



City of Coral Gables

2023 **DRAFT** Legislative Priorities (SHORT)

Policy

PRESERVATION OF HOME RULE & PREEMPTION OF LOCAL REGULATIONS

- Oppose legislation that would preempt local governments from legislating, regulating, or acting on matters of local concern in the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of their communities.

BERT HARRIS ACT

- Oppose further changes to the Bert J. Harris Jr. Private Property Rights Protection Act that would disadvantage local governments and limit the city's ability to quickly resolve claims.

SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

- Oppose legislation that would increase the \$300,000 per-occurrence limit on the collectability of judgments against government entities and/or eliminate the \$200,000-per-claimant limit contained in Section 768.28, F.S.

BISCAYNE BAY

- Support legislation that prioritizes the health and protection of Biscayne Bay and allocates needed funding for the Bay's conservation.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX AND LOCAL BUSINESS TAX PROTECTION

- Support legislation that protects general revenues collected from the communications services tax and the local business tax.

VACATION RENTALS

- Oppose legislation that would further preempt local governments from regulating vacation rentals.

- Preserve the grandfather clause in Section 509.032(7)(b), Florida Statutes, which allows local regulations adopted on or before June 1, 2011 to remain in effect.

ZONING AUTHORITY AND BUILDING DESIGN ELEMENTS

- Oppose legislation that would preempt a local government's authority to enact zoning regulations, including regulating building design elements for one-and two-family dwellings
- Preserve the carve out in Section 163.3202, Florida Statutes for cities with architectural review boards.

HOME-BASED BUSINESSES

- Support repeal of HB 403 (2021), which enacted broad state preemptions on the regulation of home-based businesses via Section 559.955, Florida Statutes.
- Preserve the City's ability to enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Florida Building Code, and Florida Fire Code as applied to home-based businesses.

TRANSPORTATION

- Support legislation that preserves local control of transportation planning and provides for a more equitable transportation funding formula between municipalities and counties, including additional dedicated revenue options for municipal transportation infrastructure and transit projects. Support legislation that allows municipalities to receive transportation infrastructure grants and moneys directly from the State, bypassing distribution on a County level.
- Support legislation and appropriations to fully fund the Underline Project, and the Miami-Dade SMART plan.

SMALL CELL WIRELESS

- Support legislation that preserves the City's ability to exercise its home rule authority to control use of its rights-of-way for communications facilities, including small cell facilities.
- Support the City's ability to exercise authority over City-owned poles in its rights-of-way.
- Oppose legislation that would expand the preemption of home rule authority already within the Advanced Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Act.

REDUNDANT POLES

- Amend Section 366.97, Florida Statutes to require attaching entities to remove their

pole attachments from redundant poles within 180 days after receipt of notice that pole is to be removed and eliminate the pole owner's ability to transfer ownership of the pole to the attaching entity for failure to remove attachments.

HOURLY RENTALS

- Amend Section, Florida Statutes that clarify that public lodging establishments may not charge hourly rates or fractional rates for room rentals and specific penalties for establishments that violate this prohibition.

DEMOLITION OF HISTORIC HOMES

- Support the repeal of recent amendments to Section 553.79, Florida Statutes that preempt the City's ability to meaningfully review, restrict, or deny demolition permits for historic homes in certain flood zones that are at or below base flood elevation.

CARBON BORDER ADJUSTMENT

- Urge the Florida Legislature to support the adoption of a national carbon border adjustment mechanism to address climate change and level the playing field for American producers and manufacturers of high carbon goods.

Funding

\$600k for a citywide bridge repair program (match \$200k)

\$1.5 million for Fire Station 4 (match \$7 million)

\$500k for citywide roadway milling and resurfacing (match \$500k)

\$500k for ADA improvements to trolley stops (match 500k)

\$700k for force main replacement program (match \$700k)

\$500k Venetian Pool Repairs (match 500k)

\$500k hurricane hardening of Coral Gables "disaster recovery center" (match \$100k)

\$500k for the City Hall Annex (match \$500k)

FRDAP GRANT: \$200k for Phillips Park