater in Little Havana and community centers such as the Allapattah Community Action Center.

Under HUD guidelines, grant recipients can keep up to 1.5 times the amount of their annual allocation on reserve, in a HUD line of credit. Miami received about \$5 million in 2012, meaning its fund balance could be as high as \$7.5 million. But as of last month, the CDBG balance topped \$13.2 million.

Miami Community Development Director George Mensah said the city was having problems, in part, because the feds have reduced the amount Miami could keep on reserve.

Regalado indicated that city administrators were working to schedule a meeting with HUD officials in Washington, D.C.

The mayor noted that some CDBG-funded projects were moving forward, including a new community center in Little Havana and road repairs in District 4.

## **Miami Beach**

On Wednesday, developers presented Miami Beach residents with competing ideas for what the city's Convention Center could look like after an overhaul.

It was the public's first preview of what could become of the 52-acre site. Portman-CMC and South Beach ACE are competing for the project, which could cost up to \$1 billion.

It was stressed that the concepts presented Wednesday were only preliminary ideas.

Both teams' proposals focus on creating lush greenscapes and ways to connect the enormous convention center with abutting neighborhoods – things that residents at a prior public meeting asked of the developers.

South Beach ACE's proposal also preserves the current Jackie Gleason Theater. Residents have debated whether the theater, which is not deemed historic, deserves to be preserved. The proposal would essentially remove a back wall of the theater to create a two-stage amphitheater.

Portman-CMC has not made a decision about whether the theater itself would stay, but spoke to preserving the legacy of Gleason himself. The team launched a website to get more resident feedback about its proposal: [www.portmancmcmiamibeach.com](http://www.portmancmcmiamibeach.com).

Read more here: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/02/27/v-print/3257895/would-be-convention-center-developers.html#storylink=cpy>

Monica Cepero has dropped out of Miami Beach's search for a city manager.

Currently an assistant to the Broward County administrator, Cepero was one of three finalists being considered for the job.

In a letter emailed to city commissioners on Tuesday, Cepero wrote: "The nature of this process has made it clear to me that this position is not the right one for me, at this time."

Miami Beach has been without a city manager since July 2012, when former City Manager Jorge Gonzalez was forced to resign amid corruption scandals, though he was never implicated in any, and actually reported some of the problems himself to law enforcement.

The other two finalists remaining are former Miami-Dade County commissioner and current Doral City Attorney Jimmy Morales, and longtime City of Miami administrator Frank Rollason.

**State of the County Address:**

On Thursday, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez delivered the State of the County Address in the Caleb Auditorium in Liberty City. Miami-Dade County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson, who represents the district, introduced the mayor.

The event was very well attended by elected officials, community leaders and residents, who make up the various communities within Miami-Dade County. Among the influential leaders in attendance were Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman Lynda Bell, Commissioners Barbara Jordan and Juan Carlos Zapata, as well as State of Florida Senator Oscar Braynon II, Florida Representative Jose Javier Rodriguez, and Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert.

Mayor Gimenez's speech focused on transit and business goals. He highlighted 2012 as a record year at the county's airport and seaport. Gimenez also affirmed his committed to growing arts and culture, improving the county's park system, and bringing modern technology to a local transportation system that is outmoded and limited.

Additionally, Gimenez wants to partner with Miami Beach in redeveloping the city's convention center, and will push to connect the Beach to the mainland, and western suburbs like Kendall to downtown, with a more state-of-the-art transportation plan.

The mayor also announced the creation of a task force that will lobby Tallahassee to reform Citizen's Property Insurance Corp.

**Announcements****Monthly MDCLC BOD Meeting**

What: MDCLC Board of Directors Meeting

Where: Miami Shores Country Club located at 10000 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami Shores

When: Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 6:00 PM

# STATE / LOCAL WEEKLY REPORT

## March 4- March 8, 2013

\*The weekly report comprises a variety of media sources, including news articles, lobbyist reports and information gathered through the OIA.

### **LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

\*The following update contains information provided by Jess McCarty throughout the week

#### **Miami Dolphins**

The House Finance & Tax Subcommittee heard HB 165, the House Dolphins bill sponsored by Rep. Eddy Gonzalez, earlier today. The subcommittee adopted amendments to HB 165 to conform it to the Senate companion bill, SB 306, including the referendum requirement. The subcommittee rejected a number of late-filed amendments considered unfriendly by HB 165's sponsor, including amendments to move the referendum to a regularly-scheduled election, to include Broward County in the bed tax, to provide a clawback of funds if the team is sold, to prohibit the team owner from using other private sources to fund a portion of renovation costs and to remove the state sales tax sections from the bill.

HB 165 was reported favorably out of the subcommittee with 4 no votes, including Reps. Bileca, Rodriguez and Trujillo from our delegation. Rep. Richardson from the Miami-Dade delegation voted for HB 165. HB 165 next goes to the House Economic Affairs Committee and then to the House Appropriations Committee before reaching the House floor. The Senate companion bill, SB 306 also has 2 committee references remaining before reaching the Senate floor.

Additionally, Miami businessman Norman Braman was present to testify against the bill, as was Town of Culter Bay Mayor Ed MacDougall. MacDougall named various cities, claiming that they also opposed the measure. Those claims were refuted by Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert and lobbyist Ron Book, who testified that after communicating with some of the mayors named, no formal positions had been given.

#### **Florida Retirement System**

The House Appropriations Committee reported favorably HB 7011 this afternoon. HB 7011 is the House proposal to close the Florida Retirement System defined benefit pension plan to all new employees effective January 1, 2014 and switch these new employees to a 401(k)-type investment plan. HB 7011 is a priority of the House Speaker.

An initial actuarial study of closing the defined benefit plan showed increased contribution costs to the state and other FRS employers/employees through the year 2040. An updated study was released this week, and the House Appropriations Committee staff analysis indicates that this

updated study shows that there is a \$1.8 million negative fiscal impact on counties in state fiscal year 14-15, but that starting in state fiscal year 15-16, counties see a positive fiscal impact, \$1.9 million in SFY 15-16, \$5.4 million in SFY 16-17, \$79.8 million in SFY 23-24 and \$2.7 billion in SFY 42-43. Here's a link to the staff analysis, with a table of fiscal impacts on page 8: <http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/AH70111341.pdf>. HB 7011 was reported favorably today by a party-line vote of 13-9. HB 7011 has one House committee remaining before reaching the House floor.

