



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Home Rule and Preemption:** ***SUPPORT*** preservation of local home rule; ***OPPOSE*** any effort to preempt local authority.
- **Federal Funding, Cost Shifts and Unfunded Mandates:** ***SUPPORT*** preservation of existing federal funding for County programs; and ***OPPOSE*** any additional cost shifts or unfunded mandates from the federal government to the County, and any reductions in County revenue or formula funding from the federal government. ***OPPOSE*** any measure that would adversely affect County revenues.
- **Protect Previous Federal Funding:** ***SUPPORT*** efforts to secure the same level of federal funding for County programs as last year.
- **Promote Partnerships:** ***SUPPORT*** partnerships with other counties, municipalities, national associations, and any other entity that would help to create favorable outcomes for the County.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FEDERAL RESOLUTIONS

As of February 2, 2021 and in chronological order by passage

R-441-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO INCLUDE DIRECT AND FLEXIBLE FUNDING TO COUNTIES IN FUTURE STIMULUS OR OTHER RELIEF PACKAGES TO ASSIST WITH THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN CAUSED BY CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

R-443-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR COMPANIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN FUTURE STIMULUS PACKAGES OR OTHER MONETARY STIMULUS MEASURES TO ASSIST WITH THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN CAUSED BY CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

R-444-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION TO INCLUDE RACE, ETHNICITY, AND OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IN PUBLICLY RELEASED DATA PERTAINING TO INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19); AND URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE SUCH DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IN PUBLICLY RELEASED DATA AT THE STATE LEVEL

R-516-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR RENTAL ASSISTANCE IN A FUTURE STIMULUS PACKAGE TO ASSIST RENTERS EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AS A RESULT OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) AND ASSOCIATED ILLNESS, JOB LOSS, FURLOUGH, AND DECREASED WORK HOURS

R-667-20: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COUNTY POLICY PROHIBITING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE FROM HIRING ANY SWORN OFFICER WHO HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A SUSTAINED FINDING OR ADJUDICATION OF UNAUTHORIZED OR IMPROPER FORCE, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, OR THEFT AS A RESULT OF ACTION TAKEN WHILE SERVING AS A SWORN OFFICER; AND URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL DATABASE OF CURRENT AND FORMER SWORN OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A SUSTAINED FINDING OR ADJUDICATION OF UNAUTHORIZED OR IMPROPER FORCE

R-704-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES CONGRESS, AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT, TO RECONSIDER DEPORTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IF THEIR UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE CHOOSES TO IMPLEMENT AN ONLINE-ONLY CURRICULUM AMID THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

R-741-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO CONDUCT THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA PROJECT FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY PLAN STUDY; URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO CONDUCT THE STUDY IN A MANNER THAT IS COMPLEMENTARY TO THE COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN AND INCORPORATES NATURE-BASED AND NATURAL-INFRASTRUCTURE OPTIONS, SO LONG AS THE SEEPAGE WALL IS PUT IN PLACE AS PART OF THE STUDY [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 201353]

R-755-20: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AND STATE EMERGENCY FUNDING RELIEF FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC, AND URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION OR TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION TO IDENTIFY SUCH ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY FUNDING RELIEF

R-770-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT H.R. 6800, THE HEALTH AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY OMNIBUS EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS ACT ("HEROES ACT") OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WOULD PROVIDE RENTAL AND MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED BY CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 ("COVID-19"), PROVIDE ADDITIONAL STIMULUS PAYMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS, INCREASE FOOD BENEFITS, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT FUNDS AND PROVIDE FUNDING TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

R-879-20: RESOLUTION OPPOSING, PARTICULARLY RELATING TO THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC, THE RECENT DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, TO END ALL CENSUS COUNTING EFFORTS A MONTH EARLY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2020, RATHER THAN OCTOBER 31, 2020

R-881-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO ASSIST LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITH ELIMINATING SEPTIC SYSTEMS AND CONVERTING TO SEWER SYSTEM CONNECTIONS; PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ISSUE AS A 2021 FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

R-882-20: RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO TAKE ALL MEASURES WITHIN THEIR POWERS TO ENSURE THAT NO FEDERAL LAW OR POLICY IS ENACTED THAT WILL NEGATIVELY AFFECT THE ABILITY OF CITIZENS TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE OR HINDER THE ABILITY OF ELECTIONS OFFICIALS TO ACCURATELY COUNT ALL VALID VOTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 2020 GENERAL ELECTION; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO PURSUE CERTAIN LITIGATION

R-884-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR BISCAYNE BAY; PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ISSUE AS A 2021 FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

R-907-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION TO EXPEDITE AND CONCLUDE ANY ANALYSIS NECESSARY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE AND PREVENTATIVE MEASURES THAT ARE REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE RESUMPTION OF TRAVEL ON CRUISE SHIPS DURING AND AFTER THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

R-1035-20: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP'S DECISION TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON THE LEASING OF FEDERAL SUBMERGED LANDS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO AND ALONG THE ATLANTIC COASTS OF FLORIDA, GEORGIA, AND SOUTH CAROLINA FOR PURPOSES OF EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, OR PRODUCTION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS UNTIL JUNE 30, 2032

R-1252-20: RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO AMEND THE UNIFORM TIME ACT AND EXTEND DAYLIGHT SAVINGS THROUGH FUTURE GENERAL ELECTIONS

R-84-21: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT HOUSE MEMORIAL 71 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO RECOGNIZE THE EPIDEMIC OF SUICIDE AMONG VETERANS AND FULLY FUND SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS; AND URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS BY POLICY AREA

Policy Area: Operations

Miami-Dade Aviation Department

- **ADVOCATE for at least \$13 billion in additional emergency assistance to U.S. airports, airport concessionaires, and employees.** Provide \$10 billion to airports to mitigate expenses and lost revenue, and prevent furloughs from the decline in air travel due to COVID-19. Provide \$3 billion to airport concessionaires to support continued employment and prevent bankruptcies. America's airports – like the rest of the nation's aviation system – have been hit hard by the significant decline in travel caused by COVID-19. Passenger levels were down as much as 95 percent system-wide for an extended time and are still at only 30 to 40 percent of previous levels. Billions in revenue that airports expected to be generated by travelers has evaporated. Billions more in anticipated passenger facility charge (PFC) collections has also disappeared, depriving airports of a key source of revenue to support bond payments. Airports hold nearly \$100 billion in collective debt, with some \$7 billion in airport bond principal and interest payments due in 2020.

The CARES Act funding provided a critical lifeline to airports in the near-term that protected jobs, provided for enhance cleaning and sanitization efforts, ensured that debt payments be made and helped keep construction projects moving forward. Unfortunately, the relief provided by CARES Act funding was only temporary given the depths of the crisis. The cost of retaining employees, maintaining facilities and meeting debt obligations continues for airports even as airport revenue and PFC collections remain stagnant. Until passengers return, airports have few places to turn beyond the federal government.

Given the continuing decline in aviation activity and revenue, and the precipitous drop in PFC collections that help support bond payments, airports need additional federal assistance to meet existing requirements and to prepare for the return of passengers in a significantly different operating environment.

- **ADVOCATE for an Infrastructure Stimulus Plan that addresses the critical needs of airports** - America's airports are a fundamental component of our nation's transportation infrastructure. Inadequate airport infrastructure that fails to meet the growing needs of local businesses and tourists puts in jeopardy the economic recovery and growth of American cities, states, and regions. From established

metropolitan areas to small communities, sustained economic growth depends on the expansion of, and investment in our nation's airports.

Our nation's transportation infrastructure—which should serve to connect America—has fallen into a state of disrepair and is driving people further apart. Commutes are longer, family and friends feel more distant and it is harder than ever to see all of our great country. The future of mobility in America will require greener, more energy efficient modes of transportation, modernized systems and improved access to heavily trafficked destinations.

By making these investments now, the U.S. can prepare to emerge from the COVID-19 crisis with stronger, more connected infrastructure systems than ever before, and will be ready to meet a resurgence in travel demand. Miami-Dade County continues to urge Congress to pursue an infrastructure package that could help airports finance much-needed upgrades to better accommodate anticipated growth in passenger and cargo, improve the customer experience for air travelers, and enhance competition at the nation's airports.

- **MONITOR Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Staffing at Miami International Airport (MIA)** - CBP staffing for arriving international passengers and cargo is a critical component of operations at MIA. Prior to the global pandemic, CBP struggled with hiring and retaining officers at our nation's airports. Over the past five years, international air travel increased by 25-30 percent, yet the number of CBP officers available to process additional travelers and cargo barely changed because attrition outpaced hiring.

