



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION RESOLUTIONS

R-784-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PURSUE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT FARMERS AFFECTED BY THE RECENT FRUIT FLY INFESTATION IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; FURTHER URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO DEVELOP A STATE PROGRAM TO ASSIST FARMERS IN OVERCOMING SIMILAR AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCIES

R-783-15: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MEDICAID EXPANSION IN FLORIDA PURSUANT TO THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION EXPANDING MEDICAID IN FLORIDA; PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ISSUE AS A CRITICAL COUNTY PRIORITY FOR THE 2016 SESSION

R-782-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO REPLACE THE FLORIDA ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM WITH A NEW FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR BUSINESSES TO LOCATE OR EXPAND IN AREAS IDENTIFIED AS ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED AND IN NEED OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION; PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ISSUE AS A CRITICAL COUNTY PRIORITY FOR THE 2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

R-777-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE \$35 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR THE STATE AID TO LIBRARIES PROGRAM

R-776-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO DESIGNATE THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR AS "SIR LANCELOT JONES DAY" IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA (SEE AGENDA ITEM NO. 11A3)

1. R-745-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO AMEND STATE LAW TO ALLOW TWO MEMBERS OF A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OR CITY COUNCIL HAVING MORE THAN SEVEN MEMBERS TO MEET AND DISCUSS LEGISLATIVE MATTERS WITHOUT TRIGGERING THE SUNSHINE LAW REQUIREMENTS, CONSISTENT WITH THE RULES THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE IMPOSES ON ITSELF.
2. R-744-15:RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE THE LUDLAM TRAIL IN THE FLORIDA SHARED-USE NONMOTORIZED TRAIL NETWORK PROGRAM, AS WELL AS FUNDING FOR THIS TRAIL IN THE 2016-2017 STATE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.
3. R-743-15 RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ATTRACT FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION PROJECTS TO THIS STATE, INCLUDING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ISSUE AS A CRITICAL COUNTY PRIORITY FOR THE 2016 SESSION; URGING THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES TO IDENTIFY THIS ISSUE AS ONE OF ITS PRIORITIES FOR THE 2016 SESSION.
4. R-742-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE FLORIDA BAN ON TEXTING WHILE DRIVING LAW TO MAKE TEXTING WHILE DRIVING A PRIMARY OFFENSE.
5. R-740-15:RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION THAT WOULD FUND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AGRIBUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
6. R-739-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT SB 120 OR HB 45, ENTITLED THE "FLORIDA COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE ACT," OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION IN FLORIDA ON THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION.
7. R-617-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE THE UNDERLINE, THE LUDLAM TRAIL, THE BISCAYNE-EVERGLADES GREENWAY AND BLACK CREEK TRAIL IN THE FLORIDA SHARED-USE NONMOTORIZED TRAIL NETWORK

PROGRAM, AS WELL AS FUNDING FOR THESE TRAILS IN THE 2015-16 STATE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.

- 8.** R-545-15: RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. R-488-14 TO REVISE THE COUNTY ROAD CODESIGNATION, AND URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO REVISE THE STATE ROAD CODESIGNATION, OF PORTIONS OF SW 152 STREET FROM BEING "LARCENIA BULLARD WAY" TO BEING "SENATOR LARCENIA J. BULLARD WAY"; AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. R-481-14 TO APPROVE STATE REVISION; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO INSTALL APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE ON TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAST ARMS AND STREET SIGNS PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NOS. R-825-07 AND R-159-07.
- 9.** R-522-15: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA'S EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION TO EXPAND DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS AND IMPLEMENT DEFERRED ACTION FOR PARENTS OF AMERICANS AND LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS; AND URGING FLORIDA ATTORNEY GENERAL PAM BONDI TO WITHDRAW THE STATE OF FLORIDA FROM TEXAS V. UNITED STATES.
- 10.** R-436-15: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE TOWN OF BAY HARBOR ISLANDS REGARDING THE RENAMING OF "BROAD CAUSEWAY" TO "SHEPARD BROAD CAUSEWAY"; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT SUCH RENAMING; APPROVING SUCH RENAMING.
- 11.** R-264-15: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO AMEND THE APPLICABLE RULES, TO EXEMPT FROM LICENSURE REQUIRED UNDER CHAPTER 402, FLORIDA STATUTES, NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS NOT IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING CHILD CARE BUT WHICH ADMINISTER AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS, AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY A LOCAL GOVERNMENT AT ITS PARKS, SERVING SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN BY PROVIDING ACTIVITIES FOCUSED ON FITNESS, NUTRITION AND WELLNESS, ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT, THE APPRECIATION FOR NATURE, SCIENCE OR THE CULTURAL ARTS, OR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD CHARACTER OR SPORTSMANSHIP.

