

City of Coconut Creek State Legislative Agenda 2014



**Mayor Becky Tooley
Vice Mayor Lisa K. Aronson
Commissioner Lou Sarbone
Commissioner Mikkie Belvedere
Commissioner Sandra L. Welch**

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City of Coconut Creek Florida 2014 State Legislative Agenda

Intergovernmental Relations

Home Rule

Support the preservation of Home Rule and **oppose** any legislation that seeks to diminish powers granted to local government. (FLC, 2014)

Unfunded Mandates

Oppose unfunded mandates from any level of government.

Required Public Notice Advertising in Newspapers

Support legislation authorizing local governments the option of using their publicly accessible websites for legally required public notices and advertisements in lieu of newspapers. (BLC, 2014)

Land Use

Oppose referendums that are mandated by the state on local land use.

State Of Florida Gaming Compact With The Seminole Nation

Support renewal of the current Gaming Compact for another five year period with no less than the same percentage of revenue sharing as is in the current agreement.

Finances and Taxation

Communications Services Tax

Supports municipal authority to receive compensation for the use of its rights-of-way and reimbursement of costs associated with permit review. **Oppose** legislation that restricts, reduces or eliminates municipal revenues generated under the Communications Services Tax. (FLC, BLC, 2014)

Local Business Tax

Oppose legislation that restricts, reduces or eliminates municipal revenues generated under the Local Business Tax. (FLC, 2014)

Disability Presumption

1. **Support** legislation that provides comprehensive municipal firefighter and police officer disability presumption reform that includes allowing the presumption to be overcome by a preponderance of the evidence. (FLC, 2014)
2. **Oppose** legislation that expands disability presumptions to include cancer, HIV, and AIDS related conditions.

Housing

Support full funding of the SHIP (State Housing Initiatives Partnership) Program.

Sustainability

Environmental Regulations

Oppose any legislation that lessens environmental protection at the local level, including preemption of local authority such as through statewide or uniform rules, and statewide standards on issues related to environmental regulations and enforcement. **Oppose** any efforts that would negatively impact the County's ability to regulate air and water quality and the wetlands resources of Broward County, including through its delegated authority to implement the State's Environmental Resource Permit. (FLC, BLC, 2014)

Water Quality

Support legislation which recognizes that diminished water quality and quantity affect existing business, future economic development, local and state government budgets, and the public health and safety. **Support** legislation that establishes reasonable environmental, technical and scientific criteria for the protection and recovery of water resources and also assists municipalities' economic development efforts. (FLC, BLC, 2014)

Hydraulic Fracturing ("Fracking")

Support legislation that would outlaw hydraulic fracturing in Florida without a minimum of one year advance notice to potentially impacted property owners.

Sinkholes

Oppose legislation that would require sinkhole testing prior to development.

Growth Management and Transportation

Growth Management and Transportation

Support legislation that addresses the following:

- Preservation of local government's responsibility to manage public resources.
- Utilization of land use policies that strongly encourage the development of mass transit and establishment of a funding allocation, directly to local governments, for transit operations, mass transit, transit infrastructure, and transit policy implementation.
- Any legislative effort that provides an equitable, dedicated, and recurring revenue source to support mass transit, operations, infrastructure, and transit policy implementation for Southeast Florida. This includes funding the construction of a high speed rail connecting, at a minimum, Miami to Orlando.
- Legislation granting local governments flexibility in planning and funding for viable transportation systems and infrastructure but opposes legislation that pre-empts local government authority to regulate the impact of current and future Florida Department of Transportation projects. (FLC, BLC, 2014)

Public Right of Way Management

Support legislation that would require providers of telecommunications, telephone, telegraph, cable television, broadband, internet, and other communications services to timely transfer their facilities onto strengthened utility poles or underground whenever such facilities are available (*See Attachment 1, Proposed Bill*).

Urban Administration

Residential Group Homes

Support legislation that defines and establishes statewide minimum regulatory standards for properties used for “sober home” and “group home” purposes and allows for more stringent local regulation of such properties. (FLC, BLC, 2014)

Economic Development

Support legislation that dedicates to small businesses state economic development resources emphasizing technical assistance, access to capital, public infrastructure, and urban infill. (FLC, 2014)

Marriage Equality

Support legislation that provides marriage equality for all residents of the State of Florida, including same sex couples. (BLC, 2014)

Public Safety

Firearms

Support legislation that addresses the following:

- Repeals the 2011 amendment that eliminated local governments’ ability to regulate firearms (BLC, 2014)
- Legislation that requires the purchase and ownership of a gun be registered and licensed.
- Legislation that would ban assault weapons, automatic weapons, and large external magazine weapons and ammunition.
- Legislation that would prohibit any person, other than law enforcement officers, to carry a weapon or firearm into any government facility or park.

Text Messaging/Cell Phone Use

Support the strengthening of legislation that prohibits text-messaging while driving from a secondary offense to a primary offense. **Support** restricting the use of non hands-free devices while driving.

Smoking in Municipal Playground Areas

Support revisions to Section 386.209, F.S, authorizing a municipality or county to restrict smoking in playground areas that are owned by the municipality or county if the area where smoking is restricted is clearly delineated by “No Smoking” signs.

Education

Advance Notification to Municipalities of Charter School Sitings

Support revisions to Section 1002.33, F.S., to require that charter schools identify the proposed location of their facility in their charter school application, and present evidence from the municipality or county with land use and zoning jurisdiction that the proposed facility meets all applicable local comprehensive plans and land development regulations. **Support** clarification that charter schools are subject to local land development regulations and are not covered by the partial exemption from such regulation for school board operated public schools in Section 1013.33(10)-(15), F.S. (BLC, 2014)

Graduation Rates

Support state funding for initiatives and other innovative programs that increase graduation rates. (BLC, 2014)