In the Senate, an FRS bill has been filed that takes a somewhat different approach than HB 7011 in the House, SB 1392 by Senator Wilton Simpson (R – New Port Richey). SB 1392 allows most new employees to continue to choose between the defined benefit traditional pension plan and a 401(k)-type investment plan, but defaults a new employee into the investment plan if a new employee doesn't make a choice (currently, new employees default into the defined benefit plan). SB 1392 also places all new elected officers and senior management employees in the 401(k)-type investment plan. In addition, SB 1392 provides some incentives for new employees to go to the 401(k)-type investment plan by:

1. Requiring employees in the investment plan to contribute only 2%, while employees in the defined benefit plan pay 3%;
2. Providing that employees in the investment plan continue to vest after one year, while employees in the defined benefit plan would vest after 10 years (up from the current 8 years).

SB 1392 has three committee referrals, but has not yet been heard in committee. Links to HB 7011 (with an amendment run today) and SB 1392 are included below.

#### HB 7011 - Florida Retirement System

**General Bill** by Government Operations Subcommittee and Brodeur

**Florida Retirement System:** Limits ability of members of optional retirement program to transfer to FRS; provides for compulsory membership in FRS Investment Plan for employees initially enrolled after specified date; provides for compulsory membership in investment plan for certain employees; prohibits certain membership in Senior Management Service Class or Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program; provides that certain participants in optional retirement program for State University System have choice between optional retirement program & FRS Investment Plan; requires SBA to develop investment products to be offered in investment plan; requires SBA to provide self-directed brokerage account as investment option; requires state board to contract with provider to provide self-directed brokerage account investment option; provides self-directed brokerage account requirements; deletes obligation of system employers to communicate existence of both retirement plans; limits disability benefits to eligible members; revises required employer retirement contribution rates for members of each membership class & subclass of Florida Retirement System; provides that act fulfills important state interest; requires SBA & DMS to request determination letter from IRS.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2013

**Last Event:** Favorable with CS by Appropriations Committee on Friday, March 08, 2013 1:00 PM

<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/7011.pdf>  
<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/7011756889.pdf>

#### SB 1392 - Retirement

## **General Bill** by Simpson

**Retirement:** Providing that a member initially enrolled in the Florida Retirement System after a certain date is vested in the pension plan after 10 years of creditable service; prohibiting members of the Elected Officers' Class from joining the Senior Management Service Class after a specified date; requiring certain employees initially enrolled in the Florida Retirement System on or after a specified date to be compulsory members of the investment plan; authorizing certain employees to elect to participate in the pension plan, rather than the default investment plan, within a specified time, etc.

**Effective Date:** 01/01/2014

**Last Event:** 03/07/13 S Introduced -SJ 158 on Thursday, March 07, 2013 5:30 PM

<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/1392.pdf>

## **Living Wage**

On Thursday, the House State Affairs Committee heard HB 655 by House Majority Leader Steve Precourt (R – Orlando). As originally filed, HB 655 would have preempted the Miami-Dade living wage ordinance and domestic violence leave ordinance. Following a number of meetings with Rep. Precourt, he agreed to amend HB 655 to include language preserving our domestic violence leave ordinance. Amendment no. 445995, which ran Thursday morning amended this language into HB 655. Amendment no. 445995 (link included below) also allowed existing living wage ordinances to remain in effect for 3 years, preempting them effective July 1, 2016. We continue to work with Rep. Precourt on the living wage language to fully our living wage ordinance.

On the Senate side, SB 726 by Senator David Simmons (R – Altamonte Springs) is a similar, though not identical companion bill. SB 726 preempts family and medical leave benefits at the local level, but unlike HB 655, does not preempt local living wage ordinances. SB 726 was on the agenda for the Senate Community Affairs Committee this morning. Following meetings with Senator Simmons, he agreed to amend SB 726 to preserve the Miami-Dade domestic violence leave ordinance. Amendment no. 581142 (included below) filed for this morning's Senate hearing attempts to preserve our domestic violence ordinance, although the language needs to be tightened up a bit, we are following up with Senator Simmons. Consideration of SB 726 was temporarily postponed this morning because the committee did not reach the bill do to a large and controversial agenda. SB 726 will be back up in committee next week.

Links to both SB 726 and HB 655 are included below along with links to the amendments. An article from the Orlando Sentinel is also included below (a controversy over sick leave in Orlando is where these bills are coming from).

Precourt amends local wage, benefit ban bill, carves out exceptions

It's hard to keep track, but state Rep. Steve Precourt, R-Orlando, appears to be willing to carve out local exceptions to a bill he's filed to block cities and counties from passing stronger wage and benefit protections for workers.



An amendment to his own bill appears to allow some local governments to keep that patchwork of local rules in place until 2016, when they would be eliminated. It could come up at a House committee meeting this morning.

Some South Florida counties and cities such as Orlando and Gainesville have living wage laws on their local books that they want to keep. But Precourt said his HB 655 was trying to erase this patchwork of rules, saying it drove off business and made it hard on larger companies who had to deal with more than one set of rules.

Heavy business hitters such as Walt Disney World, Darden Restaurants and the Florida Chamber of Commerce are backing Precourt's effort, and helped draft a similar plan in the Senate sponsored by Sen. David Simmons, R-Altamonte Spings.

But when word spread last month that Precourt was carving out local exceptions to his state uniformity bill, critics pounced, saying it showed more nakedly that Precourt was mainly trying block a pending sick time measure in Orange County before voters have a chance to weigh in on it in a 2014 ballot referendum. Miami-Dade is considering one, too.

It was supposed to go on the 2012 ballot in Orange, but a judicial panel ruled last month that county commissioners there violated their own charter by keeping it from voters on Nov. 6. That was by design, though. As some sick critics discussed in recently-released text messages to commissioners, the goal of delaying the sick time proposal in Orange was meant to give state lawmakers such as Precourt time to deliver a "kill shot."

The last time Pulse checked in with Precourt, the Orlando Republican was oddly vague about allowing carve-outs to his uniformity bill, saying first that no such deal had been agreed upon. Later, when asked if one was in the works, he would only say: "Things stand in the same place as I said at the Committee hearing."

But that wasn't exactly clear, since he told the first committee that heard his bill he wanted to work to make it better.

Precourt's proposed amendment would allow any local living wage measures to stay on the books until 2016, and would let a domestic violence Miami-Dade measure stay in place which lets victims have unpaid time off.

## HB 655 - Political Subdivisions

**General Bill** by Precourt

**Political Subdivisions:** Prohibits political subdivisions from requiring employers to provide certain employment benefits; prohibits political subdivisions from requiring, or awarding preference on basis of, certain wages or employment benefits when contracting for goods or services; conforms provisions to constitutional requirements relating to state minimum wage.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2013

**Last Event:** 1st Reading on Tuesday, March 05, 2013 11:59 PM

<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/0655.pdf>

<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/0655445995.pdf>

## SB 726 - Regulation of Family or Medical Leave Benefits for Employees

**General Bill** by Simmons

**Regulation of Family or Medical Leave Benefits for Employees:** Prohibiting a political subdivision from requiring or otherwise regulating family or medical leave benefits for employees; preempting regulation of family or medical leave benefits to the state; providing that the act does not prohibit a political subdivision from establishing family or medical leave benefits for its employees; providing that the act does not prohibit a federally authorized or recognized tribal government from requiring family or medical leave benefits under certain conditions, etc.

