FLC
FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

2021
RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021
9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Crystal Ballroom G
World Center Marriott
Orlando, Florida

FLC STAFF CONTACT:
Allison Payne

TO: 2021 Resolutions Committee Members

FROM: Jeannie Garner, Executive Director

DATE: July 13, 2021

RE: Transmittal of the 2021 Proposed Resolutions

Congratulations on your appointment to the League's 2021 Resolutions Committee. The first and only meeting of this committee will be in conjunction with the League's Annual Conference. The committee will convene on ***Friday, August 13, at 9:15 a.m.,*** at the World Center Marriott, Orlando, Florida.

The Resolutions Committee is charged with considering official resolutions relating principally to constitutional, congressional and commemorative issues. Attached is the committee's meeting packet, which includes the agenda of the proposed resolutions received by the League. I ask that you please review these resolutions prior to the August 13 Resolutions Committee meeting, and ***have this packet with you for the meeting.***

Should you have any questions, please contact Allison Payne at the League office at (850) 701-3602 or email apayne@flcities.com. I look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Attachments

LOCAL VOICES MAKING LOCAL CHOICES

301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

P.O. Box 1757
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1757

Phone: 850.222.9684
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flcities.com

Agenda

FLC

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

Resolutions Committee
Friday, August 13, 2021 ~ 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Crystal Ballroom G
Orlando World Center Marriott

AGENDA

A. Opening Remarks – Chair Phillip Walker
                       Commissioner, City of Lakeland
                       First Vice President, FLC

B. Welcome and Introduction

C. Review of Procedures and Rules

D. Consideration of the following Proposed Resolutions:
         1. City of Orlando
         2. Florida City Government Week
         3. Florida Territory Bicentennial
         4. National Flood Insurance Program
         5. Cybersecurity Assistance
         6. American Infrastructure Bonds
         7. PFAS
         8. Investing in Infrastructure

E. Other Business

F. Adjournment

Please have this Packet with you for the Meeting

Committee Members

2021 RESOLUTIONS/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Commissioner Phillip Walker, City of Lakeland
        First Vice President, Florida League of Cities
Vice Chair: Councilwoman Jolien Caraballo, City of Port St. Lucie
        Second Vice President, Florida League of Cities

LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVES

Gib Coerper, Mayor, City of Alachua
        President, Alachua County League of Cities
Billy Rader, Commissioner, City of Panama City
        President, Bay County League of Cities
Beverly Williams, Vice Mayor, City of Lauderdale Lakes
        President, Broward League of Cities
Troy Singer, Council Member, City of Tavares
        President, Lake County League of Cities
Jen Ahearn-Koch, Commissioner, City of Sarasota
        Vice President, ManaSota League of Cities
Joseph Corradino, Mayor, Village of Pinecrest
        President, Miami-Dade County League of Cities
Fred Sirmones, Commissioner, City of Lake Butler
        President, Northeast Florida League of Cities
J.B. Whitten, Mayor, City of Crestview
        President, Northwest Florida League of Cities
Amy Jamieson, Council Member, City of Fort Walton Beach
        President, Okaloosa County League of Cities
Lawrence Gordon, Vice Mayor, Town of Haverhill
        First Vice President, Palm Beach County League of Cities
Neda Cobb, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Wauchula
        President, Ridge League of Cities
Fred Forbes, Councilman, City of Bonita Springs
        President, Southwest Florida League of Cities
Andrea Young, Councilmember, City of West Melbourne
        President, Space Coast League of Cities
Jamie Robinson, Commissioner, City of Largo
        President, Suncoast League of Cities
Donna Hardin, Town Clerk, Town of Branford
        Treasurer, Suwannee River League of Cities
Mike Meier, Commissioner, City of Stuart
        Vice President, Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities
Joseph McMullen, Commissioner, Town of Oakland
        President, Tri-County League of Cities
Don Burnette, Mayor, City of Port Orange
        President, Volusia League of Cities

FLC POLICY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Heidi Herzberg, Mayor, City of Deltona
    Chair, Utilities, Natural Resources & Public Works
Kenny Johnson, Deputy Mayor, City of Palm Bay
    Chair, Finance, Taxation & Personnel Committee
Jack Dearmin, Vice Mayor, City of Lake Alfred
    Chair, Land Use & Economic Development Committee
Rufus J. Borom, Commissioner, City of Palatka
    Chair, Transportation & Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Kimberly Glas-Castro, Vice Mayor, Town of Lake Park
    Chair, Municipal Administration Committee
Greg Ross, Mayor, City of Cooper City
    Chair, Federal Action Strike Team
Dominick Montanaro, Councilman, City of Satellite Beach
    Chair, Advocacy Committee

MUNICIPAL STAFF ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

Stacey Johnston, City Clerk, City of Holmes Beach
    Florida Association of City Clerks
Horace McHugh, Assistant City Manager, City of North Miami Beach
    Florida City & County Management Association
Darrel Donatto, Deputy Fire Rescue Chief, Palm Beach Fire Rescue
    Florida Fire Chiefs' Association
Jamie Roberson, Director of Finance, City of Apopka
    Florida Government Finance Officers Association
A. Kurt Ardaman, Attorney
    Florida Municipal Attorneys Association
Stephan Dembinsky, Director of Public Safety, Daytona Beach Shores PD
    Florida Police Chiefs Association

FLC-SPONSORED PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES

Matthew Surrency, Mayor, City of Hawthorne
    Chair, Florida Municipal Insurance Trust
Isaac Salver, Councilmember, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
    Chair, Florida Municipal Loan Council
Joseph Barkley III, Commissioner, City of Belleair Bluffs
    Chair, Florida Municipal Pension Trust
Frank Ortis, Mayor, City of Pembroke Pines
    Chair, Florida Municipal Investment Trust

AT LARGE MEMBERS

Pat Bates, Mayor, City of Altamonte Springs

Ed Cook, City Manager, City of Callaway

Anne Gerwig, Mayor, Village of Wellington

Stuart Glass, Deputy Mayor, Town of Indialantic

Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce

Bob Mayersohn, Vice Mayor, City of Parkland

Lois Paritsky, Vice Mayor, Town of Ponce Inlet

Cal Rolfson, Councilmember, City of Mount Dora

Mark Ryan, City Manager, City of Indian Harbour Beach

Dan Saracki, Councilmember, City of Oldsmar

William Schaetzle, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Niceville

Scott Singer, Mayor, City of Boca Raton

Holly Smith, Mayor, City of Sanibel

Darrel Thomas, Chief Financial Officer, City of Weston

Teresa Watkins Brown, Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

Procedures

Procedures for Submitting FLC Resolutions
Florida League of Cities Annual Conference
World Center Marriott, Orlando, Florida
August 12-14, 2021

(1)   Proposed resolutions must be submitted in writing, to be received in the League office by July **7**, 2021, to guarantee that they will be included in the packet of proposed resolutions that will be submitted to the Resolutions Committee.

(2)   Proposed resolutions will be rewritten for proper form, duplicated by the League office and distributed to members of the Resolutions Committee. (Whenever possible, multiple resolutions on a similar issue will be rewritten to encompass the essential subject matter in a single resolution with a listing of original proposers.)

(3)   Proposed resolutions may be submitted directly to the Resolutions Committee at the conference; however, a favorable two-thirds vote of the committee will be necessary to consider such resolutions.

(4)   Proposed resolutions may be submitted directly to the business session of the conference without prior committee approval by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. In addition, a favorable weighted vote of a majority of members present will be required for adoption.

(5)   Proposed resolutions relating to <u>state legislation</u> will be referred to the appropriate standing policy committee. Such proposals will not be considered by the Resolutions Committee at the conference; however, all state legislative issues will be considered by the standing policy councils and the Legislative Committee, prior to the membership, at the annual Legislative Conference each fall. At that time, a state Legislative Action Agenda will be adopted.

(6)   Proposed resolutions must address either federal issues, state constitutional issues, matters directly relating to the conference, matters recognizing statewide or national events or service by League officers. All other proposed resolutions will be referred for adoption to either the Florida League of Cities Board of Directors or FLC President.

(7)   Proposed resolutions must directly pertain to municipal affairs (see attached).

Municipalities unable to formally adopt a resolution before the deadline may submit a letter to the League office indicating their city is considering the adoption of a resolution, outlining the subject thereof in as much detail as possible, and this letter will be forwarded to the Resolutions Committee for consideration in anticipation of receipt of the formal resolution.

Article VII – Legislative Matters

It shall be the policy of the League to sponsor or support only legislation pertaining to the welfare of its members, and to refrain from sponsorship or support of legislation not directly pertaining to municipal affairs.   Any committee or representative of the League officially charged with representing the views of the League before the Legislature of Florida, or the Congress of the United States, or other official agencies on measures sponsored by the League or considered to be beneficial or detrimental to municipal government, shall confine their representation before such legislative bodies to matters pertaining directly to municipal affairs. "Municipal affairs" means issues that directly pertain to the members' governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers to conduct municipal government, to perform municipal functions, to render municipal services, to exercise any power for municipal purposes, and to raise and expend revenues.

