



# PEEBLES SMITH & MATTHEWS

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## City of Mount Dora January 2019

### Communications

- Monthly Report
- Newsletter
- Robin Hayes – January 11

### Florida League of Cities

- Lobbyist Team Meeting – January 28

### Legislative Meetings

- Committee Meetings – January 7 -11 & January 21 – 25
- Rep Raschein – January 22
  - Briefing on City's budget requests
- Sen. Mayfield – January 10
  - Briefing on City's budget requests

### Governor's Office/Agency Meetings

- Julie Dietz & Kim Kramer, Environmental Unit, Office of Planning & Budget – January 17 – Briefing on City's budget requests
- Cynthia Kelly, Budget Director – January 18 – Briefing on City's budget requests

### Agency Meetings/Communications

### Legislative Priorities

- Completed budget request forms
  - Rep. Sullivan – Review budget requests
  - Sen. Baxley – Review budget requests

### **NEXT STEPS**

- **Review Governor's Budget Recommendations**
- **Committee Weeks**
  - **February 4 – 8**
  - **February 11 – 15**
    - **League of Cities DC Fly In – February 11 - 13**
  - **February 18 – 22**
- **Session – March 5<sup>th</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

John Wayne Smith

Peebles Smith & Matthews, Inc.

February 1, 2019

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Peebles Smith and Matthews Incorporated Monthly Lobbying Report for January 2019

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January started off to a rocking start with a full slate of activities and meetings. Monday and Tuesday were centered on the inauguration of Governor Ron DeSantis and the swearing in of newly elected cabinet members. In accepting his new role Governor Desantis highlighted several of his priorities, specifically more high paying jobs, education, protecting natural resources and infrastructure. Defining our environmental challenges as “pressing”, he spoke directly to discharges from Lake Okeechobee, red tide and blue-green algae. Additionally, Desantis gave special attention to rediscovering the value of civics as part of our educational curriculum.

### ***Hurricane Michael***

Multiple House and Senate Committees included time in their agendas for updates on the status of cleanup and restoration efforts regarding the communities impacted by Hurricane Michael-evidence hurricane related issues will be a key component of policy and budget discussions in 2019.

### ***State Budget***

The House Appropriations Committee got an update on the State’s long-range financial outlook from Amy Baker, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, on Wednesday. Early indications illustrate that despite the growth indicators from Florida’s and the national economy, state budget coffers are not feeling similar benefits. General revenue estimates predict modest growth of \$1.3 billion in the upcoming fiscal year, but show no signs of growth for 2020-21. These early numbers present a significant challenge at a time when there is tremendous political desire to ramp up the state’s attention to infrastructure, address environmental concerns and deal with specific challenges caused by hurricane related issues. PS&M is cautiously anticipating a serious discussion regarding the state’s ten-year policy (since the recession) of avoiding the use of debt as a means of leveraging dedicated funding sources.

### ***Finance & Tax***

The House Ways and Means Committee held its first meeting under the new leadership of Chairman Bryan Avilla. During the open portion of the meeting, members’ comments focused on the desire to continue legislative efforts to phase-out sales tax collection on the rent of commercial property, collection of sales tax on internet based transactions (Wayfair decision) and Amendment 5, which established a super-majority vote requirement for the creation of new state taxes and fees and increases to existing taxes and fees. Based on PS&M conversations keep your eyes out for potential

## **Important Dates**

### ***Committee Weeks***

*January 22 - 25*

*February - 8*

*February 11-15*

*February 18-22*

*Senate Bill Drafting*

*January 25*

*Governor’s Budget*

*Recommendations*

*February 2*

*League of Cities DC Fly In*

*February 12 - 13*

*NACO Legislative Conference*

*in DC*

*March 2-6*

*First Day of Session*

*Last Day for filing bills*

*March 5*

*Congressional City Conference*

*in DC*

*March 10-13*

*Last day of Session*

*May 3*

linkage of Ecommerce collections as a way to pay for the buy down of sales tax on rent of commercial property.

### ***Governor DeSantis Executive Order***

Governor DeSantis issued his first executive order pertaining to the environment on Thursday. The order seeks \$2.5 billion dollars over the next four years for Everglades restoration and the protection of water resources. This amounts to a \$1 billion dollar increase over the previous four years. The order was not clear as to how DEP, DOH and others were going to secure that funding and whether or not a portion of it would come from the federal government. This brings about an interesting discussion as to whether or not this Governor will entertain bonding for infrastructure and environmental protection measures. The Governor also called on DEP to appoint a Chief Science Officer who will coordinate and prioritize scientific data, research, monitoring and analysis needs for pressing environmental issues. The Order creates two potential grant opportunities for local governments at DEP; (1) a septic to sewer grant program requiring local match; and (2) an alternative water supply project grant program. More details will be provided once the Department has an opportunity to implement.

### ***Preemptions/Vacation Rentals/Property Rights***

PS&M is expecting some new approaches this year primarily led by the House on the vacation rental issue. Current signs indicate that House Commerce Committee Chair, Rep. Mike LaRosa, will continue to take the lead. However, we expect him to throw a larger net, encompassing a broader approach attacking property rights in a general manner. Stay tuned. PS&M will share more specifics as soon as possible. Also, on the subject of vacation rentals, there are a number of other House and Senate members considering filing their own versions of legislation.

### ***Quote of Week – Sen. Wilton Simpson – Environmental Question***

*“When I think of the environmental progress we’ve made in the last three year or four years – if we continue down the road of restoring springs and the Everglades, as we’ve been working very hard – science-based solutions,” Simpson said. “I think there’s room for – last year we did \$100 million on the Florida Forever Program, maybe expand that some for those critical corridors and linkages. And then continue to spend additional resources on our springs.”*

### ***PS&M Welcomes New Clients***

Peebles, Smith & Matthews Inc. welcomes the new additions to the Firm’s family of clients for 2019. We are honored and excited to announce our representation of the following:

Florida Sheriffs Association  
City of Frostproof  
Florida Municipal Broadband Alliance  
City of Newberry  
Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue Services District  
Florida PACE

As our team gears up for the 121<sup>st</sup> Florida Legislative Session, we want to express our excitement for the upcoming months and gratitude for the continued opportunity to advocate in front of the legislative and executive branch. Our clients are important to us and we pride ourselves on providing the best high-quality, full-service representation. To much success in 2019!

Peebles, Smith & Matthews Inc.

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# PEEBLES SMITH & MATTHEWS

## City of Mount Dora February

### Communications

- Monthly Report
- Newsletter

### Florida League of Cities

- Lobbyist Team Meeting – February 25<sup>th</sup>
- DC Fly In – February 12 – 13
  - NLC Briefing
  - Con. Demings
  - White House Briefing (EPA, USDA & HUD)
  - Sen. Rubio
  - Con. Dunn
  - Con. Soto
  - Con. Yoho
  - Con. Murphy

### Legislative Meetings – February 20

- Rep. Sabatini
- Rep. Stone
- Sen. Hutson
- Sen. Baxley
- Rep. Sullivan

### Agency Meetings/Communications

- Department of Transportation, SunTrail Program
- Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands

### NEXT STEPS

- **Session – March 5<sup>th</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup>**
- **Wolf Branch Innovation District Budget Request (Fiber Optic)**

John Wayne Smith  
Peebles Smith & Matthews, Inc.  
March 2, 2019

Peebles, Smith & Matthews Inc.

