

North Bay Village Legislative Principles

- State Government should focus on state-level issues and allow local governments to operate with minimal state interference. North Bay Village will oppose legislation that increases the involvement of state government in municipal affairs and preempts local governing prerogatives.
 - For Florida's economy to prosper, cities need to succeed. North Bay Village will promote state investments in municipal infrastructure in order to create jobs and promote municipal revitalization. This will include funding for wastewater and stormwater improvements, local transportation projects, park and recreational activities, green technologies, and energy-saving initiatives.
 - State Government should not be allowed to continue disrupting the relationship between citizens and their city elected officials' authority to make decisions impacting the provision of municipal services and quality of life. North Bay Village will oppose additional arbitrary limits on property assessments, municipal expenditures, and local revenues.
 - State mandates should be funded with state resources and should not seek to access local tax dollars. North Bay Village will oppose unfunded mandates and support policies that require full funding of state initiatives and mandates to cities.
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Legislative Priorities

APPROPRIATIONS

- North Bay Village supports grant and legislative line item funding that enhances local financial capacity to address water resource and water supply development. The Town further supports enhanced funding of the Water Protection and Sustainability Program within the Department of Environmental Protection for comprehensive water supply infrastructure needs.

1. *Application submitted to the South Florida Water Management District for "North Bay Village Stormwater Outfall Valves" in the amount of \$740,000.*

- North Bay Village supports funding for the Florida Forever Program and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP).

The Florida Forever Program has helped local governments purchase land for parks, recreation, open space and conservation. The Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) is a successful funding vehicle for local government park development and recreational efforts and has helped leverage local dollars.

1. *Both of these important programs have had minimal or no funding during the past three years but with the state's improving fiscal outlook should again be considered for legislative funding.*

- North Bay Village supports grant and legislative line item funding that dedicates to small businesses state economic development resources. Small businesses are the strength of Florida's economy; but they are often overlooked or do not qualify for existing economic development initiatives.

1. *Senator Gwen Margolis will be submitting a budget request to the Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee for "North Bay Village Causeway Redevelopment" at a level of \$125,000.*

- North Bay Village supports legislative funding of "Local Service Programs" which fund in Miami-Dade and select other counties programs focused on the nutritional needs of low income senior citizens.

1. *North Bay Village will be requesting \$50,000 in LSP funds to begin a hot meals program for the elderly. The funds would be distributed by the Alliance for Aging of Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties who will provide technical assistance in the design of same.*

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- North Bay Village will support strengthening the prohibition on existing and new unfunded mandates, requires enhanced staff analyses of quantification of the costs to cities, and ensures full state funding sources be assigned whenever unfunded mandates are identified.

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LEGISLATION

- *Wireless Communications Devices While Driving*

North Bay Village **supports/opposes/ will monitor** CS/SB52 by Senator Nancy Detert and its companion legislation HB13 by Representative Doug Holder that is commonly known as the "Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law." The bill is modeled after a Sample Law developed by the United States Department of Transportation and a cross-section of safety and industry organizations. It would prohibit the operation of a motor vehicle while manually typing or entering multiple letters, numbers, symbols, or other text in a handheld wireless communication device, or sending or reading data in the device, for the purpose of non-voice interpersonal communication. The legislation makes exceptions for emergency workers performing official duties, reporting emergencies or suspicious activities, and for receiving various types of navigation information, emergency traffic data, radio broadcasts, and autonomous vehicles. The bill also makes an exception for interpersonal communications that can be conducted without the need to manually type messages. The prohibition is enforceable as a secondary offense. A first violation is punishable as a nonmoving violation, with a fine of \$30 plus court costs which vary by county. A second violation committed within 5 years of the first is a moving violation punishable by a \$60 fine plus court costs.

North Bay Village also supports the other approaches to banning texting while driving that are incorporated in SB708 by Senator Darrin Soto, SB152 by Senator Thad Altman, SB396 by Senator Joe Abruzzo, and HB61 by Representative Irv Slosberg. These mostly with prohibit drivers under 18 years of age from engaging in this practice.

- *Citizens Insurance*

North Bay Village supports SB96 by Senator Anitere Flores and its companion legislation HB107 by Representative Jose Diaz that would provide restrictions on annual rate increases so that they apply to both new and renewal policies. The Village also supports SB386 by Senator Joe Abruzzo and HB433 by Representative David Richardson that would mandate an Inspector General for Citizens Insurance Company and would classify Citizens Insurance as a state agency.

North Bay Village will also monitor legislative action regarding the depopulation of Citizens Insurance, including proposal to raise the current limitation on rate increases, restriction on covered properties, and allowing Citizens to enter risk-sharing arrangements with private companies and creating stricture requirements for new Citizens customers, to assure that the residents of the Village will have available and affordable insurance coverage.

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- *Florida Retirement System (FRS)*
 North Bay Village **supports/opposes/will monitor** proposed changes to the FRS making new public employees after January 1st of next year join 401(k)-style investment plans rather than the traditional “defined benefit” pension system.
- *Sober Homes*
 North Bay Village **supports/opposes/will monitor** legislation that defines and establishes minimum regulatory standards for sober home facilities and allows for more stringent local regulation of these facilities. (SB738 by Senator Jeff Clemons)
- *Open Parties*
 North Bay Village **supports/opposes/will monitor** legislation that expands the definition 856.015, F.S., that makes it a second degree misdemeanor for a person who has control of a residence to allow an open house party to take place at such residence if any alcoholic beverage or drug is possessed or consumed at the residence by a minor. The expansion would include vacant structures and open acreage with or without a structure. (HB5 by Representative Ray Pilon)
- *Communications Services Tax*
 North Bay Village opposes legislation that restricts or eliminates municipal revenue generated under the communications services tax. This is one of the main sources of general revenue for municipalities, generating over \$800 million every year and the funds can be used for any public purpose. (HB303 by Representative James Grant)
- *Local Business Tax*
 North Bay Village opposes legislation that restricts or eliminates municipal revenue generated under the local business tax. Currently, a municipality may impose a local business tax for the privilege or engaging in or managing a business, profession, or occupation within its jurisdiction.
- *Traffic Infraction Devices*
 North Bay Village **opposes/supports/will monitor** legislation that would prohibit a local government from utilizing “Red Light Cameras” and/or redirect additional revenues from same to the state. (HB91 by Representative Daphne Campbell)
- *Transportation Funding*
 North Bay Village supports legislation that provides opportunities for additional revenue options to fund municipal transportation infrastructure projects. Charter counties may hold a referendum on whether to impose up to a 1% sales tax to fund local transportation infrastructure projects. Municipalities lack such

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authority. Extending such an option to municipalities would allow greater flexibility to fund unique transportation needs.

SECRET

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