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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 6, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution approving 2024 state
legislative guiding principles,
resolutions urging the Florida
Legislature adopted by the
Board, departmental legislative
requests and priorities of the
Property Appraiser

Resolution No. R-790-23

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 6, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____ to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)
9-6-23

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-790-23

RESOLUTION APPROVING 2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE
GUIDING PRINCIPLES, RESOLUTIONS URGING THE
FLORIDA LEGISLATURE ADOPTED BY THE BOARD,
DEPARTMENTAL LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS AND
PRIORITIES OF THE PROPERTY APPRAISER

WHEREAS, the 2024 session of the Florida Legislature is scheduled to begin on January 9, 2024; and

WHEREAS, seven weeks of committee meetings leading up to the 2024 session begin the week of September 18, 2023; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2012, this Board approved Resolution No. R-59-12, which directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, when it presents the proposed federal or state legislative agendas, respectively, to the Board, to include all “urging” resolutions and other resolutions related to federal or state legislation passed by the Board of County Commissioners to date for the current Congress or session; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2013, this Board approved Resolution No. R-764-13, which directs that the federal and state legislative packages each be presented to the Board in two separate companion items, one consisting of no more than ten priorities for distribution to the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation and the other to include guiding principles, Board “urging” resolutions enacted to date and departmental legislative requests for approval by the Board; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-764-13 also provides that, upon the priorities being approved and effective, and after incorporating any amendments made by the Board, the Chair of the Board, or a County Commissioner designated by the Chair, shall transmit the priorities to the respective federal or state legislative delegation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 state legislative guiding principles, Board “urging” resolutions enacted through and including the July 18, 2023 Board meeting, departmental legislative requests and priorities of the Property Appraiser are attached to this resolution and incorporated by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

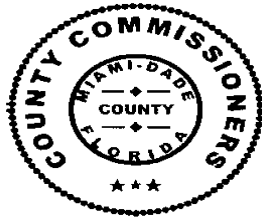
Section 1. Approves for the 2024 session the state legislative guiding principles, resolutions urging the Florida Legislature adopted by the Board through and including the July 18, 2023 Board meeting, departmental legislative requests and priorities of the Property Appraiser, as set forth in the attached.

Section 2. Directs the County’s state lobbyists to advocate for the issues set forth in section 1 above for the 2024 session.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III. It was offered by Commissioner **Anthony Rodriguez** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Kionne L. McGhee** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye	
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye	
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Eileen Higgins aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado aye
Micky Steinberg	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of September, 2023. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters "JMM" in a stylized, cursive font.

Jess M. McCarty
Michael J. Mastrucci
Javier Zapata



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

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. **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 the previous year.
- **Promote Partnerships:** **SUPPORT** partnerships with the state, other counties, municipalities, statewide associations, and any other entity that would help create favorable outcomes for the County.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions adopted through the July 18 Board meeting

R-1174-22: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT (1) AMENDS THE DEFINITION OF “WORKFORCE HOUSING” SET FORTH IN SECTION 420.5095, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO ALLOW HOUSING PROJECTS LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF FLORIDA THAT TARGET HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOMES UP TO 120 PERCENT OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME (“AMI”) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMUNITY WORKFORCE HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM OR, ALTERNATIVELY, (2) AMENDS SUCH DEFINITION TO ALLOW HOUSING PROJECTS THAT TARGET HOUSEHOLDS WHOSE INCOMES DO NOT EXCEED 120 PERCENT OF AMI AND THAT ARE LOCATED IN COUNTIES WITH LARGE PROPORTIONS OF THEIR POPULATION COST-BURDENED, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF SUCH COUNTIES’ GOVERNING BODIES IN THEIR SOLE DISCRETION; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-764-13, AS NECESSARY, LIMITING THE NUMBER OF STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; INCLUDING THIS ITEM AS A PRIORITY IN THE 2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE; AND PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ITEM AS A PRIORITY FOR THE 2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION (Garcia)

R-857-22: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION EXPANDING THE LIST OF PARTIES ENTITLED TO NOTICE OF A TAX DEED SALE TO INCLUDE PARTIES WITH A REVERSIONARY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY (Garcia)

R-107-23: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION ENSURING THAT THE NOTARY PROCESS HAS SUFFICIENT PROCEDURES AND SAFEGUARDS IN PLACE TO PROTECT THE ELDERLY AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AGAINST THE FRAUDULENT TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY AND OTHER FINANCIAL ABUSE, AND TO INCREASE PENALTIES FOR THE ABUSE OF NOTARY POWERS (Garcia)

R-227-23: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CURRENT PREEMPTION UNDER STATE LAW AND ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO REQUIRE RESTAURANTS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION TO HAVE PAPER MENUS AVAILABLE FOR GUESTS; URGING

RESTAURANT OWNERS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO HAVE PAPER MENUS AVAILABLE FOR GUESTS (Higgins)

R-545-23: RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CURRENT PREEMPTION UNDER STATE LAW AND ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO REGULATE RESTAURANT PAYMENT POLICIES AND REQUIRE RESTAURANTS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION TO ACCEPT CASH AS A FORM OF PAYMENT FROM GUESTS (Garcia)

DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS BY POLICY AREA

Policy Area: Transportation and Ports

Miami-Dade Aviation Department

- **Funding of Capital Projects:** ***SUPPORT*** full funding of Aviation capital projects included in the Florida Department of Transportation's Five Year Work Program. ***OPPOSE*** any efforts to reduce or redirect funds in the Work Program or Aviation Grants Program.
- **Reduction or Suspension of Existing Aviation Fuel Taxes:** ***OPPOSE*** efforts to waive, reduce or suspend existing aviation fuel taxes on a local or statewide basis.
- **Protect public-use airports regulatory authority over vehicles for hire:** ***OPPOSE*** efforts to remove public-use airports authority to regulate, license, and levy fees for vehicle for hire.
- **Reduction or Elimination of Tax on Aircraft Sales and Leases:** ***SUPPORT*** efforts to reduce or eliminate state's sales tax on the sale or lease of all aircrafts in Florida.

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. Additionally, ensure that PortMiami infrastructure projects are included in the Florida Department of Transportation's Five Year Work Program.
- **Development of off-dock intermodal logistics yard:** ***SUPPORT*** funding for development of an inland port / off-dock logistics yard to facilitate throughput and reduce congestion on PortMiami.
- **Workforce Needs Assessment for PortMiami and Industry:** ***SUPPORT*** funding of \$300,000 to keep the Port competitive and develop strategies for retraining and reskilling workforce.

Department of Transportation and Public Works

- **Transportation Infrastructure Project Funding:** *SUPPORT* legislation that provides opportunities for increased and alternative revenue sources for transportation infrastructure projects. DTPW wants to ensure that increased level of funding be allocated to public transportation projects.
- **Vision Zero safety improvements:** *SUPPORT* matching funding for safety projects designed to protect from injuries and fatalities at County identified high injury locations.
- **SMART Program:** *SUPPORT* advancement of funding for Miami-Dade's Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit Program of premium mass transit corridors (North, Northeast, Beach, and East-West) and ensure that legislation affecting formula funding and match programs favors mass transit solutions.
- **South Dade Trail:** *SUPPORT* \$1.133 million in additional funding to plan, design and create improvements along the South Dade Trail's 20-mile multi-modal corridor providing non-motorized connections to multiple greenways and trails, running parallel to the South Dade Transitway Bus Rapid Transit.
- **Roadway Resurfacing and Complete Streets:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$620,000 for Roadway Resurfacing Project along SW 160 Street (Colonial Drive) from US-1 to SW 112 Avenue and \$750,000 for Roadway Resurfacing Project along SW 328 Street from Homestead Bayfront Park and Biscayne National Park to SW 117 Avenue

Policy Area: Environment and Resilience

Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces

- **Zoo Miami:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$750,000 towards the expansion of the sea turtle hospital and rehabilitation facilities to provide treatment and rehabilitation to sea turtles that are found with injuries, illnesses, or in need of supportive care throughout Miami-Dade County and the surrounding regions.

- **Biscayne-Everglades Greenway:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$2.5 million to secure matching funds for Biscayne Trail Segment D between SW 328 St. and SW 137 Ave. in support of the first non-motorized trail in the nation to connect two National Parks.

Regulatory and Economic Resources

- **Beach Erosion Control:** *SUPPORT* consistent and dedicated annual funding for statewide beach erosion control.
- **Biscayne Bay Water Quality Grant Program:** *SUPPORT* sustained funds in the grant program to address water quality challenges. Projects may include stormwater management, wastewater, and other projects.
- **Biscayne Bay Restoration Support for Data Analytics and Visualization:** *SUPPORT* funding to analyze water quality pollution patterns and trends from publicly available datasets to inform the County's reasonable assurance plan (RAP).
- **Midway Pump Station Improvement Project:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$1.052 million for the construction of a high priority stormwater quality improvement project based on the County's Flood Problem Severity Score.
- **Stormwater Local Drainage Improvement #1:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$770,000 for flood prevention and water quality enhancements on NE 185th Street from NE 2nd Court to Primary Canal C-9.
- **Stormwater Local Drainage Improvement #2:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$715,000 for flood prevention and water quality enhancements on NE 189 St, NE 4 CT to NE 6 Ave.
- **Stormwater Local Drainage Improvement #3:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$1,000,000 for flood prevention and water quality enhancements on NW 39 St from NW 29 Ave to NW 30 Ave.
- **Nutrient Pollution Prevention Project for Goulds Canal:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$371,000 for the initial component of a project designed to cut nutrient pollution affecting Biscayne National Park
- **Tree enhancement matching fund program:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$3,200,000 to match a one-time disbursement of local funds for tree/understory planting to enhance public land in Miami-Dade County for beautification, urban

cooling and water management. Specifically planting funds will be targeted in areas that enhance flood absorption areas, wellfields, dry ponds, and stormwater storage areas which can significantly alleviate storm water storage needs during storm events.

