

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Town Commission
From: Howard Tipton, Town Manager
Report date: September 13, 2024
Meeting date: September 23, 2024
Subject: Establishing the Town's 2025 Legislative Priorities

Recommended Action

Establish the Town of Longboat's Key Legislative Priorities for the 2025 Legislative Session

Background

Each year the Town Commission considers legislative priorities for the upcoming legislative session and presentation at the Manatee and Sarasota County Legislative Delegation Hearings.

Attached are the proposed 2025 Town of Longboat Key Legislative Priorities. The items listed are consistent with the Town's 2024 Legislative Priorities with two additions at the end including #15 - Support an amendment to Florida Statutes 553.80 that prevents local governments within 100 miles of the landfall area of Hurricanes Ian or Nicole from adopting more restrictive land use regulations until October 1, 2026, to clarify that the statute does not apply to flood control standards (i.e., FEMA maps) or sea level rise regulations, and #16 – Oppose legislation that pre-empts local governments' home rule authority relating to the authority to levy and collect the local business tax. The Town will lose approximately \$150,000 in revenue if this funding source is abolished.

The Town Manager and Town Attorney reviewed the list with David Ramba, the Town's lobbyist, and agreed that the list is still relevant for the 2025 Legislative Session with the noted additions. The proposed 2025 Legislative Priorities will be presented for Commission consideration at the September 23, 2024, Regular Workshop. We can add, delete, or edit any of the items on the list. We will also ask if the Commission would like to adjust the order of the items on the list to reflect a particular priority.

The Florida League of Cities 2024 Legislative Platform is attached for reference. This fall, they have three Legislative Policy Committee meetings to discuss priorities and policy positions. Sarasota County approved their 2025 State Legislative Priorities on August 28, 2024. Those are attached for reference. The Manasota League of Cities' 2025 Legislative Priorities will be finalized at their November 7, 2024, Regular Meeting. Manatee County's 2025 Legislative Priorities have not been finalized at this time.

After discussion and upon adoption at the October 7, 2024, Regular Meeting, the Mayor and Town Manager will present the Town's Legislative Priorities at the Sarasota County and Manatee County Legislative Delegation meetings.

Staff Recommendation

Establish the Town of Longboat Key's Legislative Priorities for the 2025 Legislative Session and provide direction to the Town Attorney.

Attachments (Available in the Town Clerk's Office)

- A. Proposed 2025 Town of Longboat Key Legislative Priorities
- B. Florida League of Cities 2024 Legislative Platform
- C. Sarasota County's 2025 Legislative Priorities

End of Agenda Item