

Board of County Commissioners
Leon County, Florida

Workshop on 2007 State and Federal Legislative Priorities

October 10, 2006
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Leon County Board of County Commission Chambers
Leon County Courthouse, 5th Floor

Board of County Commissioners

Workshop Item

Date of Meeting: October 10, 2006

Date Submitted: October 4, 2006

TO: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

FROM: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Vincent Long, Deputy County Administrator
Ken Morris, Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator

SUBJECT: Workshop on 2007 State and Federal Legislative Priorities

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

To conduct a workshop with the Board on the state and federal legislative priorities to guide the County's lobbying efforts for the 2007 state legislative session and the first session of the 110th Congress.

BACKGROUND:

Historically, the Board has conducted a workshop with staff on legislative priorities to guide the County's lobbying efforts. In recent years, staff has utilized this forum to receive Board direction on and approval of priority legislative issues to guide the County's lobbying efforts at both the state and federal level.

ANALYSIS:

Upon the close of the state legislative session each year, staff solicits legislative appropriations and policy requests from the County's departments. A follow-up working session is conducted with staff to compile a proposed list of new policy issues and appropriations requests, as well as others sought in previous sessions, for Board consideration. Staff has identified 11 appropriation requests for the 2007 state and federal legislative cycles. (please see Attachment #1). Additionally, staff has identified 16 policy statements for the 2007 state legislative session (please see Attachment #2).

Rather than ask the Board to rank projects in priority order, staff is seeking Board assent to the state and federal substantive and appropriations issues presented here to be included in the County's 2007 State and Federal Legislative Programs. Upon Board approval, staff and contract lobbyists will pursue all of the legislative issues approved by the Board, and in so doing, place appropriate priority on the issues given the opportunities that arise during the legislative process. Notwithstanding this, staff will assign priority to any issue that the Board directs to receive a special level of attention in 2007. Staff would also like to welcome the addition or deletion of issues that the Board deems appropriate for our 2007 legislative efforts.

It is important to note that in addition to the specific Leon County issues identified herein by staff, much of the County's legislative efforts each session are focused on statewide issues in conjunction with the Florida Association of Counties (FAC). FAC will finalize their 2007 legislative program during their legislative conference on November 29, 2006. These issues are often times the most critical issues facing the County during the State legislative session. The Board will have an opportunity to communicate its legislative priorities prior to the 2007 legislative session, when the

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County hosts the Leon County Legislative Delegation for a public hearing in the Leon County Commission Chambers. It is important for the Board to be active participants in the legislative process by testifying on behalf of the County and working with the Legislative Delegation. Staff will continue to keep the Board involved in legislative issues through agenda items, resolutions, memorandum, "call to action" emails, and weekly *Capital Updates* throughout session.

**PROPOSED LEON COUNTY 2007 STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION:
Appropriation Requests**

(Please Note: For complete information on each, see Attachment #1)

The Board of County Commissioner's practice of retaining professional contractual lobbying services, at both the state and federal levels, is based primarily on increasing the County's chances of obtaining legislative appropriations. Staff works throughout the year to identify County projects for which to submit state and federal appropriations requests. The 2007 appropriation requests identified below include costly capital projects ranging from increased funding for stormwater and transportation needs to facilities projects.

One of the most important appropriation requests that the County has targeted for state funding is the Mahan Drive (US 90) road widening project from Dempsey Mayo Road to I-10. This project was made a priority by the Board during FY 2004/05. An important accomplishment came in 2005, as the County, Blueprint 2000, and the Capital Regional Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) successfully advocated for Mahan Drive to be designated as a part of the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS), and thus eligible for SIS funding. SIS was created in 2003 to ensure adequate planning and funding of transportation systems that connect airports, seaports, bus terminals, and major highways. Staff has been working with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), who administers the SIS program, to prioritize this project for SIS funding. In 2005, the Legislature created the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) to improve regional transportation facilities through a partnership of local governments, the state, and the private sector. Under TRIP, FDOT may provide up to 50 percent of project costs for regional projects such as Capital Circle Southeast. The County has had success during the past two years in securing SIS and TRIP funding for priority projects, including \$42.6 million for right of way purchase along Capital Circle SW through SIS and \$11.3 million for Capital Circle SE through TRIP. The County will continue to seek state funding under both TRIP and SIS as part of the 2007 legislative cycle, as well as seek federal funding for these Board priorities.

The Board's 2006 top retreat priority to establish a joint dispatch center is included in the 2007 State and Federal appropriation requests. At the Board's 2006 Annual Retreat, the Board directed staff to pursue a joint dispatch center to ensure that the closest available unit is dispatched to an emergency, reducing the response time during a critical emergency in a coordinated manner. The County has been working with the Leon County Sheriff's Office and the City of Tallahassee under a Memorandum of Agreement with future intentions of executing an interlocal agreement. Although the Board has not provided staff with formal direction to proceed with the construction of the joint dispatch center, the 2007 appropriation request will serve as a placeholder should the Board choose to pursue this endeavor. Staff will continue to work with the Public Safety Communications Board as directed by the Board.

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The County has also applied for three grants through its Parks and Recreation Division. Two of these projects will be requested under the Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP). The program provides a 100% match for acquisition or development of land for public outdoor recreation. The Board authorized staff to submit applications for the Lake Henrietta Trail System and the Miccosukee Greenway Trail head. In 2006, the County was awarded a grant from FRDAP in the amount of \$112,000 for the renovation of playground equipment and restrooms at J. Lewis Hall, Sr. Park in Woodville. A grant will also be requested for the construction of Phase I landscape on Route 27 in front of the Apalachee Regional Park under the One Florida Highway Beautification Council Grant.

The other projects listed below, from the Wakulla Springs Aquifer Protection Project to the Lake Jackson Ecopassage, provide staff and the County's contract lobbyists with the opportunity to identify and advocate for funding of Board priorities that match with state and federal objectives, during the legislative process. During the 2006 legislative session the Wakulla Springs Aquifer Protection Project was appropriated \$250,000 which was subsequently vetoed by the Governor. Staff will continue to actively secure funding for this project and others during the 2007 legislative session. The following is the proposed Leon County 2007 State and Federal appropriation requests:

<u>Mahan Drive</u> Dempsey Mayo Rd. to I-10 - Construction	\$40,000,000
<u>Leon County/ City of Tallahassee Joint Dispatch Center</u> Construction	\$15,000,000
<u>Capital Circle Southeast</u> Woodville Hwy to Tram Rd - Construction	\$8,000,000
<u>Wakulla Springs Aquifer Protection Project</u> Planning/Design	\$300,000
<u>Frenchtown Primary, Specialty & Mental Health Clinic</u> Siting/Planning/Construction	\$3,000,000
<u>Emergency Medical Services Facility</u> Construction	\$2,100,000
<u>Lake Jackson/Lexington Flood Mitigation/Water Quality Retrofit</u> Land acquisition and construction	\$750,000*
<u>Lake Jackson Ecopassage</u> Construction	\$4,500,000
<u>Lake Henrietta Trail System</u> Construction	\$200,000#

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<u>Miccosukee Greenway Trailhead</u>	\$90,000#
Construction of trailhead/restrooms	

<u>Route 27 Beautification Landscape</u>	\$100,000
Landscape Construction	

* DEP Water Quality Program Grant to be submitted, requires 2007 legislative approval

FRDAP grants require 2007 state legislative approval.

PROPOSED LEON COUNTY 2007 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Policy Requests

(Please Note: For complete information on each, see Attachment #2)

Like most legislation, much of the County's legislative efforts are incremental and are focused on issues that are built upon throughout several sessions. However, each year staff evaluates the trends and issues affecting all County programs and services to identify potential policy or "substantive" legislative issues. Significant substantive issues that have been identified for County participation range from protection of charter county home rule to property tax reform; from continued state funding for state aid to libraries grant programs to increased funding for mental health services. The impact of state violators of probation (VOPs) on the county jails is an issue that burdens most Florida counties, including Leon County, which FAC intends to address at its annual legislative conference on November 29, 2006.

In addition to the substantive issues identified by the County, staff works daily with FAC and the Florida Association on Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR) to identify developing issues that effect counties during session's quick pace. In many cases, the County joins FAC and FAIR members to advocate for or against initiatives that would substantially impact counties (*Please note: FAIR members are representatives of local governments from across the state.*) Please find, below, a listing of the proposed Leon County 2007 state legislative session policy requests. Each request provides a brief overview of the issue and indicates the specific legislative action recommended:

Section I. Finance and Tax

Property Tax Reform

Issue: The 2006 Legislature considered numerous property tax reform bills and proposed constitutional amendments on the Homestead Exemption and "Save Our Homes" program. The Legislature directed the Department of Revenue to study the state's property tax structure and offer recommendations prior to the 2007 legislative session. In addition, the Governor created a property tax reform committee to address similar property tax issues.

