



# Cities 101

FLC Annual Conference

World Center Marriott Hotel

*August 15, 2019*



# WELCOME

## Agenda for Today

- Course designed for newly elected and newly appointed officials
- Discussion: philosophies of public policy, Home Rule, citizen engagement and public service
- Fundamentals of municipal government structure and function
- Resources and FL-specific information



# Speakers

- Dr. Bob Lee – former city manager, faculty at FGCU, director of MPA program at FGCU, and director of CFLGE – Center for Florida Local Government Excellence; also ICMA-Credentialed Manager
- Lynn Tipton – FLC staff (28 years) and trainer/presenter with FLC University



# Orientations – What to Cover

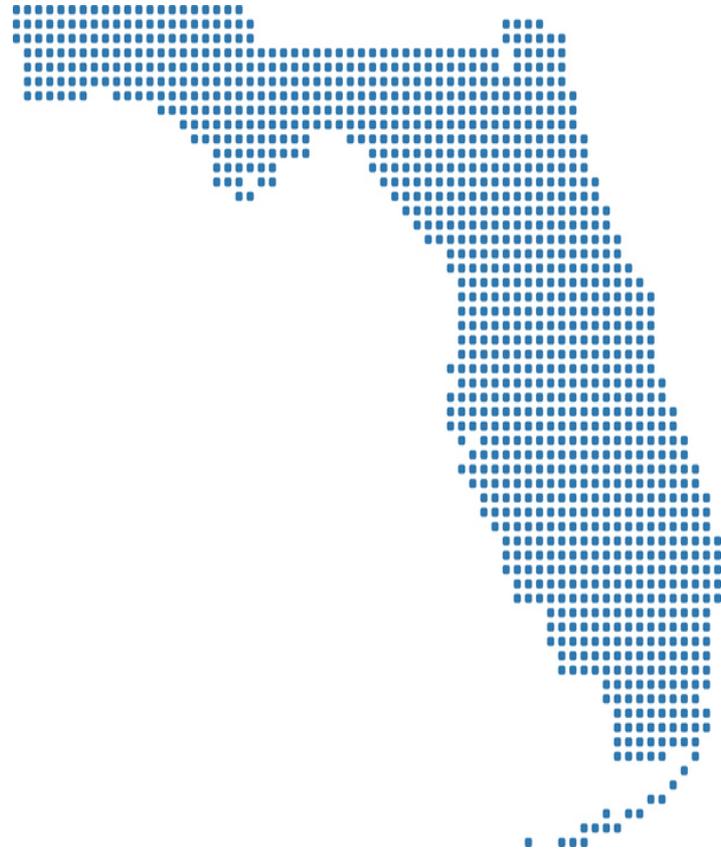
- Newly elected: public meeting process; agenda item requests; budget, audit and CAFR overview; visit all facilities; review Ethics/Sunshine with attorney
- Newly appointed: same as above, plus employee handbook, policies & procedures, take a tour; learn area history

