

Rosemarie Call
City Clerk
City of Clearwater

Ms. Call,

In reference to the legislative agenda for consideration by the City Council, the Environmental Advisory Board is recommending the following.

1. The board expressed support for maintaining the 2023 Council approved legislative priorities under the heading "Sustainability and Resiliency". These included:
 - a. Develop a Statewide Climate Resiliency Plan and funding source to assist local communities who have implemented plans to combat sea level rise.
 - b. Increase funding for the Resilient Florida Grants program to assist municipalities with implementing climate-resilient infrastructure.
 - c. Provide intergovernmental coordination that supports sustainability and resiliency efforts at the county and municipal levels, such as clean energy, land conservation, smart growth, a planned transition to 100% renewable energy goals, open space and wetlands preservation, and the impacts of climate change and sea level rise on natural resources and manmade infrastructure.
 - d. Establish a framework for a state water infrastructure and water quality funding program that includes sustainable utility practices and intragovernmental coordination.
2. The board expressed general support for protecting Home Rule for cities and counties, and more specifically for protecting against legislation that restricts local control related to environmental protection.
3. The board supports the net metering laws in the state and would like to see those laws remain in effect.
4. The board supports laying the groundwork for future state funding for Cooper's Bayou. This project is still in early phases and does not have funding allocated outside of preliminary engineering studies.
5. The board supports legislation that strengthens local authorities ability to impose strong fertilizer bans. The EAB will have a future resolution expressing this (in January) and will ask City Council to pass the same.

Chairman Leone will be in attendance at the November 16th City Council meeting to provide the EAB annual report and answer any questions on this subject, and I will also be available at both Work Session and the City Council meeting to provide any necessary clarification.

Micah Maxwell
Chief Innovation Officer
Office of Innovation

