

Response to Letter of Interest

L.O.I. NO. 04-08-20-09

State & Local Lobbying Services City of Coconut Creek



Submitted By:

Ericks Consultants, Inc

Phone: 850-224-0880 Fax: 850-224-5971

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Letter of Transmittal

City of Coconut Creek Office of the City Clerk 4800 West Copans Road Coconut Creek, Florida 33063

RE: L.O.I. NO. 04-08-20-09

With great pleasure, Ericks Consultants, Inc. (ECI) submits the following proposal to continue to provide State & Local Lobbying Services to the City of Coconut Creek in response to L.O.I. NO. 04-08-20-09.

Through experience, dedication and knowledge of the political process along with strong relationships, we offer the benefits of a full-service governmental consulting firm representing both corporate and public entity clients. Ericks Consultants has provided effective and affordable State representation to local governments based in South Florida for over 20 years. ECI's client satisfaction is evident in the number of years our clients have been with us.

As a firm that has been working on Coconut Creek's issues for many years, we are extremely qualified to continue to provide the services outlined in this Letter Of Interest. We welcome the opportunity to demonstrate our service to the City and our recent contributions. We are committed to continuing to provide Coconut Creek with exceptional service and valuable access should we be selected to do so.

We want to thank Coconut Creek for the opportunity to submit this proposal to represent your interests and continue to work to allow the City to pursue its goals with confidence and trust. Candice Ericks will serve as the City's contact during the period of proposal evaluation. Should you have any questions or need additional information on any part of this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 954-648-1204 or Candice@ericksconsultants.com.

Sincerely,

Candice D. Ericks
Vice President/ Managing Partner
Ericks Consultants, Inc.

Scope of Services (Section 3)

The following proposal will demonstrate our qualifications to perform the scope of services outlined in L.O.I. NO. 04-08-20-09 to continue to serve the City of Coconut Creek on matters of intergovernmental affairs with State and local entities. We are trained, results-driven professionals with decades of experience in Florida state and local government. As longtime advocates for the City of Coconut Creek, we are highly sensitive to the needs of the City. We are trained to identify issues of concern to the City and work in close contact with your staff to understand issues as they arise. We then use our experience and relationships to determine the best strategy to address each issue. We work with the City to craft Legislative Priorities, participate in City workshops, and provide regular written updates. We coordinate all aspects of the legislative appropriations process, help advocate for grant funding, and craft business cases for state funding of the City's needs. Additionally, the City of Coconut Creek has always demonstrated a high level of participation and involvement in legislative matters that impact their residents. We assist the City in this effort in coordinating and helping draft communications from the City to state officials on a wide range of issues. Specifically, we propose:

3.1 ECI will continue to assist in formulating pertinent public policy. This includes:

- a. Drafting an annual State Legislative Agenda to be completed and sent to the City by January 15 of each year after significant discussion with Staff. [Please note that all Legislative Sessions that fall on an even numbered years begin in January, while Legislative Sessions in odd numbered years begin in March. Deadlines should be adjusted accordingly to allow for ample time for the beginning of Session. We have encouraged, facilitated and participated in Coconut Creek's Legislative workshops for many years. We coordinate with your staff and currently Senator Rader and Representative Jacob's office for their participation and insight.]
- b. Raising, discussing and recommending any affirmative legislative action that may benefit the City. We appreciate the open communication that we have been afforded with the City Manager, Mayor, Commission and staff to address the City's concerns, particularly given the fast-paced environment of Tallahassee. [We will continue to raise, discuss and recommend any affirmative legislative action that may benefit the City.]
- c. Reviewing the legislative policy statements adopted by the Florida League of Cities (FLC), other local governments and lobbying groups for the purpose of identifying issues, which might positively or negatively affect the City, and make recommendations on policy. [ECI is one of the very few firms that work hand in hand with the Florida League of Cities. We attend all policy and legislative meetings, as well as their annual conference and have for many years. We also work very closely with the Broward League of Cities throughout the interim, committee weeks and all throughout Session. We also are a member of FAIR, the Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations, that is a group of cities, counties, transportation authorities, special districts, etc. Candice was recently past President of this group and our entire team stays extremely involved, not only in the discussions but the actions for the group. This group

meets regularly during Session as well as a meeting during both the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities annual conferences. In addition, we work very closely with the Florida Association of Counties, as well as specifically Broward and Palm Beach Counties. As for identifying additional issues, we attend many business conferences throughout the year and work closely with the Florida Chamber, Associated Industries of Florida, the Fort Lauderdale Chamber, the Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward Workshop, as well as many transportation related entities throughout the state. This allows us to get an insight as to what local governments may have to deal with on a state level during Session.]

- d. Collaborating with other advocates including the Florida League of Cities (FLC) and National League of Cities (NLC). [We are in constant conversation with the Florida League of Cities, as well as those who are involved with the National League of Cities]
- e. Meeting with Legislators. [We are in constant contact with Legislators from around the State and within our local Delegation all year long. We are constantly educating them on your issues and learning from them about legislation they are working on. We will also continue to coordinate meetings between Legislators and City representatives as needed]
- f. Drafting legislation. [We have and will continue to help draft legislation as needed]
- g. Obtaining sponsors for bill requests. [We will secure sponsors for any bill requests the City decides to pursue.]
- 3.2 ECI will continue to provide, at a minimum, weekly written status reports aligned with the City's Legislative Agenda during state legislative sessions and monthly written status reports during non-session months to the City Manager. This includes more frequent reports as necessary on specific bills identified by the Lobbyist and/or City Manager as having direct impact on the City. [We have always made it a requirement of our firm and normal standard to provide all of our clients with written weekly reports during committee weeks and Legislative Session, as well as verbal communication throughout the week as needed. We also provide a final Legislative report, as well as a verbal presentation before and after Session, which we help coordinate participation in from the City's state and local delegates.]
- 3.3 ECI will continue to provide at a minimum two (2) public presentations (workshop, special meetings) each year to the Commission for updates, preferably pre and post legislative session. ECI will continue to attend and proactively participate in a legislative workshop prior to the start of the Legislative Session to help craft priorities and address issues to meet the City's needs. Likewise, we will continue to present a review of each Legislative Session upon conclusion before the City Commission and Staff. [As stated above we have provided both public presentations, as well as additional ones should they be needed, and will continue to do so.]
- 3.4 ECI will continue to, upon request, coordinate appointments/meetings between the City Administration/Staff and the City Commission and appropriate State and Local Officials/Legislators. [We believe that direct interaction between decision-makers and clients can be one of the most powerful advocacy tools when done meaningfully and correctly. We will continue to coordinate appointments/meetings between the City Commissioners, Administration, or Staff and appropriate State and Local Officials upon request. We will also coordinate those meetings proactively should we identify an issue or concern that we believe needs to be addressed by the City.]
- 3.5 ECI will continue to identify opportunities and pursue legislative appropriations including, but not limited to, fire and emergency services, reclaimed water

projects, roadway improvement, Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP), beautification grants, public safety and environmental activities [As we enter this challenging economic period, we will be looking for any opportunity the City can pursue to fund critical services and infrastructure for its residents and businesses. We will continue to work throughout the entire legislative appropriations process to ensure the City's requests are funded, including: identifying projects; crafting business cases; securing sponsors; obtaining inclusion in initial budgets; working throughout each budget conference to secure funding in the final budget; and obtaining approval from the Governor's Office. We will also continue to advocate for funding priorities that reflect the City's agenda at both the state and local levels, notify the City of grant opportunities, help communicate with agencies overseeing grant programs, and work to strengthen those programs that can provide benefit and relief. We will also fight to ensure any new Compact agreement with the Seminole Tribe includes local cost-share for the City]

3.6 ECI will continue to review all existing and proposed State policies, programs and legislation. In addition, we will continue to identify those issues that may affect the City or its citizens, and regularly inform the City as to these matters. [One advantage of continuing the City's relationship with ECI, and allowing us to continue to be your representative in Tallahassee, is that there is no learning curve. We know your community. We have the insight and ability to identify issues that may affect the City. This knowledge cuts down on response time and allows for the decision-makers in Tallahassee to continue to work with the group they have identified your community with for years. This is invaluable due the quick timeframe that many decisions need to be made in and actions that have to take place. In addition, we have worked with your Commission and staff for years. There is a trust based relationship there that only time and collaboration can create. We also know your Department heads allowing us the ability to quickly reach out for information if needed should there be a necessity for a quick turnaround. We will continue to monitor and review all existing and proposed state policies, programs and legislation and regularly inform the City on those matters.]

3.7 ECI will continue to give assistance wherever necessary, including:

- a. Assisting the City of Coconut Creek in identifying and coordinating State permits and grants; [Our excellent relationship with the heads and staff of each agency enable us to provide a quick response to questions and address any issues that arise]
- b. Working on the legislative authorization process; [We will continue to provide the City with the benefit on our institutional knowledge of the legislative process and use our relationships within it to obtain authorization on items as needed]
- c. Testifying, lobbying and assisting with issues encountered with State, County, School Board, South Florida Water Management District, and regulated utilities; [Please know that our relationships with members of each of the previous mentions are long term trust based relationships. Should we get the opportunity, we would very much like to discuss in further detail. We have included a relationship section that was not required, however we feel it necessary to include. You should be comfortable knowing that the representatives you choose to be your eyes, ears and voice both in Tallahassee and at home truly do have the relationships with all entities that you are hiring us to be effective within.]
- d. Appearing and testifying before State and Local hearings, rule-making proceedings and other administrative agencies or legislative meetings to promote and seek passage of legislation affecting the City of Coconut Creek and its citizens. [Also as stated in the section above, the team at ECI has extremely good relationships with all State Agencies and Cabinet members throughout the State.]

Firm Qualifications (Section 4)

4.1 A list of at least three (3) public sector clients for whom you have performed these services, and have significant accomplishments in the areas of legislation and appropriations within the past five (5) years. Please also list relevant private sector clients. Include Agency, contact name, address, email address, telephone, and fax numbers.

The below is not a comprehensive list of our client successes within the past five years. We hope it provides an adequate sample of the relevant spectrum of our work outside of the City of Coconut Creek. Further detail on the successes highlighted in the below list are found in Sections 4.2 and 4.4, depending on whether they are policy issues or appropriations, respectively.

Public Sector Clients

City of Coral Springs

Frank Babinec, City Manager 9500 West Sample Road, Coral Springs, FL 33065

Phone: 954-344-1142/ Fax: 954-344-1043

fbabinec@coralsprings.org

Success:In 2019, we successfully passed HB 487 on behalf of the City in its first year of introduction, which ensured law enforcement teams have the resources they need to respond to mass shootings and other violent events. We also worked with Senator Book to make limited but important progress in furthering mandatory certification for sober homes (*with significant help from the City of Coconut Creek's City Attorney*) in continuation of Mayor Skip Campbell's advocacy on the issue. In the past five years, ECI has successfully secured over \$2.2 million of city funding in budgets passed by the Legislature, however a portion of these projects were included in veto messages. We've also worked to ensure adequate funding of Charter School Capital Outlay on behalf of the City's Charter School.

City of Fort Lauderdale

Chris Lagerbloom, City Manager

100 N. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Phone: 954-828-5364/ Fax: 954-828-5599

clagerbloom@fortlauderdale.gov

Success: In the past five years, ECI successfully assisted the city in defeating a number of preemptions, including: protecting its Vacation Rentals ordinance each year, obtaining an exemption to the anchoring and mooring preemption in 2016 (HB 1051), and ensuring the City's suggestions were incorporated into micromobility and electric scooter legislation in 2019 (HB 453). In 2015, we helped the City obtain land through the Florida Communities Trust for sidewalk widening through our relationship with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). In 2020, we successfully facilitated City meetings with DEP and key Legislators following the City's infrastructure challenges. In the past five years, we have secured over \$3.2 million in funding for the city. However, a portion of the projects were included in veto messages.

City of Pembroke Pines

Mayor Frank Ortis Charlie Dodge, City Manager

601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines, FL 33026

Phone: 954-450-1040/ Fax: 954-437-1149

cdodge@ppines.com

Success: We have represented the City as well as its Charter School System for over 15 years. In the past five years, we have been successful in securing over 3.4 million in funding passed by the Legislature for the city. However, a portion of the projects were included in veto messages. The Pembroke Pines Charter School System is unique in that it is one of the only municipally owned and operated systems in the state. It provides students from all over the county with an A+ rated education but does not have access to local millage revenue that supports public schools. In the past five years, we've worked to increase funding year-over-year in both education and capital outlay, educated our Delegation members and other state lawmakers on this unique asset, and have closely monitored all legislative and budget proposals on charter schools for negative impacts specifically on their schools.

Broward County

Marty Cassini, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs 115 South Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Phone: 954-357-7575/ Fax: 954-357-6573

mcassini@broward.org

Success: Dave and Candice have served on the contract team for Broward County for over 20 years. We provide the County with around-the-clock representation during the Legislative Session. We identify and address many unforeseen issues that affect the County as they arise. In the past five years, we've been successful in a number of legislative and budget proposals related to preemptions, unfunded mandates, opioid abuse, resilient infrastructure, natural gas fuel rebates, Port Everglades, the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport, public transit, COPCN for Non-emergency Medical Transportation, sober home licensure, sheriffs budgets, coral reef protection, and more. Our team serves as a resource for County information for the Florida Ports Council, Airports Council, and Florida Public Transit Association. One such success included the 2017 extension of turnpike revenue allocations to the County, which was at risk of sunset prior to our involvement. In 2016, we successfully facilitated meetings between the Port and Legislature and worked to ensure passage of a bill that raised minimum Florida Seaport Transportation & Economic Development (FSTED) funding from \$15 million to \$25 million. In 2020, we successfully defeated a sunset of the Child Protective Services program statutes and ensured Broward Sheriff's Office input was incorporated into the final bill. Additionally, Candice served as the Chair of Broward Days for the 2019 and 2020 Legislative Session, with a renewed effort that brought a resurgence to these advocacy and closely involved County Commissioners and staff.

Palm Beach County

Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator 301 North Olive Ave., Suite 1101, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Phone: 561-355-3451/ Fax: 561-242-7171

tbonlarr@pbcgov.org

Success: ECI was one of the first firms hired on the Palm Beach County lobbyist contract team, and we have continued to serve the County since. We are proud to be a "go-to" firm for the County on any issue they may need assistance with in addition to any formal assignments. In the past five years, we've been successful for the County in legislation related to preemptions, unfunded mandates, public safety, environment, economic development, public transit, transportation disadvantaged, and more. Since 2013, ECI successfully assisted the County in passing key legislation and funding to further efforts to regulate sober homes or "recovery residences." This included passage of HB 21 in 2015, which created voluntary certification, and subsequent bills which improved upon it in 2017 (HB 807), 2019 (HB 369), and 2020 (SB 1120). In the past five years, we've also been successful in defeating legislation that would adversely impact local ordinances, securing appropriations for re-entry and mental health services, and more.

Florida Association of Counties

Davin Suggs, Legislative Director 100 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Phone: (850) 922-4300 dsuggs@fl-counties.com

Success: ECI works hand-in-hand with the Florida Association of Counties staff year round to assist both them and local governments statewide in accomplishing their state legislative goals. We've had numerous successes on FAC's behalf, many of which are detailed in Section 4.2. We also provide assistance wherever needed, whether providing extra support at legislative conferences or gathering specific information from our counties on issues.

Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters

Scott Bayne, Council Chairman 306 NE 1St St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Phone:954-729-1078 jsbayne@gmail.com

Success: ECI successfully secured a \$5,000 grant from Broward County two years in a row, in both 2018 and 2019 for the South Florida Rehab & Emergency Support Team. Also known as "Canteen," this project helps fund additional support to emergency responders engaged in protracted public safety missions. The project provides snacks, hydration, a safe resting place, among other services that can help sustain them during long response efforts, increasing both their efficacy and recovery. We also provided educational seminars and training on how to be an effective lobbyist to union members, assisted in securing Legislator attendance at events, and have provided any additional support needed.

Broward Health

Ashley Boxer, Director of Governmental Relations 303 SW 17th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316 Phone: 954-355-4174/ Fax: 954-355-4774

1 Hone: 554-555-417-471 ax. 554-55

aboxer@browardhealth.org

Success: ECI has been instrumental in numerous successes for Broward Health throughout the 20 years we have worked on their legislative team. In the last five years, successes have included: ensuring funding for important programs, such as the Low-Income Pool, Kidcare, and Early Steps; and defeating special district and property tax legislation that would have negatively impacted the hospital system. We worked as part of a successful coalition that helped defeat adversarial efforts by private hospitals to take funding and market share away from public safety-net hospitals, particularly proposals from Governor Scott and Speaker Corcoran from 2015-2017. In 2018 we helped defeat a proposal by the Constitutional Revision Commission that would have required reauthorization of all special taxing districts every 10 years. In 2018 and 2019, we also specifically assisted Broward Health's new leadership in fostering relationships at the local level to help shape a new hospital system better built to serve the community. We advised the in-house staff on upcoming meetings, discussions, opportunities, and community involvement. We have also been successful in using our relationships to solve issues at the County level, specifically in emergency management.

South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA)

Steven Abrams, Executive Director

800 NW 33rd Street, Suite 100, Pompano Beach, FL33064

Phone: 954-788-7918/ Fax: 954-786-7505

abramss@sfrta.fl.gov

Success: ECI has represented SFRTA since before its inception, helping to pass its enacting legislation. We have enjoyed many successes on their behalf, however within the past five years: In 2017, we successfully passed HB 695 on SFRTA's behalf while simultaneously successfully defending SFRTA from various attacks in both legislation and budget proviso that would have negatively impacted its procurement processes and contracts due to misinformation spread by an unsuccessful vendor. In 2019, we successfully ensured passage of HB 311, which modified crash reporting to enable trains to get back up and moving faster after a traffic incident.

Town of Davie

Richard J. Lemack, Town Administrator 6591 Orange Drive, Davie, FL 33314

Phone:954-797-1023

richard lemack@davie-fl.gov

Success: In the past five years, we have been successful in securing \$420,000 in funding passed by the Legislature for the Town. However, a portion of the projects were included in veto messages. In 2020, we worked to ensure local control was protected in a bill which created holiday exemptions for fireworks so the Town could continue to ensure the safety of its equestrian community. In 2015, we successfully worked with FDOT to enable the town to designate a portion of Davie Road as a Purple Heart Trail and post signage indicating the designation.

Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea

Bill Vance, Town Manager

4501 Ocean Drive, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308

Phone: 954-640-4204

billv@lbts-fl.gov

Success: ECI has worked with the Town since 2017 to secure funding for a septic-to-sewer project for an annexed neighborhood. We worked closely with Representative LaMarca (then County Commissioner) to foster regional collaboration and support for the project, including securing local cost share from Broward County. We then have worked side-by-side with Representative LaMarca to accomplish our ultimate goal of securing a \$250,000 state appropriation for the project in 2020. We continue to work with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity on grant opportunities for this project.

Federation of Public Employees (Broward AFL-CIO)

Dan Reynolds

1700 NW 66th Avenue, Suite 100, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33313

Phone: 954-797-7575 x 221

taflaco@aol.com

Success: In 2019, we ensured passage of HB 599 Lewd & Lascivious Acts, which extended protections from sexually harassing inmate behavior to county and municipal corrections officers through enhanced penalties for specific behaviors. Previously, only state corrections officers enjoyed this protection, which allowed an environment of sexual harassment in county and municipal facilities- particularly, for female corrections employees. This included: securing sponsors; ensuring the bill was scheduled, heard, and passed out of each committee of reference; ensuring final passage off the floor of each Chamber; and securing the Governor's approval.

Seminole County Sheriff's Office

Bob Cortes, Sr. Administrator, Governmental & Public Affairs

100 Eslinger Way, Sanford, FL 32773

Phone: 407-665-6876

BCortes@seminolesheriff.org

Success:In 2020, we ensured successful passage of SB 1286- Contraband in Specified Facilities, which closed critical loopholes involving hemp, cell phones, and vaping devices. This included: securing sponsors; ensuring the bill was scheduled, heard, and passed out of each committee of reference; and ensuring the bill was passed off the floor of each Chamber. Additionally in 2020, we successfully amended HB 625- Public Nuisance to allow sheriffs to directly file public nuisance suits and helped support the passage of the amended bill. On behalf of Sheriff Lemma in 2019, we successfully amended the School Safety package (SB 7030) to enable sheriff office employees to be School Safety Specialists, which had previously been an exclusive responsibility of school board employees. Finally, as chair of the Statewide Opioid Task Force appointed by the Attorney General, the number one priority of Seminole County Sheriff has been perfecting the "soft handoff" between law enforcement and substance abuse treatment in order to achieve lasting public health outcomes that avoid individuals continuously burdening the system. On behalf of Sheriff Lemma in 2019 and 2020, we coordinated

several high level meetings that furthered opioid crisis response advocacy within the state.

Private Sector Clients:

The GEO Group, Inc.

Kevin Reilly, VP of Government Affairs 4955 Technology Way, Boca Raton, FL 33431

Phone: 727-741-3233 kreilly@geogroup.com

Success: Throughout the past five years and as recently as the 2020 Legislative Session, we have repeatedly defeated vendor-driven language that would have required installation of a specific interlock device for monitoring alcohol levels in DUI offenders, which would amount to a sole-source contract for a company called Interlock. Interlock is an ignition device that essentially is a breathalyzer for an individual's vehicle. Interlock has been trying for years to pass a bill that would only include their solution to addressing keeping drunk drivers off the road. We 100% support any and all solutions when preventing driving under the influence, however vendor-neutral policies promote flexibility within different jurisdictions, protects home rule, and assures affordable options to DUI offenders, which can better enable them to successfully correct behaviors and complete their sentences. Allowing only interlock technology ignores rapid advancements in technology that allow a more robust monitoring system of alcohol levels and is limited, for example in instances where DUI offenders own or have access to multiple vehicles. The legislation also disrupted existing diversion programs throughout the state. We have continuously worked alongside state attorneys, public defenders and other technology companies to ensure vendor and device neutrality in DUI legislation not only on behalf of the GEO Group (which owns a particular monitoring device excluded by the language) but also out of the public's best interest.

The Florida Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association

Joe Pennachio, Immediate Past President 1800 SW 3rd St, Pompano Beach, FL 33069

Phone: (954) 972-5400

joseph.pennacchio@yahoo.com

Success: Pompano Park at the Isle Casino is the only site permitted to race Standardbred horses in the state. We were referred to FSBOA in 2014 through a city commissioner to assist them with changing state law to grant equitable treatment to Standardbred horses through requiring a contract with pari-mutuel owners. While pari-mutuel law did require a contract with Thoroughbreds, other breeds were left out of this requirement and subjected to the whims of the pari-mutuels who often preferred to focus on more profitable aspects of their business. We were successful in working contract language into one iteration of a gaming package. However, our mission quickly turned to defending them against proposals to decouple horse racing from pari-mutuels, which would end the livelihood of a number of low-income but passionate residents of Coconut Creek. Decoupling horses has been steadily trending with lawmakers through

both gaming legislation and DBPR rulemaking despite its lack of relevance to the Seminole Compact. Through our relationships, we have been able to ensure the Association is always informed of every development and that they accurately understand their vulnerability at all times through direct communication with Leadership. We have continually educated members on Standardbred racing and secured commitments for, at minimum, compromise language. While gaming agreements have stalled each year, our efforts have given the FSBOA peace of mind that someone is constantly engaged with leadership, Delegation members, DBPR, as well as key committee members on their interests.

In addition to the clientele of ECI, Candice and Lauren have formed an additional partnership with the Tripp Scott law firm, TSE Consulting LLC (TSE). This partnership benefits both ECI and TSE clients through the expanded networks and resources available to our team members. Through TSE, Candice and Lauren represent additional clients. Three relevant clients are highlighted below:

Broward Sheriff's Office

Robin Rorapaugh, Director- Government Affairs 2601 West Broward Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

Phone: 954-831-8290

Robin Rorapaugh@sheriff.org

Success: Candice began representing BSO in 2019 originally to help provide information on school safety acts and other legislation related to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission recommendations. In 2020, Candice and Lauren worked to secure funding for an expansion of the Real Time Crime Center and forensic support to process a backlog of evidence in cold cases and property crimes. We also successfully represented BSO on behalf of Broward County on DCF accountability legislation (SB 1326), successfully incorporating their input on Child Protective Investigation contract language and ensuring a sunset was not added to the statute authorizing the Sheriff's responsibility to conduct them.

Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization

Greg Stuart, Executive Director 100 W Cypress Creek Rd #650, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

Phone: (954) 876-0035 stuartg@browardmpo.org

Success: We successfully defended the BMPO against legislation that would have resulted in a further reduction on board membership attempted in 2018. We were also successful in 2020 in furthering the BMPO's relationships both statewide and within our Broward Delegation to assist in our continuation of advocacy on their behalf.

Florida Power & Light

Daniel Martell, VP of State Legislative Affairs

215 S. Monroe St., Suite 810 Tallahassee, FL 32301

Phone: (561) 531-3910 Daniel.Martell@fpl.com

Success: We have worked for FPL for almost 20 years mainly in Tallahassee. Over the years we have focused on strengthening the relationships FPL has with local governments throughout Broward County and the SE region. In 2019, Candice worked in support of FP&L to help pass SB 796, which created a recovery clause for recovery of costs incurred by investor-owned utilities for storm hardening projects. The bill benefits Florida in a number of ways, primarily by ensuring the state can be better prepared by further improving the resiliency of our electric grid, through hardening overhead power lines and undergrounding more power lines. The legislation required that the state's utilities create a robust long-range plan for making the electric grid more resilient to extreme weather, including flooding and high winds. By creating a recovery clause, costs were moved from base rate increases (reviewed every four years and imposed upon the entity requesting undergrounding) to a process where costs are spread out amongst all ratepayers and are reviewed annually by the PSC. The PSC must deem the costs as "prudent." It also increased the length of storm protection plans from 3 years to 10 years (updated every 3 years) and required plans to focus on areas with the greatest need. The bill will lessen recovery times after a major storm event and ensure equitable resiliency for communities statewide, regardless of a community's ability to pay. Ensuring consistent enforcement of the hardening plans will keep overall electric rates down for consumers while facilitating and encouraging these important investments in our resiliency. This legislation was a non-partisan effort that was not opposed by local governments.