Despite MIA's strong partnership with CBP and our industry-leading technology improvements in the last few years, this issue continues to be a top priority. MIA also continues to participate in the reimbursement program, which allows local governments to voluntarily reimburse CBP overtime to increase staffing to process arriving international passengers and cargo. While this program has proven to be a valuable tool to leverage local and federal resources to mitigate delays, it is not intended to be a permanent solution. While the current focus is to safely reopen international travel, MIA urges our Congressional Delegation to continue monitoring this critical frontline agency and provide the resources that support CBP's complex mission at our nation's ports of entry.

Economic Development (RER)

- **Defending Domestic Produce Production Act of 2019 S. 16/H.R. 101 - ADVOCATE** for the passage of Senate Bill S. 16, which protects domestic produce production through mechanisms that were promised but left out of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement ("USMCA"). This bill provides the ability to address the dumping of produce on the market in a fairer way based on seasonal production, instead of the current annual nationwide calculation. (AGRICULTURE)

- **Laurel Wilt Disease - *ADVOCATE*** for continued funding for the mitigation and eradication, prevention and treatment of Laurel Wilt Disease. Include Laurel Wilt Disease as a covered cause of loss under the tree insurance policy and the Tree Assistance Program. (AGRICULTURE)
- **Agriculture Relief - *ADVOCATE*** for funding, programs, legislation and assistance to increase viability of our local agricultural industry and mitigate any effects of invasive pests, diseases, freezes, flooding, windstorm and other potential damages to our said industry. (AGRICULTURE)

PortMiami

- **SEAPORT COVID RELIEF - *ADVOCATE*** for seaport COVID relief. PortMiami has joined the *Florida Ports Council* and the *American Association of Port Authorities* to advocate for Port COVID relief, requesting \$1.5 billion to cover lost revenues and additional expenses incurred as a result of COVID-19, including cleaning, sanitizing, staffing, work force retention and debt service payments.

To date, the **CARES Act** and other proposed relief measures have not included targeted relief to seaports; however, ports are continuing to seek assistance by any COVID relief or future stimulus legislation. The updated *Heroes Act*, as passed by the House of Representatives on October 1, allows states to transfer relief funds to “**special purpose units of local governments that are involved in the transportation of passengers or cargo.**” Funds can be used for COVID-related expenses, to replace foregone revenues not projected on January 31, 2020, or to respond to negative economic impacts of COVID. **ADVOCATE** for a technical amendment to the State Coronavirus Relief Fund (per House-passed H.R. 6800) which clarifies that special purpose units of local government are defined as units of state and county governments.

- **HR. 7515, THE MARITIME TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM EMERGENCY RELIEF ACT (MTSERA) – *ADVOCATE*** for final passage of *H.R. 7515*, introduced by Representatives Peter DeFazio and Sean Patrick Maloney. This legislation establishes a comprehensive maritime emergency relief authority, with funding distributed by the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD). While this is strictly an authorization bill, it provides a critical mechanism for U.S. seaports to receive financial relief in times of national emergency and provides a path for distribution of COVID relief grants in the future. *H.R. 7515* is pending final approval in the context of the *2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)*.
- **MIAMI HARBOR NAVIGATION IMPROVEMENTS - *ADVOCATE*** for additional *Investigation* appropriations, pursuant to *Energy and Water Development appropriations, 2022*. The Army Corps ongoing feasibility study on the Miami Harbor will result in recommendations for channel modifications. The study has been fully funded by a partnership with the Army Corps and the County, based upon a three-

year timeline. Should the Port request an exemption from the current 3X3X3 rule, additional federal funding will be required in 2022.

To accommodate the economic growth and customer requests, the Biscayne Bay Pilots require navigational harbor improvements which are necessary for safe passage of both cargo and cruise vessels. The proposed improvements will accommodate larger cargo vessels, up to 14,000 TEU vessels, and therefore enable the full potential of the completed phase III Miami Harbor improvement project (which was designed for 8,500 TEU vessels). These improvements are necessary to accommodate requests from cargo lines to come to the Seaport, instead of non-US transshipment ports, and to continue economic cargo growth in the United States.

Monitor and **ADVOCATE** for administrative and legislative initiatives which: i) Accelerate the timeline for delivery of largescale infrastructure projects, including navigation projects; and ii) Reduce the timeline needed to secure modifications to federal navigation projects. Support policy initiatives which provide for a seamless transition between the USACE feasibility study and the Preconstruction, Engineering and Design (PED) phase.

- **MARITIME CBP and USDA STAFFING - ADVOCATE** - CBP staffing is essential to effective and efficient administration of the nation's port security policy. For America's international gateways to function more effectively and safely, CBP must be adequately funded and staffed. CBP has testified before Congress that it is short 500 officers needed to serve the maritime industry. This is a significant shortfall. Last year, CBP was funded to hire 2,000 additional staff, fewer than 20 agents were assigned to seaports, and those were only for passenger terminals. Further complicating this process is that on average CBP loses 700 officers a year, mainly to retirement.

With \$2 billion invested in port improvements, PortMiami is expected to double cargo in the next 5-10 years. Along with the increase in cargo, a new intermodal yard will create the need for additional inspectors and inspection stations. In 2019, PortMiami increased cruise passenger traffic from 5.3 to 6.8 million passengers, and handled over 1 million TEUs (Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit), maintaining its cargo performance over the 7 past years.

This growth requires additional CBP agents to safely and efficiently process these additional embarkations, debarkations and cargo. Inspections without the addition of resources could cause container shipments to be delayed, causing the region to lose millions in revenue. Cruise debarkations similarly may be delayed, causing issues for incoming passengers. PortMiami **SUPPORTS** additional resources for CBP and USDA in order to accommodate the growing number of cargo and cruise passengers. The Senate recommends CBP utilize the money it appropriated in FY20 for new officers. The House proposed \$91 million for 850 new CBP officers.

- **DONOR AND ENERGY TRANSFER PORTS (D&ET) PROGRAM - ADVOCATE** for \$50 million, pursuant to the 2022 *Energy and Water Development appropriations* bill.

Port Miami is designated as one of the nation's top six Donor ports because it receives only a nominal amount of Harbor Maintenance tax funds annually due to very low levels of silting in the harbor. Annual funding for the Donor and Energy Transfer program is important to PortMiami as these appropriated funds can be used for expanded uses which are not typically a federal responsibility, such as berth dredging.

House and Senate 2021 *Energy and Water Development* appropriations bills are in conference at this time. As both bills include \$50 million for the D&ET program, \$50 million is the anticipated enacted level for FY 2021.

- **HMT REFORM AND H.R. 7575, *THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2020 (WRDA)* – ADVOCATE** for HMT reform and final passage of H.R. 7575. In 1986, Congress established a user fee for coastal ports and harbors - the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT). The HMT is levied on the value of imported goods and was designed to provide 100% of operations and maintenance (O&M) costs for deep draft and coastal waterways throughout the U.S. Annual Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) spending is typically based on the previous year's receipts; however, over many years HMT collections have far exceeded funds appropriated for harbor maintenance as HMT revenues have been used to help balance the federal budget. The "surplus" of collections over expenditures has grown to over \$9 billion.

The FY2021 House bill proposes \$1.678 billion from the HMTF, \$48 million above FY2020 enacted level and \$678 million above the President's budget request. This surpasses the target set by authorizers for FY 2021 and represents 92 percent of estimated revenues compared to the FY 2021 target of 83 percent. The Senate bill proposes \$1.68 billion from the HMTF.

The maritime industry has engaged in an extensive multiyear effort to develop a comprehensive "fix" for the HMTF and it is anticipated that many of the HMT reforms advocated by industry/PortMiami over the past several years will be included in the conferenced version of the 2020 *Water Resources Development Act*, shortly to be released by the House T&I and Senate EPW committees, to include: i) permanent authorization for the Donor and Energy Transfer Program; and ii) An additional set aside of HMT funds for Donor Ports. Final passage of H.R. 7575, including the HMT reforms, is essential to the maritime industry and PortMiami.

- **CLIMATE CHANGE/RESILIENCY - ADVOCATE** for climate change/resiliency initiatives which provide for climate adaptation capital investment in seaports, including any follow up to the report released by the House Select Committee on Climate Change - "***Build a Cleaner and More Resilient Maritime and Shipping Sector***" - which recommends investments in climate resiliency projects for U.S. ports in future water resources (WRDA) legislation. The report proposes that interagency entities, such as the *Mitigation Framework Leadership Group*, coordinate a unified federal framework for climate - resilient investments in U.S. ports, including guidance on vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning for individual ports and harbors.

- **AGRICULTURE QUARANTINE INSPECTION (AQI) TREATMENT FEE - *ADVOCATE*** for the elimination of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) treatment fee or freeze it at current levels, until such time as an equitable modification of the fee is designed and implemented. The fee imposes an unreasonable, unnecessary and perhaps illegal discriminatory burden on imports into Florida ports.