- **Avocado industry help with Laurel Wilt:** *SUPPORT* matching funding in the amount \$150,000 for the mitigation and eradication, prevention, and treatment of Avocado Laurel Wilt Disease.
- **Agricultural Resilience Programs:** *SUPPORT* funding, programs, legislation and assistance to increase the viability of our local agricultural industry and mitigate any effects of invasive pests, disease, freezes, flooding, windstorm and other potential damages to the agricultural industry should the need arise.
- **Building Inspections and Product Approval:** *MONITOR* any amendments to the requirements for building inspections and product approval in F.S. 455 and F.S. 553.
- **Digital Submittals and E-Signatures:** *SUPPORT* language that allows for digital final plats and e-signature on final plats.
- **Septic Systems:** *SUPPORT* sustained funding to address failing septic systems and convert compromised septic systems to centralized sewer infrastructure in order to protect public health and water quality.
- **Structural Elevations:** *SUPPORT* funding to assist property owners with structural elevations in areas vulnerable to chronic flooding in order to reduce safety and health risks from flood events and reduce property damage.
- **Aggregated Whole-Building Data:** *SUPPORT* the Public Service Commission requiring all utilities to collect aggregated whole-building data local governments' largest buildings (20,000 square feet and above for government-owned buildings and 50,000 square feet and above for private sector buildings) and provide this data to building owners or managers and local government representatives.
- **Net Metering:** *SUPPORT* existing Net Metering policies, and expansion of such policies to include off-site or "virtual" net metering or other enhancements that would benefit homeowners, businesses, and local governments. *OPPOSE* any actions policies weakening existing policies or practices.
- **Commercial Buildings Energy Tax Deduction:** *SUPPORT* the restoration of the benefit-sharing provisions under the Commercial Building Energy Tax Deduction 179d.

- **Energy Efficiency:** ***SUPPORT*** policies, regulations and funding that advance energy efficiency; renewable energy certificates; renewable energy transition; utility storm protection planning; financing incentives for renewable energy, and fair pricing for Miami-Dade County in connection with tariffs and standard offer contracts.
- **Outdoor Worker Heat Protection Standards:** ***SUPPORT*** the provision of state standards or guidelines for heat stress prevention in the workplace and ***OPPOSE*** preemption of local heat protection guidelines and codes.
- **Nature Based Solutions in Capital Projects:** ***SUPPORT*** the White House Road Map for including Nature Based Solutions and other efforts to ensure that Nature Based Solutions be a part of the evaluation criteria for prioritizing capital projects.
- **Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact:** ***SUPPORT*** the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact's 2023 state climate, energy and resilience legislative priorities and principles, as approved by the Compact Leadership Committee (attached).
- **Amend Live Local Act:** ***SUPPORT*** revisions to the 2023 SB102 Live Local Act to provide for greater local control of zoning to ensure community input, provide for effective enforcement of affordability requirements, and ensure incentives maximize livability and incentivize affordable housing closest to transit and job centers.
- **Planning Objectives:** ***OPPOSE*** any bill filed that would preempt or prevent local governments from accomplishing planning objectives protected under local home rule authority.
- **Pre-existing Zoning Approvals:** ***OPPOSE*** language that would require Miami-Dade County or municipalities within to recognize pre-existing zoning approvals in the local government's comprehensive plan.
- **Comprehensive Plan Amendments:** ***OPPOSE*** any language that would preempt local governments from requiring a supermajority vote to amend comprehensive plans.
- **Impact Fees:** ***OPPOSE*** language that would repeal or preempt local impact fee regulations.
- **Agricultural Land Uses:** ***OPPOSE*** language promoting the conversion of agricultural land for urban uses or restricting local government review of such applications.

- **State Contractors: *MONITOR*** any legislative changes that may affect how Board of Rules and Appeals (BORA) can regulate State Contractors with respect to willful violations of the code, i.e., failure to get mandatory inspection – expired permits.
- **Local Licensing: *SUPPORT*** lifting the preemption of local licensing in F.S. 489.117
- **Local Licensing of Locksmiths: *SUPPORT*** lifting the local licensing preemption in Section 163.211 as it relates to locksmiths.
- **Local issuance of specialty licenses: *SUPPORT*** allowing local jurisdictions to continue issuing local specialty licenses in categories of work requiring a permit in Florida.
- **Elimination of Personal Appearance Requirement: *SUPPORT*** removal of the owner's personal appearance requirement for owner/builder disclosure statements.
- **Clarify private provider statute to ensure adequate oversight and public protections: *SUPPORT*** amendments to the Private Provider statute 553.791 to ensure that private providers do not assume the role of local building official, that inspection services do not commence before building permits are issued, that private providers in Miami-Dade meet the High Velocity Hurricane Zone qualifications, and that local building officials can suspend private providers for up to 12 months along with the referral to State licensing board, and other adjustments to the statute to ensure private providers are meeting the same standards as the local building official.
- **Add Voluntary License Categories on the Application for Provisional Certification: *SUPPORT*** changes to allow for a glitch in the voluntary license application process not being incorporated in the Application for Provisional Certification to be rectified and allow for the processing of provisional licenses.
- **Modernize Construction Lien Statutes: *SUPPORT*** changes to the construction lien law to provide for electronic filing and online posting of Notice of Commencement documents and amendments updating the direct contract price when a Notice of Commencement is required to be recorded.

