

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Town Commission  
**FROM:** Tom Harmer, Town Manager  
**DATE:** June 19, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** Establishing the Town's 2020 Legislative Priorities

## **Recommended Action**

Establish the Town of Longboat Key Legislative Priorities for the 2020 Legislative Session.

## **Background**

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

Attached are the proposed 2020 Town of Longboat Key Legislative Priorities. The 11 items on the list are consistent with the Town's 2019 Legislative Priorities. The Town Manager and Town Attorney reviewed the list with David Ramba, the Town's lobbyist and it was agreed that the list is still relevant going into the 2020 Legislative Session. The proposed 2020 Legislative Priorities will be presented for Commission consideration at the July 1, 2019 Regular Meeting.

The Manasota League of Cities will adopt their 2020 Legislative Priorities at their July 11, 2019 Board Meeting. The Sarasota County, and the Manatee County 2020 Legislative Priorities have not been adopted as of agenda publication. In the event those are finalized prior to the July 1, 2019 Regular Meeting, they will be forwarded to the Commission.

The Town Manager will be seeking Commission input regarding the Town's Legislative Priorities for the 2020 Legislative Session.

Upon adoption, the Mayor and Town Manager will present the Town's Legislative Priorities at the Sarasota County Legislative Delegation Hearing, which has been scheduled for 9:00 AM on September 9, 2019. The meeting will be held at the Sarasota County Commission Chambers, 1660 Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota, FL.

The Mayor and Town Manager also present our Legislative Priorities at the Manatee County Legislative Delegation Hearing, which has been scheduled for October 2, 2019. That meeting will be held at the Manatee County Commission Chambers, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205.

## **Staff Recommendation**

Establish the Town of Longboat Key Legislative Priorities for the 2020 Legislative Session.

## **Attachment**

Proposed 2020 Town of Longboat Key Legislative Priorities



## **Town of Longboat Key 2020 Legislative Priorities- DRAFT**

1. Support State funding for beach nourishment.
2. Support changes to existing State law relating to vacation rentals that permit grandfathered local governments to modify existing short-term vacation rental regulations.
3. Support the maintenance of local business tax, communications services tax, and tax-exempt municipal bonds.
4. Support legislation that recognizes and addresses the need for planning for sea level rise concerns.
5. Support legislation that provides opportunities for increased and alternative revenue sources for municipal transportation infrastructure projects.
6. Oppose legislation that pre-empts local governments' home rule authority, including legislation relating to local impact fees.
7. Support a State-wide unified approach to improve water quality with an emphasis on the elimination of red tide blooms and improved coordination on monitoring and research efforts.
8. Support legislation to expand usage of collected tourist (bed) taxes for both public safety services and infrastructure maintenance, repair, and replacement in municipalities where substantial portions of a county's tourist taxes are collected.
9. Support the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government (OPPAGA) conducting an independent evaluation of the unique impacts (financial, practical and efficiency) of being in two counties.
10. Advance funding for implementation of immediate and long-term recommendations identified in the Barrier Island Traffic Study to address significant seasonal traffic issues.
11. Support legislation to protect Evacuation Routes. Proposed transportation projects should protect or enhance timely evacuations, particularly for the State's barrier island residents.

**End of Agenda Item**