JM Family Enterprises, Inc.

Sonya Deen Hartley
Vice President, Government Relations

300 Jim Moran Boulevard, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

Phone: 954-429-2182 sonya.deen@jmfamily.com

Success: Candice has worked for JM Family Enterprises for over 20 years. In the past five years, we have been successful in representing them on various legislation related to emerging vehicle technologies, such as autonomous vehicles, electric vehicles, connected vehicles, dealer franchises, and legislation impacting data collection and use. Under the leadership of Senator Brandes, Florida has been a pioneer in facilitating the development and adoption of autonomous vehicle technology, beginning in 2012. We've worked closely with Senator Brandes on each effort over the years, including legislation that established intent, required long range planning, encouraging advancements in autonomous technology, and facilitating projects around the state. We have attended all FDOT automated vehicle conferences annually as well as the national conference on autonomous vehicles that Sen. Brandes worked hard to successfully bring to Florida in 2019. For one example, in 2019, Candice and Lauren worked on behalf of JM Family Enterprises to ensure that autonomous vehicles legislation was written in a manner that could be implemented practically without prohibiting advancements in vehicle safety

technology. HB 311 further updated statutes on autonomous vehicles in order to continue to promote advancement of the technology in the State. However, as it was originally drafted, the bill would have unintentionally prohibited vehicles equipped with autonomous technology that were not fully autonomous (such as a human-driven vehicle automatically stopping when sensing an object.) We worked with both sponsors to amend the bill during committees. We then monitored every iteration of the bill throughout Session, eventually catching another unintentional drafting error in an amendment that we were able to fix. The bill passed with our amended language.

4.2 Include information relative to experience, expertise and success in working with municipalities on legislative and governmental issues, as well as the availability and adaptability of the proposer's services to the needs requested by the City.

ECI is a full service lobbying firm that acts as an extended arm of our clients in every aspect. Whether it is on a local, state or federal issue, ECI works closely with each client to understand and represent their specific needs. Dave, Candice, and Lauren collectively have over 70 years of experience in Florida State Government. This has allowed us to gain years of critical knowledge, training, and relationships that enable us to cover a lot of ground within the legislative process. We pride ourselves on efficient coordination and organization that allows us to handle numerous tasks for multiple clients simultaneously. We believe that the long-term and enduring relationships that we enjoy with our clients reflect our standard of performance.

We are a Tallahassee-based firm with an extremely active South Florida office, both equipped to respond to the City's needs. This dual presence allows constant visibility in both the southern and northern regions of the state. It enables us to be effectively engaged in the home community our team members share with Coconut Creek while also "living" at the Capitol during Legislative Sessions and preceding Committee Weeks. Adaptability to the City's needs is a natural movement for our firm due to our years of experience working with the City and our continuous involvement in the Broward community. As for availability, we are a very short drive (depending on the time of day) to City Hall and can be with your staff or Commission on a short notice.

One of our most effective resources are those relationships that we have formed over the years. Our firm is fortunate to have solid relationships with both sides of the political aisle, which allows ECI to represent our clients in a highly effective manner. Locally, we have built meaningful relationships with the County Commission, County Administration and staff, School Board, Superintendent, and the current South Florida Water Management District board. On the state level, we take pride in the fact that we have outstanding professional and personal relationships with Legislators from both parties in both Chambers and their staffs, the Governor's office and his Chief of Staff, the Cabinet Officers and staff, and Secretaries and key decision makers in all state agencies. This access is invaluable to Coconut Creek for any issue that may need to be addressed. Our team has an excellent working relationship with both the current and incoming Senate President and Speaker as well as their staff members as well as their next two successors. We have built valuable professional and personal relationships with Coconut Creek's Legislative delegates, as well as with all members of the Broward Delegation,

and work as a collective team on engaging Legislators from North and Central Florida on our urban South Florida issues. We also enjoy an excellent working relationship with the Broward Legislative Delegation office. We attend every Broward Legislative Delegation meeting and we participate in and help coordinate Delegation events on behalf of our clients. We also work closely with the Executive Director, whom we've known for many years, helping to coordinate Broward Days and supporting in any way that we can. We have an excellent relationship with Coconut Creek's Senator Kevin Rader, having worked with him and his staff closely over the years.

At the time of this proposal, our heart is broken- as we know the City's heart is also- over the loss of our dear friend and passionate champion, Representative Kristin Jacobs. We worked closely with Rep. Jacobs during her time as Coconut Creek's Representative in the Florida House, as a Broward County Commissioner, and as an SFRTA board member. Her passing is an indescribable loss to Coconut Creek as well as the entire state. Rep. Jacobs was always knowledgeable, compelling, tenacious, and most of all, driven by a force to do right in the world. We are extremely grateful for the legacy she left us. To name only a very few examples of her accomplishments on behalf of her district and state: the C-51 Reservoir, coral reef protection, a focus on resilience and climate change, controlled substances, targeting the Shark Fin trade, tirelessly supporting Marjory Stoneman Douglas families, advocating for abuse victims, ensuring county workers could earn a living wage, fighting pill mills, regulating sober homes, helping bring critical funding to local projects, defending of home rule, and standing up for her constituents on Florida Turnpike expansion plans. She naturally understood the City's priorities, sometimes better than anyone, and vigorously fought for them. We are hopeful to be chosen to continue our contract with the City; however, please know that under any circumstance, we will be a resource for whomever the voters choose. It is impossible to replace Representative Jacobs with an equal. However, we will educate and guide this new member where capable to ensure the representation of her district continues at a level we can all be proud of.

The most valuable asset we offer to the City is our personal knowledge of Coconut Creek based on years of experience working on your behalf and our continuous involvement within the community. Many issues are around for years, while others are emerging for the first time. The individuals you choose to be the additional eyes, ears, and voice in Tallahassee should have the institutional knowledge and personal understanding that your current team has worked hard to achieve. In addition to serving as the City's contract lobbyists and working regularly with the staff on its governmental relations needs, we keep a high level of engagement in the community and with the City. We regularly monitor the City Commission agendas and attend City of Coconut Creek meetings, hosted events and workshops. We are active members of the Broward League of Cities and Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, which often focuses on issues with county-wide impacts. We regularly attend Coral Springs and Coconut Creek Chamber of Commerce events and assist in providing information to them whenever needed. We also regularly attend key meetings in the region where important discussions can impact the City, such as Broward Delegation, Broward MPO, Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition and Broward County Commission meetings. Candice is completing her second term as Chair of Broward Days, a non-partisan organization housed under the Broward Delegation that organizes an advocacy

campaign focused on the various and unique needs of Broward County residents. As Chair, Candice renewed the practice of forming diverse advocacy teams focused on serious challenges for our community, such as transportation, public safety, housing, and health care. We have been representing Broward County municipalities for almost two decades. We work hand in hand with all local elected officials and constitutional officers within the boundaries of the entire County.

We have a unique understanding of the challenges your City faces not only through being embedded in the Broward community and years of representing your City, but also through representing many of your community partners. In addition to the local governments we represent, our team members also serve on the advocacy teams for: Broward Health, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Broward Sheriff's Office, the Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters (and Metro-Broward Professional Firefighters Local 3080), JM Family Enterprises, Florida Power & Light, and Waste Connections. We are in the forefront of discussions on a daily basis in one way or another, whether it be in Tallahassee or in the interim working with incumbent state officials or candidates for state office. Session is not something that is only for a few months. It is all year long, at least for those consultants that want to be the most effective advocate they can be for their clients.

With our first-hand insight of the City, representing Coconut Creek has become part of our identity in Tallahassee. Legislators, agencies, and other staff continuously identify us with the City and come to us as a resource for knowledge on issues and for quick turnaround of information when time is of the essence and decisions are being made in the fast-paced time frame of Session. We embrace the challenge of constantly educating new members of the Legislature and staff on the history, demographics, lifestyle, and challenges of the City. Our engagement involves a gentle balance of compromise and creativity that is based upon our intimate understanding of the issues of a community that we are proudly associated with. We hope to continue to be this unique resource to the City of Coconut Creek as well as to the Legislature in this capacity.

Specific Examples of Experience:

As mentioned, ECI has vast experience representing local governments in general. In addition to the City of Coconut Creek, we currently represent Broward County, Palm Beach County, the Florida Association of Counties, the City of Coral Springs, the City of Fort Lauderdale, the City of Pembroke Pines, the City of Plantation, the Town of Davie and the Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea. In addition, members of our team also represent the City of Parkland. We also work hand-in-hand with the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations, among other similarly aligned organizations, throughout the year. We believe that the experience gained from representing these local governments for many years further enhances our understanding of the challenges the City faces, which gives us the capability to meet your needs. We are sensitive to unfunded mandates and encroachments on home rule, and we are dedicated to providing a guick and effective defense.

ECI's institutional knowledge has become an increasingly valuable asset to the City of Coconut Creek's governmental relations efforts. Term limits and high turnover rates have

limited the familiarity and judgement of lawmakers on key issues, where the opposing narrative has rewritten historical context or left out important considerations. Too frequently in recent Sessions have we found ourselves educating lawmakers to correct misunderstandings of the roles, challenges, and past compromises of local governments. This is equally true as it relates to the reasoning behind and consequences of past state decisions. Instances in which we are one of the only firms to effectively and accurately communicate historical context has sharply increased. We also have a proven talent for building powerful coalitions quickly and efficiently. This has proven critical time and again, especially in our work defending local governments against home rule attacks in Tallahassee. We draw on a wide, diverse network of contacts through our years defending local governments and other public entities and working with industries, such as waste companies and utility companies.

We have listed below some highlights of our successes and recent work in advocating on behalf of our clients within the past five years. Many examples are of issues we worked on behalf of Coconut Creek, specifically.

COVID-19

Most of the time, as soon as we return from Tallahassee we put all of our energy into legislative reports and communication with the Governor's office to protect your appropriations. This year was quite different. Although we continued to report to the City and communicate with the Governor's office (and will continue to do so until he signs the budget), our focus was to inform and work with your staff on any and all relevant information surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic. We began to work with your staff immediately after Session concluded on obstacles that began to arise. We've worked on getting clarification on timelines for public records. We also assisted the City Attorney in getting guidance from the Florida League of Cities on how the City could work around your City Charter, which requires a quorum to be physically present at meetings, to have the ability to hold meetings virtually. In working with the City Attorney, we understood that she was drafting some language to change the City Charter that will need to be addressed via referendum. Both the action that the City is undertaking by this authority coupled with the Governor's Emergency Order 20-69, which specifically suspended certain requirements in order to allow for virtual meetings, alleviated a majority of the City's concerns. We have continuously updated the City on all communications that have come out of the Governor's office, including relevant Emergency Orders. We have watched all press conferences and provided written reports on those communications directly to the City. We have closely tracked both Federal and State grant opportunities and distributions for local governments and are continuously seeking information on those opportunities to better assist you in pursuing them. We are also working with our community leaders in our business community, hospital system, nonprofits and behavioral healthcare to help improve our response to the crisis as a community. We continue to be in constant contact with the Governor's office, the Division of Emergency Management, the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Department of Management Services. As we continue

to write this proposal for submission, we as a community are not through this forest yet. We are continuing to work with the City on anything that arises.

Preemption

We fight in every Session, all Session long, to preserve the home rule authority of our local governments. We have far too many examples of success to include in this proposal. Listed below are merely a few instances within the past five years where our team has fought legislation that specifically targeted local governments.

a. HB 17 and Proposal 95 While local preemption language is a constant battle in Tallahassee, the past five years has seen a focused attack effort on home rule. HB 17 in 2017 (and Proposal 95 in the Constitutional Revision Commission) represents the most egregious of these recent battles. HB 17 and Proposal 95 were broad preemptions that would have eliminated home rule authority for anything not specifically authorized by the state. We worked closely with all other local government advocates to oppose these initiatives. We discovered later that the language was targeted towards ordinances relating to pet stores along with retailer concerns on environmentally conscious ordinances that ban plastics and other materials. We worked closely with the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Counties to supplement their efforts. We focused on our allies in the Senate, who we needed to hold strong against the bill despite whatever trades the House was willing to offer. We also worked with our allies on the CRC, such as former Senator Chris Smith. While the Senate filed a companion bill, it ultimately could not get enough support to pass their Chamber. We also worked with all other local government advocates to successfully remove a similar provision in the 2018 tax cut package, which preempted local regulations on anything related to commerce or anything covered under Chapter 212 (taxation). In 2020, the legislature pursued a more narrow preemption on pet stores specifically. However, our coalition worked with animal rights activists to gain a compromise that carved-out current ordinances before ultimately defeating the legislation.

b. Vacation Rentals: In 2013, ECI was successful in helping pass an easing of a state preemption on common-sense local vacation rental ordinances that helped ensure critical local protections for residents and tourists. Throughout each of the past five years, the vacation rental industry has put enormous effort into regaining a total preemption on these common-sense local ordinances. ECI has been one of the most active teams in the coalition that has so far defeated these industry-backed attempts year after year. Our coalition, led by the Florida League of Cities, has been successful despite strong leadership backing of these efforts. In multiple instances, leadership took extraordinary steps: pressuring members to support the bills, placing extra members on committees to ensure passage of the legislation when the votes were in favor of killing it, withdrawing amendments last-minute to force a scramble of adding amendments backed by local governments, introducing amendments to various different vehicles, and more. ECI has worked every step of the way in support of our coalition's efforts. We helped educate members on why this issue is best left to local control, cultivate (sometimes unlikely) local government allies, obtain accurate vote counts, gain intel on opposition strategy, counter misinformation disseminated by the opposition, and alerting the coalition to amendments filed to potential vehicles. While we have been successful in

stopping this misinformed attempt to elevate "private property rights" over common-sense local regulations, we anticipate this fight will return next year with even more force than years past. Preventing an expansion of the preemption requires teamwork by advocates that are able to contribute to its defeat while maintaining good relationships with leadership supportive of it.

- c. Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization: Candice and Lauren serve on the state advocacy team for the BMPO. During the 2018 Legislative Session, we successfully stopped an effort to restrict the number of voting members allowed on the board of MPOs according to population. This was solely due to our relationship and work with the bill sponsor, then Representative Halsey Beshears (now Secretary of DBPR), who gave us his word that he would work with us on our concerns. We caught the language immediately after the bill was filed and, after meeting with the sponsor, were able to narrow the language to only impact MPOs in regions below a certain population threshold. As the language appeared later in the Session in the form of an amendment, new issues arose with municipal representation and setting term-limits for board members. The term-limit language posed a significant problem to the Broward MPO as it could have led to a sudden removal of critical board members. Again, we negotiated with the sponsor and alerted the MPOAC as well as representatives of MPOs throughout the state to the issue. We ultimately were able to compromise on language that ensured local control over term-limits and removed the geographical restrictions. The compromise language was amended into a transportation omnibus package that failed to pass in the final hours of the Legislative Session, but it did not contain its original negative impacts to our client. Through this experience, we learned that MPOs across the state have a strained relationship with their local Legislative Delegations. Our team members have helped foster a greater understanding of the vital role and challenges of the BMPO with the Broward Legislative Delegation and state lawmakers. This includes helping set up and ensure attendance to a successful Delegation workshop in late 2019. We have continued fostering relationships beyond our Delegation, including with the current Secretary of FDOT, Kevin Thibault, as well as his chief of staff and his legislative affairs team. We also collaborate closely with the Executive Director of the MPOAC to supplement each other's efforts whenever necessary.
- d. Micromobility In 2018, we were part of a successful coalition that stopped the passage of a vendor-driven preemption on dockless bicycle companies. The preemption would have originally prohibited local governments from: limiting entry to operations; requiring businesses licenses or minimum insurance; and more. Our coalition was able to show the consequences preemption had in other areas of the country and expose the true factors behind the initiative. We also worked with the Senate sponsor to educate her on negative impacts. After losing support, the bill was amended to compromise with local governments by only prohibiting them from banning their entry. The bill was ultimately stopped by the Senate. In 2019, a state proposal would have preempted all local ordinances regulating the presence of electric-powered, shared scooters on municipal roads, sidewalks, and trails. Our team members worked on behalf of our municipalities and the Broward MPO to ensure common-sense local controls were available. During initial committee hearings, both the House and Senate bills contained complete preemptions. We connected the City of Fort Lauderdale, who at the time was one of the few cities to implement such a program, with the House and Senate sponsors. This

relationship influenced the House sponsor to include language in the House bill allowing partial local regulations, such as banning electric scooters in high pedestrian traffic areas. Ultimately, our coalition led by the Florida League of Cities was able to remove preemption completely from the Senate bill. However, the possibility of the House language passing remained. Negotiations in the House were stagnant and fragile outside of our advocacy and Fort Lauderdale's work. Our efforts ultimately enabled us to keep and increase the element of local control in both packages until it was certain that the Senate language would prevail.

f. Restrictive and Excessive Ethics Regulations: The City of Coconut Creek strongly supports state regulations that ensure the ethical performance of government and safeguard taxpayer dollars. However, there are sometimes well-intended state proposals that have unintended consequences. Opposing an ethics reform bill, or even specific provisions, can often be misunderstood as supporting corruption - even when this is not the case. Educating lawmakers on the specific impacts requires a thoughtful and measured approach built on the trust and understanding that our motivations are pure.

Over the past five years, there have been numerous such well-intended proposals that would have ultimately had the effects of increasing taxpayer burden, decreasing government efficiency, inviting unnecessary legal challenges, or have a chilling effect on candidates for local office. To name three examples: 1) Proposal 39 before the 2018 Constitutional Revision Commission would have prohibited local governments from hiring lobbyists to, among other things, work on appropriations. Supporters of the proposal envisioned a system where City officials and staff could work with their representatives only in order to achieve success. This unfairly would give private industry and others significantly more ground coverage on their issues. It also would have a disproportionate impact on South Florida in particular, as travel to Tallahassee is more difficult and our Delegation members tend to come from the minority party who often must take a contrarian stance against leadership or who may not have built diverse relationships in the Legislature yet. We worked on behalf of Coconut Creek and alongside the Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities to stop the proposal. This included coordinating communication from all of our cities and working with allies on the CRC, such as former Senator Chris Smith. 2) In 2018, a bill was filed that intended to prevent employees from taking "tax-payer funded vacations." The bill would have severely restricted beneficial travel, including local government advocacy in Tallahassee and travel to conferences where best practices and ideas are exchanged. It also had an outsized impact on our airport and seaport. ECI was an integral part of a coalition that successfully defeated the language by educating lawmakers on the specific impacts of the language and the reasons for employee travel. 3) Finally, from 2016-2018, multiple bills would have required candidates for municipal office to file a Form 6 financial disclosure. Municipal candidates are already required to file a Form 1 financial disclosure, which provides important information for the electorate to have. The Form 6 disclosure involves a more burdensome process allowing vulnerability to mistakes and legal challenges despite the Form 1 already providing this pertinent information. As candidates for municipal office tend to be newcomers to the political process, this policy unnecessarily risked a chilling effect on those willing to serve. While the League of Cities worked out a compromise to carve-out cities with small populations,

which would have felt a much greater impact should the bill pass, we aided them in defending candidates for office in larger cities against the provisions.

Sometimes, it isn't possible to stop a preemption from passing. However, we have been successful in amending legislation to mitigate its negative impact. A few examples are listed below:

- f. Attorney's Fees: In 2019, the Legislature passed HB 829, a bill that required local governments to be on the hook for attorney's fees for any challenge to an ordinance that is alleged to be "expressly preempted" by the state. The bill was severely flawed, however it would have been worse had our team not been involved. We worked alongside the Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities to help educate as many members as possible on the flaws in the bill. It took persistent communication and full coverage of the Legislature by our coalition to get the House sponsor to finally agree with the Senate sponsor to make the bill prospective in nature instead of retroactive, protect ordinances consistent with comprehensive plans, and protect ordinances related to the application of biosolids. We then had to work to ensure the sponsors did not go back on this agreement as the bill was ultimately destined to pass in some form or another.
- g. <u>Public Works Preemption:</u> In 2016, our team was instrumental in killing a bill that would have preempted local preference relating to public works contracts should the project utilize any state funding. The Senate bill had been successfully postponed in its first committee of reference for three weeks in a row, when the Chairman made it known he would hear the bill despite his own opposition. Our team was closely tracking the legislation and facilitating communications when we were asked to help with the efforts in the Senate. We worked with our allies on the committee, including Chair Ring, to kill the bill in committee. In 2017, the bill was introduced again and was unfortunately destined to pass after certain negotiations were reached between Chambers. However, our efforts to oppose the bill again led to a compromise position that the preemption would only apply to projects that were over \$300,000 with over 50% funding from the state.

Local Revenues:

We've worked throughout the years to defend local ability to levy revenues and protect revenue streams, including proposals that would have restricted millage increases, mandate specific elections or actions prior to levying local tax, eliminate local business taxes, raised caps on sovereign immunity claims, harmed property taxes (such as the recapture rule and increased homestead exemptions) and more. Below are a few specific examples.

a. <u>Communications Services Tax</u>: The threat of severe cuts to local revenues levied through the Communications Services Tax has hung over nearly every Legislative Session in recent history. With the advent of more Florida companies offering these taxed services, this threat has significantly heightened. While the revenue source is itself impaired due to advancement in technology, it's importance to local government has also increased as the state has diminished and restricted other revenue sources available. The industry has valid arguments that the tax should be changed, based on its

historical development into a complex and outdated mechanism. Many of these concerns are shared by local governments, as shown by past legislative priorities adopted by both the Florida League of Cities and the City of Coconut Creek calling on revenue neutral reform. However, proposals to decrease the tax often do not address these underlying issues. Instead, they only propose a way to reduce tax burden on industry, leaving critical local budgets and bonds at risk.

Throughout the past five years, we have always watched language in proposed bills and amendments closely for negative impacts to local governments through a CST cut. Our coalition has been successful in mostly assuring a raise to local cost share would offset any decrease in the state's levy. In 2020, a proposed bill would have forced local governments phase-in a cut in order to levy flat rate of 4%. We immediately sought the fiscal impact to the City. This represented a huge and sudden revenue loss to local governments even in light of the bill's attempt to strike a balance by expanding the tax base to include streaming services. The base expansion was flawed in its ability to directly offset local revenue through vague language with little understanding of how it would be practically implemented. We frequently brought up the proposal in discussions with our local Delegation members and, upon the bill being noticed in its Senate committee, met with each committee member to assess their position and educate them. We found that most of the lawmakers we met with did not have an understanding of the history of the tax, the importance of the local revenue, past proposals to reform the tax that included local government input through a state-established working group, and the severity of the cut contained in the bill. Our institutional knowledge allowed us to raise important questions with these members and provide thoughtful talking points that had not been fully explained and addressed with them prior. The bill passed the committee unanimously due to several political factors that discouraged voting the bill down in its first committee, however we were able to form the right arguments in candid discussions that set the baseline for future conversations. The bill was not considered again. We anticipate that this bill will be coming back more forcefully in future Sessions, and we plan to be integral part of every effort to ensure our local governments are protected.

- b. <u>Turnpike Revenues</u> In 2017, we were successful in extending an expiring statute that provides a critical revenue source for the Tri-Counties (Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade). Upon learning that a statute entitling the counties to 90% of turnpike toll revenues attributable to users within the Tri-County area to fund their transportation work programs would expire that year, our team coordinated a meeting between the government relations staff from each of the the Tri-counties. We helped them to agree on the length of extension of the statute, identify potential vehicles, and develop a strategy. We worked closely with Legislators and helped identify amendment sponsors, file the amendment language and ensure adoption of the language onto multiple packages. We ensured key Leadership knew of the importance of the language and its need for passage. We worked closely with Sen. Brandes, the DOT Secretary and legislative affairs staff as well as the Governor's office, who ultimately signed the bill with the language into law.
- c. <u>FRS Reform</u> Florida lawmakers took a renewed interest in reforming the Florida Retirement System under Speaker Will Weatherford's leadership in 2012-13. We worked during this time with a coalition to ensure the House was unsuccessful in passing a

priority bill that would have forced new hires into the defined contribution system. The Speaker ultimately had a study commissioned that then spurred further subsequent proposals. In 2016 and 2017, similar bills would have specifically closed off new hires in local governments that participate in the FRS system from the pension plan. Likewise, bills sought to overhaul the FRS system statewide by defaulting new hires to the defined contribution plan. We worked with our Delegation members and specifically focused on the Senate to ensure the final bill passed, which was tied to the actuarial contribution increases, had only minor impacts.

Environment:

The City cares deeply about environmental policy due to its importance to the overall quality of life for its residents and our proximity to the Everglades. In the past five years, we've worked on behalf of our local governments on a number of environmental efforts, including Everglades Restoration, Amendment 1 Implementation, the C-51 Reservoir, water and wastewater systems, recycling, and more. Below is an example of our efforts to prohibit the damaging practice of fracking in Florida on the City's behalf.

