



FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

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Florida League of Cities Launches New Initiative, Website and Resources in Support of Home Rule

“Building Stronger Cities” aims to educate, engage and empower Floridians

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TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The **Florida League of Cities**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, today launched **“Building Stronger Cities: Organizing, Empowering, Delivering,”** a statewide initiative from **FLC President Tony Ortiz, commissioner** for the **City of Orlando**. It focuses on citizen education and engagement in support of Home Rule in Florida. The cornerstone of the campaign is a new website, BuildingStrongerCities.com, along with print, video and digital resources for residents and elected officials to help them engage with state lawmakers.

“Educating and sharing knowledge with my community has always been one of my biggest goals as a public servant,” said **Ortiz**. “Now, as president of the League, I’m excited to expand that goal on a statewide level through my Building Stronger Cities initiative. Working together, we’re going to help every resident learn the ways of government so they will know what to expect from legislators and learn that legislation should be based upon the needs of the people. By being more informed and more engaged, residents will feel more empowered to protect their cities and their right to make local decisions. That’s how we build stronger cities and, ultimately, a stronger Florida.”

The initiative aims to build even more support for local decision-making by educating, engaging and empowering residents to protect Home Rule in Florida. To do this, the League is providing tools and resources that can be used by local governments and residents, all of which are available on the official BuildingStrongerCities.com website. The website includes dedicated pages for city officials and residents, each offering its own collection of unique content tailored to its respective audience.

Resources provided to city officials include sample speeches; toolkits; videos that can be shared via social media, websites or public access channels and more. Using these tools, city officials will serve as ambassadors in their local communities to help educate and engage their residents through “Building Stronger Cities.”

The resident webpage includes educational materials, how-to guides, a “Home Rule 101” video, legislative information, email alerts and more. Some of these resources will also be available in Spanish. With these resources, residents will learn about Home Rule and its importance, how to get involved in protecting their community and how to best make their voice heard.

To view these resources and to learn more about “Building Stronger Cities,” visit BuildingStrongerCities.com.

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Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida’s cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in “Local Voices Making Local Choices,” which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida’s communities. For more information, visit flcities.com.