**Effective Date:** Upon becoming a law.

**Last Event:** 03/05/13 S Introduced -SJ 53 on Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:18 AM

<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/0726.pdf>  
<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/0726581142.pdf>  
<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/0726111396.pdf>  
<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/0726251726.pdf>  
<http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/0726364972.pdf>

## Elections

The House this afternoon took up the House elections package, HB 7013, on the House floor, waived the rules, heard the bill on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings and following debate passed the bill on a vote of 118-1.

Based on yesterday's Senate Ethics & Elections Committee workshop on SB 600 (see email below), it appears that the Senate will take a different approach than HB 7013 that the full House passed today. This will likely lead to a formal or informal conference between the House and Senate over elections issues, and eventual passage of a product that is the result of conference negotiations between the House and Senate. It should be several weeks before the Senate has moved SB 600 through committees and to the Senate floor.

Here's a link to the final version of HB 7013 the full House passed today: <http://static.lobbytools.com/bills/2013/pdf/7013C1.pdf>

HB 7013 includes the following provisions:

1. Generally imposes a 75 word limit on ballot summaries for initial constitutional amendments proposed by the Legislature (summaries that are overturned may exceed the 75-word limit);
2. Expands eligible early voting sites to include a fairground, civic center, courthouse, county commission building, stadium or convention center;

3. Allows local flexibility for up to 14 days of early voting including the Sunday before Election Day;
4. Increases the minimum number of early voting hours per day to 8 hours;
5. Requires Supervisors of Elections to allow an elector who has returned an absentee ballot without a signature to complete an affidavit to cure the unsigned absentee ballot;
6. Allows for the selection of alternates to members of the canvassing board in the event a canvassing board member is unable to serve or disqualified.
7. Allows individuals and accompanying family members returning from military deployment or activation to register to vote until 5 pm on the Friday before election

Here's a more detailed chart prepared by the House Appropriations Committee showing current law and the changes in HB 7013:

<b><u>ISSUE</u></b>	<b><u>CURRENT LAW</u></b>	<b><u>HB 7013 PROPOSED CHANGES</u></b>
<b>EARLY VOTING DAYS</b> §101.657	8 days required Begins on the 10th day before and ends on the 3rd day before an election Early voting not permitted on the Sunday before the general election	8 days minimum, 14 days maximum Begins on the 15th day before and ends on the 2nd day before an election Early voting optional at the supervisor of elections' discretion on the Sunday before the general election
<b>EARLY VOTING HOURS</b> §101.657	48 hours minimum, 96 hours maximum  At least 6 but no more than 12 hours per day No 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. restriction No requirement that all sites in a county be open on the same days or for the same amount of time	64 hours minimum, 168 hours maximum (72 more hours than under current law) At least 8 but no more than 12 hours per day No 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. restriction No requirement that all sites in a county be open on the same days or for the same amount of time
<b>EARLY VOTING SITES</b> §101.657	Early voting may be offered at city halls, public libraries, main or permanent branch offices of supervisors of elections.	Expands currently authorized sites to include fairgrounds, civic centers, courthouses, county commission buildings, stadiums, and convention centers

**REGISTERING  
TO VOTE  
§97.0555**

Individual discharged or separated from uniformed service or accompanying family member may register to vote until 5pm on Friday before election (rather than 29 days before election).

Also authorizes individual or accompanying family member who returned from military deployment or activation to register to vote until 5pm on Friday before election.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS  
§101.68**

An absentee ballot is rejected and not counted if the voter does not sign the Voter's Certificate or the signature does not match the signature on record

Provides a mechanism to "cure" unsigned absentee ballots by requiring the supervisor of elections to reissue absentee ballot if elector completes affidavit. If the voter correctly completes and submits the reissued absentee ballot, the ballot will be counted assuming all other requirements are met.

**CANVASSING BOARDS  
§102.141**

Provides that county canvassing board is composed of supervisor of elections, county court judge and chair of board of county commissioners.

Provides for alternate members of a county canvassing board. Requires the results of all early voting and absentee ballots that have been canvassed and tabulated by the end of the early voting period to be uploaded to the county's election management system by 7pm on day before election.

**LEGISLATIVE  
BALLOT  
SUMMARIES  
§101.161**

No word limit on summaries  
Allows multiple summaries in a joint resolution  
Allows full text of an amendment to be placed on the ballot instead of a summary  
Attorney General authorized to rewrite a summary if a court invalidates the legislature's summaries

Applies a 75-word limit to the first of multiple summaries in a joint resolution, while any remaining summaries would not be subject to a 75 word limit  
Allows full text of amendment to be placed on the ballot instead of a summary.  
Applies a 75-word limit to joint resolutions containing

only one summary  
Does not apply a 75-word  
limit to summaries rewritten  
by the Attorney General

\*The following update was provided by Rutledge Ecenia

## **Elections**

The House passed HB 7013 by a wide 118-1 margin this week. Representative Tobia was the lone no vote. This bill would allow Supervisors of Elections to hold up to 14 days of early voting. It would also increase the sites eligible to serve as early voting locations. The bill would also limit the first version of ballot summaries on constitutional amendments proposed by the Legislature to 75 words, the same cap that is currently placed on citizen initiatives.

The Senate Ethics and Elections Committee held a two-hour meeting this week on SB 600 by Committee Chair Jack Latvala. Senate Democrats have released a seven-point plan that they say represents the minimum of what they could support. The list includes undoing the controversial reduction in early voting days passed two years ago, continuing to allow in-person absentee voting across the state, expanding the number of early voting sites and limiting the number of words for ballot summaries on constitutional amendments passed by the Legislature. A range of ideas were floated during the meeting that drew opposition from both sides. Chair Latvala has proposed limiting the number of local questions that can appear on a general election ballot. Local governments often use general elections ballots for local questions to avoid the expense of holding a separate election. He indicated that if the Committee were to consider limiting the number of constitutional amendments the Legislature can put on the ballot, it should also consider the number of local questions that can be placed on the ballot.