Action: Oppose property tax reform that would significantly restrict the ability of counties to provide high quality services and address critical community needs.

County Expenditures

Issue: Legislation to reduce local government authority by limiting expenditure authority was closely tied to the property tax reform efforts of 2006.

Action: Oppose legislation restricting or eroding local government fiscal autonomy.

State Cost-shift opposition

Issue: The 2004 Legislature passed a bill shifting \$90 million in state costs for the predisposition of juvenile offenders to counties. This legislation will impact Leon County annually, and resulted in a \$1.4 million expense in 2005 alone. In 2005, the Legislature upheld the cost shift despite counties' strong opposition.

Action: Support the continued state funding of state programs and oppose any cost shifts to counties.

Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)

Issue: In 2002, the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations studied the PILOT issue and it's potential applicability for Florida. Substantial efforts to pass PILOT legislation, as led by Leon County, has been met with significant opposition and was unsuccessful. However, this worthy issue remains qualified for additional legislative effort.

Action: Seek legislation creating a new PILOT program beneficial to Leon County.

Budget Adoption

Issue: Florida Statutes requires county budget officers to submit the tentative budget no later than 15 days after the certification of value. This makes it extremely difficult to get the budget document finalized for distribution to county commissioners.

Action: Support efforts to extend deadline to submit the tentative budget from 15 to 21 days after the certification of value.

Section II. Growth Management, Environment, Transportation & Infrastructure

Growth Management Reform

Issue: The 2005 Legislature passed Senate Bill 360, including significant growth management reforms ranging from school planning to water supply funding. The Board has held several workshops on the implementation of SB 360 and also hosted its first-ever "Smart Growth Summit" on June 7, 2006, to give the community an opportunity to interact firsthand with local and state planning and growth management officials.

Action: Continue to monitor growth management issues and advocate the County's position through the Florida Association of Counties and County's Planning Department.

SIS Funding

Issue: Legislators created the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) in 2003 to improve the system by which state road projects are prioritized for funding. During the 2004 regular session, a funding mechanism for this system was designated. In 2005, FDOT awarded \$42.6 million in SIS funding for the advanced right of way purchase for the widening of Capital Circle SW. Later that year, FDOT designated Mahan Drive as an SIS Connector. For 2007, staff will continue to work with key decision makers to place priority County transportation projects on the SIS and enhance the potential for state funding of these County projects.

Action: Support continued funding for county transportation projects through SIS.

TRIP Funding

Issue: In 2005 the Legislature created the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) under SB 360 to improve regionally significant facilities in "regional transportation areas." The program, administered by FDOT, provides a 50% match in state funding to local governments and the private sector for critically needed projects that benefit regional travel and commerce. On November 8, 2005 Capital Circle Southeast from Woodville Highway (State Road 61) to Tram Road received \$4.3 million in TRIP funding for right-of-way acquisition. The project received an additional \$7 million for construction in the spring of 2006.

Action: Support continued funding for county transportation projects through TRIP.

Section III. Health and Social Services

Mental Health

Issue: Improve the shortage of local treatment opportunities and reduce the number of mentally ill in the county jail.

Action: Support expanded funding for mental health services across the region and state.

Section IV. Public Safety

County Jail

Issue: Jail Overcrowding

Action: Support the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida Sheriff's Association in their efforts to reduce county jail population, including state Violators of Probation (VOP) inmates in county jails. FAC is expected to address specific VOP issues during the upcoming legislative conference on November 29, 2006.

Probation

Issue: Jail Overcrowding

Action: Monitor any changes affecting house arrest and support its expanded allowable use as a condition of probation in misdemeanor and traffic offenses.

Issue: Pretrial Release

Action: Monitor any changes to statutes affecting pretrial release and advocate continued support for program.

Issue: Juvenile Justice Funding

Action: Monitor funding levels and the potential reduction of local alternative and prevention programs to ensure that no further burden for treatment and prevention of juveniles is not shifted to counties (a \$90 million cost shift to counties for DJJ costs was approved in 2005).

Emergency Medical Services Employees

Issue: The 2005 Legislature passed a bill that provides individuals the authority to use deadly force or cause great bodily harm to someone who unlawfully enters a dwelling. An exemption is provided for law enforcement officers entering a dwelling in accordance with his/her official duties. However, an exemption does not exist for EMS personnel.

Action: Support the changing of the exemption language to include all public safety officials and first responders.

Section V. General Government and Libraries

Libraries

Issue: State aid for libraries

Action: Continue to support full or expanded funding for State Aid to Libraries

Section VI. Statewide Issues

Charter County Preemption

Issue: Charter county authority was challenged during the 2006 legislative session by the Florida League of Cities. On April 11, 2006, the Board adopted Resolution #R06-13 to urge the Florida Legislature to oppose legislation that would limit, restrict, or preempt charter county home rule authority. Florida's charter counties partnered with the Florida Association of Counties and provided funding for the hiring of contract lobbyists to specifically work on charter county issues in 2006. For the 2007 legislative session, the Florida Association of Counties has requested charter counties to contribute \$5,000 to facilitate the hiring of contract lobbyists to oppose charter county preemption legislation.

Action: Coordinate with the Florida Association of Counties and charter counties to oppose charter county preemption legislation and authorize the County Administrator to issue a \$5,000 payment to the Florida Association of Counties to contract with external lobbyists.

Protection of State Workforce

Issue: State workers comprise a substantial percentage of Leon County's population, contributing to our community, economy and diversity. In 2006, the Legislature provided state employees a 3% raise, a \$30 increase in travel per diem reimbursement, increases in the maximum amount of money authorized for meals, and an increase in mileage allowance from 25 cents to 44.5 cents per milc. In addition, there were no increases in state employee's insurance premiums.

Action: Monitor this issue and advocate for the continued protection of our state workforce.

Local Government Cable Franchise Authority

Issue: In 2006, telephone companies looking to compete in the cable market aggressively pursued legislative changes to local governments' cable franchise authority at the state and federal levels. The cable franchise legislation threatens local government authority to issue franchise authority for cable services.

Action: Continue to monitor cable franchise legislation at the state and federal levels and advocate the County's position through the Florida Association of Counties and the National Association of Counties.

Emergency Medical Services Employees

Issue: Florida Statutes exempts all police, firefighters, jail workers, and judges from having their names, addresses, and families' personal information from being disclosed publicly.

Action: Support legislation that would add EMS and paramedics to the exempt list for public records.

Florida Association of Counties (FAC) Issues

Issue: FAC represents 67 counties at the Legislature on issues that have broad statewide appeal, such as the opposition of unfunded mandates or cost shifts to counties (similar to the \$90 million DJJ cost shift that was passed in 2004) to supporting the reconciliation of any outstanding "glitch" issues to fully implement of Revision 7 to Article V (state funding of state court costs). FAC will finalize their 2006 legislative program during their legislative conference in December, 2005.

Action: Support the 2006 FAC legislative program unless specific issues conflict with the County's issues.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:

The first session of the 110th Congress is expected to begin in early January of 2007. The Board of County Commissioner's practice has been to focus the County's federal legislative program on appropriations issues. At the Board's request, the federal appropriation requests have been combined with the state appropriations request (Page #3 of the Analysis Section). Any substantive issues that the County has at the federal level are coordinated through our National Association of Counties (NACO) representation.

Staff continually works with the County's federal contract lobbying firm, Patton Boggs, throughout the year, to advocate for the County's targeted appropriation requests. Staff coordinates weekly with Patton Boggs by phone and e-mail to strategize on key federal budget issues and to identify new federal grant funding that could potentially fund County project requests. In addition, Patton Boggs has been submitting monthly memoranda to update the Board on their federal lobbying activities in order to further improve communication between the Board and their federal lobbying firm.

Recent federal appropriation cycles have yielded positive outcomes for County funding requests. Significantly, Congress passed the long awaited re-authorization of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005, which provide \$16.1 million for right of way and construction of Capital Circle NW. Congress is still working toward completing this year's budget but is expected to pass a Continuing Resolution (CR).

During the previous year, Patton Boggs has also worked with the County to identify additional grant sources such as for the County's stormwater and housing programs. In addition to supporting the County's federal appropriation requests, these activities have been very beneficial to the County. Similar to previous years, staff recommends that the Board approve the continuation of these ongoing federal lobbying efforts.

