

Cities 101

Florida League of Cities Annual Conference

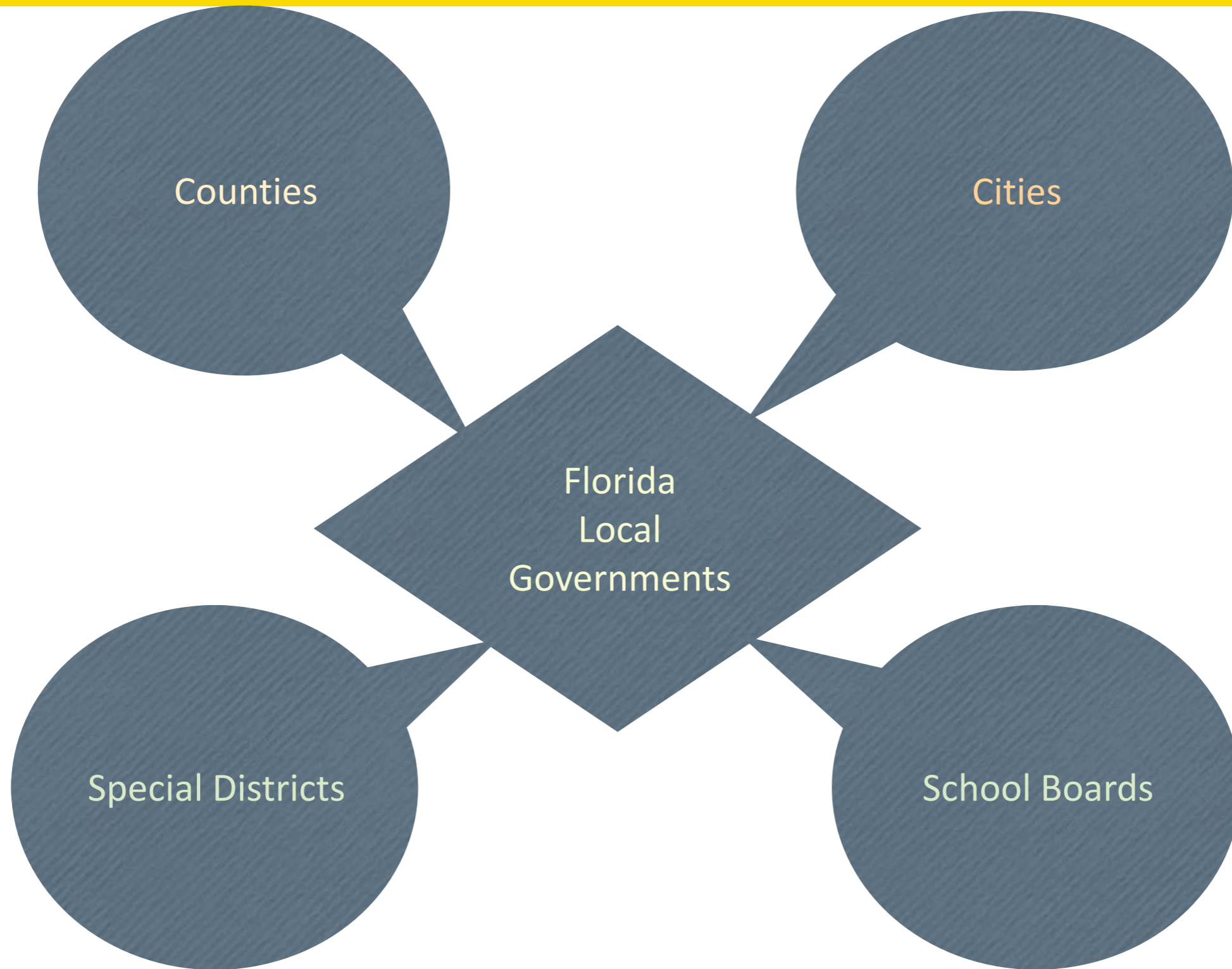
August 16, 2018

Presented by:

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University and Executive Director of the Center
for Florida Local Government Excellence