The two largest agricultural commodities being imported into U.S. requiring fumigation as a condition of entry: Chilean fresh grapes and Peruvian fresh asparagus. The Southeast (SE) represents only 24% of the Northeast (NE) volume requiring fumigation, but pays substantially more, even though SE volumes are less. If both import volumes were equal the SE would pay \$1.7 million compared to the NE paying only \$39,342 for the same imported volume.

The disparity is because one treatment in Florida typically involves one trailer-load of goods, while one treatment in the Northeast typically involves a stack or warehouse-full of containers. The AQI Treatment Fee has increased year-over-year jeopardizing Florida's commerce, economy and trade. Florida jobs and international market share are at stake.

- **LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF UNAUTHORIZED DRONES - *ADVOCATE*** for amending the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018. Currently, federal, state, and local agencies are prohibited from engaging with drones to prevent criminal or accidental incidents from happening. Under Title 18 of the United States Code, it is illegal to willfully damage or destroy an aircraft, and drones are considered as such. Title 18 also prevents law enforcement from using tailored jamming or protocol manipulation to interdict drones because it is considered intruding on a "protected computer." The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 provided the Department of Defense with relief from Title 18 restrictions in order to protect certain military installations and assets however local and state law enforcement did not receive the same relief.

Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces

- **Biscayne-Everglades Greenway - *ADVOCATE*** for funding and/or authorize programs to assist in the Design and Construction of the 43-mile world class Biscayne-Everglades Greenway that will traverse and serve both incorporated and unincorporated portions of Miami-Dade County connecting Biscayne National Park to Everglades National Park and providing a safe and scenic route to the parks without concern for vehicular traffic. The greenway will connect to a variety of other trails in the South Dade Greenways Network and will incorporate South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and County owned rights-of-way. The project will provide for both recreation and alternative transportation. The funding will be used to complete portions of the northern segment from SW 137 Av. to US 1 along the Mowry (C-103) Canal and Mowry Dr. (SW 320 St.)

- **Ludlam Trail Corridor** - **ADVOCATE** for and **SUPPORT** federal funding for the construction of the Ludlam Trail. The Ludlam Trail Corridor is an approximately 5.6 mile long, generally one-hundred foot wide, abandoned Florida East Coast Railway spur-line that stretches from NW 7 St. just south of Miami International Airport to SW 80 St. just north of Dadeland Mall. This funding request will help reduce an estimated \$60,000,000 in unfunded needs for various phases of Ludlam Trail development and will help continue the phased conversion and activation of this abandoned railway corridor into a public bicycle and pedestrian corridor. This corridor will be owned, developed and maintained by Miami-Dade County and is an important element of the plan for a County-wide network of bicycle and pedestrian trails.
- **Zoo Miami** - **ADVOCATE** for funding and/or authorize programs to assist in the expansion/renovation of the Animal Hospital and Rehab Facilities to also serve the need for treatment, recovery, and rehabilitation of numerous endangered species in South Florida. This would dramatically enhance the ability in the South Florida region to be able to treat, rehabilitate, recover, and release endangered species in collaboration with our partners at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and regional NGOs. Zoo Miami's geographic location, extensive staff with expertise in multiple scientific fields, and ongoing collaborative in situ and ex situ species recovery programs with imperiled Florida species make it the most desirable and effective location for such enhanced facilities within the state.
- **Safer People, Safer Streets** - **ADVOCATE** to advance Miami-Dade's Participation in the USDOT's Mayors Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets by growing funding for bicycle and pedestrian improvements. While the FAST Act increased the Surface Transportation Block Grant Set Asides, funding is not being targeted in high crash areas. Legislation like the Safe Streets Act of 2015 would require FDOT and the MPO to implement guidelines and evaluation to ensure comprehensive transportation planning. As the fourth most dangerous metropolitan area in the country for bicyclists and pedestrians, Miami Dade needs more financial support to implement Complete Streets and enhance enforcement of bike and pedestrian safety laws.

Regulatory and Economic Resources

- **Beach Erosion Control Sand Sources** - **SUPPORT** efforts to exempt Southeast Florida, specifically Miami-Dade County, from federal prohibition of cost-sharing non-domestic sources of beach sand for beach erosion control/sea level rise mitigation. (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION)

Office of Resilience (RER)

- **Energy Stimulus Funding** - **SUPPORT** stimulus funding for energy, fuel and water conservation and efficiency and solar-based renewable energy.
- **Weatherization** - **SUPPORT** increased funding for weatherization programs to support energy and water efficiency.

- **Whole Building Data - *SUPPORT*** federal requirement for all utilities to collect aggregated whole-building data from a local government jurisdiction's largest buildings (20,000 square feet and above for government-owned buildings and private sector buildings) and provide this data to building owners or managers and local government representatives for benchmarking and to help identify opportunities to reduce water and energy usage.
- ***SUPPORT*** the protection of and ***INCREASED*** funding for **Flood Risk Mitigation**, particularly through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation grants and Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program and the Department of Housing and Urban Developments' Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation funds. Additionally, ensure federally-funded projects are built resiliently.
- ***SUPPORT*** efforts to reauthorize, improve, and strengthen the National Flood Insurance Program with provisions that limit premium rate increases and protect affordability, encourage greater program participation, expand the Increased Cost of Compliance Program, emphasize and increase funding for mitigation, and develop accurate flood maps.
- ***SUPPORT*** the **Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact's** federal legislative program.
- **Environmental and Climate Equity - *Support*** efforts to require federal agencies to include considerations of climate equity - the disproportionate environmental and human health impacts of rulemaking on communities of color and frontline communities.

Department of Solid Waste Management

- **Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) / Net Metering - *SUPPORT*** expansion of the rebuttable presumption of a mandatory purchase obligation under PURPA, minimum term duration standards for power purchase agreements, including Waste-To-Energy (WTE) micro-grids where government owned WTE facilities will be able to provide power to other local government infrastructure (i.e. airports, wastewater treatment plants, etc.) as an offset to electric energy provided by the electric utility during an applicable billing period. Remove regulatory and market barriers preventing local governments from providing self-generated electricity, either directly or via net metering, to other non-contiguous government owned facilities.
- **Electric Vehicles - *ADVOCATE*** for and ***SUPPORT*** dedicated funding be provided to large Counties (more than 100,000 residents) for electric garbage trucks. A fully electric garbage truck will have 100% ZERO emissions, reduced fuel, and maintenance costs. An electric garbage truck is very quiet and will cut down on the noise pollution as well. In keeping with the County's sustainability goals, the County's WTE facility can be used to power electric vehicles.

- **Flow Control/Interstate Waste Transport - *OPPOSE*** any efforts seeking to amend legislation in response to the April, 2007 Supreme Court decision *United Haulers Assn. v. Oreida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority* (No. 05-1345) which held that flow control to publicly owned facilities is a legislative use of flow control authority. Flow control improves the DSWM's financial position and creates a more stable environment.
- **Market Incentives for Electricity Produced from Renewable Resources - *SUPPORT*** market incentives to encourage development and operation of alternative, renewable energy production.
- **Mosquito Control Technologies - *ADVOCATE* and *SUPPORT*** dedicated funding be provided to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or to state or local governments for new and emerging technologies that reduce the risk of mosquito-transmitted diseases. Miami-Dade County is the gateway to the Americas. Miami International Airport (MIA) is among the busiest airports in the world. Many flights carrying passengers from Latin and Central America and the Caribbean deplane at MIA on a daily basis. These passengers are coming from areas where there are reported cases of Yellow Fever, Denge, Zika, and Chickungunya -- all viruses carried by mosquitoes. In 2018, Miami-Dade County Mosquito Control continues to receive daily referrals from the local Department of Health for all of these viruses. The county wants to be at the forefront of all innovative technologies for mosquito control.

Department of Transportation and Public Works

- **SMART Plan Funding - *SUPPORT*** funding and financing for all corridors in the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan.
- **COVID-19 Emergency Transit Funding – *SUPPORT*** the Heroes Act, which includes \$32 billion of emergency transit funding and is a lifeline for our industry. Without additional emergency funding, many public transit agencies will soon be forced to cut services and routes for essential workers and furlough their workers, leaving our communities without service and jobs when they need them the most.
- **Reduce barriers to participation in the Pilot Program for Expedited Delivery. - *ADVOCATE*** for the Pilot Program for Expedited Delivery, which allows the FTA to select up to eight projects for expedited grants, provided federal funding accounts for no more than 25 percent of the project's total cost. Congress should expand eligibility for participation in this program by increasing the federal funding share for this program from 25 to 50 percent to better leverage local investment through a public-private partnership. The program should also differentiate between newer and older transit systems, with an ease in eligibility requirements for legacy systems
- **Letter of No Prejudice - *URGE*** the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to remove requirements such as completion of project risk assessment, capital and operating

financial plan, and readiness reviews, for the approval of Letter of No Prejudice requests for Public-Private Partnership (P3) projects.