Please note that the contract with the current County federal lobbyist, Patton Boggs, is scheduled to end on December 31, 2006. Based upon their performance during the past year, staff is preparing an agenda item for the Board's regular meeting on December 12, 2006, recommending an extension of the contract with Patton Boggs for federal lobbying services.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve the 2007 state legislative issues and 110th Congress (1st session) federal legislative issues as presented.
- 2) Authorize the County Administrator to issue a \$5,000 payment to the Florida Association of Counties to contract with external lobbyists to oppose charter county preemption legislation.

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3) Approve the 2007 state legislative issues and 110th Congress (1st session) federal legislative issues as amended by the Board.

4) Provide Staff other direction.

RECOMMENDATION:

Options #1 and #2

Attachments:

#1: 2007 State and Federal Legislative Session Appropriation Request Forms and Related Materials

#2: 2007 State Legislative Session Policy Request Forms and Related Materials

PA/VL/KM

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Attachment # 1
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Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Blueprint 2000

Contact: Jim Davis

Phone: 891-1880 Fax: 891-1885 E-Mail: James.Davis@Blueprint2000.org

Project Title: Mahan Drive (Phase II)

1. **Project Description:** This capital project will provide for funding to the Department of Transportation (FDOT) for right-of-way acquisition and reconstruction of the portion of Mahan Drive (US 90 East) from Dempsey Mayo Road to Interstate 10. Leon County has advanced funded a portion of the project for FDOT construction with funds to be returned on an agreed payment plan.

The reconstruction portion of the project will include expanding the number of lanes, from two to four, on this portion of Mahan Drive as well as provide bike lanes and sidewalks.

2. **Purpose of project and outcome expected:** The purpose of the project is to widen and make improvements to Mahan Drive (US 90 East). The project is important to meet the anticipated traffic load for the east side of the County for the next 20 years. In addition, the road serves as a part of the County's evacuation plan in the event of an emergency.
3. **Service Provided/Benefit to State:** This is truly a regional roadway serving Jefferson and Leon Counties. In addition, it serves as a main artery for evacuations. Furthermore, it should be considered that this roadway is the gateway to the state capital from Interstate 10, particularly for those traveling from the east.
4. **Population Served:** Over 300,000. Mahan Drive serves Jefferson and Leon Counties and is the main artery to and from the City of Tallahassee for evacuations to I-10.
5. **Projected Dates for Construction/Operation:** The County has \$6.9 million set aside right-of-way costs and Blueprint 2000 has committed \$10 million to advance fund (16.9 million) to the FDOT in FY 2009. However, it has recently been determined that even the amount of funds in Leon County's budget designated for advance funding will be insufficient. The total project is now anticipated to cost \$40 million.
6. **Funding:**
Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$40,000,000**
State Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$40,000,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): **\$16.9 million of advanced funding through 2009.**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

- 1). December 21, 2005 memorandum from FDOT designating Mahan Drive as a SIS Connector.

Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

MEMORANDUM

Attachment # 1
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DATE: December 21, 2005
TO: Denver J. Stutler, Jr., P.E., Secretary
FROM: H. E. Prescott, P.E., District Secretary
COPIES: See Distribution List
SUBJECT: **Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Connector - S.R. 10 (U.S. 90)
from I-10 west interchange in Gadsden County
to I-10 east interchange in Leon County**

=====

The Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) has taken formal action to request that the Department modify the existing SIS Connector to the Tallahassee Greyhound Passenger Terminal. Their major concern is that the existing Connector routing does not reflect the routing for a significant majority of the bus service provided today.

The nature of a SIS Connector to a Greyhound passenger terminal hub is characteristically similar to an Intermodal Freight Terminal. The purpose of the Connector is to provide the best access for the "container" (e.g., bus) to reach the facility. This is not always based on the shortest connector length, but rather on the most economical routing of a segment of a total journey.

Currently, the designated SIS Connector is U.S. 27 (Monroe Street) from the I-10 interchange to U.S. 90 (Tennessee Street), then westward on U.S. 90 to the Greyhound bus station. This is a two-way connector and provides the shortest connection length between the I-10 SIS Corridor and the Greyhound passenger terminal. As indicated above, CRTPA is concerned that this routing does not reflect the predominant travel pattern for access to this SIS Hub facility.

Presently, the predominant Greyhound movements through Tallahassee are east-west, along I-10. Greyhound has approximately 25 arrivals/departures that would probably utilize I-10. There are approximately 7 arrivals/departures directly north from Tallahassee and approximately 10 arrivals/departures directly to the south. As these numbers indicate, the east-west movement utilizing I-10 is predominant.

To serve this predominant movement, the CRTPA is requesting the addition of the U.S. 90 (S.R. 10) corridor as a SIS Connector between its western interchange with I-10 in Gadsden County and its eastern interchange with I-10 in Leon County. This corridor is currently four and six lanes for most of its length. Significant portions of the multi-lane have a median separating the travel directions. In recognition of the Department's need to limit the number of SIS Connectors, the CRTPA is also suggesting that the current Connector, U.S. 27, could be removed from the system, although it is used for northbound Greyhound traffic.

The District has reviewed this request from the CRTPA and we are strongly in support of this change in SIS Connector. We ask that you take the steps necessary to accomplish this valid and reasonable system change. Thank you for your consideration concerning this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, at (850) 638-0250, extension 200.

Handled by:
Greg Vickery
District Performance Management & Communications Coordinator
Office of the District Secretary
(850) 638-0250, extension 529
FAX (850) 638-6159
mailto:greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us

Please note:

Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials or staff regarding state business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure. (Florida Statute, Ch. 119)



2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Administration Contact: Alan Rosenzweig

Phone: 606-5100 Fax: 606-2101 E-Mail: Rosenzweiga@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Leon County/City of Tallahassee Joint Dispatch Center

1. Project Description: Leon County, the Leon County Sheriff, and the City of Tallahassee intend to execute an interlocal agreement to pursue a joint dispatch center for the purposes of dispatching all law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected: Currently, the City of Tallahassee dispatches Tallahassee law enforcement officers and firefighters while the Sheriff's Office dispatches Sheriff Deputies and EMS personnel. The joint dispatch center will ensure that the closest available unit is dispatched to an emergency, reducing the response time during a critical emergency in a coordinated manner.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State: This project will improve the coordination of both emergency and non emergency calls for efficient deployment of public safety resources. A joint dispatch center is in the best interest of the health and safety of the community.
4. Population Served: All Leon County and City of Tallahassee residents, transients, and visitors.
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation: The City and County are reviewing potential locateion sites for the proposed joint dispatch center. Based upon funding, construction could begin in the latter months of 2007.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$15,000,000**
State Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$15,000,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): **\$200,000**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

- 1). 2006 Board Priorities

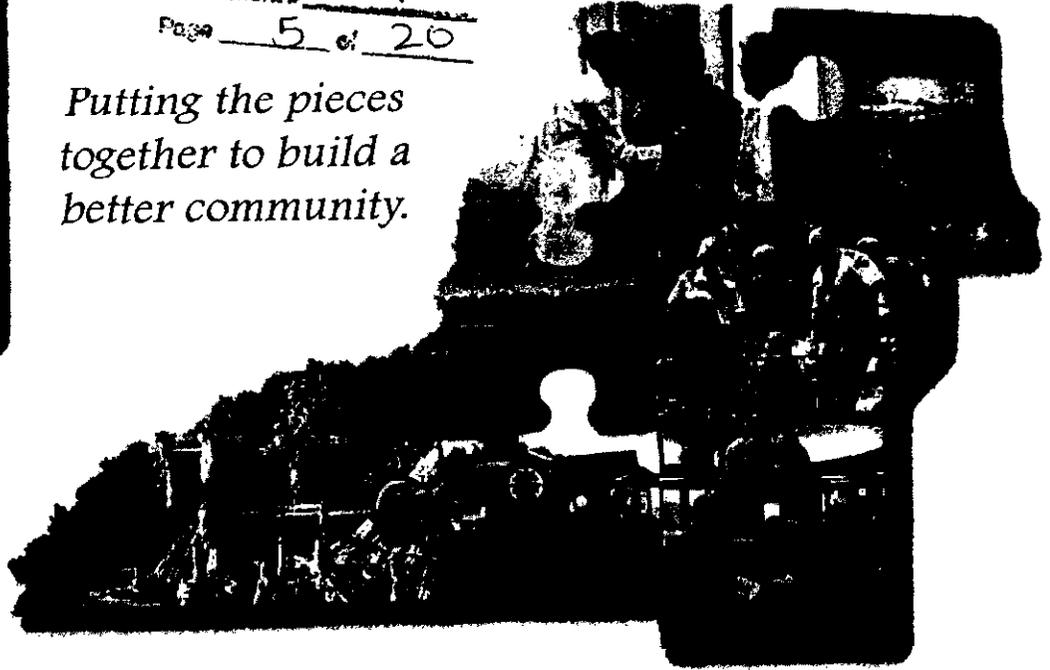
Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____



Leon County Board of County Commissioners 2006 Priorities

Attachment # 1
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*Putting the pieces
together to build a
better community.*



1. Address Consolidation of Law Enforcement and Emergency Response Dispatch

Pursue referendum to approve a consolidated law enforcement agency, joint dispatch center, and joint emergency operations center for Leon County. Additionally, establish a citizens' review board to evaluate this issue and address emergency preparedness, evacuation routes during an emergency, and health issues that may be associated with a disaster.

