



**UTILITIES, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Friday, October 4, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. ET**

**Meeting Room: Key Largo
Hilton Orlando
6001 Destination Parkway
Orlando, FL 32819**

FLC Staff Contact: Rebecca O'Hara



Agenda



Utilities, Natural Resources, and Public Works Legislative Policy Committee
Friday, October 4, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Hilton Orlando – Meeting Room: Key Largo
6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, Florida

AGENDA

- I. Introduction and Opening Remarks..... **Chair Teresa Watkins Brown**
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

- II. [FLC Policy Committee Process for 2024-2025](#) **Rebecca O’Hara, FLC Staff**
- III. Past Committee Priorities and Policies **Rebecca O’Hara, FLC Staff**
- IV. Summary of Key 2024 Legislation..... **Rebecca O’Hara, FLC Staff**
- V. Potential 2025 Priority and Policy Issues **Rebecca O’Hara, FLC Staff**
 - a. Utility Enterprise Fund Transfers and Restrictions on Extraterritorial Surcharges
 - b. State Parks
 - c. Comprehensive Waste and Recycling Plan

- VI. Additional Information..... **Chair Teresa Watkins Brown**
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers
 - a. [Key Legislative Dates](#)
 - b. Key Contacts – [Click HERE to sign-up](#)
 - c. [2024 Legislative Session Final Report](#)

- VII. Closing Remarks..... **Chair Teresa Watkins Brown**
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

- VIII. Adjournment

Breakfast and Lunch provided by the Florida League of Cities

WiFi is Available
Network: FLCPC1024
Access Code: FLCPC1024



Committee Roster



2024-2025 Legislative Policy Committee Utilities, Natural Resources and Public Works

Staffed by: *Rebecca O'Hara, Deputy General Counsel*

Chair:

The Honorable Teresa Watkins Brown

Councilmember, City of Fort Myers

Vice Chair:

The Honorable Lois Paritsky

Mayor, Town of Ponce Inlet

Members:

The Honorable Jen Ahearn-Koch

Vice Mayor, City of Sarasota

Alexandra Alexieva

Community Liaison, City of Miami

The Honorable David Bailey

Council Member, City of Brooksville

The Honorable Charles Bare

Councilmember, City of Pensacola

Dennis Barron

Director of Public Works, City of Jacksonville Beach

The Honorable Patricia Bates

Mayor, City of Altamonte Springs

Peter Bieniek

Director of Public Works, City of Fort Myers

The Honorable Nathaniel Birdsong, Jr.

Mayor, City of Winter Haven

The Honorable BJ Bishop

Commissioner, Town of Longboat Key

The Honorable Nancy Bowen

Commissioner, City of Coral Springs

The Honorable Sandra Bradbury

Mayor, City of Pinellas Park

Sammie Brown

Deputy Town Clerk, Town of Loxahatchee Groves

The Honorable Doug Bryant

Councilmember, City of Mount Dora

The Honorable Phyllis Butlien

Vice Mayor, City of DeBary

The Honorable Anthony Caggiano

Commissioner, City of Margate

The Honorable Carolyn Cassidy

Commissioner, Town of Ocean Ridge

Thomas A. Cloud

City Attorney, City of Davenport

Wade Cobb

Capital Projects Engineer, City of Sarasota

The Honorable Victoria Colangelo-Bruce

Commissioner, City of Winter Springs

Shana Coombs

Chief Operations Officer, City of Miramar

The Honorable Ann Cosentino

Commissioner, City of Dade City

The Honorable John Cotugno

Mayor, City of Vero Beach

The Honorable Michael Cox

Council President, City of Williston

James Dillon

Director of Public Works, City of
Tavares

The Honorable Ken Fairman

Councilmember, Village of Pinecrest

The Honorable Gregory Freebold

Mayor, Town of Lake Clarke Shores

The Honorable Arnold Gaines

Commissioner, City of Fort Pierce

Richard Gallant

Public Works Director, Town of
Loxahatchee Groves

The Honorable Stu Glass

Deputy Mayor, Town of Indialantic

The Honorable DD Halpern

Vice Mayor, Town of Juno Beach

Kate Helms

Stormwater Manager, City of Satellite
Beach

The Honorable Donna Holck

Commissioner, City of Largo

The Honorable Denise Horland

Councilmember, City of Plantation

The Honorable Bill Horn

Councilmember, City of Jacksonville
Beach

Gary Hubbard

Director Water Department, City of
Winter Haven

Jimmie Johnson

Utilities Director, Village of Palm
Springs

The Honorable Richard Johnson

Mayor, City of Sanibel

The Honorable John Jones

Council Member, City of Monticello

James Keene

Public Services Administrator, City of
Haines City

The Honorable Lorraine Koss

Councilperson, City of Cocoa

The Honorable David McAuley

Council Member, City of Okeechobee

The Honorable Jane Mealy

Commissioner, City of Flagler Beach

The Honorable Erik Morrissette

Vice Mayor, Town of Pembroke Park

The Honorable Clara Murvin

Vice Mayor, City of Pahokee

The Honorable David Pickett

Councilman, City of Port St. Lucie

The Honorable James Quinn

Councilor, City of Seminole

The Honorable Campbell Rich

Vice Mayor, City of Stuart

The Honorable Jan Rodusky

Councilwoman, Village of Royal Palm
Beach

The Honorable Richard Roney

Vice Mayor, Town of Hypoluxo

The Honorable Michael J. Ryan

Mayor, City of Sunrise

The Honorable Rick Sartory

Vice Mayor, Village of Tequesta

The Honorable Bev Smith

Mayor, Village of Palm Springs

The Honorable Phil Stokes

Vice Mayor, City of North Port

The Honorable April Thanos

Councilor, City of Gulfport

The Honorable Lori Tolland

Commissioner, City of Ormond Beach

Fernando Weiner

Governmental Affairs Manager, City of
Coral Gables

The Honorable Sandra Welch

Mayor, City of Coconut Creek

The Honorable Rosemary Wilsen

Commissioner, City of Ocoee

The Honorable Justin York

Commissioner, City of Lake Mary



FLC Policy Committee Process for 2024-2025

2024-2025 FLC LEGISLATIVE POLICY PROCESS

The Florida League of Cities' (FLC's) Charter and Bylaws specify that the League shall engage only on legislation that pertains directly to "municipal affairs." "Municipal affairs" refers to issues that directly pertain to the governmental, corporate and proprietary powers to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, render municipal services, and raise and expend revenues. Protecting Florida's cities from egregious, far-reaching attacks on Home Rule powers will always be the top priority.

Each year, municipal officials from across the state volunteer to serve on the League's legislative policy committees. Appointments are a one-year commitment and involve developing the League's Legislative Platform. The Legislative Platform addresses priority issues of statewide interest that are most likely to affect daily municipal governance and local decision-making during the upcoming legislative session.

Policy committee members also help League staff understand the real-world implications of proposed legislation, and they are asked to serve as advocates throughout the year. To get a broad spectrum of ideas and to better understand the impact of League policy proposals on rural, suburban and urban cities of all sizes, it is ideal that each of Florida's cities be represented on one or more of the legislative policy committees.

There are currently five standing legislative policy committees:

DEVELOPMENT, CODE COMPLIANCE, AND REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

This committee addresses development, redevelopment, housing, community planning, zoning, eminent domain, property rights, short-term rentals, code enforcement, building and fire code, building permitting, and concurrency management.

FINANCE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE: This committee addresses general finance and tax issues, fees, assessments, infrastructure funding, local option revenues, pension issues, revenue sharing, franchise fees, Communications Services Tax (CST), and ad valorem.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, MOBILITY, AND EMERGENCY

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: This committee addresses transportation, municipal roads, traffic safety, municipal airports, drones, vertiports, ports, telecommunications, broadband, use of public rights-of-way, parking, signage, emergency management, homelessness, charter counties, annexation, ethics for public officers and employees, elections, special districts, and general preemptions.



2024-2025 FLC LEGISLATIVE POLICY PROCESS

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: This committee addresses government operations, municipal service delivery, cybersecurity, technology, public safety, public meetings, public records, public property use and management, procurement, personnel, insurance, collective bargaining, workers' compensation, liability, and sovereign immunity.

UTILITIES, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: This committee addresses coastal management, environmental permitting, hazardous and toxic wastes, recycling, solid waste collection and disposal, stormwater, wastewater treatment and reuse, water management, water quality and quantity, resiliency, brownfields, and municipal utilities.

Due to Sunshine Law issues, only one elected official per city can be represented on a legislative policy committee, but a city could have an elected and a non-elected city official on each of the five policy committees. Appointments are made by the League president based upon a city official's support and advocacy of the Legislative Platform and participation at meetings, Legislative Action Days and other legislative-related activities.

