



2022 STATE OF FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

ADOPTED BY THE
CITY OF NAPLES

Mayor Teresa Heitmann
Vice-Mayor Terry Hutchison
Councilor Ted Blankenship
Councilor Ray Christman
Councilor Mike McCabe
Councilor Paul Perry
Councilor Gary Price

Submitted to:
THE CITY OF NAPLES LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
Senator Kathleen Passidomo, District 28
Representative Bob Rommel, District 106



2022 State of Florida Legislative Priorities

Naples Vision 2021

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.

Three of the Vision Plan's top priorities and initiatives align with the City's 2022 Legislative Priorities:

- 1) Water Quality – clean up the lakes system and Naples Bay and keep them clean.
- 2) Invest in improving the levels of service infrastructure for water quality, resiliency, and sea-level rise mitigation.
- 3) Actively engage and defend Home Rule.

The Vision Plan section *Our Nature – Environmental Sensitivity* states: we believe in the stewardship of our land and protection of our beaches, bays, river, estuaries, and lakes through education and investment that supports clean water, clean technology, and resilient coastlines.

WATER QUALITY

- Our natural environment is the cornerstone of our economy, and its preservation is an overarching priority for our community's well-being and sustainability.
- Our Gulf, beaches, bays, and lakes are our community's premiere assets, and we will restore and sustain their health for future generations.
- To address the threats of harmful algal blooms, we will provide for adoption, education, and enforcement of water quality standards that strictly control detrimental impacts caused by human activity such as pollution generated by fertilizers, litter, and runoff.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- New public and private stormwater management systems will be designed, and older infrastructure improved, so that retention and treatment mimic natural systems to improve water quality and mitigate the impact of water quantity on City systems.
- Strategically address mitigation efforts to improve resiliency and protect against sea level rise.

RESILIENCY

- We will work with Collier County and the State on issues pertaining to sea level rise and flood prevention to preserve the long-term investment of property owners.

Consistent with the Vision Plan and the expectations of residents, the City of Naples has initiated or identified \$159 million in capital projects that will improve the quality of water discharged into the Gulf of Mexico and lakes system, and \$19 million for septic-to-sewer conversion projects. To successfully complete these projects, funding from the State of Florida is essential.

Priorities for the 2022 Legislative Session

The City of Naples 2022 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 pledge to give our best effort to stand with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to improve Florida's natural environment.

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.

The Naples City Council requests financial support, in the form of grants and/or appropriations for the following projects:

- 1) Gulf of Mexico Beach Stormwater Outfall Pipe Removal & Water Quality Project - Phase I
- 2) Stormwater Lake Restoration Improvement
- 3) West Goodlette Phase II – Naples Bay Red Tide Septic to Sewer
- 4) City of Naples Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Plan

The Naples City Council also seeks legislative and administrative support for the following legislative matters:

Home Rule

The City of Naples' Vision Plan also identifies "Preserve Small Town Character and Culture" as a priority. Local jurisdictions can best preserve, develop, and maintain their unique community character. 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 impacts local funding streams is detrimental to effective and responsive governing at the local level.

Short Term Rentals

Oppose any proposed legislation that preempts or otherwise restricts local laws, ordinances, or regulation regarding vacation rental frequency or duration. The City of Naples currently has a strong Ordinance that protects residents from negative impacts of short-term rentals. Preserving the integrity of the local Ordinance is an essential component of preserving Naples small town feel and charm.

Grants / Appropriations Projects

Gulf of Mexico Beach Stormwater Outfall Pipe Removal & Water Quality Project - Phase I: Total cost for Phase - \$17.5M. Request \$5M

In 2012, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) required the City to develop a plan to remove stormwater outfall pipes from the recreational shoreline of Naples' beaches to allow beach renourishment work to be permitted. After significant planning and design, the City plans to begin construction to remove stormwater and outfall pipes from shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico in 2022. The project, as already permitted, will improve water quality through a series of water quality components, such as debris screens, grassed swales and underground baffle chambers, and then pump the clean stormwater via a new pump station 1,000-feet offshore of the Gulf of Mexico shoreline, where the untreated stormwater currently discharged. This project will significantly improve stormwater quality, shoreline habitat, such as protected sea turtles and bird

species, reduce flooding and beach erosion, and elevate the City's resiliency and sustainability by protecting the upland community from a 25-year, 3-day storm event, rather than the current 5-year, 1-hour storm event.

Application Pending at FDEP (\$5Million). If not funded, seek appropriations request.

Contact: Gregg Strakaluse, P.E., Director - Streets & Stormwater Department

Stormwater Lake Restoration Improvements: Request \$1.5M (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: Gregg Strakaluse, P.E., Director - Streets & Stormwater Department

West Goodlette Phase II – Naples Bay Red Tide Septic to Sewer – Request \$500,000

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 include the replacement of the water distribution that has reach the end of its life expectancy. The estimated construction cost of the sanitary sewer system is \$14 million, and the water system replacement is estimated to be \$5 million. This project is scheduled to bid in late 2022.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Appropriations Request

Contact: Bob Middleton, Utilities Director

City of Naples Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Plan – Request \$387,255

The City of Naples is seeking funding to create a Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Plan to help mitigate the existing and exacerbated future hazards and impacts posed by sea level rise, coastal storms, precipitation, and extreme heat. This builds upon the Vulnerability Assessment completed in June 2020. Due to the new state requirements that now must be included in local Vulnerability Assessments for inclusion in the statewide plan, funds are also being requested to do supplemental analyses to update the plan.

Resilient Florida, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Contact: Katie Laakkonen, Interim Natural Resources Manager

City of Naples Contact Information

For more information regarding the items within the Naples 2022 Legislative Priorities please find the available contacts below:

Mayor Teresa Heitmann

239-213-1000 phone

EMAIL mayorheitmann@naplesgov.com

Mr. Dana Souza, Interim City Manager

239-213-1030 phone

EMAIL dsouza@naplesgov.com

Ms. Monique Barnhart, Communications and Public Relations Manager

239-213-1001 phone

EMAIL mbarnhart@naplesgov.com