Department of Solid Waste Management

- **Sustainability Campus: *SUPPORT*** funding for the siting, design, and construction of a new waste management “sustainability campus” to repurpose and recycle the majority of the more than five million tons of waste generated in Miami-Dade County and produce green energy that can be used to operate all co-located county facilities/programs and equipment with renewable, locally sourced energy, potentially saving money for our residents.
- **Waste-to-Energy: *SUPPORT*** language pertaining to renewable energy by expanding the definition of “customer-owned renewable generation” to allow government owned waste-to-energy facilities utilizing municipal solid waste as fuel to transmit the energy generated from the waste-to-energy facility to a site that is not adjacent to the facility
- **Contamination of Recyclable Material: *SUPPORT*** the repeal of HB 73 passed during the 2020 session requiring counties and municipalities to address the contamination of recyclable material in contracts for the collection, transportation, and processing of residential recyclable material.
- **Recycling Goal Credits: *MONITOR*** language relating to sections 403.7032 and 366.91, Florida Statutes, which pertain to municipal solid waste utilized for the production of renewable energy counting toward Florida’s long-term recycling goal.
- **Florida Litter Law: *SUPPORT*** legislation that amends the Florida Litter law to allow the clerk of the courts to add the name of a violator for failure to pay civil penalties to the Tax Collector under section 320.03, Florida Statutes.
- **Shopping Cart Removal Fee: *SUPPORT*** language re-imposing an administrative fee to cover the cost of collection and storage of shopping carts removed from the public right-of-way.
- **Compensation of Private Waste Companies: *SUPPORT*** language that repeals the requirement of local governments to compensate private companies for displacement.
- **Volkswagen Grant Program: *SUPPORT*** language amending the Volkswagen grant program to include the purchase of public sector electric heavy equipment, such as waste collection and transfer vehicles, as eligible expenditures.
- **Equitable Allocation of Grants: *SUPPORT*** language that would require equitable allocation of solid waste grants, utilizing population-based methodology, for programs such as litter control and prevention and electronics recycling that are funded through the waste tire fee.

- **Mattress Recycling Program:** *SUPPORT* legislation to implement a statewide mandatory disposal fee to be charged at the time of mattress purchases to fund a mattress recycling program.
- **Heavy Fleet Purchase of a Fully Electric Automated Side Loading Garbage Truck and Charging Station:** *SUPPORT* funding for a fully electric garbage truck to test the capabilities of the technology which include zero emissions “energy-from-waste”, reduced equipment noise, and the elimination of fuel and engine oil leaks during transport.
- **Mosquito Control environmental best practices through larviciding:** *SUPPORT* funding for specialized truck-based equipment for broadcast spraying of environmentally safe anti-mosquito larvicides for control and prevention of mosquito-borne diseases.

Water and Sewer Department

- **Homeowner assistance to connect to sanitary sewers:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$10 million to help homeowners with the private property cost of constructing and connecting to sanitary sewer laterals. *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$750,000 to assist property owners of Belle Meade Island for private sewer lateral rehabilitation and repair.
- **Special Designation of Sewer Lines:** *SUPPORT* legislation that would provide additional protections for sewer lines similar to protections provided for petroleum and natural gas pipelines by adding procedures for excavation work done within 15 feet of Water and Sewer Utility owned and operated sewer lines.
- **Update Florida Retirement System (FRS) benefits for water and wastewater operators:** *SUPPORT* amending the FRS to provide additional benefits to water and wastewater operators to match those provided to other designated first responders based on recent legislation declaring Water and Wastewater Operators as first responders. Such a change would underscore the essential role water and wastewater utility personnel provide in protecting the health of Florida’s citizens and environment during disasters.

Policy Area: Community Services

Community Action and Human Services Department

- **Enhance Florida's commitment to Early Childhood Education: *SUPPORT*** expanded funding for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program sufficient to cover the cost of a full-day Pre-Kindergarten Program.
- **Young Adults with Disabilities: *SUPPORT*** funding to enhance community resources and postsecondary opportunities, such as community-based life skills and transitional programs, for young adults with disabilities, including those on the Autism spectrum, who are transitioning out of the K-12 environment.
- **Elder In-home Care Backlog: *SUPPORT*** funding to reduce the backlog of 5000 needy seniors seeking help remaining independent and healthy through home care.
- **Weatherization Assistance Program expansion: *SUPPORT*** matching funds in the amount of \$4 million for programs to improve the preservation of naturally occurring affordable housing through investments in energy efficiency improvements for lower income homeowners.
- **Senior Meals Program: *SUPPORT*** funding of \$2 million in matching funds to support senior meals for needy older residents.
- **Match Funding from the State of Florida for Head Start and Early Head Start Services: *SUPPORT*** legislation to match funding provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to Miami-Dade County, (\$3,300,000) to match the funding being provided by community stakeholders through the Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department.
- **Increase Access to Opioid Treatment: *SUPPORT*** funding in the amount of \$1.24 million to serve Opioid Disorder Use clients. This allocation will provide for 14 beds and expand outpatient treatment for Opioid Use Disorder clients, reducing waitlists and delayed entry into the Drug Court Diversion and Treatment Program; ***SUPPORT*** funding of \$737,500 to expand access to medication assisted treatment (MAT) for high-risk individuals with Opioid Use Disorders and linkages to appropriate care to prevent likelihood of fatal overdoses; ***SUPPORT*** funding of \$2,500,000 for access to Transitional Safe and Affordable Opioid Misuse Disorder Housing .