The Florida Legislature convenes the 2025 Legislative Session on March 4. The League's legislative policy committee meetings commence in October 2024 and meet three times. No new issues will be considered by a legislative policy committee after the second committee meeting. At the last meeting, each of the five policy committees adopts ONE legislative priority. In addition, a legislative policy committee may, but is not required to, recommend ONE policy position related to other relevant issues. The policy position must satisfy the same criteria for legislative priorities. Priority and policy position statements are capped at 75 words. Recommended legislative priorities and policy positions will be considered by the Legislative Committee. If favorably considered by the Legislative Committee, they will be considered by the general membership. If adopted by the general membership, the policy priorities and policy positions may be published as the League's Legislative Platform and communicated to legislators and others, as appropriate.

2024-2025 FLC LEGISLATIVE POLICY PROCESS

The Legislative Committee is composed of:

- ▶ Each legislative policy committee chair and the chairs of the other standing committees
- ▶ The president of each local and regional league
- ▶ The presidents of several other municipal associations
- ▶ Chairs of the municipal trust boards
- ▶ Several at-large members appointed by the League president.

2024 Legislative Policy Committee Meeting Dates

- ▶ October 4, 2024, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819.
- ▶ November 8, 2024, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819.
- ▶ December 5, 2024, during the FLC Legislative Conference at the Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819.

If you are interested in serving or learning more, please contact Mary Edenfield at 850.701.3624 or medenfield@flcities.com.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: 2024-2025 FLC LEGISLATIVE POLICY PROCESS

What is an FLC legislative policy committee?

- ▶ Policy committees help set the Legislative Platform for the Florida League of Cities (FLC) and Florida's municipalities in advance of the next legislative session.
- ▶ The five policy committees include the Development, Code Compliance, and Redevelopment Committee; Finance and Taxation Committee; Intergovernmental Relations, Mobility, and Emergency Management Committee; Municipal Operations Committee; and Utilities, Natural Resources, and Public Works Committee.
- ▶ Committees are made up of municipal officials from across the state.

Have there been any changes to the legislative policy committees this year?

- ▶ Yes! The League shifted some issues among committees to better match each committee's scope. Also, the names of four committees were changed to better represent their focus.
- ▶ Before signing up for a committee, carefully review each of the committee descriptions found in the *2024-2025 FLC Legislative Policy Committee Process* document.

When and how do I sign up for a policy committee?

- ▶ Sign-up opens in June each year.
- ▶ To sign up, contact Mary Edenfield at medenfield@flcities.com for the sign-up link or go to flcities.com.
- ▶ The FLC President makes the committee appointments, and appointments are announced in August after the FLC Annual Conference.

Can I serve on more than one policy committee?

- ▶ No. All committees meet simultaneously.

When are the meetings, and is there a virtual option?

- ▶ Committee meetings take place in person in Orlando in October, November, and December during the FLC Legislative Conference.
- ▶ There is no virtual meeting option; meetings are in person.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: 2024-2025 FLC LEGISLATIVE POLICY PROCESS

How do I submit a policy issue for a committee to consider?

- ▶ If you want a committee to consider an issue as a League priority, contact the committee staff person before the October or November policy committee meeting.
 - **David Cruz**, FLC Legislative Counsel, staffs the Development, Code Compliance, and Redevelopment Committee.
 - **Charles Chapman**, Legislative Consultant, staffs the Finance and Taxation Committee.
 - **Jeff Branch**, FLC Senior Legislative Advocate, staffs the Intergovernmental Relations, Mobility, and Emergency Management Committee.
 - **Sam Wagoner**, FLC Legislative Advocate, staffs the Municipal Operations Committee.
 - **Rebecca O'Hara**, FLC Deputy General Counsel, staffs the Utilities, Natural Resources, and Public Works Committee.
- ▶ No new issues can be presented after the November meeting.

What can I expect at each meeting?

- ▶ First meeting in October: Discussions begin regarding potential priorities and policy positions.
- ▶ Second meeting in November: Discussions continue, and the committee may narrow down the list of considerations.
- ▶ Final meeting in December: The committee votes on one priority and one optional policy position, finalizing the text for the priority/policy position statements.

When will I get the meeting agenda?

- ▶ Meeting packets containing the agenda and related materials will be emailed to committee members one week before the meeting.
- ▶ You should bring a printed copy or your device to the meeting.
- ▶ Meeting packets are also available on flcities.com under the Advocacy tab.

Does FLC cover any meeting expenses?

- ▶ The League provides breakfast and lunch on the meeting date.





Past Committee Priorities and Policies

Past Priorities and Policies
UNRPW Legislative Policy Committee

2024 Legislative Session

Priority – Legislative Ratification of Statewide Stormwater Rule (passed 2024)

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to ratify the Department of Environmental Protection’s proposed Environmental Resource Permitting Rules for Stormwater Design and Operation Regulations, Ch. 62-330, F.A.C.

Policy – Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) (passed 2024)

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to clarify that the term “local government” under the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program means a county, a municipality, a dependent special district or an intergovernmental entity that has jurisdiction *only* within the boundaries of the participating members of an interlocal agreement.

2023 Legislative Session

Priority – Water Resources Planning

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation establishing a statewide coordinated planning and prioritization approach for water resource investments that funds Florida’s current and projected water needs in an equitable manner, and which authorizes Comprehensive Watershed Management projects to qualify for funding under the state Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund.

Policy – Water & Wastewater Operator Licensure (Passed in 2023)

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to address workforce shortages in municipal water and wastewater facilities by: 1) defining facility operators as critical and essential workers; 2) providing reciprocity with other states for licensure of facility operators; 3) allowing credit towards licensure for military experience and time served performing similar functions; and providing flexibility for facilities to use retired or out of state operators in emergencies.

2022 Legislative Session

Priority -- Tree Protection (Passed in 2022)

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to close loopholes and create standards in current law exemptions from municipal tree ordinances that have caused litigation and abuses, including the clear-cutting of land pre-development and the removal of healthy trees that present little, if any, risk to persons or structures. Current law should be amended to apply only to developed single-family residential property, identify industry-appropriate standards for assessing tree risk and identify necessary documentation.

Policy -- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) (Passed (partial) in 2022)

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislative action to address growing concerns about PFAS in soil and water, including coordinating with the Environmental Protection Agency to establish science-based cleanup target levels, providing resources for testing and research, public education and risk assessment guidelines, establishing liability protection for entities that have legally used PFAS for fire suppression or have passively received PFAS, and developing cost-effective and risk-based corrective strategies for PFAS.

2021 Legislative Session

Policy – Surface Water Discharges

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that establishes reasonable timeframes for utilities to eliminate, with specified exceptions, non-beneficial discharges to surface water unless a utility demonstrates it is not environmentally, technically and economically feasible.

Policy – Resiliency

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that promotes a resilient and sustainable Florida, including:

- Funding for water quality improvements
- Policies and funding for alternative water supply development
- Intergovernmental coordination and planning on strategies to address coastal and inland flooding

2020 Legislative Session

Priority – Water Resources

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to address Florida’s water quality crisis and water supply deficiencies that:

- provides for an annual assessment of the state’s water infrastructure and water quality improvement needs at the state, regional and local levels.
- establishes a framework for a state water infrastructure and water quality funding program that includes objective criteria tied to beneficial returns on investment, sustainable utility practices and intergovernmental coordination.
- identifies potential sources of funding or financing.

Policy – Resiliency

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS the Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection and will SUPPORT legislation to fund and coordinate state resiliency programs with those of local governments.



Summary of Key 2024 Legislation

Summary of Key UNRPW Issues From 2024 Session

PASSED

Funding for Environmental Resource Management

CS/SB 1638 (Hutson) deposits 96% of any revenue share payments from the Indian Gaming Compact into the Indian Gaming Revenue Clearing Trust Fund for environmental resource management purposes. The bill provides revenue allocations for the Florida Wildlife Corridor, management of uplands and invasive species removal, the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan, and the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund. The bill creates the Local Trail Management Grant Program within the Department of Environmental Protection to assist local governments with trail operation and maintenance costs. It authorizes the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to enter agreements with private landowners for environmental services within the Florida Wildlife Corridor. The bill revises the Water Quality Improvement Grant Program to prioritize projects that reduce nutrient loading to water bodies and improve water quality. In addition, the bill provides appropriations for various environmental, land acquisition and land management initiatives, and water quality studies.

Effective date: Upon becoming law.

Approved by Governor: Ch. 2024-58, Laws of Florida.

Ratification of the Department of Environmental Protection's Rules Relating to Stormwater

CS/SB 7040 (Environment and Natural Resources) ratifies rule 62-330, relating to environmental resource permitting for stormwater management and requires legislative approval for future amendments to the rule. The bill makes additional changes to the proposed rule, including the following:

- clarifying provisions relating to grandfathered projects;
- providing that entities implementing stormwater best management practices also regulated under different provisions of law are not subject to duplicate inspections for the same practices; and
- allowing alternative treatment standards for redevelopment projects in areas with impaired waters.

SB 7040 also provides additional grandfathering for the following:

- stormwater management plans and designs included with a project associated with an application for site plan or subdivision plat approval submitted before January 1, 2024;
- valid development of regional impact (DRI) projects with a development order approved prior to January 1, 2024;
- planned unit development (PUD) projects with an approved final development plan prior to January 1, 2024;
- stormwater management systems constructed in accordance with a binding ecosystem management agreement executed before January 2024; and
- a regional stormwater management system designed and permitted under part IV of chapter 373, F.S., before January 2024.