Amendment Form

Florida League of Cities
Resolutions Committee Meeting

Resolution Amendment Form

Submitted by (Print your name): _____

Proposed Resolution Number 2021-_____

Proposed Amendment (insert number of paragraph to be revised and written amendment):

Paragraph Number: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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2021-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE CITY OF ORLANDO FOR ITS SUPPORT OF ANTONIO L. ORTIZ AS PRESIDENT OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES.

WHEREAS, Antonio "Tony" Ortiz, Commissioner of the City of Orlando, served as President of the Florida League of Cities from 2020-2021; and

WHEREAS, the citizens, mayor, commissioners and staff of the City of Orlando were understanding of the demands placed upon Commissioner Ortiz in his role as President of the League; and

WHEREAS, during his presidency, Commissioner Ortiz focused on the importance of Building Stronger Cities, which organized, empowered and delivered unprecedented grassroots advocacy from Florida residents, showed them the importance of getting engaged in their local and state government and instilled in them how important Home Rule is to ensuring local voices make local choices when protecting their neighborhoods and communities; and

WHEREAS, during his presidency, Commissioner Ortiz provided leadership, guidance, vision and compassion for Florida's 411 municipalities and their staffs, residents and businesses during an unprecedented time in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, the membership and staff of the League recognize that the commitment of the City of Orlando to Commissioner Ortiz's presidency ensured his active participation in League activities and unselfish service to the League, and it permitted him to successfully promote the programs, projects and philosophy of the League during the past year; and

WHEREAS, the membership and staff of the League also wish to recognize and personally thank Megan A. Shaver and all of the dedicated City of Orlando staff for their efforts in providing outstanding assistance to President Ortiz and FLC staff in coordinating his duties with the City and with the League, and all city staff went above and beyond the call of duty and their outstanding contributions to this effort are applauded and greatly appreciated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., membership and staff do officially and personally appreciate the commitment the City of Orlando's citizens, commissioners and staff made to Commissioner Ortiz's presidency.

Section 2. A copy of this resolution be presented to the City of Orlando.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

_____
Phillip E. Walker, First Vice President
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Commissioner, City of Lakeland

ATTEST: _____
Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: FLC Staff

2

2021-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 18-24, 2021, AS "FLORIDA CITY GOVERNMENT WEEK" AND ENCOURAGING ALL FLORIDA CITY OFFICIALS TO SUPPORT THIS CELEBRATION BY PARTICIPATING IN THE "MY CITY: I'M PART OF IT, I'M PROUD OF IT!" ACTIVITIES.

WHEREAS, city government is the government closest to the people and the one with the most direct daily impact upon its residents; and

WHEREAS, city government provides services and programs that enhance the quality of life for residents, making their city their home; and

WHEREAS, city government is administered for and by its citizens and is dependent upon public commitment to and understanding of its many responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, city government officials and employees share the responsibility to pass along the understanding of the services provided by cities and their benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities and its member cities have joined together to teach students and other citizens about municipal government through a variety of activities; and

WHEREAS, Florida City Government Week was created in 1991, and this year marks thirty years of recognizing the significant role played by city government in our lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., encourages all city officials, city employees, school officials and citizens to participate in events that recognize and celebrate Florida City Government Week.

Section 2. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., supports and encourages all city governments to promote, sponsor and participate in My City: I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It!

Section 3. A copy of this resolution be provided to Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, the Florida Cabinet, the Florida School Boards Association and the membership of the Florida League of Cities, Inc.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

_____
Antonio Ortiz, President
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Commissioner, City of Orlando

ATTEST: _____
Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: FLC Staff

2021-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF FLORIDA AS A TERRITORY WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEREAS, the United States of America acquired the territories of East and West Florida from Spain in 1821 and that transfer was formally conducted by representatives of both countries in 1822; and

WHEREAS, East and West Florida were considered one entity by the United States, and Florida's leaders began to pursue statehood within a few years of joining the U.S. and in doing so adopted a Constitution in 1839 that outlined definitions, roles and responsibilities for Florida's local governments; and

WHEREAS, the territorial ceremony included recognition of the capitols of East and West Florida, respectively St. Augustine and Pensacola which were thriving communities under both English and Spanish rule and were recognized by the territorial Governor as municipalities in 1822 along with the other populous communities of Apalachicola, Key West and St. Joseph (now Port St. Joe), and other new cities joined them as Florida grew; and

WHEREAS, Florida is celebrating its Bicentennial Year as a territory within the United States of America and such observance, celebration and commemoration is worthy of note to each municipality in Florida as the foundation of the state and its constitution is fundamental to each city, town and village; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities and its membership appreciate Florida's rich history and encourage each municipality to use this anniversary as an opportunity to educate citizens, residents and visitors about Florida's history along with municipal self-government, representative democracy, Home Rule powers, municipal services and public service in general.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., hereby joins with all Floridians in celebrating the bicentennial and encourages its membership to acknowledge and commemorate this momentous anniversary in all appropriate ways.

Section 2. A copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor and Cabinet.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

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Antonio Ortiz, President
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Commissioner, City of Orlando

ATTEST: $\overline{\hspace{3cm}}$
Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: City of St. Augustine
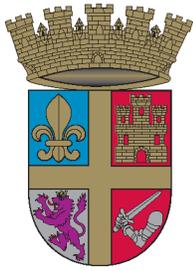
City of St. Augustine

La Lealisíma y Valerosa Ciudad de San Agustín de la Florida

Est. 1565

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, St. Augustine had been a city for 256 years at the time of creation of the Florida Territory in 1821; and

WHEREAS, St. Augustine was founded by Spanish settlers in 1565 and served as the capital and seat of government of Spain's La Florida colony, whose limits stretched far beyond the boundaries of today's state; as the capital of British East Florida; and as the capital of Spanish East Florida; and

WHEREAS, on July 10, 1821, Colonel José Coppinger, representing Spain, transferred the colony of East Florida to Colonel Robert Butler, representing the United States of America, in a ceremony in St. Augustine; and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 1821, St. Johns County was established, and St. Augustine continued as the seat of government from the Suwannee River to Key West; and

WHEREAS, St. Augustine remained one of two capitals in the Florida Territory until the capital moved to Tallahassee in 1824; and

WHEREAS, upon East Florida's transfer to the United States, St. Augustine became the oldest city in the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine does hereby proclaim the Year 2021, as **Florida's Territorial Bicentennial,** and urges all our citizens participate in the festivities and commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of Florida's incorporation into the United States of America.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Augustine to be affixed this 28th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and the four hundred and fifty-fifth year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.

Tracy Upchurch, Mayor

2021-13

"Most Loyal and Valorous"
Title conferred on the Presidio of St. Augustine by King Philip V of Spain, November 26, 1715

4

2021-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING CONGRESS TO REAUTHORIZE THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, floods are the most common and destructive natural disaster in the United States and Florida; and

WHEREAS, Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in 1968 to make affordable flood insurance available to homeowners, renters and business owners in exchange for using Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) generated Flood Insurance Rate Maps for floodplain management by participating communities; and

WHEREAS, the Flood Disaster Act of 1973 requires the purchase of flood insurance as a condition of receiving any form of federal or federal-related financial assistance for acquisition or construction purposes with respect to the insurance of buildings; and

WHEREAS, the NFIP provides affordable flood insurance to property owners by encouraging local governments to adopt and enforce floodplain and water management regulations, best practices and techniques; and

WHEREAS, these mitigation efforts reduce and prevent flooding on new and improved structures, thereby saving lives and reducing injuries, reducing economic losses, maintaining and protecting critical infrastructure, and reducing the liability borne by local governments and their elected officials; and

WHEREAS, flooding is a serious risk in Florida due to the state's geography and proximity to water, both coastal and inland; and

WHEREAS, this issue is a critical concern for our state as Florida has the largest number of participants in the NFIP with more than 1.7 million policies in force; and

WHEREAS, the NFIP is set to expire on September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a lack of long-term reauthorization causes uncertainty for beneficiaries and providers; and

WHEREAS, there is still no viable private market for homeowners and businesses to acquire sufficient flood insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, accurate mapping is fundamental for local governments to assess and communicate risk to their communities and property owners; and

WHEREAS, the current federal mapping process often results in local governments having to rely on inaccurate maps that do not take into account locally built flood protection features and communities building off of outdated mapping, which results in artificially inflated risk. Further, many areas of the country are not mapped or mapped accurately, which results in communities not being aware that they are at risk of flooding; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon all of us to have a long-term, sustainable and viable NFIP with rates that are affordable; and

WHEREAS, FEMA is scheduled to launch a new risk rating system called Risk Rating 2.0 to address deficiencies in the traditional mapping process that was originally scheduled to go into effect October 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Risk Rating 2.0 will be used as a basis for new flood insurance rates, but the technical details and the actuarial data on which premiums will be based have not been clearly defined by FEMA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., supports a long-term National Flood Insurance Program that utilizes a flood risk rating system that is transparent, equitable and affordable.

Section 2. A copy of this resolution be sent to President Joe Biden, the administrator of FEMA, the Florida Congressional Delegation, the National League of Cities and the membership of the Florida League of Cities, Inc.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

_____

Antonio Ortiz, President
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Commissioner, City of Orlando

ATTEST: _____

Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: FLC Staff

National Flood Insurance Program & Risk Rating 2.0

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) affects millions of American citizens and hundreds of thousands of American businesses & local governments. Current NFIP authorization expires September 30, 2021. At the same time, FEMA's Risk Rating 2.0 pricing methodology is poised for implementation in the new policy year. Risk Rating 2.0 will impact approximately 4.2M policies nationwide and result in premium increases to 77% of policies.