- **Community Services Block Grant Act: *SUPPORT*** legislation that will reauthorize and amend the CSBG Act to adopt performance requirements and performance benchmarks to be included as part of the performance measurement system under this Act.
- **Enhancing the Provision of Services to Veterans through City and County Veteran Service Officers: *SUPPORT*** amendments to Section 292.11(1) of the Florida Statutes to remove the requirement that county and city veteran service officers (VSO) must have served during a period of war as defined in Title 38 of the U.S.C.
- **Access to Transitional and Reentry Services and Assistance: *SUPPORT*** funding of \$1,000,000 for transitional and reentry services to justice-involved persons or persons in points of transition.
- **Violence Reduction: *SUPPORT*** funding of \$2,000,000 to develop and implement public health approach strategies to reduce community violence and trauma.
- **Expand Access to Financial Literacy and Wealth Generation Educational programs: *SUPPORT*** funding of \$500,000 for local county governments or other related entities or agencies to expand access to free financial literacy and wealth generation educational programs for the public.
- **Senior Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Program (SHARP): *SUPPORT*** expanding existing SHARP programs with funding of \$2,000,000 to restore low-income senior homeowners' homes so that they can continue to reside in safe, clean, and energy efficient housing.
- **Senior Housing Assistance Rehabilitation Program Plus Pilot initiative (SHARP+): *SUPPORT*** an expansion of SHARP to a pilot program with funding of \$2,150,000 to provide a deeper level of rehabilitation of senior homeowners' homes so that the homeowner can reside in safe, clean, and energy efficient home and prevent homelessness.

Cultural Affairs Department

- **Cultural Affairs Grants: *SUPPORT*** legislation that would increase funding for statewide cultural affairs program grants.

Homeless Trust

- **Housing First Mental Health Program:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$562,000. This provides Rapid Rehousing (RRH), a short- to medium-term rental assistance program which offers supportive services to permanently house severely mentally ill homeless persons with a history of arrest and frequent police interactions.
- **Challenge Grant:** *SUPPORT* maintaining Challenge Grant funding for continuum of care Statewide at \$15 million or better.
- **Homeless Housing Assistance Grants:** *SUPPORT* maintaining funding for the to provide Rapid Rehousing at \$1,834,665 statewide.
- **Continuum of Care Staffing Grants:** *SUPPORT* statewide funding in the amount of \$5.205 million in Continuum of Care Staffing Grants or better.
- **Revise the Florida Mental Health Act:** *SUPPORT* language that revises chapter 394, Florida Statutes, regarding Mental and Substance Abuse known as the Florida Mental Health Act.
- **Project Lazarus Specialized Outreach:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$175,000 to address the chronically homeless population.

Public Housing and Community Development

- **Protect Affordable Housing Funding from Sadowski Trust fund:** *OPPOSE* diversion of Affordable Housing Funding from the Sadowski Trust Fund for uses unrelated to the provision of affordable housing.
- **Amend Live Local Act to encourage mid-scale affordable housing:** *SUPPORT* modifying the Live Local Act (2023 SB 102) to drive creation and renovation of small and medium sized affordable housing less than 50 units, provide counties and municipalities greater flexibility with the unit thresholds for the property tax abatements, and incorporate additional incentives for smaller affordable housing developments.
- **Eviction Prevention:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$2,000,000 to continue programs for the prevention of evictions for renters at risk of displacement or homelessness.

Library Department

- **State Aid to Public Libraries:** *SUPPORT* increased funding for the State Aid to Libraries Program to an overall total of \$17.3 million.
- **Public Library Construction Grant Program:** *SUPPORT* full funding of all Miami-Dade projects eligible for the Public Library Construction Grant Program in the amount of \$3.5 million.

Policy Area: Public Safety

Miami-Dade Police Department

- **Anti-violence initiatives:** *SUPPORT* for matching funding for Miami-Dade Peace and Prosperity programs to reduce community violence and support communities suffering its disproportionate impacts.
- **Greater Penalties for “intersection takeovers,” Stunt Driving:** *SUPPORT* Increased Penalties for Violations of Florida Statutes Section (FSS) 316.191, Racing on highways, street takeovers, and stunt driving from a misdemeanor of the first-degree to a felony of the third-degree for certain individuals.
- **Enforcement of State litter laws:** *SUPPORT* providing law enforcement with greater latitude for misdemeanor violations of the State litter law to allow for officers to effect arrests for illegal dumping violations not directly witnessed by a law enforcement officer.
- **Police Crime Suppression Investments:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$1.4 million for needed upgrades to the police helicopter fleet, \$2.5 million to support the successful “Operation Community Shield” violence prevention program, \$500,000 for the Real-Time Crime Center technology upgrade, and \$2 million to support “Operation Safe Ride” to provide greater security on Miami-Dade’s mass transit system.