The DRI development order grandfathering provision terminates in 2044 and the PUD grandfathering provision terminates in 2034.

Effective date: Upon becoming law.

Approved by Governor: Ch. 2024-275, Laws of Florida.

Department of Environmental Protection

CS/CS/HB 1557 (Chaney) is the legislative package for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and revises various authorizing statutes for the agency. Among other things, the bill requires water management districts to develop rules that: encourage the use of reclaimed water; encourage potable water offsets that produce significant water savings beyond those required in a consumptive use permit (CUP); and provide for extended CUP permits if an applicant proposes a water supply development or water resource development project using reclaimed water and the reclaimed water product meets advanced waste treatment standards. It requires all domestic wastewater treatment facilities to prepare a reuse feasibility study and to implement reuse when feasible. It requires that any wastewater treatment facility providing reclaimed water that will be used for commercial or residential irrigation within a nutrient basin management action plan or reasonable assurance plan area to meet advanced waste treatment standards. In addition, the bill amends the use of Resilient Florida Grant Program funds for local governments to include updates to critical asset inventories and the development of strategies, plans, and projects that enhance community preparations for threats from flooding and sea level rise, as well as adaptation plans. The bill expands the information that must be submitted to DEP when vulnerability assessments are funded. In addition, it requires DEP to coordinate with the Chief Resilience Officer and the Florida Flood Hub in developing and maintaining the sea level rise data set and in updating the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set. The bill also clarifies the Legislature's intent that the transfer of the Onsite Sewage Program from the Department of Health to DEP be completed in a phased approach. It requires DEP to establish an enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage approval program that will expedite the approval of such systems for use. Finally, the bill designates the Kristin Jacobs Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area as an aquatic preserve.

Effective date: July 1, 2024.

Approved by Governor: Ch. 2024-180, Laws of Florida.

Improvements to Real Property

CS/CS/SB 770 (Martin) clarifies that a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program administrator may offer financing to a residential or commercial property only within the jurisdiction of a county or municipality that has authorized the program by ordinance or resolution. The bill also expands the eligible uses of the program, which include improvements for advanced wastewater treatment, flood mitigation, and sustainable building. The bill tightens the consumer protections surrounding the program (including additional disclosure requirements and greater financial scrutiny on a property owner's ability to repay), enhances oversight of contractors that install improvements, and imposes additional obligations on program administrators. Commercial and residential PACE programs are placed into separate statutes for clarity. It allows current contracts and authorizations between a county or municipality and a

program administrator to continue without additional action by counties or municipalities, but a program administrator must comply with the changes and any contract, authorization, or interlocal agreement must be amended to comply with the changes.

Effective date: July 1, 2024.

Approved by Governor: Ch. 2024-273, Laws of Florida.

DID NOT PASS BUT LIKELY TO RETURN

Municipal Utilities

CS/CS/HB 1277 (Busatta Cabrera) and **SB 1510** (Brodeur) would have imposed restrictions on the use of municipal water, wastewater, gas or electric utility revenues to fund general government services and imposed restrictions on the imposition of water and wastewater extraterritorial surcharges. **CS/CS/HB 1277** required interlocal agreements for extraterritorial utility service (gas, electric, water and wastewater) to be written and provided that such agreements may not become effective until the provider municipality holds a joint public meeting with the governing body of the recipient jurisdiction. In addition, the bill required a joint annual customer meeting between the providing municipality and the recipient jurisdictions' governing bodies for the purpose of obtaining public input on utility matters. **CS/CS/HB 1277** imposed a 10% cap of gross utility revenues on any utility enterprise fund transfers to the general fund. Beginning in November 2024, municipal utilities providing extraterritorial services were required to submit an annual report to the Public Service Commission with information about the scope and nature of the services. Beginning in January 2025, the Public Service Commission was required to aggregate the information submitted by municipal utilities and provide an annual report to the Legislature. **SB 1510** specified that the portion of utility revenues transferred to the general fund may not exceed the transfer rates specified in the bill. The specified transfer rates are based on the average midpoints of the rates of return on equity approved by the Public Service Commission for investor-owned utilities. The bill required further reductions in the allowable transfer rate based on the percentage of the utility's retail customers located outside the municipality's boundaries. The bill further specified that these reductions do not apply if the utility service is governed by a utility authority board that, through the election of voting members from outside the municipal boundaries, provides for proportionate representation of customers located outside the municipal boundaries. With respect to extraterritorial surcharges, **CS/CS/HB 1277** and **SB 1510** eliminated the first 25% extraterritorial surcharge that may be imposed without a public hearing. The bills eliminated the second 25% surcharge that may be imposed after a public hearing. In addition, the bills provided that rates, fees and charges that may be imposed on extraterritorial customers should not exceed 25% (reduced from the 50% allowed under current law) of the total amount the municipality charges customers served within the municipality for corresponding service. The effective date of the bills was July 2025.
(O'Hara)

Municipal Water and Sewer Utility Rates

CS/HB 47 (Robinson, F.) and **CS/SB 104** (Jones) would have required a municipality that operates a water or sewer utility providing services to customers in another recipient municipality using a facility or plant located in the recipient municipality to charge customers in

the recipient municipality the same rates, fees and charges it imposes on customers in its own municipal boundaries. (O'Hara)

Municipal Water or Sewer Utility Rates, Fees and Charges

CS/HB 777 (Brackett) and **SB 1088** (Martin) would have removed statutory authorization for municipalities to impose any surcharge for serving customers outside their municipal boundaries. **CS/HB 777** would have required that rates, fees and charges be the same for customers served inside and outside the municipality's boundaries. **SB 1088** specified that rates, fees and charges for extraterritorial customers must be just and equitable and be based on the same factors used to fix rates, fees and charges for customers inside the municipality's boundaries. The bills also would have required municipal utilities that serve extraterritorial customers to conduct a rate study by January 1, 2027, and every seven years afterward. (O'Hara)

Comprehensive Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan

SB 36 (Stewart) and **HB 455** (Casello) would have required the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan by July 2025 based on recommendations from the Department's 2020 75% Recycling Goal Final Report. The bill would also have required the Department to convene a technical assistance group to help develop the plan. The plan would include the following: recycling goals based on sustainable materials management and waste diversion; a 30-year plan to implement strategies relating to recycling education and outreach; local government recycling assistance; and recycling materials market development. The bill would have required the Department to submit a report and recommendations to the Legislature following completion of the plan. **HB 455** passed the House (119-0) and died in Senate messages. (O'Hara)

Contaminants of Emerging Concern

CS/SB 1692 (Brodeur) and **HB 1665** (Gossett-Seidman) would have established the PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane pretreatment initiative within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the purpose of coordinating wastewater facility industrial pretreatment programs. The bills would have required wastewater facilities with an industrial pretreatment program to:

- By July 2025, complete and provide to DEP an inventory of industrial users to identify probable sources of PFAS or dioxane
- Before March 2025, provide notice to DEP of any industrial user that has been initially identified by the inventory as a probable source of PFAS or dioxane discharges. The notice must inform industrial users that they may become subject to pretreatment standards and requirements
- Submit to DEP a final inventory of industrial users that are subject to pretreatment standards and requirements and notify the users that they may be subject to enforcement action by July 2026
- Issue a permit, order or other measure to enforce applicable pretreatment standards
- By July 2027, sample each industrial user's facilities and other at-risk sites. If the sample is above discharge limits, the wastewater facility must implement corrective action to reduce levels of PFAS or dioxane at the user's facilities or other at-risk sites.

Beginning July 2026, the bills would have established specified discharge limits for PFAS and dioxane for industrial users until new discharge limits are adopted by DEP. The bills provided that before July 2027, an entity may not be subject to civil or criminal penalties for violations of the bills' requirements. After July 2027, the bills would have directed DEP to consider the financial situation and costs of corrective actions for each wastewater facility that may be out of compliance with its permit or order when considering enforcement action for violations of pretreatment standards or violations of water quality standards. (O'Hara)

Energy Resources

CS/CS/HB 1645 (Payne) revises various statutes relating to energy policy and regulation. It requires rural electric cooperatives and municipal electric utilities to have at least one mutual aid agreement with another electric utility for power restoration purposes following a natural disaster. In addition, it provides that a “Resiliency Facility” is a permitted use in all local government commercial, industrial, and manufacturing land use categories and districts, and it specifies that such facilities must comply with landscape and buffering requirements for similar uses. A Resiliency Facility is defined as a facility of a public utility used for assembling, creating, holding, or deploying natural gas reserves for temporary use during a system outage or natural disaster. The bill prohibits a local government, after July 2024, from amending its comprehensive plan or land development regulations in a manner that would conflict with a resiliency facility’s classification as a permitted use in all land use categories and districts.