Risk Rating 2.0 is designed to establish policy premiums that more accurately account for flood risk, thereby reducing premium shortfalls that result in additional subsidies to fund NFIP. While everyone involved agrees that program reform is needed, the pricing structure for Risk Rating 2.0 is currently unclear, with no substantial transparency into the actuarial data on which premiums will be based. Substantial increases to NFIP policy premiums have the potential to place significant and immediate financial burden on millions of policy holders.

Concerns

⚠ Immediate increase to NFIP premiums for approximately 4.2M policies.

⚠ Rating system and formulas used as basis for new rates has not been clearly defined by FEMA.

⚠ Short 3-month window between availability of rate increase data (Aug 1) and implementation reduces time for NFIP policyholders to plan/adjust.

⚠ Significant impact to moderate to low-income coastal communities in Gulf states.

⚠ Potential disastrous effect on real-estate values in special flood hazard areas.

⚠ Allows for mitigation to reduce premiums but does not provide detail on how (or how much) mitigation measures will affect rates.

⚠ Increase in costs of commodities (seafood, imports, etc.) due to rising personal/business expenses.

⚠ Decreased state and local tax revenue as property values decrease and businesses move locations to avoid increased premiums.

Legislative Action Requested

✓ Provide transparency in underwriting and premium data.

✓ Limit annual rate increases below the 18 percent maximum annual increase under current law.

✓ Implement means-tested affordability provisions for medium to low-income policy holders.

✓ Allow adequate time to understand changes and impacts prior to implementation.

✓ Support long-term NFIP reauthorization with sound Risk Rating 2.0 implementation approach.

| 4.2 M Policies Impacted	77% Premium Increases	? Rate Basis

FLC FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

RECOVER. RESTORE. REBUILD. **SynergyNDS** *Your Resource. Your Advocate. Your Partner.*

COMPLEX NEEDS | SIMPLE SOLUTIONS **SynergyPACT** Public Assistance & Closeout Team

Southern Municipal Conference

Florida — Risk Rating 2.0

With the implementation of Risk Rating 2.0, FEMA delivers rates that more accurately reflect flood risk and ensure the National Flood Insurance Program will be here for this generation and generations to come.

National Flood Insurance Program in Florida

NFIP Policies in Force by County in Florida

Policies in Force
0   315,000
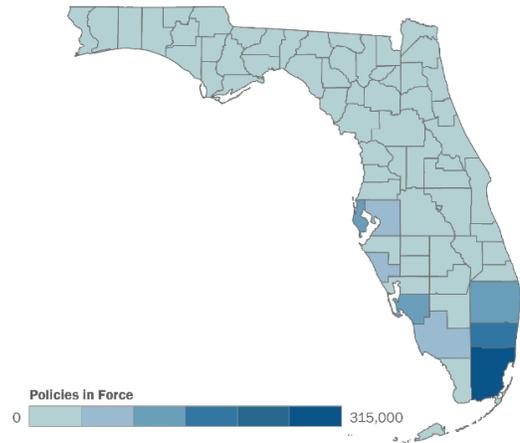
A significant part of FEMA's NFIP Transformation is Risk Rating 2.0, which will fundamentally change the way FEMA prices insurance and determines an individual property's flood risk.

Risk Rating 2.0 is equity in action. With Risk Rating 2.0, individuals will no longer pay more than their share in flood insurance premiums based on the value of their homes. Roughly two-thirds of policyholders with older pre-FIRM homes will see a premium decrease.

FEMA will reduce disaster-related suffering and disaster-related costs in Florida through insurance and the mitigation of flood risks by leveraging advances in industry best practices, technology, and flood risk modeling.

FEMA's core mission and programs continue to emphasize purchasing flood insurance and pursuing mitigation options to achieve resiliency. While there are many policies in force in Florida, there are still opportunities to increase participation in the program to improve resilience, as shown in the table below.

NFIP Policies in Force in FL	Properties in FL Not Covered by NFIP Policy	Average NFIP Claim Payout in the Past 10 Years	Average Individual Assistance Claim Payout in the Past 10 Years
1,727,900	5.9 million	$28,100	$5,100

Risk Rating 2.0 in Florida

Immediate Decreases
342,142 Policies

On Average, $0 - $10 Per Month ($0 - $120 Per year) Increases
1,178,074 Policies

On Average, $10 - $20 Per Month ($120 - $240 Per Year) Increases
134,572 Policies

20%	68%	8%	4%

**On Average, Greater Than $20 Per Month ($240 Per Year) Increases**
73,113 Policies
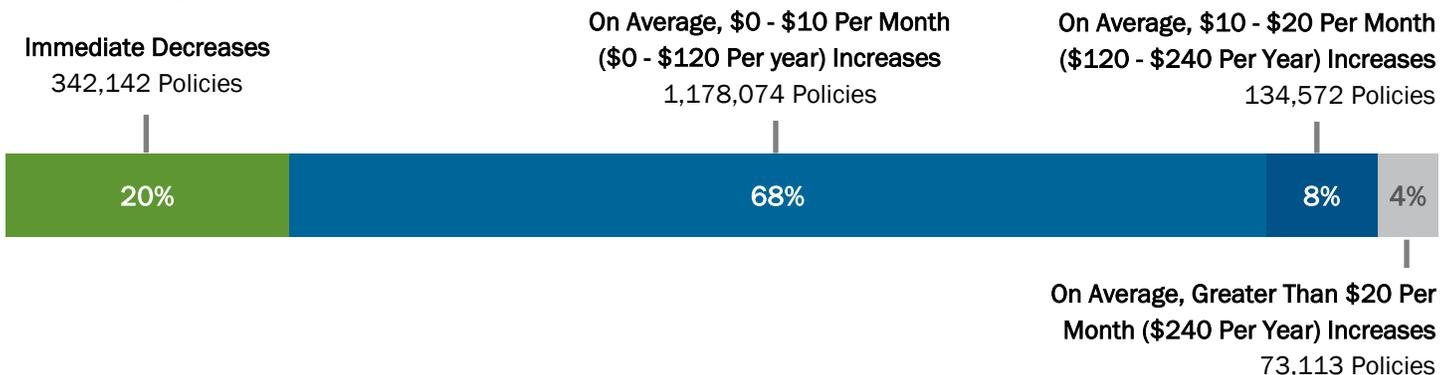
Under the current methodology, all NFIP policyholders have been subject to premium increases every year. Risk Rating 2.0, from a premium increase perspective, does not deviate significantly from the current methodology except annual increases will eventually stop under Risk Rating 2.0 once the full-risk rate is realized. Premium increases will also be subject to the 18% per year cap set by Congress for most policies.

96% of current policyholders' premiums will either **decrease or increase by $20 or less per month** under Risk Rating 2.0.

What can you do? Mitigate to Reduce Rates in Florida

NFIP Policies in Force in FL by Rate Class

- ■ Pre-FIRM Subsidized
- ■ Preferred Risk Policy
- ■ Newly Mapped
- ■ High Risk Coastal Zones
- ■ Full Risk

165,771
462,538
1,058,170
34,953
6,470
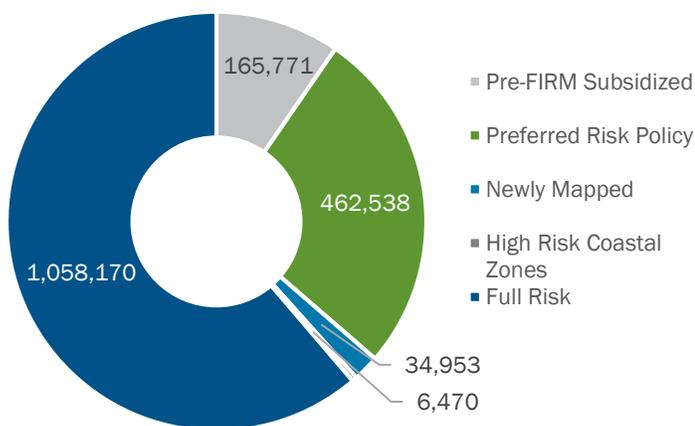
The chart to the left identifies policyholders in Florida who may need the most help to reduce flood insurance rates. They will be paying their true flood risk rate under Risk Rating 2.0, and by implementing mitigation measures while on a glidepath to their full risk rate, they can help reduce their costs.

The state plays a key role in leading those mitigation efforts through coordination and collaboration with communities. States, local communities, tribes, territories, and individuals should prioritize mitigation projects, mitigation planning, and the adoption or strengthening of building codes and zoning regulations to improve resilience and reduce flood insurance rates.

Participate in the Community Rating System (CRS)

Communities will continue to earn National Flood Insurance Program rate discounts of 5% - 45% based on the Community Rating System classification. The discount will be uniformly applied to all policies throughout the participating community, regardless of whether the structure is in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

Currently, policyholders in CRS communities save an average of $162, or 15%, per year on their flood insurance policy. To date, there are 24,500 communities that participate in the Community Rating System.

