



Collier County 2010 State Legislative Priorities

I. Libraries – Support State Aid to Libraries and Cooperatives like Southwest Florida Library Network.

II. Home Rule – Support home rule authority of local governments.

III. Unfunded Mandates – Oppose state directives requiring local governments to deliver services without providing the necessary funding to cover the expense.

IV. Revenue & Expenditure Caps (TABOR) – Oppose legislative or Constitutional restrictions on County authority to determine local tax burden or local financial commitments to services and quality of life.

V. Affordable Housing – Support removal of the cap on Sadowski Housing Trust Funds.

VI. Impact Fees – Support maintaining home rule authority over administration of the County’s existing impact fee program.

VII. Transportation

- Oppose raiding of the *Transportation Trust Fund*.
- Support earlier Receipt of *Crash Reports* – Include local traffic engineering agencies with police agencies in being able to receive crash reports without current 60-day wait.
- Support state legislation that affirms authority of Counties to install red light cameras at intersections and implement enforcement programs.
- Support modification to Section 339.135(4)(a)1, Florida Statutes to strengthen requirement for use of an allocation formula “*to assure that no district or county is penalized for local efforts to improve the State Highway System.*”

VIII. Revenue Enhancements

- *Dot.com* – Support the tourism industry position on *Dot.coms* which is to have those companies collect and pay the sales and tourist development tax due on the total amount charged the visitor, not the net amount paid the hotel. The revenue lost to both the state and counties from the actual taxes due and what is currently received is significant.
- Support *Gas Tax Indexing*.

IX. Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA) – Support legislative changes to CCNA that allow weighing multiple factors including qualifications and price before selecting the top firm and before commencing negotiations; oppose industry interests from further restricting the discretion of local government under the law.

X. Alligator Alley – Affirm Board’s previous position to oppose leasing of Alligator Alley to private entities.

XI. Shared Ochopee/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fire Station & Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – Support discussing one-time capital allocation from FDOT for cost of facilities and start-up equipment; and seek reimbursement for recurring operating expenses on a long-term contract basis.

XII. Offshore Drilling in Gulf of Mexico – Affirm Board’s previous position with approval of Resolution 2009-117, which opposes offshore drilling within 25 miles of the Gulf of Mexico coastline.

XIII. Fire District Bills – Oppose Panther Creek Consolidation Legislation and Paradise Coast Consolidation Legislation proposed by independent fire districts in Collier County.

XIV. Economic Development – One of Collier County’s goals is Economic Development which promotes a full range of high wage/high-skilled employment and business opportunities that will improve the economy, increase the tax base, and encourage innovation and economic diversity. Collier County supports policies to enhance economic development utilizing various programs and tools to induce targeted business expansion, retention, attraction, new capital investment and job creation.

- Support a more coordinated and streamlined regulatory process within state level agencies, while supporting local governments and their ability and flexibility to make decisions at the local level that enhance economic development opportunities.
- Support funding for *Florida’s Economic Development Transportation Fund* (Road Fund) at \$20 million. *This is one of Florida’s oldest and most successful economic development incentive programs and is designed to keep our state competitive in attracting high wage jobs. Because of rising costs and increased project activity, more allocation is needed in order to improve our competitiveness.*
- Support the *Quick Response Training Program* (\$5 million) and the *Incumbent Worker Training Program* (\$2 million). *The best investment we can make is in our workforce. Training programs, such as QRT and IWT, ensure that Florida has an available and skilled workforce to meet the demands of our growing high wage employers.*

XV. Elections Extension – Support the Supervisor of Elections request that the deadline for the County to comply with the Federal and State unfunded mandate to purchase new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) voting units be extended until 2016. Legislation requiring a paper-based voting system for persons with disabilities by 2012 will cost the County about \$687,500.

Enacted Legislation & Issues to Monitor:

- *SB 1000/Discretionary Sales Surtaxes/Fire Rescue Services*
- *Seminole Gaming Compact/Revenue sharing (3%) with affected local governments for infrastructure*
- *Beach Renourishment/U.S. Supreme Court Case – Support public beach access*

- ***SB 360 (Growth Management)*** – *Permitting, Transportation Concurrency Exception Areas (TCEA's); Preserve present real-time concurrency program.*
Mobility Fee (MF) – If there is to be a MF, the County needs to insure that the dollars collected are expended within, and in coordination with, the jurisdiction in which the MF is generated.
- ***Property Insurance***
- ***Hometown Democracy***