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department

- **Medicaid Supplemental Payments:** *SUPPORT* funding in the amount of \$180.5 million for the continuation of the supplemental payment program for Medicaid Public Emergency Medical Transportation (PEMT).

- **Fire Rescue Basic Life Support (BLS) Transport Units:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$300,000 for acquisition of four BLS transport vehicles to connect residents with necessary medical services. These vehicles will transport patients to clinics, hospitals, and other medical facilities for further treatment.
- **Electric Vehicle Fire Suppression Specialized Equipment:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$164,125 for electric vehicle plugs and fire suppression blankets used to more effectively respond to the unique conditions caused by chemical fires in modern electric vehicles.
- **Technical Rescue Bureau Telehandler Replacement:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$175,000 for replacement of aging equipment used to respond to rescues involving the need to remove heavy debris. The County's telehandler was critical in the response to the Surfside building collapse but is approaching 20 years old and in need of replacement.
- **Replacement of Technical Rescue Team (TRT) Collapse Truck:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$120,000 for the replacement of MDR's aging TRT Collapse Truck used to transport heavy-duty specialized equipment to support search and rescue operations, relocate debris from a structural collapse, and transport of breaching tools and extrication equipment during emergencies.
- **Urban Search and Rescue Structural Collapse Training Prop:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$842,000 for the addition of a structural collapse training prop to be used in the training of the Miami-Dade Urban Search and Rescue Team as well as SRTs throughout the State of Florida.
- **Wildland Personal Protective Equipment:** *SUPPORT* funding of \$990,000 for 1800 sets of personal protective equipment specifically designed for fighting and managing fires in a wilderness setting.

Corrections and Rehabilitation Department

- **Amend Florida Law to Allow for Alternative Communication:** *SUPPORT* changes to allow Courts to consider alternative communication with prisoners prior to transportation orders to reduce staffing costs for corrections and provide for greater efficiency.

Policy Area: Finance and Government Operations

Finance Department

- **Check fraud investigations, and the Bank of First Deposit (BFDO) response time to fraud investigation requests from the issuing bank:** **SUPPORT** legislation establishing a legal framework requiring BOFDs to respond to fraud investigation requests in a timely and responsible manner to allow for the County to obtain a resolution to these fraud cases and reissue payment to the citizens affected.

Human Resources Department

- **Direct Deposit for Employees:** **SUPPORT** legislation to allow the County to mandate direct deposit of payroll and other employee reimbursements via the Automated Clearing House (ACH).

Information Technology Department

- **Cybersecurity Workforce Development:** **SUPPORT** funding of \$600,000 to recruit cybersecurity and information technology talent from Florida Universities; provide \$489,000 to improve adherence to NIST 800-53 cybersecurity asset management; funding of \$74,000 to enhance cybersecurity automation.

Internal Services Department

- **Workers Compensation:** **SUPPORT** amendments to the 1996 Florida Uniform Permanent Impairment Rating Schedule as it relates to Florida Workers' Compensation Statute 440 and Section 112.18. to allow doctors the opportunity to take into consideration the new advancement in medical treatment when addressing the Permanent Impairment Rating; thus, providing a more accurate rating.

Strategic Procurement

- **Promoting Local Procurement:** **OPPOSE** any language that would preempt local governments from making sourcing decisions.



**SOUTHEAST FLORIDA
REGIONAL COMPACT**

**CLIMATE
CHANGE**



SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMPACT COUNTIES 2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Concerning state legislation, regulations, and policies, the Compact Counties and other organizations adopting this document:

SUPPORT policies, programs, and workforce development that expands renewable energy and energy conservation opportunities, including the adoption of meaningful energy efficiency programs and goals, and OPPOSE any changes that would eliminate or weaken existing policies or preempt local government authority.

SUPPORT higher energy, water, and resilience standards for new and existing buildings (including but not limited to energy conservation, renewable energy, drainage, flood elevation, wetproofing, and seawall requirements) to prepare for and lessen the impacts of future climate conditions through legislation, including the adoption of all provisions of the most recent energy and building codes by the Florida Building Commission, and enhanced powers for local governments to enact local building code amendments.

Concerning state agency coordination and engagement:

SUPPORT legislation, appropriations, and implementing authority of state agencies to leverage federal funds to the benefit of local government for the purposes of increasing resilience and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

SUPPORT increased coordination and engagement on electric vehicle and electric vehicle infrastructure planning, specifically as it relates to modeling projected electric vehicle deployment and strategic deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure along evacuation routes.

SUPPORT state agency's use of expanded and holistic resilience benefits within criteria and cost-benefit analysis used to evaluate projects eligible for federal funding.



SOUTHEAST FLORIDA
REGIONAL COMPACT

CLIMATE
CHANGE



SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMPACT COUNTIES 2024 STATE CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND RESILIENCE LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

Approved by the Compact Leadership Committee – June 14, 2023

Background

Southeast Florida is one of the most vulnerable areas in the country to climate change and sea level rise. Recognizing their shared challenges, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties (“Compact Counties”) adopted the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (“Compact”) in 2010. The Compact includes a commitment to develop and advocate for joint state and federal legislative policies. Accordingly, the Compact counties annually adopt a State Legislative Program.