- **State of Good Repair (SGR) grants - *SUPPORT*** funding for Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) for several critical, but not fully-funded improvements projects, which could qualify for State of Good Repair (SGR) grants. MDT is requesting continuing support for SGR grants that can fund projects for improvement or modernization of Metrorail and Metromover guideways, replacement of escalators and overhaul of elevators at Metromover stations, the acquisition of battery electric buses and retrofitting of garages to service CNG and electric buses.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure Projects Funding - *SUPPORT*** legislation that provides opportunities for increased and alternative revenue sources for transportation and infrastructure projects.
- **Discretionary Transit Grants -** Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) is requesting the ***SUPPORT*** of Department of Transportation grant funds that would allow MDT to establish and operate Bus Rapid Transit corridors along some of Miami-Dade County's busy corridors.
- **Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit - *SUPPORT*** the extension or making permanent of the federal \$0.50/gallon alternative fuel excise tax credit, which covers compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane autogas and other alternative transportation fuels. The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015, extended dozens of federal tax credits that expired at the end of 2014 and made some subsidies permanent. The legislation includes a two-year extension through Dec. 31, 2016, for various alternative fuel incentives.
- **Streamline National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - *SUPPORT*** policies that would streamline the NEPA process to allow for expedited studies and review times. NEPA has been an onerous obstacle to project development. Interagency review lacks coordination, and reviewing agencies often struggle with the level of review required. NEPA federal review authority for transit projects should be delegated to state departments of transportation so that new studies can proceed more quickly. Federal regulations should be changed to allow for Records of Decision to remain valid for longer periods of time, given the amount of time it takes to implement a major transit project, and the amount of money spent to complete a project study.
- **Autonomous vehicles - *SUPPORT*** funding for the acquisition of autonomous vehicles, and the participation in demonstration programs. Also, support the removal of potential roadblocks to the integration of this innovative, transformational automotive technology that can significantly improve safety, mobility, and sustainability.
- **Federal Surface Transportation Authorization Bill - *SUPPORT*** a federal surface transportation authorization bill that will replace the *Fixing America's Surface*

Transportation Act (FAST Act) when it expires on September 30, 2021. Enact a long-term surface transportation authorization act funded by dedicated, sustainable revenues that address the pending shortfall in the Highway Trust Fund (including the Mass Transit Account), and provide funding over six years to bring public transit systems to a state of good repair and meet growing community demands for increased mobility choices.

- **Complete Streets Implementation - *ADVOCATE*** for legislation requiring states' and other entities' road projects funded with Federal money to meet Complete Streets criteria. State-level resources must supplement Federal funding to ensure Complete Streets standards are met.
- **National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices' (NCUTCD) recommendations - *ADVOCATE*** for legislation to reform speed limit setting standards and guidance in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and other Federal documents. The Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") and USDOT should take prompt action to expedite the MUTCD update. The prevailing speed limit setting method in the US instructs traffic engineers to set speeds based on the 85th percentile speed of free flowing traffic. This approach was originally recommended in the 1940s based on the engineering assumption that drivers choose their travel speeds according to roadway and weather conditions, and that they always drive at reasonable speeds. Additionally, these supporting studies relied on self-reported crash data and were conducted on two-lane rural highways, devoid of any multimodal activity. FHWA should replace guidance that makes use of the 85th percentile methodology with consideration of factors such as context of the surrounding area, crash history and pedestrian and bicyclist safety when setting speed limits.
- **Dedicate resources for transit agencies to study and implement new strategies to modernize service and provide mobility-on-demand. - *ADVOCATE*** Today, many metro areas are served by radial bus networks that facilitate rush-hour trips to a city's central business district but are inconvenient for other trip types. Most bus systems are also burdened with antiquated fare payment systems, where the time it takes riders to pay fares dramatically delays service. Federal and state governments should dedicate resources for transit agencies to study and implement a wider range of initiatives including bus network redesigns, integrated fare payment systems, and off-board fare collection to enable all-door boarding.

Water and Sewer Department

- **Infrastructure Finance and Programs - *SUPPORT*** the implementation of Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Authority (WIFIA), adequate funding of State Revolving Loan Funds, and federal policy on affordability, climate change, Clean Water Act mandates, and Safe Drinking Water Act mandates, which are all significant factors for WASD capital and operating requirements. The Department has been selected in each of the first three funding cycles for WIFIA projects, in addition to

maximizing utilization of the State Revolving Loan Fund program, demonstrating the importance of these federal initiatives to produce results on the ground. A reliable utility system meeting all state and federal requirements is essential for the operation of other departments as well as the continued economic well-being of the County. Miami-Dade County has a \$8+ billion water and sewer capital needs program resulting from aging infrastructure, federal and state regulatory mandates, and changing conditions associated with documented sea level rise. This represents the largest capital burden of any comparably sized utility in the nation.

- **Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Financing - *OPPOSE*** altering tax-exempt municipal bond financing on public drinking water & wastewater systems, *reviews options being discussed at the federal level to cap or eliminate the 100-year old tax exempt status of municipal bonds, a move that would cost the sector billions of dollars in infrastructure projects at a time when federal investment in water and wastewater infrastructure is waning.* For more than a century, tax-exempt municipal bonds have been the most important source of funding for water and wastewater infrastructure projects in the United States. Congress should retain the current federal tax exemption for municipal bonds. ***FAVOR*** the amendment of federal tax laws to once again permit the refinancing of existing tax-exempt bonds with new tax-exempt bonds at more favorable rates. Substantial savings to utility customers can be achieved by lowering the cost of borrowing needed to finance facilities needed to provide a reliable and compliant water and sewer system.
- **Sound Science for Public Health and Environmental Protection - *SUPPORT*** the research, funding, and policy by which the Environmental Protection Agency and other pertinent federal agencies can assess risks and develop cost-effective technologies and management strategies to mitigate those risks for protection of public health and the environment through the setting of standards, the provision of technical assistance to utilities, and the integration of programs to optimize results and avoid counterproductive conflicts.
- **Funding for COVID Utility Revenue Losses - *SUPPORT*** federal funding to support utility revenue losses due to inability of customers to pay water and sewer bills, resulting in a significant increase in utility revenue losses that are likely to be uncollectible in the future.
- **PFAS Legislation Protecting Water and Sewer Utilities from Liability - *SUPPORT*** legislation that provides liability protection to utilities for which contamination of water supplies and wastewater has occurred as a result of per and polyfluoralkyl substances (PFAS). The cost of controlling these substances in both drinking water and wastewater is likely to be very high, and determination that these compounds are hazardous wastes under the Superfund Act (CERCLA) would constitute an extreme hardship on utilities in the absence of some liability relief. Funding to address cleanup of these compounds will be necessary. Research to establish scientifically based standards and cleanup targets is needed, along with research to find cost-effective treatment technologies.

Policy Area: Community Services

Community Action and Human Services Department

- **Community Services Block Grant Act (CSBG) - *ADVOCATE*** for legislative action that will support the reauthorization and amendment of the CSBG Act to adopt performance requirements and performance benchmarks to be included as part of the performance measurement system under this Act.
- **Access to Opioid Treatment (residential and outpatient) - *ADVOCATE* for and *SUPPORT*** for a dedicated and increase in funding for residential and out-patient treatment to serve Opioid Use Disorder residents with a dual emphasis on diversion and rehabilitation.

Cultural Affairs Department

- **Federal Funding for the Arts - *SUPPORT*** continued increases in federal funding for the arts, specifically for the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Assistance for Arts Education, Creative Arts Therapies in Veterans Healthcare Networks and Institute for Museum and Library Services. The House of Representatives approved substantial pro-arts and humanities funding increases for FY 2021. Encourage the Senate to approve these increases. In addition, include meaningful levels of federal support for non-profit cultural organizations and artist-entrepreneurs in any future Congressional allocations made to address COVID-19. Ensure that all cultural organizations and artists impacted by the pandemic can apply for these relief funds.

Homeless Trust

- **Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) - *SUPPORT*** funding for ESG as it relates to the impact and mitigation of COVID-19 pertaining to the following:
 - ***SUPPORT*** for an additional CARES Act relief assistance or other identified funding to assist households at risk of eviction or suffering financial hardship. (flexibility is needed for funding for eviction prevention because the ESG funding that comes through Entitlement Jurisdictions is limited in who it can serve).
 - ***ADVOCATE*** for a waiver to allow ESG-CV I funding to assist very low and extremely low income households impacted by COVID-19 resulting in non-payment of rent to be considered at imminent at-risk of homelessness as a result of an eviction action without regard to eviction moratoriums or the service of writs of possession. (7,100 pending evictions in Miami-Dade County and ESG cannot be used until 21 days out from the end of the eviction moratorium. Otherwise, persons are “covered”).

