



# Dear Legislator

For more than three decades, 1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA has been promoting smart, sustainable growth that preserves our state’s most valuable assets: our environment, agricultural lands, economy and quality of life. Our mission is especially critical now as Florida faces a large revenue gap and difficult economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. It’s more important than ever to enact policies that stimulate the economy, are fiscally responsible, and do not sacrifice the environment or quality of life upon which Florida’s economy depends.

## During the Upcoming Session, We Hope You will Sponsor or Support Legislation to Enact Some or All of 1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA’S 2021 Priorities to:

- Restore citizens’ planning rights while preventing frivolous lawsuits
- Enact stronger measures to protect Florida natural lands, waterways and drinking water
- Protect Florida’s environment, agricultural lands, budget and Metropolitan Planning Organization transportation priorities from the M-CORES toll road proposal
- Uphold the authority of local governments and their citizens to make local decisions
- Expand the supply of workforce housing
- Oppose efforts to saddle taxpayers and local governments with the costs of growth

More details are available on the opposite side of this page. Additional information is available on our website at [www.1000friendsofflorida.org](http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org). Please do not hesitate to contact us as noted below if you have any questions or would like to discuss this in greater detail.

Thank you for stepping forward to represent your fellow Floridians. At this challenging time, your leadership is vital on policies that protect both taxpayers and the environment. We stand ready to work with you to advance these goals.

*With thanks from 1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA’S legislative team,*



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## Growth Management

- Amend 2019's HB 7103 to prevent frivolous challenges to development orders but restore citizens' right to file well-founded challenges without fear of financial ruin
- In addition to in-person public input, promote continued use of remote participation, prerecorded statements, text statements, etc. in planning and other public meetings
- Oppose efforts to shift costs of growth to taxpayers



## M-CORES

- Suspend or curtail funding in light of Florida's projected revenue shortfalls
- Remove 2022 start and 2030 finish deadlines for project
- Bar M-CORES from diverting funding for projects (including Metropolitan Planning Organization priorities) on FDOT's 5-year work program
- Strengthen protections for taxpayers and conservation land



## Land Conservation

- Create funding floor for Florida Forever of at least \$100 million
- Extend bonding authority for Florida Forever to maximize funding impact



## Water Conservation

- Raise standards, adopt incentives for conservation by public and private water utilities, developers and homeowners



## Water Quality

- Build on 2020 water law, focusing on agriculture, biosolids, septic tanks and fertilizer
- Enforce Basin Management Action Plans
- Increase funding for water quality improvements



## Workforce Housing

- Ensure that Sadowski trust fund monies are used for their intended purpose of promoting workforce housing and are not swept
- Provide flexibility, incentives for governments, developers to expand workforce housing



## Free the Ocklawaha

- Direct state agencies to breach Rodman Dam to restore free-flowing Ocklawaha River



## Home Rule

- Require two-thirds vote in each house to pre-empt to the state a field of regulation or other subject of legislation
- Before pre-emption can take effect, require analysis of impact on local governments and vetting by interference task force with local input
- Permit local governments to opt out of state pre-emption