The bill removes current law requirements that direct state agencies to purchase “climate-friendly preferred products” and to contract with “Green Lodging” facilities. In addition, the bill removes current law provisions that require state agencies to purchase the most fuel-efficient vehicles. The bill requires a public utility to petition the Public Service Commission for approval before retiring an electric power plant. In addition, the bill authorizes the Commission to approve voluntary public utility programs for residential EV charging if the program will not adversely affect the utility’s rate payers. The bill revises the goals and objectives of the state’s Energy Policy and eliminates various grants and programs relating to renewable energy, energy efficiency, and climate. It prohibits community development districts and homeowners’ associations from prohibiting utility fuel sources and gas appliances.

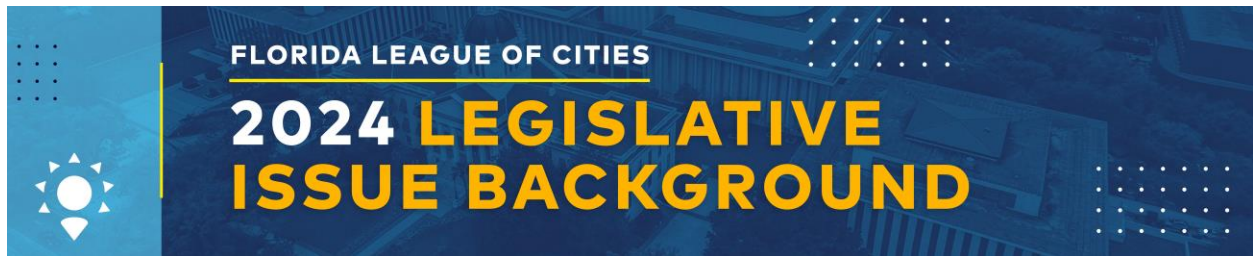
The bill directs the Public Service Commission to assess, study, and report on the following: modernization of the state’s electric grid; the security and resiliency of the state’s electric grid and natural gas facilities; and the feasibility of using advanced nuclear power technologies. It prohibits the construction or expansion of offshore wind energy facilities and certain wind turbines located on real property within a mile of the state’s coastline or intracoastal waterways or on waters of the state. The bill increases the minimum length of an intrastate natural gas pipeline that requires certification under the Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Siting Act from 15 miles to 100 miles.

Effective date: July 1, 2024.

Approved by Governor: Ch. 2024-186, Laws of Florida.



Utility Enterprise Fund Transfers and Restrictions on Extraterritorial Surcharges



Enterprise Fund Transfers

Draft Priority Statement:

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS the preservation of municipal authority to manage municipal revenue sources and realize a reasonable rate of return on their proprietary assets, investments and services.

Background:

- During the 2023 and 2024 sessions, legislation was filed that would have substantially municipal authority and revenues relating to municipal water and electric utility extraterritorial surcharges, extraterritorial service, and transfers of enterprise funds. The bills would have authorized a municipal utility to transfer a portion of its earnings to the municipality for general fund purposes but at a significantly reduced rate and would have eliminated any amount of surcharge could be added to the rates and fees charged to extraterritorial water and wastewater customers.
- There are no current statutory restrictions on transfers of municipal enterprise funds to the municipal general fund. Municipalities may transfer utility revenues as needed to supplement their general funds for other municipal operations, thereby supplementing property tax revenues or using enterprise fund revenues to provide essential public safety government services where insufficient property tax revenue exists.
- Under current law, municipal water and wastewater utilities are statutorily authorized to levy a surcharge on extraterritorial water service. A municipal water or wastewater utility may impose a surcharge of up to 25% for extraterritorial service without a public hearing. In addition, a municipal water or wastewater utility may impose a second surcharge of up to 25% for extraterritorial service after holding a public hearing.
- **HB 1277** (Busatta Cabrera) and **SB 1510** (Brodeur), filed in the 2024 session, would have imposed a 10% cap of gross utility revenues on any enterprise fund transfers to the general fund. In addition, the bills required interlocal agreements for extraterritorial service to be written and provided that such agreements may not become effective until a joint public meeting was held between the governing body of the municipal utility service provider and the governing body of the recipient jurisdiction. The bills required a joint public meeting to be held annually. The bills also required municipal utilities to submit an annual report to the Public Service Commission with information about the nature and scope of services. Early versions of the bills imposed no restrictions on enterprise fund transfers if the utility service was governed by a utility board composed of proportionate representation of extraterritorial customers.
- **HB 1277** and **SB 1510** eliminated current statutory authority for extraterritorial surcharges for water and wastewater service. Instead, the bills provided that rates, fees and charges for extraterritorial customers should not exceed 25% of the total amount a municipality charges customers served within the municipality for corresponding service.
- **HB 1277** made it to the House floor but died on Second Reading. **SB 1510** died in committee. The bills are expected to be refiled for the 2025 session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: CS/CS/HB 1277 Municipal Utilities

SPONSOR(S): Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee, Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee, Busatta Cabrera

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1510

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee	13 Y, 2 N, As CS	Bauldree	Keating
2) Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee	11 Y, 4 N, As CS	Burgess	Darden
3) Commerce Committee	15 Y, 2 N	Bauldree	Hamon

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Pursuant to s. 2(b), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, municipalities have the governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services. Municipalities may provide utilities to citizens and entities within the municipality's corporate boundaries and, by agreement, in unincorporated areas and in other municipalities.

Many municipalities own and operate electric and natural gas utilities. Municipalities are also authorized by general law to provide water and sewer utility services. A municipality that operates a water or sewer utility outside of its municipal boundaries may impose higher rates, fees, and charges on consumers receiving service outside of its corporate boundaries as compared to the rates, fees, and charges imposed on consumers within its boundaries. Municipalities routinely transfer a portion of their utility earnings to their general funds for non-utility purposes, though the amounts and percentages vary widely among municipalities.

Under the bill, a municipality that intends to offer utility service under a new, extended, renewed, or materially amended agreement must, in conjunction with the local government of the area to be served, conduct a public meeting within the area to be served. The bill also requires municipalities that provide such service to conduct an annual customer meeting in the areas served outside the municipal boundaries. The bill limits the portion of municipal utility revenues earned from service provided outside the municipal boundaries that may be used to fund or finance the municipality's non-utility related general government functions. The bill requires each municipality which provides utility service outside of its municipal boundaries to report annually certain information to the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) for each type of utility service it provides and requires the PSC to compile and report this data to the Legislature and the Governor.

The bill limits the rates, fees, and charges that a municipal water or sewer utility may impose on consumers outside its boundaries to no more than 25 percent above the total amount the municipal water or sewer utility charges consumers within the municipal boundaries, provided rates for outside consumers are set in a public hearing using the same methods as rates for other consumers. The bill prohibits a municipal water or sewer utility that serves consumers within the boundaries of a separate municipality, using a water treatment plant or sewer treatment plant located within the boundaries of that separate municipality, from imposing rates, fees, and charges higher than those imposed on consumers inside its own municipal boundaries.

The bill does not impact state government revenues or state or local government expenditures. The bill may have a negative fiscal impact on certain local revenues. See Fiscal Analysis & Economic Impact Statement.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2025.

This bill may be a county or municipality mandate requiring a two-thirds vote of the membership of the House. See Section III.A.1 of the analysis.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Local Government Utility Services

Pursuant to s. 2(b), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, municipalities have the governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services. Municipalities may exercise any power for municipal purposes, except when expressly prohibited by law.¹ The legislative body of each municipality has the power to enact legislation on any subject upon which the state Legislature may act with certain exceptions.² Under their home rule power and as otherwise provided or limited by law or agreement, municipalities may provide utilities to citizens and entities within the municipality's corporate boundaries, in unincorporated areas, and even in other municipalities.

Many municipalities own and operate electric utilities and natural gas utilities and govern the operation of those utilities through ordinance, code, or policies. Currently, there are 33 municipal electric utilities in the state.³ Municipal electric and natural gas utility rates are not directly regulated by the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC), however, the PSC does have jurisdiction over municipal electric utilities for matters related to rate structure, power plant transmission line site certification, general reporting jurisdiction, service territory and territory disputes, energy efficiency reporting, ten-year site plans, reporting on system hardening and resiliency, reporting on net metering, audits related to regulatory assessment fees, monitoring renewable energy, reporting on facilities inspection and vegetation management, and grid bill jurisdiction.⁴

Municipalities are authorized by general law to provide water and sewer utility services.⁵ With respect to public works projects, including water and sewer utility services,⁶ municipalities may extend and execute their corporate powers outside of their corporate limits as "desirable or necessary for the promotion of the public health, safety and welfare."⁷ A municipality may not extend or apply these corporate powers within the corporate limits of another municipality.⁸ In general, however, local governments may enter into mutually advantageous agreements to provide services or facilities to other localities.⁹ Further, the law specifically authorizes a municipality to permit any other municipality and the owners of lands outside its corporate limits or within the limits of another municipality to connect with its water and sewer utility facilities and use its services upon agreed terms and

¹ Section 166.021(2), F.S., provides that any activity or power which may be exercised by the state or its political subdivisions is considered a municipal purpose.