- **ADVOCATE** for a U.S. HUD waiver that permits ESG-CV funds to provide extended rent in arrears for very low and extremely low income households facing eviction actions whose rent in arrears is greater than six (6) months. (During the 10 months of the pandemic, people haven't paid rent for more than 6 months. These individuals must be kept housed or the homeless system will be flooded.)
- **Funding for Homeless Programs – ADVOCATE** for and **SUPPORT** expanding HUD's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants programs, including the competitive Continuum of Care (CoC) program and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) formula grant program which are the cornerstones of our community's homeless system. In Miami-Dade, ESG grants fund outreach, shelter, prevention and rapid rehousing. The CoC program funds permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing (short- to medium-term rental assistance), transitional housing for youth, and coordinated entry (outreach). Federal appropriations should allow Miami-Dade to bring this work to scale to recover from the coronavirus pandemic, and further assist homeless and at-risk households, particularly those at highest risk of illness, including seniors and the medically vulnerable. The Homeless Trust receives more than \$33 million in funding under the CoC program, and together with communities including Miami, Hialeah, Miami Gardens, Miami-Dade and the State of Florida leverages additional ESG and State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP) funds to serve homeless and at-risk households.
- **Funding for Federal Housing Vouchers – ADVOCATE** for and **SUPPORT** increased federal funding through HUD for Housing Choice Vouchers to assist vulnerable populations including low-income seniors, people with disabilities, veterans and families with children with affordable housing, including people experiencing homelessness. Funding is needed to continue to support existing households, and further support the growing number of renter households with very low income. Subsidies must keep pace with rental costs in order for vouchers to be effective in making rental housing affordable. Voucher holders contribute 30-percent of their income towards rent and utility costs. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition's 2016 Affordable Housing Gap Analysis, South Florida has been ranked as the hardest place for low-income renters to find housing. Nearly 300,000 low income renters in Miami-Dade pay more than 50-percent of their income toward rent, and the disparity between wages and housing costs is nowhere greater. In Miami-Dade, the Homeless Trust has partnered with all four Public Housing Authorities -- Miami-Dade, Miami Beach, Hialeah and Homestead -- to provide vouchers to homeless or formerly homeless households. These vouchers are an integral part of our Community Plan to End Homelessness: Priority Home.
- **Redland Community Farm and Market at Verde – ADVOCATE** for and **SUPPORT** sustainable solutions, including employment and training opportunities, for homeless and formerly homeless persons, at Redland Community Farm & Market in Homestead. The 22-acre organic farm/landscape nursery and farmer's market/retail complex is part of a larger development called Verde Gardens which includes 145 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for formerly homeless, disabled families. Verde Gardens was constructed in 2009 with more \$14 million in local

General Obligation Bond and local Food & Beverage Tax funding and continues to receive operational support from both U.S. HUD and the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust. Verde Gardens sits on former Homestead Air Force Base land (federal surplus property) deeded to the Homeless Trust in 1996 pursuant to Title V of the Stewart B. McKinney Act. In partnership with non-profits Redland Ahead, for-profit microenterprises are providing real-world, hands-on jobs and business skills training to homeless and formerly homeless households successfully integrating clients back into our economy and ensuring housing stability. All proceeds received by non-profit Redland Ahead at Verde are reinvested back into Verde Gardens to sustain and support the farm, market and housing operations. Verde Gardens PSH together with the farm complex has long been a unique program model showcased by U.S. HUD for its innovation and a true example of a public-private partnership.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) which oversees Title V homeless programs has communicated with the Homeless Trust that for-profit microenterprises are not allowed to operate on federal surplus transferred property, even if they have committed to employing and training homeless households. This guidance seems to contradict a 2019 U.S. HUD policy priority which strongly encourages CoCs and CoC-funded projects to work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness, including promoting partnerships with public and private organizations that promote employment.

Public Housing and Community Development

- **Public Housing & Section 8 Housing - *ADVOCATE*** for increased federal funding from HUD for public housing and Section 8 programs. Funding for these programs will ensure the preservation of existing housing stock and improvement of federally-funded programs that provide crucial affordable housing and rental subsidies to low-income families.
- **Rental Assistance Demonstration program - *SUPPORT*** removing 455,000 cap on number of public housing units that can qualify for RAD. ***SUPPORT*** HUD using the Rental Assistance Demonstration program (RAD) to be utilized by Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) that have Capital Fund Financial program debt. (CFFP)
- **Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) - *SUPPORT*** allowing HUD to permit Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) rated “standard” to qualify for Moving to Work (MTW) status with justification to HUD. ***SUPPORT*** Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to appeal their operating subsidy per unit month (PUM) if there is a wide variance between the existing per unit month (PUM) and Contract Rents under (RAD).
- **Prevent Refederalizing of Central Office Cost Center (COCC) Fees and Funds - *ADVOCATE*** against HUD from refederalizing of the Central Office Cost Center (COCC). HUD regulations permit COCC funds to be defederalized, permitting flexibility in use of these funds for affordable housing. Lacking County funds, PHCD

is dependent on COCC funds to address shortfalls in many operational areas, and limits PHCD's ability to leverage funds with the private sector.

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - SUPPORT** for increased federal funding for the HUD CDBG program.
 - The CDBG entitlement program provides grants on a formula basis to general units of local governments and states to address a variety of community development needs in very-low to-moderate income areas.
 - The CDBG program's primary objective is to assist in the development of viable urban communities by supporting projects that:
 - benefit very-low to moderate-income persons
 - are integrated in a long range community strategy
 - leverage further private and public partnerships
 - enhance deteriorated residential and business districts

The projects are classified in four categories: Public Facilities and Capital Improvement; Economic Development; Public Services; and Affordable Housing. CDBG program funds can be used to build community facilities, roads, and parks; to repair or rehabilitate housing, to provide new or increased public services to local residents or to fund initiatives that generate or retain new jobs.

Over the last five years Miami-Dade County has adopted a strategic focus on development within the Neighborhood Revitalization Areas in an effort to have the greatest impact among the most needy communities and households. The reduction of funding for the CDBG program has a significant impact on the County's ability to continue to implement programs designed to address the needs of its very-low to moderate-income communities which this program serve. The CDBG program funding has declined each year over the last ten years and given the current economic conditions this financial support is critically needed to continue serving and addressing the needs of very-low and moderate-income residents.

- **HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program - SUPPORT** continued funding for the HUD HOME program.
 - The HOME program is authorized under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended. It is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments, and it is designed to create affordable housing for low-income households. This program, administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), includes but is not limited to providing rental housing, rental housing assistance, home purchase or rehabilitation financing assistance to eligible homeowners and new homebuyers.

- HUD has classified Miami-Dade County as a “high-cost area.” By implication, the high housing cost also results in high rental costs. It is important that the County support housing programs which benefit the low- to moderate-income residents in the community who typically will require rental housing. The HOME program is one of the many funding sources that the County relies upon to address housing needs of its low-to moderate-income residents. Therefore, any further reduction or elimination of HOME program funding will have a devastating impact on the County’s ability to continue to house its most needy residents.
- **Capital Fund Emergency Safety and Security Program - *ADVOCATE*** for increased funding for the grant program beyond the \$10 million appropriated by Congress. The current amount is significantly inadequate to accommodate all potential emergency and security needs for public housing authorities across the country.

Library Department

- **Institute of Museum and Library Science and Department of Education Federal Library Funding - *SUPPORT*** increased appropriations to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and to the Department of Education, both of which provide significant funding for programs such as the Library Services and Technology Act and Innovative Approaches to Literacy Programs.

Policy Area: Public Safety

Miami-Dade Police Department

- **Justice Assistance Grants Funding - *ADVOCATE*** for an increase in funding of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (“Byrne JAG”) program by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). There are proposed cuts to this vital federal law enforcement program that would be detrimental to Miami-Dade County.
- **Forensic Science Grant Programs at U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, BJA - *ADVOCATE*** for full funding of the Forensic Science Grant Programs by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, BJA. The grant programs, in priority order, include:
 - Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program (Formula and Competitive)
 - DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program
 - Forensic DNA Laboratory Efficiency Improvement and Capacity Enhancement Program
 - National Institute of Justice Research Grants

- **Victims of Crime Funding at the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime - *ADVOCATE*** for an increase in funding that supports programs and services focused on helping victims in the immediate aftermath of a crime, as well as continued support while they rebuild their lives.
- **Firearms Violence Policy¹ adopted by Major Cities Chiefs Association² - *SUPPORT*** this landmark policy which calls on Congress to adopt universal background checks for all gun sales and transfers, and close both gun show and internet loopholes; Expand screening for prohibited buyers to include persons with violent mental health history; Seek “Red Flag” measures to prevent guns from reaching persons who threaten violence and murder; Urge legislation that permits court orders barring gun purchases in domestic violence cases with strict judicial procedures for appeal and reinstatement; Reinstate the assault weapons ban and encourage stiffer penalties for illegal guns; Ban high capacity magazines (10+ rounds); Ban internet ammo sales, require in-person transactions, records of sales and licensing ammo vendors; Oppose legislation that would require States to recognize any and all concealed carry permits; Oppose legislation that further erodes ATF authority; and prevent known terrorists from purchasing firearms and/or ammunition.

