

HOME RULE:

- **OPPOSE** cost shifts, unfunded mandates, or preemptions of Sarasota County Charter authority.

STORMWATER

- **SUPPORT** state partnering with the county for local and regional stormwater improvement and resiliency projects.
- **SUPPORT** state funding of regional watershed restoration projects and of programs to monitor and reduce nutrient loading in watersheds and stormwater systems, including through the adoption of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ practices.
- **OPPOSE** preemption of local authority in establishing stormwater quality and levels of service.

WATER QUALITY

- **SUPPORT** – state partnership with the county keeping Midnight Pass open as a tidal connection between Little Sarasota Bay and the Gulf.
- **SUPPORT** state funding partnerships with Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT) projects.
- **SUPPORT** full funding of the Water Protection/Sustainability Program Trust Fund for alternative water supply projects to improve impaired water bodies under the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program.

WATER SUPPLY:

- **SUPPORT** alternative water supply projects and legislation that strengthens water supply, supports aquifer restoration, and provides irrigation water, flow, and habitat protection.
- **SUPPORT** state partnering with the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority.
- **SUPPORT** policies for streamlining consumptive use permitting and alternative water supplies.
- **SUPPORT** wetland restoration and mitigation to meet water quality and supply goals.
- **OPPOSE** preemption of local ordinances related to water quality, water use, and water supply.

TRANSPORTATION:

- **SUPPORT** the indexing of local Gas Taxes for inflation to support funding increased costs of operation, maintenance, and construction of transportation infrastructure and public transportation.
- **SUPPORT** the advancement of the S.R. 681 and Interstate 75 interchange expansion project.
- **SUPPORT** the advancement of an interchange in the vicinity of Yorkshire Street and Interstate 75, and North Raintree Boulevard.
- **SUPPORT** additional funding for local multimodal transportation and mobility projects.

- **SUPPORT** innovative policies to cultivate sustainable and resilient communities and developments that integrate all modes of transportation, including walking, bicycles, electric vehicles, and public transit.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

- **SUPPORT** allocating the full amount of Sadowski funds for homelessness and local programs.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY:

- **SUPPORT** efforts that ensure the availability of adequate resources to meet expected and unexpected demands placed upon Sarasota County, and keep tax, assessment, and fee rates stable.
- **SUPPORT** the retention of local/community control for local revenues and budgets. Ensure local government bond ratings are not jeopardized.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

- **SUPPORT** for revisions to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in favor of more equitable debris assistance across residential property types.
- **SUPPORT** providing counties with the same exemptions from building permits as afforded to public school districts.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT/PLANNING:

- **SUPPORT** the extension of Homestead Exemption for three years for homes that have been voluntarily demolished.
- **SUPPORT** local control of long-range planning, development, and natural resource protection.

ECONOMIC VITALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY:

- **SUPPORT** policies to partner with local governments in economic development initiatives, infrastructure investment, job creation, business development, and relocation.
- **SUPPORT** policies that assist local governments in achieving economic development in green business, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and clean technology.
- **SUPPORT** maintaining agricultural lands to strengthen economic contributions, support local food needs, and provide habitat while meeting environmental goals and preserving agricultural heritage.
- **SUPPORT** policies, strategies, and funding that help local communities become more resilient by preparing for the impacts of flooding, sea level rise, and storm surge through mitigation and adaptation projects.

BEACH MANAGEMENT:

- **SUPPORT** increased funding for Gulf beach nourishment, erosion control projects, protection, and restoration of coastal ecosystems, such as sand dunes and maritime forests.
- **SUPPORT** the implementation of nature-based solutions such as living shorelines to address erosion issues and shoreline restoration projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL:

- **SUPPORT** efforts to reduce harmful algae blooms in the Gulf and bay waters.
- **SUPPORT** efforts to reduce the use of pesticides that directly or indirectly affect native pollinators.
- **SUPPORT** ban on offshore oil and gas exploration, hydraulic fracturing, and drilling in the Gulf waters.
- **SUPPORT** continued funding for derelict vessel removal.
- **OPPOSE** preemption of local fertilizer ordinances.
- **OPPOSE** limitations on the ability to regulate wetlands and mitigate impacts to wetlands, or the protection of natural resources, including native habitats and trees.

JAILS, JUVENILE JUSTICE:

- **SUPPORT** state funding of jail diversion and efforts to reduce juvenile detention.
- **SUPPORT** increasing the fees provided for in Chapter 983, Florida Statutes, to fund Teen Courts.

LIBRARIES/HISTORICAL RESOURCES:

- **SUPPORT** state funding of libraries at levels recommended by the State Library of Florida and advocated by the Florida State Library Association.
- **SUPPORT** full funding of the Historic Preservation Grant Program administered by the Florida Division of Historical Resources.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND NATURAL RESOURCES:

- **SUPPORT** regional trail and The Legacy Trail connectors grant funding requests through Sun Trail and other state funding sources, such as the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Recreational Trails Program.
- **SUPPORT** state funding for removal and control of nuisance invasive vegetation and animals on public lands, including the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Upland Invasive Removal Program.
- **SUPPORT** land acquisition programs that prioritize conservation of land for wildlife habitat, focused on land that improves corridors and habitat for threatened plant and animal species.
- **SUPPORT** funding of the Florida Forever program for purposes including land preservation programs within the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, water management districts, and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program.
- **SUPPORT** continued funding for Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission boating access improvement projects on coastal and inland waters.
- **SUPPORT** funding/policies to manage and restore shorelines to their natural state, such as mangrove fringes/salt marshes.

SOLID WASTE:

- **OPPOSE** legislation limiting the ability of local governments to franchise the collection of solid waste.

- **SUPPORT PFAS** liability protection by providing exemptions for solid waste management and composting facilities and for water and wastewater treatment facilities, and the disposal of concentrate and solids from PFAS litigation (releases of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances).
- **OPPOSE** legislation excluding landfill gas collected from municipal solid waste landfills in the definition of renewable energy.
- **SUPPORT** legislation addressing a state recycling goal based on a Waste Reduction Model (WARM) instead of a tonnage model.
- **SUPPORT** legislation addressing recovery and hazards caused by lithium batteries in a way that does not overly burden local governments.