- a. Fracking The City was immediately concerned as soon as the issue of fracking was raised in the 2015 Legislative Session and used all available resources to oppose it. In the 2016 Legislative Session, a bill was filed that would have created a permitting system for high-pressured well stimulation or "fracking." The bill would have allowed the practice. However, supporters contended, and misled others to sincerely believe, that the bill would have instead regulated a currently unregulated practice. We appeared at every committee on behalf of the City to express opposition. We helped support efforts by opponents of the bill to educate lawmakers on negative impacts of fracking as well as the actual impact of the bill. The final bill required DEP to conduct a study on how to control and mitigate chemical impacts on the environment and develop rules for the permitting process prior to its implementation. However, the Senate Appropriations Committee did not ultimately pass it. In the end, defeating the legislation was only possible due to the concerted and loud effort of our local governments leading this public campaign. Not only did the bill not pass, significant media coverage turned the topic into an election issue, forcing supporters of the bill to acknowledge their mistake or face losing the 2016 election. This turned the tide in the Legislature. In 2017, the Senate reversed course and refused to pass nothing short of a ban. In 2018, the election of Governor DeSantis furthered this cause. He encouraged a ban on fracking in his first major executive order, which focused on the environment. In 2019 and 2020, proposals to ban only some fracking, creating a backdoor for the most common type of fracking, have been attempted but have continued to be defeated with the support of the Governor's office and the support of the public. Additionally, after the state was unsuccessful in legally stopping oil drilling in the Everglades (another major concern of the City's) the Governor announced the state purchase of the land to ensure its protection.
- b. <u>Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project- Phase 2</u> The Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project was authorized in the 2014 Federal Water Resources and Development Act with the goal to construct a reservoir that would save the health of the Bay, which is declining at a rapid pace due to increased salinity levels, population and

development. As Phase I of the project was underway, it became apparent that the timeline for construction needed to be expedited in order to prevent significant environmental and economic damage to the area. The Federal government required the state fund a Project Implementation Report in order to begin implementation of Phase II, however the state is not held to any timeline for implementation or funding. We represent landowners and environmentalists who in conjunction with Miami Dade County and the City of Miami recognized the immediate need for state funding. We educated the Legislature on the project but found little appetite from both the Legislature and South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to include the project funding during the 2017 Legislative Session as all focus and dollars were concentrated on the Senate President's priority reservoir to address issues in Lake Okeechobee. Our project directly competed. Undeterred, we worked with the Senate Appropriations Chair to successfully secure a \$1.5 million appropriation for the Project Implementation Report under water projects in the budget that was signed by the Governor. After the appropriation, we continued to work with the SFWMD through leadership changes to ensure that the overwhelmed District properly utilized the funding for the intended report. We are continuing to advocate for this important project to see the State through its completion of its role as required to ensure the next Federal steps in Phase II.

Public Safety

The City has always taken a strong stance on public safety issues, particularly as it relates to texting and driving and gun violence.

a. Gun Violence: The City passed resolutions against gun violence following the Sandy Hook tragedy and we worked for several Sessions with Representative Waldman and others to remove the preemption on local control of gun regulations. In 2018, our community was devastated by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting which was shortly after a terrifying mass shooting at the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International airport and other devastating mass shootings around the state and country. As lobbyists for local governments directly impacted and as community residents, we were one of the few firms to cover every single meeting of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, including all recommendations and reports. We worked closely with our Delegation members, including Representative Jacobs, on all three legislative packages on issues ranging from school safety, radio communications, gun control, and more. We helped file legislation once again to peel back the preemption on local gun regulations in 2020 and monitored all proposals that would have increased gun control and law enforcement ability to respond to horrific events. We continue to be personally invested and driven to accomplish more on this issue.

b. <u>Texting While Driving:</u> Since the very advent of the effects on traffic safety caused by the adoption of texting as a communication, ECI has worked diligently with the greater coalition advocating for increased regulations and traffic safety. In 2014, we worked with

the National Waste & Recycling Association to ensure passage of a bill that added sanitation vehicles to "move over" laws. In 2013, ECI was successful in helping pass a prohibition on texting while driving commercial vehicles. However, our ultimate goal in getting Florida to join almost all other states in expanding this prohibition to all drivers proved extremely challenging in a state government that favored the protection of individual liberty and questioned the law enforcement of such measures. We worked in support of the FL DNT TXT N DRV coalition and to advance the legislation further in the process each Legislative Session. The leadership of private and public organizations that understood public opinion, including the City of Coconut Creek, enabled our coalition to at last achieve success in making texting while driving a secondary (in 2013) and, finally, primary offense (in 2019). The City's unwavering support of this issue has helped save lives. We were proud to represent your values of common-sense public safety during this effort and will continue to advocate on your behalf to make Florida a "hands free" state.

c. SWAT Medics (HB 487): Following the horrific events of February 14, 2018, the City of Coral Springs recognized a state law that needed to be changed. The law prevented trained medics who serve as part of law enforcement SWAT teams from carrying firearms for protection when entering highly dangerous areas. A number of mass shootings in Florida involved circumstances where these medics were faced with a choice to either: a) lose precious time in rendering aid to the injured, b) endanger themselves and their team by entering a situation unprotected, or c) break the law-in turn risking liability for themselves and their employers. In 2019, the City adopted the issue as a top legislative priority and connected ECI with the Broward Police Chiefs Association, which had crafted language through a legislative committee. We worked closely throughout the process with our Broward first responders, including our local 3080 firefighters union, BSO employees, and municipal police departments. We quickly found that the rest of the state, with the exception of the Orlando area (due to Pulse Nightclub), had little understanding of the issue. This was mostly due to their not being in Broward's unfortunate and unique position of having experienced multiple large-scale mass shootings. We took a highly creative approach that allowed us to identify and cultivate allies outside of Broward who had gained an understanding through involvement with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, among other experiences. We secured Republican sponsors outside of Broward in the Senate and the House. We also secured a Broward Democratic primary co-sponsor of the House legislation (Rep. Mike Gottlieb). Rep. Gottlieb's involvement was a hugely beneficial step in showing the bill was bi-partisan and not driven by gun rights organizations that are typically behind firearm expansion bills. We similarly advocated for our local municipalities, who tend to strongly support gun restrictions, to pass resolutions in favor of the legislation. This critically also helped show the bi-partisan need for the bill. We then worked with this coalition that included our sponsors, local unions, and influential allies across the state to overcome reservations among lawmakers, unions, executive agencies, and gun reform advocates. We executed constant communication, education, and language revisions at multiple steps along the way. We included explicit

language to prohibit widespread carrying of firearms on firetrucks and ensure the firearms were supplied by law enforcement to the medics only during specific high-risk situations. This long-shot bill ultimately passed- in its first year of introduction- due to our creativity, unwavering commitment to our Broward first responders, and our ability to effectively mobilize and organize their passionate advocacy on behalf of the legislation.

d.<u>Lewd & Lascivious:</u> In 2019, we worked on behalf of the Florida Federation of Public Employees (Broward AFL-CIO) to pass crucial legislation that helped protect local corrections officers against sexual harassment from inmates. While state law already protected state corrections officers from such harassment, county and municipal officers were left out of the original legislation. The bill enhanced penalties for certain inmate behaviors, such as "gunning" or publicly masturbating in order to intimidate officers, while in local detention facilities. We secured sponsors for the bill, advocated for the bill to be heard in each committee of reference, ensured passage of the bill by each committee, ensured final passage on the floor, and helped ensure the governor's signature of approval for the legislation.

e. <u>Contraband in Specified Facilities:</u> In 2020, we worked on behalf of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office to pass SB 1286, which closed critical loopholes in detention facility contraband regarding hemp, vaping devices, and cell phones. These loopholes were created by evolutions in law and technology and posed major security risks for various detention facilities across the state. We secured sponsors for the bill, worked with impacted agencies, advocated for the bill to be heard in each committee of reference, helped re-work the language based on lawmaker concerns, ensured passage in each committee, ensured final passage on the floor, and are currently working to ensure the governor's signature of approval for the legislation.

Seminole Compact

In 2009, we placed ourselves at the negotiating table of the Seminole Compact to insist that the local governments receive guaranteed compensation in the agreement. We argued that the local governments essentially bear the brunt of the impacts from increased gaming (such as local law enforcement, road traffic, etc.) Therefore, a percentage of money from the compact would be essential to offset such impacts at the local level. We successfully inserted language that would guarantee 5% of the compact to local governments. The 2009 agreement was, however, invalidated.

In 2010, since the expected payments from the Seminoles increased, the local government guarantee was decreased to 3%. We then secured 55% of this allocation for Coconut Creek. This was, by far, the largest amount received by any city. Therefore, the City receives a portion of revenues generated by the Seminole Casino Coconut Creek, which helps offset the local financial impacts created by the gaming increase. The compact was ultimately agreed to by the Legislature, the Governor and the Tribe during the 2010 Legislative Session. Until the State was ruled to have violated a renewed Compact and the Tribe ceased payments to the State, we worked every

Session to ensure local cost share was protected in any agreement that would renew the Compact. In 2020, the state could still not reach an agreement between the Chambers in time to negotiate with the Tribe. While a Special Session appeared to be an option, the COVID-19 pandemic has suspended all efforts for the time being. We continue to stay informed on all issues related to gaming on Coconut Creek's behalf and our understanding is that the Tribe has expressed to the Governor that they are willing to once again address the Compact after we recover.

South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA)

We have worked for the SFRTA since its initial transformation from Tri-Rail into the South Florida Transportation Authority. From 2005 to 2008, ECI was instrumental in passing legislation that allowed the SFRTA the authority to issue bonds, set minimum contributions for participating Counties, authorized participating Counties to impose a local/option tax to provide matching funds and protected transit-oriented development from comprehensive plan concurrency requirements. In 2017, we successfully ensured passage of HB 695, which allowed SFRTA to indemnify All Aboard Florida and the FEC for liability insurance purposes regarding use of the rail line. In 2019, we successfully ensured passage of HB 311, which gave flexibility for law enforcement incident reports to ensure trains could be up and moving faster after a traffic incident. For both bills, we secured sponsors, ensured the bill was scheduled and passed out of every House and Senate committee, worked with Legislators on amending the language to reflect their input, ensured final passage off the floor of both Chambers, and obtained the Governor's signature. In 2017, we were not only successful in passing legislation, we simultaneously defended multiple and varied targeted attacks on SFRTA's procurement process spurred by misinformation spread by a company who unsuccessfully bid on a project.

Agencies:

Over the years, we have fostered solid relationships with the Secretaries and head staff of all of the executive branch agencies. We have had numerous successes working with the agencies ranging from transportation, economic development, environmental permitting, pari-mutuels (on behalf of FSBOA), grant programs and more. Below are a few highlighted successes for one of our cities, the City of Fort Lauderdale:

In 2016, FDEP placed an additional requirement on the City of Fort Lauderdale's permit to clean the beach east of Birch State Park. The change made the City liable for trespassing on this section of the beach unless authorized by the property owner, not only preventing the City from maintaining this certain portion of the beach but also complicating cleanup on the public beach located north and south of the Birch State Park property. We worked with Representative Moraitis's office to solve the issue as quickly as possible so tourists and residents could continue to enjoy a well-maintained beach. Rep. Moraitis was able to get clarification from FDEP that a letter from the park manager would be sufficient enough to authorize access. The City was able to quickly get the letter to continue cleaning the beach.

In 2015, the City of Fort Lauderdale ran into a roadblock with its ongoing improvements to Southside Elementary School when the Florida Communities Trust requested full market price for land needed to expand and improve the sidewalk. Our team coordinated a meeting with the Secretary of FDEP to explain why the project met the standards

required in restrictive covenants to significantly reduce the price. Our meeting directly resulted in the Secretary agreeing to give the land to Fort Lauderdale at no cost under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the City.

In 2014, our team successfully navigated the State's permitting process between the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to allow the City of Fort Lauderdale to expand a sidewalk along A1A to increase pedestrian safety and further the City's "Complete Streets" initiatives. The process was particularly complicated by turtle nesting and location of sand dunes, however we successfully brought all parties together and brokered a comfortable agreement which resulted in the City's ability to serve its citizens transportation needs. This project took the entire team's due diligence in working with both agencies to get the desired result for the City.

Local Advocacy:

Our history of leadership and service to and within the County has enabled us to form lasting, trust-based relationships on the local level as well. We note our local successes for the Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters, Broward Health, and Lauderdale-by-the-Sea in Section 4.1. Additionally within the past five years, we worked with former City Manager Mary Blasi, Broward County Commissioner Mark Bogen and Representative Jacobs on issues related to the Monarch Hill landfill and expansion of the Florida Turnpike. Members of our team have also been working with Commissioner Bogen on behalf of Broward College to stand up a Bridge Scholarship program that will help students to afford to finish their degrees, thereby increasing their income potential and economic stability. We've also worked with the City to address impact fee issues with Broward County Public Schools.

Our team firmly believes that our government systems work best when citizens are informed and understand how to engage the process effectively. We love sharing our knowledge and best practices with others. We have provided training courses on "Lobbying 101" to organizations including the Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters, the Coral Springs/Coconut Creek Chamber of Commerce and at conferences hosted by our clients. We regularly present to the Government Affairs Committee of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, Broward Days Impact Teams, and other conference events. We have also presented reviews of Legislative Sessions to the Broward's Northwest Council of Elected Officials and the Broward County City Managers Association when hosted by the City of Coconut Creek.

4.3 Provide a description of the legislative tracking system/format the proposer will use (and sample forms if available) to keep Administration abreast of issues. Describe the methods your firm will employ to keep City Administration appraised of your efforts and successes on Coconut Creek's behalf.

We believe that communication is the most valuable component of a client/lobbyist relationship and is the key to their mutual success. Insight and ongoing communication between the lobbyist and the client provides a better understanding of exactly what the client wants, allowing us to be successful in achieving the desired result. We are only a

phone call, text or email away from our clients at all times (whether in or out of Session) and are committed to quickly responding.

We are very much a hands-on organization and physically cover each committee meeting at which our clients' issues are discussed. During the Legislative Session we utilize interns from Florida State University and University of South Florida programs to supplement our efforts by assisting with bill tracking and note-taking to record committee actions and participant comments.

ECI takes full advantage of every source of information available to us for client research, bill tracking, news services and data management, which enable ECI to quickly provide up-to-date information on bills, amendments, committee meetings and breaking developments during the frantic days of session and throughout the year. We are constantly tracking information using LobbyTools, Politico Pro, the News Service of Florida, Florida Politics, local news sources, ordinance watches, and more. We also follow all elected officials, government pages, and news sources on Twitter and Facebook, so we are as up-to-date as possible.

In addition to the tracking methods mentioned above, ECI has also built a useful and respected network through our involvement with various associations, such as the Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations, the Florida Public Transit Association, and the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL), to name only a few. FAPL was created to provide on-going professional development and promote the highest ethical standards of professional conduct for lobbyists within the state. Dave Ericks is a pioneer member of FAPL and Candice Ericks is the current Vice Chair, having served on its Board of Directors for several years. We regularly attend their continuing education seminars and events, allowing us to continue cultivating relationships with other interests that may ultimately affect Coconut Creek's Legislative agenda. We work side by side with each of these organizations, which keeps us constantly updated on new issues, particularly during times in the Legislative Session when amendments are filed quickly.

To further communication between the City and ECI, we will continue to provide written reports and updates on a regular basis, during both the legislative session and the interim. Those updates will focus on those issues and concerns identified by the City of Coconut Creek as well as developing initiatives of which we believe the City should be aware. At the end of the Session, we will provide a review of all that took place. Please refer to the attached End of Session report that we provided to the City of Coconut Creek at the end of the most recent Legislative Session.

Our firm is always focused on communication. As your administration and City Council has already experienced with our firm, we work side by side with your staff to ensure the City is well aware of our efforts and our communication to both state and local decision makers. Our successes have been well documented throughout the years, with full explanations of circumstances or obstacles in areas where we were not successful. Many political and environmental factors, which are often unconnected to the subject at hand, impact the passage or defeat of legislation. We are as transparent as possible to

ensure our clients that no result is due to lack of effort or access and enable them to build upon the successes and lessons of each year.

4.4 Describe the Proposers experience, expertise, and success rate in obtaining State and Federal grants for their clients. Describe the projects, the dollar amounts secured and the sources.

Our firm is expert at the appropriations process. The competition for state funding is always intense due to Florida's revenue challenges, especially the rollout of a formal Legislative system for appropriations. Priorities are often funded in Tallahassee based on politics and persistence rather than merit or need and regardless of how long a priority has waited in the queue. The experience of our team gives us the political insight and network needed to strategically move your priorities forward. Being successful in the appropriations process today requires an effective strategy that builds a compelling business case to support your appropriations request. It also requires a level of tenacity to see your request through until the Governor signs his or her name to the budget. Whether they are for a "stand-alone" appropriation or part of a competitive grant program, we work with your staff to identify opportunities and projects and build a business case that distinguishes your individual requests above the competition. For the legislative budget process, we secure sponsors, coordinate all forms and deadlines, ensure the required House bills are passed through their subcommittees, ensure inclusion of the project in initial subcommittee budgets, work throughout the budget conference to protect and/or increase initial amounts for inclusion in the final budget, and work with the Governor's office during the line-item veto process.

For grant programs, we have a solid working knowledge of the grant program funding sources, ranking process, decisions which determine the potential outcomes of which projects are funded, and the decision makers which hold the keys to the funding. We leverage our relationships with the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Economic Opportunity, Department of State, and others to explore grant opportunities for local governments, clarify the application process, assist in tailoring applications to meet the expectations of the agency, and coordinate communications from our clients. We also work throughout the Session to support increased funding for the programs that are distributed to local governments and create grant opportunities, such as FRDAP, SHIP, Cultural Facilities, and more. Increasing grant funding is a long term goal that requires the knowledge, focus and persistence that the experts on our team can provide. We've seen these increases return slowly but significantly in the past few years thanks to advocacy from our local leaders and a dedicated coalition of which we are an integral part. On the Federal level, we enjoy great relationships with members of our Congressional Delegation and have worked through those channels of communication to assist in advocacy on Assistance to Firefighters Grant funding (AFG), reimbursement disputes with FEMA, and more.

Below is our track record of success in securing "stand-alone" budget appropriations, which do not go through the grant process.

For Coconut Creek specifically, we've secured funding in budgets passed by the Legislature. Unfortunately, some of these projects were included in veto messages. We are currently working to protect funding in the current state budget.

FY 2020-2021: \$100,000 City of Coconut Creek Hillsboro Water Storage Tank

FY 2019-2020: \$150,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater Conveyance System

FY 2018-2019: \$225,000 City of Coconut Creek Traffic Signal Project

FY 2017-18: \$150,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater Conveyance System

FY 2016-17: \$100,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater Pipe Rehabilitation Project

FY 2015-16: \$500,00 City of Coconut Creek's Reclaimed Water Extension project

FY 2014-15: \$250,000 for City of Coconut Creek water projects

Below is a list of some of our additional appropriations successes for our clients: FY 2020-2021:

\$100,000 Helping Abused Neglected Disadvantaged Youth, Inc. (HANDY) - Scholars Program

\$400,000 Seminole County Sheriff - Substance Abuse Recovery Center

\$250,000 Broward County Sheriff's Office - Cold Cases and Property Crime Backlog Reduction

\$500,000 Broward County Sheriff's Office Real-Time Crime Center Expansion

\$136,387 Community Court Program - City of Fort Lauderdale

\$100,000 Parkland Stormwater Quality Improvement Project

\$250,00 Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Septic to Sewer

\$100,00 Coconut Creek Hillsboro Water Storage Tank

\$250,000 Fort Lauderdale Dorsey-Riverbend Stormwater Improvements

\$100,000 Coral Springs Parks & Recreation Security Initiatives

\$250,000 Plantation - Special Needs Playground Equipment

\$288,000 Pembroke Pines Senior Transportation

\$900,000 Pembroke Road Extension - Pembroke Pines

\$100,000 Bergeron Rodeo Grounds Improvements - Davie

\$250,000 Coral Springs - Westside Facility Hardening Project

FY 2019-2020:

Successfully advocated for increased arts funding resulting in modest increase to Coral Springs Museum of Art and Performing Arts Center funding.

\$250,000 Homeless Collaborative of Broward County (requested through City of Fort Lauderdale)

\$500,000 for the City of Pembroke Pines Firestation #69 renovation project*

\$288,000 - City of Pembroke Pines Senior Transportation Program*

*Indicates project included in the Governor's veto message.

FY 2017-18

\$1.5 million for the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project

\$150,000 for HANDY College Assistance Program \$500,000 RESTORE Program in Palm Beach County \$500,000 Opioid Abuse Pilot Program in Palm Beach County \$400,000 for the City of Fort Lauderdale Rapid Rehousing \$250,000 for an Inclusive Playground in the City of Pembroke Pines \$600,000 for a Fire Training Facility in the City of Pembroke Pines \$1.5 million for the City of Plantation Fire Station #1

We secured the following projects in the final budget passed by the Legislature, however these projects were unfortunately included in the Governor's over \$400 million line-item veto.

\$150,000 for Wastewater Conveyance in City of Coconut Creek \$750,000 for Westside Facility Hardening in the City of Coral Springs \$300,000 for University Drive Resurfacing in the City of Coral Springs \$220,000 for Davie Downtown Road Improvements in the Town of Davie \$218, 181 for the Senior Transportation Program in the City of Pembroke Pines \$200,000 for Creation Station Library Project for Palm Beach County

FY 2016-17:

\$500,000 for Fort Lauderdale's Rapid Rehousing initiative in 2016. \$75,000 for water quality improvements in the City of Coral Springs \$250,000 for the City of North Lauderdale Automatic Meter Reading system \$100,000 for Veterans Home renovation in Pembroke Pines \$100,000 for Bergeron Rodeo Arena Refurbishment in the Town of Davie \$575,000 for the Jerome Golden Center in Palm Beach County (last phase of three phases)

We secured the following projects in the final budget passed by the Legislature and sent to the Governor, however the projects were included in the Governor's veto \$250 million in local projects across the State:

\$100,000 for the Coconut Creek Wastewater Pipe Rehabilitation Project \$100,000 for the Coral Springs Stormwater Improvements at Corporate Park \$300,000 for City of Coral Springs University Drive Resurfacing \$300,000 for City of Coral Springs Aquatic Complex Pool Refurbishment

\$500,000 for the Fort Lauderdale River Oaks Preserve in 2016 \$500,000 for the Fort Lauderdale Stormwater Drainage Program in 2016

\$100,000 for North Lauderdale Street Lights

\$100,000 for North Lauderdale Sidewalk Replacement

\$200,000 for North Lauderdale Street Resurfacing/Kimberly Boulevard

\$40,000 for North Lauderdale Security Cameras

\$70,000 for North Lauderdale City Hall Roof

\$50,000 for Emergency Operations Center - Permanent Generator for Lift Station - City of Plantation

FY 2015-16:

\$575,000 for the Jerome Golden Center in Palm Beach County (second of three phases) \$250,000 for Veterans Home Renovations for the City of Pembroke Pines \$130,000 for Stormwater Improvement in the City of Coral Springs

We secured the following projects in the final budget passed by the Legislature and sent to the Governor, however the projects were included in the Governor's veto of a record \$470 million in local projects across the State:

\$1 million for the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport Terminal \$800,000 for the City of Fort Lauderdale's Rapid Rehousing Program \$500,000 for the City of Coconut Creek's Reclaimed Water Extension project \$500,000 for the City of North Lauderdale's Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project \$500,000 for the City of North Lauderdale's 17th Street Reconstruction project \$350,000 for the City of North Lauderdale's Street Resurfacing project \$250,000 for the City of Coral Springs' University Drive Resurfacing project \$250,000 for the City of Fort Lauderdale's Juvenile Justice Program \$100,000 for upgrades for the Town of Davie's Bergeron Rodeo Grounds

FY 2014- 2015:

\$200,000 for mental health and substance abuse pilot project in Jerome Golden Center in Palm Beach County (first of three phases)

A total of \$225,000 in water projects funding for the City of Coconut Creek.

A total of \$115,000 in water projects funding and \$250,000 in funding for the Safety Town program for the City of Coral Springs.

\$500,000 in a Cultural Facilities Grant for the Broward Center for the Performing Arts ECI was also an instrumental part of a \$10 million appropriation to the building of Quiet Zones along the FEC corridors on behalf of Palm Beach County and other local governments.

\$150,000 for Fort Lauderdale Dredging Maintenance

\$700,000 for the Fort Lauderdale Southeast Neighborhood Tidal Valve and Stormwater Upgrade

\$47,000 in non-recurring funding for an additional law enforcement operation to fight the distribution of designer drugs for the City of Fort Lauderdale

Charter Schools

As mentioned previously, ECI was instrumental in obtaining increases in appropriations each year for charter schools for the City of Coral Springs and the City of Pembroke Pines. This has been an uphill battle over the years to gain support and appropriations for the charter school effort.

2001 -- Increased from \$20 million to \$27.7 million

2006 -- Increased from \$27.7 million to \$53 million

During the 2007 and 2008 Legislative Sessions -- over \$54,000,000

2010 -- \$56.112.466

2011 -- \$55 million appropriated with additional money for high performing charter school systems

(note that both Coral Springs and Pembroke Pines are part of a high performing charter schools system)

2012 -- \$55,209,106 (plus additional funding available after allocation to the lab schools)

2013-- \$91 million

2014-- \$75 million

From 2015 on, the Legislature has made a number of changes to the charter school capital outlay formula that we have worked with Legislators, committee staff, and the Department of Education to assess the impact of, communicate concerns with, and mitigate negative budget strains. Current allocations are based on a formula that triggers sharing of local millage should the capital outlay fund fall below a certain amount.

Additional:

In 2013, we aided Palm Beach County \$100,000 appropriation for the Scripps Research Institute for the Nicotine Addiction Drug Treatment Evaluation Grant Program and successfully advocated for \$10 million in a Seaport Investment Program and \$241 million in Seaport Grants.

\$4,537,088 for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office for Child Protective Investigations, an approximately \$1 million increase over a \$3,443,114 appropriation we secured for the same client the year before, in 2013.

\$1 million for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority for dispatch operations for the South Florida corridor in 2010.