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### **State Budget**

The House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees made their budget recommendations for FY 2019-2020 this week. The House and Senate released their respective budget recommendations for 2019-2020. The House totals \$89.9 billion with \$33,458.1 billion from general revenue and \$56,444.5 billion from trust funds. The Senate version totals \$90.3 billion with \$33,689.8 million from general revenue and \$56,635.9 billion from trust funds. Governor DeSantis' recommendations totaled \$91.3 billion, \$33,782.7 billion from general revenue and \$57,486.5 billion from trust funds. For more specific budget highlights see last page. The House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee will discuss their proposed budgets on Wednesday March 27 in the morning and afternoon, respectively.

### **Attorneys Fees and Costs**

SB 1140/HB 829 would reward the prevailing party bringing a civil suit against a local government ordinance preempted by the state. On Monday, SB 1140 by Sen. Huston was presented in the Senate Judiciary Committee, its first committee of reference. The bill was reported favorably receiving 4 yeas and 2 nays. Rep. Sabatini's House companion bill HB 829 was reported favorably in the House Civil Justice Subcommittee on Wednesday receiving 10 yeas and 3 nays.

### **Community Redevelopment Agencies**

HB 9 by Rep. LaMarca was reported favorably in the House State Affairs Committee on Thursday, which is the bill's final committee of reference. Questions posed by committee members centered around the tax increment financing, or TIF, component of the proposed legislation. Specifically, Representatives posed questions about communities outside of the designated CRA boundary determining how earmarked tax revenues from within the CRA are spent. The bill received 16 yeas and 7 nays. The Senate Companion bill, SB 1054 by Sen. Lee, is on the agenda for the Senate Committee on Community Affairs for March 26.

### **Finance & Tax**

On Wednesday, SB 336 by Sen. Brandes (the companion bill to HB 5 by Rep. DiCeglie) was reported favorably in the Senate Finance and Tax Committee. SB 336/HB 5 would require a referendum during a general election in order to adopt or amend a discretionary sales surtax. SB 336 received 6 yeas and 2 nays. Neither SB 336 nor HB 5 has been placed on the agenda for their next committee of reference.

### **Important Dates**

March 25 at 1:30 p.m.  
Deadline for budget amendments Senate Appropriations Committee

March 26 at 6:00 p.m.  
Deadline for budget amendments House Appropriations Committee

March 27  
Appropriations Committees - Proposed Chamber Budgets

March 26-27  
Florida League of Cities Action Days

March 27  
Florida Association of Counties Action Day

March 29  
FAC Financial Management Workshop

May 3  
Last day of Session

### ***Local Government Fiscal Transparency***

HB 15 serves to increase local government fiscal transparency by requiring (1) access to voting records of a governing body on tax related issues, (2) online access to TRIM notices, (3) increased public notice for meetings dealing with tax increases, (4) local governments to conduct a debt affordability analysis before issuing a long-term, tax supported debt, (5) and the Auditor General to notify the Legislative Auditing Committee if the terms of the proposed legislation are not met. A concern regarding the adopted amendment, barcode 791007, highlighted difficulties small local governments face when attempting to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. On Monday, HB 15 by Rep. Burton received 13 yeas and 2 nays by the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill's third committee of reference will be the House State Affairs Committee.

### ***Permit Fees***

HB 127 by Rep. Williamson was read for the second time on the floor of the House on Wednesday and read for the third time while the House was in Session on Thursday. HB 127 received 110 yeas and has been referred to the Senate.

### ***Preemption of Local Government Regulations***

On Thursday HB 3 by Rep. Grant passed through its third committee of reference – the House Commerce Committee. The bill received 18 yeas and 5 nays. The Senate Companion bill, SB 1748 by Sen. Perry, has not yet been placed on the agenda for its first committee of reference, which is the Senate Community Affairs Committee.

### ***Statewide Task Force on Opioid Drug Abuse***

SB 1658/ HB 875 serve to establish a statewide task force dedicated to examining opioid drug use. On Monday, SB 1658 by Sen. Simpson passed unanimously through the Senate Committee on Health Policy, and on Tuesday, the House companion bill HB 875 by Rep. Sirois also passed unanimously through the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

## **Look Ahead to Next Week**

### ***Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>***

- Senate Judiciary Committee - 4:00 p.m. (110 SOB)
  - SB 76 by Simpson – Driving While Distracted (MetroPlan Orlando)
  - SB 1694 by Flores – Takings Claims within Areas of Critical State Concern (Islamorada & Monroe County)

### ***Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>***

- House Local Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee – 8:00 a.m. (12 HOB)
  - HB 1323 by J. Grant – City of Tampa (Tampa)
- House Business & Professions Subcommittee – 12:00 p.m. (212 Knott)
  - HB 987 by J. Grant – Vacation Rentals (FLC)
- Senate Innovation Industry and Technology Committee – 1:30 p.m. (110 SOB)
  - SB 824 by Diaz – Vacation Rentals (FLC)
- Senate Community Affairs Committee – 4:00 p.m. (301 SOB)
  - SB 1054 by Lee – Community Redevelopment Agencies (FRA)
  - SB 1000 by Hutson – Communications Services (FAC/FLC/FMBA)

**Budget Highlights**

		<b>Governor</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Senate</b>
<b>Dept. of Health</b>	<b>County Health Units</b>	<b>\$129.3 M</b>	<b>\$129.3 M</b>	<b>\$129.3 M</b>
<b>Dept. of Environmental Protection</b>	<b>Florida Forever Florida Communities Trust</b>	<b>\$100 M \$0</b>	<b>\$20 M \$0</b>	<b>\$45 M \$0</b>
	<b>Water Projects</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$27.8 M</b>	<b>\$29.5 M</b>
	<b>Water Quality (Algae)</b>	<b>\$10.8 M</b>	<b>\$10.8 M</b>	<b>\$10.8 M</b>
	<b>Innovative Technology</b>	<b>\$10 M</b>	<b>\$10 M</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Everglades Restoration</b>	<b>\$285.3 M</b>	<b>\$288.3 M</b>	<b>\$285.3 M</b>
	<b>Northern Everglades</b>	<b>\$29.9 M</b>	<b>\$29.8 M</b>	<b>\$30.4 M</b>
	<b>Alternative Water Supply</b>	<b>\$40 M</b>	<b>\$40 M</b>	<b>\$40 M</b>
	<b>Springs</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$100 M</b>
	<b>Water Quality Septic to Sewer</b>	<b>\$100 M</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$25 M</b>
	<b>Water Quality Everglades</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>
	<b>TMDLs</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$25 M</b>
	<b>State Parks</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$43.5 M</b>	<b>\$15 M</b>
	<b>Drinking Water</b>	<b>\$125.5 M</b>	<b>\$125.5 M</b>	<b>\$59.6 M</b>
	<b>Wastewater</b>	<b>\$181.6 M</b>	<b>\$181.6 M</b>	<b>\$181.6 M</b>
	<b>Small County Wastewater</b>	<b>\$13 M</b>	<b>\$13 M</b>	<b>\$13 M</b>
	<b>Beaches</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>	<b>\$44.5 M</b>
	<b>Dry-cleaning</b>	<b>\$8.5 M</b>	<b>\$8.5 M</b>	<b>\$8.5 M</b>
	<b>Petroleum Tanks</b>	<b>\$110 M</b>	<b>\$121 M</b>	<b>\$90 M</b>
<b>Dept. of Transportation</b>	<b>Transportation Disadvantaged</b>	<b>\$55.8 M</b>	<b>\$55.8 M</b>	<b>\$55.8 M</b>
	<b>Public Transit</b>	<b>\$561.1M \$106.8 M</b>	<b>\$561.1M \$106.8 M</b>	<b>\$561.1M \$106.8 M</b>
	<b>SCRAP</b>	<b>\$29.8 M</b>	<b>\$29.8 M</b>	<b>\$29.8 M</b>
	<b>SCOP</b>	<b>\$72 M</b>	<b>\$72 M</b>	<b>\$72 M</b>
<b>Dept. of Economic Opportunity</b>	<b>SHIP</b>	<b>\$246.9 M</b>	<b>\$49.5 M</b>	<b>\$170 M</b>
	<b>SAIL</b>	<b>\$105.4 M</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$61.7 M</b>
	<b>Housing Hurricane</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$75.8 M</b>	<b>\$100 M</b>
	<b>Economic Development Tools</b>	<b>\$36.5 M</b>	<b>\$23.4 M</b>	<b>\$26.7 M</b>
	<b>Visit Florida</b>	<b>\$76 M</b>	<b>\$19 M</b>	<b>\$50 M</b>
	<b>Job Growth Fund</b>	<b>\$85 M</b>	<b>\$0 M</b>	<b>\$0 M</b>

