



PEEBLES SMITH & MATTHEWS

City of Mount Dora January 2019

Communications

- Monthly Report
- Newsletter
- Robin Hayes – January 11

Florida League of Cities

- Lobbyist Team Meeting – January 28

Legislative Meetings

- Committee Meetings – January 7 -11 & January 21 – 25
- Rep Raschein – January 22
 - Briefing on City's budget requests
- Sen. Mayfield – January 10
 - Briefing on City's budget requests

Governor's Office/Agency Meetings

- Julie Dietz & Kim Kramer, Environmental Unit, Office of Planning & Budget – January 17 – Briefing on City's budget requests
- Cynthia Kelly, Budget Director – January 18 – Briefing on City's budget requests

Agency Meetings/Communications

Legislative Priorities

- Completed budget request forms
 - Rep. Sullivan – Review budget requests
 - Sen. Baxley – Review budget requests

NEXT STEPs

- **Review Governor's Budget Recommendations**
- **Committee Weeks**
 - **February 4 – 8**
 - **February 11 – 15**
 - **League of Cities DC Fly In – February 11 - 13**
 - **February 18 – 22**
- **Session – March 5th – May 3rd**

John Wayne Smith

Peebles Smith & Matthews, Inc.

February 1, 2019

Peebles Smith and Matthews Incorporated Monthly Lobbying Report for January 2019

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January started off to a rocking start with a full slate of activities and meetings. Monday and Tuesday were centered on the inauguration of Governor Ron DeSantis and the swearing in of newly elected cabinet members. In accepting his new role Governor Desantis highlighted several of his priorities, specifically more high paying jobs, education, protecting natural resources and infrastructure. Defining our environmental challenges as “pressing”, he spoke directly to discharges from Lake Okeechobee, red tide and blue-green algae. Additionally, Desantis gave special attention to rediscovering the value of civics as part of our educational curriculum.

Hurricane Michael

Multiple House and Senate Committees included time in their agendas for updates on the status of cleanup and restoration efforts regarding the communities impacted by Hurricane Michael-evidence hurricane related issues will be a key component of policy and budget discussions in 2019.

State Budget

The House Appropriations Committee got an update on the State’s long-range financial outlook from Amy Baker, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, on Wednesday. Early indications illustrate that despite the growth indicators from Florida’s and the national economy, state budget coffers are not feeling similar benefits. General revenue estimates predict modest growth of \$1.3 billion in the upcoming fiscal year, but show no signs of growth for 2020-21. These early numbers present a significant challenge at a time when there is tremendous political desire to ramp up the state’s attention to infrastructure, address environmental concerns and deal with specific challenges caused by hurricane related issues. PS&M is cautiously anticipating a serious discussion regarding the state’s ten-year policy (since the recession) of avoiding the use of debt as a means of leveraging dedicated funding sources.

Finance & Tax

The House Ways and Means Committee held its first meeting under the new leadership of Chairman Bryan Avilla. During the open portion of the meeting, members’ comments focused on the desire to continue legislative efforts to phase-out sales tax collection on the rent of commercial property, collection of sales tax on internet based transactions (Wayfair decision) and Amendment 5, which established a super-majority vote requirement for the creation of new state taxes and fees and increases to existing taxes and fees. Based on PS&M conversations keep your eyes out for potential

Important Dates

Committee Weeks

January 22 - 25

February - 8

February 11-15

February 18-22

Senate Bill Drafting

January 25

Governor’s Budget

Recommendations

February 2

League of Cities DC Fly In

February 12 - 13

NACO Legislative Conference

in DC

March 2-6

First Day of Session

Last Day for filing bills

March 5

Congressional City Conference

in DC

March 10-13

Last day of Session

May 3

linkage of Ecommerce collections as a way to pay for the buy down of sales tax on rent of commercial property.

Governor DeSantis Executive Order

Governor DeSantis issued his first executive order pertaining to the environment on Thursday. The order seeks \$2.5 billion dollars over the next four years for Everglades restoration and the protection of water resources. This amounts to a \$1 billion dollar increase over the previous four years. The order was not clear as to how DEP, DOH and others were going to secure that funding and whether or not a portion of it would come from the federal government. This brings about an interesting discussion as to whether or not this Governor will entertain bonding for infrastructure and environmental protection measures. The Governor also called on DEP to appoint a Chief Science Officer who will coordinate and prioritize scientific data, research, monitoring and analysis needs for pressing environmental issues. The Order creates two potential grant opportunities for local governments at DEP; (1) a septic to sewer grant program requiring local match; and (2) an alternative water supply project grant program. More details will be provided once the Department has an opportunity to implement.