Our team was instrumental in having the Legislature appropriate \$15 million for 5 years for South Florida Regional Transportation Authority service to keep 50 trains in operation in 2009.

\$225,000 into the budget for wastewater improvements for the Town of Davie in 2008.

\$500,000 for the Fire Training Simulator Tower for the City of Coral Springs in 2008.

\$230,000 to upgrade the City of Plantation's Emergency Standby Power at the City's Regional Wastewater Plant in 2007

\$7 million dollar appropriation for Plantation's golf course in the early 2000s.

4.5 How many clients does your firm currently represent (internationally, nationally, and within the state of Florida) and how many lobbyists do you employ to serve the needs of your clients? Provide a listing of only individuals who will be directly involved with this service, including resumes, certifications and home office location of each key person.

ECI represents roughly 25 clients within the State of Florida and employs four full time staff who are all assigned to each client. Additionally, we utilize interns during the Legislative Session through various Florida universities. Our interns are often Broward County natives and are closely familiar with our clients prior to joining our team.

We have offices located in Tallahassee just blocks away from the Capitol and downtown Fort Lauderdale just off of Las Olas Boulevard. Dave and Janet are based in Tallahassee. Candice and Lauren are based in Fort Lauderdale and relocate to Tallahassee during the Legislative Session and preceding committee weeks.

Please note: At the time of this proposal, the building our office is located in has been sold and will be redeveloped. We are legally registered under this address for purposes of a business tax receipt. While temporarily displaced, we are currently based in downtown Fort Lauderdale. For the time being, all mail should be directed to our Tallahassee location.

DAVID ERICKS is founder and President of Ericks Consultants, Inc.

Dave established Ericks Consultants Inc. in 1985. For more than 25 years, Dave has represented a multi-faceted group of clients, giving him a wide array of expertise in multiple subject areas, including the electric and telecommunication utilities, law enforcement, entertainment, health care, travel, corrections, solid waste, growth management, automobile, gaming and transportation industries; as well as in the many diverse issues facing county and city government entities on a day-to-day basis. Prior to founding Ericks Consultants, Dave served as the regional administrator and lobbyist for the 3M Corporation in Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama.

Dave began his public service career at the Plantation Police Department, where he quickly moved through the ranks to Lieutenant and then transferred to Broward County Sheriff's as a Lt. Commander. Dave was elected as the President of the Fraternal Order of Police, negotiating their collective bargaining and lobbying legislative issues on their behalf (1980-1983). Dave went on to serve as the executive assistant to Sheriff Bob Butterworth, following his appointment as the head of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. In this role, Dave's primary assignment was lobbying for the agency's legislative priorities.

Dave is a pioneer member of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists, and has served as a board member of the Florida State Fair Authority and the Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority, serving as chairman for three years. He currently sits on the Tallahassee Airport Advisory Committee

Mr. Ericks received his B.A. Degree from Long Island University and earned his Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Nova University. He is also a graduate of the F.B.I. Academy's Law Specialist School in Quantico, Virginia and has taught as an Adjunct Faculty Member for Nova University.

Mr. Ericks resides in Tallahassee, Florida and is based in our Tallahassee office location at 205 S. Adams Street, Tallahassee FL 32301.

CANDICE ERICKS is the Vice President of Ericks Consultants Inc. Candice is a South Florida native. She spent the later part of her childhood growing up in Long Island, NY, where she graduated from Seaford High School in 1991 with honors. Candice then

graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from the School of Communication with a Public Relations degree from Florida State University in 1995. During her time at Florida State she took a semester off to intern for Senator Dudley from Fort Myers. Sdd to Broward.

Candice returned to New York to start her professional career in Manhattan in corporate sales, specializing in outdoor advertising and temporary staffing. She returned to her roots in 1998 and opened up the South Florida office of Ericks Consultants, Inc. Over the years Candice has developed an extensive network of contacts and relationships within state and local governments, as well as the business community. She has developed a broad expertise in numerous subject areas due to her hands-on strategic approach within the governmental relations world on both a state and local level. Candice has also formed a partnership with the law offices of Tripp Scott to create TSE Consulting, LLC. This partnership provides further benefits for all of her clients, including Ericks Consultants clients through an enhanced network and additional resources.

Candice currently represents a broad spectrum of clients, ranging from local governments to corporations to nonprofits. Most of her clients are longtime relationships due to her dedication and loyalty to their success in the political world. During the 2016 Legislative Session, Candice was the first recipient of the Theresa Lintz Memorial Award from the Florida Association for Intergovernmental Relations. This award is significant in that it represents excellence in legislative advocacy on behalf of local governments in Florida and an exemplary commitment to consensus building, professionalism and high ethical standards to better serve our local communities.

Candice is active in many organizations throughout the community and on a state level. She is a longtime board member of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists, an organization committed to establishing and maintaining high standards for the lobbying profession. She is the outgoing Chair of Broward Days, a non-partisan organization under the Broward Delegation that advocates for the diverse needs and concerns of Broward County. She is an active associate member of the Broward League of Cities and Palm Beach County League of Cities. She is a past President of the Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations. She is a Board Director for the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce and currently serves on their Governmental Relations committee. She is also a past board member of ChildNet, a not-for profit organization working to protect Broward and Palm Beach County's abused, neglected and abandoned children.

Candice graduated from the Leadership Broward's Class of XXV, an organization that seeks to prepare members for leadership roles in their community. She was also featured by Gold Coast Magazine as one of Broward County's leading young professionals "40 under 40" who were recognized for their professional and civic involvement.

Candice resides in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and is based in our Fort Lauderdale location. Candice relocates to Tallahassee during the Legislative Session.

LAUREN JACKSON, joined Ericks Consultants, Inc. over seven years ago and serves as a Government Relations Consultant

Prior to working for the Ericks team, Lauren served on Senator Ellyn Bogdanoff's staff as her Broward County coordinator. Lauren also served as the Legislative Aide to Representative Evan Jenne, while he served as the House Minority Whip and Chair of the Broward County Legislative Delegation. As a result, she came to her current position with a working knowledge of both chambers and with relationships on both sides of the aisle.

Lauren began her career in the political world as an intern, serving as a legislative intern for National Strategies in Tallahassee, a legislative intern for Dutko Poole McKinley in Tallahassee, and a fundraising intern for Congressman Jim Matheson in Salt Lake City. Prior to politics, Lauren worked for Young's Market Company of Utah in Salt Lake City as an office clerk whose responsibilities included overseeing a four-state advertising program.

Lauren is a graduate of the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a minor in campaign management. She is also a graduate of the Women's Campaign School at Yale University.

Lauren is a native of South Florida and is based in our Fort Lauderdale location. Lauren relocates to Tallahassee during the Legislative Session.

JANET MORRIS has an in-depth knowledge of the operations of the Florida Legislature and state government. Janet retired from the Florida House of Representatives in 2006, as a senior legislative analyst for the House Committee on Business Regulation. In her capacity on committee staff, Janet was responsible for the analysis of legislation dealing with alcohol, tobacco, general business and all gaming venues, including lottery, pari-mutuels, slots, etc.

In November 2002, Florida's citizens voted for a constitutional amendment to prohibit smoking in all enclosed indoor workplaces. Janet was the lead analyst in the House charged with writing the enacting legislation. The smoke free law became effective July 1, 2003. During the many hours of discussion regarding enactment, Janet created a complex matrix to guide the committee in the establishment of a viable regulatory framework for the expanded prohibition.

The following year, Janet was the lead analyst in the House when writing the enacting legislation for the 2004 Constitutional Amendment authorizing the operation of slot machines in Broward and Miami-Dade Counties.

Prior to her service on the Business Regulation Committee, Janet served as an executive assistant to the Speaker of the House and House Majority Leader.

Janet is based in our Tallahassee office location at 205 S. Adams Street, Tallahassee FL 32301.

4.6 List of five (5) references of related past experience to include, as a minimum, a contact person, company name, phone number, and brief description of project/service.

Broward County

Marty Cassini, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs 115 South Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Phone: 954-357-7575/ Fax: 954-357-6573

mcassini@broward.org

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting the County and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to County home rule authority, unfunded mandates, beach renourishment, seaports, public safety, transportation, airport, tourism, urban administration and economic development. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

Broward Center for the Performing Arts

Kelley Shanley, Executive Director 201 SW 5th Avenue Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312-7112 954-522-5334

kshanley@browardcenter.org

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation impacting the Broward Center, including ticketing legislation, grant funding, and destination gaming. We provide regular updates on funding opportunities at Federal, State and Local levels and cultural arts appropriations. We were also successful in securing a \$500,000 appropriation outside of the grant process in 2018.

Palm Beach County

Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator 301 North Olive Ave., Suite 1101, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Phone: 561-355-3451/ Fax: 561-242-7171

tbonlarr@pbcgov.org

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Palm Beach County and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, transportation, public safety, economic development, education, agriculture and environmental initiatives; water project funding, mental health/substance abuse services funding and other appropriations. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

City of Coral Springs

Frank Babinec, City Manager 9500 West Sample Road, Coral Springs, FL 33065

Phone: 954-344-1142/ Fax: 954-344-1043

fbabinec@coralsprings.org

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Coral Springs and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, charter school legislation and appropriations; legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, energy conservation, public safety, pension reform and economic development; water project grant funding; education initiatives funding. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

City of Fort Lauderdale

Chris Lagerbloom, City Manager

100 N. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Phone: 954-828-5364/ Fax: 954-828-5599

clagerbloom@fortlauderdale.gov

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Fort Lauderdale and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, pension reform, red light cameras, public safety, waterway navigation, vacation rentals, transportation and economic development; water project grant funding; and law enforcement funding. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

City of Pembroke Pines

Mayor Frank Ortis

Charlie Dodge, City Manager

601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines, FL 33026

Phone: 954-450-1040/ Fax: 954-437-1149

cdodge@ppines.com

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Pembroke Pines and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, pension reform, charter schools, red light cameras, public safety, transportation and economic development; grant funding; and charter school funding. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

City of Plantation

Mayor Lynn Stoner

400 NW 73rd Avenue, Plantation, FL 33317 Phone: 954-797-2227/ Fax: 954-797-2223

mayor@plantation.org

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Plantation and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, pension reform, public safety, transportation and economic development; emergency management funding and other appropriations. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

Town of Davie

Richard J. Lemack, Town Administrator 6591 Orange Drive, Davie, FL 33314 954-797-1023

richard lemack@davie-fl.gov

Description of Project/Services: We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Davie and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, sober homes, group homes, pension reform, public safety, transportation and economic development. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

Waste Connections of Florida

Patrick Rzeszut, Central Florida District Manager 1099 Miller Drive, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701 407-304-6511

patrickr@wasteconnections.com

Description of Project/Services: We assist Waste Connections in building and maintaining relationships with local governments around the state in order to expand and improve their operations to meet the needs of the communities they serve. We also work year round with the National Waste & Recycling Association on their behalf.

4.7 Please disclose any potential Conflict of Interest due to any other clients, contracts or property interest. Describe how you would address a situation if the needs of Coconut Creek and another city or entity you represent are at odds with each other. Can you foresee any issue where, because of your client base, you would be unable to work on certain issues for the City of Coconut Creek?

ECI is not aware of any current conflicts. Through the course of the contract, we would immediately notify the City should we become aware of a potential conflict. In the past, as situations arise with one of our clients, we have worked to broker a solution for both parties. As an example, the City was experiencing frustration with old utility poles remaining long after new, hardened Florida Power & Light poles had been set up to replace the old ones. The City rightfully pursued all remedies available, including proposing legislation to require a time limit on the removal of the old poles. We serve as representatives for both entities. Rather than viewing the situation as a conflict, we helped to foster better communication and cooperation between Florida Power & Light and the City. This enabled the City to understand more about FP&L's limitations over the older poles, which were often owned by another entity, and its requirement to adhere to a PSC-established timeline to install new poles. Meanwhile, the City was able to educate FP&L on the various issues caused by the old poles and increase the attention and priority given to poles in their jurisdiction. We did not discourage legislative remedies proposed by the City, but instead kept in constant, honest communications with both parties over the situation each was experiencing. The trust we have fostered with our clients, through our long term relationships, enables us to address perceived and real conflicts openly and with integrity in order to pursue the best solution for our clients and the community at large through bridging relationships and fostering discussions. We proudly do not engage in practices that other local government lobbyists may engage in, namely contracting with local governments only to undermine their interests on behalf of higher-paying industry clients.

4.8 Describe your relationship and experience working with the Florida League of Cities and local leagues throughout the State to affect public policy.

ECI is highly active in both the Florida League of Cities and the Broward League of Cities. ECI historically attends every statewide legislative conference hosted by the Florida League of Cities. These include the majority of the policy committee meetings that take place prior to the legislative conference where policies are workshopped prior to being adopted as their legislative priorities. During the Legislative Session, ECI prides itself on being one of the few contract lobbying firms that work hand in hand with the Florida League of Cities in-house lobbying team. Our relationship with the FLC in-house team is strong and symbiotic. We continuously supplement the League's efforts to achieve its goals through facilitating information and increasing its network of relationships, as well as utilize the League as an important resource. We know that this relationship is critical to quickly build momentum and coalitions around legislative issues.

In South Florida, ECI is an active and engaged Associate Member of the Broward League of Cities. We attend almost every monthly Associate Membership meeting while the Legislature is not in Session. We also participate in the Broward League of Cities workshops and policy committees, where legislative priorities are crafted and adopted. We have an excellent working relationship with the Broward League of Cities Executive Director and staff as well as having a good working relationship with the Palm Beach County League of Cities, of which Candice and Lauren are also associate members. We additionally always encourage our corporate clients to become associate members of these organizations.

In addition to the Florida League of Cities and the Broward League of Cities, ECI is also an active member of FAIR (Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations). FAIR is an organization of both contract lobbyists and in-house lobbyists with various local governments and local government associations across the state. FAIR meets weekly during Session to discuss upcoming or passed legislation and allows us to be continually informed and on the pulse of quickly changing language that impacts local governments. FAIR also meets at the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Counties annual conferences, which helps to bring the voices of all levels of local government together, enabling us to identify proactive solutions to common challenges. We have been a member of this group for many years and through this we have cultivated many working relationships and close ties between different levels of government. Candice is the immediate past President of FAIR. During the 2016 Legislative Session, prior to serving as President, Candice was the first recipient of the Theresa Lintz Memorial Award from the Florida Association for Intergovernmental Relations. This award is significant in that it represents excellence in legislative advocacy on behalf of local governments in Florida and exemplary commitment to consensus building, professionalism and high ethical standards to better serve our local communities.

Please see the attached email communication from Casey Cook with the Florida League of Cities to Fort Lauderdale City Manager Chris Lagerbloom on our collaborative efforts to defeat Vacation Rentals in 2020.

Required Forms (Including Addendum No. 01)

Proposal Requirements Checklist

Proposer has completed the required documents listed in the checklist below. The required documents shall be executed, notarized (if applicable), and <u>submitted as a condition to this Request for Proposals.</u>

Proposer shall electronically submit (upload) all required documents and any other pertinent information electronically through the eBid System.

Required Documents	Yes	No
Proposer Information	×	
Proposal Confirmation	\boxtimes	
Schedule of Proposal Prices (Submit through the eBid system)	\boxtimes	
Indemnification Clause	\boxtimes	
Non-Collusive Affidavit	\boxtimes	
Proposer's Qualification Statement	\boxtimes	
Drug-Free Workplace Form	\boxtimes	
Sworn Statement on Public Entity Crimes	\boxtimes	
Scrutinized Companies Certification	\boxtimes	
Scope of Services Proposed (Section 3 of the L.O.I.)	\boxtimes	
Firm Qualifications (Section 4 of the L.O.I.)	\boxtimes	
Exceptions to the L.O.I.		\boxtimes
References (at least 5)	\boxtimes	
Certificate of Insurance	\boxtimes	
Business Tax Receipt	\boxtimes	
Copies of Valid Licenses		

PROPOSER INFORMATION

Communications concerni	ng this proposal shall be addre	essed to:
Company Name:	Ericks Consultants Inc	o.
Social Security/Federal Ta	ax I.D. No.: 59-2722222	
Proposer's Name (Print):	Candice Ericks	Title: Vice President/ Managing Partne
Address:	205 South Adams St.	
City/State/Zip:	Tallahassee, FL 3230	
Phone:	850-224-0880	Fax: 850-224-5971
Email:	candice@ericksconsultan	ts.com
	ACKNOWLEDGEMEN	IT OF ADDENDA
Ins	structions: Complete Part I o	r Part II, Whichever Applies
Part I:		
Proposer has examined of which is hereby acknowled		ments and of the following Addenda (receipt of all
,		0/00/0000
	Addendum No: 1	Dated: 3/23/2020
	Addendum No:	Dated:
Part II:		
□ No Addendum was	received in connection with th	iis L.O.I
make awards on all iter irregularities in the proposer that no property interest evaluation/selection process. Proposer's Authorized S	ms or any items according to sal or in the proposals receive that by submitting a proposal, it or legal right of any kind spess until and unless a contractional signature	reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to the best interest of the City, and to waive any das a result of the L.O.I It is also understood and Proposer shall be deemed to understand and agree hall be created at any point during the aforesaid at has been agreed to and signed by both parties. OS /20/20 Date



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES PURCHASING AND CONTRACTS DIVISION

4800 WEST COPANS ROAD COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA 33063

ADDENDUM NO. 01

03/23/2020

LOI No .:

04-08-20-09

LOI Name:

State & Local Lobbying Services

Due Date/Time:

Wednesday, April 08 April 22, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. EST

Our records indicate that your firm is in receipt of solicitation documents for LOI No. 04-08-20-09.

LOI Due Date: The LOI due date above in <u>bold</u> has been updated to reflect a two-week
postponement. This is in accordance with the City's recent emergency Resolution No. 2020-093
cancelling all public meetings for a 30-day period. Please stay tuned to your notification emails
and the eBid System for updates.

This addendum acknowledgment sheet is to be submitted electronically with your LOI response through the eBid System by the due date and time indicated above.

Bidder's Signature Date

ERICUS CONSULTANTS, INC

Company Name

265 S Adarns St

Company Address

(954) (648-1204 (cut) (850)-224-686 (office) (850) 224-597 (Phone Number Fax Number

CHRISTINA SEMERARO Senior Purchasing Analyst csemeraro@coconutcreek.net

PROPOSAL CONFIRMATION

In accordance with the requirements to provide State and Local Lobbying Services pursuant to L.O.I. No. 04-08-20-09, the undersigned submits the attached proposal.

Proposer accepts and hereby incorporates by reference in this proposal all of the terms and conditions of the scope of work, including EPA Standards, Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and required warranty and guarantee certificates.

Proposer is fully aware of the scope of work based on these requirements, the legal requirements (federal, state, county and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations) and the conditions affecting cost, progress or performance of the work and has made such independent investigation as Proposer deems necessary.

This proposal is genuine and not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed person, firm or corporation and is not submitted in conformity with any agreement or rules of any group, association, organization or corporation; Proposer has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other Proposer to submit a false or sham proposal; Proposer has not solicited or induced any person; firm or a corporation to refrain from proposing and Proposer has not sought by collusion to obtain for himself any advantage over any other Proposer or over City.

The Proposer shall acknowledge this Proposal by signing and completing the spaces provided. I hereby submit this Proposal Package for State and Local Lobbying Services, L.O.I. No. 04-08-20-09 to the City of Coconut Creek with the full understanding of the Request for Proposal, General Terms and Conditions, Special Terms and Conditions, Detailed Requirements, and the entire Proposal Package.

Candice Ericks	31.30/20
Proposer's Name	Signature Date
State of: Florida County of: Palm Reach	
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged by	before me this aday of March, 2020, who is (who are) personally known to me or who
has produced that I have	as identification and who did (did not) take an oath.
Notary Public Signature	
nothony Came or	
Notary Name, Printed, Typed or Stamped	
Commission Number: C609289	3
My Commission Expires:	$\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{E}}$
ANTHONY G DAVNE IR	

VIY COMMISSION # GG 092843 EXPIRES: April 10, 2021

CITY OF COCONUT CREEK STATE AND LOCAL LOBBYING SERVICES L.O.I. NO. 04-08-20-09

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSAL PRICES

PROPOSER SHALL SUBMIT PRICES ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH THE EBID SYSTEM "LINE ITEMS" TAB

WWW.COCONUTCREEK.NET/PURCHASING

Note: Provide a detailed and flat rate monthly retainer for the provision of services required as identified in this L.O.I. The cost proposal shall include direct man hour rates for each class of staff, out-of-pocket costs such as travel, telephone and report publication.

Description	Amount
I. Monthly Retainer:	\$3,000.00
Provide a detailed and flat rate monthly retainer for the provisions of	2,000,7
services required as identified in this L.O.I. The proposed fee(s) shall	Three thousand
be detail costs: i.e., travel and related incidental out-of-pocket expenses,	
if applicable. Consultant shall not be reimbursed or otherwise paid for	per month
internal word processing, data processing or other services (i.e., local	
telephone services, copies, and mail or postage services) that would	all encompasino
reasonably be deemed the Consultant's overhead expense.	

VISA PURCHASING CARD:

The City of Coconut Creek has implemented a Visa Procurement Card (P-Card) Program through SunTrust Bank. The City's preference is to pay for goods/services with the P-Card. This program allows the City to expedite payment to our vendors. Some of the benefits of the P-Card Program to the vendor are: payment received within 72 hours of receipt and acceptance of goods, reduced paperwork, issue receipts instead of generating invoices, resulting in fewer invoice problems, deal directly with the cardholder (in most cases).

Vendors accepting payment by the P-Card may not require the City (Cardholder) to pay a separate or additional convenience fee, surcharge or any part of any contemporaneous finance charge in connection with a transaction. Such charges are allowable, however must be included in the total cost of their response. Vendors are not to add notations such as "+3% service fee" in their response. All responses shall be inclusive of any and all fees associated with the acceptance of the P-Card.

Vendors agreeing to accept payment by P-Card must presently have the capability to accept Visa or take whatever steps necessary to implement the ability before the start of the agreement term.

INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSE

(Page 1 of 1)

The parties agree that one percent (1%) of the total compensation paid to Contractor for the work of the contract shall constitute specific consideration to Contractor for the indemnification to be provided under the Contract. The Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the City Commission, the City of Coconut Creek, and their agents and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses including attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from the performance of the work provided that any such claim, damage, loss or expense (1) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property (other than the work itself) including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (2) is caused in whole or in part by any negligent act or omission of the Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not it is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder.

In any and all claims against the City, or any of their agents or employees by any employee of the Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, the indemnification obligation under this Paragraph shall not be limited in any way by any limitation on this amount or type of damages compensation or benefits payable by or for the Contractor or any subcontractor under Workers' Compensation Acts, Disability Benefit Acts or other Employee Benefit Acts. Nothing in this section shall affect the immunities of the City pursuant to Chapter 768, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time, nor shall it constitute an agreement by the City to indemnify Contractor, its officers, employers, subcontractors or agents against any claim or cause of action. This section shall not be construed as consent to be sued by any third parties in any matter arising out of this Agreement. The foregoing indemnification and release shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

out of this Agreement. The foregoing in Agreement.	ndemnification a	and release shall survi	ve the termination of th
Candice Ericks	/ an	w. Alexander	3/30/20
Contractor's Name	Signature	7	Date
State of: Florida			
County of: Ralm Beach			
The foregoing instrument was acknowled			
2020, by <u>analog</u> <u>D</u> .	TMORS		sonally known to me or
who has produced Valid He-	DL-	as identification and w	ho did (did not) take an
oath.		well-life.	D DAVAIS ID
Notary Public Signature Anthony Pane J6		MY COMMISSI EXPIRES	9. PAYNE, JR. ON # GG 092843 April 10, 2021 y Public Underwriters
Notary Name, Printed, Typed or Stampe	ed		
Commission Number: 6 01291	3		

My Commission Expires: 4 10 2021

NON-COLLUSIVE AFFIDAVIT

State	of Florida)ss.
Count	y of talm Beach)ss.
	andice D. Ericks being first duly sworn, deposes and says that:
(1)	He/she is theVice President/ Managing Partner(Owner, Partner, Officer, Representative or Agent) of the Proposer that has submitted the attached proposal;
(2)	He/she is fully informed respecting the preparation and contents of the attached proposal and of all pertinent circumstances respecting such proposal;
(3)	Such proposal is genuine and is not a collusive or sham proposal;
(4)	Neither the said Proposer nor any of its officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees or parties in interest, including this affiant, have in any way colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any other Proposer, firm, or person to submit a collusive or sham proposal in connection with the work for which the attached proposal has been submitted; or to refrain from bidding in connection with such work; or have in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion, or communication, or conference with and Proposer, firm or person to fix the price or prices in the attached proposal or of any other Proposer, or to fix an overhead, profit, or cost elements of the proposal price or the proposal price of any other Proposer, or to secure through any collusion, conspiracy, connivance, or unlawful agreement any advantage against (Recipient), or any person interested in the proposed work;
(5)	The price or prices quoted in the attached proposal are fair and proper and are not tainted by any collusion, conspiracy, connivance, or unlawful agreement on the part of the Proposer or any other of its agents, representatives, owners, employees or parties in interest, including this affiant.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of: Candice Ericks (Printed Name) Vice President/ Managing Partner (Title) **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** County of __ The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this Fricks, who is personally known to me or who has produced as identification and who did (did not) take an oath. WITNESS my hand and official seal NOTARY PUBLIC (Name of Notary Public: Print, Stamp, Type as Commissioned.)

PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATION STATEMENT

In order to properly evaluate the proposal submittals, Proposers are expected to complete the questionnaire and include the following documentation. By attesting to this submittal, Proposer guarantees the truth and accuracy of all statements and answers herein contained.