2. Enhance Primary Healthcare for the Uninsured

Pursue referendum to consider a ½ cent sales tax to fund a primary healthcare program for Leon County citizens who do not have health insurance. Work with community partners including educational and medical institutions to develop a comprehensive program.

3. Develop a Comprehensive Community Energy Policy

Pursue strategies to promote using alternative energy sources including solar power. Enhance County facilities, establish incentive programs, and implement a comprehensive air quality protection strategy, as well as enhance public education.

4. Implement a County-wide Lake Protection Program

Pursue referendum to amend the County Charter that would allow County ordinances to prevail over City ordinances and establish County-wide storm water standards.

5. Construct a Library Branch in the Woodville Community

6. Address Impacts from Sprayfield Irrigation and other Pollutants on Wakulla Springs

7. Pursue Redevelopment of North Florida Fairgrounds Property

For more information, please contact Leon County Administration at (850) 606-5300 or visit www.leoncountyfl.gov.

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Blueprint 2000 Contact: Jim Davis

Phone: 891-1880 Fax: 891-1885 E-Mail: james.davis@Blueprint 2000.org

Project Title: Capital Circle Southeast

1. Project Description:

The project is to widen approximately 2.2 miles of the existing two-rural undivided section of Capital Circle Southeast from Woodville Highway to Tram Road to a six lane divided urban facility. The project also includes significant landscaping as well as bicycle and recreation amenities.

2. Purpose of project and outcome expected:

Capital Circle is a major arterial roadway circling the Tallahassee urban area. It links a major expressway (Interstate 10) with US 27 and US 90, and US 319. Segments of Capital Circle have been widened with a significant portion of the improvements being either directly funded or advance-funded by the City of Tallahassee or Leon County.

The total construction cost of the project is \$26 million. The Capital Circle Southeast segment received \$4.3 million dollars in TRIP funding in 2005 for right-of-way acquisition. During the spring of 2006 it received an additional \$7 million in TRIP funding for construction. The project is expected to receive an additional \$1 million for FDOT later this year. The remaining balance of the project for construction cost is \$8 million.

3. Service Provided/Benefit to State:

The Tallahassee and Leon County Commissions through their "Southern Strategy" are attempting to spur economic growth in the southern area of the City and County with a combination of roadway improvements, sector planning efforts, growth management and economic incentives. This project also provides a much needed connector between the Tallahassee Regional Airport, US 27 and US 90 East, which provides access to Interstate 10. This also serves as one of the primary evacuation routes from the central coastal panhandle.

4. Population Served:

The segment of Capital Circle (SR 261) under application is the segment from Woodville Highway to Tram Road. All regional coastal residents of neighboring counties will benefit from this project. The current Annual Average Daily Traffic count is 10,400 and is expected to increase to 31,100 by 2030

5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation:
Construction is scheduled to start October of 2007 with duration of 1000 days. This is contingent on funding of the current \$8 million deficit.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$8,000,000**
State Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$8,000,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): **\$10,000,000**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Public Works/Engineering Services Contact: Tony Park/ Joe Brown

Phone: 606-1500 Fax: 606-1501 E-Mail: tonyp@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Wakulla Springs Aquifer Protection Project

1. Project Description: This project is for the design of a sewer system to provide sewer services to approximately 1,432 homes or properties located within the Woodville area of Leon County. These homes are located upstream to Wakulla Springs and threaten one of the world's largest and deepest freshwater springs.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected: Providing sewer service will eliminate the need for septic tanks which, in the event of failure, can cause environmental concerns and impacts.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State: The Leon County Comprehensive Plan provides that all waste water is to be treated and disposed of in a manner that protects natural resources and public health. (Note: The State of Florida has acquired more than half of the 6,500 acre buffer zone around Wakulla Springs acknowledging the importance of preserving this natural habitat).
4. Population Served: Approximately 1,500 homes directly impacted in Leon County. Wakulla Springs is also home to a state park that has thousands of visitors each year.
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation: Due to the time necessary for the studies, project design, and right-of-way acquisition, construction is anticipated to begin in FY09.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$300,000**
State Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$300,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): **\$600,000 over the next five years for construction of a sewer system.**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: _____

Department/Division: Health and Human Services Contact: Andrea Simpson

Phone: 606-1900 Fax: 606-1901 E-Mail: simpsona@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Frenchtown Primary, Specialty & Mental Health Clinic

1. Project Description: Land Acquisition, building and equipment for 10,000 sq. ft. clinic for Neighborhood Health Services, Inc., a 501(C)(3) non profit organization delivering primary and specialty healthcare services to the uninsured citizens of Leon and surrounding Florida counties.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected: Project will provide adequate space and equipment for expansion of services to meet the growing needs of the uninsured citizens.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State: Enhance the quality of life of citizens who receive care and treatment and enhance the economic status of the region by permitting citizens to regain healthy status and attain work; relieve increasing stress on Leon County safety net hospitals Emergency Departments and decrease the amount of uncompensated care provided by local hospitals thus reducing the "invisible tax" on Leon County employers and employed citizens.
4. Population Served: Leon County Citizens to benefit: 250,000; Surrounding Counties: 95,000
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation: Based upon the approval of funds, the County would begin land acquisition and construction process.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$3,000,000**
State Funding Requested (as applicable):
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): N/A

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____

Group Director: _____

County Administrator: _____

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Emergency Medical Services Contact: Tom Quillin

Phone: 606-2100 Fax: 606-2101 E-Mail: Quillint@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Emergency Medical Services Facility

1. Project Description: Leon County took over responsibility for emergency medical services on December 31st, 2003 after it was informed that the local hospitals would no longer be able to provide EMS services. EMS is temporarily housed in a trailer located at the Public Works facility. The County hopes to construct a permanent facility to house its 90 EMS employees.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected: This project will provide a permanent EMS facility with a storm-related covered parking garage.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State: To provide clinically superior, compassionate, cost-effective emergency medical services to all citizens and visitors of Leon County, utilizing the latest technologies and medical care standards within the bounds of available resources.
4. Population Served: All Leon County residents, transients, and visitors.
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation: The County owns the land for the future EMS site. Based upon the approval of funds, the County would begin the construction process.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$2,100,000**
State Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$2,100,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): **\$2,142,044** through FY 2007

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Public Works/Eng. Design Svcs Contact: Joe Brown III, P.E.

Phone: 606-1518 Fax: 606-1501 E-Mail: joebr@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Lake Jackson, Lexington Branch Regional Stormwater Treatment Facility

1. Project Description: Construction of a large regional wet detention stormwater treatment facility to provide water quality treatment to a portion of the Lake Jackson Watershed that was developed prior to adoption of comprehensive stormwater management regulations.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected: The purpose of the Lexington Branch facility is to address long standing stormwater quality and roadway flooding problems in the Fords Arm Lexington Branch of Lake Jackson. The outcome of the project is the overall reduction in the nutrient and sediment loads reaching Lake Jackson along with enhanced roadway safety during adverse weather conditions.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State: Continues the restoration of Lake Jackson, a State designated Outstanding Florida Waterway (OFW). In 1999/2000 a restoration effort was initiated that resulted in the removal and disposal of approximately 2,000,000 cubic yards of accumulated nutrient rich bottom sediments.
4. Population Served: Due to Lake Jackson's direct connection with the regions drinking water source via active sinkholes, this project serves the population Leon County as well as several surrounding counties.
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation: Based upon the approval of funds, the County would begin the construction process.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$750,000**
State Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$750,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): **\$3.2 million planned funding for 2008**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Attachment # 1
Page 12 of 20

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: X State Appropriation: _____

Department/Division: Capital Region TPA Contact: Jack Kostrzewa

Phone: 891-8600 Fax: 891-8734 E-Mail: kostrej@talgov.com

Project Title: Lake Jackson Ecopassage

1. Project Description:

Lake Jackson is a 4,000-acre sinkhole lake in northwestern Florida located seven (7) miles north of Tallahassee, Florida in the Ochlockonee River basin and is considered one of Leon County's most precious natural resources and is designated as an Aquatic Preserve by the State of Florida. Having a rich variety of wildlife is an integral part of Lake Jackson's ecosystem and should be protected in standing with Lake Jackson's designation as Florida's only lake aquatic preserve. This ecosystem was designated in 1974 as the Lake Jackson Aquatic Preserve "for the primary purpose of preserving and maintaining the biological resources in their essentially natural condition."