The Compact Counties and other organizations adopting this document recognize that the local impacts of global climate change are among the greatest challenges facing southeast Florida in the present and future. Consequently, adapting to climate impacts, mitigating additional damage by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and building community and economic resilience are among the highest priorities for action at all levels of government.

Since 2017, the Compact Counties issue their legislative program in two documents: *Legislative Principles* (this document) and *Legislative Priorities* (published separately).

Concerning state legislation, regulations, and policies, the Compact Counties and other organizations adopting this document:

General Policies

OPPOSE preemption of local environmental and land use policies and regulations pertaining to energy, climate, resilience issues, or redevelopment standards and any infringement on local home rule authority to plan for and adapt to future climate conditions.

SUPPORT development of a statewide climate action plan which includes greenhouse gas emissions reduction, adaptation, and resilience measures.

SUPPORT greater incorporation of adaptation and resilience strategies throughout state government activities, including:

Requirements for state agencies, water management districts, local governments, and regulated industries (e.g. electric utilities) to account for projected sea-level rise, coastal and inland flooding, potential storm surge, extreme rainfall, and extreme heat in all infrastructure and facility-siting decisions.

Closer coordination among state agencies to share data and implement solutions on climate and extreme weather preparedness, resilience, and adaptation issues.

State funding and assistance for local governments’ adaptation activities, sufficient to meet the

state's significant resilience challenges, including: data development and technical analyses (such as vulnerability and risk assessments); integration of goals, objectives, and policies in Comprehensive Plans and the establishment and use of Adaptation Action Areas; design standards for infrastructure and development in local codes; and project implementation.

Climate, energy, and resilience investments in low-income and front-line communities that strengthen individual and community resilience.

Action to address climate-related public health challenges, including extreme heat.

Action to prepare the state's agricultural community for climate and extreme-weather disruptions.

Action to strengthen the economic resilience of the state to climate change.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions

SUPPORT measures to aid the state and local governments to determine sources of greenhouse gas emissions, develop reduction plans and strategies, establish targets, and accomplish reductions.

SUPPORT measures to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions through strategies such as vehicle electrification, development of vehicle emissions standards, policies to reduce vehicle idling, and reduction of vehicles miles traveled.

Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Electrification

SUPPORT all opportunities for renewable energy deployment and energy conservation in Florida, including policies to create renewable energy purchasing options, such as community solar and energy co-ops, and energy conservation incentives, and ensure the siting of solar arrays follows best practices and minimizes environmental impact.

SUPPORT legislation, policies, funding, financing, rebates and incentives to expand energy efficiency.

OPPOSE any changes that would eliminate or weaken existing policies that support renewable energy deployment and energy conservation in Florida.

SUPPORT solar-plus-storage installations, especially at emergency shelters and other critical facilities.

SUPPORT measures to move the state to 100% carbon-free electricity generation by 2050, and adopt stringent utility energy conservation targets and meaningful renewable energy programs for electric utilities.

SUPPORT requirements that investor-owned utilities offer a competitively-priced official rate for energy-efficient street lighting and encourage coordination between utilities and local governments to convert older, inefficient street lighting systems to more efficient ones.

SUPPORT incentives and pilot programs to assist local governments in diversifying their energy supplies and expanding their use of renewable energy.

SUPPORT policies, programs, and funding that prevent utility disconnections of income-constrained households.

SUPPORT legislation and policy to encourage electric utilities to maintain agricultural uses on solar generation facilities located in agricultural zoning districts.

SUPPORT efforts to advance the electrification of buildings and transportation, and modernize the electricity grid for safety, reliability, and carbon-free electricity generation.

SUPPORT legislation and policies requiring utilities to collect aggregated whole-building data from a jurisdiction's largest buildings, and provide this data to building owners, managers, and local government representatives to aid benchmarking.

SUPPORT the adoption of the most recent building energy codes and transition to net zero energy codes.

Transportation

SUPPORT electric vehicle adoption and the provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure commensurate with projected electric vehicle growth to serve the public, local governments, and private sector fleets, including grants, rebates, and other financing and funding, and policies aimed at multi-family housing and low-income residents.

SUPPORT strategic planning to ensure sufficient charging infrastructure along evacuation routes.

SUPPORT the adoption of Complete Streets policies at the state and local levels, and the establishment of integrated local and regional networks of non-motorized transportation corridors (such as bike lanes).

SUPPORT additional local transit connectivity to existing and proposed regional transit systems (i.e., a "first and last mile strategy").

SUPPORT the planning and construction of transit-oriented developments.

SUPPORT programs to develop renewable, carbon-neutral sources of transportation fuel.

OPPOSE any limitations on the funding made available for transit.

SUPPORT the integration of resilience and greenhouse gas reduction principles into transportation planning and design.

Oil and Gas Exploration and Production

OPPOSE any oil exploration and drilling in the state or off the coast of Florida, including within Florida's territorial waters and the Everglades, including any form of extreme well stimulation, such as hydraulic and acid fracturing, and seismic surveying.