SUBN	MITTED TO	D: City of Coconut Creek Purchasing Division 4800 West Copans Road	
		Coconut Creek, FL 33063	
			Check One
Subm	nitted By:	Ericks Consultants, Inc.	
Name	e :	Candice Ericks	□ Partnership
Addre	ess:	205 South Adams Street	Individual
City,	State, Zip	Tallahassee, FL 3230	Other
Telep	hone No.	850-224-0880	
Fax N	No.	850-224-5971	
1.		e true, exact, correct and complete name of the parti nder which you do business and the address of the p	
	The corr	ect name of the Proposer is: Ericks Consultant	ts, Inc.
	The add	ress of the principal place of business is: 205 S. A	Adams St. Tallahassee FL 323
2.	If Propos	ser is a corporation, answer the following:	
		Date of Incorporation: 1986	
		State of Incorporation: Florida	
	c. F	President's Name: David L. Ericks	
	d. \	/ice President's Name: Candice D. Ericks	
	е. 5	Secretary's Name: Candice D. Ericks	
	f. 7	reasurer's Name: Candice D. Ericks	
	g. I	Name and Address of Resident Agent: David L. E	ricks
	9	205 S. Ada	ams St. Tallahassee FL 323
3.	If Propo	ser is an individual or a partnership, answer the follo	owing:
	a. [Date of Organization: N/A	
		Name, Address and Ownership Units of all Partners:	N/A
		State whether general or limited partnershin: N/A	

	oposer is other than an individual, corporation or partnership, describe the organization and the name and address of principals:
	N/A
If Pr Ficti	oposer is operating under a fictitious name, submit evidence of compliance with the Florida tious Name Statute. N/A
How	many years has your organization been in business under its present business name? 34
a. N//	Under what other former name has your organization operated?
whic	cate registration, license numbers or certificate numbers for the businesses or professions, the are the subject of this proposal. Please attach certificate of competency and/or state stration.
	N/A
Sub rela year	ation/Judgments/Settlements/Debarments/Suspensions: mit information on any pending litigation and any judgments and settlements of court cases tive to providing State and Local Lobbying Services that have occurred within the last three (3) rs. Also indicate if your firm has been debarred or suspended from bidding or proposing on a curement project by any government during the last five (5) years. N/A
	re you ever failed to complete any work awarded to you? If so, state when, where and why?
No	
nec	the pertinent experience of the key individuals of your organization (continue on insert sheet, i essary). avid Ericks- 40 years as a consultan
	andice Ericks- 23 years as a consultan
La	auren Jackson- 7.5 years as a consultar
Sta	te the name of the individual who will have personal management of the work:
C	andice Ericks

The Proposer acknowledges and understands that the information contained in response to this Qualification Statement shall be relied upon by City in awarding the contract and such information is warranted by Proposer to be true. The discovery of any omission or misstatement that materially affects the Proposer's qualifications to perform under the contract shall cause the City to reject the proposal, and if after the award, to Cancel and terminate the award and /or contract.

Proposer's Signature

3/30/20

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATION STATEMENT

State of Florida	
County of Palm Beach	
On this the day of, 2020 the State of Florida, Personally appeared	0, before me, the undersigned Notary Public of
(Name(s) of individual(s) who ap	opeared before notary) And
whose name(s) is/are Subscribed to within the instrument executed it.	, and he/she/they acknowledge that he/she/they
WITNESS my hand and official seal. NOTARY PUBLIC	NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF FLORIDA
SEAL OF OFFICE: ANTHONY G. PAYNE, JR. MY COMMISSION # GG 092843 EXPIRES: April 10, 2021 Bonded Thru Notary Public Underwriters	(Name of Notary Public: Print, Stamp, or Type as Commissioned) Personally known to me, or Produced identification
	(Type of Identification Produced) □ DID take an oath, or □ DID NOT take an oath

DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE FORM

The undersigned vendor in accordance with *Florida Statutes*, Chapter 287, Section 287.087 hereby certifies that <u>Ericks Consultants, Inc.</u> does:

(Name of Business)

- 1) Publish a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition.
- 2) Inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the business's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.
- 3) Give each employee engaged in providing the commodities or contractual services that are under bid a copy of the statement specified in subsection (1).
- In the statement specified in subsection (1), notify the employees that, as a condition of working on the commodities or contractual services that are under bid, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the employer of any conviction of, or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, any violation of *Florida Statutes*, Chapter 893 or of any controlled substance law of the United States or any state, for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction.
- 5) Impose a sanction on, or require the satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program if such is available in the employee's community, by any employee who is so convicted.
- 6) Make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of this section.

As the person authorized to sign the statement, I certify that this firm complies fully with the above requirements.

Proposer's Signature

Date

SWORN STATEMENT ON PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES UNDER FLORIDA STATUTES CHAPTER 287.133(3)(a).

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

1.	This sworn statement is submitted with L.O.I. No. 04-08-20-09 for State and Local Lobbying Services.
2.	This sworn statement is submitted by Ericks Consultants, Inc. (name of entity submitting sworn statement) whose business address is 205 South Adams Street, Tallahassee, FL 3230 and (if applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is 59-2722222 . (If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn statement:)
3.	My name is Candice Ericks and my
	(Please print name of individual signing)
	relationship to the entity named above is Vice President/ Managing Partner.
4.	I understand that a "public entity crime" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(g), Florida Statutes means a violation of any state or federal law by a person with respect to and directly related to the transaction of business with any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any othe state or with the United States, including, but not limited to, any bid or contract for goods or services to be provided to any public entity or an agency or political subdivision of any other state or of the United States and involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation.

- 5. I understand that a "convicted" or "conviction" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(b), <u>Florida Statutes</u>, means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a public entity crime, with or without an adjudication of guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record relating to charges brought by indictment or information after July 1, 1989, as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.
- 6. I understand that an "affiliate" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(a), Florida Statutes, includes but is not limited to:
 - 1. A predecessor or successor of a person convicted of a public entity crime: or
 - 2. An entity under the control of any natural person who is active in the management of the entity and who has been convicted of a public entity crime. The term "affiliate" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in the management of an affiliate. The Ownership by one person of shares constituting a controlling interest in another person, or a pooling of equipment or income among persons when not for fair market value under an arm's length agreement, shall be a prima facie case that one person controls another person. A person who knowingly enters into a joint venture with a person who has been convicted of a public entity crime in Florida during the preceding thirty-six (36) months shall be considered an affiliate.
- 7. I understand that a "person" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(e), <u>Florida Statutes</u>, means any natural person or entity organized under the laws of any state or of the United States with the legal

power to enter into a binding contract and which bids or applies to bid on contracts for the provision of goods or services let by a public entity, or which otherwise transacts or applies to transact business with a public entity. The term "person" includes those officers, who are active, or who have been active, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of an entity within the last five (5) years of this sworn statement.

8.		sed on information and belief, the statement which I have marked below is true in relation to the ity submitting this sworn statement. Please check all statements that are applicable.
		Neither the entity submitting this sworn statement, nor any officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in management of the entity, nor any affiliate of the entity have been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.
		The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of the officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989, <u>AND</u> (Please indicate which additional statement applies.)
		There has been a proceeding concerning the conviction before a hearing officer of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings. The final order entered by the hearing officer did not place the person or affiliate on the convicted vendor list. (Please attach a copy of the final order.)
		The person or affiliate was placed on the convicted vendor list. There has been a subsequent proceeding before a hearing officer of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings. The final order entered by the hearing officer determined that it was in the public interest to remove the person or affiliate from the convicted vendor list. (Please attach a copy of the final order.)
9.	Bas	sed on information and belief, the statement that I have marked below is true in relation to the

- entity submitting this sworn statement. Please check if statement is applicable.
 - □ The person or affiliate has not been placed on the convicted vendor list.
 (If the box is NOT checked, please describe any action taken by or pending with the Department of General Services.)
- 10. The herein sworn statement shall be subject to and incorporate all the terms and conditions contained in Section 287.133 of the Florida Statutes.
- 11. Conviction of a public entity crime shall be cause for disqualification.

Proposer's Name	Signature
	Date: 3/30/20
State of: Florida	
County of: Palm Beach	
	day of, o are) personally known to me or who has entification and who did (did not) take an oath.
Commission Number: 66 09 09 43	
My Commission Expires: 04 10 2021	
ANTHONY G. PAYNE, JR. MY COMMISSION # GG 092843 EXPIRES: April 10, 2021 Bonded Thru Notery Public Underwriters	

SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE § 215.4725 AND § 215.473

I, <u>Ca</u>	andice D. Ericks Consultants, Inc.	,
Pri	int Name Company Name	
certifi	ies that _Ericks Consultants, Inc.	does not:
	Company Name	_
1.	Participate in a boycott of Israel; and	
2.	Is not on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel list; and	
3.	Is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List; and	
4.	Is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy	y Sector List; and
5.	Has not engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria.	
Ciana	Call Cale	
Signa	ature	
	President/ Managing Partner	
Title		,
954-	-648-1204(cell phone) 3/30	120
Phon	ne Date	

Attachment 1: Business Tax Receipts

BROWARD COUNTY LOCAL BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT

115 S. Andrews Ave., Rm. A-100, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301-1895 – 954-831-4000 **VALID OCTOBER 1, 2019 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

DBA:
Business Name: ERICKS CONSULTANTS INC

Receipt #:327-233181
Business Type: (LOBBYING & CONSULTING)

Owner Name: DAVID L ERICKS

Business Location: 3333 N NEW RIVER DR EAST STE 'State/County/Cert/Reg:

Business Opened:05/10/2010 **Exemption Code:**

Business Phone: 954-765-1207 FT LAUDERDALE

Rooms

Seats

Machines

Professionals

Number of Machines		g	Vending Type:		
Tax Amount Transfer Fee	NSF Fee	Penalty	Prior Years	Collection Cost	Total Paid
33.00 0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.00

THIS RECEIPT MUST BE POSTED CONSPICUOUSLY IN YOUR PLACE OF BUSINESS

THIS BECOMES A TAX RECEIPT

WHEN VALIDATED

This tax is levied for the privilege of doing business within Broward County and is non-regulatory in nature. You must meet all County and/or Municipality planning and zoning requirements. This Business Tax Receipt must be transferred when it is in compliance with State or local laws and regulations. business location. This receipt does not indicate that the business is legal or that the business is sold, business name has changed or you have moved the

Mailing Address:

TALLAHASSEE, FL ERICKS CONSULTANTS INC P O BOX 10131 32302

> Paid 09/30/2019 33.00 Receipt #10A-18-00000889

Attachment 2: Proof of Insurance



CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY) 3/10/2020

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed.

t	nis c	BROGATION IS WAIVED, subject ertificate does not confer rights to	the	certi	ficate holder in lieu of such e	ndorsement(s)	· ·	Toquile all ellaorselle		
PRODUCER						CONTACT NAME:				
Hub International Florida 1117 Thomasville Road					PHO (A/C,	No, Ext): (850)	386-1111	(A/C, No)	(850) 385-9827
Tall	ahas	ssee, FL 32303			ADD	AIL RESS:				
						INS	SURER(S) AFFOR	RDING COVERAGE		NAIC #
					INSU	INSURER A: Stillwater Insurance Company				25180
INSURED					INSU	INSURER B: RLI Insurance Company				13056
		Ericks Consultants, Inc			INSU	IRER C :				
		PO Box 10131			INSU	IRER D :				
		Tallahassee, FL 32302			INSU	IRER E :				
					INSU	RER F:				
CC	VER	AGES CER	TIFIC	CATE	NUMBER:			REVISION NUMBER:		
II	NDIC/ ERTI	IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIE ATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY R IFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY JSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH	EQUI PER	REME TAIN,	ENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF THE INSURANCE AFFORDED	ANY CONTRA BY THE POLIC	CT OR OTHER IES DESCRIB PAID CLAIMS	R DOCUMENT WITH RESP SED HEREIN IS SUBJECT	ECT T	O WHICH THIS
INSF		TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMI	rs	
A	X	COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY						EACH OCCURRENCE	\$	1,000,000
		CLAIMS-MADE X OCCUR	Х		CM8000130	8/18/2019	8/18/2020	DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence)	\$	50,000
								MED EXP (Any one person)	\$	10,000
								PERSONAL & ADV INJURY	\$	Included
	GEI	N'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER:						GENERAL AGGREGATE	\$	2,000,000
	X	POLICY PRO- JECT LOC						PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG	\$	2,000,000
		OTHER:							\$	
Α	AU.	TOMOBILE LIABILITY	15					COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident)	\$	
	la conse	ANY AUTO			CM8000130	8/18/2019	8/18/2020	BODILY INJURY (Per person)	\$	
1 2		OWNED SCHEDULED AUTOS						BODILY INJURY (Per accident	\$	
	X	HIRED AUTOS ONLY						PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident)	\$	
									\$	
		UMBRELLA LIAB OCCUR						EACH OCCURRENCE	\$	
		EXCESS LIAB CLAIMS-MADE						AGGREGATE	\$	TO THE SECTION OF THE
		DED RETENTION \$							\$	
	WOI	RKERS COMPENSATION DEMPLOYERS' LIABILITY						PER OTH- STATUTE ER		
			N/A					E.L. EACH ACCIDENT	\$	
	ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH)							E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYE	\$	
	If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below							E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT	\$	
В	Pro	fessional/E&O			RTP0015141	3/5/2020	3/5/2021	Aggregate		1,000,000
					2					
DES	SCRIP	TION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHIC	LES (A	ACORE	0 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, ma	y be attached if mo	re space is requi	red)		
The	City	of Cocunut Creek, and its officers,	agen	its, ei	mployees and commission me	mbers are inclu	ded as additi	onal insured.		
CE	PTII	FICATE HOLDER			CA	NCELLATION				
O.E.	.17111	IVA I L HOLDEN								

City of Coconut Creek Attn: Risk Manager of Purchasing & Contracts Division 4800 West Copans Road Coconut Creek, FL 33063

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE



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Attachment 3: Coconut Creek 2020 End of Session Review



City of Coconut Creek 2020 Regular State Legislative Session Report

Intergovernmental Relations

Home Rule and Unfunded Mandates

2020 was no different in regards to Home Rule attacks and unfunded mandates as all other Sessions. Examples of home rule battles are found throughout this report. While many preemptions and mandates failed or were removed from underlying bills, some unfortunately passed, including a preemption on sunscreen bans (SB 172), towing and immobilization (HB 133), and expedited permitting for utilities (SB 7018.) SB 410 imposes a mandate to update comprehensive plans to include an element of private property rights. Several groups have reached out to ask Governor DeSantis to veto SB 410. An attempt was made to include language that would have pushed HB 825 (Attorney's Fees) from the 2019 Session in SB 410 and SB 7018 by removing an exemption for ordinances consistent with comprehensive plans, however our coalition was successful in stopping this attempt.

Required Public Notice Advertising in Newspapers

The House voted 71-47 to pass HB 7, which would have removed the requirement. However, its Senate companion did not clear its first committee. This is the furthest this bill has ever gotten.

State of Florida Gaming Compact with the Seminole Nation

The bills never materialized. The Senate President reiterated his desire for a Special Session to renew the Compact agreement at the press conference immediately following Sine Die. The Governor confirmed he thought it was possible to finally put the issue to rest and that the Tribe was willing to sit down. Either the pandemic and 2020 elections will tie up everyone's schedules or the pandemic and 2020 elections will force a special session where increasing state revenue will be an option that is impossible to ignore.

Urban Administration

Landfill Regulations

SB 1432 would have banned landfills from accepting coal ash, however the bill was never heard in committee and did not have a House companion. Other legislation (SB 1152) would have made sites owned by a local government that were impacted by PFAS contamination eligible for participation in a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement. However, this bill also failed to move beyond its second committee and did not have a House companion.

Recycling Regulations



The Legislature unanimously passed HB 73, a contaminated materials recycling bill that represents a compromise between local governments and the waste industry. The language has passed two years in a row, but was subsequently vetoed due to unrelated language that was included in each package. The language requires local governments negotiate an agreement within contracts on how to identify and handle contaminated materials. It also includes collaboration on public education and outreach. It also specifies that docks may be re-built after a hurricane as long as it is within five feet of its original location. The bill no longer requires local governments to factor in market viability when determining the definition of "contaminated material." Additionally, changes would only go into place after the contracts are executed and as governed by the contract. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

FDOT and the Florida Turnpike Enterprise

A bill (SB 1090) failed that would have prohibited express lanes and tolls on the 826 Expressway and require the removal of any existing express lanes. The bill was set to become a vehicle to codify in statute parameters around express lanes to guide FDOT. The Senate bill failed to clear its final Senate committee after its House companion was never considered.

Recovery Residences

The Legislature unanimously passed SB 1120, legislation backed by the Sober Home Task Force. It makes Florida's patient brokering statutes consistent with Federal anti-kickback statutes. It also provides exemptions to disqualifying background information that often prevents recovered addicts from working in sober homes, an issue the House sponsor worked hard to gain support needed in his chamber. Recovered addicts often have criminal backgrounds but also happen to be uniquely qualified and inspired to help others in recovery. The final bill requires peer-specialist applicants be 3 years and all other applicants be 5 years removed from completion of sentences for criminal violations that would no longer be disqualified. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

Gas Pump Skimmers

This issue was not addressed this Session.

Finances and Taxation

Municipal Revenues

While many bills that harmed municipal revenues failed (such as a bill to raise sovereign immunity caps), a few unfortunately passed. The Legislature passed a reduced tax package that had a significantly reduced hit to local governments due to the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. It did not include a reduction to CST or the commercial lease tax. The Legislature voted unanimously to pass HB 877, legislation to place a Constitutional amendment on the 2020 ballot to transfer ad valorem discounts for veterans who were permanently disabled to



their surviving spouses. If adopted by 60% of the voters, the bill will have a \$1 million statewide impact on local governments, eventually increasing to \$4 million. If adopted, the amendment would take effect on January 1, 2021.

Communications Services Tax Protection

This legislation would have standardize the local CST tax rate through a phased-in reduction to 4%. It would also have removed related discretionary surtaxes and expanded services taxed under the CST to include streaming and other similar services (codifying DOR's current interpretation.) The bill was estimated to cost local governments over \$200 million statewide. It received only one hearing in the Senate and was never considered in the House. However, it does have widespread support among lawmakers. We anticipate seeing this bill in future Sessions.

Local Business Tax Protection

No legislation passed this year that specifically targeted business taxes. While the House passed HB 3 to preempt local occupational licensure, it's Senate companion did not move beyond it's second committee of reference.

Impact Fees Protection

The House voted 81-37 and the Senate voted unanimously to pass SB 1066 after it had radically been amended the previous week. The final bill prevents local governments from applying increased fees to pending projects and only apply new fees to pending projects if it is the intent to decrease them; and provides credits for over-contributions are transferable at any time to other projects with infrastructure needs within the same impact fee zone or district. The credit may be applied to projects in adjoining zones or districts if the zone or district that generated the credit directly benefits. The purpose of credits is to ensure against collecting fees more than once for the same impact. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act takes effect July 1, 2020.

The original bill required each county and municipality that assesses impact fees: to have an Impact Fee Review Committee and may use existing Planning & Zoning committees instead; base fee prices on data within the last 36 months, excluding all costs outside of "infrastructure"; segregate revenue and expenditures for infrastructure in a separate trust fund; and submit an affidavit stating that impact fees were collected in compliance with statutes to the CFO. The Senate also added a provision allowing certain local governments with charters adopted by 2006 that provide for education capacity (Miami-Dade & Orange) to collect both education impact fees and education-related contributions for impacts not funded by impact fees. This provision was targeted at a massive development issue in Orange County, however it was removed from the bill prior to final passage.

Allowing Price in the Consultants Competitive Negotiations Act



While this specific issue was not addressed this session, the Legislature unanimously passed HB 441, legislation that would increase the maximum cost of a construction continuing contract from \$2 million to \$4 million. It would also increase the maximum cost of a study using a continuing contract from \$200,000 to \$500,000. The bill was amended in the process to a lowered increase of \$4 million from originally \$5 million. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

Uniform Chart of Accounts

This was not addressed this Session.

SHIP Funding

For the first time in 13 years, the Legislature agreed to not sweep the Housing Trust Fund, leaving \$370 of the \$378 million.

\$225 million for SHIP \$115 million for SAIL \$30 million for Hurricane Housing Recovery Program

The House voted 101-10 and the Senate voted unanimously to pass HB 1339, a massive housing package. The underlying legislation is a product that includes significant input from local government and housing advocates. For one example, it includes language addressing private inspector legislation passed in 7103 last Session. HB 1339 clarifies a building official may not audit one project inspected by a private inspector more than four times per year, rather than audit the private inspector more than four times per year regardless of how many projects they inspect. The bill provides local governments may allow accessory dwelling units in areas zoned for single-family residences, which was changed from a mandate to allow them. It establishes bi-annual regional workshops for local elected officials on housing advisory committees to share best practices; allows local governments to approve affordable housing units in any area zoned residential, commercial or industrial; adds data reporting requirements for impact fee charges and of SHIP participant application denials and approvals; adds additional criteria for evaluation of local contributions to applications for SAIL funding, including policies that "promote public transportation, reduce need for on-site parking and expedite affordable housing permits"; requires the Community Workforce Housing Loan program under the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to establish a loan application pursuant to SAIL that would award loans at a 1% interest rate for no longer than 15 years; it allows private entities to be issued revenue bonds under the Florida Interlocal Cooperative Act for self-liquidating projects; and permits FHFC to withhold 5% of the housing trust fund annually for the construction of housing for persons aging out of foster care. Finally, it includes similar language on mobile home parks to that found in SB 818. However, the language was narrowed to strike more of a balance between communities that are still attempting to recover from Hurricane Michael and communities adversely impacted by the provisions. Among other things, the



compromise provides the mobile home park density can match what it had been permitted, zoned and built at prior to being destroyed (rather than or built). After passing the House unanimously, the Senate took up the House bill and adopted amendments which, among other things, removed a controversial provision that housing programs give priority to applicants with less need over those with more need. One amendment also added a controversial provision that allows a local government to adopt a linkage fee ordinance so long as the developer is fully offset for the fee through the same "incentives" provided for the offset of inclusionary zoning. For example: reducing or waiving development, permit or application fees, or expediting permits and applications, or allowing additional square footage. The bill sponsors had rejected the language in previous stops, and the House sponsor accepted the change reluctantly. He stated on the floor that the language was not perfect and he was open to working with stakeholders to tweak it in subsequent Sessions. He acknowledged the language as a "start" since linkage fees are a relatively new type of ordinance local governments are contemplating. Though many local governments are considering linkage fee ordinances, only three cities and no counties currently have one: two are for commercial development and one is applied to mixed-use residential and commercial. He also stated in close that the language does not make linkage fee ordinances a total "wash"- the linkage fees collected would be applied only to residential affordable housing where the incentives were commercial based, meaning money would still be going towards affordable housing impacts. However, the concern shared by local governments is that the incentives for inclusionary housing are difficult to offer in commercial development scenarios. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act becomes effective July 1, 2020.

Economic Development

Unfortunately, this was not a successful Session in terms of economic development funding. The Job Growth Grant Fund was only allocated \$10 million (it's lowest ever amount). A repeal of the sunset on the Qualified Target Industries program and Film and Television program legislation both failed to gain any traction in the House.

Sustainability

Water Quality and B. Water Quantity

The Legislature voted unanimously to pass SB 712, a Governor-backed bill to, among other things, codify the recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force. Septic Tanks: The bill moves oversight of septic systems from DOH to DEP; Requires DEP to adopt rules by July 2022 that will supersede current law on setbacks; requires local governments to develop remediation plans within basin management action plans upon certain DEP determinations. It creates a Technical Advisory Committee on septic to make recommendations to the Legislature. It also establishes a fast-tracked permitting process for nutrient reducing septic systems. Wastewater: The bill establishes a wastewater grant program with a 50% local match for septic-to-sewer, septic upgrade, or advance wastewater treatment projects. The grant program gives priority to rural areas, BMAPs, and alternative restoration projects. It requires DEP to adopt rules to reduce and eliminate transmission system pipe leaks, seepages, etc., rules on



domestic wastewater collection, and rules on inflow & infiltration (I&I). It requires sanitary sewer facilities to develop an assessment, replacement and repair plan based on I&I studies and requires pollution permittees to report revenues, expenditures and any deviation from I&I plans. It allows facilities that are following their plans to qualify for a 10-year permit. It increases the cap on administrative penalties from \$10,000 to \$50,0000 and cap per violator from \$5,000 to \$10,000 Stormwater: Creates a real-time water quality monitoring program; Requires DEP to update stormwater rules, model stormwater management program, applicant handbook, local pollution control staff training, and the self-certification process; Requires DEP and DEO to focus on nutrient reduction and green infrastructure in their model stormwater management program. Biosolids: Bans application of Class A and Class B biosolids within 6 in. of the seasonal highwater table unless nutrient management plans or water quality monitoring can give certain assurances; requires biosolid permits to comply with the statute within a year and comply with DEP biosolid rules within two years of their finalization. Agriculture: Provides FDACS greater oversight of agricultural pollution and allows the agency to work with educational institutions on implementing best management practices (BMPs). Additional: The bill also requires DEP to conduct a study on bottled water and to work with the University of Florida on BMPs for nutrient impacts on golf courses.

Various provisions have various enacting dates, however the overall act takes effect on July 1, 2020

Hydraulic Fracturing ("Fracking")

HB 547 and SB 200 would have completely banned hydraulic fracturing in the state, including matrix acidization. However, the bills failed to move beyond the committee process.

Oil Exploration and Everglades Protection

The legislature did not address this issue this Session.