As of Oct. 1, 2020, 259 communities in Florida participate in the Community Rating System. To view the list of participating communities and their current class rating, visit www.fema.gov/community-rating-system.

Apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants

Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants are available for pre-disaster and post-disaster mitigation projects. As of October 1, 2021 for new policyholders and April 1, 2022 for existing policyholders, projects involving installing flood openings per 44 CFR 60.3 criteria, elevating structures, and elevating machinery and equipment above the first floor (i.e. hot water heaters) may reduce rates both inside and outside SFHAs. For detailed information, refer to the "Risk Rating 2.0 Equity in Action" fact sheet.

HMA Program	Program Information
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)	• Pre-Disaster grant program • Obligations of $1.4 billion from 2004 to 2021 • More information: https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	• Pre-disaster grant program • Obligations of $1.2 billion from 2020 to 2021 • More information: https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities
Hazard mitigation Assistance Grant Program (HMGP) and HMGP Post Fire	• Post-disaster grant program • Obligations of $15.3 billion from 1990 to 2021 • More information https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/hazard-mitigation and https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/post-fire

Take Action to Reduce Flood Risk

States, tribes, territories, local communities, and individuals can all take mitigation actions to reduce their flood risk and potentially reduce their flood insurance premiums.

STATES/TRIBES/TERRITORIES

▪ Promote/expedite pre-disaster HMA grant applications for FMA and BRIC.

▪ Prioritize, plan for, and take advantage of HMGP funding after a disaster occurs.

▪ Offer tax credits for flood mitigation.

▪ Establish and maintain a revolving loan fund for flood risk reduction projects.

▪ Promote higher regulatory standards for development.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- Participate in the Community Rating System.

- Prioritize mitigation grants for owners of Severe Repetitive Loss and Repetitive Loss properties.

- Apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants through the state.

- Adopt and enforce building codes and zoning regulations.

PROPERTY OWNERS

- Buy flood insurance.

- Install flood openings or elevate the home, and elevate all machinery and equipment to a higher floor such as hot water heaters.

- After a flood, NFIP policyholders in the SFHA should consider using Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) coverage to access up to $30,000 to help cover the cost of elevating, relocating, or demolishing substantially damaged structures.

  - For a structure to qualify as being substantially damaged, the total cost of repairs must be 50% or more of the structure's pre-flood market value. Non-residential buildings may choose floodproofing as an option in addition to elevation, relocation, or demolition.

- Severe Repetitive Loss and Repetitive Loss homeowners should contact their local floodplain manager and State Hazard Mitigation Officer to learn how up to 100% of mitigation project costs may be covered.

Additional Information

For more information on ICC and substantial damage, visit:

- https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/financial-help/increased-cost-compliance; and

- https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20201016/fact-sheet-substantial-damage-what-does-it-mean.

2020-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES INC., URGING CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, TRAINING AND FEDERAL FUNDING TO CITIES TO STRENGTHEN AND ASSESS CYBERSECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, local governments are entrusted with gigabytes of personally identifiable, confidential and proprietary information about the businesses and citizens that live and operate within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, numerous high-profile cyber incidents in the public sector have highlighted the emerging challenges that cities face in protecting this data; and

WHEREAS, the "hidden" impact on local government operations when a system is compromised could result in longer response times for police and fire personnel, delays in service delivery to utility customers or holdups in the permitting process for businesses; and

WHEREAS, the loss of personally identifiable, confidential and proprietary information has its own critical and personal cost impacts, but also damages public trust in government; and

WHEREAS, many cities are embracing technology-driven governance while security threats are increasing in frequency and sophistication.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., urges Congress and the Administration to partner with cities to help strengthen their security measures to thwart future cyberattacks, specifically in the areas of technical assistance, training and infrastructure improvements.

Section 2. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., urges Congress to support the State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act which would create a grant program, administered by the Department of Homeland Security, to bolster state and local cybersecurity operations.

Section 3. A copy of this resolution be sent to President Joe Biden, the Florida Congressional Delegation, the National League of Cities and the membership of the Florida League of Cities, Inc.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

_____
Antonio Ortiz, President
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Commissioner, City of Orlando

ATTEST: _____
Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: FLC Staff

Part One: Threats

WHO PERPETRATES CYBERCRIME?

Cyberattacks against government entities are becoming more frequent and sophisticated. Compared to just a decade ago, cyberattacks have become pervasive, and cybercriminals do not confine themselves to attacking only large organizations. Increasingly, cybercriminals are targeting local government entities because they know that these types of organizations are less likely to have the resources and security infrastructure in place to prevent or mitigate an attack as successfully as their larger counterparts. In other words, you may think your jurisdiction is too small for a cybercriminal to bother with but, to cybercriminals, a small town may be an easy and valuable target.

Who is behind these cyberattacks, and what is their motivation? The most prolific type of cybercriminal is the malicious outsider, a criminally minded individual or group whose primary goal is financial gain or intellectual property theft. However, these malicious outsiders often employ tactics that involve manipulating authorized users to install malware or relinquish login credentials inadvertently, a process called 'social engineering.' These unwitting accomplices can play a critical role in the success of the malicious outsider's attack, making them a significant threat on their own, known as an insider threat. The combination of malicious outsiders and unwitting insiders is responsible for many successful cyberattacks.

The malicious insider can also pose a threat. Disgruntled current and former employees might seek revenge through a cyberattack. Some may abuse their access for financial gain, stealing data and selling information "on the side."

Other types of attackers that frequently target government entities include hacktivists, that is, people who target organizations involved in controversial affairs, and state-sponsored operators (i.e., foreign spies) who attack organizations to conduct espionage and/or sabotage or simply to disrupt a foreign adversary.

Let's take a closer look at the most common types of cybercriminals targeting government organizations.

COMMON CYBER THREAT ACTORS

Hackers: A hacker is an unauthorized intruder who tries to break into your network, databases, or systems, primarily for financial gain, but a rare few hack for fun. Hackers fall into the malicious outsider category, and they use a variety of tricks to infiltrate your organization, ranging from specially created tools that exploit known or unknown vulnerabilities in your IT infrastructure to simply guessing your passwords.

Hacktivists: A 'hacktivist' is a hacker with a cause. They will try to infiltrate your organization because it engages with an industry or in a practice that they disagree with, so much so that they are willing to commit a crime to disrupt or damage an organization. Hacktivists often deface websites with political messaging and contact customers or constituents to tell them of an organization's supposed wrongdoing. They may also steal and release data, but it's less likely that they will do so for financial gain and more likely to affect organizational reputation. Government entities, in particular, can fall victim to hacktivism due to the often-political nature of the work they perform.

Phishers: Phishers also fall into the malicious outsider category and employ social engineering tactics to gain entry. They send 'phishing' emails, so named because they are designed to *fish* for login credentials and other information. Typically, they pose as a legitimate service, vendor, or business partner that you may use and email you with an account maintenance alert message, urgent password reset notice, or overdue invoice. Unfortunately, even with constant training, phishing emails can sometimes fool the best of us.

Phishers are probably the most common threat and the most common kind of cyberattack that your organization is likely to encounter. They are also among the most difficult to stop because phishers use sophisticated tactics, typically

pretending to be somebody the user knows and even emailing from an address that the user recognizes through a process called spoofing. The email typically directs the user to a website that is probably doing a great job of posing as a legitimate online service but is really a false front designed to capture the user's login credentials.

Government organizations may find themselves the victim of phishing for all the reasons other types of business verticals do with the added caveat that the trust associated with a government email addresses makes them valuable to use for phishing others. For example, every tax season sees an influx of phishing emails and texts that appear to come from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service targeting taxpayers, accountants, payroll specialists, and human resources representatives to steal login credentials and personally identifiable information (PII).

Malicious Insiders: Malicious insiders are usually disgruntled employees intent on causing damage to your IT infrastructure. Public safety agencies, however, that have access to criminal justice or health information may fall victim to unscrupulous insiders motivated by financial gain or personal reasons. It is quite common for less sophisticated malicious insiders to be caught after their wrongdoing, as they typically leave a trail of motivation and evidence, but this is not always the case.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN TYPES OF CYBERATTACKS?

There are four main types of cyberattacks, known as the **Four Ds: Data loss, Disruptive, Destructive, and Disinformation.**

Data Loss or Exposure: Data loss or exposure, also known as data breach, is quite possibly the most damaging cyberattack, depending on the importance of your data. Due to Florida's more transparent public records laws, data breach is not as much of a concern for Florida public entities. A business, however, has much to lose if its customers' personal, financial, or other data becomes exposed due to a cyberattack.

Disruptive: This type of attack is designed to disrupt or impair your organization's ability to function in some way. A prime example of this kind of attack is a ransomware attack. In a ransomware attack, the attackers encrypt the organization's data and demand a (usually small) ransom

to decrypt it, severely restricting the organization's ability to operate until they pay the ransom. This type of attack can last days or weeks, and an unprepared organization may find themselves with no choice but to pay the ransom. Another form of disruptive attack is a Distributed-Denial-of-Service, or DDoS (pronounced dee-doss) attack, in which the attacker uses multiple computers to send an overwhelming amount of traffic to the organization's website, causing the site to crash and disrupting business operations.