OPPOSE oil exploration and drilling on federal lands in Florida and federal waters surrounding Florida and in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.

OPPOSE preemption of local regulation of extreme well stimulation and oil and gas exploration and extraction.

Resilient Infrastructure and Planning

SUPPORT incentives for communities to include strategies to increase resilience, reduce energy use, reduce flood risk, and mitigate climate impacts in comprehensive plan elements, such as housing, infrastructure, conservation, land use, and transportation.

SUPPORT efforts to build and retrofit utility facilities to be more resilient to flooding and storm events.

SUPPORT statutory and regulatory changes that incorporate future flood risk from climate change and sea level rise into infrastructure planning, permitting, and investment.

SUPPORT greater use of natural and nature-based features to protect against storm surge and adapt to sea level rise.

SUPPORT adaptation of state and local roadways for future climate conditions.

SUPPORT the local match and coordination between the South Florida Water Management District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the restudy of the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project.

Resilient Development and Redevelopment

SUPPORT incentives for green and resilient construction standards to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and/or mitigate insurance costs in existing and future building stock.

SUPPORT more specific performance-based green building requirements and higher resilience standards for state, regional, and local agencies in new construction and substantial reconstruction, as well as leased facilities owned by government.

SUPPORT higher energy, water, and resilience standards for new and existing buildings (including but not limited to energy conservation, renewable energy, drainage, flood elevation, wetproofing, and seawall requirements) to prepare for and lessen the impacts of future climate conditions through legislation, Florida Building Code amendments, and enhanced powers for local governments to enact local building code amendments.

Natural Disaster Risk Reduction, Adaptation, and Resilience

SUPPORT and maximize linkages between natural disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures, recognizing that the two areas share a common concern of future risk and vulnerability and a common goal of resilience.

SUPPORT full funding of resilient infrastructure projects identified under the state's Resilient Florida program and significant additional investments in resilience planning and resilient infrastructure, including consideration of formulas to distribute state funding to local governments, water management districts, and regional resilience entities.

SUPPORT integration of climate adaptation measures into pre-disaster mitigation projects and post-disaster rebuilding projects funded through the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Flood Mitigation Program, Stafford Act, and Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program.

SUPPORT local government participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and in the Community Rating System (CRS), and the provision of technical and financial resources for local governments to implement community-wide flood risk reduction that increases resilience, improves their CRS scores, and reduces premiums for NFIP policyholders.

SUPPORT the affordability, access, coverage, and overall reform of hazard and wind-storm insurance offered within and by the State of Florida.

SUPPORT efforts to increase resilient affordable housing stock.

Resilient Water, Coastal, and Land Resources

SUPPORT complete implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, including, but

not limited to projects such as the Central Everglades Planning Project, Everglades Agricultural Area reservoir, storage and treatment in the Northern Everglades, projects that protect east and west coast estuaries, and projects that restore natural flows to Florida Bay.

SUPPORT changes to the Florida Communities Trust program to provide authority and funding for local governments to acquire land to mitigate the effects of sea-level rise, reduce flood risk, and protect potable water supplies.

SUPPORT use of Land Acquisition Trust Fund appropriations under the terms of the Water and Land Conservation Amendment for regional and local priorities such as the Florida Forever land acquisition program, the Florida Communities Trust program, and management of public conservation lands to support nature-based resilience strategies.

SUPPORT protection and restoration of coral reefs, marine ecosystems, and nearshore habitats, such as mangrove forests, wetlands, floodplains, and other nature-based coastal protection.

SUPPORT the independence, authority, and finances of the state's Water Management Districts consistent with Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, to protect water resources in the State.

Funding and Financing for Climate and Resilience

SUPPORT providing budget and implementing authority to relevant agencies to advance transportation electrification, renewable energy deployment, energy efficiency and conservation, and resilience goals.

SUPPORT existing funding programs such as Resilient Florida, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), and Hazard Mitigation grants, and increased funding to support local governments' resilience planning and implementation.

SUPPORT additional funding for local governments and the South Florida Water Management District to support resilient infrastructure investments.

SUPPORT creation of a green bank or state investment fund to finance renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

SUPPORT funding for applied academic research into climate change and associated topics.

SUPPORT finance options for residents, businesses, and local governments, including grants, rebate programs, tax credits and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs that ensure consumer protections and transparency.

SUPPORT increased state funding for transit and transportation projects that reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips.

SUPPORT funding for alternative water supply development, adaptation and resilience planning, and no-regrets investments in water management, flood control, water supply, conservation land acquisition, transportation, and other infrastructure that provide hazard mitigation and improve immediate and long-term resilience.



2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Advocate for amendments that provide tax savings for the most vulnerable taxpayers, particularly seniors.
- Promote legislation requiring property appraisers to consider restrictive covenants imposed by local governing bodies in its real property assessments.
- Support changes to the current Value Adjustment Board process that promote efficiency and create a more transparent process.
- Amend Florida law to clarify that for property tax purposes, a change of ownership occurs at the time a deed is executed.

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