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**City of Mount Dora  
August Activity Report**

**Communications**

- Robin Hayes – coordinating Tallahassee visit

**Appointments/Meetings**

- Legislative Liaison's Roundtable (MetroPlan) – August 1
- Casey Cook, FLC/Ron Sanders, USF – CyberSecurity – August 7
- Taylor Ferguson, Sen. Rob Bradley's Office, Chair, Senate Appropriation Committee – Funding priorities/Special Projects – August 8

**Other Meetings**

- FLC Annual Conference – August 15 - 17

**Next Steps**

- Follow up Job Growth Application
- Review Budget Request Forms
- Identify priorities for 2020
- Committee Week – September 16 - 20
- FLC FAST October 22 -23

John Wayne Smith  
Peebles Smith & Matthews, Inc.

**Important Dates**

**Florida League of Cities  
Annual Conference  
August 15 - 17  
Orlando**

**Florida Association of  
Professional Lobbyists  
September 11 - 13**

**Committee Week  
September 16 - 20**

**FAC Policy Conference  
September 25 -26  
Bay County**

**PLAM Conference  
September 30 - October 2**

**Committee Week  
October 14 - 18**

**FLC DC FLY IN  
October 22 - 24**

**Committee Week  
October 21 - 25**

**Committee Week  
November 4 - 8**

**Committee Week  
November 12 - 15**

**FLC Legislative Conference  
November 14 - 15**

**Committee Week  
December 9 - 12**



**City of Mount Dora  
September Activity Report**

**Communications**

- Robin Hayes – Emails & Phone Calls
- Merry Lovern – Emails
- Newsletter – September Committee Meetings

**Meetings**

- Sen. Mayfield, Chair, Senate Agriculture Environment and General Government Appropriations Committee – September 16<sup>th</sup>
- Rep. Raschein, Chair, House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee – Funding priorities/Special Projects – September 18<sup>th</sup>

**Committee Meetings**

- House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations – September 18
- Senate Agriculture Environment and General Government Appropriations – September 18
- Senate Appropriations – Financial Outlook – September 18

**2020 Legislative Session**

- Review Agency Budget Requests – DEP attached
- Rep. Jennifer Sullivan – September 17<sup>th</sup>

**Grants**

- DEP FRDAP Grant – Awarded
- DEO JGF Application -

**Next Steps**

- Follow up Job Growth Application
- Committee Week – October 14 – 18
- Committee Week – October 21 - 25
- FLC FAST October 22 -23
- Follow up with Rep. Sullivan’s Office Mt. Dora budget requests
- Sen. Baxley Mt. Dora budget requests

**Important Dates**

**FAC Policy Conference  
September 25 -26  
Bay County**

**PLAM Conference  
September 30 – October 2**

**Committee Week  
October 14 – 18**

**FLC DC FLY IN  
October 22 - 24**

**Committee Week  
October 21 – 25**

**Committee Week  
November 4 – 8**

**Committee Week  
November 12 – 15**

**FLC Legislative Conference  
November 14 - 15**

**Committee Week  
December 9 - 12**



**City of Mount Dora  
October Activity Report**

**Communications**

- Robin Hayes – Emails & Phone Calls
  - Job Growth Fund Grant Application
  - City’s legislative priorities & budget requests
- Merry Lovern – Emails
  - Coordinating City’s legislative priorities & budget requests
- Tim Wilson – Emails
  - DEO Job Growth Grant Application
- Newsletter – October Committee Meetings

**Meetings**

- Sara Lynn Ard, Rep. Sullivan’s Office – review House budget request forms
- Debbie Dennis, Sen. Baxley’s Office – review Senate budget request forms
- Rep. Chris Sprows – CyberSecurity initiatives for local government/Funding for state’s economic development programs
- Rep. Travis Cummings, Chair, House Appropriations Committee – House budget requests
- Ken Lawson, Director, Department of Economic Opportunity – Follow up on Job Growth Fund application and update on Governor’s FinTech strategy

**Committee Meetings**

- October 14 – 18
- October 21 - 24

**Other Meetings**

- Public Land Acquisition & Management Partnership (St. Augustine – September 30 – October 2)
- Florida League of Cities DC Fly In (Washington DC – October 22 – 24)
- Florida Municipal Electric Association Florida Delegation Reception (Washington DC – October 16)

**Grants**

- DEP FRDAP Grant – Awarded September (\$240,000)
- DEO Job Growth Fund Application – Requested \$3,214,279

**Important Dates**

**Committee Week  
November 4 – 8**

**Committee Week  
November 12 – 15**

**FLC Legislative Conference  
November 14 - 15**

**Committee Week  
December 9 – 12**

**Session  
January 14**

#### Next Steps

- Follow up Job Growth Application
- Agenda House budget requests
- Committee Week – November 4 - 8
- Committee Week – November 12 - 15
- Governor’s Budget Recommendations
  - Focus on recreational land acquisition and economic development programs

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Peebles Smith & Matthews, Inc.

## **Department of Environmental Protection Agency Budget Recommendations**

### **Water Quality Innovative Technologies**

**\$10,000,000**

This issue requests \$10 million in recurring General Revenue to continue funding for innovative technology which addresses harmful algal blooms and nutrient enrichment of Florida's lakes, rivers and estuaries. As part of Florida's systematic and aggressive response to reduce nutrient inputs into our State's waterways and to combat harmful algal blooms (a symptom of eutrophication), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department) will be funding innovative technologies and tools to provide an improved response and greater protection of the environment and public health.

Issue Background: In 2016, the Department formed a team of state, federal and local government experts to evaluate technologies best suited to treat blue-green algal blooms. With the understanding gained from that evaluation the Department solicited innovative technologies in 2018. Also, in 2018, the Department partnered with local governments and lead statewide efforts in algae cleanup activities after the Governor declared an emergency order and directed the Department to establish a grant program to aid significantly impacted communities. Furthermore, to enhance existing technologies and programs implemented to combat excess nutrients and eutrophication in our waterbodies, the Department obtained additional feedback through a Request for Information (RFI) to greater understand the costs and associated requirements for scalable methods to combat or clean up current and future nutrient enrichment of canals and to restore freshwater bodies and estuaries in Florida to prevent future harmful algal blooms. In 2019, the Blue Green Algae Task Force was established to support key funding and restoration initiatives, such as prioritizing solutions and making recommendations to expedite nutrient reductions in Lake Okeechobee and the downstream estuaries. This funding will be utilized in accordance with direction from the Blue Green Algae Task Force. These efforts have prepared the Department to effectively implement an aggressive innovative technologies pilot program that will treat nutrient enrichment in our waterbodies, as well as, combat harmful algal blooms.