Destructive: Typically, malicious insiders and hacktivists deliver destructive attacks designed to harm an organization by damaging its IT infrastructure. A destructive attack could be as simple as deleting data and backup data, or as extensive as wiping all computers of their applications and software—causing operations to seize—or defacing your public-facing websites with embarrassing messages. Any element of your organization that connects to the internet can be affected by an attacker bent on damaging or embarrassing your organization.

Another form of destructive attack that has been used to target public officials and government employees is known as 'doxxing.' The term stems from the word 'documents' and refers to the practice of collecting private documents and personal information on someone, sometimes through illegal means and sometimes through diligent research, then sharing that information online in an effort to discredit or embarrass a person or organization.

Disinformation: Disinformation attacks spread false information about a person or organization's activities and employees to inflict reputational, financial, and even legal damage. Malicious disinformation about an organization can spread quickly through many different social and digital channels, much faster than one can counter or have it removed. A sustained campaign can inflict serious damage on an organization, even if none of it is true, and in many cases, you have no real idea of who is behind it—malicious insiders, hacktivists, or state-sponsored actors.

HOW ARE ATTACKS CARRIED OUT?

Before we examine how cyberattacks are carried out, we need to understand the "attack surface," which is a professional term used to describe the collection of devices, hardware, and software that compose an organization's IT infrastructure. The

48% of respondents have suffered a malware attack in the past three years.

attack surface includes all mobile devices, endpoints (PC's and laptops), servers, routers, printers, websites, databases and data storage, and web applications. Any device, hardware, and software applications that connect to your organization's network can serve as the point of entry for an attacker and is a part of the attack surface.

Government organizations often possess wildly complex network and data structures, creating a diverse and disparate attack surface. Boundaries between organizations that are relatively obvious in a practical sense may not be so in a technical sense. Any government organization's systems are almost certainly part of a larger government ecosystem. This complexity poses challenges and opportunities both for attackers and targets.

There can be numerous avenues for a hacker to find a way into your IT infrastructure. While some cyberattacks are opportunistic—occurring when a hacker finds a convenient vulnerability in your IT infrastructure that makes it easy to hack—others are much more calculated events. More advanced attacks involve hackers developing programs to bypass your security, install malware onto your system, and give them unrestricted backdoor access to your data and IT infrastructure.

Ultimately, any connected device is a potential infiltration point for a hacker, but let's take a closer look at the most common points of entry to your organization.

Social Engineering Attacks: Social engineers practice the art of infiltrating your systems, buildings, and data by exploiting human psychology instead of using technical hacking techniques. This kind of attack is difficult to defend against because it focuses on the individuals in your organization to gain access to your systems rather than attacking the actual system itself. Rather than spending time searching for a vulnerability in your IT infrastructure, an attacker instead contacts your employees posing as a support technician or pretending to be from another department, with the goal of

tricking the employee into sharing login credentials or other sensitive data.

A major concern with social engineering is that you could have all the latest cybersecurity tools in place to protect your organization and still fall prey to these techniques because the weakest link in any organization's attack surface is people. Social engineers can be incredibly effective at getting passwords out of your unsuspecting employees, and once they have that password, they can access your system while appearing to be a legitimate user.

Government organizations have the additional challenge of defending against social engineering attacks while navigating various government record laws. Government employees must protect sensitive information about their networks and systems while also adhering to public record law. Generally speaking, government documents are public records, and members of the public may request them with no verification requirement. These requirements vary by state, and in Florida, certain information that may expose a security vulnerability could be exempt from public disclosure in certain cases. It is important to understand the legal exemptions as they pertain to your jurisdiction to allow your employees to resist social engineering attempts and follow public record laws. Many organizations address this issue by appointing a public records officer who has the responsibility of reviewing requests and working with legal counsel to redact any exempted information in a timely and reasonable fashion.

Phishing Attacks: Phishing, a type of social engineering attack, is probably the most common type of cyberattack against government entities and involves the extraction of personal information and login credentials from users by means of deception. Phishing emails are designed to look like they come from a reputable service provider and often include a reasonable yet urgent request to attend to an account issue such as an overdue invoice. Clicking on the link in a phishing email takes the victim to a website that looks almost identical to the service provider's actual site, hoping to trick them into

Case Study: Atlanta Ransomware Attack

In March 2018, attackers infected the City of Atlanta's IT systems with a strain of ransomware called SamSam, causing city services to grind to a halt. The ransomware, which likely entered the system by means of a brute-force attack (i.e., correctly guessing a weak or default password), disrupted court scheduling, shut down online utility payments, caused the public WiFi at the nation's busiest airport to go offline for two weeks, and destroyed decades of municipal correspondence as well as footage from police dashboard-mounted cameras. The cybercriminals demanded the city pay a ransom of $50,000 in Bitcoin. Officials felt that paying the ransom would invite future copycat attacks by criminals expecting a quick payout. They opted not to pay the ransom.

In the end, the City of Atlanta spent a reported $2.6 million in emergency funds to properly respond to and recover from the attack, the bulk of the money going to external cybersecurity contractors and incident response consulting. In a June 2018 city budget meeting, officials requested an additional $9.5 million to address the remaining damage.

Law enforcement typically advises one should not pay a ransom because it encourages the criminals, but it's not always a clear-cut decision. Cybercriminals typical set the ransom at an amount they think their victim can afford to make it the more cost-effective option. For many organizations, a sustained outage of their IT services can have serious consequences and, as was the case for Atlanta, emergency spending on cybersecurity cleanup efforts can far outweigh the cost of ransom.

The City of Atlanta, however, will undoubtedly benefit over the long term by choosing not to pay the ransom and instead investing in professional remediation—effectively an investment in their future cyber defense. Other criminals now know that not only is the city unwilling to pay a ransom, but also that it will be much harder to penetrate the city's newly improved defenses.

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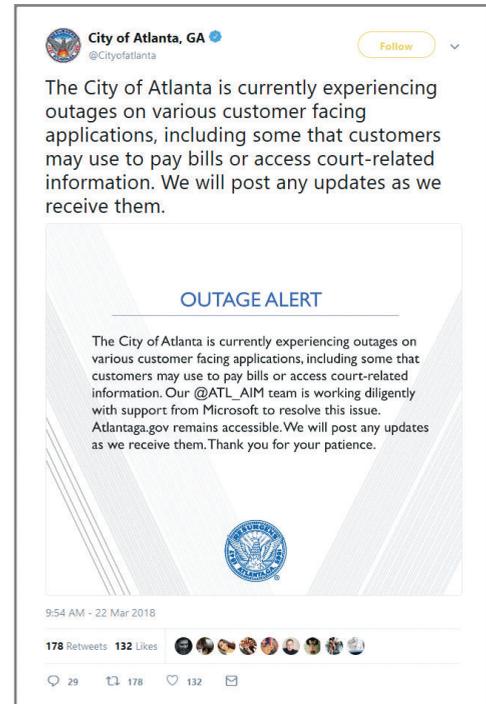
entering login details or other information.

These sophisticated attacks can fool even the savviest tech users. It was a phishing attack targeting a top official in the Democratic party that led to the release of 60,000 private emails in the run-up to the 2016 presidential election. More commonly, though, these attacks are used to prey upon organizations and individuals for financial gain.

Phishing emails may also contain file attachments intended to infect your device with malware. Sometimes they will try to gain the user's trust by including some personal information that makes them more inclined to believe the email is legitimate, a tactic known as 'pretexting.' This scenario is often the method used to begin a ransomware attack.

Malware Attacks: Malware is an umbrella term for all types of malicious software, from worms and viruses to spyware and ransomware. Two common sources of malware infection for an organization are employees visiting websites and clicking on malicious links and employees engaging with phishing emails, clicking links or opening attachments. Once malware gets a foothold, it can be difficult and expensive to remove.

Examples of malware include the following:

Remote Access Trojans: Allows the attacker backdoor entry into systems.

Less than 30% of respondents provide their external vendors and contractors with cybersecurity standards.

Ransomware: Encrypts data until a ransom is paid.

Spyware: Logs keystrokes to gather data such as passwords.

Adware: Exposes the victim to potentially malicious ads.

Worms: Self-replicates, spreading without user interaction.

Viruses: Infects other files, making cleanup difficult.

These are the primary malware strains, although there are far more exotic and hybrid malware strains floating in cyberspace. Depending on the malware strain, it can be very difficult to get rid of, and some strains of malware, such as rootkits, might be impossible to get rid of even when you completely wipe the computer and reinstall the operating system and software.

Point-of-sale (POS) Intrusions: If your jurisdiction uses a POS system to process citizen transactions, it may be vulnerable to POS-specific cyberattacks. Commonly, hackers breach POS systems via the remote access points that POS providers use to manage and technically support the terminals; other times, hackers gain access because the POS system is poorly configured, using either the default password or an easy-to-guess password. Once a hacker has access, they can silently siphon off your citizens' transactional and credit card data for months, years, or as long it takes for you to detect them.

