**Collier County Legislative Delegation**
3299 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 212
Naples, FL 34112
239-417-6205

**TO**: All agencies of local government and interested parties

**FROM**: Representative Lauren Melo, Chair

**SUBJECT**: Collier County Legislative Delegation Meeting and Public Hearings

**Monday, December 7th, 2026** has been set as the date for the 2027 Session Collier County Legislative Delegation's Public Hearing for local bills and local budget requests. The meeting will convene at 9:00 AM in the Commission Chambers on the 3rd Floor of Building F in the Government Center located at 3299 Tamiami Trail East and will last until 2:00 PM or once all speakers have presented. The Delegation will take a 15-minute break at noon, if necessary, and reconvene at 12:15pm and continue until completion of the agenda and public comments.

Please be informed that these hearings are to hear local bills **and** local budget requests. If you are interested in filing a **local budget request**, please contact the office of your House and Senate sponsors to learn about the separate budget process requirements and deadlines in the House and the Senate.

**Local Bills**

The deadline for submitting local bills to the Delegation is **NOON on November 18th, 2026**. An electronic version of the local bill must be emailed in "pdf" format to hayden.paul@flsenate.gov. All proposals for a **local bill** are expected to be presented at the hearing and must be drafted in bill form. Unless there is an emergency, the Delegation will consider for introduction only those bills that have been presented at the hearing. Decisions on whether to introduce local legislation will be made at the hearing.

If the local Legislative Delegation agrees to support the issue and introduce a local bill, a legal advertisement of the proposed bill **must** be placed in a newspaper of general circulation at least 30 days prior to introduction in the House or Senate unless the bill contains a referendum provision. **The local entity requesting the proposed bill will be responsible for placing the legal advertisement in the newspaper.**

According to sections 11.021 and 11.03, Florida Statutes, evidence that notice has been properly published must be submitted before a local bill, not subject to referendum, can be introduced. The notice must be broad enough to include all matters contained in the body of the proposed legislation, although the specific contents need not be listed in detailed form. The function of the notice requirement is to provide reasonable notice to a person whose interests may be directly affected by proposed legislation so that he or she may inquire further into details of the proposed local bill. Additionally, if he or she so desires, that person may seek to prevent enactment or to persuade the Legislature to change the substance of the proposed bill.

**General Presentations**

The deadline to **Request to Appear** on the meeting agenda for a general presentation before the Legislative Delegation (not related to local bills) is **Wednesday, November 18th, 2026**. Please refer to the **Request to Appear** form for those who

wish to be placed on the agenda. This form must be emailed to hayden.paul@flsenate.gov no later than **NOON on Wednesday, November 18th, 2026.**

Presenters who wish to provide supporting documentation must submit a digital copy of the documents in "pdf" format to hayden.paul@flsenate.gov no later than **NOON on Monday November 30th, 2026**.

**Local Budget Requests (Appropriations)**

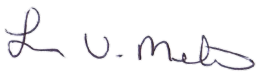
If you are submitting a local budget request (Appropriations), please reach out to your member of the Florida House of Representatives and my office for instructions and additional information. While the deadline for filing local budget requests has not been published yet, it is best to reach out to your elected officials ahead of the delegation meeting to discuss the funding process and any requests an organization may have.

**General Public Comments**

Members of the public who wish to comment will have an opportunity to speak upon completion of all local bills, budget requests and agenda items. You must complete a **Public Comment Request** card, which will be available at the check-in desk on **December 7th, 2026**, and will be called to speak in the order in which the request was submitted

My staff and I stand ready to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. We look forward to a successful delegation meeting for the 2027 Legislative Session.

Sincerely,



Lauren Melo
Chair, Collier County Legislative Delegation
Florida State Representative, District 82