Benefit and/or Impact: Harmful algal blooms have affected the State's waterbodies and resulted in millions of dollars in economic loss. Having the ability to deploy innovative technologies will ensure that Florida is on the leading edge of using science to guide restoration. These grant funds will provide opportunities for the Department to partner with local governments and research institutions to pilot innovative technologies (including biological and chemical methods) that remove nutrients from water or remove algae from water bodies. Pilot studies will allow scaling-up from laboratory studies to in-situ, real-world trials. Based on the knowledge gained from previous evaluations and solicitations the Department is prepared to fund and direct real-world trials that will not have negative environmental impacts on the waterbody, as well as, targeted to meet the specific restoration needs of each category of impacted waterbody.

### **Water Quality Enhancements**

**\$10,800,000**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$10.8 million in recurring General Revenue funding for increased water quality monitoring, support for the Blue Green Algae Task Force and the Office of Environmental Accountability and Transparency (OEAT), and the water quality information portal. The Task Force has met five times to cover major sources of nutrient pollution and has made its first recommendations. The Task Force will continue to contribute critical expertise to inform future investments, project selection and regulatory changes. OEAT, led by the Chief Science Officer, has been staffed and is ensuring policy and management decisions are informed by science and data, and water quality issues are clearly communicated to the public.

Peebles, Smith & Matthews Inc.

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Issue Background: Executive Order 19-12 directed the implementation of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force, Office of Environmental Accountability and Transparency, a water quality information portal, and increased water quality monitoring. These are each key components to ensure science is leading the way and providing the department the information it needs to make the best decisions to protect and restore Florida's environment. Water quality monitoring is the scientific backbone of the Florida Department Environmental Protection's (Department) strategy to detect, prioritize, and solve water pollution problems, including nutrient enrichment. The funds will allow continuation of a restored water quality network and a focused effort to continue to improve our monitoring strategy for more complex waterbodies, such as springs, to deliver critical data to the Task Force, the Department, and other stakeholders. The result will be better identification of nutrient problems and more targeted, cost-effective nutrient-reduction strategies in the short-run and over time as additional data and research yield increasingly effective approaches.

Benefit and/or Impact: This issue will ensure the department is able to make the best-informed decisions to achieve more now for Florida's environment. Specifically, it will ensure water quality data is more readily available to decision-makers and the public. The Blue Green Algae Task Force will continue to identify solutions to the harmful algal blooms and ensure that those solutions are implemented expeditiously. These harmful algal blooms that plague Florida's freshwater bodies and estuaries on a recurring basis, cause environmental and human health harm, as well as damage to the local and state economies. The funds requested are critical for implementing effective and economically feasible solutions.

### **Everglades Restoration**

**\$178,568,382**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$170,568,382 in recurring funds for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) and Restoration Strategies. Funds will be used for planning, engineering, design, construction and land acquisition required for project implementation. These funds are key to restoration of the Everglades and other critical south Florida ecosystems such as the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries including the Indian River Lagoon and Florida Bay.

In FY 2020-21, the recurring appropriation is \$96 million, of which \$32 million will be used for Restoration Strategies Regional Water Quality Plan and \$64 million for Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir Project. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is requesting additional funding of \$170,568,382 for a total of \$266,568,382. Of this amount, \$668,382 is requested to be appropriated from the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund for Restoration Strategies Regional Water Quality Plan due to a refund in FY 2018-19. The South Florida Water Management District received a reimbursement payment of \$668,382 for a Restoration Strategies Project that was completed under the contracted cost, which provided a refund to the Department for the payment made pursuant to Line Item 1627 of Chapter 2014-51, Laws of Florida (L.O.F.). Pursuant to Chapter 2013-59, L.O.F., \$32 million was mandated for the Restoration Strategies Regional Water Quality Plan beginning in FY 2013-14 through FY 2023-24.

Issue Background: The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) is the Congressionally authorized plan for the largest environmental restoration program in history. Upon Congressional authorization in 2000, the federal government and the state of Florida entered into a 50/50 partnership to restore, protect and preserve water resources in central and southern Florida, including the Everglades. CERP was originally enacted by the State of Florida in 2001 and requires the State to actively

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participate in Everglades restoration. The funds provided previously have been key to satisfying the legislative requirements and meeting the State's obligation under the federal partnership.

Benefit and/or Impact: The funds being requested are necessary to meet the current construction schedules for many important CERP projects, including C-43 Reservoir, Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir, CEPP South, and Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project. This request includes funding for critical land acquisition needed for implementation of CERP projects, which are critical to restoring the Everglades as well as providing some reduction of the harmful discharges the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries. The state's Everglades restoration plans will have a direct impact on the regional economy through the creation of jobs and contracting opportunities. It is estimated that for every dollar invested in Everglades restoration, \$4.04 dollars are generated.

### **Northern Everglades**

**\$17,167,007**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$17,167,007 in recurring funds to support the South Florida Water Management District's implementation of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP), as set forth in Section 373.4595, F.S. This statute mandates the South Florida Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department) and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services establish a restoration and protection program for Lake Okeechobee.

Funds will be used for implementation of projects that are critical for Everglades Restoration and assist with capturing basin runoff and regulatory releases from Lake Okeechobee and reducing harmful discharges to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries and moving water to the Everglades.

In FY 2020-21, the recurring appropriation is \$29,876,213. The Department is requesting an additional \$17,167,007 for a total of \$47,043,220.

Issue Background: In May 2007, the Florida Legislature passed the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Plan which expanded the existing Lake Okeechobee Protection Act to include the Caloosahatchee and the St. Lucie Rivers and Estuaries. The primary goal of the legislation is to restore and protect the state surface water resource by addressing water quality, quantity timing and distribution of water to the natural system.

Benefit and/or Impact: It is estimated that for every one-dollar invested in Everglades restoration, \$4.04 dollars are generated.

### **Alternative Water Supply**

**\$40,000,000**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$40 million in recurring General Revenue to continue funding for water resource and water supply development projects to ensure a sustainable water supply for the State of Florida and protect natural systems. These funds will be used to establish a \$40 million grant program to fund water resource and water supply development projects in the areas of greatest need, such as the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) and the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership (NFRWSP) planning areas or areas with MFL waterbodies in recovery or prevention. Priority will be given to regional projects in the areas of greatest need and for projects that provide the greatest benefit.

Issue Background: Between 2015 and 2035, the population in Florida is expected to increase by 27%, from 19.8 million to 25.2 million. During this same period, it is estimated that Floridians will require

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18% more water, or an additional 1.2 billion gallons of water per day (bgd) (increasing from 6.4 bgd to 7.6 bgd). Historically, Florida communities have relied on fresh groundwater to meet their demand, and in many areas of the state, these groundwater sources are expected to be available for at least the next 20 years. In other areas, however, the supply of fresh and inexpensive groundwater is becoming increasingly limited. As these traditional sources near their sustainable limits, water resource and water supply development, including the development of alternative water supplies (AWS), are imperative to meeting Florida's future water needs. AWS projects such as reclaimed water, brackish ground and surface water, seawater, and new storage facilities for surface and groundwater, will always be key components in planning for these needs. Additionally, water conservation and regional projects, including groundwater recharge, for example, can provide additional opportunities when planning for our future water needs.

**Benefit and/or Impact:** This request funds critical infrastructure needs to address water supply issues in areas of greatest need, and to protect our natural systems, including Outstanding Florida Springs.

### **Water Quality Improvements**

**\$150,000,000**

**Issue Description:** This issue requests \$150 million in recurring funding for the Water Quality Improvements Grant Program to improve water quality for the State of Florida for a total of \$200 million for Targeted Water Quality Improvements. This funding will build on the historic investments and progress of this last year. On his second day in office, Governor DeSantis issued an Executive Order that started an unprecedented shift to science and how we handle water quality has changed in Florida. Clean water is the foundation of our communities and economies in Florida. The Blue-Green Algae Task Force has provided scientific input to inform priorities for investment and the Department has issued Requests for Information to identify critical nutrient reduction projects focused in those areas with recurring algal blooms.