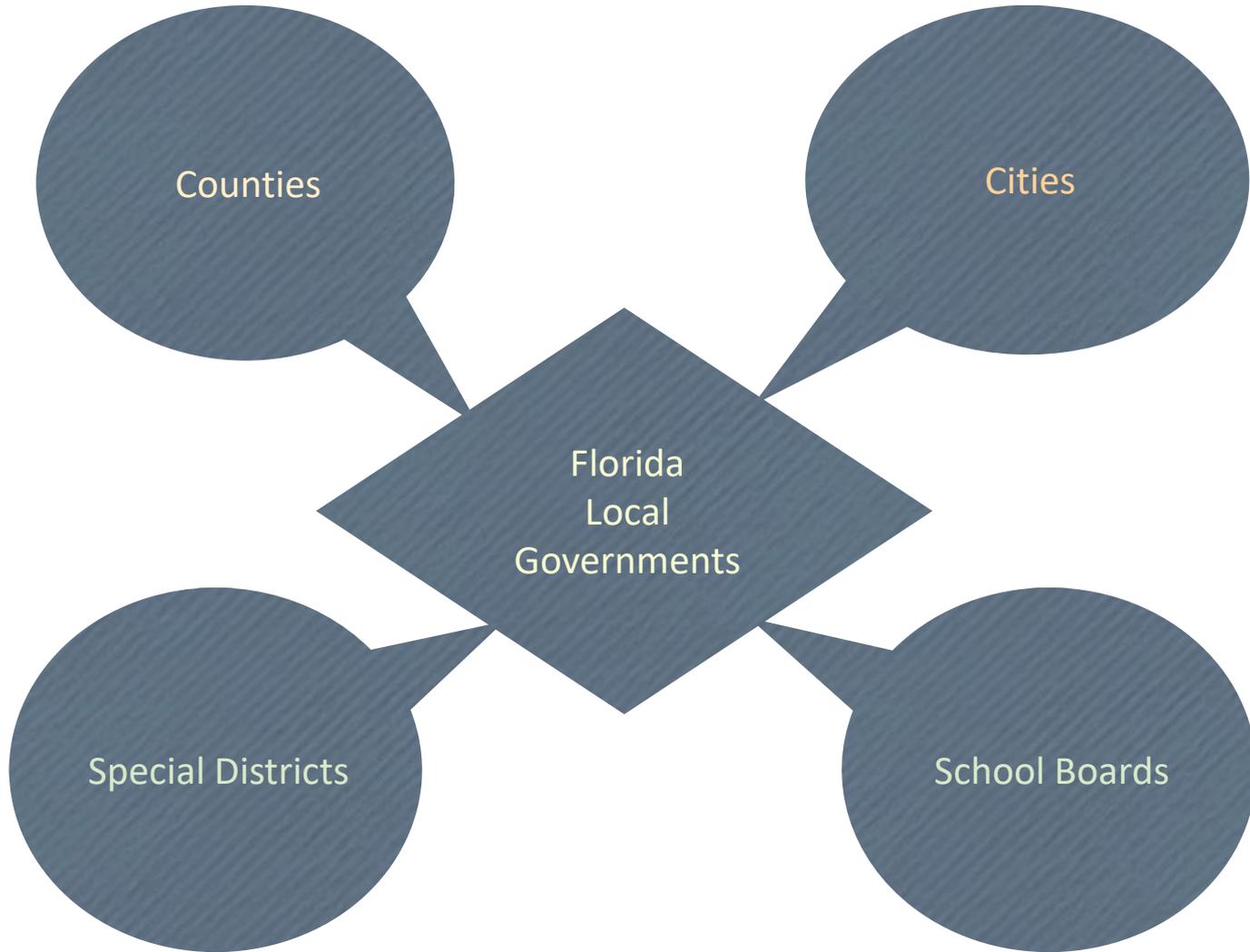


# Your Materials

Packet includes:

- Power points from both presenters
- Resource pages
- Glossary of terms and abbreviations
- Intergovernmental Dynamics – “Know the Players”
- Future training opportunities are on back table





