

2021 Legislative Agenda

Policies, projects and special interests of the City of Oakland Park, to be presented to local, state and federal legislative bodies and agencies, to further our goals and objectives.

The legislative agenda includes issues identified in past legislative agendas that remain a concern/priority at the federal, state and local levels. The 2021 Legislative Agenda includes the following priorities of interest at the local level that require a broader attention by County, State and Federal level as follows:

- Support for comprehensive Climate Change legislation that provides supporting resources to actively reduce the underlying causes of Climate Change, promotes sustainability, and provides communities with the resources and resiliency tools needed to plan and implement strategies to mitigate and adapt to sea-level rise and other environmental issues, including financial support for critical infrastructure improvements;
- Support for a comprehensive federal COVID-19 stimulus and relief program that provides flexible, direct funding relief to America's municipalities and support for businesses, community service providers, and households;
- Support for legislation that restricts retail pet stores from selling puppies and kittens from "puppy mills or kitten factories" (On December 6, 2017, the City Commissions adopted ordinance O-2017-018 regulating the sale of dogs and cats);
- Support for Municipal Home Rule powers, including support for local zoning regulation of Group Homes, Vacation Homes, and Massage Parlors;
- Installation of solar powered school indicator lights for safe school zones;
- Support of the combined efforts of the CDC and DOJ to curtail the overprescribing of opioids;
- Denouncing of Hatred, Intolerance, Extremism and Discrimination;
- Support legislation that removes preemption on municipal authority as it relates to the regulation of short-term rental properties (On March 21, 2018, the City Commission amended Chapter 7, Licenses and Business Regulations, by adopting ordinance O-2018-008 regulating Vacation Rentals);
- Encourage opposition to exploratory oil drilling and fracking in the Everglades in order to protect the Biscayne Aquifer;
- Obtain the support of federal and state transportation agencies to regulate railroad operations that impact municipalities;
- Continue to explore partnership and potential reuse efforts of the downtown Post Office with the United States Postal Service;
- Support efforts of South Florida Regional Transportation Authority and other passenger rail groups to advocate a passenger rail system along the FEC lines and advocate to bring a passenger station stop to Downtown Oakland Park;

- Support of issues that will further Conservation, Agriculture/Ecological, Job Creation, Environmental and Economic Development;
- Support for local governments to retain the authority to enact appropriate regulations as it relates to electric scooter and bicycle sharing;
- Support legislation that creates a dedicated, recurring revenue stream at the state level to fund school resource officers;
- Support for legislation eliminating existing state law restrictions on local government regulation of plastic bags, single use plastic and polystyrene products;
- Advocate support from Florida Department of Emergency Management to curtail price gauging on Disaster debris removal and disposal services and ensure availability of resources to address post-storm recovery;
- Support for state legislation participating in the Florida Retirement System (FRS) that would allow for their employees who chose not to join the FRS at the time the local agency joined FRS to have a second, one-time election option to join FRS if that local agency's retirement program's pension system was later frozen after the agency joined FRS*;
- Support for Affordable Housing.