- 12.R-262-15:** RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT ENABLES THE BOARD TO LEVY AN ADDITIONAL ONE PERCENT TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX AND CONVENTION DEVELOPMENT TAX TO FUND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE PLANNING, DESIGN, ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, EXTENSION, ENLARGEMENT, OR IMPROVEMENT, FOR MASS TRANSIT PROJECTS, UPON APPROVAL OF ELECTORS VOTING IN A REFERENDUM; WAIVING REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-764-13 LIMITING NUMBER OF STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. R-1143-14, AS AMENDED BY RESOLUTION NO. R-155-15, TO REVISE THE BOARD'S STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION TO INCLUDE THIS ISSUE AS A PRIORITY; PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ISSUE AS A CRITICAL COUNTY PRIORITY FOR THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.
- 13.R-67-15:** RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION RELATED TO VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD ("VAB") PROCEEDINGS TO: (1) ADDRESS INTEREST PAYMENTS FOLLOWING A VAB DETERMINATION; (2) IMPROVE THE TIMELINESS AND ACCURACY OF THE VAB PROCESS, AND EXPEDITE THE FINAL CERTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY TAX ROLL; SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL BOARD IN PURSUING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROVIDE A PROCESS BY WHICH SCHOOL DISTRICTS COULD IMMEDIATELY RECOVER ANY PRELIMINARY SHORTFALL IN THE REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT UNTIL THE FINAL TAX ROLL IS CERTIFIED AND A FINAL PRIOR PERIOD FUNDING ADJUSTMENT IS MADE.
- 14.R-53-15:** RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION REQUIRING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TO UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REGARDING PETITIONERS' RIGHT TO RESCHEDULE HEARINGS BEFORE THE VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD ("VAB"); FURTHER URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TO AMEND APPLICABLE RULES OF THE FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO LIMIT TO ONE THE NUMBER OF PETITIONER RESCHEDULES ALLOWED BEFORE THE VAB.



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Aviation

- **Funding of Capital Projects:** **SUPPORT** full funding of Aviation capital projects included in FDOT's FY 2016-2017 Work Program and **OPPOSE** any efforts that will result in a reduction of funding to the Work Program.
- **Sales Tax Exemptions:** **MONITOR** legislation that would repeal the sales tax exemptions on aircraft.
- **Pilot Programs:** **SUPPORT** funding for enhancement of security and safety, particularly through pilot programs.
- **Telecom Legislation:** **MONITOR** any telecommunications legislation or rules that would negatively impact the Aviation department.
- **Miami International Airport K-9 Facility:** Advocate for funding for a K-9 Police Housing Facility

Community Action & Human Services

- **Elderly High-Risk Nutritional Meals Program:** **SUPPORT** the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act FY 2015. Increase funding to provide supplemental nutritional meals to elderly residents who are 60 years of age or older.
- **Re-authorization and Funding of the Older Americans Act:** **SUPPORT** Re-authorization of the Older Americans Act and additional funding to provide In-home support services to an excess of 125 new frail seniors in lieu of nursing home placement. In-home support services to be provided include personal care, homemaking, chore and respite services.
- **Community Care for Disabled Adults Waiting List Reduction Program:** **SUPPORT** funding to ensure help for disabled individuals who are on the waiting list for in-home support.
- **Community Economic Opportunity Act of 2015:** **SUPPORT** legislation amending the CSBG Act to adopt performance requirements and performance benchmarks to be included as part of the performance measurement system under this Act.

Corrections

- **Lewd And Lascivious Behavior:** *SUPPORT* legislation creating a new third degree felony offense for lewd and lascivious exhibition by an inmate in the presence of a correctional employee in a county detention facility of jail.
- **Cell Phones as Contraband:** *SUPPORT* a change in legislation to include cellular telephones as contraband.
- **Limited Arrest Authority:** *SUPPORT* a change in statute that would provide correctional officers with limited arrest authority within the jurisdiction of the county (jails) detention facilities by an elected sheriff.
- **Department of Corrections Certification:** *SUPPORT* legislation that would prohibit county detention facilities from receiving periodic state certification from the Department of Corrections (DOC).
- **Eliminate Detention of Juveniles in Adult Detention Facility or Jail:** *SUPPORT* legislation that will eliminate the detention of juveniles in an adult detention facility or jail.
- **Transportation Order to Transport Prisoner to Court:** *SUPPORT* legislation or administrative action to change F.S. 944.17 to include “Commitments and classification; transfers which would require judges consider other means of communication prior to issuing a transportation order to the local jurisdiction to transport a prisoner to court.”