The water level of Lake Jackson fluctuates widely and is controlled naturally by rainfall and by two primary sinkholes (Porter Hole and Lime Sink). During drought conditions, a lowering of the water table causes leakage into the groundwater through the sinkholes and most of the lake bottom dries, an event that occurred eight (8) times during the 20th century (1907, 1909, 1932, 1935, 1936, 1957, 1982, and 1999) and once during the 21st century (2002), drying on average every 12.5 years. Normal annual water level fluctuations and periodic natural dry-downs cause wildlife to attempt to migrate across the road.

During the drought of 1999-2000 in North Florida, Lake Jackson dried completely causing a mass exodus of thousands of animals that attempted to migrate to Little Lake Jackson which is directly across North Monroe Street (US 27). Since February of 2000 over 9,200 vertebrate animals of 57 different species (not including birds) have been documented attempting to cross the 3/4-mile section of North Monroe Street (US 27) at Lake Jackson.

In order to prevent a massive road mortality of migrating animals, a temporary fence using silt fence material was constructed that directed animals into an existing culvert under the road. A 3,000-foot fence along North Monroe Street (US 27) north was completed in April 2000 and has been monitored 2-4 times per day since construction. A second fence, (2,000 feet in length) was constructed along North Monroe Street (US 27) south to intercept animals that attempted to migrate across the road when Lake Jackson refilled. It too has been monitored 2-4 times per day since construction. Animals were hand-collected as they moved along the fences, measured, transported by hand across the highway, and released into the water. In 33 months, over 8,000 reptiles and amphibians were saved from a potential deadly situation trying to cross North Monroe Street (US 27)

by these temporary fences. However, more than 600 reptiles and amphibians were still road-killed during this period.

North Monroe Street (US 27) is a four-lane road that was built directly across a 3/4-mile portion of northwest Lake Jackson, isolating part of the lake to the west now known as Little Lake Jackson, and creating a barrier to movements of a wide range of wildlife. This road connects North Florida and South Georgia to Interstate 10 and into Tallahassee and points south with approximately 23,000 vehicles per day utilizing the corridor in the study project area. The project area is defined as a 4,000-foot section of US 27 that was built across the Lake Jackson basin including adjacent wetland and upland habitats.

2. Purpose of project and outcome expected:

To address the wildlife mortality, habitat fragmentation, and traffic safety concerns, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has provided funding to prepare a Lake Jackson Ecopassage Feasibility Study to lay the groundwork (including conceptual plans) for the development of an ecopassage where North Monroe Street (US 27) crosses the Lake Jackson basin.

The intention of the Feasibility Study Project was not to single out a specific species of animals for which to provide a mitigative action(s), but to study the existing conditions of animal and vegetative habitats, hydrological conditions, and roadway conditions. The project provided the necessary documentation to the FDOT and Federal Highway Administration, which ensures this project complies with all Florida and Federal codes and regulations as they pertain to environmental, transportation, and public involvement. The Feasibility Study Project was completed in November of 2004.

With the completion of the Feasibility Study Project, a PD&E stage has commenced and will be completed in March of 2007. The Lake Jackson Ecopassage received \$440,000 from the FDOT for design. Once the PD&E is completed Lake Jackson Ecopassage will be eligible for federal funding through the Federal Highway Administration.

3. Service Provided/Benefit to State:

The Lake Jackson ecosystem is a valuable biological, aesthetic and recreational resource of Leon County and the State of Florida. This ecosystem was designated as the Lake Jackson Aquatic Preserve for the primary purpose of preserving and maintaining the biological resources in their essentially natural condition. The expansive freshwater marshes and native submerged vegetation provide exceptional fish, waterfowl and wading bird habitat. Lake Jackson is internationally known for sport fishing and its trophy largemouth bass. In addition, the lake generates several million dollars annually for the Tallahassee and Leon County area. The completion of this project allows for Lake Jackson to continue as an aquatic preserve through the preservation of the wildlife that assists in maintaining the ecosystem.

Additionally, wildlife "trespassing" on to US 27 represents a major threat to motorist safety. For example, many adult turtles weigh at least 5 to 10 pounds and are essentially "rocks in the roadway". When turtles are hit they can act as dangerous projectiles, causing serious damage to vehicles and injury to occupants. Without a proper guide-wall to keep wildlife off of the highway, there is serious potential for vehicle accidents on a stretch of highway with 21,500 vehicles per day. The construction of the ecopassage will provide for the safety of the traveling human public

4. Population Served:

From a transportation perspective, on a daily basis there are 21,500 vehicles on the road at this location. If each car has 1.5 people (on average) that population reaches 32,250 people per day just for motorists.

From an environmental perspective, the entire community (255,000+) benefits from having a healthy lake system that feeds directly into the Florida Aquifer. From a recreational perspective there are several thousand people that utilize the lake for fishing, boating, and swimming purposes.

5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation:

Based upon the acquisition of funding, the County is scheduled to move forward with the design of the ecopassage.

6. Funding:

Federal Funding Requested (as applicable): **\$4,500,000**

State Funding Requested (as applicable):

Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county):

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: _____ State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Parks & Recreation Contact: Pat Plocek

Phone: 606-1475 Fax: _____ E-Mail: plocekp@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Lake Henrietta Trail System

1. Project Description:
DEP Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grant for the Lake Henrietta Trail System. The grant will match \$200,000 the County has already funded to the trail system.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected:
Capital Cascades Greenways is a trail system that will run from Capital Cascades Park to Lake Munson. The trail system at Lake Henrietta is part of the overall Greenway system. The Grant will provide for the construction of a trailhead and trail that will surround Lake Henrietta.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State:
This trail and trailhead will provide an access point to the trail system that runs to Lake Munson and the National Forest. It will connect two other trail systems to this location.
4. Population Served:
This trail system is design to serve the total population of the county. It will benefit the citizens that will be using the Capital Cascades Trail system.
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation:
Design is complete and the County has the permits to start construction. Should the County be awarded the grant, the project could be bid out in August 2007 and construction could start in October 2007.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested:
State Funding Requested: **\$200,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources (including county): **\$200,000 in County funds**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

- 1). August 22, 2006 agenda item providing authorization to submit grant application.

Approved by: _____

Group Director: _____

County Administrator: _____

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request 40

Date of Meeting: August 22, 2006
Date Submitted: August 16, 2006

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board
From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Tony Park, P.E., Director of Public Works
Subject: Adoption of a Resolution Providing Authorization to Submit Application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant for Lake Henrietta Trail System

Statement of Issue:

This item seeks Board adoption of a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Grant for the construction of a trail system and trailhead around Lake Henrietta (Attachment #1).

Background:

The FRDAP is a competitive program which provides grants to local governmental entities for development of land for public outdoor recreation use or to construct recreational trails.

Analysis:

Capital Cascades Greenways is a trail system that will run from Capital Cascades Park to Lake Munson. The trail system at Lake Henrietta is part of this overall Greenway system. The Grant will provide 50% funding (\$200,000) for the construction of a trailhead and trail that will surround Lake Henrietta. The remaining 50% funding (\$200,000) is funded under the Capital Cascades CIP funding.

Options:

1. Adopt a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant for Lake Henrietta Trail System.
2. Do not adopt a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant for Lake Henrietta Trail System.
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Option #1.

Attachments:
Resolution

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: _____ State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Parks & Recreation Contact: Pat Plocek

Phone: 606-1470 Fax: _____ E-Mail: plocekp@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Miccosukee Greenway Trailhead

1. Project Description:
DEP Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grant for Miccosukee Trailhead. The Miccosukee Greenway Trailhead comprises of 503 acres and 30 miles of trail system. The grant will match \$90,000 the County has funded to the Miccosukee Trailhead for FY 06/07.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected:
This project is for the construction of a trailhead/restroom at the Miccosukee Greenway.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State:
This project will provide much needed restrooms in County's most active parking areas and trailhead. Currently, the site has two portable toilets that are rented on a year-round basis.
4. Population Served:
This project will serve the entire population of Leon County and the City of Tallahassee. This location is the main parking area for visitors to the Greenway and is the location for special events such as cross-country races.
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation:
Should the County be awarded this grant, construction could begin in August 2007 and completed by November 2007. At this time the County does not have additional funding set aside to complete this project if the grant is not awarded to the County, which could delay the project 1 to 2 years.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested:
State Funding Requested: **\$90,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources: **\$90,000 in County funds**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

1). August 22, 2006 agenda item authorizing staff to submit the FRDAP grant application.

