

# PROTECT LOCAL VOICES AND LOCAL CHOICES: SUPPORT LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Palm Beach County League supports legislation that strengthens municipal self-governing powers. "Home Rule", or government closest to the citizens, is key to a successful democracy.

**Mandates** The League of Cities recommends a moratorium on mandates of any kind during the 2018 legislative session. We request that the state legislature allow municipalities to focus on current requirements without added regulations.

**Sober Homes** The League of Cities supports legislation that defines and establishes minimum regulatory standards for sober home facilities and allows for more stringent local regulations of these facilities to ensure protection for the vulnerable population.

**Vacation Rentals** The League of Cities supports legislation that repeals the state preemption of the regulation of short term/vacation rental properties in order to allow local governments to regulate such properties to protect the health and welfare of residents, visitors and businesses.

**CRA** The League of Cities supports legislation to improve municipalities' uses of community redevelopment agencies to effectively carry out redevelopment and community revitalization in accordance with home rule.

**Pension Plans & Benefits** The League of Cities supports legislation that affirms the home rule powers of municipalities to establish and fund municipal employee benefit levels, and specifically provides comprehensive pension reform, disability presumption reform, and a mechanism for municipalities to revoke their election to participate in the Florida Retirement System.

**Effective Growth Management** The League of Cities will continue to monitor the effects of growth management legislation and the changes to the state (involuntary) annexation statute and oppose efforts that would undermine a local government's planning and zoning authority, including impact fees and transportation concurrency.

**Transportation** The League of Cities supports legislation that preserves local control of transportation planning and provides opportunities for additional revenue options to fund municipal transportation infrastructure projects including roads, rails and bridges.

**Communications Service Tax** The League of Cities supports legislation that protects the general revenues collected from the Communications Services Tax.

**Local Business Tax** The League of Cities supports legislation that protects local government rights to use local business tax revenue to provide services that our citizens want and need, including public infrastructure, public safety services and public transportation infrastructure.

## 2018 PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



*The purpose of the Palm Beach County League of Cities' Legislative Agenda is to advocate and advance issues that may significantly impact municipalities within Palm Beach County. The League of Cities exists to promote and advance best practices and collective interests of the municipalities in Palm Beach County. The League was chartered in 1969 as a non-partisan, nonprofit corporation by and for municipalities. We are a recognized IRS-501(c)(4).*

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**Opioid/Substance Abuse** The League of Cities supports policies that provide state appropriations for life saving interventions and medically-assisted detoxification programs for those suffering from opioid addiction.

**Housing & Small City CDBG Policy** The League of Cities supports legislation maintaining dedicated housing trust funds for workforce housing, housing rehabilitation, economic development, and neighborhood and commercial revitalization, with adequate verification safeguards that ensure grants will benefit the homeless and low to moderate-income families.

**Amendment 1 Distribution** The League of Cities supports using resources from Amendment 1 for enhancement of water quality and beach management by increasing beach management allocations.

**Beach Management** The League of Cities supports legislation appropriating the \$50 million annual doc stamp tax revenue to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund for beach preservation and repair.

**Water Quality & Supply** The League of Cities supports legislation addressing water quality and quantity issues that affect local communities' aquifers, surface waters and estuaries. Specifically, the League supports efforts to maintain, revitalize and protect Palm Beach County's water quality in the Glades, flooding and water retention, and the restoration of the Loxahatchee River and Lake Worth Lagoon.

**Septic Tanks** The League of Cities supports financial and regulatory initiatives that prioritize and encourage properties with septic tanks to connect to centralized sewer systems, especially in areas that impact rivers, estuaries, first magnitude springs, impaired water bodies and water supply sources.

**Economic Development** The League of Cities supports legislation advancing new economic incentives for distressed areas and providing increased flexibility for municipalities to enter into public-private partnership agreements.

**State Funding for Educational Facilities** The League of Cities supports increased state funding for building and maintenance of educational facilities for local universities and Palm Beach County schools. Priority is focused on FAU's Abacoa Campus, a Dental Health Sciences facility at Palm Beach State College and school maintenance/repair and retrofitting technology for Palm Beach County Public Schools.

**Workforce Training** The League of Cities supports the continued focus on state resources on obtaining flexibility for local workforce and career training at all education levels and subsequent job placement, with particular interest to meeting employment needs.

**Internet Sales and Use Tax** The League of Cities supports legislation that simplifies Florida's Sales and Use Tax System and qualifies the state for participation in the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, thereby making it easier for out-of-state businesses to collect and remit taxes to Florida.

**Gaming** The League of Cities supports legislation that creates a level playing field in relation to pari-mutuel facilities in South Florida.

## Important Advocacy Dates

### December 2017

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6-8 FLC Legislative Conference, Orlando FL (*Policy Committee s Meet*)

### January 2018

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9 Opening Day of the 2018 Legislative Session

9-10 Palm Beach County Day - Tallahassee

30-31 Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Days, Tallahassee

### March 2018

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9 Last Day- 2018 Legislative Session

11-14 National League of Cities Congressional City Conference, Washington, D.C.  
(*Policy Committees Meeting*)

### August 2018

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15-18 Florida League of Cities Annual Conference – Diplomat Resort, Hollywood (*Policy Committee s Meet*)

### November 2018

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7-10 National League of Cities Annual Congress of Cities and Exposition - Los Angeles, CA (*Policy Committee s Meet*)