Preemptions/Vacation Rentals/Property Rights

PS&M is expecting some new approaches this year primarily led by the House on the vacation rental issue. Current signs indicate that House Commerce Committee Chair, Rep. Mike LaRosa, will continue to take the lead. However, we expect him to throw a larger net, encompassing a broader approach attacking property rights in a general manner. Stay tuned. PS&M will share more specifics as soon as possible. Also, on the subject of vacation rentals, there are a number of other House and Senate members considering filing their own versions of legislation.

Quote of Week – Sen. Wilton Simpson – Environmental Question

“When I think of the environmental progress we’ve made in the last three year or four years – if we continue down the road of restoring springs and the Everglades, as we’ve been working very hard – science-based solutions,” Simpson said. “I think there’s room for – last year we did \$100 million on the Florida Forever Program, maybe expand that some for those critical corridors and linkages. And then continue to spend additional resources on our springs.”

PS&M Welcomes New Clients

Peebles, Smith & Matthews Inc. welcomes the new additions to the Firm’s family of clients for 2019. We are honored and excited to announce our representation of the following:

Florida Sheriffs Association
City of Frostproof
Florida Municipal Broadband Alliance
City of Newberry
Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue Services District
Florida PACE

As our team gears up for the 121st Florida Legislative Session, we want to express our excitement for the upcoming months and gratitude for the continued opportunity to advocate in front of the legislative and executive branch. Our clients are important to us and we pride ourselves on providing the best high-quality, full-service representation. To much success in 2019!

Peebles, Smith & Matthews Inc.

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PEEBLES SMITH & MATTHEWS

City of Mount Dora February

Communications

- Monthly Report
- Newsletter

Florida League of Cities

- Lobbyist Team Meeting – February 25th
- DC Fly In – February 12 – 13
 - NLC Briefing
 - Con. Demings
 - White House Briefing (EPA, USDA & HUD)
 - Sen. Rubio
 - Con. Dunn
 - Con. Soto
 - Con. Yoho
 - Con. Murphy

Legislative Meetings – February 20

- Rep. Sabatini
- Rep. Stone
- Sen. Hutson
- Sen. Baxley
- Rep. Sullivan

Agency Meetings/Communications

- Department of Transportation, SunTrail Program
- Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands

NEXT STEPS

- **Session – March 5th – May 3rd**
- **Wolf Branch Innovation District Budget Request (Fiber Optic)**

John Wayne Smith
Peebles Smith & Matthews, Inc.
March 2, 2019

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State Budget

The House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees made their budget recommendations for FY 2019-2020 this week. The House and Senate released their respective budget recommendations for 2019-2020. The House totals \$89.9 billion with \$33,458.1 billion from general revenue and \$56,444.5 billion from trust funds. The Senate version totals \$90.3 billion with \$33,689.8 million from general revenue and \$56,635.9 billion from trust funds. Governor DeSantis' recommendations totaled \$91.3 billion, \$33,782.7 billion from general revenue and \$57,486.5 billion from trust funds. For more specific budget highlights see last page. The House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee will discuss their proposed budgets on Wednesday March 27 in the morning and afternoon, respectively.

Attorneys Fees and Costs

SB 1140/HB 829 would reward the prevailing party bringing a civil suit against a local government ordinance preempted by the state. On Monday, SB 1140 by Sen. Huston was presented in the Senate Judiciary Committee, its first committee of reference. The bill was reported favorably receiving 4 yeas and 2 nays. Rep. Sabatini's House companion bill HB 829 was reported favorably in the House Civil Justice Subcommittee on Wednesday receiving 10 yeas and 3 nays.

Community Redevelopment Agencies

HB 9 by Rep. LaMarca was reported favorably in the House State Affairs Committee on Thursday, which is the bill's final committee of reference. Questions posed by committee members centered around the tax increment financing, or TIF, component of the proposed legislation. Specifically, Representatives posed questions about communities outside of the designated CRA boundary determining how earmarked tax revenues from within the CRA are spent. The bill received 16 yeas and 7 nays. The Senate Companion bill, SB 1054 by Sen. Lee, is on the agenda for the Senate Committee on Community Affairs for March 26.