Forms of Local Government

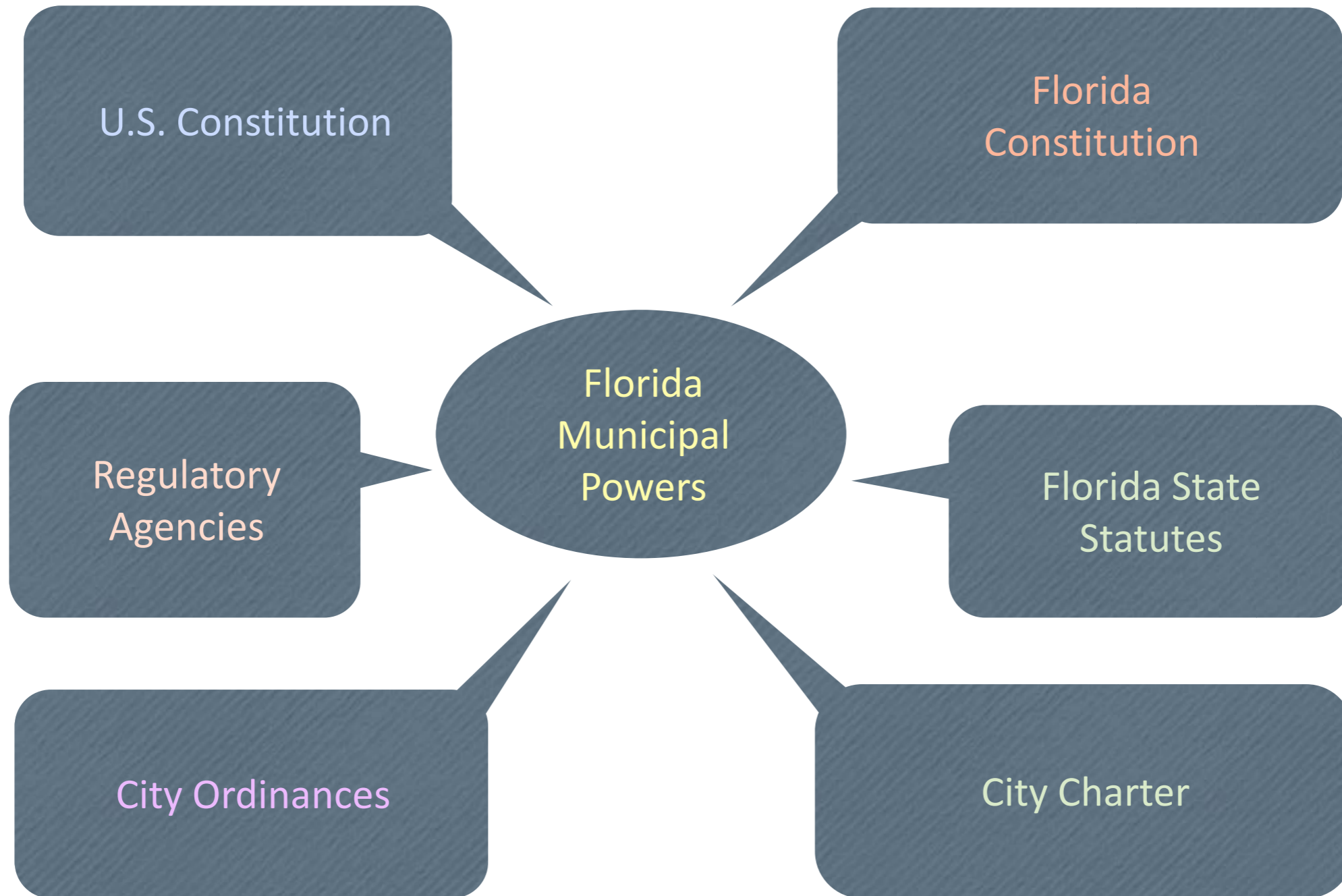
Council or Commission

Council/Manager

Strong Mayor/Council

Hybrid forms of Government









“A CONVERSATION ON CIVILITY”



Questions and discussion



Cities 101

FLC Annual Conference
Diplomat Hollywood Hotel
August 16, 2018



Agenda for Today

- Welcome!
- 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 and director of CFLGE – Center for Florida Local Government Excellence; also ICMA-Credentialed Manager
- Lynn Tipton – FLC staff (27 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 Piece – “Know the Players”
- Brochures for other training on back table



Florida Specific Information

- Who and What are Florida's municipalities?
- Independent, public corporations – great definition
- 412; range from 5 to 892,000
- 60% have populations under 10,000
- Median is 5,711



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

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



City Issues in Common

- Balancing demands with resources
- ‘Doing more with less’ – since the Great Recession
- 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 (50 Years!)
Legislature recognized it and passed the Home Rule Powers Act in 1973
- Under attack: Legislature, and also proposals within the Constitution
Revision Commission 2017-18



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
- 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 21st.