This funding will be used for water quality improvement projects such as hydrologic restoration, groundwater recharge, performance payment for nutrient reduction, land acquisition for water quality protection, wastewater collection and treatment, wastewater reuse, stormwater treatment and other projects. Priority will be given to regional projects in the areas of greatest need and for projects that provide the greatest benefit, guided by the RFIs and recommendations from the Blue-Green Algae Task Force. Specifically set aside within this \$150 million is \$15 million dedicated to the watersheds of the iconic St. Johns, Suwannee and Apalachicola River and \$10 million to benefit coral reefs and related ecosystems.

This funding will also be used to help local governments offset homeowner costs for septic to sewer conversions and septic upgrades within the boundaries of and upstream of estuarine basin management action plans adopted pursuant to Section 403.067, F.S., and where septic tanks are identified as a contributing source of water quality degradation.

Funds may be used for monitoring project implementation and administrative purposes including but not limited to Other Personal Services, travel, office space and equipment.

**Issue Background:** Clean and safe water is important to a healthy environment and economy. The water issues in Florida are complex and vary in different regions of the state. In many areas of the state, wastewater infrastructure challenges, including septic systems; runoff from agricultural lands; and stormwater pollution have been identified as a contributing source of water quality degradation. In many instances, the costs to address these challenges are cost prohibitive to the individual landowner. In addition, land acquisition and hydrologic restoration are important water quality restoration and protection techniques that are often costly.

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**Springs Restoration****\$50,000,000****Total Maximum Daily Loads****\$50,000,000**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$50 million in recurring General Revenue funding for Total Maximum Daily Loads to improve water quality for the State of Florida, for a total of \$200 million for Targeted Water Quality Improvements. The funds will be used by the Department to restore impaired waters by monitoring and assessing water quality, setting scientific water quality restoration goals (TMDLs), and guiding the implementation of the projects and actions set forth in adopted Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs). A significant portion of the funds are used to address nutrient pollution, the most significant water quality problem in Florida. Funds will also be used to support operational expense, administrative expense, contracted services for development and maintenance of the Watershed Information Network (WIN) and modeling support, purchase, repair and maintenance of field equipment, and Other Personal Services.

The Department is also requesting \$150 million to be used towards projects to prevent water quality degradation such as hydrologic restoration, groundwater recharge, land acquisition for water quality protection, wastewater collection and treatment, wastewater reuse, stormwater treatment and other projects including those that benefit coral reef and related ecosystems.

Issue Background: In 1992 the Environmental Protection Agency published regulations establishing TMDL procedures. The Clean Water Act (CWA) requires states to compile lists of water bodies that do not fully support beneficial uses such as aquatic life, fisheries, drinking water, recreation, industry, or agriculture, and to prioritize those water bodies for TMDL development. These inventories are known as 303(d) lists and characterize waters as fully supporting, impaired, or threatened for beneficial uses. In 2013, the EPA introduced a cooperative outline for implementing the CWA Section 303(d). These funds are used for the following types of projects: 1) water quality restoration projects to help local stakeholders achieve TMDL restoration targets; 2) targeted water quality sampling and analytical work for TMDL development; 3) development and implementation of local BMAPs; 4) contracted services for water quality modeling and other support for TMDL and development and implementation of BMAPs; 5) other activities consistent with the Department's commitment to the best water science and essential to fulfilling the requirements of Section 403.067, F.S., and other water quality requirements of Chapter 403, F.S.

Benefit and/or Impact: This issue supports the Department's ability to focus taxpayer resources on projects that provide a direct benefit to the environment and local communities, partner with communities and businesses to protect natural resources and promote economic growth, and empower employees to solve problems through scientific innovation and efficiency. Protecting and sustaining the state's water supply, not only makes the state an ideal destination for 124.7 million tourists (2018 VISIT FLORIDA), it will also ensure the quality of the state's surface and ground water for generations to come.

**Dry Cleaning Site Cleanup****\$8,500,000**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$8.5 million for the Dry-cleaning Solvent Contaminated Site Cleanup Program in the Division of Waste Management. Funds are used to competitively procure private remediation contractors for the remediation of eligible sites. Services provided include contamination

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assessment, engineering design, construction, and installation of groundwater treatment systems. Sites are addressed on a potential risk to human health and the environment priority basis. The Department's goal is to complete rehabilitation of at least 10 to 15 sites per year.

Through drycleaner site cleanup and rehabilitation efforts, properties are restored for commercial reuse that benefit the environment, business owners, property owners, the community and the local tax base. The Department is required to implement this program pursuant to Section 376.3078, F.S.

Issue Background: The Florida Legislature established a state-funded program to cleanup properties that are contaminated as a result of the operations of a dry-cleaning facility or wholesale supply facility (Chapter 376, F.S.). The statute was sponsored by the dry-cleaning industry to address environmental, economic, and liability issues resulting from dry-cleaning solvent contamination. The program provides limited liability protection to the owner, operator, and real property owner of dry-cleaning or wholesale supply facilities for cleanup of dry-cleaning solvent contamination if the parties meet the specified eligibility requirements. Sites are addressed on a priority basis that focuses on the risk to public health, drinking water wells, and the environment. Over the past three fiscal years, the Department has completed rehabilitation on an average of 14 sites per year.

Benefit and/or Impact: This funding will continue to support ongoing, as well as new, Dry-cleaning Solvent Contaminated Site projects. Cleanup of contaminated sites protects human health and the environment by reducing or eliminating exposure to toxic pollutants.

### **Cleanup of State Lands**

**\$10,000,000**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$10 million for the cleanup of contaminated state-owned lands in the Division of Waste Management. Funds will be used to continue assessment and remediation activities at contaminated sites as well as focus on addressing specific contamination chemicals, including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) which are part of a larger group of chemicals known as perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. These substances were commonly used in many consumer products in the past, including fire-fighting foams.

Issue Background: The State of Florida and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Trustees) own and are responsible for many parcels of property that are contaminated with pollutants and hazardous substances. Cleanup funding is available to all state agencies, and many request assistance with parcel assessment and cleanup. Among the type of sites that have been assessed are leaking petroleum storage tanks, abandoned dumps, arsenic contaminated cattle dipping vats, equipment maintenance areas, pesticide mixing and storage areas, suspected spill areas and waste storage areas. Since inception, approximately 300 areas of concern have been addressed and returned to productive use, available as needed by the State and the Trustees.

In Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21, funds will be utilized for the continued assessment and remediation of state properties for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination. These funds will be used to complete the site assessment, conduct remediation activities (including potential excavation and soil treatment) for the **Florida State Fire College in Marion County**. In the event this project is unable to proceed, funds will be used to address other critical projects.

Benefit and/or Impact: The appropriation of these funds will reduce the State's potential liability of contaminated sites. Use of this dedicated appropriation and management by the Department allows agency budgets to be used for their core missions, allows priority setting across all affected agencies, and ensures efficient management by staff with experience in this work.

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## **Petroleum Tanks Cleanup**

**\$125,000,000**

**Issue Description:** This issue requests \$125 million in funding for the Petroleum Restoration Program in the Division of Waste Management (Division). Funds are used to competitively procure contracts with private remediation cleanup and support contractors. Pursuant to Section 376.3071, F.S., contaminated sites are prioritized for cleanup based on their potential risk to human health and the environment. This funding will allow the Department to continue remediation efforts and meet the strategic goal of having all remaining sites assessed.

