

Charlotte County Board Of County Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary

Item Number: R- 2

1 DEPARTMENT MAKING REQUEST

Administration

2 MEETING DATE

11/12/2014 9:00:00 AM

3 REQUESTED MOTION/ACTION

Discussion and approval of State Legislative Priorities for the 2015 Session.

4 AGENDA

5 IS THIS ITEM BUDGETED (IF APPLICABLE) -

Budget Action

No action needed.

Financial Impact Summary Statement

Detailed Analysis Attached -

Budget Officer-

6 BACKGROUND (Why is this Action Necessary, and What Action will be accomplished)

ATTACHMENTS:

Name:

Description:

Type:

[State legislative priorities 2015 \(2\).docx](#)

State Legislative Priorities

Cover
Memo

Charlotte County Commission 2015 State Legislative Priorities

Guiding statement- State and Local Governments are partners in the promotion and protection of the health and welfare of our Community. To preserve this partnership:

- Promote state policies which benefit the economic development, environmental and social health of Charlotte County and its citizens.
- Avoid legislative changes or fiscal decisions which impact County revenues such as unfunded mandates, revenue limitations, trust fund diversions or cost shifts.
- Maintain local flexibility to address problems by honoring home rule, and avoiding unnecessary preemptions of local authority.

Charlotte County Legislative Agenda

Support Economic Development and Job Creation

- Continue Enterprise Zones as an incentive for redevelopment and create additional incentives
- Maintain or increase funding for local government affordable housing programs
- Monitor National Flood Insurance Protection Program and related state efforts
- Develop regional economic development and job training programs and innovation clusters
- Development of Regional Impact Review
 - Monitor changes to or elimination of program and avoid changes which disadvantage the County in economic development

Support Fiscal Responsibility

- Avoid shifting costs for state programs to local governments without a funding source
- Communications Services Taxes
 - Ensure any amendment to current law is revenue neutral and allows for growth
- Recognize that local government has tremendous demands for infrastructure growth and maintenance, and support of law enforcement, court and jail functions and do not put any additional limits on local government revenue growth or spending.
- Support methods to enable local efforts to collect due and payable local taxes, fees, fines and other revenues

Support the Environment

- Partner with the county and federal government in continuing the East/West Spring Lake Sewer Service Program
 - Funding is needed to convert properties with old septic tank systems to a new, centralized sewer service
- Seek funding for Stump Pass beach 10 Year Management Plan
 - Financial assistance needed for implementation of beach erosion control/restoration project
- Reclaimed Water
 - To preserve groundwater resources, promote funding for reclaimed water transmission lines and mandate connection to reclaimed water sources when available.
- Waters of the U.S.
 - Monitor proposed EPA Rule on wetlands jurisdiction (Federal)
- **If Amendment I re: dedication of 1/3 of doc stamp revenues passes**, its implementation should include:
 - State support of projects which assist in meeting state and federal water quality standards and endangered species protection
 - Matching programs for local acquisition programs
- Do not preempt local regulation of fertilizer application

Support Public Health

- Health Department Funding - assist with the delivery of basic health services by addressing inequities in funding
- Expand the Clean Indoor Air Act to allow local regulation of smoking at youth athletic facilities and beaches
- Combat Abuse of Prescription Drugs
 - Support the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
 - Avoid preemption of Local Pain Clinic Ordinances

Support Transportation Funding

- Support funding assistance to local roads which are critical evacuation routes and those that are access roads to state parks.
- Support a restructure of the formula and methodology used in the distribution of gas tax funds and a review of methodology of state prioritization (criteria) and funding for transportation projects.
- Support a review of state criteria for roads to be designated SIS (state roads). Charlotte County believes there are roads within Charlotte County that meet the criteria to be designated state roads.
- Seek accountability for Railroad expenditures for Crossing Expenses

Support Public Safety

- Provide equitable state funding for juvenile justice detention costs
- Ensure local authority and flexibility to protect the community through local ordinances to regulate pain clinics