



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 18-2057A, Version: 1

Subject:

2019 State Legislative Program.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the 2019 State Legislative Program.

- The 2019 State Legislative program illustrates the Board's priorities, State Appropriations requests, and guiding principles for the 2019 Florida Legislative session.
- The program is a result of discussions with the Board, County staff, Pinellas County Legislative Delegation, and the County's contracted state government relations firm.
- Priorities include:
 1. Support regional transportation coordination and funding, specifically related to Florida Department of Transportation District 7.
 2. Oppose efforts that preempt local governments from controlling or managing Community Redevelopment Areas as local economic development tools.
 3. Support increased funding for mental health, including central receiving facilities and Marchman beds.
 4. Support language that brings clarity to self-defense laws, including Stand Your Ground and Justifiable Use of Force.
 5. File legislation that removes the requirement of the governmental building official appointees to reside in Pinellas County.
- In addition to the priorities included in the program, County staff, and our state government relations firm, Southern Strategy Group, will closely monitor all issues that emerge throughout the 2019 Session and the remainder of the year.

Strategic Plan:

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

Summary:

The State Legislative program illustrates the Board's priorities, State Appropriations requests, and guiding principles for the 2019 Florida Legislative session. In addition to the priorities included in the program, County staff, and the County's state government relations firm, Southern Strategy Group, will closely monitor all issues that emerge throughout the 2019 Session and remainder of the year.

Background Information:

After receiving input from the Board in November, a preliminary program was introduced and discussed with the Pinellas Legislative Delegation at the December 4, 2018 joint meeting. As a result of the process, the program highlights the Board's priorities, State appropriations requests, and

guiding principles. The guiding principles are not unique to 2019, but instead represent the Board's core beliefs for shaping State Legislative advocacy efforts.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Staff Member Responsible:

Brian Lowack, Intergovernmental Liaison, Office of the County Administrator

Partners:

State Legislative Delegation

Southern Strategy Group, State Government Relations Firm

Attachments:

2019 State Legislative Program