Cultural Affairs

- **Cultural Affairs Grants:** *SUPPORT* restoration of statewide budget appropriations for all four arts and culture competitive grants' categories through the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs.

Elections

- **Replace Term “Absentee Ballot” with “Vote by Mail”:** *SUPPORT* legislation to discontinue the term “Absentee Ballot” and replacing it with “Vote by Mail”.

Finance

- **Delinquent Tax Collections Fees:** *SUPPORT* a legislative change to allow the Tax Collector to charge an additional fee for the collection of delinquent Tangible Personal Property (TPP) taxes to offset the Tax Collector’s delinquent TPP collection cost (Statute 197.332).

- **Direct Deposit of Employee Funds:** *SUPPORT* a legislative change that would allow the County to require direct deposit of payroll and other employee reimbursements.

Fire Rescue

- **Public Records Exemption for Retired Firefighters and their Families:** *SUPPORT* amending state law to include retired firefighters and their families in the group of employees whose information is protected from public records laws.

Homeless Trust

- **Challenge Grant Program:** *SUPPORT* legislation for funding to be reinstated for the previously authorized Challenge Grant Program (Section 420.644(4), Florida Statutes).
- **Local Homeless Coalitions:** *SUPPORT* legislation for funding the state's 28 local homeless coalitions.
- **Crisis Outplacement Beds:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$544,434 to continue the Crisis Outplacement Bed Program.
- **Gap Funding Project:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$250,000 is required to continue the Gap Funding Project to assist homeless individuals served by the 11th Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Project's Jail Diversion Program.
- **Affordable Housing Trust Fund:** *SUPPORT* Use all Affordable Housing Trust Fund dollars for affordable housing creating more state administered affordable and supportive housing for extremely low-income households without special needs.

Library

- **State Aid to Public Libraries:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$35 million for the State Aid to Libraries Program.

Office of Management and Budget

- **Adjust Non-Ad Valorem Public Hearing Date:** *SUPPORT* a legislative change to allow the special taxing district and other non-ad valorem rate setting public hearing to correspond with the budget approval process followed by the taxing jurisdictions.

- **Beach Maintenance and Re-nourishment Funding:** *SUPPORT* the creation of a new bed tax and expand the total allowed to include a specific tax to support the costs of beach maintenance and re-nourishment.

Office of Management and Budget

- **Value Adjustment Board (VAB):** *SUPPORT* legislation that would improve upon the efficiency of the Value Adjustment Board process.
- **Department of Revenue Oversight:** *SUPPORT* legislation that authorizes the Department of Revenue to directly oversee and audit the procedures and decisions of the Value Adjustment Board to ensure the Board's actions comply with section 193.011, Fla. Stat., and other professionally accepted appraisal practices.

Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces

- **Funding for Miami-Dade County Trails:** *SUPPORT* funding from the Florida Shared Use Non-Motorized Trail ("SUNTRAIL") network or other eligible funding source for the Miami-Dade County Trails System.
- **Matching funds FIND Grant Application for Waterfront Access Study:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$300,000 for the Miami-Dade County Waterfront Recreation Access Plan (WRAP). The purpose of WRAP is to identify opportunities for additional publicly accessible shorelines, connectivity of private shorelines, publicly accessible boat ramps and ramp parking, public mooring and docking facilities, environmental restoration areas, eco-tourism and waterfront destinations.
- **Zoo Miami Florida Panther Rehabilitation Facility:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$250,000 for the Florida Panther (critically endangered) Exhibit at Zoo Miami.
- **West Kendall District Sports Complex:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$5 million for the infrastructure of a comprehensive international youth sports complex.
- **Camp Matecumbe General Plan Improvements:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$1 million for improvements to Camp Matecumbe, which will serve the needs of the rapidly growing West Kendal Community, as well as preserving a local historic site.
- **Wetland Discovery & Interpretive Center Facility and Phase II Archeology Survey of the Deering Estate -** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$1,850,000. Deering Estate has the potential to provide an important infrastructure enhancement to its existing Cultural and Ecological Field Station, ensure better habitat resource conservation, protect cultural resources from sea level rise, and enhance wetland and coastal research communication across the state/nation.

