

The Palm Beach County League of Cities supports legislation that preserves municipal self-governing powers and recommends a moratorium on unfunded mandates. We request that the state legislature allow municipalities to focus on current requirements without added regulations or pre-empting Home Rule.

Palm Beach County League of Cities 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES & ISSUES

The Palm Beach County League of Cities Supports the Florida League of Cities Legislative Priorities & Issues and inside & below are those specific to Palm Beach County.

Palm Beach County League of Cities Priorities & Issues Cont'd

Opioid/Substance Use The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS policies that provide state appropriations for life saving interventions and medically-assisted detoxification programs for those suffering from opioid addiction.

Mental Health Understanding the cause of homelessness in many cases is related to mental health illness, the Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS funding efforts for beds, treatment program, and youth-related initiatives to advance prevention.

Sober Homes The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS the Sober Homes Task Force, created in 2016, and their recommended statutory changes for the 2022 session.

Community Redevelopment Agencies The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to protect and improve municipalities' use of community redevelopment agencies to effectively carry out redevelopment and community revitalization in accordance with Home Rule.

Communications Service Tax The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that protects the general revenues collected from the Communications Service Tax in a manner that is revenue neutral.

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.

Priorities & Issues

Short-Term Rentals The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that restores authority to local governments for the regulation of short-term rental properties as necessary for quality of life, public safety and a fair lodging marketplace. The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation clarifying that existing, grandfathered municipal short-term rental ordinances can be amended without penalty.

Affordable Housing The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that requires all monies from the Sadowski State and Local Housing Trust Fund be used only for Florida's affordable housing programs targeted to meet the needs of workforce housing, including low income, very low income and disabled persons, for both home ownership and rental unit availability.

State Funding for Educational Initiatives The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS revisions to zoning requirements so that local jurisdictions have greater authority over the location and construction of educational facilities for local universities, state colleges, and Palm Beach County schools (including charter schools). The League also supports adequate funding for all state education mandates, including those related to student safety, mental health, and school security.

Transportation Funding The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation:

- Directing the Florida Department of Transportation to establish a grant program to provide financial assistance for the installation of publicly available electric vehicle charging infrastructure on public or private property
- Providing technical assistance for the development and adoption of local or regional plans for charging infrastructure and associated equipment
- Identifying additional transportation revenue to support innovative infrastructure and transit projects to meet the surging transportation demands driven by dramatic growth throughout Florida.

Economic Development The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation advancing economic incentives for distressed areas and providing increased flexibility for municipalities to enter into public-private partnership agreements with collaboration between the state and cities on offering incentives that maximize economic development opportunities for retention, expansion, and attraction, and building sustainable economic resiliency.

Annexation The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that facilitates the municipal annexation of unincorporated areas while protecting private property rights and respecting municipal boundaries.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislative action to address growing concerns about PFAS in soil and water, including coordinating with the Environmental Protection Agency to establish science-based cleanup target levels, providing resources for testing and research, public education and risk assessment guidelines, establishing liability protection for entities that have legally used PFAS for fire suppression or have passively received PFAS, and developing cost-effective and risk-based corrective strategies for PFAS.

Resilient and Sustainable Florida The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that promotes a resilient and sustainable Florida, including: funding for water quality improvements; establishing policies and funding for alternative water supply development; providing for intergovernmental coordination and planning on strategies to address climate challenges such as drought, coastal flooding and inland flooding; and enabling local authority to implement natural resource protection strategies.

Tree Protection The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to close loopholes and create standards in current law exemptions from municipal tree ordinances that have caused litigation and abuses, including the clear-cutting of land pre-development and the removal of healthy trees that present little, if any, risk to persons or structures. Current law should be amended to apply only to developed single-family residential property, identify industry-appropriate standards for assessing tree risk and identify necessary documentation.

Septic Tanks The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS, regulatory initiatives and financial initiatives, including matching grants, that prioritize and encourage properties with septic tanks to connect to centralized sewer systems, especially in areas that adversely impact rivers, estuaries, first magnitude springs, water bodies and water supply sources.

Beach Management The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation increasing the beach management allocations to at least \$50 million for the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund for beach preservation and repair.

Local Business Tax The Palm Beach County 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.

Cybersecurity The Palm Beach County League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation dedicating state resources for the development and enhancement of municipal cybersecurity by providing funding for technical assistance, threat assessments, employee training, infrastructure improvements and data protection, including the protection of exempt and confidential information such as law enforcement personnel information and plans for government buildings and other critical infrastructure.