



**Charlotte County**

**2021 Legislative Agenda Items**

Project Title	Bill Number/ Grant Program	Amount Requested (if applicable)	Project Detail
Charlotte Harbor Water Quality Initiative – Phase III Countryman/Ackerman Septic-to-Sewer Conversion Project		\$2,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Seeking</b> funding for constructing central wastewater service to 1,933 properties to replace inadequate On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems (OSTDSs).</li> <li>▪ Restoring the storm water conveyance system to improve removal of sediment and pollutants and educating property owners on Best Management Practices (BMPs) when applying pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers.</li> </ul>
William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park		\$1,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Seeking</b> funding for expansion of recreational facilities at the William R. Gaines, Jr. Veterans Memorial Park.</li> <li>▪ This park will honor the memory of Corporal William R. Gaines, Jr. as well as all veterans and first responders. Corporal Gaines was a local resident of Charlotte County who was killed in the line of duty in the Oct. 23, 1983 bombing of Marine barracks in Beirut during the Lebanese Civil War.</li> </ul>
Countywide Security Assessment & Upgrades		\$2,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Seeking</b> funding for the county’s security infrastructure.</li> <li>▪ This project will unify the 12 platforms into 1, upgrade antiquated infrastructure, and provide the county with a security standard and framework for future buildings and capital renewal. The project will also identify physical security alterations needed within highly populated county buildings to protect county staff, residents, and visitors from potential threats.</li> </ul>



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Policy Issues	
Charlotte County Centennial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Request</b> State Legislature Resolutions and Gubernatorial declarations on Charlotte County’s Centennial.</li></ul>
Sunshine Law: County State of Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Request</b> Sunshine law exemption for County elected officials to be able to participate in emergency-related briefings during a declared local state of emergency.</li></ul>
(2019) CS/CS SB 426 Firefighter Cancer Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Support</b> legislation and administrative measures to clarify language in the 2019 CS/CS SB 426 Firefighter Cancer Bill.</li><li>▪ The bill requires greater administrative guidance on its scope and funding mechanisms to best assist firefighters and local governments in accomplishing its intent</li></ul>



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Policy Issues	
Public Records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Support</b> public records legislation that exempts the home addresses of security personnel, county administrators, and county attorneys. Reducing the likelihood of further security issues is a county priority.</li><li>▪ <b>Support</b> public records legislation that exempts security “operations” meetings.</li><li>▪ <b>Support</b> public records legislation that clarifies that the aggregation of serial public records requests is allowable.</li><li>▪ <b>Support</b> public records legislation that requires requestor to pay outstanding record request bill before any further request required to be processed.</li><li>▪ <b>Support</b> public records legislation that allows for designation of a public records request official.</li><li>▪ <b>Support</b> public records legislation that allows for online public records request to be responded to with county website with requested information.</li></ul>



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<b>Support Issues</b>	
West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support</b> funding for construction of a new operations facility. The District has contracted an architect for planning and design of a new facility.</li> </ul>
Purple Heart Highway Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support</b> designating I-75 within Charlotte County as a Purple Heart Highway Initiative.</li> </ul>
Charlotte County Sheriff's: Law enforcement body camera program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support</b> funding sources for the Charlotte County Sheriff's office law enforcement body camera program.</li> </ul>
Real-Time Water Quality Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support</b> funding requests for real-time water quality monitoring for the Peace River, Myakka River, and Charlotte Harbor.</li> </ul>
Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership Legislative Priorities: Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue and expand</b> annual funding for the Coastal &amp; Heartland National Estuary Program, including recurrent dedicated funding.</li> </ul>