**Issue Background:** The Petroleum Restoration Program (PRP) encompasses the technical oversight, management, and administrative activities necessary to prioritize, assess, and cleanup sites contaminated by discharges of petroleum and petroleum products from stationary petroleum storage systems. These sites include those determined eligible for state-funded cleanup using qualified contractors selected through competitive procurement or selected by the property owner or responsible party and state lead contractors under direct contract with the Department, as well as non-program or voluntary cleanup sites that are funded by responsible parties.

Over the past four years, the Division has implemented major changes to the PRP to improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness. Among the many changes, the Division has required competitive bidding for projects over \$325,000 and implemented the Advanced Cleanup Redevelopment Program to support the redevelopment and revitalization of petroleum contaminated property. The PRP is currently working towards having all eligible discharges assessed, however, certain challenges with obtaining access to a small percentage of sites due to a multitude of factors is anticipated.

Sites or Facilities may have more than one discharge.

Total Rehabilitated - 10,851

Undergoing Rehabilitation - 6,047

Awaiting Rehabilitation - 2,480

At the approach of cleanup on lower-score sites, the Division will be addressing several projects expected to cost over \$10 million each (mega projects).

**Benefit and/or Impact:** This funding will continue to support ongoing and new petroleum restoration projects. Cleanup of contaminated sites protects human health and the environment by reducing or eliminating exposure to toxic pollutants.

## **Florida Resilient Coastline Initiative**

**\$8,500,000**

**Issue Description:** This issue requests \$2.9 million in additional funding for the Florida Resilient Coastlines Initiative, for a total of \$8.5 million. This funding will be used to conduct coral reef water quality monitoring, mitigate the impact of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease through direct intervention, coral rescue, and propagation for restoration and ensure Florida's coastal communities are resilient and prepared for the effects of rising sea levels, including coastal flooding, erosion, and ecosystem changes.

**Issue Background:** The Florida coral reef tract is currently experiencing a widespread coral disease outbreak. South Florida's coral reef ecosystem provides invaluable economic and ecological benefits such as coastline protection from storms and flooding, tourism, and habitat for many important species of commercial and recreational fisheries. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department)

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is working with partners from federal, state, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, universities, and members of the community to investigate and address this urgent disease issue.

This funding will continue water quality sampling along the Southeast Florida inlets and associated coral reef locations; continue direct coral disease intervention strike teams to save diseased corals and develop improved efficient and effective techniques; continue building and maintaining coral propagation and nursery infrastructure to house and propagate rescued corals, rescued spawn, and corals of opportunity for future restoration; continue to identify and track surviving colonies of highly impacted coral species in disease-affected areas and incorporate their natural disease resistance into future research and/or restoration activities; and continue new coral colony-level intervention tools and narrow down the list of potential causative pathogens, disease vectors, and environmental conditions that have contributed to the onset and perpetuation of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease.

This issue supports community level sea level rise planning, statewide resilience collaboration through workshops and technical meetings, and assists with statewide climate assessment work. Over the past two fiscal years, the Department has provided planning grants to over 50 Florida cities and counties. These plans are guiding local decisions for resilience implementation projects.

**Issue Description:** This issue requests **\$500,000** to fund capital projects which address local sea level rise and/or coastal flooding and provide examples for other vulnerable coastal communities statewide, for a total of \$8.5 million for the Florida Resilient Coastlines Initiative. Projects include but are not limited to tide check valves on stormwater outfalls, **living shorelines**, and elevation of pavement or critical infrastructure. This funding will ensure Florida's coastal communities are resilient and prepared for the effects of rising sea levels, including coastal flooding, erosion, and ecosystem changes.

**Issue Background:** The Governor's Executive Order 19-12 states that the Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection will help prepare Florida's coastal communities and habitats for impacts from sea level rise by providing funding, technical assistance and coordination among state, regional and local entities. This request will provide funding and technical assistance to local governments for coastal capital projects that will serve as statewide examples of projects that alleviate flooding. Over the past two fiscal years, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has provided funding for over 50 planning efforts for Florida cities and counties. These plans are guiding local decisions for resilience implementation projects.

## **Volkswagen Settlement**

**\$67,500,000**

**Issue Description:** This issue requests \$67,500,000 in FCO appropriation for continued funding in the Division of Air Resources Management (Division) for projects funded through the Volkswagen (VW) Environmental Mitigation Trust for State Beneficiaries (Mitigation Trust). This is a fourth-year request for a potential ten-year project development and implementation period. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is designated as the lead agency, and funds awarded to the State of Florida will be used to mitigate environmental and air quality impacts from Volkswagen vehicles sold in the state that caused excess nitrogen oxide emissions. These funds may also be used to hire temporary employees to implement diesel emission reduction projects.

**Issue Background:** In October 2016, VW entered into a Partial Consent Decree with the U.S. Government settling claims that it violated the Clean Air Act by selling diesel vehicles that violated the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) mobile source emission standards. The violation involved installation and use of emission testing defeat devices in approximately 500,000 turbocharged direct injection (TDI) 2.0-liter diesel engine vehicles sold and operated in the U.S. from model year 2009

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through 2015. In May 2017, VW entered into a second Partial Consent Decree with the U.S. government settling additional claims that it violated the Clean Air Act by selling approximately 80,000 TDI 3.0-liter diesel engines also equipped with defeat devices.

The defeat devices allowed the 2.0-liter and 3.0-liter diesel vehicles to meet the applicable nitrogen oxides (NOx) emission limits during emission tests while not meeting these limits during normal vehicle operation. To resolve the 2.0-liter and 3.0-liter diesel engine Clean Air Act violations, VW has agreed to provide approximately \$2.925 billion to remediate the damage caused by these vehicles. Florida's share is more than \$166 million to be spent on NOx emissions mitigation projects over a ten-year period which started October 2, 2017.

The purpose of Mitigation Trust Fund is to provide money for specified diesel emission reduction projects. These projects are intended to offset excess emissions of NOx caused by the subject vehicles in order to fully mitigate the total, lifetime excess NOx emissions from the 2.0-liter and 3.0-liter vehicles. The Division received a \$500,000 appropriation for FY 2017-18, a \$5 million appropriation for FY 2018-19, and a \$10 million appropriation for FY 2019-20. Diesel emission reduction projects are expected to begin in the fall of 2019. On July 17, 2019 the draft Beneficiary Mitigation Plan was made available to the public.

## **Florida Forever**

**\$100,000,000**

Issue Description: This issue requests \$84 million in funding for the Florida Forever land acquisition program in the Division of State Lands (DSL), for a total of \$100 million for Florida Forever Programs. These funds are needed for the acquisition of rare and sensitive lands, including everglades restoration, greenways and trails, to assist communities in protecting important natural resources, providing recreational opportunities and public beach access.

The requested resources will allow achievement of the Florida Forever goals and improvements in their associated performance measures, found in Section 259.105(4), F.S. These goals include:

- ~ ensuring that sufficient quantities of water areas are available to meet the current and future needs of natural systems and citizens of the state
- ~ mitigating the effects of natural disasters and floods in developed areas (including coastal areas)
- ~ protecting, restoring and maintaining the quality and natural functions of land, water and wetland systems of the state
- ~ enhancing the coordination and completion of land acquisition projects ~ increasing the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community and landscape levels
- ~ preserving significant archaeological or historic sites
- ~ increasing natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities
- ~ increasing the amount of open space in urban areas
- ~ increasing the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources

Other Personal Services employees and related land acquisition services may be utilized in association with the activities of these programs.