Approved by:
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request 41

Date of Meeting: August 22, 2006
Date Submitted: August 16, 2006

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board
From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Tony Park, P.E., Director of Public Works
Subject: Adoption of a Resolution Providing Authorization to Submit Application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant for Miccosukee Greenway Trailhead

Statement of Issue:

This item seeks Board adoption of a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Grant for the construction of a trailhead at the Miccosukee Greenway (Attachment #1).

Background:

The FRDAP is a competitive program which provides grants to local governmental entities for development of land for public outdoor recreation use or to construct recreational trails.

Analysis:

On February 28, 2006, the Board of County Commissioners approved a Resolution for the Parks & Recreation Division to submit a grant application for a Recreational Trails Program Grant. The project was for the construction of a restroom at the Edenfield parking lot of the Miccosukee Greenway. The project did not receive funding under the grant cycle for 2006. The Division is requesting approval to submit the grant package for consideration under the FRDAP program. The Grant will provide 50% funding (\$90,000) for the construction of a trailhead/restroom at the Miccosukee Greenway. The remaining 50% funding (\$90,000) is funded under the FY 2006/2007 CIP funding for Miccosukee Greenway.

Options:

1. Adopt a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant for Miccosukee Greenway Trailhead.
2. Do not adopt a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Grant for Miccosukee Greenway Trailhead..
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Option #1.

Attachment:
Resolution

2007 Appropriation Request Form

Please Check: Federal Appropriation: _____ State Appropriation: X

Department/Division: Parks & Recreation Contact: Pat Plocek

Phone: 606-1475 Fax: _____ E-Mail: plocekp@leoncountyfl.gov

Project Title: Route 27 Beautification Landscape in front of Apalachee Regional Park

1. Project Description:
One Florida Highway Beautification Council Grant for the construction of Phase I landscape on Route 27 in front of the Apalachee Regional Park and Solid Waste Management Facility. The Grant will provide 50% funding (\$100,000) for the construction Phase I landscape on Route 27 at the present entrance to the facility.
2. Purpose of project and outcome expected:
The landscape improvement of Route 27 is vital to the County's Master Plan to convert a portion of the Solid Waste Management Facility to a regional park.
3. Service Provided/Benefit to State:
This project will provide beautification of the Route 27 entrance into the County and City. It will also provide screening for the solid waste management facility and the new regional park located along this section of roadway.
4. Population Served:
This project will benefit the travelers entering into the County and City along Route 27. It will also benefit the communities and businesses along this section of the roadway.
5. Projected Dates for Construction/Operation:
Since the County has already funded its portion of the grant, the project can begin as soon as the grant is awarded. Completion would be fall of 2007.
6. Funding:
Federal Funding Requested:
State Funding Requested: **\$100,000**
Present or Pending Funding Sources: **\$116,000 in County funds**

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

1). August 22, 2006 agenda item authorizing staff to submit grant application to FDOT.

Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request 42

Date of Meeting: August 22, 2006
Date Submitted: August 16, 2006

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board
From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Tony Park, P.E., Director of Public Works
Subject: Adoption of a Resolution Providing Authorization to Submit an Application for a Florida Department of Transportation Florida Highway Beautification Council Grant

Statement of Issue:

This item seeks Board adoption of a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Department of Transportation Florida Highway Beautification Council Grant Program (FHBCGP) for the construction of Phase I landscape on Route 27 in front of the Apalachee Regional Park and Solid Waste Management Facility (Attachment #1).

Background:

The County is in the process of developing a Master Plan for the conversion of portions of the Solid Waste Management Facility to a Regional Park. Part of that design includes improvements to Route 27, in front of the facility.

The FHBCGP is a competitive grant program, which provides grants to local governments for the beautification of state highways.

Analysis:

The Parks & Recreation Division is requesting authorization to submit the Grant package for consideration under the FHBCGP. The Grant will provide 50% funding (\$100,000) for the construction Phase I landscape on Route 27 at the present entrance to the facilities. The remaining 50% funding (\$100,000) is funded under the Apalachee Regional Park CIP.

Options:

1. Adopt a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Department of Transportation Florida Highway Beautification Council Grant for the construction of Phase I Landscaping on Route 27.
2. Do not adopt a Resolution providing authorization to submit an application for a Florida Department of Transportation Florida Highway Beautification Council Grant for the construction of Phase I Landscaping on Route 27.
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Option #1.

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: County Administration Contact Person: Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: **Property Tax Reform**

Problem/Need:

During the 2006 legislative session numerous property tax reform bills and proposed constitutional amendments were filed ranging from issues such as the expansion of "Save Our Homes" and an increase of the Homestead Exemption. Many members of the Legislature expressed the need to bring property tax relief to Florida residents. For this reason, the Legislature passed a bill requiring the Department of Revenue (DOR) to study the state's property tax structure. An initial report by DOR is due by November 15, 2006 followed by a final report by January 2, 2007.

The Governor also established the Property Tax Reform Committee to provide recommendations to the executive and legislative branches including the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission on concerns regarding the equity, compliance, economic competitiveness, economic neutrality, and fiscal balance of property taxes in Florida. The first report of the Committee is due December 16, 2006 followed by a mid-term report on March 1, 2007.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Staff is currently working with the Florida Association of Counties' policy committees to address the issue of Florida's property tax system. The Florida Association of Counties will finalize its legislative policies at the annual Winter Conference in early December. Staff recommends that Leon County oppose property tax reform that would significantly restrict the ability of counties to provide high quality services and address critical community needs.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Attachment # 2
Page 2 of 24

Department / Division: County Administration Contact Person: Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: County Expenditures

Problem/Need

Legislation to reduce local government authority by limiting expenditure authority was closely tied to the property tax reform efforts of 2006. A bill was filed in 2006 that would have penalized local governments that levy a millage rate in excess of a prescribed formula set by the Legislature. There was also legislation that would also have required a majority plus one vote of the Board to levy a millage rate beyond the prescribed state formula.

Local governments must maintain fiscal autonomy from the State in order to meet the needs of the community.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Oppose legislation restricting or eroding local government fiscal autonomy.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316. ****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Attachment # 2
Page 3 of 24

Department / Division: Administration Contact Person: Vince Long/Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: State Cost Shifts to Counties/Revenue Shifts

Problem/Need

During a special session in 2004, the Legislature passed a bill shifting \$90 million in state costs for the predisposition of juvenile offenders to counties. Upheld by the Legislature in 2005, this will impact Leon County annually, and resulted in a \$1.4 million expense in 2005 alone. In 2006, session favorable legislation modified the Article V "local maintenance of effort" provision changing the methodology in which a county is found in noncompliance for court-related funding. There was also an attempt to shift a county assessed fee from under the authority of each county to the jurisdiction of the judicial circuit chief judge. Staff will continue to monitor any shift in revenue from counties and state cost shifts to counties.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Monitor the state funding of all state programs, including Medicaid and growth management legislation, and oppose any state unfunded mandates or cost shifts to counties.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316.****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration Contact Person: Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: Morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)

Problem/Need

Since county government generates the majority of its revenue from property taxes, tax-exempt state properties represent an important loss of revenue to counties. Communities with a predominance of significant tax-exempt property owners within their jurisdictions face special challenges providing for the service and infrastructure needs of the tax-exempt property owners. Residents in these areas, too, are unique as they represent the few paying taxes to benefit the many. This situation is especially prevalent in state capital communities such as ours and 21 other state capital local governments that have PILOT program reimbursements in place.

In 2002, the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations accepted a directive from the Speaker of the House to study the PILOT issue, and it's potential applicability to Florida's communities. However, the Legislature failed to pass legislation expanding the PILOT program to Leon County since that time.