## **Ocean Outfalls**

SB 444 relating to Domestic Wastewater Discharged through Ocean Outfalls by Senator Diaz de la Portilla passed the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee unanimously this week. The bill will be heard in the Senate Community Affairs Committee next week. HB 707 by Representative Manny Diaz, Jr. also passed the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee unanimously this week. We are working to get the bill heard in the House State Affairs Committee as soon as possible. This is the House bill's last committee. The Sierra Club raised questions with Senate committee staff and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Miami-Dade Water and Sewer met with Senate staff and the Sierra Club this week to answer questions and are currently coordinating with DEP staff to respond to the questions submitted to the Department. There was no opposition expressed in either committee. Several parties indicated support for the bills, including the affected utilities, the Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida Water Environment Association Utility Council, and the Florida Chapter of the American Water Works Association.

## **Beach Erosion Funding**

The House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee heard a presentation from DEP regarding the beach program. Department staff gave a broad overview and included the history and development of the program since the 1960s. They explained how the typical funding process worked and also explained that due to last season's storms, there are several impacted beaches that will require funding outside the normal ranking process and project list. The Florida Shore and Beach Preservation has worked actively to educate

legislators and support supplemental funding for damaged beaches. There appears to be a significant level of interest in both the House and Senate to address this issue in the appropriations process.

## **Environmental Legislation Of Note**

### **Alternative Water Supply**

HB 109 by Representative Young; SB 364 by Senator Hays

These bills provide for permit duration of at least 30 years for alternative water supplies. HB 109 passed its last committee this week and will go next to the House calendar. SB 364 has passed three of its four committees and is now in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### **Conservation Lands**

SB 584 by Senator Hays; HB 901 by Representative Stone

These bills limit a state or local government's ability to purchase land for conservation purposes. SB 584 received three committee references and HB 901 received four committee references but neither bill has been heard.

### **Everglades**

SB 768 by Senator Simpson; Compare SAC1

SB 768 modifies the definition of "Long-Term Plan" as it applies to Everglades improvement and management and deletes references to Plan phases. There is speculation that it will likely be amended with more substantive provisions relating to the Everglades.

SAC1 was approved as a committee bill by the House State Affairs Committee this week and will get a "real" bill number in the coming days. The bill does the following:

- Provides a legislative finding that implementation of best management practices (BMPs) funded by the owners and users of land in the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) effectively reduces nutrients in waters flowing into the Everglades Protection Area;
- Updates the definition of the "Long Term Plan" to include the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD's) "Restoration Strategies Regional Water Quality Plan" dated April 27, 2012, in addition to the SFWMD's "Everglades Protection Area Tributary Basin Conceptual Plan for Achieving Long-Term Water Quality Goals Final Report" dated March 2003;
- Authorizes the continued use of up to 0.1 mill of the SFWMD's ad valorem revenues within the Okeechobee Basin to implement the Long-Term Plan and delete obsolete references to the "interim phase" of the Long Term Plan;
- Prohibits a permittee's discharge from being deemed to cause or contribute to any violation of water quality standards in the Everglades Protection Area if the discharge is in compliance with applicable permits and any associated orders;

- Requires the SFWMD, prior to the completion of all projects and improvements in the Long Term Plan, to complete a use attainability analysis to determine if those projects and improvements will achieve the water quality based effluent limits established in permits and orders authorizing the operation of those facilities;
- Requires payment of a \$25 per acre agricultural privilege tax on property classified as agricultural within the Everglades Agricultural Area between November 2014 and November 2024. Thus, the tax rate will fall to \$10 per acre beginning in 2025 rather than in 2017 as required by current law;
- Provides that the Legislature intends that payment of the agricultural privilege tax, in addition to payment of the cost of continuing implementation of best management practices, fulfills the obligations of owners and users of land under Article II, Section 7(b) of the Florida Constitution.

The bill appears to have a positive fiscal impact on SFWMD of \$6.6 million per year from 2016 through 2024 due to retention of the \$25 per acre agricultural privilege tax. Conversely, landowners who pay the tax must pay the increased tax from 2016 through 2024.

The bill has drawn opposition from the Everglades Foundation.

#### Environmental Regulatory Reform

HB 999 by Representative Patronis; SB 1684 by Senator Altman

Among other things, the bill does the following:

- Limits requests for additional information (RAIs) on development applications and provides for a heightened level of required supervisory review;
- Exempts special events such as boat shows from sovereign submerged lands regulations and fees and general permits;
- Preempts water supply well permitting to the state;
- Provides for a new definition in the delineation of the ordinary high water mark;
- Provides additional exemptions for stormwater permitting for manmade ponds and certain wetlands;
- Adds the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) to the entities involved in regional water supply planning; and
- Revises the air source permitting fee structure.

Representative Patronis is hosting a stakeholder meeting on this bill next week. The Florida Association of Counties (FAC) is compiling county comments and will take them to the meeting. HB 999 received three committee references and SB 1684 received four committee references but neither bill has been heard.

#### **Agricultural Legislation Of Note**

## **Agricultural Lands**

HB 203 by Representative Beshears; SB 1190 by Senator Brandes

These bills prohibit governmental entities from adopting or enforcing any prohibition, restriction, regulation, or other limitation or from charging an assessment or fee on an activity of a bona fide agricultural farm operation on land classified as agricultural land. FAC is working to remove assessments from the bill because those provide a specific benefit to the land and are typically not duplicative or related to agricultural activity.

## **Agritourism**

HB 927 by Representative Raschein; SB 1106 by Senator Hays

These bills restrict a local government's ability to regulate agritourism activity on agricultural land. Both bills received three committee references. HB 927 has not been heard. SB 1106 will be heard in the Senate Agriculture Committee next week.

## **Water Supply**

SB 948 by Senator Grimsley; HB 1063 by Representative Hutson

These bills require DACS to establish an agricultural water supply planning program to develop data regarding prospective agricultural water supply demand. For purposes of regional water supply plans, the water management districts are required to consider the data provided by DACS in determining the best available data for future agricultural water supply demands. SB 948 passed its first committee this week and has one more committee. HB 1063 received three committee references and has not been heard.

## **Growth Management Legislation Of Note**

### **Community Transportation Projects**

HB 319 by Representative Ray; Compare SB 972 Senator Hukill

Among other provisions, HB 319 provides that certain development projects may not be delayed or denied if an applicant has provided payment for transportation impacts. It also provides that local governments must calculate proportionate share contributions based only on certain capital improvements and provides that projects to relieve mass transportation deficiencies may include projects outside the designated deficiency area. It also revises requirements for replacement by election of community development district board members for certain transit-oriented developments. This bill received three committee references and has not been heard.

## **Transportation Development**

SB 972 by Senator Hukill; Compare HB 319 by Representative Ray

SB 972 provides that local governments that implement transportation concurrency must allow an applicant for a development agreement to satisfy transportation concurrency requirements if



certain criteria are met. It also provides that a local government that repeals transportation concurrency may not deny a development based on the adoption of an alternative transportation system if the developer agrees to enter into an agreement to pay for identified impacts of the proposed development. This bill received three committee references and has not been heard.