Note: The Florida Forever Trust Fund will be supported by a non-operating transfer from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund in the amount of \$84 million.

Issue Background: Florida Forever is Florida's premier conservation and recreation land acquisition program, a blueprint for conserving natural resources and renewing Florida's commitment to conserve the state's natural and cultural heritage. Florida Forever replaces Preservation 2000 (P2000), the largest public land acquisition program of its kind in the United States. With approximately 10 million acres

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managed for conservation in Florida, more than 2.5 million acres were purchased under the Florida Forever and P2000 programs.

**Benefit and/or Impact:** The acquisition of conservation lands contributes to the primary economic driver of Florida's economy - tourism, because they provide essential ecosystem services such as clean air, clean and sufficient water, flood control, coastal buffering during storms, and increased recreational opportunities. These lands are vital for filtering and replenishing Florida's aquifers - the source for 90 percent of our drinking water. Conservation lands protect crucial habitat that help maintain both commercial and recreational fisheries. They also provide a window into Florida's lifestyle and quality of life and can be viewed as amenities available to homeowners and business employees. An increased priority for lands acquired is given to those acquisitions which achieve a combination of conservation goals including support of local and state parks and protecting Florida's water resources and natural groundwater recharge.

**Florida Communities Trust (Florida Forever)**

**\$10,000,000**

**Issue Description:** This issue requests \$10 million in funding for the Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Parks and Open Space Program, for a total of \$100 million for Florida Forever Programs. This program provides funding to local governments and eligible non-profit environmental organizations for the acquisition of community-based parks, open space and greenways that further outdoor recreation and natural resource protection needs. The requested resources will allow achievement of the Florida Forever goals and improvements in their associated performance measures, found in Section 259.105(4), F.S.

**Note:** The Florida Forever Trust Fund will be supported by a non-operating transfer from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund in the amount of \$10 million.

**Issue Background:** The FCT program is part of Florida Forever which is Florida's premier conservation and recreation land acquisition program, a blueprint for conserving natural resources and renewing Florida's commitment to conserve the state's natural and cultural heritage. Florida Forever replaces Preservation 2000 (P2000), the largest public land acquisition program of its kind in the United States. With approximately 10 million acres managed for conservation in Florida, more than 2.5 million acres were purchased under the Florida Forever and P2000 programs which have included FCT.

John Wayne Smith  
Peebles Smith & Matthews, Inc.

**From:** [Hayes, Robin](#)  
**To:** [Angela Drzewiecki](#)  
**Cc:** [Ryan Matthews](#); [Lovern, Merry](#); [Cramer, Chet](#); [Wilson, Tim](#); [Grusauskas, Josef](#); [Amy Harlee](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Mount Dora Projects  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2019 4:46:25 PM

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Angela:

Great News! thanks for the update. Just spoke with Ryan and received an update on John, keep us in the loop and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Regards,

Robin

**From:** Angela Drzewiecki <angela@psmfl.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 5, 2019 12:22 PM  
**To:** Hayes, Robin <HayesR@ci.mount-dora.fl.us>  
**Cc:** Ryan Matthews <ryan@psmfl.net>  
**Subject:** Mount Dora Projects

**Robin,**

I hope you're doing well and had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I wanted to let you know that the City's Britt Road Utility Extension project, HB 3593, is on the agenda in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee on Monday, December 9th. Additionally, the EOC facility request, HB 4083, will be heard in the House Government Operations Subcommittee on Wednesday, December 11th.

As you know, these meetings move very quickly with usually only a minute or so spent on each member project, so we do not think it is necessary to have anyone from the City travel to Tallahassee. We are putting together a few short talking points for Representative Sullivan and will send an update after the meeting.

Also, I wanted to share some news with you about John Wayne. If you could give me a call when you have a moment, that would be great.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

**Angela M. Drzewiecki**  
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**From:** [Hayes, Robin](#)  
**To:** [Angela Drzewiecki](#)  
**Cc:** [Grusauskas, Josef](#); [Lovern, Merry](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Quick Update  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 10, 2019 10:18:40 AM

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Wow! Thanks Angela

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**From:** Angela Drzewiecki <angela@psmfl.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 10, 2019 9:48 AM  
**To:** Hayes, Robin <HayesR@ci.mount-dora.fl.us>  
**Subject:** Quick Update

Good morning, Robin.  
HB 3593 Mount Dora Britt Road Utility Extension passed the House Ag and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee yesterday afternoon with no opposition.

Please feel free to email if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Angela

Sent from my iPhone



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## Appropriations

HB 3593 (Sullivan) – Britt Road Utility Extension-- The project has been filed by Representative Sullivan and Senator Baxley. The bill was heard on December 9<sup>th</sup> in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee and passed with no opposition.

HB 4083 (Sullivan) – Emergency Operations Center – The project has been filed by Representative Sullivan and Senator Baxley. The bill was heard on December 11<sup>th</sup> in the House Governmental Operations & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee and passed with no opposition.

## Preemptions

HB 3 (Roth) – Preemption of Local Licensing – this bill, a repeat of 2019 legislation would expressly preempt to the state any local government licensing requirements of occupations. To date, there is no Senate companion.

SB 998 (Hutson) – Affordable Housing – prohibits a county or municipality from imposing an impact fee, a permit fee, a tree mitigation fee, a water or sewer connection fee, or a proportionate share contribution for the development or construction of housing that is affordable as defined in s. 420.0004, Florida Statutes.

SB 766 (Perry) – Local Government Lobbyist Registration - imposes mandatory lobbyist registration requirements on all government entities, including municipalities and counties. The bill also amends statutory meeting notice requirements for local governments. If passed, the bill would require the Florida Commission on Ethics to create a Local Government Lobbyist Registration system, and beginning October 2020, any local government lobbyist registration ordinance would be preempted to the state. Violations would result in a complaint before the commission and could subject the lobbyist to financial penalties or suspension of lobbying.

SB 768 (Perry) -Local Government Lobbyist Registration - establishes a statewide local government lobbyist registration fee, which may not exceed \$40 for each principal represented. The bill prohibits a local government from charging a fee for the registration of lobbyists, or for the enforcement of lobbyist regulation except as may be reasonable and necessary to cover the cost of such enforcement.

SB 778 (Perry) and HB 537 (Donalds) Home-Based Businesses - preempt the licensure and regulation of home-based businesses to the state. The bills prohibit local governments from enacting or enforcing any ordinance, that regulates a home-based business, including zoning ordinances.

HB 305 (Rommel) – Preemption of Conditions of Employment – pre-empts to the state the regulation of condition of employment, including work hours, paid or unpaid leave, and benefits.

SB 162 (Perry) and HB 195 (Rodrigues) – Public Records – SB 162 provides that if an agency (i.e. local government) files an action for declaratory judgment that certain records are confidential and exempt, and a court of competent jurisdiction determines the records are neither confidential or exempt, the court must assess reasonable costs of enforcement, including attorneys fees against the agency. HB 195 prohibits a local government, after receiving a public records request, from filing an action for declaratory judgment against the individual or entity making the request.

HB 133 (McClain) Towing & Immobilizing Vehicles and Vessels – require local governments to establish maximum rates for the towing and immobilization of vessels and prohibits a county or municipality from enacting an ordinance or rule that imposes a fee or charge on authorized wrecker operators.

HB 65 (Rodriguez) and SB 140 (Hutson) – Fireworks – create an additional exception to the prohibition of the sale and use of fireworks. The bills would allow fireworks for the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day and New Year’s Eve.

HB 101 (Andrade) and SB 246 (Hooper) – Public Construction- Reduces the cap amount of payment retainage by local government entities for construction contracts from 10% to 5%. Removes any provisions relating to lowering of retainage to 5% at 50% completion as the cap has already been lowered from the start of the contract.