According to the 2005 Florida Property Valuations & Tax Data compiled by the Florida Department of Revenue, State owned exempt property is valued at approximately \$2.7 billion in Leon County. As a result, Leon County failed to collect approximately \$25 million in 2005 due to state property tax exemptions.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Seek legislation that creates a new state PILOT program that is beneficial to Leon County.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris, Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator at 606-5300. ****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: OMB

Contact Person: Alan Rosenzweig

Phone: 606-5110 Fax: _____

E-Mail : RosenzweigA@Leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Budget Adoption

Problem/Need

Florida Statutes requires county budget officers to submit the tentative budget no later than 15 days after the certification of value. This makes it extremely difficult to get the budget document finalized for distribution to county commissioners.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes (Include Florida Statute reference, if known):

Change ss. 129.03(3), F.S., to read:

No later than 21 15 days after certification of value by the property appraiser pursuant to s. 200.065(1), the county budget officer, after tentatively ascertaining the proposed fiscal policies of the board for the ensuing fiscal year, shall prepare and present to the board a tentative budget for the ensuing fiscal year for each of the funds provided in this chapter, including all estimated receipts, taxes to be levied, and balances expected to be brought forward and all estimated expenditures, reserves, and balances to be carried over at the end of the year.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____

County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris, Special Projects Coordinator at 606-5316. ****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration Contact Person: Vincent Long or Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5316 Fax: _____ E-Mail : Morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Growth Management Reform

Problem/Need

The 2005 Legislature passed significant growth management reform, often referred to SB 360, ranging from school planning to water supply funding. Due to the magnitude of the legislation, a glitch bill was expected during the 2006 legislative session but the Legislature did not make any changes to the reform of 2005.

The Board has held several workshops on the implementation of SB 360 and also hosted its first-ever "Smart Growth Summit on June 7, 2006, to give the community an opportunity to interact firsthand with local and state planning and growth management officials. At the Board's most recent SB 360 Transportation Impacts Workshop on September 19, 2006, the Board directed staff to:

- Prepare a Comprehensive Plan amendment to create a Multimodal Transportation District around Downtown, Midtown, FSU, and FAMU.
- Prepare a Comprehensive Plan amendment to expand the boundaries of the Transportation Concurrency Exception Area to the Urban Services Area, and develop detailed standards for this Area consistent with Florida Statutes.
- Prepare a rewrite fo the Transportation Element of the Comprehnese Plan to create a comprehensive strategy to support and fund mobility, particularly within the Transportation Concurrency Exception Area.
- Develop the 2060 Capital Region Transportation Master Plan and coordinate with surrounding counties.
- Schedule two public hearings for the Proportionate Fair-Share Ordinance required by Florida Statutes.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Continue to monitor growth management issues and advocate the County's position through the Florida Association of Counties and County's Planning Department.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____

Group Director: _____

County Administrator: _____

*** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris, Special Projects Coordinator at 606-5316. ***

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration Contact Person: Vince Long/Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: **Transportation Funding: Strategic Intermodal System and Transportation Regional Incentive Program**

Problem/Need

Strategic Intermodal System (SIS)

The 2003 Legislature created the new Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) to improve the system by which state road projects are prioritized for funding. The 2004 Legislature provided a state funding mechanism for SIS that uses State Transportation Trust Fund dollars to be used, in part, for projects on the SIS, requiring the FDOT to allocate at least 50 percent of any new discretionary highway capacity funds for SIS. Since the 2004 legislative session, CRTPA has developed transportation programs and plans for the metropolitan area in cooperation with the state and with emphasis on all SIS and "emerging" SIS facilities, such as segments of Capital Circle and Mahan Drive.

On November 2, 2005, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) announced that \$42.6 million in SIS funding was awarded for the advanced right of way purchase for the widening of Capital Circle southwest. On December 21, 2005, FDOT notified staff that it designated Mahan Drive as an SIS Connector, making Mahan Drive available for SIS funds.

Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP)

In 2005 the Legislature created the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) under SB 360 to improve regionally significant facilities in "regional transportation areas." The program, administered by FDOT, provides a 50% match in state funding to local governments and the private sector for critically needed projects that benefit regional travel and commerce.

On November 8, 2005 Capital Circle Southeast from Woodville Highway (State Road 61) to Tram Road received \$4.3 million in TRIP funding for right-of-way acquisition. The project received an additional \$7 million for construction in the spring of 2006.

Staff will continue to work with key decision makers to place priority County transportation projects on the SIS and TRIP programs to enhance the potential for state transportation funding of these County projects.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Monitor this issue, advocate the County's position, and support SIS and TRIP funding for qualifying roads in Leon County.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

*** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316.***

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration

Contact Person: Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300

Fax: _____

E-Mail :MorrisK@Leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Mental Health Services

Problem/Need

Despite annual funding of the Apalachee Center for Human Services, Inc., there is still a local need to treat mentally ill individuals. The Leon County jail houses many mentally ill inmates who burden the jail with escalating pharmaceutical costs.

The Board has continued to express interest in expanded funding for mental health care services across our region to serve this population.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Support efforts in 2007 to address the above issues.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____

County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316. ****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration

Contact Person: Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300

Fax: 606-5301

E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Jail Overcrowding, Pre-trial release, Probation and Juvenile Justice funding issues

Problem/Need

The Board established jail issues as one of its top priorities in 2005 and has continued to discuss concerns on inmate overcrowding. For fiscal year 2006-2007, the Board allocated \$1.4 million for the renovation of the jail annex. The purpose of the funding was to help alleviate the inmate overcrowding in the County which has exceeded its capacity 78% of the time since 2003. In addition, \$300,000 was allocated to the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) in order to review and recommend alternative programs to the Board which would assist in decreasing the jail population.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

- 1) VOPs in the County Jail: With the recommendation of the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC), the Board supported the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) and the Florida Sheriff's Association in their efforts to reduce county jail population during the 2006 legislative session by seeking legislation to address the impact of state VOPs in county jails. The Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations was expected to conduct a study on all inmates in county jails during the interim but the study was pulled from LCIR's agenda without explanation. FAC will be actively working to identify sponsors in the Florida House and Senate to address this issue. Specifically, this may include supporting the reduction of state VOP inmates overcrowding county jails; supporting the state funding of state prisoners in county jails; and, supporting legislation requiring state inmates to be housed in state facilities.
- 2) Expanded Use for House Arrest: Monitor any changes affecting house arrest and support its expanded allowable use as a condition of probation in misdemeanor and traffic offenses.
- 3) Pre-trial Release Program: Monitor any changes to statutes affecting pretrial release and advocate continued support for program. There has been a national push to eliminate the use of public money for pretrial release programs.
- 4) Juvenile Justice Funding: Monitor juvenile justice funding levels and the potential reduction of local alternative and prevention programs to ensure that additional burdens for juvenile treatment and prevention is not further shifted to counties (As you may recall, a \$90 million cost shift to counties for predisposition costs of juvenile offenders was approved by the Legislature in 2005).

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

*** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316. ***

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Public Service/EMS Contact Person: Tom Quillin
Phone: 606-2100 Fax: 606-2101 E-Mail: quillint@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Home Protection – Justifiable Use of Force Chapter 776, F.S.

Problem/Need:

Section 776.013, F.S., provides the authority to use deadly force or cause great bodily harm to an individual who unlawfully enters a dwelling, residence, or vehicle with the intent to harm or kill. Section 776.013 also provides exemptions for authorized use of deadly force, specifically when a law enforcement officer enters the dwelling, residence, or vehicle on official duty. However, this section does not include EMS personnel or any other public safety official.

Paragraph 776.013(2)(d), F.S., reads:

The person against whom the defensive force is used is a law enforcement officer, as defined in s. 943.10(14), who enters or attempts to enter a dwelling, residence, or vehicle in the performance of his or her official duties and the officer identified himself or herself in accordance with any applicable law or the person using force knew or reasonable should have known that the person entering or attempting to enter was a law enforcement officer.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

In 2006, Leon County brought this to the attention of the Florida Association of Counties. For the 2007 legislative session, FAC intends to change the language to include EMS and other public safety officials/first responders.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

*** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316. ***

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Public Services

Contact Person: Helen Moeller

Phone: 606-2600

Fax: 606-2601

E-Mail: helenm@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: State Aid to Libraries

Problem/Need

The previously inherent incentive of the State Aid to Libraries program has succeeded in enhancing local library services by increasing local expenditures. This resulted in a corresponding increase in state dollars. However, the incentive no longer exists. The State Aid allocations to Leon County have declined through the years even though local expenditures for library service have increased. The Operating Grants for State Aid to Libraries have declined from a state match of 10.6% on the local dollar to 5.4% from the state for every local dollar from 2001 - 2006.

