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Local Officials Talk Infrastructure Funding, Flood Mapping and more with Florida's Congressional Delegation

Members of the Florida League of Cities Federal Action Strike Team (FAST) Bring Local Issues to Washington, D.C.

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The Florida League of Cities Federal Action Strike Team (FAST) traveled to Washington, D.C. last week to meet with members of Florida's congressional delegation and advocate for key federal issues that affect municipalities. Municipal officials representing all regions of the state participated in the bi-annual advocacy trip, known as the FAST Fly-In.

During their time in our nation's capital, FAST members met with Senator Bill Nelson and 13 other members of Florida's congressional delegation and/or their staff. In addition, FAST members met with representatives from FEMA and HUD, as well as with the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to discuss the importance of working together to address infrastructure.

"Our Federal Action Strike Team had yet another successful trip to Washington," said Florida League of Cities President and Tallahassee City Commissioner Gil Ziffer. "Each participant brought a unique perspective to our meetings, which helped our members of Congress get a better understanding of how the issues we discussed really impact Florida's cities."

In addition to infrastructure, this year's advocacy efforts focus on improving flood mapping, reauthorizing the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and improving the FEMA Public Assistance Program.

The FAST committee was created in support of the League's strategic plan objective to strengthen its federal relations. The primary purpose of this committee is to establish proactive and reactive communications with the Florida congressional delegation in support of federal municipal policy. The committee takes its policy positions and direction from the League's resolutions and the National League of Cities (NLC) policy priorities, as well as from the officers and board of the League.

FAST members meet at the two League conferences in Florida and two delegation visits to Washington, D.C., each year.

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Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities. Florida's cities are formed by their citizens and governed by their citizens. The League is founded on the belief that local self-government is the keystone of American democracy. For more information, visit www.floridaleagueofcities.com.