SB 1128 (Diaz) Short Term Rentals – this year’s vacation rental legislation. The bill preempts licensing and inspections done at the local level. The bill retains the 2011 grandfather as it pertains to duration.

HB 535 (Santiago) and SB 1072 (Wright)– Community Redevelopment Agencies – these bills would exempt hospital districts from contributing tax increment financing to the CRA if the CRA extends the life of the agency after July 1, 2016.

## **Mandates**

HJR 477 (Rommel) – Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize or Raise Local Taxes or Fees – HJR 477 is a proposed constitutional amendment that requires any local tax or fee imposed, authorized or raised by a local jurisdiction be approved by two-thirds of the membership of the jurisdiction, i.e. commission.

SB 410 (Perry) and HB 203 (McClain) – Private Property Rights – Requires local governments to adopt, by July 1, 2023, a new mandatory element to their comprehensive plan that addresses the protection of private property rights. The update shall include language that specifically recognize private property rights as it relates to land development and local government growth management ordinances.

SB 454 (Rodriguez)- Discharge of Domestic Wastewater – Prohibits the construction of new deep injection wells for domestic wastewater discharge or the expansion of existing wells. The bills also limits the discharge capacity of domestic wastewater deep well injection and require ocean outfall and deep well injection permit holders to install a functioning reuse system by specified dates.

## **Finance & Tax**

HB 159 (Clemons) and SB 126 (Gruters) – Sales and Use Tax- Applies Florida’s sale and use tax laws to online/e-commerce sales from out-of-state retailers to comply with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Wayfair v. South Dakota. The ruling declares that states may impose taxes on entities that have a “substantial nexus” to the taxing state regardless of whether the entity has a physical presence within that state; revises definitions of “retail sale” to include a sale facilitated through a marketplace; renames the term “mail order sale” to “remote sale” and revises the definition to include sales ordered by telephone and the Internet; and revises conditions under which certain dealers are subject to sales tax levies and collection. Last session, it was estimated that similar legislation would raise \$702 million per year recurring in state and local revenues, with a \$148.3 million positive impact to local government sales tax revenue.

SB 1174 (Hutson) and HB 701 (Fischer) – Communications Services Tax – attempts to streamline the local communication services tax rate system with one tax rate for municipalities and charter counties and a second tax rate for non-charter counties. The bills prevent municipalities that currently have a 5% or less CST from amending their current rates. The bills also require all municipalities with local rates higher than 5% to amend/reduce their rates to under 5% by January 1, 2021, and to 4% or less by 2022.

## **Environment & Utilities**

HB 207 (McClain) SB 658 (Albritton) – Acquisition of Water and Wastewater Systems- Establishes procedure for water & wastewater utilities to establish rate base value as fair market value when acquiring a utility system; requires rate base value to be reflected in acquiring utility's next rate case for rate-making purposes; specifies required application details in acquiring utility; specifies duties of the PSC in approving or denying an application and adopt rules; applies only to utilities more than 10,000 customers which are engaged in a voluntary and mutually agreeable acquisition.

HB 405 (Good) and SB 686 (Gruters) – Stormwater Management Systems- Directs water management districts, with DEP oversight, to adopt rules for standards relating to new development & redevelopment projects to include design and performance standards that increase the removal of nutrients from stormwater discharges; directs DEP & districts to amend such rules into applicant's handbook; provides rebuttable presumption relating to water quality standards for certain systems; directs DEP & districts to initiate rulemaking.

HB 147 (Jacobs) and SB 690 (Albritton) – Water Resources – would require DEP to conduct a comprehensive overview of the state's water infrastructure funding needs, including residential, commercial, environmental, agricultural, and industrial needs.

HB 653 (Caruso) – Municipal Electric Utilities – would prohibit a municipal electric utility from transferring revenues collected to the general revenue of the municipality that owns the utility for general government expenses. The bill further states that revenues collected must be used exclusively for electric utility operations and infrastructure. To date, the bill does not have a Senate sponsor.

SB 712 (Mayfield) Water Quality Improvements - is this year's comprehensive water quality legislation. The bill deals with multiple issues, including septic tanks; stormwater; domestic wastewater and agriculture. Most important to local governments are the domestic wastewater provisions, which require domestic wastewater utilities to adopt a power outage contingency plan that mitigates the impacts of power outages on the utility's collection system and pump stations. All domestic wastewater utilities must "undertake steps" to "prevent sanitary sewer overflows, underground pipe leaks, and ensure collected wastewater reaches" treatment facilities. Also, the bill requires DEP to annually report to the Governor and the Legislature a summary of sanitary sewer overflows experienced by utilities that year.

HB 715 (Maggard) – Recycled Water – the bill largely adopts the work from the Potable Reuse Commission (PRC), which would create a regulatory structure for expanding the use of reclaimed water to include utilizing reclaimed as a drinking source. The bill would also eliminate surface water discharges from domestic wastewater utilities by January 1, 2026.

## **General Government/Workforce/Transportation**

HB 161 (Toledo) and SB 206 (Rouson) – Prohibited Discrimination - Cited as the "Florida Competitive Workforce Act"; provides that sexual orientation & gender identity are impermissible grounds for discrimination in public lodging establishments & public food service establishments; revises provisions of Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 and Fair Housing Act to include sexual orientation & gender identity; provides exception for constitutionally protected free exercise of religion.

HB 519 (Grant) Private Property Rights- Requiring a local government, when it makes a settlement offer to a property owner, to treat all other similarly situated residential properties within the political subdivision similarly. Allowing a jury to consider business damages in making its calculation to determine a property owner's damages. Removing the right of a

government to seek attorney fees and costs when a property owner unreasonably refuses a bonafide offer to settle a property claim. Requiring the Department of Transportation, in certain situations, to offer a previous property owner a right of first refusal.

HB 457 (LaMarca) and SB 670 (Gruters)- Smoking on Public Beaches and Public Parks- Allows local governments to further restrict smoking within the boundaries of any public beaches or public parks that they own while also prohibiting smoking in state parks.

HB 83 (Duran) and SB 668 (Book) – Government Sponsored Recreation Programs- Revises the definition of the term “childcare facility” to exclude government sponsored recreation programs. The bill allows counties or other municipalities to create and operate recreation programs for children at least five years old and requires such programs to offer 4 programming hours per day and to adopt standards of care specifying staffing ratios, minimum staff qualifications, health and safety standards, and level 2 background screening requirement for all staff and volunteers. Such programs must notify parents of all children participating in the program that the program is not state-licensed, and the program may not advertise itself as a childcare facility. Programs must provide the county or municipality’s standards of care to all parents.

## **Transportation**

HB 395 (Andrade) and SB 1172 (Albritton) Transportation- The bill revises requirements for determining salaries of the FDOT secretary & assistant secretaries; It also authorizes the Governor to suspend payment of tolls when necessary to assist emergency evacuation. Additionally, it makes changes to when police vehicles may display lights. This is expected to be the “Transportation package” for the 2020 Legislative Session.

HB 943 (Daley) and SB 452 (Rodriguez) Electric Vehicle Charging Stations- The proposed legislation requires FDOT to develop and adopt a master plan for electric vehicle charging stations on the state highway system by July 1, 2021.

SB 1148 (Brandes) Electric Bicycles – The bill updates the state’s laws on micro-mobility and would legalize the use of electric bicycles in the same manner that regular bicycles are regulated, and restricts local government regulation. It would also require manufacturers to place a permanently affixed label in a prominent location identifying the motor’s top assisted speed and motor wattage.