

CITY OF NAPLES



2024
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
AND APPROPRIATION REQUESTS
FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA



APPROVED BY:

CITY OF NAPLES CITY COUNCIL
MAYOR TERESA HEITMANN
VICE MAYOR MICHAEL MCCABE
COUNCIL MEMBER TED BLANKENSHIP
COUNCIL MEMBER RAY CHRISTMAN
COUNCIL MEMBER TERRY HUTCHISON
COUNCIL MEMBER PAUL PERRY
COUNCIL MEMBER BETH PETRUNOFF

SUBMITTED TO:

THE CITY OF NAPLES LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
SENATE PRESIDENT, SENATOR KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO, DISTRICT 28
REPRESENTATIVE BOB ROMMEL, DISTRICT 106

THE NAPLES VISION



THE ENDURING CHARACTER OF NAPLES REFLECTS OUR COMMITMENT TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, AND TO PRESERVE OUR SMALL TOWN FEEL AND CHARM. THESE FEATURES, TOGETHER WITH THE POSITIVE BUSINESS CLIMATE, SUSTAIN ECONOMIC VITALITY. RESIDENTS PLACE A HIGH VALUE ON OUR TOWN'S UNIQUE "SENSE OF PLACE", NATURAL BEAUTY, QUALITY OF LIFE, HEALTHY ECONOMY, AND ETHICAL GOVERNMENT; AND ACTIVELY ENGAGE AND DEFEND THEM.

2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Since City Council adopted the 2021 Vision, the Legislative Priorities have focused on legislation and projects that align and promote the City's Vision Plan Priorities and Initiatives:

- **OUR NATURE** - Water Quality, Stormwater Management, and Resiliency;
- **OUR PLACE** - Invest in Infrastructure Improvements;
- **OUR EXPERIENCE** - Affordability;
- **OUR GOVERNANCE** - Engage and Collaborate with Local and Regional Partners, Address Impacts of Growth, Engage and Defend Home Rule, and Infrastructure Sensitivity.

The City of Naples 2024 Legislative Agenda includes funding requests to supplement City investment in projects that are important to the citizens of Naples. The City of Naples is appreciative of all the support and efforts that will be provided on our behalf and pledges to give our best effort to stand with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to improve Florida's natural environment.

The City of Naples submits the following Legislative Priorities and Policy Proposals for consideration by the Governor, Cabinet Members, Members of the Florida Legislature, the Leadership within State Agencies, and other local, state, and federal interests that might be supportive of Florida's communities.

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR HEITMANN AND CITY COUNCIL:

The City of Naples deeply appreciates the full funding received during the 2023 Legislative Session, highlighting the Legislature's commitment to our success. Your support for Hurricane Ian recovery further demonstrates solidarity in challenging times. We're honored by the endorsement, especially for crucial projects related to water quality, resiliency, and cyber security. These ongoing efforts are vital for our growth, and your trust is invaluable. Our partnership with the Legislature fuels our determination as we work towards a safer and more resilient future.



THE NAPLES CITY COUNCIL SEEKS
LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
FOR THE FOLLOWING LEGISLATIVE MATTERS:

HOME RULE

The City requests the Delegations' support in opposing any legislation that would reduce the City's ability to retain current levels of Home Rule authority and the ability to preserve Naples' character, culture, and charm at the local level. Legislation that seeks to preempt or undermine local governmental authority, impose state preemption, creates unfunded mandates, or adversely impact local funding streams is detrimental to effective and responsive governing at the local level.

SENATE BILL 250

Support a proposed amendment to Section 553.80, F.S., to eliminate or revise the prohibition against local governments within 100 miles of the landfall area of either Hurricane Ian or Nicole from adopting a building moratorium, or comprehensive plan amendments or land use regulations more burdensome or restrictive than allowed in s. 163.3164, F.S., until October 1, 2024.

HOMEOWNER & FLOOD INSURANCE REGULATION

Advocate for continued reforms to stabilize the property insurance market, monitor carriers' financials and reserve funds, prevent further insolvencies, add growth in market competition, fair and transparent premiums for policyholders, and reduce dependency on the State's insurer of last resort.

SHORT TERM RENTALS

Oppose any proposed legislation that preempts or otherwise restricts local laws, ordinances, or regulations regarding vacation rental frequency or duration. The City of Naples currently has zoning regulations that protect residents from the negative impacts of short-term rentals. Preserving the integrity of local authority is essential and a component of preserving Naples small town feel and charm, and our residents' property values.

5G / 4G CELL TOWERS

Support proposed legislation that strengthens the ability of local municipalities to regulate the installation of 5G and 4G cell towers in City-owned rights-of-way.

