



2018 State Legislative Program

As approved by the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners on November 1st, 2017

Legislative Budget Requests

Emergency Shelter Preparedness and Sustainability Equipment

- **State Request:** \$885,000
- **Purpose:** Equip the Emergency Operations with generators and chillers for the Hillsborough County General Purpose and Special needs Emergency Shelter. These strategic emergency items will provide the appropriate power to ensure all core functions of the shelter are operational during a time of emergency, as well as provide proper temperatures during summer months.

Hardening Regional Special Needs Emergency Shelter and Public Safety

- **State Request:** \$3,000,000
- **Purpose:** This request is for the additional funding required to harden the proposed 20,000 square foot the Regional Special Needs and Safety Shelter, to serve as a regional special needs shelter as well as provide dedicated space for a Sheriff substation. The costs include structural hardening, additional restroom/shower/kitchen services, upgraded electrical service, emergency generator, and dedicated spaces for shelter storage and the Sheriff substation office.

Hillsborough County Stormwater Enhancement and Improvement Project

- **State Request:** \$3,350,000
- **Purpose:** To identify at 56th St and Hanna Ave deficiencies related to flood control and water quality, assess flooding risk and property damage, and consider future land use and maintenance needs. In addition, staff will assemble information to include in the modeling related to development, recognize potential usage of lands for water quality treatment within the watershed, and to identify deficient and aged infrastructure replacement needs.

School Sidewalks and Safety Enhancements

- **Estimated State Request:** \$2,000,000
- **Purpose:** This project includes the design and construction of sidewalks, lighting, cross walks, warning devices and other safety enhancements near schools. Hillsborough County is a member of the Vision Zero Coalition that is committed through a multi-prong approach to improving safety for all forms of mobility. In the unincorporated area of Hillsborough County, there are over 125 public schools where students walk and bike to school. These enhancements will provide safer routes for students.



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Legislative Budget Requests (continued)

Big Bend/I-75 Interchange Improvement

- **Estimated State Request:** \$5,000,000
- **Purpose:** This project includes Preliminary Development and Environmental (PDE), Design, and Construction of a new northbound entrance ramp and southbound exit ramp to Interstate 75. These improvements along with other County improvements at the interchange will create additional capacity, efficient traffic flow and improve safety by eliminating existing crossing movements. FDOT will be updating the PDE as part of TBNNext. Design and Construction is not in the current adopted work program. The total cost of the project is approximately \$47M, and the requested need for Design is \$5.0M. The County has committed to 50% of the project cost in the 10 year Transportation Plan.

Orient Road Improvements

- **Estimated State Request:** \$2,000,000
- **Purpose:** This project ultimately would provide for enhanced mobility which includes pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities. The county performed an alignment study for Orient Road – Hillsborough Ave to Broadway, which established a basis for the next step, a Preliminary Design and Engineering (PDE) project. This corridor is included in the Long Transportation Plan for widening to 4 lanes.

Hillsborough County South Coast Trail Enhancement Project

- **Estimated State Request:** \$450,000
- **Purpose:** With design plans completed and approved, construction of this phase to be completed. The MPO has this project on the 2040 Long Range Transportation plan as well as the 2013-2017 Florida Greenways & Trails System Plans.



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2018 Priority Policy Issues

Home Rule Authority

- Support legislation that promotes and upholds the statutory authority of Home Rule.
- Oppose legislation that looks to weaken Home Rule Authority or any subversive legislation that handicaps local government's ability to provide their mandated services.

Economic Development

- Support legislation that seeks to assist and incentivize local business growth and retention, in addition to partnering with local schools and universities to develop local workforce.
- Oppose efforts to prohibit the use of locally levied taxes for the purposes of developing and procuring local economic development and activity.

Health and Human Services

- Monitor legislation that looks to further preempt local control for zoning and permitting purposes of MMTC.
- Support additional state funds to address the local and statewide Opioid epidemic and any relevant legislation committed to this crisis.
- Monitor any proposed changes to the Low Income Pool (LIP) for impact on IGTs.

Coastal Management and Restoration

- Support legislation that seeks to dedicate a funding source to maintain and enhance Florida's coastline, beaches, and intra-coastal waterways.

Referenda Threshold Adjustment

- Monitor legislation that would raise the threshold for local referenda, which would chiefly raise the voter approval threshold from the current 50% to 60%.

Zika Virus Funding

- Support any additional state funds to help offset local investment in Zika virus eradication and prevention.

Gaming

- Monitor legislation regarding the Seminole Indian Gaming Compact with the state of Florida, and work to preserve or increase the existing local government revenue sharing structure.

Transportation

- Support strategic funding requests of the Florida Department of Transportation, District 7, and the legislative priorities of the Hillsborough Area Transit Authority (HART) that benefit the citizens and visitors of Hillsborough County consistent with Hillsborough County BOCC positions.



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2018 General Policy Issues (continued)

Environmental Protection and Preservation

- Monitor any water legislation to ensure continued local authority over water resources.
- Seek state funding (Amendment 1 or other) and/or operational mutual-aid partnership to match local resources for conservation land acquisition, restoration, and preservation, to maximize the impacts of the Hillsborough County Environmental Lands Acquisition and Protection Program (ELAPP).
- Support increased state funding for the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program that conserves agricultural lands and operations through conservation easement acquisitions.

Affordable Housing and Homelessness

- Support maximum funding of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, SHIP, the Sadowski Fund, and other funding options; and monitor for any changes to the document stamp tax funding source.
- Seek to maintain or increase appropriations for important affordable housing activities, including ongoing oversight mandates from the state.
- Support changes that allow local flexibility in determining how funds are spent in order to serve the greatest number of clients, and permitting administrative costs necessary to comply with state mandated oversight requirements.
- Support a permanent and adequate state dedicated funding source for homeless initiatives.

Claims Bill Process

- Monitor legislation amending the Claims Bills Process for economic impact to Hillsborough County.

Unfunded Mandates

- Oppose state unfunded mandates that negatively impact limited local government budgets and undermine community self-determination.

Hillsborough County Authorities

- Support the Legislative Programs of Hillsborough County cities, agencies, authorities and community partners unless specific issues conflict with Hillsborough County BOCC positions.

Florida Association of Counties (FAC)

- Support the FAC Legislative Program and Guiding Principles unless specific issues conflict with Hillsborough County BOCC positions.