

Public School Construction

The Broward League of Cities supports revisions to Section 1022.33, F.S., to require that all charter schools identify the proposed location of their facility and present evidence from the municipality or county with land use and zoning jurisdiction that the proposed facility meets all applicable local comprehensive plan and land development regulations. The League also supports clarification that all charter schools are subject to local land development regulations and are not covered by the partial exemption from such regulation for school board operated public schools in Section 1013.33(10)-(15), F.S.

Public Education Funding

The Broward League of Cities supports that the State of Florida perform its duty of full funding for education as mandated by Article IX, Section 1 of the Florida Constitution stressing that the education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida.

Sustainability

The Broward League of Cities supports legislative programs and bills that support climate and energy initiatives, economic development, and walkable communities including, but not limited to, the establishment of a renewable energy portfolio that provides incentives for installation of alternative energy and energy efficient technologies and the continued support for local government authority to include operational energy and conservation elements in comprehensive plans.

Wireless Devices in School Zones

The Broward League of Cities supports legislation prohibiting the use of a handheld cellular telephone or other handheld electronic communications device while operating a motor vehicle in a school zone; providing for proceeds from fines collected be used to enhance funding for school resource and/or crossing guard program.

Regulation of Firearms and Ammunition State Preemption

The Broward League of Cities supports legislation providing that it is unlawful to carry a hand gun or concealed weapon or firearm within all government-owned buildings, properties, or facilities within Broward County.

Fireworks Regulation

The Broward League of Cities supports legislation declaring the possession of all fireworks in Broward County to be illegal unless exempted under Section 791.04 or Section 791.07, F.S., and authorizing any law enforcement officer employed by Broward County or a municipality to immediately seize such illegal fireworks in addition to regulation of fireworks transport.



This brochure reflects the priorities of Broward’s municipalities as prepared by the League’s Issue Committees, recommended by the Legislative Advocacy Committee, and adopted by the Board of Directors on December 1, 2011.

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**2012
LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES &
ISSUES**



Leadership....

Public Service...

Advocacy...

Fiscal Stewardship General Government and Municipal Powers

Municipal Police Officer and Firefighter Pension Plans and Disability Presumptions

The Broward League of Cities will support legislation that provides comprehensive municipal firefighter and police officer pension reform. Any comprehensive pension reform package should (i) modify the use of the insurance premium tax revenues by repealing the mandate for cities to perpetually provide new, "extra" pension benefits for police/fire; (ii) allow cities the ability to adjust pension benefits; (iii) provide for accountability by police/fire pension boards of trustees; and, (iv) reform current statutory disability presumptions for firefighters, law enforcement officers, and correctional officers relating to tuberculosis, heart disease, or hypertension.

General Finance and Tax

The Broward League of Cities opposes any legislation that would reduce revenues to municipalities including, but not limited to, recapture of Florida Retirement System savings and any modification, restriction, or elimination of municipal authority to levy, collect, and/or expend the communications services tax and the local business receipts tax.

The Broward League of Cities supports legislation that would allow municipalities within Broward County to impose special assessments, or a similar funding method, for the provision of law enforcement services in an initial revenue neutral manner to payers of property taxes.

In addition, the Broward League of Cities supports legislation that authorizes municipalities to provide effective public notice and advertising for various appropriate matters, not to include ad valorem millage setting, by means other than newspapers, such as direct mailings, physical posting of property, internet posting, free publications, government access television channels, and other suitable alternatives.

Health Insurance

The Broward League of Cities supports the expansion of the eligibility for participation in the state group health insurance program to include all municipalities.

Growth Management

Growth Management & Transportation

The Broward League of Cities supports the utilization of land use policies that strongly encourage the development of mass transit and the establishment of a funding allocation, directly to local governments, for transit operations, mass transit, transit infrastructure, and transit policy implementation.

The Broward League of Cities also supports preservation of local governmental responsibility to manage public resources and no further preemption of local land use authority.

Ethics and Elections

The Broward League of Cities supports legislation revising the dates on which municipal candidates must file qualification papers and pay certain fees relating to the governing of municipal elections in Broward County.



The Broward League of Cities is a recognized 501(c)(4) non profit organization, which was incorporated in 1957 and serves all of Broward County's municipalities. League membership includes elected municipal officials representing more than 1.7 million residents and over 90 associate government, non-profit, and business organizations.

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