¹ See full Policy statement in Appendix 1.

² Major Cities Chiefs is a professional association of Chiefs and Sheriffs representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. Membership is comprised of Chiefs and Sheriffs of the sixty-nine largest law enforcement agencies in the United States and ten largest in Canada. The Chiefs serve more than 82 million people.

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department

- **FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force Teams - *ADVOCATE*** for and ***SUPPORT*** the Federal government to properly fund the 28 USAR Task Forces which comprise the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This 6,000 member ready reserve, maintained by local fire rescue agencies across the country, provides our nation with a search and rescue capability which is unmatched. Funding for these task forces at the required level would ensure that teams are properly equipped and ready to respond when needed. Currently, FL-TF1, sponsored by the Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue Department, has a funding shortfall of approximately \$1 million annually. In other words, funding provided through a Cooperative Agreement with FEMA for the annual sustainment of each task force, is on average short \$1 to \$1.2 million dollars per task force. This requires the local agency to absorb this shortfall. It is a very labor-intensive undertaking for each USAR Task Force to remain in a constant state of readiness while simultaneously maintaining individual team member training requirements and fulfilling the rigorous daily tool and apparatus maintenance needs. The USAR personnel are responsible for more than 40 tons of specialized equipment needed to fulfill the mission of every USAR team throughout the country. Additionally, the vehicles needed to move

equipment and personnel as well as life safety items such as respiratory protection, are more than 10 years old and in desperate need of replacement. There is no funding for any of these capital items in the annual appropriation through FEMA. In the last 10 years, FL-TF1 has deployed to every major disaster this nation has experienced including Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Harvey, Irma, Dorian, and Maria as well as the earthquake in Haiti.

- **COVID-19 Vaccines – *ADVOCATE*** for additional funding to preserve the health and safety of county residents through rapid deployment of COVID-19 vaccine. Significant execution of vaccine deployment occurs through county owned or operated entities including emergency management agencies, public hospitals and health systems, and partnerships with community health centers, rural health clinics and long-term care facilities. The need to ensure equitable and effective distribution to all residents is resource intensive and necessary to ensure underserved and vulnerable communities are reached and inoculated against the virus.

Policy Area: Finance

Office of Management and Budget

- **Direct Funding to Counties – *URGE*** Congress to ensure that counties of all sizes have access to additional direct, flexible funding to fight the COVID-19 pandemic that allows local government the ability to apply federal aid to offset revenue shortfalls.
- **Ryan White Program - *SUPPORT* and *ADVOCATE*** for an increase in funding for the HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act. The act is the nation's largest HIV-specific federal grant program and a critical source of health care and treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS. The program has been in existence since 1990 and has been re-authorized four times. (GRANTS COORDINATION)

APPENDIX 1



NEWS FROM THE MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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719-325-6665

Major Cities Chiefs Release Firearms Violence Policy

WASHINGTON, June 6, 2018 – On behalf of the largest law enforcement agencies in the Nation, Major Cities Chiefs Association President and Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger issued a statement today announcing the release of an updated and expanded Firearms Violence Policy. Chiefs of Police gathered in Nashville, TN, and considered measures to prevent gun violence seen in recent cases in Florida, Texas, and throughout the Nation.

Adopted by a vote of Chiefs at their meeting, the new policy statement includes calling on Congress to:

- Adopt a Universal Background Check for all gun sales and transfers;
- Expand screening for prohibited buyers to include persons with violent mental health history;
- Seek “Red Flag” measures to prevent guns from reaching persons who threaten violence and murder; and
- Urge legislation that permits court orders barring gun purchases in domestic violence cases.

The new policy reflects lessons learned from recent tragic gun murders and pleas of both parents and youth from Marjory Stoneman High School, in Parkland, Florida, who attended the Chiefs’ conference.

Chief Manger said: “As first responders, we have seen the toll that firearms violence takes on our communities and it is time that we as a Nation take the necessary steps to reduce the risk of such tragic events. Reform to this system is overdue and we must all play a role in keeping firearms off our streets and out of our schools.”

Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo said: “The Major Cities Chiefs Association joins with those we are sworn to protect in our commitment to reform that will reduce the threat of gun violence in America, and we will use the strength of our nationwide membership to move these important proposals forward.”

Miami-Dade Police Director Juan Perez said: “As representatives of the largest urban areas in the Nation, where gun violence takes the highest toll, we have seen first-hand the dangers that firearms pose to our cities and urge Congress to do everything it can to eliminate the incalculable risk that these firearms pose to our entire society.”

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Firearms Violence Policy

Adopted by Membership Vote on May 30, 2018

The Major Cities Chiefs Association has been a strong advocate for sensible gun policy for many years and has taken these positions on key issues.

Legislative Positions

- Adopt Universal Background Checks for all gun sales and close both gun show and internet loopholes
- Strengthen NICS definitions of prohibited purchasers to cover all appropriate domestic violence cases, with strict judicial procedures for appeal and reinstatement
- Support “Red Flag” legislation and regulations to preclude gun purchases by mentally disturbed persons with histories of violent behavior
- Ban “bump-stock” devices that replicate fully automatic weapons fire
- Maintain ATF regulations and restrictions regarding silencers
- Reinstate the assault weapons ban and encourage stiffer penalties for illegal guns
- Ban high capacity magazines (10+ rounds)
- Ban internet ammo sales, require in-person transactions, records of sales and licensing of ammo vendors
- Oppose legislation that would require States to recognize any and all concealed carry permits
- Oppose legislation that further erodes ATF authority
- Prevent known terrorists from purchasing firearms and/or ammunition

Policy Statements

- Establish a strong system for universal background checks to cover all firearms purchases, with no exceptions.
- Strengthen the national criminal instant background check system. The background check system does not have complete data and measures should be undertaken to ensure comprehensive reporting. Mental health information, for example, is inadequate, inconsistent and incomplete. The NICS system must be improved.
- Encourage aggressive federal prosecution of violent offenders using guns. Conviction in Federal Court generally results in stronger sanctions, removes the offenders from the streets and serves as a deterrent.
- Encourage mandatory reporting of all purchases, transfers and stolen firearms. This measure would assist law enforcement agencies with identification, criminal investigations and recovery of stolen firearms.
- Establish harsher penalties and aggressively prosecute straw purchasers, who are responsible for putting a substantial number of guns used in criminal acts. More aggressive prosecution with strong penalties would hold them accountable and act as a deterrent.
- Court orders can and should be used to prevent purchase of firearms by persons who pose a threat to public safety.
- Support and strengthen the authorities of ATF, rather than to restrict and handicap enforcement of gun laws.

Major Cities Chiefs is a professional association of Chiefs and Sheriffs representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. Membership is comprised of Chiefs and Sheriffs of the sixty-nine largest law enforcement agencies in the United States and ten largest in Canada. The Chiefs serve more than 82 million people.



Firearms Violence Policy

Adopted by Membership Vote

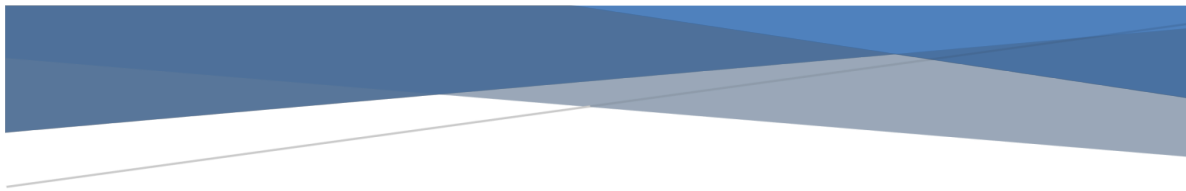
The Major Cities Chiefs Association has been a strong advocate for sensible gun policy for many years and has taken positions on a wide range of issues.