System Vulnerabilities: A system vulnerability is a flaw or weakness in the system that leaves it vulnerable to an attack or exposes data. System vulnerabilities can arise from a variety of causes, including design flaws in the hardware or software, manufacturing defects, failure to apply updates and patches, use of pirated or illegitimate software, and misconfiguration. Regardless of the cause, system vulnerabilities are obvious infiltration points for hackers, who see them as convenient gateways into your systems. A talented (or lucky) hacker may find that you have operating systems that are not up to date, have not updated a software application, or have an unsecured remote access point intended for support technicians.

System vulnerability patches are one reason why it is so important to keep an organization's operating systems, software, and firmware regularly updated; these updates often contain known vulnerability patches to fix holes in the systems. If you fail to update your systems or apply these update patches, any hacker who notices will be able to quickly research known vulnerabilities for the out-of-date software that they can then use to gain access to the system.

Even if you do keep everything updated, system vulnerabilities can still pose a threat through what is known as a 'zero-day attack,' when a hacker discovers a previously unknown vulnerability and acts quickly to take advantage of it before a patch is issued. Hackers typically reserve zero-day attacks for high-value targets for two reasons. First, the hacker must invest time and resources to create the attack, so they reserve their efforts for targets with the highest potential payoff. Second, once exploited, the vulnerability may be detected and mitigated, limiting the window to take advantage of the vulnerability. Government information security professionals may find themselves facing zero-day attacks due to the value of the information they protect.

THIRD-PARTY & SUPPLY CHAIN RISKS

It's not just your organization's security that you have to worry about; you must also consider threats stemming from third-party vendors and your supply chain. A supply-chain cyberattack occurs when criminals infiltrate an organization's IT systems through a partner or provider that already has access to the systems and data. As governments often rely on third-party vendors to collect payments, fees, and taxes, it is essential that these vendors maintain adequate security protocols.

It is this complexity that makes our supply chains so fraught with cyber risk, and when it comes to third-party and supply chain risks, security is not just a technology problem; it's

also a people, process, and knowledge problem. The more people and partners added to the supply chain, the greater the chance that your organization will become the victim of a cyberattack via that channel.

According to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the biggest cyber risks infiltrating through supply chains come from the following:

1. Lower-tier suppliers with poor cybersecurity practices.
2. Compromised hardware or software used by suppliers.
3. Counterfeit hardware/software with embedded malware.
4. Software vulnerabilities in supply chain management systems.

Learn more about the NIST Cybersecurity Framework and supply chain management best practices here: https://csrc. nist.gov/Projects/cyber-supply-chain-risk-management. Additional resources for local governments are available from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) here: https://www.us-cert.gov/resources/sltt. You can also access these resources at cyberflorida.org/gov.

While it is not always possible to enforce security standards on third parties, being aware of potential risks and being judicious when choosing partners can go a long way toward maintaining a secure supply chain. Consider documenting your jurisdiction's cybersecurity protocols and require that they maintain, at a minimum, the same protocols.

Case Study: Click2Gov

In September 2018, the networks of at least 46 U.S. municipal governments were compromised after personal data from Click2Gov, a third-party vendor, was breached. Click2Gov is an online billing portal developed by Superion, which citizens can use to pay for government services such as utilities, parking tickets, and civil citations.

Reports of Click2Gov vulnerabilities first surfaced in 2017, and over a year later it was confirmed that malicious software had infected the server and breached the credit card information of approximately 294,929 people throughout the U.S. and Canada. Despite the third-party software's security precautions, cyber attackers utilized an undetected (zero-day) vulnerability to hack into the server and extract the personal data of customers who had used the online system to make payments between August 11 and September 25, 2018.

The data breach compromised several Florida cities, including St. Petersburg, where approximately 28,000 customers' credit card information were exposed. City officials immediately responded to the breach by shutting down the online payment system and offering advice to citizens who felt they were at risk of identity theft, and a new system was built and fully operational the next day.

Third-party software vendors are prime targets for cyber attackers. It is recommended that companies and governments that use third-party vendors actively update the software and frequently monitor their networks to reduce any system vulnerabilities that may be targeted by cybercriminals.

2021-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES INC., URGING CONGRESS TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION THAT MAXIMIZES THE FLEXIBILITY OF MUNICIPAL FINANCING TOOLS TO ADDRESS LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS.

WHEREAS, Florida faces much-needed infrastructure challenges without a dedicated source to fund improvements; and

WHEREAS, this deteriorating infrastructure impedes Florida's ability to compete in an increasingly global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, delaying these investments only escalates the cost and risks of an aging infrastructure system, an option that Florida municipalities can no longer afford; and

WHEREAS, Sens. Michael Bennet (D-CO) and Roger Wicker (R-MS) reintroduced the American Infrastructure Bonds Act, that would create "direct pay," taxable municipal bonds to help local governments finance critical public projects; and

WHEREAS, the American Infrastructure Bonds Act would allow state and local governments to issue direct payment bonds for any public expenditure that would be eligible to be financed by tax-exempt bonds with the U.S. Department of the Treasury paying a percentage of the bond's interest to the issuing entity to reduce the cost for the state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, direct payment bonds are attractive to investors who do not receive the tax advantage from traditional tax-exempt bonds; and

WHEREAS, the bipartisan American Infrastructure Bonds Act would help municipal governments invest in much-needed infrastructure improvements by expanding financing options while preserving local decision-making; and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017, which eliminated tax-exempt advanced refunding bonds; and

WHEREAS, Congressmen Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD) and Steve Stivers (R-OH) reintroduced the Investing in Our Communities Act, legislation that restores the tax-exemption for advanced refunding bonds; and

WHEREAS, the use of tax-exempt advance refunding bonds allows municipalities to take advantage of lower interest rates, therefore, saving taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS these bonds are used to support a wide range of infrastructure projects, including roads, bridges, water systems and broadband.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., urges Congress to support the Investing in Our Communities Act that would restore tax-exempt advance refunding bonds.

Section 2. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., urges Congress to support the American Infrastructure Bonds Act that would expand infrastructure financing options for cities and improve the ability for cities to invest in critical infrastructure projects.

Section 3. A copy of this resolution be sent to President Joe Biden, the Florida Congressional Delegation, the National League of Cities and the membership of the Florida League of Cities, Inc.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

_____

Antonio Ortiz, President
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Commissioner, City of Orlando

ATTEST: _____
Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: FLC Staff

The American Infrastructure Bonds Act

Senator Roger F. Wicker (R-MS) and Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO)

The COVID-19 outbreak has forced state and local governments across the country to make difficult financial decisions, including canceling important infrastructure projects. This is particularly burdensome for rural communities that have already faced decades of delays to public projects. Previously, to generate expanded interest in the municipal bond market, Congress created a class of taxable bonds known as the Build America Bonds (BABs). These bonds successfully attracted billions of dollars into critical infrastructure investments. Instituting American Infrastructure Bonds (AIBs), which are similar to BABs but with important improvements, would help local municipalities raise much-needed capital for a wide range of infrastructure projects, helping our communities emerge from the pandemic and thrive for years to come.

What are American Infrastructure Bonds (AIBs)?

- AIBs would allow state and local governments to issue taxable bonds for *any* public purpose expenditure that is eligible to be financed with tax-exempt bonds.
- AIBs would be modeled as a "direct-pay" taxable bond. The Treasury Department would make direct payments to the issuer of the bonds at a rate of 28 percent.
- Improving upon BABs, AIBs would be available to all state and local governments to use as they determine what is best for them. Additionally, unlike BABs, AIBs would be exempt from sequestration and the bonds would be available for additional uses in addition to capital improvements.
- AIBs have the potential to attract investment in local communities from a wider range of investors than are typically interested in tax-exempt municipal bonds – such as pension funds, insurance companies, endowments, and foreign investors. This will be advantageous for bringing investment into rural communities as well.
- AIBs could be used for any expenditure that is eligible to be financed with tax-exempt bonds, including roads, bridges, tunnels, canals, ports, water systems, sewage treatment facilities, storm water management systems, pipelines, utility system expansions and environmental and safety upgrades, long-term natural gas supplies for municipal utility gas distribution systems and electric generation facilities, long-term supplies of electricity for municipal electric utility systems including renewable energy projects, broadband and other telecommunications systems, rail facilities, subways, and others.

The American Infrastructure Bonds Act

The American Infrastructure Bonds Act would amend Subchapter B of chapter 65 of the Tax Code to provide a credit to issuers of American Infrastructure Bonds. The Secretary of the Department of Treasury would be given the authority to make direct payments to the issuer of the bonds on each interest payment date.

Support: The National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, the Government Finance Officers Association, the American Public Gas Association, the National Association of Bond Lawyers, the Bond Dealers of America, the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, the International City/County Management Association, American Council of Life Insurers, American Planning Association, Ambac, National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association, American Institute of Architects, the Insured Retirement Institute (IRI), and the Mississippi Municipal League.

RUPPERSBERGER, STIVERS INTRODUCES BILL TO STRENGTHEN FINANCE TOOL FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

Mar 29, 2021 | Press Release

(Washington, D.C.) — Congressmen C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (MD-02) and Steve Stivers (R-OH) today reintroduced legislation to strengthen a key tool used by local and state governments to finance community projects — which will be especially important as they continue to recover from the COVID-19 crisis. The "Investing in Our Communities Act" enables governments to refinance outstanding bonds for projects such as new roads, schools, hospitals and fire stations, reducing their borrowing costs and freeing up resources for other community improvements.

