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301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 • Post Office Box 1757 • Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757  
(850) 222-9684 • Fax: (850) 222-3806 • Website: [www.flcities.com](http://www.flcities.com)

## ***Florida League of Cities Elects New Officers for 2018-19***

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**CONTACT:** Brittnei Johnsen

[bjohnsen@flcities.com](mailto:bjohnsen@flcities.com) / (772) 828-0810

Bartow Mayor Leo E. Longworth was elected by membership today at the Florida League of Cities 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference to serve as president for 2018-19.

During his presidency, Longworth's "We Live Local" initiative will educate Floridians about local self-government. Special interests are hijacking our hometowns... and now, more than ever, citizens must understand what's at stake.

"Home Rule is not a gift from the legislature, it is the will of the people" said Mayor Longworth. "We don't need distant politicians meddling in our backyards. We know what works best in our cities."

"As president of the Florida League of Cities," he continued, "I am eager to engage our residents for this important cause. Together, we will make sure our message is heard...WE LIVE LOCAL, so we should decide local."

Longworth will join an impressive list of Florida leaders serving as officers for the Florida League of Cities 2018-19 term including:

- Florida League of Cities 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Isaac Salver, councilman, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
- Florida League of Cities 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Antonio "Tony" Ortiz, commissioner, City of Orlando

Longworth was first elected to the Bartow City Commission in 1995 and has served ever since.

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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. Florida's cities are formed by their citizens and governed by their citizens. The League is founded on the belief that local self-government is the keystone of American democracy. For more information, visit [www.floridaleagueofcities.com](http://www.floridaleagueofcities.com).*