### **Growth Management**

HB 321 by Representative La Rosa; SB 1716 by Senator Garcia

These bills prohibit local governments from applying transportation or school concurrency or requiring proportionate-share contributions for a specified period. They prohibit certain counties, municipalities, and special districts from imposing certain new or existing impact fees for a certain period. Both bills received three committee references. Neither bill has been heard.

### **Hometown Democracy**

HB 537 by Representative Moraitis; SB 528 by Senator Simpson

These bills provide that an initiative or referendum process for any development order, local comprehensive plan amendments, or map amendments is prohibited. Initiative or referendum processes specifically authorized by a local government charter provision in effect as of June 1, 2011 are grandfathered. These bills are intended to prevent local Hometown Democracy initiatives. HB 537 passed its first committee this week and has two more committees to go. SB 528 also passed its first committee this week and has three more committees to go.

### **Development Exactions**

HB 673 by Representative Perry; SB 772 by Senator Brandes

These bills prohibit local governments from imposing or requiring certain exactions on or against private property. HB 673 received four committee references and SB 772 received two committee references but neither bill has been heard.

### **Building Construction**

HB 1345 by Representative Davis; SB 1252 by Senator Simpson

This is the annual "building bill." These bills contain several provisions relating to building regulations and construction and should be reviewed for impacts as well as amendatory provisions. SB 1252 received three committee references and has not been heard. HB 1245 was filed this week and has not received committee references.

### **Developments of Regional Impact**

HB 4035 by Representative Spano; No Senate companion to date

This bill deletes provisions authorizing the state land planning agency, regional planning agencies, or local governments to petition the Administration Commission to increase or

decrease numerical thresholds of statewide guidelines and standards used in determining whether developments are subject to development-of-regional-impact review.

## **OTHER LEGISLATION OF NOTE**

### **Local Business Tax**

The House Finance and Tax Subcommittee has proposed conceptual language and held a workshop on this issue. The analysis for this conceptual language states that the intent is to create a uniform classification system as well as a flexible rate structure, and to grandfather certain local taxing jurisdictions to allow taxation under the current structure to continue under certain circumstances.

It also eliminates “overlap” of city and county taxation by providing that county taxes apply only in the unincorporated area of the county, and retains the current local administration of the tax. Finally, it provides that the new structure is effective October 1, 2014, providing a transition process from the current structure to the new structure, and allowing taxing jurisdictions to replace the revenues raised under the prior system.

The House has not released this language as a proposed committee bill but this is expected to occur during the second or third week of session. There is no Senate bill on the local business tax at this time.

### **Public Private Partnerships**

SB 84 by Senator Diaz de la Portilla; HB 85 by Representative Steube  
Compare SB 238 by Senator Flores

This bill encourages state agencies and local governments to utilize public private partnerships (PPPs) and provides a process for entering into PPPs, including comprehensive agreements, financing, and other items. The bill also provides for the application of sovereign immunity for public entities with respect to qualified projects. SB 84 was referenced to four committees in the Senate and passed its first committee unanimously on January 23. HB 85 received three committee references and passed its first committee this week. SB 238 received five committee references but is similar in nature to SB 84 and the two bills may be merged going forward.

### **Department of Economic Opportunity**

HB 121 by Representative Combee; SB 670 by Senator Brandes

These bills require the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to create a web page accessible through DEP’s internet website that provides comprehensive data and information relevant to the creation of new businesses, or expansion of existing businesses, within the state. They require local governments to collect and submit specified data and information and require notice of changes to the data collected by DEO. HB 121 received four committee references and passed its first committee in February. SB 670 received three committee references and has not been heard.

### **Public Works Projects**

HB 181 by Representative Van Zant; SB 1118 by Senator Hays

These bills prohibit state and political subdivisions that contract for construction, maintenance, repair, or improvement of public works from imposing certain conditions on certain contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, or carriers. They also prohibit the state and political subdivisions from restricting qualified bidders from submitting bids, being awarded any bid or contract, or performing work on public works projects. They also revise filing requirements for written protests to contract solicitations or awards. HB 181 received four committee references and SB 1118 received three committee references but neither bill has been heard.

### **Mandatory Sick Leave**

HB 655 by Representative Precourt; SB 726 by Senator Simmons

HB 655 preempts local governments from requiring employers to provide certain benefits. SB 726 contains this same preemption but contains additional provisions in state law that would provide certain additional benefits. HB 655 passed its last committee this week and goes next to the House calendar. SB 726 was temporarily postponed by Community Affairs this week.

Local Bids and Contracts for Public Construction Works

HB 687 by Representative McBurney; SB 602 by Senator Hukill

These bills eliminate specified conditions under which a local government is exempt from the requirement to competitively bid contracts. Both bills received three committee references and neither bill has been heard.

### **Wage Theft**

HB 1125 by Representative Goodson; SB 1216 by Senator Bradley

These bills preempt local wage theft ordinances and provide for a claim under state law for wage theft under certain circumstances. HB 1125 received three committee references and has not been heard. SB 1216 received four committee references and will be heard in the Senate Criminal Justice Committee next week.

### **2013 SESSION DATES**

April 3-4, 2013 Miami-Dade County Days

May 3, 2013 60th day – last day of Regular Session



# STATE / LOCAL WEEKLY REPORT

**March 25- March 28, 2013**

\*The weekly report comprises a variety of media sources, including news articles, lobbyist reports and information gathered through the OIA.

## ***LEGISLATIVE ISSUES***

\*The following update contains information provided by Jess McCarty throughout the week

On Wednesday at noon, the sponsors of the Senate and House bills for Sun Life Stadium, Senator Oscar Braynon and Reps. Eddy Gonzalez and Erik Fresen, held a press conference in the capitol to announce that the Dolphins had agreed to repay the state the principal balance for the \$3 million annual state sales tax contribution toward the renovation of Sun Life Stadium. A copy of the press release is included below.

The Senate bill, SB 306, has been recommended favorably by three committees and has one committee remaining before reaching the Senate floor. The House bill, HB 165, has been recommended favorably by one subcommittee and has two committees remaining before reaching the House floor.

## **LAWMAKERS, DOLPHINS ANNOUNCE UNPRECEDENTED AGREEMENT TO REPAY STATE OF FLORIDA AS PART OF STADIUM MODERNIZATION EFFORT**

State Senator Oscar Braynon, State Representative Eddy Gonzalez and State Representative Erik Fresen, today announced that the Dolphins have agreed to repay the State of Florida for its contribution to help fund the modernization of Sun Life Stadium. The Florida Legislature is considering a bill to provide \$3 million a year to help fund the modernization by providing a sales tax rebate on goods and services sold at the stadium.