² Pursuant to s. 166.021(3), F.S., a municipality may not enact legislation on the following: the subjects of annexation, merger, and exercise of extraterritorial power, which require general law or special law; any subject expressly prohibited by the constitution; any subject expressly preempted to state or county government by the constitution or by general law; and any subject preempted to a county pursuant to a county charter adopted under the authority of the State constitution.

³ Presentation on *Florida Public Power*, Florida Municipal Electric Association (Feb. 9, 2023), slide 2, available at <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/publications.aspx?CommitteeId=3226&PublicationType=Committee&DocumentType=Meeting%20Packets&SessionId=99> (last visited Jan. 16, 2024)

⁴ *Id.* at slide 3.

⁵ Pursuant to s. 180.06, F.S., a municipality may "provide water and alternative water supplies;" "provide for the collection and disposal of sewage, including wastewater reuse, and other liquid wastes;" and "construct reservoirs, sewerage systems, trunk sewers, intercepting sewers, pumping stations, wells, siphons, intakes, pipelines, distribution systems, purification works, collection systems, treatment and disposal works" to accomplish these purposes.

⁶ Other public works projects authorized under s. 180.06, F.S., include alternative water supplies, maintenance of water flow and bodies of water for sanitary purposes, garbage collection and disposal, airports, hospitals, jails, golf courses, gas plants and distribution systems, and related facilities.

⁷ S. 180.02(2), F.S.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ See s. 163.01, F.S.

conditions.¹⁰ An informal study conducted in 2014 indicated that approximately 250 municipalities provide water service and approximately 220 municipalities provide wastewater service. Of these municipalities, the study found that approximately 140 provide water and/or waste water services to customers outside of their municipal boundaries, which may include customers in unincorporated areas of counties or in other municipalities.¹¹ These utility systems are exempt from PSC jurisdiction.

A municipality that operates a water or sewer utility outside of its municipal boundaries may impose higher rates, fees, and charges on consumers receiving service outside of its corporate boundaries as compared to the rates, fees, and charges imposed on consumers within its boundaries. The municipality can accomplish this in two ways:

- First, for consumers outside of its boundaries, it may add a surcharge of up to 25 percent of the rates, fees, and charges imposed on consumers within its boundaries. This mechanism does not require a public hearing.¹²
- Second, it may set separate rates, fees, and charges for consumers outside its boundaries based on the same factors used to set rates for consumers within its boundaries. It may add a surcharge of up to 25 percent of these charges, provided that the total of all such rates, fees, and charges for service to consumers outside its boundaries may not exceed the total charges to consumers within its boundaries by more than 50 percent for corresponding service. Rates set in this manner require a public hearing at which all users served or to be served by the water or sewer utilities and all other interested persons will have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed rates.¹³

There is no central repository for information concerning municipal water or sewer service rates that identifies municipalities that impose higher rates on consumers outside of the municipal boundaries, the specific mechanism used by such municipalities to establish such rates, or the level of any additional charge or surcharge imposed.

Most municipal utility systems are governed by the municipality's governing body (i.e., the city commission). Six municipal electric utility systems in Florida are governed by separate utility boards, or "authorities," which are typically appointed by the municipality's governing body.¹⁴ These utility authorities vary in structure, though the charter documents for each generally address the powers and duties of the authority (including terms related to rate-setting, financing, acquisitions, and eminent domain), the selection process for authority members (including qualifications and terms of office), the management and personnel of the authority, the transfer of revenues from utility operations to the municipality, and the degree of continuing oversight by the municipal governing body.

Current law authorizes municipalities to raise amounts of money which are necessary for the conduct of the municipal government. A municipality may do so by taxation and licenses authorized by Florida's constitution or general law, or by user charges or fees authorized by ordinance.¹⁵ Municipalities routinely transfer a portion of their utility earnings to their general funds for non-utility purposes, though the amounts and percentages may vary widely among municipalities.¹⁶ These transfers may be limited in some circumstances by ordinance, but they are not governed by state law.

Effect of the Bill

Under the bill, a municipality that intends to offer retail electric, natural gas, water, or sewer utility service in another municipality or unincorporated area outside of the municipality's boundaries must

¹⁰ S. 180.19, F.S.

¹¹ Analysis of House Bill 813 (2014), Florida House of Representatives.

¹² S. 180.191(1)(a), F.S.

¹³ S. 180.191(1)(b), F.S.

¹⁴ The Keys Energy Services Utility Board is the only utility authority in the state with elected board members. Key West has an elected board, with 2 of the 5 members from outside the city limits. Presentation on *Florida Public Power*, Florida Municipal Electric Association *supra* n. 3, slide 8.

¹⁵ S. 166.201, F.S.

¹⁶ Presentation on *Florida Public Power*, Florida Municipal Electric Association *supra* n. 3, slide 6.

hold a public meeting in conjunction with the governing body of each municipality or unincorporated area to be served before a new agreement to provide such service, or a renewal, extension, or material amendment of an existing agreement, may take effect. The public meeting must be held within each municipality and unincorporated area to be served for the purpose of providing information and soliciting public input on:

- The nature of the service to be provided or changes to the service being provided;
- The rates, fees, and charges to be imposed for the services provided or intended to be provided, including any differential with the rates, fees, and charges imposed for the same service on customers located within the boundaries of the serving municipality, the basis for the differential, and the length of time that the differential is expected to exist;
- The extent to which revenues generated from the provision of the service will be used to fund or finance non-utility government functions or services; and
- Any other matters deemed relevant by the parties to the agreement.

Further, the bill requires that a new agreement to provide these utility services beyond a municipality's boundaries, or an extension, renewal, or material amendment to an existing agreement, must be in writing. Under the bill, any agreement to provide water or sewer utility service must comply with the other provisions of the bill limiting rates charged to consumers outside city limits when providing such services.

The bill requires that an appointed representative¹⁷ of each municipality providing utility service in another municipality or unincorporated area outside of the municipality's boundaries must conduct an annual customer meeting in conjunction with the governing body of each municipality and unincorporated area in which it provides service. The purpose of this meeting is to receive public input on utility-related matters, including rates and service. The bill provides this meeting does not need to be a separate public meeting conducted specifically for this purpose.

Under the bill, a municipality may not transfer more than 10 percent of the gross revenues it generates from electric, natural gas, water, or sewer service provided to consumers outside its municipal boundaries to fund or finance non-utility governmental functions. Further, the bill requires that the revenues remaining after a transfer must be reinvested into the municipal utility or returned to customers living beyond the municipality's corporate limits.

The bill requires that by November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, each municipality which provides utility service outside its municipal boundaries report to the PSC, for each type of utility service it provides outside of municipal boundaries, the following information:

- The number and percentage of customers that receive utility service provided by the municipality at a location outside the boundaries of the municipality;
- The volume and percentage of sales made to such customers, and the gross revenues generated from such sales; and
- Whether the rates, fees, and charges imposed on customers that receive service at a location outside the municipality's boundaries are different than the rates, fees, and charges imposed on customers within the boundaries of the municipality, and, if so, the amount and percentage of the differential.

The bill requires the PSC to compile this information and report it to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate President, and the Governor by January 31, 2025, and annually thereafter. The bill provides that it does not modify or extend the authority of the PSC otherwise provided by law with respect to any municipal utility that must report this information.

The bill removes the provision from current law allowing water or sewer utilities to add, for consumers outside of its boundaries, a surcharge of up to 25 percent of the rates, fees, and charges imposed on consumers within its boundaries without a public meeting. Furthermore, the bill changes the limit on the

¹⁷ The appointed representative must be an executive-level leadership employee of the municipality, or the municipality's utility authority, board, or commission, specifically appointed by the governing body of the municipality to serve as its representative for the purpose of the meeting.

rates, fees, and charges such utilities can impose on customers outside of municipal boundaries to no more than 25 percent above the total amount the municipal water or sewer utility charges customers within the municipal boundaries, provided rates for outside customers are set in a public hearing using the same methods as rates for other customers.

The bill limits the rates, fees, and charges that a municipal water or sewer utility that provides service to consumers within the boundaries of a separate municipality, using a water treatment plant or sewer treatment plant located within the boundaries of that separate municipality, by requiring that such charges are no more than the rates, fees, and charges imposed on consumers inside its own municipal boundaries.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2025.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Amends s. 180.19, F.S., relating to use by other municipalities and by individuals outside corporate limits.

Section 2: Amends s. 180.191, F.S., relating to limitation on rates charged consumer outside city limits.

