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CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES & FUNDING REQUESTS

This document reflects the official position of the City of Fort Lauderdale regarding State of Florida issues and pending legislation that would impact the operation of local government. It also provides priorities for the pursuit of funding for various City initiatives.

The City of Fort Lauderdale will ENDORSE and SUPPORT legislation that will:

1. Permit municipal government to make changes to local law pension plans
2. Support expansion of passenger rail options
3. Promote improved water quality and quantity
4. Provide for local regulation of short term rental properties and remove the State's preemption of local regulations on vacation rentals
5. Preserve and/or enhance municipal home rule
6. Support municipal government initiatives to curb homelessness
7. Enhance municipal participation in state environmental permitting processes
8. Encourage energy development and conservation and the development and implementation of alternative energy sources
9. Remove the State's preemption of local regulations on vacation rentals
10. Clarify existing laws regarding community redevelopment agencies (CRA's) in order to further redevelopment within established community redevelopment areas
11. Support the transfer of spending authority for the Tourism Development Tax to cities based on tourism activity
12. Change the allocation of Florida Department of Emergency Management and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funding to cities to be based on each city's risk profile assessment
13. Enact Complete Street Design Initiatives and legislation that will provide cities with the ability to regulate traffic flow within their city limits (i.e. setting speed limits and use of stop signs for traffic calming)
14. Strengthen and expand environmental education, physical activity, and healthy lifestyles for Fort Lauderdale youth while ensuring that they are as protected as possible while participating in parks and recreation programs
15. Regulate anchoring of vessels in waterways adjacent to residential properties
16. Address repeat offenders and other juvenile justice issues
17. Create smoke-free zones on Fort Lauderdale beaches

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The City of Fort Lauderdale will OPPOSE any legislation that will:

1. Restrict Home rule
2. Create unfunded mandates
3. Restrict or decrease any revenue allocations to local governments
4. Decrease the City's tax base through manipulation of tax exemptions on properties
5. Modify, restrict or eliminate the City's ability to levy, collect or spend franchise fees, communications service taxes or local business taxes
6. Restrict or decrease allocation of red light camera revenues to local governments

The City of Fort Lauderdale will SEEK FINANCIAL SUPPORT for the following initiatives:

1. Crime reduction
2. WAVE development
3. Transportation enhancements specifically focused on greenways, complete street initiatives and pedestrian safety
4. Flood prevention and hazard mitigation
5. Riverwalk enhancement and activation
6. Comprehensive homelessness strategy
7. Climate change and sea level rise mitigation
8. Promotion of Fort Lauderdale's marine industry
9. Water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure improvements
10. Fort Lauderdale Beach re-nourishment, revitalization, and enhancement
11. Additional parks and recreational programs and facilities, including athletic fields
12. Juvenile Justice programs
13. Synthetic drug use prevention and educational programs
14. Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport capital projects
15. Enhance the disaster resiliency of our water and wastewater utilities