The legislation reverses changes made under the tax reform law of 2017, restoring the tax-exemption for advance refunding bonds, which are often used by municipalities to pay off another, outstanding bond. The change enables governments to take advantage of lower interest rates, similar to homeowners refinancing their mortgages. The use of tax-exempt advance refunding bonds saves taxpayers an estimated $2.35 billion a year.

Ruppersberger and Stivers are co-chairs of the bipartisan House Municipal Finance Caucus.

"This is a complicated finance issue that has a simple end result — saving American taxpayers money," **said Congressman Ruppersberger**, who is a former County Executive. "County and state governments have served on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, facing historic revenue losses amid unforeseen costs, while still cutting paychecks to our teachers, law enforcement and public health workers. We must do everything we can to help them invest in projects that improve our communities, create jobs and, ultimately, reduce the need to raise taxes."

"Municipal financing makes so much of daily life possible; from highways to telecommunications towers, municipal bonds allow for the delivery of services and connections for millions of Americans," **Congressman Steve Stivers said**. "By enhancing the status of tax-exempt bonds, we're empowering state and local governments, and saving taxpayer money along the way."

The legislation comes as Congressional leadership engages in talks with the Administration regarding a national infrastructure package — and how to pay for it. The U.S. currently faces a $2 trillion dollar infrastructure financing short-fall.

The bill is cosponsored by John Garamendi (D-CA), Lee Zeldin (R-NY), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Andy Barr (R-KY), Joyce Beatty (D-OH), Terri Sewell (D-AL), Julia Brownley (D-CA), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Cindy Axne (D-IA), Andrew Garbarino (R-NY), Daniel T. Kildee (D-MI), James P. McGovern (D-MA), Henry Cuellar (D-TX), Haley Stevens (D-MI), Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Judy Chu (D-CA), Jimmy Panetta (D-CA), Derek Kilmer (D-WA), Dean Phillips (D-MN) and Fred Upton (R-MI).

"Allowing our cities and towns to refinance their outstanding bonds will save our communities, and our constituents, money," **said Congressman Dan Kildee**, a former County Treasurer. "These savings can be reinvested directly into our communities to help support public safety, fix local roads, fund libraries and provide other vital local services. The Investing in Our Communities Act will help to support our neighborhoods and the people that live there."

"It is critical that we ensure states and local governments can finance infrastructure projects, from roads and broadband to ports of entry, to support our country's economic recovery and create long-term growth," **said Congressman Henry Cuellar.** "This legislation will allow these entities to refinance their debt to achieve lower interest rates, saving tax payer dollars and freeing up funding for critical infrastructure investments. As the representative of the busiest land port of entry, I am committed to improving our nation's infrastructure to create jobs and boost long-term productivity and competitiveness."

"Our great nation is in dire need of infrastructure investment; an investment in our roads, bridges, and energy grid is an investment in our nation, our economy, and our families," **said Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick.** "This timely bipartisan legislation will empower states and cities across the country and municipalities and townships across Pennsylvania to invest in infrastructure projects that will improve our communities and reinvigorate our economy. I am proud to join my bipartisan colleagues as we seek to provide state and local governments with the financing tools they need to invest in their communities, while simultaneously saving American taxpayers money."

"Congress must ensure our state and local governments continue to have access to financing tools necessary to support investments in public infrastructure, including our schools and hospitals. The Investing in Our Communities Act will ensure municipal bond financing remains a viable option for our communities," **said Congresswoman Julia Brownley.**

7

2021-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES INC., URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ACTION TO ADDRESS PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL CONTAMINATION.

WHEREAS, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a class of nearly 5,000 man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, PFBS and GenX manufactured and used in a variety of industries; and

WHEREAS, PFAS are a group of chemicals that are pervasive in the environment, do not breakdown easily and can accumulate in people causing adverse health effects; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the Local Government Advisory Committee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was charged by the EPA to provide recommendations and input on the EPA's development of a national plan to manage PFAS, and to identify specific actions and tools that states, local governments and tribal communities need to address PFAS contamination; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 EPA announced a comprehensive nationwide action plan for addressing PFAS, including identifying both short-term solutions for addressing these chemicals and long-term strategies that will help states, tribes and local government; and

WHEREAS, the 117th Congress introduced legislation that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct testing, removal and remediation of PFAS at all military installations formerly used as defense sites, and state-owned facilities of the National Guard in the United States; and

WHEREAS, PFAS has contaminated Florida's groundwater resources, including: three areas identified under the federal third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) sampling of public supply wells; 22 areas identified by DEP sampling of certified fire training facilities; 27 areas identified by sampling of select State Cleanup Program sites; 15 areas identified by DEP sampling of select dry-cleaning program sites; and 20 current and former federal facilities; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the Division of Waste Management of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) introduced a dynamic plan to provide a coordinated approach to the complex issues associated with PFAS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., urges the federal government to coordinate with the DEP to continue the cleanup efforts on federal military sites.

Section 2. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., urges Congress to adopt legislation that would address PFAS contamination on non-federal grounds.

Section 3. A copy of this resolution be sent to President Joe Biden, the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Florida Congressional Delegation, the National League of Cities and the membership of the Florida League of Cities, Inc.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

_____
Antonio Ortiz, President
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Commissioner, City of Orlando

ATTEST: _____
Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: FLC Staff

Overview

EPA has established health advisories for PFOA and PFOS based on the agency's assessment of the latest peer-reviewed science to provide drinking water system operators, and state, tribal and local officials who have the primary responsibility for overseeing these systems, with information on the health risks of these chemicals, so they can take the appropriate actions to protect their residents. EPA is committed to supporting states and public water systems as they determine the appropriate steps to reduce exposure to PFOA and PFOS in drinking water. As science on health effects of these chemicals evolves, EPA will continue to evaluate new evidence.

Background on PFOA and PFOS

PFOA and PFOS are fluorinated organic chemicals that are part of a larger group of chemicals referred to as perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs). PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. They have been used to make carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food and other materials (e.g., cookware) that are resistant to water, grease or stains. They are also used for firefighting at airfields and in a number of industrial processes.

Because these chemicals have been used in an array of consumer products, most people have been exposed to them. Between 2000 and 2002, PFOS was voluntarily phased out of production in the U.S. by its primary manufacturer. In 2006, eight major companies voluntarily agreed to phase out their global production of PFOA and PFOA-related chemicals, although there are a limited number of ongoing uses. Scientists have found PFOA and PFOS in the blood of nearly all the people they tested, but these studies show that the levels of PFOA and PFOS in blood have been decreasing. While consumer products and food are a large source of exposure to these chemicals for most people, drinking water can be an additional source in the small percentage of communities where these chemicals have contaminated water supplies. Such contamination is typically localized and associated with a specific facility, for example, an industrial facility where these chemicals were produced or used to manufacture other products or an airfield at which they were used for firefighting.

EPA's 2016 Lifetime Health Advisories

EPA develops health advisories to provide information on contaminants that can cause human health effects and are known or anticipated to occur in drinking water. EPA's health advisories are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and provide technical information to states agencies and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies, and treatment technologies associated with drinking water contamination. In 2009, EPA published provisional health advisories for PFOA and PFOS based on the evidence available at that time. The science has evolved since then and EPA is now replacing the 2009 provisional advisories with new, lifetime health advisories.

FACT SHEET
PFOA & PFOS Drinking Water Health Advisories

EPA's 2016 Lifetime Health Advisories, continued

To provide Americans, including the most sensitive populations, with a margin of protection from a lifetime of exposure to PFOA and PFOS from drinking water, EPA established the health advisory levels at 70 parts per trillion. When both PFOA and PFOS are found in drinking water, the <u>combined</u> concentrations of PFOA and PFOS should be compared with the 70 parts per trillion health advisory level. This health advisory level offers a margin of protection for all Americans throughout their life from adverse health effects resulting from exposure to PFOA and PFOS in drinking water.

How the Health Advisories were developed

EPA's health advisories are based on the best available peer-reviewed studies of the effects of PFOA and PFOS on laboratory animals (rats and mice) and were also informed by epidemiological studies of human populations that have been exposed to PFASs. These studies indicate that exposure to PFOA and PFOS over certain levels may result in adverse health effects, including developmental effects to fetuses during pregnancy or to breastfed infants (e.g., low birth weight, accelerated puberty, skeletal variations), cancer (e.g., testicular, kidney), liver effects (e.g., tissue damage), immune effects (e.g., antibody production and immunity), thyroid effects and other effects (e.g., cholesterol changes).

EPA's health advisory levels were calculated to offer a margin of protection against adverse health effects to the most sensitive populations: fetuses during pregnancy and breastfed infants. The health advisory levels are calculated based on the drinking water intake of lactating women, who drink more water than other people and can pass these chemicals along to nursing infants through breastmilk.

Recommended Actions for Drinking Water Systems

Steps to Assess Contamination

If water sampling results confirm that drinking water contains PFOA and PFOS at individual or combined concentrations greater than 70 parts per trillion, water systems should quickly undertake additional sampling to assess the level, scope and localized source of contamination to inform next steps

Steps to Inform

If water sampling results confirm that drinking water contains PFOA and PFOS at individual or combined concentrations greater than 70 parts per trillion, water systems should promptly notify their State drinking water safety agency (or with EPA in jurisdictions for which EPA is the primary drinking water safety agency) and consult with the relevant agency on the best approach to conduct additional sampling.

