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2022 Legislative Session Wrap Up

April 21, 2022

Session overview



3,685 bills introduced (1,729 appropriation requests)

285 bills passed both chambers

FY '23 Budget totals \$112.1 billion (10% increase from current year)

Sine Die March 14

County Priorities that Passed



East Lake Tarpon Community Special Act-*PASSED*

Removes sunset date of Special Act and revised boundaries to account for voluntary annexations that have occurred since 2012

Waste-to-Energy Facilities-*PASSED*

SB 1764 Municipal Solid Waste-to-Energy Program: Provides funding for energy generated at municipal WTE facilities

\$100M funding was removed from bill

Pinellas County eligible for \$8.6M annually

County Appropriations Included in the Budget



Toytown Environmental Remediation *\$15,000,000*

North Pinellas Stormwater Improvements *\$9,500,000*

West Klosterman Preserve *\$3,000,000*

High Point Community Park *\$400,000*

Additionally, John's Pass *\$1,556,000* and Grand Canal *\$585,000* dredges are included in the Budget

SB 620 Local Business Protection Act

The bill authorizes private, for-profit businesses to claim business damages from a county or municipality of the county or municipality that enacts or amends certain ordinances or charter provisions.

A business conducting business in the jurisdiction for at least 3 years may claim business damages if a county or municipality enacts or amends an ordinance or a charter that causes a reduction of at least 15% of the business' profit.

Bills that Passed Cont'd



SB 962 Residential Development Projects for Affordable Housing

Allows counties and municipalities to approve mixed-use residential developments on any residential, commercial, or industrial zoned parcel if 10% of the project is affordable housing.

Does not require a change to a county or municipality's comprehensive plan.

Pinellas Board of County Commissioners sits as the County-wide Planning Authority (CPA) created through Special Act.

A municipality or the County may approve these projects moving forward without having to be approved by the Board of County Commissioners sitting as the CPA.

Bills that Passed Cont'd



HB 3 Law Enforcement

Provides number of benefits, incentives, and opportunities to law enforcement agencies in order to address understaffing and recruitment challenges

Allows a Sheriff to move budgeted funds across budget areas without approval by the County Commission

At this time, it is not anticipated that this will affect the current budget process in Pinellas County.

Bills that Passed Cont'd



HJR 1 Additional Homestead Property Exemption for Specified Critical Public Sector Workforce

Provides an additional \$50,000 property tax exemption (between \$100,000-\$150,000 of assessed value) of homesteaded properties owned by critical workers

The Constitutional amendment will be on November 2022 ballot and requires 60% approval to pass

Estimated impact: General Fund \$1.9M, MSTU \$782,000

Bills that Passed Cont'd



HB 7071 Taxation

Tax Abatement for residential properties rendered uninhabitable by a catastrophic event

Nine sales tax holidays

Energy Star appliances holiday September through February

Tax holiday on State Fuel Tax the month of October 2022

Does not apply to Fuel Tax levied by the County

Increase in ad valorem property tax exemption for widows, widowers, and blind or permanently disabled homeowners from \$500 to \$5,000

Estimated impact: General Fund \$704,000, MSTU \$286,000

Bills that Passed Cont'd



HB 7053 Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience

Establishes Office of Resiliency in the Executive Office of the Governor and Chief Resiliency Officer's responsibilities

Revises timeline for Comprehensive Statewide Flood Vulnerability and Sea-Level Rise Data Set and Assessment

Requires FDOT to develop Resilience Action Plan for state highway system

Revises \$100M annual cap on projects per year to \$100M minimum threshold

Bills that passed Cont'd



HB 7055 Cybersecurity

State and local governments required to report cybersecurity incidents

Prohibits state and local governments from paying ransom or complying with demands from attacks

Requires cybersecurity training for all state and local government employees and advanced training for staff that have access to highly sensitive information

Requires local governments to adopt certain cybersecurity standards

- Counties of 75,000 or more must adopt by January 1, 2024

Requires the Cybersecurity Advisory Council to develop best management practices

Bills that Passed Cont'd



SB 524 Elections Administration

In addition to numerous changes to the State's Election Code, the bill requires county commissioners in single-member districts, with exceptions, to run for re-election following redistricting.

All Pinellas County single-member county commission districts will be on the ballot in 2022.

State House and Senate Maps

6 House Districts in Pinellas

Removes current District 64 from Pinellas

3 Senate Districts in Pinellas

Congressional Map

The map was vetoed by the Governor and Special Session has been called for April 19-22

Budget Highlights



Affordable Housing: \$362,725,000 (\$209,200,000 FY'22)

Pinellas County SHIP Allocation: \$4,817,302 (\$3,381,641 FY'22)

Resilient Florida Trust Fund: \$504.2M

\$270M for projects identified in state plan

\$2M for Regional Resilience Coalitions

\$2.9M for Sea Level Impact Projections, living shoreline and sea level rise modeling

\$7.1M for data collection for State Comprehensive Flood Vulnerability and Sea Level Rise Assessment

\$20M for Resiliency Planning grants

Beach Nourishment: \$50M

Job Growth Grant Fund: \$50M

Visit Florida: \$50M



Questions?