The team has agreed to repay the principle balance derived from the rebate, which is consistent with the pledge the team has made to Miami-Dade County to repay the principal amount the team would get from a portion of a one-cent increase in the tourist tax on mainland hotels in the county.

In all, the stadium owners would repay approximately \$167 million in public money, including \$120 million to the county and \$47 million to the state. The stadium owners will use the public funding to finance the \$389 million construction project and be responsible for paying the debt, which means there is no public debt or debt service, and no risk to public finances. Unlike prior stadium projects, county property tax funds would not be tied to the project in any way, not even as a backstop to the construction financing as is the case in other projects. The state and county money would be repaid at the end of the term in 2043, assuming the project is approved by Miami-Dade voters in a referendum in May.

“We are not only committed to bringing Super Bowls, BCS Championships and international soccer to Miami by modernizing Sun Life Stadium, but we are also committed to crafting a fair and advantageous agreement for taxpayers,” Dolphins CEO Mike Dee said. “Today, we have taken a huge step towards those goals by agreeing to pay the State of Florida back the money used to finance the construction project. Combined with the proposed repayment to the county, we have now committed to repaying \$167 million in public funds – an unprecedented step certainly here in Florida and perhaps nationally.”

In recent days, the Dolphins have:

- Conditioned final approval of the stadium project on landing a Super Bowl for Sun Life Stadium at the NFL owners’ May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting;
- Agreed to pay for the costs of the referendum in May to save taxpayers money, if legal;
- Agreed to repay \$120 million to the county, which is the principal amount from the tourist tax to help finance the project;
- Agreed to pay up to \$100 million in penalties if Sun Life Stadium doesn’t attract Super Bowls, BCS games, international soccer matches and other similar events over the next 30 years; and
- Agreed to sign a 30-year non-relocation agreement to keep the team in Miami-Dade

## **SENATE GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

Attached is the Senate General Government Appropriations Subcommittee’s recommended state water project funding, which includes \$1.2 million for the SW 157 Avenue Canal Interconnect project. Senator Flores was instrumental in ensuring this project was funded in the Senate General Government Appropriations budget recommendation.

## ***LEGISLATIVE NEWS***

### **HOUSE BUDGET**

\*Source: Florida Current

The House budget would give Gov. Rick Scott more business incentives than initial Senate recommendations, but not as much as he would like.

The House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee unveiled its budget recommendations Wednesday, outlining \$73 million for taxpayer incentives to give to businesses to expand and relocate to Florida.

In his budget proposal, Scott asked lawmakers for \$278 million in incentives. The Senate's recommendation includes just \$16.2 million.

The House also differs from the Senate in other significant ways:

\*Visit Florida, the state's tourism development wing, is funded at \$54 million by the Senate and at \$63.5 million by the House. Scott is asking for \$75 million.

\*The House includes Scott's request for \$10 million in financing incentives for Space Florida. The Senate initially did not have any additional financing money for Space Florida, but announced Wednesday it would include \$1 million.

\*Scott's extra \$6 million for Quick Response Training Program incentives is funded by the House but not by the Senate.

\*A \$36 million program favored by Scott to provide monetary awards for "transformational economic development" is not funded by either chamber.

\*There is no money for Scott's statewide business brand marketing campaign in the House budget. The Senate funds the program at \$1.5 million, half of what Scott requested.

## **BUDGET PROPOSALS INCLUDE MONEY FOR LAND PURCHASES, BEACH RESTORATION**

Proposed Senate and House versions of the 2013-14 budget for agriculture and environmental agencies closely track Gov. Rick Scott's budget request on some major funding issues, but not others.

The budget proposal by the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee includes \$25 million in general revenue for the Florida Forever conservation land-buying program plus \$50 million revenue from the sale of state land.

The Senate proposal includes the \$50 million from the sale of land but only \$10 million in new revenue, specifically designated towards conservation land that buffers military bases.

Janet Bowman, representing The Nature Conservancy, noted that Florida Forever had not received an appropriation in the House version of the budget since 2008-09. The program received funding some years only as a result of the budget conference.

The House proposal also includes \$25 million for payments to agricultural landowners for conservation agreements under a Florida Forest Service program.

There are other differences between the House and Senate versions, including the agricultural landowner program, which received \$1 million in the budget proposal from the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government.

That Senate proposal also includes \$70 million for Everglades water quality projects and restoration, which is \$10 million more than Scott requested.

The House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee recommended \$32 million for the Everglades water quality projects under a plan approved by federal agencies in 2012.

Rep. Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula and subcommittee chairman, said the issue over in the House, having been voted through appropriations as part of compromise reached on Everglades legislation.

In addition, the House subcommittee recommended \$126 for petroleum tank cleanups, which is \$9 million less than the governor requested. The Senate proposal matches the governor's request of \$135 million.

Both the Senate and House subcommittee provide more than the \$25 million requested by the governor for beach restoration. The House proposal is \$30.9 million while the Senate proposal is \$46.3 million.

Both the House and Senate subcommittee proposals match the governor's request of \$203.2 million for drinking water and wastewater revolving loan programs, including \$12.5 million in general revenue.

There are other differences. The House budget proposal includes \$3.6 million for a recreational grants program at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection while that request is not included in the Senate proposal.

Both budget proposals include \$7.5 million in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services budget for citrus research to address citrus "greening" disease which has spread in recent years.

## **NUCLEAR COST RECOVERY**

A 2006 law that allows utilities to charge customers for nuclear plants that may never be built actually shifts the risk to utility customers and away from investors and stockholders, a former U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission member has told a House panel.

House Speaker Will Weatherford has said he supports reviewing the 2006 nuclear cost recovery law, which has allowed utilities to recover nearly \$1.4 billion. In the Senate, SB 1472 would set a 2016 deadline for collecting nuclear costs unless the Legislature votes to extend the law.

Rep. Jose Felix Diaz, chairman of the House Energy & Utilities Subcommittee, said the panel could introduce a committee bill next week -- unless the meeting Wednesday was its last for the legislative session.



"I think this issue has become radioactive, pardon the pun, for a lot of folks," said Diaz, R-Miami, who was appointed chairman last week after the death of Rep. Clay Ford, R-Gulf Breeze.

"A lot of our members are clearly very interested in this issue," Diaz said. "It's just a matter of timing."

Last week, the Senate energy committee heard on from nuclear cost recovery law supporters from the Nuclear Energy Institute, Florida Power & Light Co. and Progress Energy Florida. Paul Geneo, senior director of policy development for the Nuclear Energy Institute, said the 2006 legislation was a model for the nation and is still needed.

