

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

2017 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. Assist the Florida Fire Chiefs Association efforts in obtaining approval from the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to allow PEMT (Public Emergency Medical Transport) agencies to submit for additional reimbursements from Medicaid "Managed Care" transports.
2. Support the transfer of spending authority for the Tourism Development Tax to cities based on tourism activity
3. Permit municipal government to make changes to local law pension plans
4. Support expansion of passenger rail options
5. Promote improved water quality and quantity
6. Provide for local regulation of short term rental properties and sober homes and remove the State's preemption of local regulations on vacation rentals
7. Preserve and/or enhance municipal home rule
8. Support municipal government initiatives to curb homelessness
9. Enhance municipal participation in state environmental permitting processes
10. Encourage energy development and conservation and the development and implementation of alternative energy sources
11. 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
12. 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)
13. 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
14. Regulate anchoring of vessels in waterways adjacent to residential properties
15. Address repeat offenders and other juvenile justice issues
16. Create smoke-free zones on Fort Lauderdale beaches
17. Provide for the uniform regulation of police body cameras throughout the State to include privacy and other protection for law enforcement officers
18. Reverse the recent changes to the recent legislation passed related to the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF). The change in evidentiary standard in a forfeiture proceeding and the use of future forfeitures resulted in a \$1 Million impact to the City's operating budget (School Resource Officers)

19. Changing legislation language to allow for vehicles (i.e. golf carts) that travel at a speed of 25 miles per hour or more to travel on State infrastructure system roadways (e.g. A1A). The Florida DMV licenses golf carts for roadway use but the Florida Department of Transportation does not permit them on their roadways within a municipal city limit

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
7. Restrict or standardize municipal election dates

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. Drug prevention and educational programs for Flakka and other synthetic drugs
14. Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport capital projects
15. Enhance the disaster resiliency of our water and wastewater utilities
16. Police body cameras