WORKFORCE HOUSING

- Support any proposed legislation that provides funding for the development of workforce housing.
- Oppose any proposed legislation that preempts or otherwise restricts local laws, ordinances, or regulations from regulating the placement of workforce housing or affordable housing within the municipality's jurisdictional limits.

GENERATIONAL TRANSFER OF PROPERTY WITHOUT EXCESS TAX IMPLICATIONS SUPPORT ANY PROPOSED LEGISLATION THAT PROVIDES:

The ability to transfer property ownership to immediate family members for owner-occupied use without excess tax implications.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REGULATION

- Support proposed legislation that will implement the new Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Stormwater Management Regulations in a way that will improve the protection of our water quality resources.
- Support any proposed legislation that will improve the communication between local governmental agencies and the State of Florida to enhance transparency between all organizations.



GRANT / APPROPRIATION PROJECTS:

THE NAPLES CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS FINANCIAL SUPPORT, IN THE FORM OF GRANTS AND/OR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:



THE NAPLES PIER REBUILD PROJECT

REQUEST: \$5 MILLION (LOCAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$15 MILLION)

In September 2022, Hurricane Ian destroyed the 1,000-foot Naples Pier with the historical storm surge. Engineers deemed the remaining structure “unusable”, except for 100-feet located onshore. This project is estimated to be a \$20 million rebuild, and we are requesting \$5 million through state appropriations. Bids are scheduled to go out at the end of 2023, and construction is estimated to start at the beginning of 2024. The Naples Pier is an important tourist attraction for this community with over a million visitors each year. During the construction, the City plans to strengthen the structure by elevating and redesigning the pilings, so they are deeper and larger.

Contact: Chad Merritt, Director of the Parks, Recreation & Facilities Dept.



GULF OF MEXICO BEACH STORMWATER OUTFALL PIPE REMOVAL & WATER QUALITY PROJECT: REQUEST \$10 MILLION (LOCAL MATCH OF \$10 MILLION)

In accordance with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) directive to remove stormwater outfall pipes from the Naples beaches, the City has designed and permitted a project that improves water quality, flood protection, and the City's resiliency to climate change. After significant planning, design, and engineering, construction of the City's Beach Outfall Removal Project is planned to begin in early 2024; the project is estimated to be \$50 million. Stormwater quality will be improved beyond the State's minimum standards through a state-of-the-art stormwater treatment train. Clean stormwater will then be pumped 1,000 feet offshore via two (2) new pump stations. During the rebuild of the stormwater collection system, Gulf Shore Boulevard will be increased in elevation and be resilient to sea level rise to the year 2100. This project exceeds FDEP's directive to improve stormwater quality, reduce beach erosion, protect environment species, and remove large, unsightly, and obstructive stormwater pipes from the beautiful beaches of Naples.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection - Appropriations Request
Contact: Bob Middleton, Director of the Public Works Department

STORMWATER LAKE RESTORATION IMPROVEMENTS REQUEST \$1.5 MILLION (LOCAL MATCH OF \$1.5M)

A \$30 million project over the next 10 years to dredge and/or treat lakes to remove accumulated pollution and install best management practices within and around lakes (such as littoral shelves, aeration, filter marshes, etc.). Lakes are considered one of the most important components of the stormwater treatment train.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection - Appropriations Request
Contact: : Bob Middleton, Director of the Public Works Department

WEST GOODLETTE PHASE II – NAPLES BAY RED TIDE SEPTIC TO SEWER PROJECT REQUEST \$10 MILLION (LOCAL MATCH OF \$35M)

This project is to install a sanitary sewer system that will eliminate 930 failing septic tanks within the City of Naples utility services area. The failing septic tanks allow nutrients to contaminate stormwater runoff to surface waters of the State. The project is currently under design. The design will also include the replacement of the water distribution system that has reached the end of its life expectancy. The estimated project cost for the new sanitary sewer system is \$35 million, and the water system replacement is estimated to be an additional \$21 million. This project is scheduled to be bid in late 2024.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection,
Appropriations Request
Contact: : Bob Middleton, Director of the Public Works
Department

RIVER PARK EAST CLIMATE RESILIENCY IMPROVEMENTS REQUEST \$12 MILLION

City staff will request \$12 million over the next three years to install a new seawall around the River Park East community to increase resiliency against sea level rise and the threat of storm surge. The storm surge of Hurricane Ian proved to be devastating for this community. River Park is a diverse neighborhood with the City of Naples that was built in the 1960's and sits on finger canals off the Gordon River and Naples Bay. This location makes River Park highly susceptible to sea level rise and storm surge.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection,
Appropriations Request
Contact: : Bob Middleton, Director of the Public Works
Department



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE ITEMS WITHIN THE CITY OF NAPLES
2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES, PLEASE FIND THE AVAILABLE CONTACTS BELOW:



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