On Wednesday, former Nuclear Regulatory Commission member Peter Bradford, a Vermont Law School adjunct professor, joined FPL and Progress Energy representatives in speaking to the House Energy & Utilities Subcommittee.

Florida's law could be improved, Bradford said, by capping the amount that can be recovered from customers or not allowing recovery until the plants are underway and perhaps 50 percent completed.

He also said that Florida needs a more rigorous comparison test to determine whether a new nuclear plant is feasible compared to other sources of energy. And the law needs to avoid punishing the utility or customers if there is a decision to cancel a project.

"The worst thing a statute can do is create situations where the interest of utility stockholders point in one direction while the interest of utility customers points in the other," he said.

The Legislature in 2006 adopted the law after hurricanes that threatened and disrupted natural gas supplies to Florida, pointing to the need for fuel diversity, said Steven Scroggs, senior director for nuclear development at FP&L.

The company is a few weeks away from adding 500 megawatts of new generation through upgrades at nuclear plants in Miami-Dade and St. Lucie counties, Scroggs said. Those projects cost the utility \$2.9 billion but only \$320 million was raised through cost recovery.

Alex Glenn, state president of Progress Energy Florida, again said he rejects the suggestion that utilities are being provided a "blank check" under the law.

He also noted that Bradford was a witness against his company before the Public Service Commission in rate case challenges filed by the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy.

## **2013 SESSION DATES**

April 3-4, 2013 Miami-Dade County Days

May 3, 2013 60th day – last day of Regular Session

## **LOCAL NEWS**

### **MIAMI BEACH**

\*Source: Miami Herald

#### **CONVENTION CENTER**

Miami Beach residents on Wednesday got a closer look at proposals for a major renovation of the city's convention center and surrounding area.

Two teams are competing for the project, which is expected to cost up to \$1 billion. The teams discussed their plans at a meeting with residents Wednesday night at the convention center.

The public got little new information about two hot topics: how to minimize traffic impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods, and how to pay for the public portions of the project.

#### **TRAFFIC**

The Tishman – South Beach ACE team has contracted Mobility in Chain, an Italian firm, to analyze both vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The team also is considering traffic both during event times and when the center isn't being used.

The Tishman plan redistributes traffic to Dade Boulevard, which the company says is now underused. Cars could also enter from the north end of Washington Avenue. Buses would enter from the opposite side of the center, near the current Fillmore Miami Beach at Jackie Gleason Theater.

Trucks would stack along the north end of Convention Center Drive.

The Portman CMC team has enlisted the help of David Plummer & Associates, a Coral Gables firm, to take a look at traffic issues.

Their plan would also redirect traffic to Dade Boulevard. Hotel traffic would be funneled through 17th Street. They'd also close off Convention Center Drive on the north end, creating a pedestrian area.

The firm suggested the use of "smart parking" techniques, with live updates sent to street signs and smart phones about area parking availability. They also talked about enhancing local public transit systems and incorporating the city's popular bike rental program.

#### **FINANCING**

Little was revealed Wednesday about how the city could pay for the public portions of the project. Those portions include a renovated convention center, additional meeting rooms and a new ballroom.

Both teams have said that those improvements could cost up to \$500 million. In interviews with The Miami Herald, neither suggested a public-private partnership scheme to pay for the fixes, saying that the city is able to borrow money more cheaply on its own.

Tishman suggested the city could also recoup its costs through leases and increased taxes from the private development that's proposed on the site.

The private components of the redevelopment of the 52-acre site, which is wholly owned by the city, include: a hotel, retail offerings, residential units and an entertainment venue.

Miami Beach has a few pots of money potentially at its disposal.

The city already gets county Convention Development Tax funds to support the center.

Voters in August 2012 approved a hotel tax increase of up to one penny to help pay for improvements to the convention center. The new tax would have to be implemented by the City Commission, and would not take affect until the city has an agreement in place for the improvements, according to an opinion by the city attorney's office.

The tax could generate up to \$9 million a year, and could be bonded out to as much as \$90 million to pay for the improvements, and then upkeep of the center.

Voters in 2004 also approved a bond referendum which included \$55 million for the convention center. The city used about \$600,000 of that money in 2009 to pay the architecture firm Arquitectonica for a plan to redevelop the convention center. The City Commission rejected the plan and started a bid process to ask teams to submit their ideas to revamp the convention center and surrounding area.

The city got another \$15 million from the county in 2004, also to pay for the convention center improvements. It wasn't clear late Wednesday whether that money is still available or already had been spent.

Read more here: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/03/27/v-print/3310394/developers-have-little-to-say.html#storylink=cpy>

ANNOUNCEMENT:

## **MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSIONERS *ON THE MOVE***

***BRINGING CITY HALL  
TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD***

***Mayor Matti Herrera Bower***

Vice Mayor Jonah Wolfson  
Commissioner Jorge Exposito  
Commissioner Michael Gongora  
Commissioner Jerry Libbin  
Commissioner Ed Tobin  
Commissioner Deede Weithorn

**Meet and Greet  
Miami Beach City Manager  
Jimmy Morales  
Friday, April 5, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.  
Smith and Wollensky  
1 Washington Avenue  
Miami Beach, FL 33139**

For further information please contact  
Wanda Ortiz, Constituent Aide to Mayor Bower  
[wandaortiz@miamibeachfl.gov](mailto:wandaortiz@miamibeachfl.gov) or 305-673-7030

## MIAMI

\*Source: Miami Herald

Miami commissioners unanimously passed a resolution Thursday asking the U.S. Department of Justice to allow the city to hire 50 certified police officers immediately, after a lengthy morning discussion on how the police department is understaffed.

Miami is required to get DOJ approval when hiring certified officers, due to a 1977 finding that the city was discriminating against blacks and Hispanics in its hiring practices. The city can hire non-certified officers without Justice clearance, but hiring certified police is quicker because they have already been trained.

Even with a quick decision from DOJ, it's likely to take three or four months before an officer could be hired. And it wasn't immediately clear Thursday morning if the city has the money to pay for the additional officers in this year's budget.

The 50 officers and equipment would cost about \$5.5 million.

City Manager Johnny Martinez and Budget Director Danny Alfonso had planned on recommending that commissioners support a plan to hire 33 new cops during the next budget year, after September.

The more immediate goal: reaching the 1,144-officer count the city has budgeted for this year. Right now, Miami has 1,087 cops, with another 42 going through the training or hiring process. Fifteen other more senior positions are frozen until the applicants pass a DOJ exam stemming from the 1977 civil rights consent decree.

The Miami Police Department has been understaffed for several years as the city overcame a series of budget shortfalls and retirements. Hiring is difficult. Even before a six-month training session for new hires begins, the city has to advertise civil service tests three months before they are given, and candidates must pass physical and psychological exams.