Section 3: Provides an effective date of July 1, 2025.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

The bill will likely have a negative fiscal impact on some local governments which own and operate water or wastewater utilities, as it reduces the maximum amount that municipal water and sewer utilities can charge customers outside the municipal boundaries.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill may result in cost savings to municipal water and sewer utility customers located outside of municipal boundaries. A municipal water or sewer utility may increase rates for other customers to mitigate revenue impacts.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The county/municipality mandates provision of Art. VII, section 18(b), of the Florida Constitution may apply because this bill reduces the maximum amount that municipal water and sewer utilities can charge customers outside the municipal boundaries. If the bill does qualify as a mandate, final passage must be approved by two-thirds of the membership of each house of the Legislature.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The bill does not require or authorize rulemaking.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On January 19, 2024, the Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee adopted a strike-all amendment and reported the bill favorably as a committee substitute. The amendment:

- Provided that a new, extended, renewed, or materially amended agreement for the provision of municipal utility service at retail to customers located in another municipality or in an unincorporated area must be written and may not become effective before a public meeting is held in the service area for the purpose of providing certain information and soliciting public input on matters related to the agreement.
- Required annual customer meetings to be held in such service areas for the purpose of soliciting public input on utility-related matters.
- Required that these meetings be held in conjunction with specified governing bodies for the areas in which service is provided.
- Provided that a municipality that generates revenue from the provision of utility service to customers located in another municipality or in an unincorporated area may not use more than 10 percent of the gross revenues generated from such services to fund or finance general government functions.
- Removed provisions of the bill that limited transfers from municipal utility revenues based on rates of return on equity approved by the Public Service Commission for investor-owned utilities and based on the proportion of customers served beyond municipal boundaries.
- Required annual data reporting regarding the provision of municipal utility service to customers located in another municipality or in an unincorporated area.
- Retained provisions of the bill that reduce the maximum rate differential between municipal water and sewer utility customers located within and outside the municipal boundaries.
- Retained provisions of the bill that prohibit the imposition of a surcharge on customers located in certain other municipalities.

On January 31, 2024, the Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee adopted an amendment and reported the bill favorably as a committee substitute. The amendment differs from the bill as filed in that it:

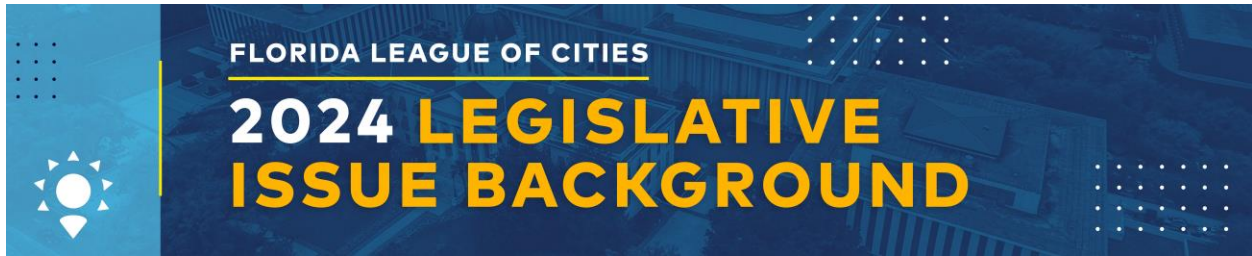
- Specified that required customer meetings are not required to be a separate public meeting.
- Clarified that a municipality must be represented at a customer meeting by an appointed representative, who must be an executive-level leadership employee of the municipality or the municipality's utility authority, board, or commission.

- Required excess revenue, once costs are paid to fund or finance general government functions, to be reinvested into the municipal utility or returned to customers living beyond the municipality's corporate limits.

This analysis is drafted to the committee substitute as passed by the Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee.



State Parks



**Protect Florida’s State Parks and Enhance Public Recreational Opportunities
Through the Florida Communities Trust Program and the
Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program**

Proposed Priority:

The Florida League of Cities supports legislation that preserves and protects the natural habitats and ecosystems of Florida’s state parks, and which ensures that public uses within state parks do not conflict with or jeopardize natural habitats and ecosystems. The state should partner with local governments to increase public recreation opportunities in appropriate areas through the Florida Communities Trust Program and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program.

Background

Florida’s award-winning state parks are essential to Florida. Florida state parks protect the state’s most scenic and iconic landscapes, safeguarding resources for wildlife, protecting water quality and drinking water supplies, and providing fire protection and flood control. Municipalities benefit from the water resource protection, flood control, and fire protection provided by state parks. Municipalities proximate to state parks offer lodging and active recreational activities for state park visitors, and municipal residents and businesses derive economic benefit from state park visitors.

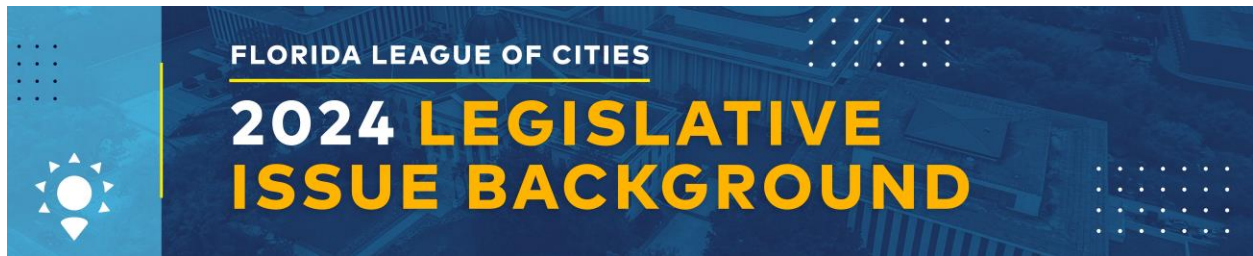
Recently, the public became aware of efforts to develop hotels, golf courses, and pickleball courts in Florida state parks. These activities are incompatible with the parks’ primary purposes and could jeopardize the functioning of natural systems and degrade water quality and wetland recharge areas. If there is need to develop more golf, pickleball, lodging, and active recreation in some areas, there are existing state programs to support these efforts that would not imperil state parks. The Florida Communities Trust Program (FCT) and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) are ideal for these purposes.

FRDAP provides grants to local government entities for acquisition and development of land for public outdoor recreation use or for construction of recreational trails. FCT provides grants that help Florida communities create local recreational opportunities, ensure public access to beaches, protect historic and cultural resources, and preserve Florida’s fishing heritage and working waterfronts. FRDAP and FCT are funded by legislative appropriation through the Florida Forever Program. The programs leverage local dollars with state dollars through a transparent, competitive grant process, and projects offer innumerable opportunities for leveraging additional monies through public-private partnerships. FCT and FRDAP have decades of success in creating numerous active and passive recreational opportunities for Florida residents and visitors, including ball fields and courts, greenways, bike trails, fishing piers, urban parks, and beach access. The League supports increased and continued funding to both FCT and FRDAP to help meet the state’s increasing need for active recreational opportunities.

BUDGET YEAR	FCT APPROPRIATION	FRDAP APPROPRIATION
2024-25	\$15M	\$14.2M
2023-24	\$15M	\$11.2M
2022-23	\$15M	\$10.7m
2021-22	--	\$1.9M



Comprehensive Waste and Recycling Plan



Comprehensive Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan

Draft Priority Statement:

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that directs the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan by July 2025 with input from a technical assistance stakeholder group. The plan should include strategies to increase Florida’s recycling rates through sustainable materials management and recycling materials market development, and strategies to increase the production of alternative energy through further development of waste-to-energy technologies.

Background:

In 2008, the Legislature set a statewide goal to recycle at least 75% of municipal solid waste by 2020. It is uniformly recognized the 75% goal was arbitrary and not based on practical, economic, or technical feasibility. The 75% goal was not achieved by the 2020 deadline, but the state made significant strides in increasing recycling rates overall. By 2020 Florida’s statewide recycling rate had increased to 50%. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection released a report entitled “Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal.” The Report recommended convening a technical assistance group (TAG) to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan for Florida. The Report envisioned the TAG developing recommendations for the plan, which would include the following:

- Identifying a set of recycling goals that use sustainable materials management and waste diversion concepts;
- Developing objectives and proposing a three-year plan to develop a recycling market, education and outreach, and local government assistance; and
- Proposing statutory language to implement the revised recycling goals and strategies.

The Report also incorporated recommendations to:

- Replace the current 75% weight-based goal with a goal or set of goals that are better indicators of program performance and desired environmental and economic outcomes;
- Using sustainable materials management to prioritize which materials to recycle based on environmental metrics and market availability and setting recycling goals for these specific materials; and
- Focusing on three strategies: education and outreach, funding and incentives to support local government recycling efforts, and developing recycling markets.

For several years, bills were filed that directed DEP to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan with the assistance of a technical advisory committee. **SB 36** (Stewart) and **HB 455** (Casello) from the 2024 session are the most recent examples. **HB 455** passed the House but died in Senate Messages. **SB 36** died in committee. The bills are expected to be refiled in the 2025 session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 455 Comprehensive Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan

SPONSOR(S): Casello and others

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 36

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee	14 Y, 0 N	Gawin	Moore
2) Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee	14 Y, 0 N	Byrd	Pigott
3) Infrastructure Strategies Committee	23 Y, 0 N	Gawin	Harrington

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Recycling is any process by which solid waste, or materials that would otherwise become solid waste, are collected, separated, or processed and reused or returned to use in the form of raw materials or intermediate or final products. In 2008, the Legislature set a statewide goal to recycle at least 75 percent of municipal solid waste (MSW) by 2020. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) established numerous programs and initiatives to reach the 75 percent recycling goal. In 2010, the Legislature built on this goal by requiring counties to implement local recycling programs with interim goals of recycling MSW. Each Florida county has the authority and responsibility to provide for the operation of solid waste disposal facilities to meet the needs of all incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county.