Legislative Positions

- Reinstatement of the assault weapons ban and encourage stiffer penalties for illegal guns
- Ban high capacity magazines (10+ rounds)
- Ban internet ammo sales, require in-person transactions, records of sales and licensing of ammo vendors
- Oppose legislation that would require states to recognize any and all concealed carry permits
- Oppose legislation that further erodes ATF authority
- Prevent known terrorists from purchasing firearms
- Require unlicensed private dealers to do background checks at gun shows

Policy Statements

- Encourage aggressive federal prosecution of violent offenders using guns. Conviction in Federal Court generally results in stronger sanctions, removes the offenders from the streets and serves as a deterrent.
- Encourage mandatory reporting of all purchases, transfers and stolen firearms. This measure would assist law enforcement agencies with identification, criminal investigations and recovery of stolen firearms.
- Establish harsher penalties and aggressively prosecute straw purchasers, who are responsible for putting a substantial number of guns used in criminal acts. More aggressive prosecution with strong penalties would hold them accountable and act as a deterrent.
- Strengthen the national criminal instant background check system. The background check system does not have complete data at the current time. Mental health information, for example, is incomplete. The system needs to be improved.



MCCA-MCSA TRP

NORTH AMERICAN THREAT PICTURE

TRP METHODOLOGY

A top threat issue is identified based on six different impact categories: police perception; public perception; impact on the community/neighborhood; economic impact; impact on police resources; and law enforcements' impact on the threat.

BROAD AGENCY PARTICIPATION | The project lead identifies participants across the agency with operational and overall understanding of the agency's threat issues.

COMMON UNDERSTANDING | Participants meet to review background materials to ensure a common agency understanding of threat issues and definitions and the process for scoring and justifying findings.

THREAT RANKING and JUSTIFICATION | Participants initially work independently to rank the 21 threat issues based on existing information and what they know today – current cases, trends, statistics, intelligence, and experiences can all be used to justify rankings. A Threat Justification Matrix is one tool provided to agencies, which they can use to assign numerical values to six different impact categories to generate a ranking of the issues. The group convenes at the end to discuss findings and agree on any adjustments.

REVIEW AND FINAL RANKING | The executive staff from each command come together to discuss their findings with the chief executive (Chief/Sheriff) and determine the final rankings.

2020 US MCCA THREAT PICTURE

Top Threat Issues of Major City Law Enforcement Agencies



Threat Review and Prioritization (TRP) Background

Beginning in 2017, the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) and the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA) Intelligence Commanders Group (ICG), with the support of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), developed the ICG Threat Review and Prioritization (TRP) process to establish a National Threat Picture (NTP) among all member agencies. Sixty-four MCCA member agencies participated in this process for the third year in a row.

2020 Threat Picture: An Overview for MCCA

Core policing concerns continue to comprise the top issues for the second year in a row. Violent Crime with Firearms overwhelmingly remained the number one ranked issue. All 21 threat issues are important to MCCA member agencies, regardless of ranking. The national priority rankings may not be indicative of individual agency results.

TABLE IS UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE



VIOLENT CRIME WITH FIREARMS

- 92% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns.
- 42% ranked this issue number one.
- #1 issue for all three regions.

Defined as any violent crime, excluding homicides, that involves the use of a firearm, which may include but is not limited to car-jacking, home invasion, armed robbery, aggravated assault, etc.



CRIMINAL GANGS AND CREWS

- 65% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns.
- 11% ranked this issue number one.
- #2 in the Western and Eastern regions; #3 in the Central region.

Defined as any organization that meets the reporting jurisdiction's legal definition of a gang, engaging in criminal activity, as defined by the jurisdiction's penal code, excluding any gang that can be primarily thought of as a prison gang.



HOMICIDES

- 62% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns.
- 15% ranked this issue number one.
- Rose one position (to #2) in the Central region, and one place (to #3) in the Eastern region; remained stable (#8) in the Western region.

Defined as the deliberate and unlawful killing of one person by another by any means, including but not limited to firearms, edged weapons, blunt force trauma, etc. The connection of the offender or victim to any organized gang, group, or organization is not relevant.



DRUG TRAFFICKING AND PROLIFERATION

- 57% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns.
- #5 in the Western region; #4 in the Central region; and #5 for the Eastern region.

Defined as the trafficking and proliferation of drugs; may include large-scale sale, production, and/or distribution of illegal drugs. Individuals may be affiliated with an organized gang or operate independently.



DRUG USER DERIVATIVE CRIME

- 42% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns.
- 11% ranked this issue number one.
- Fell slightly (to #3) in the Western region; remained stable in the Central (#5) and Eastern (#6) regions.

Defined as crimes committed by drug users to either support their habits or due to the influence of drugs. Includes but is not limited to robberies, break-ins, assaults, and impaired driving. These crimes are not for the furtherance of gang activity but rather are directly related to supporting drug habits.

2020 MCCA THREAT PICTURE 21 Priority Threat Issues

RANK			THREAT ISSUE
2018	2019	2020	
1	1	1	VIOLENT CRIME WITH FIREARMS
8	2	2	CRIMINAL GANGS AND CREWS
5	6	3	HOMICIDES
3	4	4	DRUG TRAFFICKING AND PROLIFERATION
2	3	5	DRUG USER DERIVATIVE CRIMES
4	5	6	OPIOID EPIDEMIC
7	7	7	VIOLENT CRIME WITHOUT FIREARMS
9	9	8	CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT
6	8	9	NON-VIOLENT CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS
10	10	10	SEX CRIMES
16	15	11	DOMESTIC TERRORISM
14	13	12	CYBER CRIMES
13	12	13	GUN TRAFFICKING AND PROLIFERATION
11	11	14	FINANCIAL CRIMES/FRAUD
12	14	15	ORGANIZED THEFT
18	17	16	ORGANIZED CRIME GROUPS
15	16	17	HUMAN TRAFFICKING
17	18	18	HOMEGROWN VIOLENT EXTREMISM
19	19	19	FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS
21	21	20	HUMAN SMUGGLING
20	20	21	PRISON/JAIL GANGS



2020 MCCA THREAT PICTURE

18	19	20	US WESTERN REGION	18	19	20	US CENTRAL REGION	18	19	20	US EASTERN REGION	19	20	CANADA (All Regions)
2	2	1	Violent Crime With Firearms	1	1	1	Violent Crime With Firearms	1	1	1	Violent Crime With Firearms	1	1	Opioid Epidemic
8	3	2	Criminal Gangs and Crews	4	3	2	Homicides	5	4	2	Homicides	3	2	Violent Crime With Firearms
1	1	3	Drug User Derivative Crime	7	2	3	Criminal Gangs and Crews	7	3	3	Criminal Gangs and Crews	4	3	Drug Trafficking and Proliferation
4	5	4	Drug Trafficking and Proliferation	2	4	4	Drug Trafficking and Proliferation	2	2	4	Opioid Epidemic	4	5	Criminal Gangs and Crews
7	8	5	Homicides	3	5	5	Drug User Derivative Crime	3	6	5	Drug Trafficking and Proliferation	6	5	Drug User Derivative Crime
6	7	6	Opioid Epidemic	5	6	6	Violent Crime Without Firearms	4	5	6	Drug User Derivative Crime	2	6	Organized Crime Groups
5	6	7	Violent Crime Without Firearms	9	8	7	Criminal Acts Against Law Enforcement	9	9	7	Criminal Acts Against Law Enforcement	9	7	Non-Violent Criminal Violations
3	4	8	Non-Violent Criminal Violations	6	7	8	Non-Violent Criminal Violations	8	7	8	Violent Crime Without Firearms	11	8	Sex Crimes
9	10	9	Criminal Acts Against Law Enforcement	8	9	9	Opioid Epidemic	6	8	9	Non-Violent Criminal Violations	7	9	Cyber Crimes
10	9	10	Sex Crimes	10	11	10	Sex Crimes	17	14	10	Domestic Terrorism	10	10	Violent Crime Without Firearms
<i>Includes AZ, CA, CO, HI, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA</i>				<i>Includes IL, KS, LA, MN, MO, NE, OK, TN, TX, WI</i>				<i>Includes DC, FL, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, NC, NJ, NY, OH, PA, SC, VA</i>				<i>Includes Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Ottawa, Peel Regional, Toronto, Vancouver, York</i>		

KEY TRENDS

- **Rankings in 2020 were very consistent with 2019**, despite a drop in participation.¹ This suggests participating agencies have a relatively stable problem set, and an accurate understanding and assessment of the impacts of each issue, year-over-year. One-third of the issues did not change position. Half of the remaining issues moved only one position; it is unknown if this reflects a change in the volume of activity, or displacement by issues being up-ranked.
- **Violent Crime with Firearms remains the defining issue for MCCA agencies**, capturing the number one position nationally for the third year in a row. The Eastern and Central regions have consistently ranked this issue number one in all three years; the Western region up-ranked the issue into the number one position in 2020, displacing Drug User Derivative Crime.
- **Domestic Terrorism saw the largest rank rise, likely capturing concerns related to the exploitation of civil unrest by violent actors espousing a variety of extremist ideologies.** Homegrown Violent Extremism and Foreign Terrorist Organizations remained in the bottom four ranks, a realistic acknowledgement of the low-frequency nature of foreign-led or inspired terrorist activity compared to the day-to-day impact of common criminal activity.
- **Homicides saw the second-largest rank rise** (from six to three), **but regional shifts were smaller.** Homicides rose in place in both the Eastern and Central regions but remained unchanged in the West.
- **Gang, drug, and addiction-related issues stabilized**, suggesting a positive impact from mitigation and intervention strategies implemented since 2018. The Opioid Epidemic fell one position (to #6) while the ranks for Criminal Gangs and Crews, Drug Trafficking, and Violent Crime Without Firearms did not change in 2020.

