BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2026 State Legislative Program

Guiding Principles



- ✓ Support adequate state funding for constitutional officers required to perform duties on behalf of the state.
- ✓ Support fully funding the Sadowski Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- ✓ Support a dedicated recurring source of funding for beach nourishment.
- ✓ Support fully funding the Resilient Florida Grant Program.
- ✓ Support assistance with disaster recovery as well as emergency management and planning.
- ✓ Support the continuation of policies that protect Florida's natural resources and scenic beauty, including the prohibition of all oil drilling or exploration efforts in state waters.
- ✓ Support maintaining Tampa Bay Water as the regional water supplier.
- ✓ Support state funding for cultural institutions and the Arts.
- ✓ Support the prioritization of state funding to assist with local and regional infrastructure improvements, including transportation, septic to sewer conversion, damaged sanitary sewer laterals, and wastewater systems.
- ✓ Support innovative funding strategies that address the declining revenue source of transportation funding to adequately address future transportation needs with a specific focus on electric vehicles and allowing for the local indexing of the gas tax.

Executive & Legislative Priorities

E-911 Fee Adjustment

SUPPORT adjusting the 911 fee to accommodate increased expenses and expansion of technology to continue providing high quality of service to citizens of Pinellas County. (FAC Policy Proposal)

Disaster Recovery

SUPPORT a state-wide Disaster Recovery proposal to assist with recovery efforts, expedite procedures to get residents back in their homes as quickly as possible, and provide local governments with the flexibility to amend their comprehensive plans and land-use requirements for properties not damaged by natural emergencies to promote community redevelopment, preserve water quality standards, and advance environmental conservation efforts.

Beach Nourishment Funding

SUPPORT full funding of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Beach Management Funding Assistance Program for traditional beach and inlet projects as well as supplemental program funding to address damages from Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton while also preparing for future storms.

Anonymous Code Enforcement Complaints

SUPPORT policy to allow for a delay in disclosing a complainant's name and address until a hearing officer determines that a code violation existed on the property. This will further protect complainants from retaliatory actions resulting in property damage, threats, acts of violence, bodily injury, or even death. (FAC Policy Proposal)

Overdose and Suicide Fatality Review

SUPPORT the creation of statewide Overdose and Suicide Fatality Review committees under the Department of Health to review facts and circumstances of suicide and drug-related deaths. Local review committees would conduct individual case reviews of suicide and drug overdose or drug poisoning deaths, identify factors contributing to those deaths, make recommendations for system, policy and practice improvements at the local and state level, promote interagency collaboration and data sharing consistent with Federal and State confidentiality protections, and inform prevention initiatives through accurate, timely, and comprehensive data.

Fire and EMS Service Impacts

SUPPORT an OPPAGA study on the statewide organizational impacts of Fire and EMS departments, systems, and services to consider the feasibility, efficiency, and fiscal impact of reducing firefighter hours to 42-hours a workweek pursuant to HB 929.

Animal Welfare

SUPPORT animal welfare policy and recommendations from the state that ensure animal care and wellbeing.

Tourist Development Tax (TDT) Expansion

MONITOR proposals to expand the use of TDT funds.

Short-Term Rental Regulation

MONITOR policy to regulate the density and intensity of short-term rental properties.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)

MONITOR future plans to consolidate MPOs and study the efficiency, effectiveness, and necessity of MPOs based on geographical population to better address growing regional transportation needs.

Appropriations

- ✓ East Lake Road Corridor Improvements Phase 1
- ✓ 31 Pump Station Control Panel Elevating
- ✓ Hurricane Shelter Hardening Generators
- ✓ Hurricane Shelter Hardening Lealman Exchange
- ✓ Seminole Junior Warhawks Field Improvements