- **Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP):** *SUPPORT* full funding of the existing Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP).

Police

- **Use of Body Cameras in Non-Criminal Encounters with Law Enforcement Officer/Two Party Consent:** *SUPPORT* legislation that clarifies Florida Law authorizing police officers equipped with body-worn cameras to record a conversation at the scene of a non-criminal traffic stop or other non-criminal encounters.

PortMiami

- **Funding for Super Post Panamax Cranes:** *SUPPORT* a change to the grant match programmed for FY 2017 and FY2018 be moved up to FY2016 and FY2017, with an additional allocation of \$4M in FY2016, for a total of \$20M. This will allow the Port to meet increased cargo needs due to an increase of Super Post-Panamax ships, which require matching cranes by 2016.
- **Perishables Protocol:** *SUPPORT* efforts to increase perishable shipments to the PortMiami.
- **Florida Port Council's Legislative Agenda:** *SUPPORT* the Florida Port Council's efforts in securing dedicated state and federal funding sources for Florida seaports.
- **Intermodal Transportation Issues:** *MONITOR* legislation and statewide policies involving transportation intermodal issues including but not limited to major transportation improvement projects as defined in the State Strategic Intermodal System as they relate to access to and from the Ports. *SUPPORT* the development of intermodal facilities, logistic centers and distribution centers to help accommodate the expected growth in cargo associated with the 2016 completion of the expanded Panama Canal.

Public Works and Waste Management

- **Net Metering:** *SUPPORT* legislation that would allow local governments that own waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities to use the power produced to offset the electricity they purchase from the local electrical utility via net metering.
- **Stormwater Utility Charges /Fees:** *SUPPORT* a modification to Florida Statutes to waive the State's sovereign immunity specifically for stormwater utility charges or fees.

- **Adjust Non-Ad Valorem Hearing Date:** **SUPPORT** an adjustment of the non-ad valorem hearing date referenced in Section 197.3632 (4)(a), Florida Statutes and submission of the non-ad valorem assessment roll in Section 197.3632 (5)(a).
- **Renewable Energy:** **SUPPORT** the department's efforts to preserve waste-to-energy's inclusion in applicable definitions of "renewable energy" and "green energy" and to provide incentives and other support for the production of such renewable energy.
- **Environmental Control:** **MONITOR** activity on legislation that would make changes to previously established legislation providing incremental recycling goals for counties.
- **Solid Waste Grant Program:** **SUPPORT** legislation which would provide for equitable treatment of counties for funding of state solid waste grant programs in counties of over 100,000 residents.
- **Advance Traffic Management Systems:** **SUPPORT** funding to complete implementation and system enhancements to the advanced traffic management systems.
- **Rickenbacker Causeway Planning Development and Environment Study (PD&E):** **SUPPORT** funding in the amount of \$4 million to perform a PD&E study of the bridges of the Rickenbacker Causeway. The total cost of the project is \$5 million.

Regulatory and Economic Resources

Agriculture

- **Laurel Wilt Disease Mitigation:** **SUPPORT** funding in the amount \$500,000.00 to mitigate the damage and spread of Laurel Wilt disease to Miami-Dade County's avocado industry, which has killed more than 10,000 trees to date (*up from 4,000 last year*).
- **Increase Viability of our Local Agricultural Industry:** **SUPPORT** 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.
- **Agritourism Signage Program:** **SUPPORT** the creation of a statewide signage program for agritourism entities in order to increase viability for farmers.

Business Affairs

- **Film, Television and Entertainments:** **SUPPORT** the creation of an entertainment production economic development and job creation program.
- **For-Hire Transportation and Ambulance Regulation:** **OPPOSE** legislation that preempts the County's ability to regulate for-hire transportation and ambulance companies.