While Florida achieved the interim goals for 2012 and 2014, the state's recycling rates did not meet the 2020 75 percent recycling goal. DEP was required to submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each year in which the interim recycling goals were not met. In 2021, DEP released its final report titled "Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal" (2020 report). The 2020 report outlines various recommendations to increase recycling within the state.

The bill requires DEP, by July 1, 2025, to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan (plan) for the state based on recommendations from the 2020 report. DEP must also convene a technical assistance group to help develop the plan. At a minimum, the bill requires the plan to identify recycling goals based on sustainable materials management and waste diversion and include a three-year plan to implement certain specified policies.

Upon completion of the plan, the bill requires DEP to provide a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report must include an update on the status of the plan and any recommendations for statutory changes necessary to achieve the recycling goals or strategies identified in the plan.

The bill may have an insignificant negative fiscal impact on the state.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

Recycling

Recycling is any process by which solid waste, or materials that would otherwise become solid waste, are collected, separated, or processed and reused or returned to use in the form of raw materials or intermediate or final products.¹ These materials or products include, but are not limited to, crude oil, fuels, and fuel substitutes.² Local governments are responsible for collecting and transporting solid waste to solid waste processing facilities where the recyclables are separated by category.³

Florida's Recycling Goal

In 2008, the Legislature set a statewide goal to recycle at least 75 percent of municipal solid waste (MSW)⁴ by 2020.⁵ The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) established numerous programs and initiatives to reach the 75 percent recycling goal.⁶ In 2010, the Legislature built on this goal by requiring counties to implement local recycling programs with interim goals of recycling MSW as follows:⁷

Recycling Goal	Goal Date
40 percent	December 31, 2012
50 percent	December 31, 2014
60 percent	December 31, 2016
70 percent	December 31, 2018
75 percent	December 31, 2020

While Florida achieved the interim goals for 2012 and 2014, the state's recycling rate for 2016 was 56 percent, falling short of the 60 percent goal.⁸ Between 2016 and 2020, Florida's statewide recycling rate continued to decline, with a rate of 52 percent in 2019 and 50 percent in 2020.⁹ Only three of Florida's 36 large counties—Charlotte, Lee, and Pinellas—successfully met the 75 percent recycling goal by 2020.¹⁰ In 2022, the single-family recycling participation rate was 48 percent, which was a 4 percent increase from 2020 but a 3 percent decrease from 2021.¹¹ Commercial recycling participation rates also showed a slight increase (approximately 1 percent) during the same timeframe.¹²

¹ Section 403.703(31), F.S.

² *Id.*

³ Section 403.706(1), F.S.; Municipalities are also authorized to construct and operate solid waste disposal facilities if certain statutory requirements are met. Rule 62-701, F.A.C.; City of Fort Lauderdale, *What Really Happens to Our Recycling*, <https://gyr.fortlauderdale.gov/greener-government/recycling-waste-reduction/our-waste-stream/what-really-happens-to-our-recycling#:~:text=The%20recyclables%20are%20placed%20on,and%20paper%20and%20cardboard%20remain.> (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

⁴ "MSW" means any solid waste, except for sludge, resulting from the operation of residential, commercial, governmental, or institutional establishments that would normally be collected, processed, and disposed of through a public or private solid waste management service. MSW also includes yard trash but does not include solid waste from industrial, mining, or agricultural operations. Section 403.706(5), F.S.

⁵ Section 403.7032, F.S.; MSW is measured by weight. DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal: Final Report*, 3, 8 (2020), available at <https://floridadep.gov/waste/permitting-compliance-assistance/documents/75-recycling-goal-final-report>. (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

⁶ DEP, *Recycling*, <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/recycling/default.htm> (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

⁷ Section 403.706(2)(a), F.S.

⁸ DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal: Final Report* at 2, available at <https://floridadep.gov/waste/permitting-compliance-assistance/documents/75-recycling-goal-final-report>. (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

⁹ *Id.* at 6. Prior to the implementation of the 75 percent recycling goal, Florida's recycling rate, which was calculated based on recycling traditional materials, was 30 percent. If the same methodology was applied to 2020, the recycling rate would be only 25 percent. *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.* at 9. "Large counties" are those with a population of over 100,000. *Id.*

¹¹ DEP, *2022 Single-Family Participation in Recycling (2023)*, available at

https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/2022_Single_Family_Participation.pdf (last visited Jan. 12, 2024); DEP, *2021 Single-Family*

Local Government Solid Waste and Recycling Responsibilities

Each Florida county has the authority and responsibility to provide for the operation of solid waste disposal facilities to meet the needs of all incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county.¹³ Counties may charge reasonable fees for the handling and disposal of solid waste at their facilities.¹⁴ Municipalities are responsible for collecting and transporting solid waste from their jurisdictions to a solid waste disposal facility operated by a county or county contractor.¹⁵ Local governments are also authorized to provide for the collection of recyclable materials.¹⁶ A market must exist for the recyclable materials, and the local government must specifically intend for them to be recycled.¹⁷

As discussed above, counties are required to implement recycling programs that include the statutory interim goals.¹⁸ These programs must be designed to recover a significant portion of at least four of the following materials from the solid waste stream prior to final disposal at a solid waste disposal facility and to offer these materials for recycling:

- Newspapers;
- Aluminum cans;
- Steel cans;
- Glass;
- Plastic bottles;
- Cardboard;
- Office paper; and
- Yard trash.¹⁹

In addition, each county must ensure, to the maximum extent possible, that municipalities within its boundaries participate in the preparation and implementation of recycling and solid waste management programs through interlocal agreements or other means provided by law.²⁰ Counties and municipalities are encouraged to form cooperative arrangements for implementing recycling programs,²¹ and must enter into negotiations with a franchisee who is operating to exclusively collect solid waste within a specified service area for a county or municipality.²²

Certain activities are eligible for special credit towards achieving a county's recycling goals, including the use of solid waste as fuel in a renewable energy facility, the innovative use of yard trash or other clean wood waste or paper waste, and providing opportunities to recycle in counties with smaller populations.²³ To assess progress, counties must provide information on their solid waste management programs and recycling activities to DEP by April 1 of each year.²⁴ DEP may reduce or modify a

Participation in Recycling (2022), available at

<https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/2021%20Single%20Family%20Recycling%20Participation%20in%20Florida.pdf> (last visited Jan. 12, 2024); DEP, *2020 Single-Family Participation in Recycling (2021), available at*

<https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/2020%20Single-Family%20Participation%20in%20Recycling.pdf>. (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

¹² DEP, *2022 Commercial Participation in Recycling (2023), available at*

https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/2022_Commercial_Participation.pdf (last visited Jan. 12, 2024); DEP, *2021 Commercial Participation in Recycling (2022), available at*

<https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/2021%20Commercial%20Recycling%20Participation%20in%20Florida.pdf> (last visited Jan. 12, 2024); DEP, *2020 Commercial Participation in Recycling (2021), available at*

<https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/2020%20Commercial%20Participation%20in%20Recycling.pdf>. (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

¹³ Section 403.706(1), F.S. Municipalities are also authorized to construct and operate solid waste disposal facilities if certain statutory requirements are met. Fla. Admin. Code Ch. 62-701.

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ Section 403.706(21), F.S.

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ Section 403.706(2)(a), F.S.

¹⁹ Section 403.706(2)(f), F.S.

²⁰ Section 403.706(3), F.S.

²¹ Section 403.706(2)(a), F.S.

²² Section 403.706(9), F.S.

²³ Section 403.706(4), F.S.

²⁴ Section 403.706(7), F.S.; Rule 62-716.450, F.A.C.

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county's recycling goal if the county demonstrates that the achievement of the goal would have an adverse effect on the financial obligations of the county that are directly related to the county's waste-to-energy facility, and the county cannot remove normally combustible materials from solid waste that is to be processed at a waste-to-energy facility because of the need to maintain a sufficient amount of solid waste to ensure the financial viability of the facility.²⁵ However, the goal may only be reduced or modified to the extent necessary to alleviate the adverse effects on the financial viability of a county's waste-to-energy facility.²⁶

Local governments can require all residential properties, multifamily dwellings, apartment complexes, and industrial, commercial, and institutional establishments to create programs for the separation of recyclable materials designated by the local government.²⁷ Local governments can also require a commercial establishment to source-separate the recovered materials generated on the premises.²⁸ However, a local government may not:

- Require a commercial establishment that generates source-separated recovered materials to sell its recovered materials to the local government or to a facility designated by the local government;
- Restrict such a generator's right to sell such recovered materials to any properly certified recovered materials dealer who has satisfied the statutory requirements; or
- Enact any ordinance that prevents such a dealer from entering into a contract with a commercial establishment to purchase, collect, transport, process, or receive source-separated recovered materials.²⁹

DEP's Recycling Report

DEP was required to submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives each year in which the interim recycling goals were not met.³⁰ These reports had to identify additional programs or statutory changes needed to achieve the recycling goals.³¹ In 2021, DEP released its final report titled "Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal" (2020 report).³² According to the 2020 report, Florida generated the equivalent to over two tons of MSW per resident in 2020, which is approximately twice the national average.³³ However, there is no universal methodology for measuring progress toward recycling goals. Moreover, Florida's MSW calculations do not account for tourists, while calculations by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other states do.³⁴

In the 2020 report, DEP recommends convening a technical assistance group (TAG) to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan for Florida.³⁵ The TAG, if convened, would include the Florida Recycling Workgroup, local governments, and other interested parties, and the comprehensive plan would implement stakeholder recommendations by:

- Identifying a set of recycling goals that use sustainable materials management³⁶ and waste diversion³⁷ concepts;

²⁵ Section 403.706(6), F.S.