Every year Leon County has increased its expenditures for the library system by a minimum of four percent. Dollars received from State Aid have decreased from a high in 2001 of \$405,019 to \$299,779 in FY 05/06.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Leon County recommends that the Legislature continue to increase funding in libraries and stop the decline of the state percentage in operating grants. Public libraries bridge the digital divide by providing computers, internet connections, online reference service 24/7, costly specialized databases, and books in multiple formats to meet the changing needs of the public. Public libraries also provide after school programs and summer reading programs that supplement the state educational system.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____

County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316. ****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: County Administration Contact Person: Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Charter Preemption

Problem/Need

Charter county authority was challenged once again during the 2006 legislative session by the Florida League of Cities. On April 11, 2006, the Board adopted Resolution #R06-13 to urge the Florida Legislature to oppose legislation that would limit, restrict, or preempt charter county home rule authority. The Board clearly directed staff to oppose any compromise or negotiation of charter county authority as it would be in direct conflict with Article VIII, section 1 (g), of the Florida Constitution:

The governing body of a county operating under a charter may enact county ordinances not inconsistent with general law. The charter shall provide which shall prevail in the event of conflict between county and municipal ordinances.

Commissioners, staff, and the Florida Association of Counties worked to together to oppose charter county preemption legislation. Florida's charter counties partnered with the Florida Association of Counties and provided funding for the hiring of contract lobbyists to specifically work on charter county issues in 2006. For the 2007 legislative session, the Florida Association of Counties has requested charter counties to contribute \$5,000 to facilitate the hiring of contract lobbyists to oppose charter county preemption legislation.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Coordinate with the Florida Association of Counties and charter counties to oppose legislation that limits, restricts, or preempts charter county home rule authority.

Authorize the County Administrator to issue a \$5,000 payment to the Florida Association of Counties to contract with external lobbyists to oppose charter county preemption legislation.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

- 1). Board Resolution #R06-13 urging the Florida Legislature to oppose legislation that would limit, restrict, or preempt charter county home rule authority.

- 2). September 11, 2006 letter from the Florida Association of Counties requesting \$5,000 to represent charter county interests in the Florida Legislature.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

*** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316.***

RESOLUTION NO. R06-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO OPPOSE ANY CONSIDERATION OR ACTION OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE THAT WOULD LIMIT, RESTRICT, OR PREEMPT CHARTER COUNTY HOME RULE AUTHORITY.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Leon County approved a Home Rule Charter form of government on November 5, 2002, providing citizens more direct participation in county government; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Constitution and state statutes defer to the provisions of a county charter upon a conflict of county and municipal ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes and acknowledges the importance of public involvement and input in County government; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Leon County and the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida (the Board) affirm that governmental decisions affecting local interests should be made locally.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, that:

1. The Board hereby urges the Florida Legislature to oppose legislation that would limit, restrict, or preempt charter county home rule authority.
2. The Board opposes any proposed land use amendment to a county charter that is not approved by a majority vote of the county electors.
3. The Board opposes any legislation that would give municipalities the ability to "opt out" of a charter county's land use provision in which the county's authority had been approved by a majority vote of the county electors.

4. The Board shall lend its support to the Florida Association of Counties so that it may effectively advocate on behalf of charter county home rule authority.

5. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

DONE, ADOPTED, AND PASSED by the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, this 11th day of April, 2006.



ATTESTED BY:

BY: [Signature]
Bob Inzer
Clerk of the Circuit Court

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY: [Signature] Vice Chairman
William Proctor, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Leon County Attorney's Office
Leon County, Florida
BY: [Signature]
Herbert W. A. Thiele
County Attorney



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 11, 2006

RECEIVED SEP 12 2006

Mr. Parwez Alam
Leon County Administrator
Leon County Courthouse, 5th Floor
301 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1853

Dear Mr. Alam: *PA*

As you recall from the 2006 Session, Florida's charter counties partnered with the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) in hiring contract lobbyists to oppose bills preempting county land use and regulatory authority. Because of this financial assistance and intensive lobbying by the counties and FAC staff, this legislation was successfully defeated. Thank you for your commitment of time and resources.

Unfortunately, this success is only temporary. The Florida League of Cities (the League) has again indicated that county preemption is their priority legislation for next session. At this very moment, several cities and the League are planning to challenge various county and citizen charter initiatives. These initiatives reflect the desires of our citizens to decide at the ballot box how they want to manage growth, protect their environment, and ensure a high quality of life for their communities.

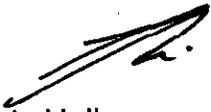
To prepare for this attack on local citizens' rights, FAC is again willing to work with the charter counties to facilitate hiring outside support. As the counties complete their FY 06-07 budgets, we are suggesting that the charter counties contribute approximately \$5,000 for this effort. Please respond to us no later than **November 15, 2006** as to whether your county wants to participate in this effort.

Also, at the suggestion of county staff, FAC is revamping the way in which outside legislative assistance is selected. FAC has already held one conference call to identify ways to improve the selection of the lobbyists as well as the strategic communication/coordination among FAC, the counties and the outside lobbyists. Additional conference calls are planned in order to develop a more effective working relationship.

As always, FAC will assist its charter counties in addressing this issue and other concerns before the Legislature. We look forward to your response on this issue.

Mr. Parwez Alam
September 11, 2006
Page 2

Sincerely,



Chris Holley
Executive Director

CH/pm/ac

Enclosure

cc: Susan Latvala, FAC President, Commissioner (Pinellas County)
FAC Executive Committee
Charter County Lobbyists
Ginger Delegal, FAC General Counsel
Anna Doughty, FAC Director Finance & Administration
Palmer Mason, FAC Legislative Director

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration Contact Person: Vince Long/Ken Morris

Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Protection of State Workforce

Problem/Need

For several years now, the State has made efforts to privatize and out source jobs that affect the local state workforce. For example, the 2003 Legislature approved a budget that included a reduction of 1,700 positions (attributed largely to retiring and vacant position reductions). State workers comprise a substantial percentage of Leon County's population, contributing to our community, economy and diversity. Protecting the jobs of these workers has always been a top priority of the Board during the legislative cycle.

Each year the Board directs staff to monitor issues relating to state workers since they comprise a substantial percentage of Leon County's population, contribute to the local community, economy, and diversity. In 2006, the Legislature was able to provide state employees with a 3% raise, a \$30 increase in travel per diem reimbursement, increases in the maximum amount of money authorized for meals, and an increase in mileage allowance from 25 cents to 44.5 cents per mile. In addition, there were no increases in state employee's insurance premiums.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Monitor state workforce issues, and advocate for the continued protection of our state workforce.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316.****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration Contact Person: Vince Long/Ken Morris
Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Cable Franchise Legislation

Problem/Need

In 2006, telephone companies that hoped to enter the cable market aggressively pursued legislative changes to local governments' cable franchise authority at the state and federal levels. Although they were unsuccessful, legislation is expected to be filed at both levels in 2007.

The cable franchise legislation threatens local government authority to issue franchise rights for cable services. The 2006 legislation attempted to replace local cable franchising authority with a statewide franchise that would abolish all current cable agreements between cable companies and local governments. "Build out" provisions, which local governments require of cable providers to serve an entire franchise area rather than just the most profitable areas, were also targeted for elimination by the telephone companies wishing to enter the cable market.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Continue to monitor cable franchise legislation at the state and federal levels and advocate the County's position through the Florida Association of Counties and the National Association of Counties.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by: _____
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316. ****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Public Service/EMS Contact Person: Tom Quillin
Phone: 606-2100 Fax: 606-2101 E-Mail: quillint@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: **The Addition of EMT's and Paramedics on the Public Records Disclosure Exemption List**

Problem/Need:

Under current Florida law all police, firefighters, jail workers, and judges, are exempt from having their names, addresses, and families' personal information from being disclosed publicly. EMT's and paramedics are currently not on that list and appear to be the only public high risk workers excluded from this protection.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:

Amend subsection 119.071(4), F.S., by adding EMT's and Paramedics to the exempt list for public records.

NOTE: Supported by the Florida Association of Professional EMT's and Paramedics

Approved by:

Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

**** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316.****

2007 State Legislative Session
Legislative Proposal

Department / Division: Administration Contact Person: Vince Long/Ken Morris
Phone: 606-5300 Fax: 606-5301 E-Mail: morrisk@leoncountyfl.gov

Topic: Florida Association of Counties

Problem/Need
FAC represents all 67 counties at the Legislature on issues that have broad statewide appeal, such as the opposition of unfunded mandates or cost shifts to counties (such as the \$90 million DJJ cost shift that was passed in 2005) to supporting the reconciliation of any outstanding "glitch" issues to fully implement of Revision 7 to Article V (state funding of state court costs), growth management, annexation, revenue-sharing, and water management. FAC will finalize their 2007 legislative program during their legislative conference in early December.

Recommended County Position, Recommended Change in Florida Statutes:
Support the 2007 FAC legislative program unless specific issues conflict with Leon County's interests.

NOTE: Please attach backup materials.

Approved by:
Group Director: _____ County Administrator: _____

*** For any questions regarding this form, please contact Ken Morris at 606-5316.***