# *Forms of Local Government*

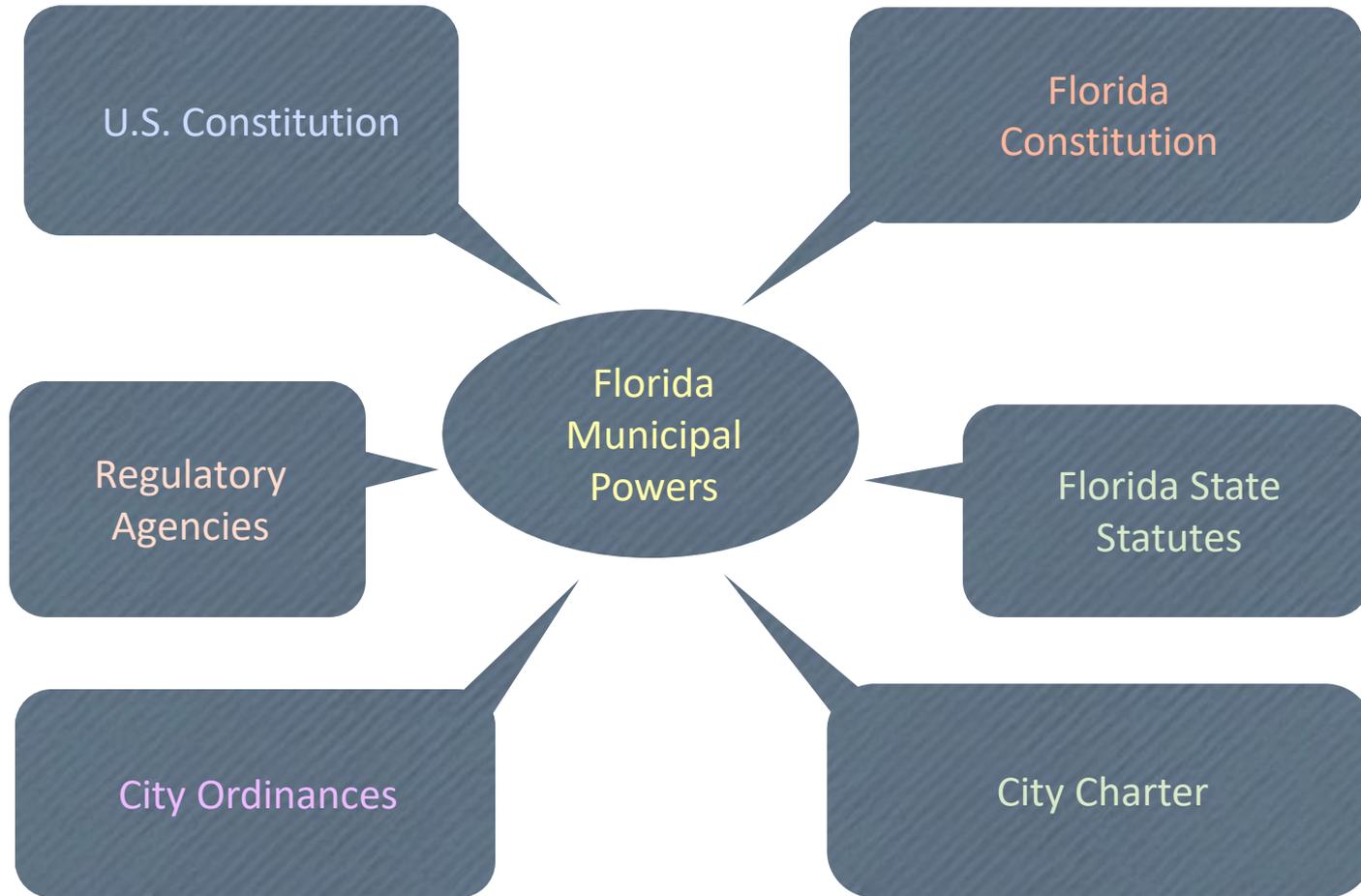
*Council or Commission*

*Council/Manager*

*Strong Mayor/  
Council*

*Hybrid forms of Government*









# Importance of Strategic Planning



*“Remember, when you are dealing with people you are not dealing with creatures of logic, but creatures of emotion.”*  
*Dale Carnegie*



**“A CONVERSATION ON  
CIVILITY in 2019...”**



# Florida Specific Information

- Who and What are Florida's municipalities?
- Independent, public corporations – great definition
- 412; range from 8 to 907,063
- 60% have populations under 10,000
- Median is 5,835



# More on Florida's Cities

- City, town or village: no legal difference in aesthetic name
- Incorporated or unincorporated: only two choices; always within a county
- Elected body: council or commission; sizes from 3 to 19 – 5 most common
- Part-time and non-partisan
- Every city has a charter



# More on Cities

- 25 incorporations since 1990
- 4 dissolutions since 1980
- Services vary greatly: all have comprehensive plans



# City Challenges in Common

- Balancing demands with resources
- ‘Doing more with less’ – since the Great Recession
- State preemptions and mandates
- Intergovernmental issues – storm water fees with school boards, for example
- Financing Infrastructure



# City Fiscal Structures

- Property tax is granted through Constitution
- Utility tax, business license tax and sharing in state taxes through Legislature
- About half of each city budget (50%) is fees, charges for service
- No Fiscal Home Rule



# Home Rule in Florida

- Citizens put it in FL Constitution in 1968 for cities and counties
- Legislature recognized it and passed the Home Rule Powers Act in 1973
- Under attack: legislators who believe one-size-fits-all or want to preempt local authority



# Municipal Challenges in FL

- Intergovernmental – city to county; city to school board; city to state
- Getting heard in Legislature/Congress – battling special interest groups
- Financing Infrastructure
- Doing More with Less
- Growth is back!



# Your Resources

- FLC website:  
[www.floridaleagueofcities.com](http://www.floridaleagueofcities.com)
- Florida Municipal Officials Manual
- CMRI – Research and Peer Cities
- Training – FLC U, IOG, CFLGE and others
- Local/regional leagues
- Staff: Associations for professions



# Discussion

- *Thank you* for attending
- Certificates for those requesting them – clipboard in back of room
- These power points will be posted after August 20<sup>th</sup>