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ Section 403.706(21), F.S. Such ordinances may include, but are not limited to, prohibiting any person from knowingly disposing of recyclable materials and ensuring the collection of recovered materials as necessary to protect public health and safety. *Id.*

²⁸ Section 403.7046(2)(a), F.S.

²⁹ Section 403.7046(2), F.S.

³⁰ Section 403.706(2)(e), F.S.; see s. 403.705(3), F.S. DEP must evaluate and report biennially to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House on the state's success in meeting the solid waste recycling goal.

³¹ Section 403.706(2)(e), F.S.

³² DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal: Final Report* at 2, available at <https://floridadep.gov/waste/permitting-compliance-assistance/documents/75-recycling-goal-final-report>. (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

³³ *Id.* at 8.

³⁴ *Id.*

³⁵ *Id.* at 4.

³⁶ Sustainable materials management is a term for alternative approaches to recycling that recognize the differences among waste components with respect to environmental and resource outcomes. Sustainable materials management focuses on using and reusing materials more productively over their life cycles. *Id.*

³⁷ Waste diversion is the process of diverting waste from landfills; it is the amount of material that is reduced, reused, and/or recycled per capita and can be measured by the amount of waste not being disposed of in landfills. Waste diversion reduces disposal costs and the burden on landfills. United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), *Waste Diversion at EPA*,

- Developing objectives and proposing a three-year plan to develop a recycling market, education and outreach, and local government assistance; and
- Proposing statutory language to implement the revised recycling goals and strategies.³⁸

The 2020 report also provides recommendations from the Florida Recycling Workgroup and a group of local governments, including:

- Replacing the current 75 percent weight-based goal with a goal or set of goals that are better indicators of program performance and desired environmental and economic outcomes;³⁹
- Using sustainable materials management to prioritize which materials to recycle based on environmental metrics and market availability and setting recycling goals for these specific materials; and
- Focusing on three strategies: education and outreach, funding and incentives to support local government recycling efforts, and developing recycling markets.⁴⁰

Recycling Education and Outreach

Education on the types of recycling services available, how materials are collected, and which materials are accepted is important for a successful recycling program. Because recycling programs within the state vary significantly, education should be tailored to local recycling programs.⁴¹

Currently, DEP operates several education programs, including:

- The Florida Food Waste Prevention Week, which focuses on engagement with local municipalities, universities, national food recovery networks, and the hospitality industry to raise awareness about food waste;
- Phase Three of the Rethink.Reset.Recycle. Program, which focuses on providing counties and municipalities with a variety of customized digital products illustrating correct preparation of recyclables prior to disposing of them; and
- The Recycling Recognition Program, which encourages private businesses, institutions, schools, organizations, and the public to increase recycling by setting recycling goals.⁴²

According to the 2020 report, the TAG, if convened, would propose an education and outreach approach that evaluates statewide solutions but is customized for local needs, including a possible application for mobile devices that provides recycling information based on location.⁴³

Local Government Assistance

In 1988, the Solid Waste Management Act required counties to initiate recycling programs to address the growing costs and environmental problems associated with solid waste disposal in the state.⁴⁴ To aid counties in setting up recycling programs, the Legislature established the Recycling and Education Grant Program. Under the program, counties received funds for initial capital costs, operations, recycling education, market development, and special projects. The program sunset in 2001.⁴⁵

The 2020 report recommends that the TAG evaluate the benefits and problems of the now defunct Recycling and Education Grant Program, make a recommendation to reinstate the program, or consider other means to provide recycling assistance to local governments.⁴⁶

<https://www.epa.gov/greeningepa/waste-diversion-epa> (last visited Jan. 12, 2024); DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal: Final Report* at 4.

³⁸ DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal: Final Report* at 5, available at <https://floridadep.gov/waste/permitting-compliance-assistance/documents/75-recycling-goal-final-report>. (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

³⁹ *Id.* at 3. There is a consensus in Florida's recycling industry (as well as other states and at the federal level) that using a weight-based goal does not result in efficient or effective recycling. *Id.*

⁴⁰ *Id.* at 4.

⁴¹ *Id.* at 5.

⁴² *Id.* at 20-21.

⁴³ *Id.* at 4.

⁴⁴ *Id.* at 5.

⁴⁵ *Id.*

⁴⁶ *Id.*

Recycling Market Development

In order for the recycling industry to operate efficiently and provide reasonable returns on investments, there must be a market for finished goods that are manufactured from recycled materials. When the markets for these finished goods increase, the demand for recycled materials will increase, driving up profitability and incentivizing increased investments in the collection, sorting, processing, and manufacturing sectors.⁴⁷

To increase markets for recyclable materials, DEP recommends in its final report that the following be considered when developing the comprehensive recycling plan:

- Tax incentives for usage of recycled materials as feed stocks in manufacturing processes;
- Tax incentives and credits to support materials recovery plant upgrades;
- Public/private partnerships to invest in new processing technologies;
- Investments in expansion of Recycling Business Assistance Center⁴⁸ activities;
- End-user purchase rebates for Florida Certified Compost; and
- Preference programs to use and purchase products made from recycled content material.⁴⁹

Effect of the Bill

The bill requires DEP, by July 1, 2025, to develop a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan (plan) for the state based on recommendations from the 2020 report. DEP must convene a TAG to help develop the plan.

At a minimum, the bill requires the plan to identify recycling goals based on sustainable materials management and waste diversion and include a three-year plan to implement the following strategies:

- Recycling education and outreach. DEP must propose statewide solutions to provide local recycling information and education throughout the state.
- Local government recycling assistance. DEP is required to evaluate the benefits and challenges of the former state Recycling and Education Grant Program and provide recommendations for reinstating the program or considering other means of providing recycling assistance to local governments.
- Recycling materials market development. DEP must consider and recommend plans to develop and promote markets for recycling materials.

Upon completion of the plan, the bill requires DEP to provide a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report must include an update on the status of the plan and any recommendations for statutory changes necessary to achieve the recycling goals or strategies identified in the plan.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 403.7032, F.S., related to recycling.

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2024.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

⁴⁷ *Id.*

⁴⁸ The Recycling Business Assistance Center was established in 2010 to coordinate between state agencies and the private sector to develop new markets for recyclable materials locally and globally. DEP, *Recycling Business Assistance Center*, <https://floridadep.gov/waste/waste-reduction/content/recycling-business-assistance-center> (last visited Jan 12, 2024).

⁴⁹ DEP, *Florida and the 2020 75% Recycling Goal: Final Report* at 5, available at <https://floridadep.gov/waste/permitting-compliance-assistance/documents/75-recycling-goal-final-report>. (last visited Jan. 12, 2024).

2. Expenditures:

The bill provides for the development of a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling plan that may negatively impact workload within DEP which can be absorbed within existing resources.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.



Key Dates



2024 - 2025 Key Legislative Dates

October 2024

4 FLC Policy Committee Meetings (Round 1) – Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819

November 2024

5 General Election

8 FLC Policy Committee Meetings (Round 2) Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819

13-16 National League of Cities City Summit – Tampa, FL

December 2024

2-6 Legislative Interim Committee Meetings (House of Representatives only)

4-6 FLC Legislative Conference – Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819; FLC Policy Committee Meetings on Dec. 5 (Round 3)

9-13 Legislative Interim Committee Meetings (Senate only)

January 2025

13-17 Legislative Interim Committee Meetings

21-24 Legislative Interim Committee Meetings

February 2025

3-7 Legislative Interim Committee Meetings

10-14 Legislative Interim Committee

17-21 Legislative Interim Committee

20 FLC Legislative Session Preview Webinar at 2:00 p.m. ET



March 2025

- 4 Regular Legislative Session Convenes
- 10-12 NLC Congressional City Conference – Washington, DC
- 24-26 FLC Legislative Action Days – Tallahassee, FL

May 2025

- 2 Last Day of Regular Legislative Session
- 15 FLC Post Legislative Session Review Webinar at 2:00 p.m. ET

For further details about the mentioned events or legislative information, contact medenfield@flcities.com.



Notes

