



2021 Legislative Agenda Items

Appropriations Issues			
Project Title	Bill Number/ Grant Program	Amount Requested (if applicable)	Project Detail
Charlotte Harbor Water Quality Initiative – Phase III Countryman/Ackerman Septic-to-Sewer Conversion Project		\$2,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeking funding for constructing central wastewater service to 1,933 properties to replace inadequate On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems (OSTDSs). ▪ Restoring the storm water conveyance system to improve removal of sediment and pollutants and educating property owners on Best Management Practices (BMPs) when applying pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers.
William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park		\$1,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeking funding for expansion of recreational facilities at the William R. Gaines, Jr. Veterans Memorial Park. ▪ This park will honor the memory of Corporal William R. Gaines, Jr. as well as all veterans and first responders. Corporal Gaines was a local resident of Charlotte County who was killed in the line of duty in the Oct. 23, 1983 bombing of Marine barracks in Beirut during the Lebanese Civil War.
Countywide Security Assessment & Upgrades		\$2,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeking funding for the county’s security infrastructure. ▪ This project will unify the 12 platforms into 1, upgrade antiquated infrastructure, and provide the county with a security standard and framework for future buildings and capital renewal. The project will also identify physical security alterations needed within highly populated county buildings to protect county staff, residents, and visitors from potential threats.



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Justice Center Improvements		\$1,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeking funding for modernization of the Charlotte County Justice Center. ▪ The Departmental and security areas have been renovated leaving other structural areas and public common spaces outdated. The renovations throughout the Justice Center will modernize it to current standards, while saving utility cost by purchasing water conservation fixtures and lighting and making the area more suitable to combat COVID-19 by purchasing sensing fixtures and better durable surfaces.
Fire Station #2 Replacement		\$2,300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeking funding for the replacement of Charlotte County’s Fire Station #2. ▪ As a fire station this location will provide assistant for medical, fire, and natural disaster emergencies to the largest and most critical populations in Charlotte County, Florida. Fire Station #2 was built in 1985 and is past its useful life. It is currently undersized to meet today’s and future need for Charlotte County Public Safety.
Stump Pass State Park (Manasota Key Beach Restoration Project and Charlotte County Erosion Control Project)		\$1,094,460	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeking state cost share to complete the Stump Pass Inlet Management Plan. ▪ This project maintains sand placed on Stump Pass Beach State Park to mitigate for inlet maintenance impacts. Also, it will place available sand from maintenance dredging on updrift and downdrift shoreline of Stump Pass.



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Policy Issues	
Charlotte County Centennial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request State Legislature Resolutions and Gubernatorial declarations on Charlotte County’s Centennial.
Sunshine Law: County State of Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request Sunshine law exemption for County elected officials to be able to participate in emergency-related briefings during a declared local state of emergency.
Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP) and Hurricane Shelter Retrofit program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeking reauthorization of both the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP) and Hurricane Shelter Retrofit program. ▪ The Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP) and the Hurricane Shelter Retrofit program are both administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and funded through the Hurricane Catastrophe Trust Fund (surcharge on homeowner’s insurance policies collected each year).
(2019) CS/CS SB 426 Firefighter Cancer Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support legislation and administrative measures to clarify language in the 2019 CS/CS SB 426 Firefighter Cancer Bill. ▪ The bill requires greater administrative guidance on its scope and funding mechanisms to best assist firefighters and local governments in accomplishing its intent
Derelict Vessel Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request and support state legislation that addresses the 2019 (SB 1666) Derelict Vessel Grant Program changes, specifically the way vessel registration moneys designated for use to counties are distributed by Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).



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Policy Issues	
Public Records	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Support public records legislation that exempts the home addresses of security personnel, county administrators, and county attorneys. Reducing the likelihood of further security issues is a county priority.▪ Support public records legislation that exempts security “operations” meetings.▪ Support public records legislation that clarifies that the aggregation of serial public records requests is allowable.▪ Support public records legislation that requires requestor to pay outstanding record request bill before any further request required to be processed.▪ Support public records legislation that allows for designation of a public records request official.▪ Support public records legislation that allows for online public records request to be responded to with county website with requested information.



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Support Issues	
West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support funding for construction of a new operations facility. The District has contracted an architect for planning and design of a new facility.
Purple Heart Highway Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support designating, I-75 within Charlotte County as a Purple Heart Highway Initiative.
Charlotte County Sheriff's: Law enforcement body camera program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support funding sources for the Charlotte County Sheriff's office law enforcement body camera program.
Real-Time Water Quality Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support funding requests for real-time water quality monitoring for the Peace River, Myakka River, and Charlotte Harbor.
Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership Legislative Priorities: Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue and expand annual funding for the Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Program, including recurrent dedicated funding.