Growth Management and Transportation

Public Right of Way and Utility Easements Management

The Senate voted unanimously and the House voted 97-19 to pass SB 7018, a priority of the Senate President. The underlying bill primarily required FDOT to develop recommendations for increasing electric vehicle infrastructure along the state highway system. However, the final bill also applies the "shot clock" for processing permit applications for communications facilities in county & city right-of-ways to all utility permit applications. It clarifies state law does not prohibit the construction of public or private linear facilities and right of access on land subject to a conservation easement if rights are voluntarily negotiated by the property owner.

Transportation Funding



Nothing this Legislative Session addressed flexibility or direct investment in municipal transportation funding.

Multimodal Opportunities

At one point, the impact fee bill contained language that would have put clearer parameters for a mobility fee in place, however the language was flawed in its allowance of transferring fees to other jurisdictions. The mobility fee language was not included in the final bill that passed (see impact fees.) A bill that would have required the conversion of lights at midblock crosswalks for pedestrian safety failed (HB 1371). The Legislature unanimously passed HB 971, legislation to conform Florida statutes to current E-bike technology. Specifically, the bill makes clear that no license or insurance is required similar to a non-electric bike. The bill retains local control so operation of e-bikes on sidewalks will be decided on a community-by-community basis. It provides that local governments can adopt ordinances regulating e-bikes on sidewalks if it restricts the maximum speed to 15 mph or lower. The bill explicitly states that it may not be construed to prevent a local government from adopting an ordinance governing the operation of e-bikes on streets, highways, sidewalks, sidewalk areas, bike paths, bike lanes, multi-use paths or trail networks within the local government's jurisdiction. Finally, it requires labels for e-bikes from manufacturers and prohibits tampering with or modifying the e-bike unless a new label is applied. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

Building and Development

The Legislature passed HB 1339- Housing, which includes a provision that clarifies bad language passed in HB 7103 in 2019. The bill provides that aprovides a building official may not audit one project inspected by a private inspector more than four times per year, rather than audit the private inspector more than four times per year regardless of how many projects they inspect.

Bert Harris legislation failed after not clearing all of its House and Senate committees and was not amended into another package. The bill would have originally required a local government apply terms reached in settling a claim to all properties similarly situated to that which brought the claim. It would have made it easier for property owners to sue local governments by disallowing local governments to go after attorneys fees, allowing property owners to file suit for an impending government action rather than a written notice, and allowing a jury to consider business damages. Supporters argued the bill would have cut down on litigation by not having all property owners with similar situations file different suits. Opponents argued the language was overly broad, impossible to implement, and would increase litigation.

Language that would have reversed an exemption from the HB 829 attorney's fees bill of 2019 of local government ordinances consistent with comprehensive plans was successfully removed from the growth management package in both the House and Senate. The language



was directly targeted toward legal challenges emerging from the tree preemption legislation also passed in 2019.

Firearms

SB 7028 was a significant push towards a moderate increase in gun regulations. It would have prevented the sale of firearms on land that is publicly accessed; created a form for private sellers of firearms that are not Federally regulated, and created a statewide targeted violence prevention strategy. The bill was significant in that it was generated as a committee bill in a Republican led committee. The bill was an initiative of the Senate President after a string of mass violence incidents occurring in the summer of 2019. The bill was not considered in its second Senate committee after large media coverage spurred gun rights backlash. A bill (HB 201) failed to establish a ten-member taskforce to examine system failures that lead to gun violence in urban high-crime areas failed during the committee process.

Text Messaging / Cell Phone Use While Driving

HB 249 would have made Florida a "hands-free" state, however the bill was never considered in committee.

Smoking in Municipal Playground Areas and Ballfields

The Senate voted 39-1 to pass SB 630, a bill allowing counties and municipalities to prohibit smoking in public parks owned by them. It does not have a true House companion, however Rep. Lamarca has a similar bill that would allow counties to prohibit smoking in public areas, including beaches. That bill was never considered in its first House committee.

Electronic Smoking Devices

The Senate voted 27-9 and the House voted 99-17 to pass SB 810, legislation, which would raise the legal age of tobacco products to 21 in compliance with Federal law. It creates a limited use permit for vape shops, are retailers who only sell nicotine products and vapor-generating devices but not loose leaf tobacco. The limited-use permit does not require a fee. Retailers which obtain a permit for loose leaf tobacco products and pay the fee may sell any nicotine product. It updates related statutes for selling, mail-order purchasing to reflect the new age limit. It restricts vending machines to premises that prohibit those under the age of 21 and restricts the sale of flavored nicotine products. It also repeals age exemptions for military and emancipated minors. At one point, the House bill authorized damages be awarded against manufacturers of vapor-generating electronic devices, nicotine products and nicotine dispensing devices of the greater of four times the compensatory damages or \$2 million. However, this provision was removed from the final bill. Dissenting votes were mostly based on removal of military exemptions and potential impacts on young entrepreneurs who own or work in concession stores or gas stations. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act takes effect on July 1, 2020.



Controlled Substances

Rather than adding additional substances, the Senate focused on reforming mandatory minimum sentences for controlled substances violations in effort to reduce recidivism through diversion programs. The House refused to even consider similar language.

Firefighter Benefits

No legislation was pursued this year that would have provided clarity, however limited progress was made outside of the legislative process. Firecheifs workshopped the language with employers to attempt to reach agreements. The CFO's office will be meeting in the interim to consider rulemaking for the implementation of SB 426.

Education

Advance Notification to Municipalities of Charter School Sitings

This issue was not addressed this Session.

Graduation Rates

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 641. The bill establishes the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation within the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). The bill requires school districts and charter schools to use the allocation to increase the minimum base salary for full-time classroom teachers to at least \$47,500, or to the maximum amount achievable and as specified in the General Appropriations Act (GAA). It provides for salary increases for full-time classroom teachers who did not receive a salary increase or who received an increase of less than 2%, or as specified in the GAA, and other full-time instructional personnel. It establishes reporting requirements for district school boards, charter school governing boards, and the Department of Education (DOE). The bill also repeals the Florida Best & Brightest Program. Finally, it provides school district bonus funding through the FEFP for students who receive an Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma and meet the requirements for a standard high school diploma. It also removes the limit of 30 postsecondary semester credit hours that a student may be awarded for successfully completing International Baccalaureate or Advanced International Certificate of Education course examinations. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the act takes effect July 1, 2020.

Below is the full pass/fail report of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session:

FY 20-21 BUDGET

The House and Senate unanimously passed a \$93.2 billion FY 20-21 State Budget and adjourned "Sine Die" at 1:49 pm on Thursday 03/19/2020. The final budget agreement was published late Sunday night (day 62 of the 60-day Session) after a full week of budget negotiations. Lawmakers returned to Tallahassee on Thursday, following the constitutionally required 72-hour cooling off period, to debate and cast their vote on the final budget. The budget received bi-partisan praise from Legislators for addressing major



issues from worker pay raises, to education, to mental health, to the environment. Much of the debate was on whether the funding is enough to handle the bleak economic outlook, and if the Legislature should plan to return again to remake the budget based on lower revenue estimates.

The Speaker and Senate President both said they hope to not come back but they also did not rule out the possibility. The Senate Appropriations Chair stated he felt confident the State was on solid financial ground to deal with the circumstances. He acknowledged that we are in an unprecedented time, but felt the state was prepared. He stated the budget "did not ignore reality, but also did not overreact." The budget has "robust reserves and gives the state the tools and resources needed to fight the virus." He also stated the state has \$4 billion in the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for re-employment assistance.

In a press conference following Sine Die, the Governor stated he is willing to tap into the Unemployment Compensation funding as well as easing work requirements and other limitations on the funding that, while he is supportive of them, are not appropriate in the current crisis. He's working with Director Moskowitz. He is willing to look into his authority to issue a statewide suspension on evictions. The Governor also stated that he will likely have to veto projects that he wouldn't have had the pandemic not happened.

Some Legislators cautioned that the budget was not enough to deal with the growing needs of the state. They asked the state be sensitive to the needs of health care workers in addition to our most vulnerable. In particular, behavioral health needs can be exacerbated by "social distancing," job losses, business closures, and health care employee burnout. The House and Senate agreed to set aside \$300 million in reserves to help address the economic impact caused by the pandemic. Additionally, they provided over \$50 million in state and anticipated Federal dollars to the Department of Health specifically for COVID-19. One Senator also suggested the state look at tools, such as lowering interest rates, authorizing Executive bonding capacity, advancing infrastructure projects to stimulate the economy, and providing tax relief for small businesses and individuals.

Highlights of the FY 20-21 Budget

Coconut Creek Hillsboro Water Storage Tank - \$100,000

Coronavirus/COVID-19

Reserves-\$300 million

Department of Health initiatives (equipment, surveillance, etc.)- \$25 million Anticipated Federal funding for DOH- \$27.3 million



Emerging Disease Threat Response (vaccines and other supplies for COVID-19 and other threats such as Hepatitis A)-\$8.2 million

The Federal government granted a waiver for the state to have maximum flexibility.

Environment/Resiliency

The House and Senate agreed to not transfer the Office of Energy to DEP this Session, one of the final hold-outs of the Environmental budget.

Local Water Projects- \$76 million

Wastewater & Stormwater Improvement 50% Local Match Grant Program- \$25 million Everglades Restoration- \$323.6. million

Water Quality Monitoring – Blue Green Algae Task Force - \$10.8 milion

Coral Reefs- \$10 m (Protection/Restoration Grants)

Florida Forever- \$100 million

Florida Resilient Coastline Initiative- \$12.5 million

Alternative Water Supply - \$40 million

Beach Management - \$50 million

Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program - \$130.7 million

Wastewater Revolving Loan Program – \$228.6 million

Targeted Water Quality Improvements for Wastewater- \$25 million

DEM Flood Risk & Infrastructure Analysis-\$2 million

Transportation/Economic Development/ Cultural

Transportation work program-full funding at 9.2 billion.

Transportation Disadvantaged- \$70.4 m

Visit Florida- \$50 m recurring

Job Growth Grant Fund - \$10 million

Library Grants and Initiatives - \$25.8 million

Cultural and Museum Ranked List - \$13.6 million (full funding) plus \$3 m additional projects

Culture Builds Florida Ranked List - \$2.9 million (full funding)

Cultural Facilities Ranked List - \$3.8 million (funds portion of the 29 projects) plus \$1.8 m additional projects

Event security infrastructure grants for sports commissions - $$1\ m$$ (was previously for counties) DEM Flood risk analysis - $$2\ m$$

211 Palm Beach Treasure Coast- South Florida Suicide Prevention and Crisis Intervention \$250,000- (request supported by SFRTA and Brightline)

Affordable Housing

For the first time in 13 years, the Legislature agreed to not sweep the Housing Trust Fund, leaving \$370 of the \$378 million.

\$225 million for SHIP \$115 million for SAIL



\$30 million for Hurricane Housing Recovery Program

Education

Teacher Salary Increase Allocation- \$500 million

FEFP- \$7,839.58 per student (~\$163 m increase)

Base Student Allocation- \$40.00 increase

Charter School Repairs and Maintenance - \$169.6 million

VPK- \$412.2 million

VPK Pre- & Post-assessments and provider training- \$1.6 million

School Readiness Program - \$689,927,228

Digital Classroom Allocation- \$8 million (20% may be used for professional development)

School Safety & Mental Health

Safe Schools Allocation -\$180 m

Mental Health Assistance Allocation – \$100 million (\$25 million increase)

School Hardening Grants program for capital purchases - \$42 million - Initially distributed based on traditional and charter school FTEs. Districts must submit applications by February 2021.

School Access to Mental Health Services through Telehealth – \$4 million

Mental Health Awareness and Assistance Training- \$5.5 million

CAT Teams- \$30.8 million

Public Safety/ Criminal Justice

Florida Incident Based Reporting System (FIBRS) - \$2.5 million

Pay increases for corrections officers

E911 Next Generation Grant - \$3.2 million (DMS)

36.7 million for Community Based Care Organizations (DCF)

7.1 million for Child Protective Investigator raises of 10% and 5% supervisors (DCF)

DJJ Prevention and Early Intervention Programs - \$4 million

Opioids

The budget appropriates over \$119 million to address the opioid crisis, \$88.3 million of which is Federal funding.

Health Care

Low-Income Pool- \$1.5 billion (contingent on IGTs)

Fully funds KidCare

Early Steps Program – \$77.4 million

Early Steps Program State Match - \$3,702, 687

Oversight of Canadian Drug Importation-\$10.3

Alzheimer's initiatives-\$11 million increase

Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA) – \$11.3 million



Graduate Medical Education Program – \$280,385,436

The Legislature agreed to a one-year extension of eliminating the 90-day window to retroactively apply for Medicaid, rather than a permanent elimination, along with the following proviso in the implementing bill: "ACHA must submit an analysis of the waiver of Medicaid retroactive eligibility that includes evaluating impacts on: enrollee financial burden, provider uncompensated care, and provider financial performance. The analysis must include strategies to improve outreach to nonpregnant adults who would be eligible for Medicaid to enroll them prior to the need for services."

Elections

Elections Infrastructure- \$6.6 million
Campaign Finance & Elections Fraud Enforcement - \$1.6 million
Grants to Supervisors of Elections - \$1.5 million
Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grants- up to \$3.5 million
Additional \$1 million to address vulnerabilities in elections infrastructure found upon statewide review by the Department of State

Local Government Efficiency Task Force

The Legislature included language in the budget <u>implementing bill</u> establishing a six member task force under OPPAGA to review governance structure and function of local governments and determine whether changes are necessary to increase efficiency. The Governor, Speaker, and Senate President each appoint two members of the task force. It must convene its first meeting by November 15, 2020 and issue its final report by June 1, 2021.

POLICY

The Legislature passed a Day-60 resolution to extend the Legislative Session for only the budget, meaning all other legislation died at adjournment that night. Ultimately, 207 of 3,517 bills filed passed (although many were appropriations projects.) While several leadership priorities passed, key legislation- notably the school safety package and a sizable portion of the Speaker's health care agenda- did not make the finish.

In addition to those highlighted below, other bills which passed include:



SB 680 Shark Fins by Sen. Hutson, named the "Kristin Jacobs Ocean Conservation Act," took steps towards eliminating shark finning.

SB 646 Intercollegiate Athlete Compensation and Rights by Sen. Mayfield and Rep. LaMarca leads country on compensation rights for college athletes

<u>SB 1794 Constitutional Amendments</u> by Sen. Hutson heightened requirements on citizens ballot initiatives to amend the Constitution

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

(Preemption)

E-Verify - PASS

The House voted 73-45 and the Senate voted 23-17 to pass a tampered-down SB 664, legislation to require private and public employers use an employment verification system to prevent the hiring of undocumented immigrants- known as "E-Verify". The House won the argument to strip from the bill power of the Department of Economic Opportunity to conduct random audits of employers that opt for an alternative verification system to e-verify (keeping I-9 records). The final bill also does not contain DEO rulemaking authority or funding. It does not contain financial penalties. It also removed an express authorization for a whistleblower to file a complaint with DEO. The final bill requires all public employers, their contractors and subcontractors comply with the legislation by January 1, 2021. This differs from past versions that only required contractors with contracts of \$35,000 or more comply by July 2021. The bill requires public employers, contractors, and subcontractors to terminate contracts or require their termination if they a party is knowingly violating the law. It requires private employers to use an e-verify system or keep I9 documentation for up to 3 years. It provides civil and criminal immunity for private employers hiring decisions made while relying on information provided by an approved e-verify system. The bill allows the Attorney General, FDLE, state attorneys, and statewide prosecutors to request to review documentation. An employer who receives a notice of non-compliance must submit an affidavit stating that the employees in question have been fired and the employer has begun compliance. If they do not submit the affidavit in 30 days, all employer licenses are suspended until they do. Licenses can be permanently revoked if 3 or more violations occur within 36 months. The original bill phased in compliance for private employers depending on businesses size. The business communityespecially in certain industries, immigrant advocates, public employers, and more are concerned with the impact of the requirements.

SB 664

DRUG AND COSMETIC (SUNSCREEN) PREEMPTION- PASS

The Senate voted 25-14 to pass SB 172, which would preempt regulation of over-the-counter drugs and cosmetics to the state. The bill is largely targeted to Key West's



ban on sunscreen with certain chemicals. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

SB 172 (HB 113)

FIREWORKS- PASS

The Senate voted unanimously and the House voted 82-34 to pass SB 140, legislation that provides an exemption for the use of fireworks during designated holidays. Currently, purchasers have to testify that they are purchasing for agricultural purposes, the intention is to make it so that when Floridians purchase fireworks they are not committing perjury. The bill contains language from the Florida League of Cities that provides it does not supersede local ordinances or the existing state firework regulatory statutes. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect upon becoming law.

SB 140

Towing & Immobilizations - PASS

Ultimately, the Legislature passed HB 133 in a 34-5 Senate vote and a 81-31 House vote after the bill died but was reconsidered on the Senate floor. The main contention in the Senate was the prohibition on requiring towers to accept credit cards, which was antithetical to modernization and increased chances for fraud and abuse. The legislation preempts local towing ordinances, except for Charter counties grandfathered in the bill (Broward, Palm Beach). It prohibits local government from adopting ordinances that impose a cost or fee, etc. on an authorized towing operator or require the towing company to accept credit cards. It protects owners, operators, lienholders, or authorized towers from fines, fees, etc. in certain circumstances. It loosens restrictions on signage requiring it to be within 10 ft. rather than 5 ft. The bill allows operators and wreckers to satisfy requirements if they "substantially" rather than "strictly" comply. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect on October 1, 2020.

HB 133 (SB 1332)

VACATION RENTALS- FAIL

The Senate bill was Temporarily Postponed on Monday in its final Senate committee, mostly due to timing, with the possibility of Senate Rules meeting once more before the end of Session to pass it out. Meanwhile, the House was scheduled to take the bill up on the House floor. Our coalition had been making rounds with House members for weeks in anticipation of a floor vote, building and supporting our allies and assessing vote counts. We knew we had a close vote that included majority party members who were prepared to vote no and speak against the bill. Then, the Governor publicly spoke out against the bill. Industry efforts to get the Governor to walk back his statements were not successful. The Governor



then doubled down on his position when attempts were made to amend bills he backed, such as the deregulation and DBPR packages. Members began going to Leadership to ask that they not be forced to vote on the bill, which would force some of them to choose between Leadership or displeased constituents on the record. Leadership asked that the majority party members not file amendments or assist in whipping votes against the bill. We knew we had the votes late Thursday when the opposition attempted to cut a deal that would have removed the preemption on inspection and licensure in exchange for keeping the preemption on advertising platforms. We were carefully considering the deal and reviewing the draft provided us when we were informed that the President Designate decided the bill was done for the year.

It looks likely that we will live to see another year. This could not have happened without dedicated Legislators in both parties, especially our local delegation members. We are also grateful the Governor understood the role of the state vs. local government and chose to weigh in. Next year's battle will not be easy and will likely be even harder to defeat as a Senate President priority that can be traded for a Governor or House priority.

SB 1128 (HB 1011)

PREEMPTION ON CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT- FAIL

A bill backed by the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association that would have preempted local ordinances on employment conditions failed after the House bill did not clear its final of three committees and its Senate companion was never considered in its first committee. Conditions included pre-employment screenings, job classifications, job responsibilities, hours of work, and schedules. The FRLA testified that burdensome ordinances interfere with worker flexibility and schedules. Workers unions and LGBT advocates opposed the bill for being overly broad and replacing local ordinances with no regulations. Opponents argued that local governments were addressing worker issues that the state is or will not, such as wage theft and LGBT discrimination. This was the second Session the bill was introduced.

HB 305

Preemption on Professional Licensure- FAIL

The House voted 78-40 to pass a leadership-backed preemption of occupational licenses. The Senate bill was temporarily postponed in its second committee of reference, never to be considered by the body again.

Under the bill, Counties and municipalities could have still required journeyman licenses for pipe fitting, plumbing, HVAC related work, electrical and alarm systems. However, they could not require a license for anything outside of the state's Construction Industry



Licensing Board and any such requirement will be voided. "Occupation" was defined as a paid job, profession, work, line of work, trade, employment, position, post, career, field, vocation, or craft. "Licensing" was defined as any training, education, test, certification, registration, or license that is required for a person to perform an occupation along with any associated fee. The sponsor stated the two year sunset allowed local governments to make their case to the state should a local license be needed for a specific profession. The Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities opposed the bill out of concern it is overly broad, weakens local enforcement, and threatens public safety by removing consumer protections. Fees are sometimes collected as an insurance account for financial damages caused by deficient job performance by licensed contractors. Additionally, the ability to create ordinances licensing specific jobs allows smaller, niche businesses to grow, thus diversifying the economy. The Natural Gas & Propane Gas Association supports the bill. The Senate bill was amended in its last stop to grandfather licenses created by October 1, 2020 and allowing residency requirements.

HB3

CONTINGENCY FEES- FAIL

This initiative did not pass any committees of reference after being filed as a committee bill. It would have limited contingency fees in local government contracts for attorney services. The bill would have capped fees on a sliding scale, from 25% of any recovery up to \$10 million to 5% of any recovery of \$25 million or more. It provided a total cap on fees at \$20 million. Opponents expressed concern the bill would limit local governments from getting involved in major class action lawsuits, such as the current opioid lawsuits and potential future environmental justice lawsuits that can occur once science can determine the true source of pollution. Members in opposition stated that it is local government's job to do what is right for their constituents, which means recovering damages owed by bad actors. They also expressed concern that more talented attorneys won't want to work on cases, and that cases benefit attorneys in the state through collaboration and sharing of knowledge.

HB 7043

Smoking in Parks- FAIL

Fv

SB 630

(Transparency & Accountability)

PENALTIES FOR ABUSE OF PUBLIC POSITION- PASS

The Senate unanimously passed HB 7009 after the House unanimously passed the bill the previous week. It codifies penalties, developed by the Ethics Commission, for violations of the Constitutional prohibition on abuse of public positions. The bill implements a portion of



Amendment 12, adopted by voters in 2018, which prohibits public officials and employees from taking actions that can "disproportionately benefit" them. The bill provides that public officials and employees can also not take actions that "disproportionately benefit" their spouse, children, employer, or entities with which they have a business interest. The penalties go into effect December 31, 2020. The amendment additionally barred public officials and certain employees from lobbying for six years after leaving their position and from elected officials lobbying a different level of government. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

HB 7009

SPECIAL DISTRICTS- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed SB 1466, a bill to assist special districts in avoiding ADA violations on their website by removing a requirement to post facility reports and meeting materials. Under the bill, Special Districts could satisfy statutory requirements by posting meeting notices and agendas and by posting a link to the Auditor General's website hosting of their financial audit. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

SB 1466

FIDUCIARY DUTY OF CARE FOR APPOINTED PUBLIC OFFICIALS & EXECUTIVE OFFICERS- FAIL After the Senate voted 38-1 and the House voted unanimously to pass SB 1270, it died upon "bouncing" back to the upper chamber. The Senate sponsor, a former Senate President who often reminds the chamber of the importance of following the rules of the process, objected to his own bill due to technical process rules rather than substantive issues.

The bill would have provided that appointed public officials and executive officers owe a fiduciary duty to the entities they serve. Many were concerned it casted too wide of a net, discouraging volunteers for public boards by imposing requirements that far exceed typical responsibilities. It was originally in response to high profile scandals occurring with appointed hospital district boards and other entities. However, support for the bill gained tremendous strength in light of the Florida Domestic Violence Coalition scandal. The proposal codified a fiduciary duty of care for appointed public officials and executive officers, including: performing due diligence and reasonable oversight, staying adequately informed of affairs, and practicing fiscal responsibility. The bill provided for training requirements. It also provided that executive directors and general counsel must be appointed by a majority vote of the board. Finally, it required that legal counsel must represent the interests of the board, unless the board voted to defend an individual. The House companion appeared dead, however it was revived and amended in to HB 1111-Government Accountability. This House bill also would establish the Florida Integrity Office and a hotline to report instances of government waste, fraud, and abuse. It offers incentives for employees to report corruption. This allowed the House to take up the Senate bill, but it



would have meant the Senate would be voting on the substance of a bill not heard in a Senate committee.

SB 1270 HB 1111

INFO ON CITIES AND COUNTIES- FAIL

The House voted 90-23 to pass HB 7061 and 83-34 to pass HB 7069, legislation to require counties and municipalities to annually report specific fiscal and economic information to the Department of Financial Services in lieu of reporting economic status data to the Office of Economic & Demographic Research. However, its Senate companion was not considered in its final committee.

The information includes: spending per-resident for the last 5 fiscal years, debt per-resident for the past five fiscal years, county and city employee salaries, median income, average school grade, and crime rate. The linked bill would place on the 2020 ballot a Constitutional amendment to have the CFO report economic and non-economic information about cities and counties. The intent is to provide transparency to the public, which can move to another location or choose to hold their current location accountable, and competition amongst local governments to "rank higher" in various areas. Local governments question the usefulness of the data and especially whether it captures the full picture (i.e. number of seniors and homeless, etc.) of fiscal management and economic viability.

HB 7061 HB 7069

Online Public Notices- FAIL

The House voted 71-47 to pass a bill that would allow local governments (and self-service storage facilities) to publish public notices on a publicly accessible website. However, its Senate companion never cleared its first committee of reference.

The notice must be conspicuous or accessed by a direct link on the homepage with the date it was published. Once a year, the local government would need to publish in a newspaper of general circulation that anyone can request notices to be mailed first-class or via email by registering with the local government. The local government must maintain the registry of names that have requested notices. It also allows free newspapers to be eligible to publish notices. Opponents, including newspapers, are concerned over the revenue loss to newspapers during an vulnerable era. They also argue that it decreases transparency, saying often newspapers publish notices on their websites for free in addition to the print circulation- giving the widest platform. Supporters argue the bill saves taxpayer money and increases access to public notices as more citizens use the internet for information than subscribe to a print newspaper. The Florida League of Cities supports the bill. The sponsor



stated that his home municipality calculated the amount of savings from the bill, which could be used to fund needed additional police officers.