There have also been administrative issues between the human relations and police departments that delayed hirings. Police Chief Manuel Orosa said those bottle-necks have been "cleared up," and hiring to get to the 1,144 level is well underway. Thursday, he said the city should reach that number by June.

The resolution passed Thursday also orders the administration to send a recent study by the police chief that shows the city's police-to-resident ratio is about half of those of other U.S. cities with populations of more than 100,000.

Orosa has even more-pressing issues than the current shortfall: He expects to lose more than 200 officers in the next two to three years through incentive-laden early-retirement programs. In preparation for the necessary new hires, the chief said he's already beefed up the background-investigations squad from five to 20 people.

Commissioners also voted unanimously Thursday to hold the city's mayoral election on Nov. 5, with a runoff if necessary two weeks later.

Also Thursday, Commissioner Francis Suarez is expected to ask the city manager to unleash code enforcement officers to issue tickets for, or police to seize, the hundreds of unlicensed video-gaming machines in cafeterias and arcades across Miami.

Mayor Tomás Regalado and the city's code-enforcement chief recently acknowledged that the machines are illegal under city law because not a single owner has purchased a \$500 permit required by the city commission 2½ years ago.

Suarez plans to offer a resolution directing Martinez "to enforce the existing prohibition against video-gaming machines" and to urge state legislators to pass a law clarifying that the machines are illegal.

The mayor has said no code-enforcement tickets have been written since the measure was approved in October 2010. The police have confiscated some of the machines, which remain the subject of ongoing litigation by owners who insist they are not gambling devices but mere amusement machines.

Regalado and Occupational License Supervisor Noel Chavez made their statements about the machines being illegal last week as bills sailed through the state Legislature that would outlaw the video-gaming machines at Internet cafes and adult arcades throughout Florida. The measures would apply to machines similar to the ones sprinkled throughout Miami and Hialeah.

The controversy swallowed Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carroll two weeks ago when she resigned under pressure after state investigators questioned her about consulting with a charity involved in an alleged illegal gambling operation. So far, 57 people have been arrested in connection with the case.

Read more here: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/03/28/3310115/miami-city-commission-to-discuss.html#storylink=cpy>

### **Save the Date:**

### **MDCLC Monthly Board of Directors Meeting**

When: Thursday, April 11, 2013

Time: Reception 6:00 PM / Dinner Board Meeting 7:00PM

## WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1640B GRANTS AND AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND  
NONSTATE ENTITIES - FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY  
GRANTS AND AIDS - WATER PROJECTS

Nonrecurring funds in Specific Appropriation 1640B from the General Revenue Fund shall be used for the following water projects:

JW Corbett Levee System.....	1,000,000
Glades Utility Authority Water Infrastructure Improvements..	1,000,000
Indian River Lagoon.....	2,000,000
Bonita Springs Silt Removal - Imperial River and Oak Creek..	250,000
Cape Coral/Fort Myers Regional Reclaimed Water River Crossing .....	900,000
Caloosa Water FAVT.....	2,000,000
Gainesville Tumbling Creek.....	625,000
Miami Gardens NW 170 Street Stormwater Drainage Project.....	200,000
Miami Gardens NW 195 Street Stormwater Drainage Project.....	100,000
Miami Gardens Vista Verde Stormwater Drainage Project.....	250,000
Miami Gardens Neighborhood Stormwater Swale Re-grading Project NW 172 Terrace.....	10,000
Cutler Bay.....	400,000
Port LaBelle System.....	500,000
Homestead Race Track Inline Booster Pumps.....	195,000
Riviera Beach Avenue O Stormwater Extensions.....	212,500
Riviera West 18th-22nd Street Stormwater.....	375,000
Riviera Beach West 6th Street Improvements.....	325,000
Lake Worth Lagoon North Palm Beach Living Shorelines.....	200,000
Lake Worth Lagoon Monastery Artificial Reef MacArthur State Park Islands.....	300,000
Lake Worth Lagoon Lake Park Seagrass Restoration.....	250,000
Lake Worth Lagoon Monitoring and Administration.....	200,000
Kings Bay - Dixie County.....	100,000
Apalachicola River Flow Assessment.....	3,000,000
Sarasota County Phillippi Creek.....	500,000
West Miami Stormwater Improvements.....	500,000
Southwest 157 Avenue Canal - Miami-Dade.....	1,200,000
Hardee County Regional Wastewater Service Improvements.....	785,000
Glades County Wastewater Improvements.....	650,000
Moore Haven Storm Water Improvements.....	250,000
Desoto County Lettuce Lake/Oak Haven MH Park Utility MCL Water Supply Improvement Project.....	90,000
Miami Lakes Stormwater Improvements.....	300,000
Opa-locka Sewer Lift Station Rehabilitation.....	390,000
Frostproof Water Storage Tank at Main Water Plant.....	500,000
Frostproof New Generators for Main Water Plant Well.....	300,000
Okeechobee Stormwater Retrofit.....	250,000
Marion County Wastewater Treatment.....	600,000
Bellevue Wastewater Expansion.....	1,000,000
Umatilla Sewer System.....	1,500,000
Port Orange Cambridge Canal Stormwater Improvements.....	250,000
Tampa Met West Ditch Storm Flow Improvements.....	250,000
Zephyrhills Reclaimed Water Extension.....	500,000
Surfside Emergency Seawall Repairs.....	75,000
South Miami Dorn Avenue Drainage Improvements.....	120,000
Village of Biscayne Park Drainage Projects.....	75,000
Chipley Drinking Water and Wastewater Planning.....	400,000
Walton County Coastal Dune Lakes Environmental Assessment...	500,000
Walton County Wastewater Treatment Facility at Mossy Head...	3,000,000
Monticello Water System.....	918,636
Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative.....	1,379,000
Danforth Creek Stormwater Retrofit.....	3,000,000
Sunrise Twin Lakes Sub-Basin Drainage Improvements.....	250,000
Bushnell C470/C475 Waterline and Master Plan.....	1,234,032
Lacoochee/Tribby Water System Improvements.....	500,000
Lauderdale Lakes Flood Mitigation.....	500,000
Fort Lauderdale - Seven Isles Seawall Imp/Elevation Proj #1.	100,000
Judge Farms Stormwater Improvement.....	250,000
Lakeland Skyview Utilities Water and Wastewater System improvements.....	500,000
Oakland Wastewater System.....	750,000
Ormond Beach - NC Park Lake interconnects.....	125,000
St. Johns River Restoration and Economic Impact Study.....	10,400,000

PROGRAM: WASTE MANAGEMENT

WASTE MANAGEMENT