2019 State Legislative Priorities

Issues to Support

We support legislation and programs that benefit municipalities and assist in implementing services to meet the needs of our citizens and improve their quality of life including:

Repeal the state preemption of vacation rental property laws to allow local governments to regulate such properties to protect the health and welfare of their residents, visitors and businesses.

Provide full funding of the Florida State and Local Housing Trust Funds under the Sadowski Act.

Allow pension plans the ability to use a more conservative mortality table than what is used by FRS.

Support consideration of alternative omnimodal transit options, including all grant funding opportunities, from Tampa International Airport to Clearwater Beach.

Preserve the statewide program that assists local governments with maintaining Spring Training facilities.

Renew the Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program to continue attracting film and television production to the State of Florida.

Issues to Oppose

We oppose legislation that is detrimental to Clearwater and other municipalities including:

Erosion of local self-government (Home Rule), a constitutional right Floridians supported in a statewide vote 51 years ago.

Increased regulation of, or restrictions on, municipal operations and budgeting.

Preemption of local government's ability to regulate Airbnb rentals, or similar marketplaces, that allow individuals to rent out unused spaces in their homes for lodging.

Changes to existing laws related to offshore Oil Drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.

Restriction or elimination of municipal revenues generated under the communications services and local business tax.

Elimination of Community Redevelopment Agencies.

In addition, the City will support the Florida League of Cities in pursuing its legislative priorities.