HB 7

Public Records- FAIL

This legislation would have prohibited public agencies from filing a civil suit against an individual or entity that requests a public record through its final committee. Originally, the Senate bill allowed civil suits against requestors but shifted costs to the public agency but was amended. Supporters argued that civil suits filed by public entities to determine public records exemptions can be intentionally abused to discourage public records requests. This harms the public's Constitutional right to access to records by placing them on the hook for attorneys fees for merely making a request. If there is a sincere question of exemption, public agencies can instead seek an Attorney General's opinion at no additional cost to the taxpayer. Both the House and Senate bill made it to the Chamber floors, but did not pass in time.

HB 0195 (SB 162)

CHILDREN SERVICES COUNCILS- FAIL

This legislation would have required CSCs to include "performance data" in their annual report: high school graduation rate, teen alcohol and drug use, teen pregnancies, infant mortality, poverty level, and juvenile arrests. It also would have required them to file with the county a monthly financial report with itemized receipts. The sponsor's district in Pinellas County had a string of juvenile arrests, some as young as 8 years old, and the CSC was found to have misrepresented its service contracts and efforts. The Florida Children's Council testified that the bill was largely unneeded and expensive to implement, particularly switching from quarterly to monthly reporting. The bills failed to clear all committees in time.

HB 661

(DEVELOPMENT)

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 441, legislation that would increase the maximum cost of a construction continuing contract from \$2 million to \$4 million. It would also increase the maximum cost of a study using a continuing contract from \$200,000 to \$500,000. The bill was amended in the process to a lowered increase of \$4 million from originally \$5 million. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

HB 441 (SB 506)



Public Construction: Retainage - PASS

The Senate voted unanimously and The House voted 118-1 to pass HB 101. The bill would reduce the maximum amount of retainage governments are allowed to withhold from contractors from 10% to 5%. It would not apply to DOT contracts. The bill is supported by the Florida Homebuilders Association, Associated Builders & Contractors (ABC), and NACM. Supporters contend that there is a major cash flow issue for contractors and the current practice prevents smaller companies from taking on work as well as subcontractors from getting paid timely. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

SB 246

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION WORKS- PASS

The Legislature passed HB 279 with one dissenting vote in each chamber. It requires local governments to include additional factors in its cost estimates when deciding whether to use its own services for the project. The factors include employee compensation and benefits, insurance costs, and "direct costs" such as materials purchased plus a factor of 20 percent for "indirect costs," such as management and overhead. A full accounting of costs for all such projects must be compiled in a report that's made available to the governning board for review and to the public and Auditor General during an audit. The final bill does not include raising the threshold for a local government to competitively bid a project constructing or improving a public structure from \$300,000 to \$400,000 and \$75,000 to \$100,000 for electrical work. The final bill also does not prohibit a local government from performing the work in-house should the estimated cost be greater than what is estimated to hire a private contractor. Subject to the Governor's veto power, this act will take effect July 1, 2020.

HB 279

GROWTH MANAGEMENT- PASS

The House voted 71-43 and the Senate voted 26-14 to approve legislation adding a property rights element comprehensive plans of local governments by July 1, 2023. Local governments may use their own wording for the element that does not conflict with the bill. The intent of the bill is to ensure that local governments consider impacts to private property rights for the possession, use, enjoyment, and disposal of property in their decision-making process. The House took up the Senate bill and amended in a House provision that prohibited a municipality from annexing land located within another municipality without that municipality's permission. The bill also prohibits counties from imposing land use or zoning or density/intensity ordinances on municipalities without the municipality adopting the ordinance also. The provision was amended on the floor to carve out counties with populations of 1 million or more. The bill was amended again to lower the carve out to counties with populations of 750,000 or more. The bill provides that a



development order agreement may be amended or cancelled without consent of the original property owners that were subject to the order. At one point a House provision that removed a hard fought exemption in the attorneys fees bill passed last year, HB 825, that protected ordinances in compliance with comprehensive plans. The provision was removed before the bill was sent to the House. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

SB 410

IMPACT FEES- PASS

The House voted 81-37 and the Senate voted unanimously to pass SB 1066 after it had radically been amended the previous week. The final bill prevents local governments from applying increased fees to pending projects and only apply new fees to pending projects if it is the intent to decrease them; and provides credits for over-contributions are transferable at any time to other projects with infrastructure needs within the same impact fee zone or district. The credit may be applied to projects in adjoining zones or districts if the zone or district that generated the credit directly benefits. The purpose of credits is to ensure against collecting fees more than once for the same impact. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act takes effect July 1, 2020.

The original bill required each county and municipality that assesses impact fees: to have an Impact Fee Review Committee and may use existing Planning & Zoning committees instead; base fee prices on data within the last 36 months, excluding all costs outside of "infrastructure"; segregate revenue and expenditures for infrastructure in a separate trust fund; and submit an affidavit stating that impact fees were collected in compliance with statutes to the CFO. The Senate also added a provision allowing certain local governments with charters adopted by 2006 that provide for education capacity (Miami-Dade & Orange) to collect both education impact fees and education-related contributions for impacts not funded by impact fees. This provision was targeted at a massive development issue in Orange County, however it was removed from the bill prior to final passage.

SB 1066

BERT HARRIS- FAIL

Bert Harris legislation failed after not clearing all of its House and Senate committees and was not amended into another package. The bill would have originally required a local government apply terms reached in settling a claim to all properties similarly situated to that which brought the claim. It would have made it easier for property owners to sue local governments by disallowing local governments to go after attorneys fees, allowing property owners to file suit for an impending government action rather than a written notice, and allowing a jury to consider business damages. Supporters argued the bill would have cut down on litigation by not having all property owners with similar situations file different



suits. Opponents argued the language was overly broad, impossible to implement, and would increase litigation.

HB 519

BUILDING DESIGN- FAIL

A bill that would have limited how local government ability to require design elements on single- and two- family dwellings failed after not being considered by a Senate committee. The House bill, however made it all the way to the House floor. Local governments would have been prohibited from requiring the design elements unless it is historic property or the requirement relates to the National Flood Insurance Plan (NFIP). All other design element requirements would have had to be adopted as a Florida Building Code amendment. The bill provided a remedy for citizens to seek a non-binding opinion from the Florida Building Commission on whether a local ordinance meets that requirement. "Design elements" involved architectural style and color and did not include height, bulk, orientation, location on a lot, or use of buffering.

HB 459

(Affordable Housing)

Housing- PASS

The House voted 101-10 and the Senate voted unanimously to pass HB 1339, a massive housing package. The underlying legislation is a product that includes significant input from local government and housing advocates. For one example, it includes language addressing private inspector legislation passed in 7103 last Session. HB 1339 clarifies a building official may not audit one project inspected by a private inspector more than four times per year, rather than audit the private inspector more than four times per year regardless of how many projects they inspect. The bill provides local governments may allow accessory dwelling units in areas zoned for single-family residences, which was changed from a mandate to allow them. It establishes bi-annual regional workshops for local elected officials on housing advisory committees to share best practices; allows local governments to approve affordable housing units in any area zoned residential, commercial or industrial; adds data reporting requirements for impact fee charges and of SHIP participant application denials and approvals; adds additional criteria for evaluation of local contributions to applications for SAIL funding, including policies that "promote public transportation, reduce need for on-site parking and expedite affordable housing permits"; requires the Community Workforce Housing Loan program under the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to establish a loan application pursuant to SAIL that would award loans at a 1% interest rate for no longer than 15 years; it allows private entities to be issued revenue bonds under the Florida Interlocal Cooperative Act for self-liquidating projects; and permits FHFC to withhold 5% of the housing trust fund annually for the construction of housing for persons aging out of foster care. Finally, it includes similar language on mobile



home parks to that found in SB 818. However, the language was narrowed to strike more of a balance between communities that are still attempting to recover from Hurricane Michael and communities adversely impacted by the provisions. Among other things, the compromise provides the mobile home park density can match what it had been permitted, zoned *and* built at prior to being destroyed (rather than *or* built). After passing the House unanimously, the Senate took up the House bill and adopted amendments which, among other things, removed a controversial provision that housing programs give priority to applicants with less need over those with more need. One amendment also added a controversial provision that allows a local government to adopt a linkage fee ordinance so long as the developer is fully offset for the fee through the same "incentives" provided for the offset of inclusionary zoning. For example: reducing or waiving development, permit or application fees, or expediting permits and applications, or allowing additional square footage. The bill sponsors had rejected the language in previous stops, and the House sponsor accepted the change reluctantly. He stated on the floor that the language was not perfect and he was open to working with stakeholders to tweak it in subsequent Sessions. He acknowledged the language as a "start" since linkage fees are a relatively new type of ordinance local governments are contemplating. Though many local governments are considering linkage fee ordinances, only three cities and no counties currently have one: two are for commercial development and one is applied to mixed-use residential and commercial. He also stated in close that the language does not make linkage fee ordinances a total "wash"- the linkage fees collected would be applied only to residential affordable housing where the incentives were commercial based, meaning money would still be going towards affordable housing impacts. However, the concern shared by local governments is that the incentives for inclusionary housing are difficult to offer in commercial development scenarios. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act becomes effective July 1, 2020.

HB 1339

INDEPENDENT LIVING TASK FORCE- FAIL

A bill that would have established an Independent Living Taskforce housed within the Florida Housing Finance Corporation failed just shy of the finish line. The Senate voted unanimously to pass SB 364, however the House did not take up the Senate bill in time. Its purpose was to develop strategies for developers and governments to provide affordable housing for individuals with developmental disabilities and mental health needs.

SB 364

FINANCE, TAX & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TAXATION - PASS (but reduced)

The House and Senate agreed to a significantly reduced \$47.4 million tax cut package as the economy began a sharp 180° turn. The House voted to send a taxation package worth over



\$100 million to the Senate just before the coronavirus pandemic began to overtake the state's economic engines. The Senate added in several of its own priorities, growing the tax cut, before eventually paring down the package to help fund reserves to cushion the impending reduction in revenue. The final package includes: renewals of the back-to-school and disaster-preparedness sales tax holidays; a requirement non-profit hospitals receive a property tax exemption based on the amount of charity care provided (HB 919); a requirement future school district surtax ordinances share revenues proportionally with charter schools; a 20-year time limit on future transportation surtaxes; a reduction of the tax on surplus lines to 4.94% from 5%; an extension of property tax exemptions on affordable housing units: if the units are vacant, if the occupants' incomes grew but had qualified at the time of original tenancy, or if the units are owned by an LLC that is owned by another LLC that is a 501(c)3. The package also includes: Department of Revenue proposed language on tax administration; restriction on information in TRIM notices; updated military operations that qualify for deployed service tax benefits; conflict of interest provisions for special magistrates; a provision exempting new education facilities funded solely by impact fees from total cost per student station caps; and a provision that prohibits owners of public facilities from soliciting payment for providing an allocation letter needed for Federal Income Tax Reduction for energy efficient construction.

The final package does not include: A .1 % reduction in the commercial property rental sales tax; a ½ reduction in the aviation fuel tax (continued from previous years); a .5 % reduction in the state portion of the Communications Services Tax; the repeal of the unused Sports Development Program (HB 6057); authorization of Tourism Development Tax revenue to fund water infrastructure projects and other county or municipal issues tied to tourism; an \$8.2 million increase to the Brownfields tax credit program to address backlog; corporate income tax refund clarification language; a tax credit for rental car companies; clarification that any leased facility used for educational facilities shall receive all tax benefits of an owned educational facility; a \$5 million Children's Promise Tax Credit Program, offering a tax credit for eligible charitable organizations that provide services in regards to child welfare; or a sunset of the Miami-Dade Charter County and Regional Transportation System Surtax in December 2049 (when bonds expire).

Subject to the Governor's veto power, the overall act takes effect on July 1, 2020. However, some provisions take effect at other dates provided in the bill.

HB 7097

FRS Employer Contribution Increase- PASS

The Senate voted unanimously and the House voted 111-5 to pass HB 5007, the annual increase to employer contributions based on actuarial calculations. The bill represents a greater increase relative to previous years, particularly to school boards. It is estimated to have a \$23.6 million impact on entities other than counties, school boards, etc. (this includes municipalities) statewide. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the act takes effect July 1, 2020.



HB 5007 Analysis

AD VALOREM DISCOUNTS FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES OF DISABLED VETERANS- PASS

The Legislature voted unanimously to pass HB 877, legislation to place a Constitutional amendment on the 2020 ballot to transfer ad valorem discounts for veterans who were permanently disabled to their surviving spouses. If adopted by 60% of the voters, the bill will have a \$1 million statewide impact on local governments, eventually increasing to \$4 million. If adopted, the amendment would take effect on January 1, 2021.

HB 877

VISIT FLORIDA REAUTHORIZATION- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed SB 362, which reauthorizes Visit Florida and the Division of Tourism Marketing until 2023. The Senate originally unanimously passed a bill that would extend Visit Florida until 2028 and removed the schedule repeal of the Division of Tourism Marketing. However, the House amended the bill after agreeing to fund Visit Florida at \$50 million for another year. The Speaker commended the current Visit Florida program under former State Senator Dana Young. The act takes effect upon the Governor's signature or on July 1, 2020.

SB 362

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX- FAIL

This legislation would have standardize the local CST tax rate through a phased-in reduction to 4%. It would also have removed related discretionary surtaxes and expanded services taxed under the CST to include streaming and other similar services (codifying DOR's current interpretation.) The bill was estimated to cost local governments over \$200 million statewide. It received only one hearing in the Senate and was never considered in the House. However, it does have widespread support among lawmakers. We anticipate seeing this bill in future Sessions.

SB 1174

Sovereign Immunity- FAIL

This legislation would have raised the 200k/300k cap on sovereign immunity claims and provided that the cap must increase annually with the Consumer Price Index. Originally the bill would have raised the cap to \$1 million however, that amount was reduced to \$500,000. Supporters wanted to reduce use of the claims bill process, which requires the injured party awarded damages to lobby the Legislature to obtain awards above the cap. Claims bills can take several years to pass and often require families or injured parties to relive their trauma once again after going through a court case. The bill was not considered in its third and final



Senate committee after passing its first two nearly unanimously. It also did not have a House companion. We anticipate seeing this bill in future Sessions. $\frac{881302}{1000}$

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS - FAIL

The House voted unanimously to pass a bill that would allow residents to maintain entitlement to a Florida homestead exemption when it is discovered they inadvertently have homestead in another state. However, the Senate did not take up the House bill, as the Senate companion was stuck in its final committee of reference.

The homeowner was required to show that they didn't request the exemption in the other state. The bill required tax forms to ask if the resident has homestead in another state for which permanent residency is required.

HB 223

QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REBATE PROGRAM- FAIL

This legislation would have saved the QTI program from its scheduled repeal date of June 30, 2020 and permanently reauthorize the program. The QTI program is an important local economic development tool that was one of the lone survivors remaining after Speaker Corcoran's term. State economists at the time concluded the QTI produced a positive return on investment. The bill also increased tax refunds for companies that relocate or expand in counties impacted by Hurricane Michael and mades them eligible to apply for extended economic recovery. The Senate unanimously passed the bill, but the House companion was never considered in its first committee.

SB 922

WAYFAIR - ONLINE SALES TAX- FAIL

This legislation would have required online retailers to collect and remit sales tax. Florida is one of only two states who has not passed an internet sales tax bill along with Missouri. Supporters argue the tax is already owed, it is just on the consumer to remit their taxes on their own. According to the sponsor, the bill was a fairness issue to brick and mortar businesses who collect sales tax, pay property taxes and contribute to the community. The bill was supported by the Florida Retail Federation and several retail businesses, such as Target and Walmart. The bill was estimated to have a \$320 million recurring positive fiscal impact to state revenue and a \$100 million recurring positive fiscal impact to local government revenue statewide. The bill passed two of three Senate committees, but was never considered in its first House committees.

SB 126



Environment

CLEAN WATERWAYS ACT- PASS

The Legislature voted unanimously to pass SB 712, a Governor-backed bill to, among other things, codify the recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force. Septic Tanks: The bill moves oversight of septic systems from DOH to DEP; Requires DEP to adopt rules by July 2022 that will supersede current law on setbacks; requires local governments to develop remediation plans within basin management action plans upon certain DEP determinations. It creates a Technical Advisory Committee on septic to make recommendations to the Legislature. It also establishes a fast-tracked permitting process for nutrient reducing septic systems. <u>Wastewater</u>: The bill establishes a wastewater grant program with a 50% local match for septic-to-sewer, septic upgrade, or advance wastewater treatment projects. The grant program gives priority to rural areas, BMAPs, and alternative restoration projects. It requires DEP to adopt rules to reduce and eliminate transmission system pipe leaks, seepages, etc., rules on domestic wastewater collection, and rules on inflow & infiltration (I&I). It requires sanitary sewer facilities to develop an assessment, replacement and repair plan based on I&I studies and requires pollution permittees to report revenues, expenditures and any deviation from I&I plans. It allows facilities that are following their plans to qualify for a 10-year permit. It increases the cap on administrative penalties from \$10,000 to \$50,0000 and cap per violator from \$5,000 to \$10,000 Stormwater: Creates a real-time water quality monitoring program; Requires DEP to update stormwater rules, model stormwater management program, applicant handbook, local pollution control staff training, and the self-certification process; Requires DEP and DEO to focus on nutrient reduction and green infrastructure in their model stormwater management program. Biosolids: Bans application of Class A and Class B biosolids within 6 in. of the seasonal highwater table unless nutrient management plans or water quality monitoring can give certain assurances; requires biosolid permits to comply with the statute within a year and comply with DEP biosolid rules within two years of their finalization. Agriculture: Provides FDACS greater oversight of agricultural pollution and allows the agency to work with educational institutions on implementing best management practices (BMPs). Additional: The bill also requires DEP to conduct a study on bottled water and to work with the University of Florida on BMPs for nutrient impacts on golf courses.

Various provisions have various enacting dates, however the overall act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

SB 712

ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT-PASS

The Legislature voted unanimously to pass HB 1091, which enhances the Department of Environmental Protection's ability to enforce environmental fines and increases penalties by 50%. It raises the cap on administrative penalties from \$10,000 to \$50,0000. It adds that



each day the cause of an unauthorized discharge of domestic wastewater is not addressed constitutes a separate offense for administrative penalties and, likewise, for civil penalties until resolved by an order of a judge. The Senate also amended in the subject of another bill requiring sellers of real property disclose any known defects in sanitary sewer laterals to prospective buyers. It encourages counties and municipalities set up sanitary sewer lateral programs for private and commercial property owners. The goal of the program is to provide a way for property owners to evaluate sanitary sewer laterals for leakages and provide economic ways for them to rehabilitate the infrastructure and stop leaks. It would also encourage local governments to set up a publicly viewable database of defective pipes that owners and prospective buyers can reference. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act will take effect on July 1, 2020.

HB 1091

RECYCLING: CONTAMINATED MATERIALS- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 73, a contaminated materials recycling bill that represents a compromise between local governments and the waste industry. The language has passed two years in a row, but was subsequently vetoed due to unrelated language that was included in each package. The language requires local governments negotiate an agreement within contracts on how to identify and handle contaminated materials. It also includes collaboration on public education and outreach. It also specifies that docks may be re-built after a hurricane as long as its within five feet of its original location. The bill no longer requires local governments factor in market viability when determining the definition of "contaminated material." Additionally, changes would only go into place after the contracts are executed and as governed by the contract. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

SB 326

OFFICE OF RESILIENCY- FAIL

The Senate unanimously passed SB 7016, a bill that would have codified in statute the Governor's creation of the Statewide Office of Resiliency (SOR) headed by the Chief Resiliency Officer. However, the House did not take up the Senate bill, and its House companion never cleared its final committee stop.

The bill also created a Statewide Sea-Level-Rise Task Force that must adopt sea level rise projections. The bill provides \$500,000 in non-recurring funds for the Task Force, which sunsets in 2023.

SB 7016 (HB 1073)



LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECYCLING PROGRAMS- FAIL

A bill extending local government recycling goals deadlines and mandating a runway for the displacement of private waste companies failed to clear all of its committees. Originally, the bill would have extended the date for all local governments and directed a study for how to improve on and meet recycling goals. The most recent iteration exempted only fiscally constrained counties from specified recycling goals for local government until 2023. It would have created a recycled materials management pilot in Polk County and required local governments to give a three-year runway and compensation equal to that of the preceding 18 months thereafter to private waste companies displaced by local governments. It would have taken away discretionary authority to negotiate different terms. An amendment was adopted which clarifies that the bill exempts fiscally constrained counties from recycling goals but not other solid waste responsibilities.

SB 996 HB 639

Public Safety/Criminal Justice

EMERGENCY SHELTERING OF PERSONS WITH PETS- PASS

The Legislature voted unanimously to pass HB 705, legislation that requires each county to have at least one pet-friendly evacuation shelter in preparation for a natural disaster. The sponsor states a primary reason people don't evacuate is their pets. It requires the Department of Education to partner with the Department of Emergency Management in developing effective implementation strategies. It also requires DEM to work with the Department of Agriculture to identify acceptable pets that can be admitted. While the legislation is a mandate, it is a completely funded mandate, reimbursable under the Pet Act amendment to the Stafford Act which fully reimburses costs for pet shelters when there is a declaration of a State of Emergency. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

HB 705

MANDATORY EMERGENCY REPORTING- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed SB 538, a bill that requires counties and municipalities to report certain emergency incidents that occur within their boundaries to the State Watch Office under the Division of Emergency Management as soon as practicable following the initial response. Incidents include: natural disasters, major fires, law enforcement events, traffic incidents, etc. The information will then be compiled by DEM and all local emergency managers will receive notification upon the list being updated as well as annual reports. The Senate adopted a floor amendment that would have exempted two or more county or municipal officials from attending an emergency or phone call within 14 days of a Governor's declared state of emergency without discussing or taking any official actions.



However, the last minute change was not accepted by the House as a public records and was removed before the bill was sent back to the Senate for final passage.

SB 0538

PUBLIC NUISANCE - PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 625, a bill expanding locations that may be declared a public nuisance, and may be abated or enjoined, to include any place where- two or more times within a six month period- certain crimes occurred. The bill also adds sheriffs to the enumerated list of parties able to directly sue to enjoin a nuisance. It provides that a rental property declared a public nuisance may not be abated if the crime is not committed by the owner and the owner commences rehabilitation within 30 days and completes rehabilitation within a reasonable time thereafter. It requires more detailed and frequent notices be given to property owners. It also extends the period of time for notice to give the property owner sufficient time to correct the issue. The bill now awaits the Governor's signature or will become law on its effective date if not signed or vetoed by July 1, 2020.

HB 625

Underground Facility Damage Prevention & Safety- PASS

The Legislature passed HB 1095 with only one dissenting vote. The legislation expands enforcement of the Underground Facility Damage Prevention & Safety act by increasing civil penalties for excavators that fail to comply with various Ch. 556 requirements to \$2500 plus court costs. It adds tampering with a permanent marker as a criminal infraction, punishable by a second degree misdemeanor, and adds failure to exercise caution while excavating in a tolerance zone as a non-criminal infraction. It adds State Fire Marshalls and local fire chiefs to the list of those able to issue citations for violations. 80% of the civil fine will go to the authority issuing the citation and 20% is retained by the clerk for administrative costs. It requires contractors and excavators to report to the State Fire Marshall and Sunshine 811 within 24 hours of learning of an incident involving a High-Priority Subsurface Installation (HPSI). The State Fire Marshall can then investigate or designate an authority, including local fire chiefs, their designees, or local code enforcement in absence of an organized fire service. The State Fire Marshall or their designee may issue a citation for HPSI up to \$50,000 as provided in current law. 5% of the penalty is retained by the clerk of courts. The remaining 95% must be divided evenly between Sunshine 811, for damage-prevention education, and the State Fire Marshall, to fund need-based programs for fire departments (including volunteer) to procure equipment that mitigates exposure to cancer-causing chemicals. The bill also addresses court costs, failure to respond to citations, and ability to appeal fines. It requires clerks of court to annually report to the State Fire Marshall and Sunshine 811 by March 31st all violations filed in the county the preceding calendar year. Finally, it provides term limits for the Public Counsel of four-year terms not to exceed 12 years. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the bill will take effect July 1, 2020.



HB 1095

PEER SUPPORT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 573, legislation providing confidentiality for peer support communication between a first responder and their first responder peer. Recognizing the post-traumatic stress that first responders regularly experience, efforts have been made to ensure greatest access to behavioral health services including peer support. Conversation with a mental health services professional is confidential under current law, this bill adds peer support conversations to existing protected communications, with specific exceptions. The bill requires peers to have peer support training and extends confidentiality to written or electronic communication. The Senate accepted the House's language that also required the peer be designated by the employing agency, which was supported by the Florida Sheriffs Association but caused concern among advocates that law enforcement officers would not take advantage of the program. The bill was amended to include 911 telecommunications dispatchers to be included in the definition of first responders for the purpose of the peer support program. An attempt was made to include dispatchers in the full definition of first responder, a move that could eventually lead to access to benefits for PTSD. However, the sponsors were concerned that the change could have fiscal implications and committed to working on the issue next session. The bill was also amended to include the subject of a bill that authorizes employing agencies to request sworn or certified investigators from another law enforcement or correctional agency to investigate law enforcement or correctional officer misconduct. It also imposes timelines for all complaints and allegations regardless of their origin and extends misconduct investigation statutes to include part-time officers. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

HB 573

JORDAN'S LAW- PASS

The House and Senate unanimously voted to pass HB 43, legislation addressing interagency collaboration, communication, training, and inefficiencies in child welfare incident response. The bill is named for a 2-year-old who died from abuse despite adequate warning signs to multiple agencies. It would require child welfare workers, law enforcement, and guardian ad litems to be trained in recognizing head trauma. For children under six years old, it authorizes an intensive family reunification program and a pilot program in three high-removal counties to improve case management services. It also requires a process be followed to determine a child welfare investigation was mishandled. The bill now heads to the Governor's Desk.

