



2019 LEGISLATIVE ACTION AGENDA

For the 2019 calendar year, the Town of Belleair has set the following legislative priorities and further supports the Florida League of Cities and the Suncoast League of Cities in the fight for strong local government; the Town also adopts the Legislative Action Agendas of the Florida League of Cities and the Suncoast League of Cities.



PRIORITY 1. TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

The Town of Belleair funds nearly all of its roadway improvements directly. The legislature should consider increasing grant funding opportunities, low-cost loan programs, and cooperative funding of critical infrastructure upgrades.

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

The Town of Belleair requests your support for our Appropriations Request for the Palmetto Drainage and Roadway Improvements Project. This project is critical to improving Belleair's infrastructure, as both the roadway and the sub-surface drainage system are experiencing accelerated degradation.

PRIORITY STATEMENT

The Town of Belleair SUPPORTS legislation that preserves local control of transportation planning. The legislation should create an equitable transportation funding formula between the state, municipalities, and counties, while providing for additional transportation revenue to support innovative infrastructure and transit projects to meet the surging transportation demands driven by dramatic growth throughout Florida.

PRIORITY 2. THE PROTECTION OF HOME RULE

The Florida Constitution states in Article VIII, Section 2(b) for municipalities: "Municipalities shall have governmental, corporate and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions and render municipal services, and may exercise power for municipal purposes except as otherwise provided by law."

PRIORITY STATEMENT

The Town of Belleair OPPOSES any efforts to impede the constitutional right of self-governance under home rule powers. The Town OPPOSES the Legislature's intrusion into local finance, which is necessary to provide financial stability and essential services uniquely required by municipal residents and local businesses. The Town further OPPOSES any reduction in municipal taxation powers. The Town OPPOSES unfunded mandates. The Town OPPOSES the preemption of local regulation of businesses, professions, commerce, and trade.

The Town of Belleair SUPPORTS any legislative action which strengthens and enhances the ability of local governments to uniquely provide solutions tailored to their communities.

PRIORITY 3. WATER SUPPLY AND QUALITY FUNDING

A conversion to a reverse osmosis system in Belleair will ensure that long-term treatment options provide safe drinking water for residents. Reverse osmosis is capitally intensive, and the Town needs help from the State to achieve this goal.

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

The Town of Belleair requests your support for our Appropriations Request for the Town of Belleair Reverse Osmosis Pilot Project. This project is critical for the Town to continue to provide clean, safe drinking water from a source which is rapidly declining due to salt-water intrusion.

PRIORITY STATEMENT

The Town of Belleair SUPPORTS legislation to address the critical water resource and water quality deficiencies throughout the State of Florida in order to mitigate the negative economic impact of these issues through priority corrective actions and funding.