



## **Economic Development Incentives**

### **Priority Statement:**

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation and policies that encourage coordination among Enterprise Florida, the Department of Economic Opportunity, other state agencies and cities to promote local economic development by providing increased funding, technical assistance and increased collaboration between the state and cities on offering incentives that maximize economic development opportunities for retention, expansion, and attraction, and building sustainable economic resiliency.

### **Background:**

Over the past year, many businesses in Florida located in our cities have been dramatically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As the federal government and the Florida Legislature focus on restarting the economy, it is key to point out that many businesses in Florida still require assistance. Economic development continues to be an important focus for our local communities. Cities want to see Florida lead the country in business assistance and incentive programs, which can significantly impact the cost of doing business by reducing both startup and operational costs.

Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) is a public-private partnership between Florida's business and government leaders and is the principal economic development organization for the state of Florida. EFI's mission is to expand and diversify the state's economy through job creation. In pursuit of its mission, EFI works closely with a statewide network of economic development partners and is funded both by the State of Florida and by private-sector businesses.

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) invests in the prosperity of all Floridians and their communities. DEO combines economic development initiatives, workforce support and training, and community development efforts to fuel job creation around the state. The state and federal programs administered by DEO help support local businesses, engage talented job seekers and enhance our state's diverse communities.

Strengthening the partnerships between EFI, the DEO, other state agencies and cities would achieve the goal of having Florida's economy lead the country. With the support of the DEO and EFI, our cities will be placed in the best position to provide community support to create and deliver jobs to Florida. Florida's cities will continue to engage stakeholders by looking to develop partnerships and strategies on how best to accomplish the task of getting Florida's economy to lead the nation.

**Contact:** David Cruz, Legislative Counsel – 850.701.3676 – [dcruz@flcities.com](mailto:dcruz@flcities.com)