Drinking water systems and public health officials should also promptly provide consumers with information about the levels of PFOA and PFOS in their drinking water. This notice should include specific information on the risks to fetuses during pregnancy and breastfed and formula-fed infants from exposure to drinking water with an individual or combined concentration of PFOA and PFOS above EPA's health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion. In addition, the notification should include actions they are taking and identify options that consumers may consider to reduce risk such as seeking an alternative drinking water source, or in the case of parents of formula-fed infants, using formula that does not require adding water.

FACT SHEET
PFOA & PFOS Drinking Water Health Advisories

Recommended Actions for Drinking Water Systems, continued

Steps to Limit Exposure

A number of options are available to drinking water systems to lower concentrations of PFOA and PFOS in their drinking water supply. In some cases, drinking water systems can reduce concentrations of perfluoroalkyl substances, including PFOA and PFOS, by closing contaminated wells or changing rates of blending of water sources. Alternatively, public water systems can treat source water with activated carbon or high pressure membrane systems (e.g., reverse osmosis) to remove PFOA and PFOS from drinking water. These treatment systems are used by some public water systems today, but should be carefully designed and maintained to ensure that they are effective for treating PFOA and PFOS. In some communities, entities have provided bottled water to consumers while steps to reduce or remove PFOA or PFOS from drinking water or to establish a new water supply are completed.

Many home drinking water treatment units are certified by independent accredited third party organizations against American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards to verify their contaminant removal claims. NSF International (NSF®) has developed a protocol for NSF/ANSI Standards 53 and 58 that establishes minimum requirements for materials, design and construction, and performance of point-of-use (POU) activated carbon drinking water treatment systems and reverse osmosis systems that are designed to reduce PFOA and PFOS in public water supplies. The protocol has been established to certify systems (e.g., home treatment systems) that meet the minimum requirements.   The systems are evaluated for contaminant reduction by challenging them with an influent of 1.5±30% µg/L (total of both PFOA and PFOS) and must reduce this concentration by more than 95% to 0.07 µg/L or less (total of both PFOA and PFOS) throughout the manufacturer's stated life of the treatment system. Product certification to this protocol for testing home treatment systems verifies that devices effectively reduces PFOA and PFOS to acceptable levels.

Other Actions Relating to PFOA and PFOS

Between 2000 and 2002, PFOS was voluntarily phased out of production in the U.S. by its primary manufacturer, 3M. EPA also issued regulations to limit future manufacturing, including importation, of PFOS and its precursors, without first having EPA review the new use. A limited set of existing uses for PFOS (fire resistant aviation hydraulic fluids, photography and film products, photomicrolithography process to produce semiconductors, metal finishing and plating baths, component of an etchant) was excluded from these regulations because these uses were ongoing and alternatives were not available.

In 2006, EPA asked eight major companies to commit to working toward the elimination of their production and use of PFOA, and chemicals that degrade to PFOA, from emissions and products by the end of 2015. All eight companies have indicated that they have phased out PFOA, and chemicals that degrade to PFOA, from emissions and products by the end of 2015. Additionally, PFOA is included in EPA's proposed Toxic Substance Control Act's Significant New Use Rule (SNUR) issued in January 2015 which will ensure that EPA has an opportunity to review any efforts to reintroduce the chemical into the marketplace and take action, as necessary, to address potential concerns.

FACT SHEET
PFOA & PFOS Drinking Water Health Advisories

Other Actions Relating to PFOA and PFOS, continued

EPA has not established national primary drinking water regulations for PFOA and PFOS. EPA is evaluating PFOA and PFOS as drinking water contaminants in accordance with the process required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). To regulate a contaminant under SDWA, EPA must find that it: (1) may have adverse health effects; (2) occurs frequently (or there is a substantial likelihood that it occurs frequently) at levels of public health concern; and (3) there is a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction for people served by public water systems.

EPA included PFOA and PFOS among the list of contaminants that water systems are required to monitor under the third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 3) in 2012. Results of this monitoring effort are updated regularly and can be found on the publicly-available National Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD) (https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/occurrence-data-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule#3). In accordance with SDWA, EPA will consider the occurrence data from UCMR 3, along with the peer reviewed health effects assessments supporting the PFOA and PFOS Health Advisories, to make a regulatory determination on whether to initiate the process to develop a national primary drinking water regulation.

In addition, EPA plans to begin a separate effort to determine the range of PFAS for which an Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessment is needed. The IRIS Program identifies and characterizes the health hazards of chemicals found in the environment. IRIS assessments inform the first two steps of the risk assessment process: hazard identification, and dose-response. As indicated in the 2015 IRIS Multi-Year Agenda, the IRIS Program will be working with other EPA offices to determine the range of PFAS compounds and the scope of assessment required to best meet Agency needs. More about this effort can be found at https://www.epa.gov/iris/iris-agenda.

Non-Drinking Water Exposure to PFOA and PFOS

These health advisories only apply to exposure scenarios involving drinking water. They are not appropriate for use, in identifying risk levels for ingestion of food sources, including: fish, meat produced from livestock that consumes contaminated water, or crops irrigated with contaminated water.

The health advisories are based on exposure from drinking water ingestion, not from skin contact or breathing. The advisory values are calculated based on drinking water consumption and household use of drinking water during food preparation (e.g., cooking or to prepare coffee, tea or soup). To develop the advisories, EPA considered non-drinking water sources of exposure to PFOA and PFOS, including: air, food, dust, and consumer products. In January 2016 the Food and Drug Administration amended its regulations to no longer allow PFOA and PFOS to be added in food packaging, which will likely decrease one source of non-drinking water exposure.

Where Can I Learn More?

- EPA's Drinking Water Health Advisories for PFOA and PFOS can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos
- PFOA and PFOS data collected under EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule are available: https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/occurrence-data-unregulated-con taminant-monitoring-rule
- EPA's stewardship program for PFAS related to TSCA: https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/and -polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfass-under-tsca
- EPA's research activities on PFASs can be found at: http://www.epa.gov/chemical-research/perfluorinated-chemical-pfc-research
- The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's Perflourinated Chemicals and Your Health webpage at: http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/PFC/

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

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2021-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH CITIES TO REBUILD AND STRENGTHEN AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, municipalities of all sizes own, zone and maintain a significant portion of America's critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, as Florida's population continues to grow, investing in infrastructure for transportation, water and broadband access is essential to Florida's prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the lack of federal investment in Florida's transportation system continues to adversely impact cities, which are the economic engines of our state; and

WHEREAS, an estimated $48 billion is needed over the next 20 years to meet Florida's needs for drinking water, wastewater, flood control, nutrient pollution, Everglades restoration and beach and inlet erosion; and

WHEREAS, making broadband more accessible, reliable and affordable in underserved or unserved areas can dramatically improve the quality of life for Floridians.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., strongly urges Congress and the Administration to support an infrastructure package that makes a significant federal commitment in strengthening the nation's transportation, water and broadband infrastructure and specifically:

- Directs federal funding to the Surface Transportation Block Grant program and other safety and technology grant programs that are accessible to all cities, towns and villages;
- Provides financing, funding and flexibility to meet Florida's growing water infrastructure needs and address the impacts of climate change; and
- Invests in urban and rural broadband infrastructure to close the digital divide and remove obstacles to municipal, public-private and co-op-provided broadband.

Section 2. The Florida League of Cities, Inc., strongly urges Congress and the Administration to partner directly with local governments, who are closest to their citizens, as full stakeholders in all federal programs that impact their communities.

Section 3. A copy of this resolution be sent to President Joe Biden, the Florida Congressional Delegation, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, the National League of Cities and the membership of the Florida League of Cities, Inc.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., in conference assembled at the League's 2021 Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, FL, this 14th Day of August 2021.

                                   _____
                                    Antonio Ortiz, President
                                    Florida League of Cities, Inc.
                                    Commissioner, City of Orlando

ATTEST: _____
                Jeannie Garner, Executive Director
                Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Submitted by: FLC Staff

⚙ INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE

ACTION NEEDED

We urge Congress to provide federal funding to help strengthen infrastructure to meet the needs of Floridians and maintain funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Our most essential infrastructure needs include:

▸ **Water supply and water quality through grants, low-interest loans and technical assistance.**

An estimated $48.71 billion is needed over the next 20 years to meet needs for drinking water, wastewater, flood control, nutrient pollution, Everglades restoration and beach and inlet erosion.

▸ **Transportation infrastructure.**

Failing infrastructure and the lack of available funding options for cities hinder our ability to build and maintain safe transportation systems that not only handle everyday traffic concerns but also withstand emergencies like hurricane evacuations.

▸ **Broadband infrastructure funding opportunities.**

Making broadband more accessible, reliable and affordable in underserved or unserved areas can dramatically improve the quality of life for Floridians. Nearly half a million Floridians do not have access to a wired connection with speeds of 25 Mbps or faster. Additionally, one million people in Florida have access to only one wired provider, which creates an unfair market condition in which users have no options to switch providers.

FLC
FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

Notes

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