Environmental Protection

- **Beach Erosion Control:** **SUPPORT** consistent and dedicated annual funding for statewide beach control. **OPPOSE** potential efforts to repeal existing dedicated funding source for beach erosion control.
- **Biscayne Bay Surface Water Quality and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Assessment:** **SUPPORT** funding for Biscayne Bay Surface Water Quality and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Assessment in the amount of \$150,000. *The total cost of this project is \$230,000.*
- **Amendment 1 Funding for Local Government Land Conservation Programs:** **SUPPORT** funding local government land conservation programs from a portion of the proceeds from revenue collected as a result of the passage of Amendment 1 (The Florida Water and Land Conservation Amendment).
- **Inland Protection Trust Fund:** **SUPPORT** maintaining full funding from the Inland Protection Trust Fund (IPTF) for the Florida Petroleum Cleanup Program to remediate contaminated sites.
- **16 County Ecosystem Summit Legislative Priorities:** **SUPPORT** and **ADVOCATE** for the 16 County Ecosystem Summit Legislative Priorities.

Planning

- **Preemption of Planning Objectives:** **OPPOSE** legislation that would preempt or prevent local governments from accomplishing planning objectives protected under local home rule authority.
- **Preemption of Comprehensive Plan Amendments:** **OPPOSE** legislation that would preempt or prevent local governments from requiring a supermajority vote for comprehensive plan amendments.
- **Preemption of Local Impact Fee Regulation:** **OPPOSE** legislation that would have the effect of repealing or preempting local impact fee regulations.
- **Preemption of Local Authority Over Agricultural Land Conversions:** **OPPOSE** legislation that would promote the conversion of viable agricultural land for urban uses and/or restrict local government review of such application.

- **Reinstate Development of Regional Impact Review for Everglades Protection Area: *SUPPORT*** legislation that would reinstate DRI review for applications located within two miles of the boundaries of the Everglades Protection Area and allow an applicant to voluntarily submit to DRI review.

Sustainability

ADVOCATE for the preservation and enforcement of the Florida Energy Code. Increase compliance by assigning responsible parties to enforce each element of the code. Advocate for the Florida Building Commission, the Energy Technical Advisory Committee, and Energy Code Work Groups to ensure that new construction, major renovation and retrofitting, and replacement of equipment increase energy efficiency and promote the use of renewable energy

ADVOCATE the adoption of the International Green Construction Code (IGCC) as the standard, state-wide. Until this becomes possible, pursue both of the following pathways, the successful adoption of either being acceptable:

- 1) **SUPPORT** a change in state law that prevents local jurisdictions from enacting more stringent energy performance standards that would better meet local community needs and goals.
- 2) **SUPPORT** use of the IGCC as a statewide alternate compliance code on a strictly voluntary basis for those individuals or projects that wish to surpass current state energy code minimums, and offer incentives for such voluntary compliance.

ADVOCATE for the use of green building rating systems for new construction and existing buildings as one of several model options for achieving verifiable greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions reductions and improving energy efficiency including but not limited to the National Association of Homebuilders' (NAHB) Green Building Standards, the Florida Green Building Coalition's Green Building Standards, Green Globes' Standards and the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating systems.

ADVOCATE for revenue decoupling in the energy markets. Under such a compensation scheme, revenues are "decoupled" from sales and are instead allowed to adjust so that utilities receive fair compensation regardless of fluctuation in sales.

ADVOCATE that Florida pass an energy efficiency resource standard (EERS), a target that will help utility companies reduce electricity usage by 15%.

ADVOCATE that the Florida Energy Code adopt the national Home Energy Rating System (HERS) and require a HERS Index less than 88 for Florida Energy Code compliance.

ADVOCATE for a State Renewable Portfolio Standard of at least 20% by 2020 to include a provision with solar energy.

ADVOCATE with the Florida Building Code Commission to ensure that new construction and major renovations include smart meters, pre-wiring of buildings to accommodate future GHG-reducing retrofits such as solar hot water heaters, photovoltaic (PV) panels, or other distributed renewable power sources on rooftops and metered charging outlets in parking garages for electric vehicles.

ADVOCATE that Florida increase the net metering system capacity limit over current 2MW limit and a better rate for renewable energy excess exported back to the grid.

ADVOCATE for the expansion of existing net metering policies to allow for off-site or “virtual” net metering.

SUPPORT existing statutory authority for the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC).

ADVOCATE legislative changes that would facilitate renewable Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) through third party electricity generators.

ADVOCATE minimum statewide solar and wind access laws/guidelines but allow local governments to develop more stringent standards.

ADVOCATE for the adoption of policy changes that make it mandatory that the construction plans and specifications required to be on site during inspections include the full details on which the energy modeling for the project was based.