¹ Reduced participation in 2020 is likely due to resource demands and constraints imposed by the confluence of COVID-19-related staffing/operational changes, ongoing civil unrest, and response to public calls for mission/funding recalibration
2020 MCCA Threat Picture

2020 MCSA THREAT PICTURE

Top Threat Issues of Major County Sheriff Agencies






Twenty-eight MCSA member agencies participated in this process for the second year in a row. In 2018, five agencies who belong to both the MCSA and the MCCA contributed to the MCCA TRP; their scores are recorded below, though MCSA data were not examined separately in that year.



2020 National Threat Picture: An Overview for MCSA

Core policing concerns continue to comprise the top issues for the second year in a row. The Opioid Epidemic and Violent Crime With Firearms tied for first place in 2020. The Opioid Epidemic is listed first due to its consistent prior first-place ranking. All 21 threat issues are important to MCSA member agencies, regardless of ranking. The national priority rankings may not be indicative of individual agency results.

TABLE IS UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

OPIOID EPIDEMIC	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 68% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns. 18% ranked this issue number one. Remained #1 in the Eastern region; fell three places (to #6) in the Western region, and one spot (to #2) in the Central region. <p><i>The Opioid Epidemic comprises heroin, synthetic Fentanyl, and prescription drugs. Includes but is not limited to opioid overdose deaths, distribution, criminal activity, production, etc.</i></p>
VIOLENT CRIME WITH FIREARMS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 57% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns. 21% ranked this issue number one. Rose four places (to #1) in the Central region; rose two spots (to #4) in the Western region; remained unchanged (at #5) in the Eastern region. <p><i>Defined as any violent crime, excluding homicides, that involves the use of a firearm, which may include but is not limited to car-jacking, home invasion, armed robbery, aggravated assault, etc.</i></p>
DRUG USER DERIVATIVE CRIME	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 61% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns. 21% ranked this issue number one. #1 in the Western and Eastern regions; fell seven places (to #9) in the Central region. <p><i>Defined as crimes committed by drug users to either support their habits or due to the influence of drugs. Includes but is not limited to robberies, break-ins, assaults, and impaired driving. These crimes are not for the furtherance of gang activity, but rather are directly related to supporting drug habits.</i></p>
DRUG TRAFFICKING AND PROLIFERATION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 61% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns. Fell seven positions (to #9) in the Central region; unchanged in both the Western (#1) and Eastern (#2) regions. <p><i>Defined as the trafficking and proliferation of drugs; may include large-scale sale, production, and/or distribution of illegal drugs. Individuals may be affiliated with an organized gang or operate independently.</i></p>
NON-VIOLENT CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 46% of agencies ranked this among their top five concerns. Fell four places (to #7) in the Central region; unchanged in both the Western (#2) and Eastern (#4) regions. <p><i>Defined as non-violent local criminal violations, violations of city ordinances, and property crime/theft. Includes vehicle break-ins, theft of property (from vehicles or homes), vandalism, vagrancy, etc., where the victim was not threatened and may or may not have been present during the crime.</i></p>

2020 US MCSA THREAT PICTURE 21 Priority Threat Issues

RANK			THREAT ISSUE
2018	2019	2020	
1	1	1	OPIOID EPIDEMIC
3	5	1	VIOLENT CRIME WITH FIREARMS
5	2	3	DRUG USER DERIVATIVE CRIME
2	3	4	DRUG TRAFFICKING AND PROLIFERATION
7	4	5	NON-VIOLENT CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS
4	6	6	CRIMINAL GANGS AND CREWS
8	7	7	VIOLENT CRIME WITHOUT FIREARMS
6	11	8	HOMICIDES
9	10	9	CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT
13	8	10	FINANCIAL CRIMES/FRAUD
10	12	11	SEX CRIMES
18	9	12	CYBER CRIMES
19	13	13	ORGANIZED THEFT
16	16	14	DOMESTIC TERRORISM
11	14	15	HUMAN TRAFFICKING
15	19	16	GUN TRAFFICKING AND PROLIFERATION
12	15	17	ORGANIZED CRIME GROUPS
14	18	18	HOMEOWNED VIOLENT EXTREMISM
20	17	19	PRISON/JAIL GANGS
17	21	20	FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS
21	20	21	HUMAN SMUGGLING



2020 MCSA THREAT PICTURE

18	19	20	WESTERN REGION	18	19	20	CENTRAL REGION	18	19	20	EASTERN REGION
7	1	1	Drug User Derivative Crime	-	5	1	Violent Crime With Firearms	1	1	1	Opioid Epidemic
10	2	2	Non-Violent Criminal Violations	-	1	2	Opioid Epidemic	2	2	2	Drug User Derivative Crime
2	4	3	Drug Trafficking and Proliferation	-	4	3	Drug Trafficking and Proliferation	4	3	3	Drug Trafficking and Proliferation
1	6	4	Violent Crime With Firearms	-	7	4	Criminal Gangs and Crews	6	4	4	Non-Violent Criminal Violations
3	5	5	Criminal Gangs and Crews	-	8	5	Criminal Acts Against Law Enforcement	5	5	5	Violent Crime With Firearms
5	3	6	Opioid Epidemic	-	13	6	Homicides	7	7	6	Financial Crimes/Fraud
4	12	7	Homicides	-	3	7	Non-Violent Criminal Violations	3	6	7	Criminal Gangs and Crews
6	7	8	Violent Crime Without Firearms	-	6	8	Violent Crime Without Firearms	11	8	8	Violent Crime Without Firearms
19	9	9	Financial Crimes/Fraud	-	2	9	Drug User Derivative Crime	18	11	9	Cyber Crimes
8	11	10	Criminal Acts Against Law Enforcement	-	11	10	Sex Crimes	13	9	10	Criminal Acts Against Law Enforcement

Includes AZ, CA, NV, OR

Includes IL, LA, NE, WI, TX

Includes GA, FL, MI, NY, SC, VA

KEY TRENDS

- **Rankings in 2020 were very consistent with 2019**, despite a drop in participation.² This suggests participating agencies have a relatively stable problem set, and an accurate understanding and assessment of the impacts of each issue, year-over-year. Half of the issues moved only one position in 2020; it is unknown if this reflects a change in the volume of activity, or displacement by issues being up-ranked.
- **Gun violence and related issues rose sharply in 2020**. Violent Crime With Firearms rose four positions to tie the Opioid Epidemic for first place. Homicides and Gun Trafficking and Proliferation also rose, though there were regional differences. Homicides rose steeply in the Central (up seven, to #6) and Western (up five, to #7) regions, but fell slightly (down two, to #12) in the Eastern region. Violent Crime With Firearms followed in tandem, with the largest rise (up four, to #1) recorded in the Central region, and smaller movement (up two, to #4) in the Western region, with no change (at #5) in the Eastern region.
- **The Opioid Epidemic remains a defining concern for the MCSA, particularly in the Eastern region, but gang, drug, and addiction-related issues have stabilized**, suggesting a positive impact from mitigation and intervention strategies implemented since 2018. Other top-five issues that likely correlate with the Opioid Epidemic fell (improved) slightly in 2020, including Drug User Derivative Crime, Drug Trafficking and Proliferation, and Non-Violent Criminal Violations. Criminal Gangs and Crews, in sixth position, did not change. As in 2019, the Opioid Epidemic remains a larger concern in the Eastern region, where it remained in first place; it fell slightly in the Central region, and more noticeably in the Western region.
- **Terrorism concerns rose slightly**, driven by the up-ranking of Domestic Terrorism (from 16 to 14). Homegrown Violent Extremism and Foreign Terrorist Organizations remained in the bottom four ranks, a realistic acknowledgement of the low-frequency nature of terrorist activity, compared to the day-to-day impact of common criminal activity.

² Reduced participation in 2020 is likely due to resource demands and constraints imposed by the confluence of COVID-19-related staffing/operational changes, ongoing civil unrest, and response to public calls for mission/funding recalibration