HB 43



CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM- FAIL

As expected and despite a passionate effort on the part of the Senate Appropriations Chair, the House did not accept the Senate's push to allow judicial discretion (departure from mandatory minimums) in sentencing certain drug offenses. Other criminal justice reform measures also failed: modifying the 85% gain-time threshold, requiring sentence review hearings for youth offenders, establishing Conditional Medical Release and Conditional Aging Inmate Release programs, establishing mental health and substance abuse diversion courts, driving while license is suspended, reoffenders, juvenile record expunctions, and more. The Speaker Designate of the Florida House, next in line after Speaker Oliva, has made clear that he plans to continue the House's position on these issues.

JUVENILE DIVERSION- FAIL

Legislation failed due to running out of time that would have allowed juveniles to expunge felony offenses and allowed juveniles who successfully complete a diversion program for any offense, rather than first-time misdemeanors, to deny or fail to acknowledge participation in the program. The House and Senate each passed the bill unanimously, but the Senate failed to take the bill back up in time in order to agree to a House amendment.

SB 700 HB 615

ABUSE, ABANDONMENT, AND NEGLECT OF CHILDREN AND ANIMALS- FAIL

The Senate unanimously passed SB 7000, a bill that updates child abuse hotline reporting and adds animal abuse to Child Protective Services Investigations. However, it did not have a House companion and was not taken up by the House.

It would have required statistical records be kept of child sexual abuse, including child-on-child sexual abuse, that occur in educational settings. It penalized educational providers whose employees knowingly and willfully fail to report suspicion of child abuse, abandonment and provides disciplinary action against those employees. It required any person investigating child abuse, abandonment, or neglect who has cause to suspect animal abuse, abandonment, or neglect is also occuring to report the case for the removal of the animals within 72 hours. It increased the penalty for sexually abusing animals from a first degree misdemeanor to a third degree felony and restricted people convicted of animal abuse from owning, residing, working, and volunteering with animals. The bill was based on data showing an increased likelihood of animal abuse or child abuse occurring if the other is occurring.

SB 7000



STATEWIDE EMERGENCY SHELTER TASK FORCE- FAIL

The Senate voted unanimously to pass SB 1272, which would have established a Statewide Emergency Shelter Task Force. However, the bill had no House companion and was not taken up by the House.

The purpose of the taskforce was to make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature regarding the establishment and operation of emergency shelters. This included a review of the process used to designate and operate emergency shelters and the preparation, operation, and cleanup of such shelters.

SB 1272

THREATS- FAIL

The Senate voted unanimously to pass SB 728, a bill that would have criminalized threats to use a firearm or weapon to harm a person or property that cause well-founded fear in a reasonable person that the threat would be acted upon. However, the House bill was temporarily postponed on the floor and the House did not take up the Senate bill.

The Senate bill was narrowed to only apply to schools, child care facilities, churches, government buildings, and theme parks. The bill would have also criminalized false reporting and protected threats made out of self-defense. The legislation was in response to a Citrus County incident that included a credible threat. It is currently criminal to say "blow the place up" but not "shoot the place up." The change would have given state attorneys and law enforcement more tools to act when needed. Before final passage, the Senate adopted an amendment that would add cyberstalking to dating violence statutes.

HB 311

STATEWIDE TARGETED VIOLENCE PREVENTION- FAIL

Senate Appropriations revived legislation requiring FDLE to develop a statewide targeted violence prevention strategy after amending a bill focused largely on Missing Children's Day and sex offender registration. However, its House companion never cleared its second of three committees. The Senate amended the bill to instead require the Chief of Domestic Security to work with state and local law enforcement in overseeing, developing and implementing the strategy, which must include a statewide threat assessment. The language, which was first in the Senate's ill-fated gun reform package, provided that the strategy cannot impede constitutional protections from search and seizure.

SB 1552

URBAN CORE GUN VIOLENCE TASK FORCE- FAIL

This effort died after the House bill failed to clear its second committee and the Senate failed to clear its third and final committee. The bill would have created a ten-member



taskforce to examine system failures that lead to gun violence in urban high-crime areas. The language was amended to remove the taskforce's power to investigate and have its investigators administer oaths. The bill also established a Florida Firearm Violence Reduction Pilot Program through FDLE. It would have allowed up to six counties disproportionately impacted by gun violence to apply for matching funds and participate in the pilot.

SB 652 (HB 201)

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

SUICIDE PREVENTION- PASS

The Legislature unanimously voted to pass SB 7012, the Senate President's Suicide Prevention Package. Notably, it establishes a suicide deterrence task force for first responders and requires all public and charter schools to provide training to instructional personnel on evidence-based suicide risk assessment screening tools. The bill strengthens the mission of the Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention by creating a suicide database clearinghouse for data on demographic and other trends. It adds veterans, service members, and advising DOT on suicide prevention at railways among its official duties. It expands membership of the Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council to include more medical professionals, such as the FL Behavioral Health Assoc., FL Medical Assoc., FL Osteopathic Medical Assoc., FL Physhiactric Society, FL Physcological Assoc., Veterans FL, and the FL Assoc. of Managing Entities. It requires continuing education for health care practitioners. It provides civil immunity for attempting to save someone from harming themselves. It also requires health insurance companies to comply with Federal requirements for mental health. Finally, the bill also includes provisions on the coordinated system of care for behavioral health services and first psychotic episodes, specifically requiring DCF to assess the system and address gaps and expanding funding for coordinated system of care programs. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

SB 7012

MEDICAID SCHOOL BASED SERVICES- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 81, a bill to make state statute consistent with federal policy by allowing private, charter and district-operated schools to apply for Medicaid reimbursement for all Medicaid-enrolled students, not just those with an IEP as currently reflected in state statute. This will allow for schools to receive reimbursement for physical health, mental health and other therapies administered in a school-based setting for all Medicaid-eligible students. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

HB 0081



RECOVERY RESIDENCES (SOBER HOMES)- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed SB 1120, legislation backed by the Sober Home Task Force. It makes Florida's patient brokering statutes consistent with Federal anti-kickback statutes. It also provides exemptions to disqualifying background information that often prevents recovered addicts from working in sober homes, an issue the House sponsor worked hard to gain support needed in his chamber. Recovered addicts often have criminal backgrounds but also happen to be uniquely qualified and inspired to help others in recovery. The final bill requires peer-specialist applicants be 3 years and all other applicants be 5 years removed from completion of sentences for criminal violations that would no longer be disqualified. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

SB 1120

TESTING FOR AND TREATMENT OF INFLUENZA AND STREPTOCOCCUS - PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 389, a bill that would allow pharmacists to test and treat the flu and strep throat. Pharmacists would act under the supervision of a physician. Proponents argued the bill will increase access to affordable care. Opponents were concerned with quality of care. The Governor has already signed the bill into law.

HB 0389

Scope of Services- Direct Care Workers- PASS

The Senate voted 30-10 and the House voted 107-8 to pass HB 607, a Speaker priority to expand the scope of services physicians assistants and registered nurses can perform without physician supervision. According to the sponsor, the bill increases access to care in recognition of physician shortages. Other bills were amended into the final package, including granting more autonomy to home health aides and changing the makeup of the Council on Physician Assistants. The bill was immediately approved by the Governor.

HB 607

STUDENT LOANS- PASS

The Senate and House unanimously passed a bill that would prohibit state authorities and licensing boards from suspending or revoking a health care professional's license solely on the basis of delinquent student loan payments. Nor can an application for a license be denied based solely on student loan default. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

HB 115



Homelessness- PASS

The Legislature unanimously approved a bill that almost passed the previous Session that would streamline funding for preventing and ending homelessness, increase capacity for continuum of care (CoCs), and streamline Challenge Grants funding with a dedicated \$10 million in Sadowski. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

SB 68- Homelessness

KIDCARE- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed SB 348, a bill that would remove the lifetime maximum cap on covered expenses for a child enrolled in the Florida Healthy Kids program. Florida statute currently caps lifetime expenses at \$1 million of expenses per child in the program. This brings Florida's program into compliance with federal law. The act will take effect upon signature of the Governor or July 1, 2020.

SB 348

Tobacco & Nicotine- PASS

The Senate voted 27-9 and the House voted 99-17 to pass SB 810, legislation, which would raise the legal age of tobacco products to 21 in compliance with Federal law. It creates a limited use permit for vape shops, are retailers who only sell nicotine products and vapor-generating devices but not loose leaf tobacco. The limited-use permit does not require a fee. Retailers which obtain a permit for loose leaf tobacco products and pay the fee may sell any nicotine product. It updates related statutes for selling, mail-order purchasing to reflect the new age limit. It restricts vending machines to premises that prohibit those under the age of 21 and restricts the sale of flavored nicotine products. It also repeals age exemptions for military and emancipated minors. At one point, the House bill authorized damages be awarded against manufacturers of vapor-generating electronic devices, nicotine products and nicotine dispensing devices of the greater of four times the compensatory damages or \$2 million. However, this provision was removed from the final bill. Dissenting votes were mostly based on removal of military exemptions and potential impacts on young entrepreneurs who own or work in concession stores or gas stations. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act takes effect on July 1, 2020.

SB 810

MEDICALLY ESSENTIAL ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE- FAIL

The House unanimously passed HB 773, a bill that required municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives to offer medically essential electric service programs in the same way as investor owned utilities. However, the Senate had no companion bill and did not take up the House bill.



After a natural disaster, investor owned utilities prioritize restoration of power to medically essential homes and buildings. The bill would have required each utility to post on its website a written explanation of the services and the certification process in addition to notifying customers at the time of opening an account and semi-annually thereafter.

HB 773

Transportation

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY- PASS

The House and Senate each voted unanimously to pass HB 37, a bill from the Pasco County Sheriffs Office that would double civil penalties for failing to stop when passing a stopped school bus- from \$100 to \$200 or, if passing on a side that children are exiting, from \$200 to \$400- effective January 1, 2021. The bill is supported by the PTA, Triple-A, and school districts. Subject to the Governor's veto power, the act takes effect on January 1, 2021.

HB 37

ESSENTIAL STATE INFRASTRUCTURE- PASS

The Senate voted unanimously and the House voted 97-19 to pass SB 7018, a priority of the Senate President. The Senate voted 38-0 to pass the bill after it was temporarily postponed on the Senate floor to adopt a late-filed amendment on language directing the development of a statewide master plan for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure along the state highway system. The amendment was requested by the agencies and stakeholders who wanted the responsibility for the objectives of the master plan delineated to agencies according to expertise. All language that defined the goals/objectives of the masterplan remains unchanged from the original version, however the objectives are now split up amongst the agencies.

The final language places primary responsibility on the Department of Transportation (DOT). It requires DOT to develop and recommend a master plan to the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker by July 1, 2021. It must also submit a status report by December 1, 2020 that includes preliminary findings and legislative recommendations. To develop the master plan:

- DOT must work with the Public Service Commission (PSC), the Office of Energy, and as many public and private entities as deemed appropriate to deliver objectives requiring transportation expertise. They must identify charging station locations, travel barriers to EV use, the strategy for expanding EV infrastructure, and the financial impacts of EV adoption on the State Transportation Trust Fund.
- The PSC must work with DOT, the Office of Energy, and as many public and private entities as deemed appropriate to deliver objectives requiring utility expertise. They must project increased EV use over 20 years and determine how the state provides an adequate supply of charging stations to meet stated goals; consider strategies to



- develop the supply of charging stations; evaluate types of charging stations; and identify the regulatory structure for supplying electricity to EV infrastructure.
- The PSC must work with the Office of Energy to review emerging technologies in the electric and alternative vehicle market (including alternative fuel sources).

The final language also contains legislative findings recognizing the significance of climate change and the role of electric vehicles in combating climate change.

The final bill aslo applies the "shot clock" for processing permit applications for communications facilities in county & city right-of-ways to all utility permit applications. It clarifies state law does not prohibit the construction of public or private linear facilities and right of access on land subject to a conservation easement if rights are voluntarily negotiated by the property owner. Finally, it authorizes FDOT to plan, design and construct staging areas for emergency response along the turnpike system. The language requires FDOT to work with DEM to identify locations and authorizes FDOT to acquire land for the purpose. The department must give priority to locations in counties with a population of 200,000 or less, which happens to describe the counties home to the future M-CORES expansion of the turnpike- a Senate President priority passed last Session.

Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

SB 7018

ELECTRIC BICYCLES- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 971, legislation to conform Florida statutes to current E-bike technology. Specifically, the bill makes clear that no license or insurance is required similar to a non-electric bike. The bill retains local control so operation of e-bikes on sidewalks will be decided on a community-by-community basis. It provides that local governments can adopt ordinances regulating e-bikes on sidewalks if it restricts the maximum speed to 15 mph or lower. The bill explicitly states that it may not be construed to prevent a local government from adopting an ordinance governing the operation of e-bikes on streets, highways, sidewalks, sidewalk areas, bike paths, bike lanes, multi-use paths or trail networks within the local government's jurisdiction. Finally, it requires labels for e-bikes from manufacturers and prohibits tampering with or modifying the e-bike unless a new label is applied. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

HB 971

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES- PASS

The Senate voted 37-2 and House voted unanimously to approve a bill which allows limousines and luxury sedans to convert their fleet to transportation network company called a "Luxury Ground TNC." It allows for TNC digital advertising devices. The digital advertising can receive wireless or cellular digital image transmissions, the digital



advertising must be shut down when the vehicle is off, and advertising which violates the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practice Act is prohibited. The bill also provides ADA compliant vehicles owned by a TNC that serves persons with disabilities is allowed to be used as a TNC vehicle. The act takes effect upon the Governor's signature or July 1, 2020.

HB 1039

EXPRESS LANES- FAIL

The bill would have prohibited express lanes and tolls on the 826 Expressway and require the removal of any existing express lanes. The bill was set to become a vehicle to codify in statute parameters around express lanes to guide FDOT. The Senate bill failed to clear its final Senate committee after its House companion was never considered.

SB 1090

TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY- FAIL

The House passed HB 1371 with only one dissenting vote. However, its Senate companion never cleared its final committee of reference.

The legislation was intended to increase pedestrian and traffic safety by eliminating confusion that can occur at crosswalks after a young constituent of the House sponsor died after being hit by a car while walking in a crosswalk illuminated by a Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon signal (RRFB). The sponsor stated, while pedestrians should always look before they cross, the signals give a false sense of safety to pedestrians that can endanger them. Specifically, the bill would have required that by October 1, 2024 all midblock crosswalks must use a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) signal (typical traffic signal) or be removed altogether and may not use a RRFB signal. Crosswalks in areas of no more than two lanes with speed limits of 35 mph or less were exempted. The bill also required pedestrian facing signage indicating pedestrian duties. It also required FDOT to request the Federal government to authorize all yellow RFFBs be replaced by red RFFBs. The replacement of all yellow RFFBs would have been required within 12 months of Federal authorization.

SB 1000 & HB 1371

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED- FAIL

The House unanimously voted to pass HB 551, legislation that improves Transportation Disadvantaged mobility between counties to allow greater access to services that may require an individual to cross county lines within an urban area. However, its Senate companion never cleared its final committee of reference. The Senate bill still contained regional fare language the House rejected and removed from its bill due to funding concerns. The bill was authored by the Mobility Management Program director of the Ann Storck Center who has experienced real difficulties in accessing needed services while



dependent on the Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

HB 551 SB 76

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE- FAIL

The Department of Transportation package failed after not clearing its final Senate committee. Among other things, the bill would have made permanent a minimum \$5 million allocation for the Intermodal Logistics Center Infrastructure Support Program from the State Transportation Trust Fund. The funding supports rail, roadways and other conveyances of goods from and through seaports. The bill also would have advanced the deadline for MPOs to submit work programs to the Department from October 1st to August 1st to accommodate earlier Legislative Sessions. It would have phased out responsibilities of the Florida Rail Enterprise, moving rail safety and development responsibilities to the Department of Transportation. It also contained stronger Move Over laws, removed the cap on debt service for Right-of-Way Acquisition and Bridge Construction, and increased the state's liability insurance for passenger rail. It also would have lowered thresholds for TNC self-insurance and addressed several items relating to commercial drivers and transport.

<u>HB 1315</u> <u>SB 7054</u> <u>HB 395</u>

EDUCATION

Funds for the Operation of Schools- PASS

The Legislature unanimously passed HB 641. The bill establishes the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation within the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). The bill requires school districts and charter schools to use the allocation to increase the minimum base salary for full-time classroom teachers to at least \$47,500, or to the maximum amount achievable and as specified in the General Appropriations Act (GAA). It provides for salary increases for full-time classroom teachers who did not receive a salary increase or who received an increase of less than 2%, or as specified in the GAA, and other full-time instructional personnel. It establishes reporting requirements for district school boards, charter school governing boards, and the Department of Education (DOE). The bill also repeals the Florida Best & Brightest Program. Finally, it provides school district bonus funding through the FEFP for students who receive an Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma and meet the requirements for a standard high school diploma. It also removes the limit of 30 postsecondary semester credit hours that a student may be awarded for successfully completing International Baccalaureate or Advanced International Certificate of Education course examinations. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the act takes effect July 1, 2020.

HB 641



MSD Public Safety Commission Recommendations- FAIL

In the waning hours of the regular session, the House and Senate refused to concur with nuances in the other chamber's proposal, meaning that this was the first year since the Marjory Stoneman Douglas tragedy that the legislature failed to pass a school safety package. The House refused to concur with Senate changes to HB 7065, a bill the lower Chamber previously passed unanimously. The Senate then refused to recede from their changes and indicated they would not accept a newly proposed House amendment. Following the Session, the Speaker indicated surprise over the bill's failure stating Leadership in each Chamber ran the bill, while the Senate President said that his chamber had always been prepared to walk away if they did not feel the legislation was correct.

Both bills implemented (school safety-only) recommendations of the MSD High School Public Safety Commission's second report. The bills: would have clarified and enhanced procedures around school-based mental health services, diversion programs, the Aaron Feis guardian program and other security measures. Guardian Program: They would have clarified that the Sheriff is responsible for all Guardian training either directly or by contract with an entity selected by the Sheriff, the Sheriff must also review and approve an applicant's psychological evaluation prior to acceptance. It would have amended requirements of training to include various environmental conditions and cited standards that must be adhered to by trainers. It also would have provided charter schools with an SRO or school safety officers if they are not able to obtain one themselves. The intention was not to shift cost onto the districts. Mental Health: They would have strengthened the coordination, planning and delivery of mental health services by requiring community input in its mental health assistance plan. It would have required school districts to enter interagency agreements with the local managing entity. Drills: The bills would have required that the State Board of Education to develop standards for the timing, frequency and content of emergency drills. SPB 7040 required likely responding officers to be present for the drill as deemed necessary by the Sheriff. The Office of Safe Schools along with the Department of Emergency Management and other state and federal agencies would have been required to develop a model reunification plan for child care facilities, public K-12 schools and public post-secondary institutions. Oversight: The Commissioner of Education would have had expanded authority for oversight and compliance for health, welfare, safety and security education related records. The bills provided the DOE Inspector General subpoena power if the Commissioner deems districts not in compliance with school safety provisions. The House bill granted the State Board of Education the authority to suspend the superintendent's salary, or the school board member's salaries if the superintendent is appointed, for non-compliance. Diversion: The bills would have required school based diversion programs to meet the same requirements as judicial pre-arrest diversion programs and required school boards to establish criteria for sending students to a diversion program that must be included in the student code of conduct handbook. Finally, the bills would have increased the membership of the MSD Public Safety Commission and specified that the appointments should seek to balance between law enforcement, mental health providers and school districts. The chambers each adopted amendments dubbed the "Kaia Rolle Act" after an incident involving the arrest of a six year-old girl in Orlando



involving zip ties caught national attention. The language prohibited the arrest of a child under 7 years old, except for forcible felonies, and required law enforcement adopt policies and procedures for the arrest of children under 10 years old on school grounds. Law enforcement was required to provide such policy to the school district.

What went wrong? It's hard to say. The chambers had disagreements over nuances in a few different provisions. Perhaps the clearest difference is that the Senate wanted to use the mental health allocation to support universal mental well-being for all students. The House wanted to target resources specifically to students who exhibit issues. Another difference is that the Senate wanted both School Resource Officers (SROs) and "sworn law enforcement" Safe School Officers (SSOs) to undergo crisis intervention and de-escalation training. The House felt that requiring this training for SROs would take them away from other duties and could cause Guardians to not have the training as non-sworn law enforcement. This leads to another difference: the insistence that all SSOs be "sworn law enforcement." The House sponsor also stated the Senate "exempted charter schools from code of student conduct." Finally, there were nuanced differences in the child arrest language. While the House sponsor claimed the Senate did not address police policies for arrests of children under 10, the language in the Senate amendment was identical to the House amendment except for location in the statutes. One member questioned if the difference was between statute of limitations vs. police policy and procedures. Stand With Parkland has called for a special session to pass the legislation. At this time, this appears unlikely to happen.

HB 7065

EARLY LEARNING AND EARLY GRADE SUCCESS- FAIL

The House unanimously passed HB 1013. However, the Senate companion failed to clear its final committee of reference.

The bill would have drastically overhauled the administration and delivery of early learning services. It would have moved the governance of the Office of Early Learning into the Department of Education; aligned a VPK accountability system with that of K-12; replaced current pre- and post- assessments with a monitoring tool for VPK through Grade 2; defined the term prevailing market rate for paying School Readiness providers; moved the function of Gold-Seal oversight from DCF to DOE; eliminated the Childcare Executive Partnership program and the Early Learning Advisory Council. In terms of local administration, the bill subjected Early Learning Coalitions to the State Board of Education's oversight enforcement authority. The bill gave authority to DOE to reduce the number of coalitions from 31 to 30.

SB 1688



EDUCATION TRAINS- FAIL

House and Senate Education packages failed after the Senate bill did not clear its final Senate committee. Originally, the bills were the teacher pay increase vehicles. However, a last minute amendment that required a 2/3rds vote failed to be adopted in a rare flex of House Democratic caucus power. The bills also contained language related to: dual enrollment, impact fees, charter school capital outlay and sharing of surtax revenues, mental health plans, K-12 scholarship programs, and teacher salary allocations. Much of this language was passed in other bills (such as HB 641 or HB 7097) At various points the bills also contained (or were to contain) language that was the substance of other bills, which failed to pass elsewhere: the creation of an employee disqualifications list, teacher professional development, application dates for high-performing charter schools, charter school authorization, and more.

Miscellaneous

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS- PASS

The Legislature voted unanimously to pass SB 1084, legislation that would criminalize providing false documentation of a need for a support animal. The bill would prohibit landlords to deny housing to a disabled person or person with disability related needs who has an emotional support animal. It also prohibits charging additional fees for the animal. Landlords would be allowed to deny the animal if it poses a direct threat to health, safety and property of others. The landlord may require documentation from a health care practitioner, state and local license compliance, and proof of vaccinations. The landlord may not request information regarding the person's disability. The landlord may establish a process to handle requests for ESAs but may not deny an applicant for failure to follow the process. The bill would also create a new cause of action for a medical professional who provides supporting documents without personal knowledge of the persons alleged disability. The crime of providing false documentation is punishable by a misdemeanor and community service hours volunteering for an organization that serves persons with disabilities. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

SB 1084 (HB 209)

VOTING SYSTEMS- PASS

The Legislature unanimously HB 1005, a bill which allows county canvassing boards and supervisors of elections to use state-certified digital imaging and automated tabulating equipment that is currently used in auditing for conducting machine and manual recounts. During the machine recount process, the ballots may be run through the automatic tabulating equipment instead of the voting system's tabulators that performed the original tally. While the machine recount is underway, overvotes and undervotes may be identified and sorted physically or digitally, in preparation of a manual recount should one be warranted. To facilitate faster manual recounts of overvotes and undervotes, the bill specifically allows for the counting of the actual paper ballots or the digital image of the



ballots. Further, the bill directs the Department of State to adopt by rule "procedures relating to the certification and the use of automatic tabulating equipment that is not part of a voting system." The bill also allows for logic and testing of tabulating machines to begin 25 days prior to early voting, rather than 10 days prior as provided in current law. Subject to the Governor's veto powers, this act takes effect July 1, 2020.

HB 1005

GAMING-FAIL

The bills never materialized. The Senate President reiterated his desire for a Special Session to renew the Compact agreement at the press conference immediately following Sine Die. The Governor confirmed he thought it was possible to finally put the issue to rest and that the Tribe was willing to sit down. Either the pandemic and 2020 elections will tie up everyone's schedules or the pandemic and 2020 elections will force a special session where increasing state revenue will be an option that is impossible to ignore.

Attachment 4: Communication from the Florida League of Cities to the City of Fort Lauderdale

Subject: Thank you

Date: Monday, March 16, 2020 at 10:39:43 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Casey Cook

To: clagerbloom@fortlauderdale.gov

CC: Lauren Jackson, Candice Ericks, Rana Brown, Scott Dudley

Attachments: image002.png

Chris,

I wanted to drop you a note expressing my appreciation for engaging your contract lobbyists on the vacation rental issue. Lauren, Candice, and Rana did a tremendous job for us (and for Fort Lauderdale) on the issue. I wish every city contract lobbyist engaged on policy issues and put in the time and effort that your team did, but unfortunately most don't. You are smart to have them represent Fort Lauderdale and the League is lucky to have them in our army. Kudos to you for hiring such hard-workers.

The issue is coming back next year, but we sent a strong message to legislators (and to the groups pushing the bad bills). Thank you!

Casey Cook

Senior Legislative Advocate Florida League of Cities, Inc. 850.701.3609 www.flcities.com