SUPPORT policies to encourage the widespread use of electric vehicles, including incentives for the purchase of vehicles; building code provisions to streamline siting and permitting of charging infrastructure; provision of strategically placed charging infrastructure on state facilities; inclusion of electric vehicle models and specifications in the state contract system; propose by a given date local governments adopt policies and zoning actions to establish charging infrastructure as allowable uses and review permitting process for streamlining as needed; the Florida Building Commission seek determinations from relevant federal oversight agencies on Americans with Disabilities Act on issues as they relate to charging infrastructure; and funding for demonstration projects to catalyze and support community demand for electric vehicles.

SUPPORT funding to provide incentives and rebates for the purchase of electric vehicles, funding for strategically placed charging infrastructure on federal and state facilities; and continued funding through the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Clean Cities Programs to implement Electric Vehicle Community Readiness plans and demonstration projects.

SUPPORT the allocation of funding to implement the US-1 Clean Transportation Corridor Demonstration Project, developed through a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Clean Cities Community Readiness and Planning for Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure Grant (DE-EE0005561). Funding is needed to establish the charging infrastructure detailed in the demonstration project, to support establishment of a car-sharing program along the US-1 mass transit corridor, providing low-cost commuter access to electric vehicles and charging infrastructure.

ADVOCATE legislation that furthers local Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) efficiency and renewable energy improvements, for example **ADVOCATE** for legislation that guarantees local government the right to establish clean energy programs. To ensure the strongest foundation on which to succeed in Florida and around the nation, it is imperative to urge the Department of Energy and Housing Finance Authority to agree to program elements that removes barriers to PACE and PACE-like programs to ensure broad applicability and access for residential and commercial interests and provides sufficient Congressional guidance for the protection of property owners, lenders and investors. .

SUPPORT green job creation legislation that promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy, green infrastructure and environmental protection. Investing in renewable energy and the greening of existing industries will help put our economy on a stable, long-term path to sustainable growth and job creation.

ADVOCATE Legislation and/or constitutional amendments aiming to exempt solar photovoltaic systems from commercial property assessments and the tangible personal property tax.

SUPPORT the Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact's legislative program as it relates to issues concerning infrastructure investments, coordination on adaptation and resilience, adaptation action areas, program funding and implementation restrictions, climate science, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE), oil exploration and drilling, Everglades restoration as well as **SUPPORTING** standing positions on federal policy and appropriations funding issues.

Transit

- **State Transportation Trust Fund:** **SUPPORT** legislation that increases funds deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF), and **OPPOSE** any future measures that divert funding from STTF for non-transportation purposes.

Water and Sewer

- **Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Area Mining fee for upgrade of water supply treatment processes:** **SUPPORT** legislation that would delete language inserted by

HB 359 (2015) Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Area that substantially reduces the amount of funding collected through the limestone mining fee to support the cost of water supply treatment upgrades to mitigate the risk of pathogen contamination from the creation of lakes near the County's largest water supply well-field.

- **Rock Miners and State Lease Agreement:** *Monitor/Oppose* legislation directing the Governor and Cabinet to extend the rock mining lease (due to revert to the county upon expiration), particularly in the absence of provisions favorable to the County.
- **Reclaimed Water and Excess Surface Water:** *Monitor* legislation related to the expansion of the use of reclaimed water, stormwater, and excess surface water in the State and, specifically, the report requested in SB536 (2014) for any recommendations related to the wastewater reuse provisions of the Ocean Outfall Legislation and any resulting impact on the Department.
- **Centrate Disposal Well:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$5 million in order to help comply with the state mandated alternative methods for the disposal and reuse of treated effluent, while reducing nutrient discharges. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$20 million.
- **Government Cut Force Main Replacement:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$5 million for the final phase of the replacement project from Fisher Island to the Central District Wastewater Plant on Virginia Key by 2015. The total cost of the third and final phase is estimated at \$117 million.
- **West District Wastewater Treatment Plant:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$10 million for land acquisition for the construction of a new waste water treatment plant. The project is necessary to meet the state- mandated Ocean Outfalls requirements. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$2 billion.
- **72-Inch Force Main Rehabilitation Project:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$5 million to renew the remaining portion of the North District Wastewater Treatment Plant sewage pipeline, which is at high risk of failure. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$23 million.
- **South Miami Heights Water Treatment Plant:** *SUPPORT* funding in amount of \$3 million for the construction of the South Miami Heights Water Treatment Plant. This project is necessary to meet water supply needs of the service area. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$222 million.