Finance & Tax

On Wednesday, SB 336 by Sen. Brandes (the companion bill to HB 5 by Rep. DiCeglie) was reported favorably in the Senate Finance and Tax Committee. SB 336/HB 5 would require a referendum during a general election in order to adopt or amend a discretionary sales surtax. SB 336 received 6 yeas and 2 nays. Neither SB 336 nor HB 5 has been placed on the agenda for their next committee of reference.

Important Dates

March 25 at 1:30 p.m.
Deadline for budget amendments Senate Appropriations Committee

March 26 at 6:00 p.m.
Deadline for budget amendments House Appropriations Committee

March 27
Appropriations Committees - Proposed Chamber Budgets

March 26-27
Florida League of Cities Action Days

March 27
Florida Association of Counties Action Day

March 29
FAC Financial Management Workshop

May 3
Last day of Session

Local Government Fiscal Transparency

HB 15 serves to increase local government fiscal transparency by requiring (1) access to voting records of a governing body on tax related issues, (2) online access to TRIM notices, (3) increased public notice for meetings dealing with tax increases, (4) local governments to conduct a debt affordability analysis before issuing a long-term, tax supported debt, (5) and the Auditor General to notify the Legislative Auditing Committee if the terms of the proposed legislation are not met. A concern regarding the adopted amendment, barcode 791007, highlighted difficulties small local governments face when attempting to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. On Monday, HB 15 by Rep. Burton received 13 yeas and 2 nays by the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill's third committee of reference will be the House State Affairs Committee.

Permit Fees

HB 127 by Rep. Williamson was read for the second time on the floor of the House on Wednesday and read for the third time while the House was in Session on Thursday. HB 127 received 110 yeas and has been referred to the Senate.

Preemption of Local Government Regulations

On Thursday HB 3 by Rep. Grant passed through its third committee of reference – the House Commerce Committee. The bill received 18 yeas and 5 nays. The Senate Companion bill, SB 1748 by Sen. Perry, has not yet been placed on the agenda for its first committee of reference, which is the Senate Community Affairs Committee.

Statewide Task Force on Opioid Drug Abuse

SB 1658/ HB 875 serve to establish a statewide task force dedicated to examining opioid drug use. On Monday, SB 1658 by Sen. Simpson passed unanimously through the Senate Committee on Health Policy, and on Tuesday, the House companion bill HB 875 by Rep. Sirois also passed unanimously through the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

Look Ahead to Next Week

Monday, March 25th

- Senate Judiciary Committee - 4:00 p.m. (110 SOB)
 - SB 76 by Simpson – Driving While Distracted (MetroPlan Orlando)
 - SB 1694 by Flores – Takings Claims within Areas of Critical State Concern (Islamorada & Monroe County)

Tuesday, March 26th

- House Local Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee – 8:00 a.m. (12 HOB)
 - HB 1323 by J. Grant – City of Tampa (Tampa)
- House Business & Professions Subcommittee – 12:00 p.m. (212 Knott)
 - HB 987 by J. Grant – Vacation Rentals (FLC)
- Senate Innovation Industry and Technology Committee – 1:30 p.m. (110 SOB)
 - SB 824 by Diaz – Vacation Rentals (FLC)
- Senate Community Affairs Committee – 4:00 p.m. (301 SOB)
 - SB 1054 by Lee – Community Redevelopment Agencies (FRA)
 - SB 1000 by Hutson – Communications Services (FAC/FLC/FMBA)

Budget Highlights

		Governor	House	Senate
Dept. of Health	County Health Units	\$129.3 M	\$129.3 M	\$129.3 M
Dept. of Environmental Protection	Florida Forever Florida Communities Trust	\$100 M \$0	\$20 M \$0	\$45 M \$0
	Water Projects	\$0	\$27.8 M	\$29.5 M
	Water Quality (Algae)	\$10.8 M	\$10.8 M	\$10.8 M
	Innovative Technology	\$10 M	\$10 M	\$0
	Everglades Restoration	\$285.3 M	\$288.3 M	\$285.3 M
	Northern Everglades	\$29.9 M	\$29.8 M	\$30.4 M
	Alternative Water Supply	\$40 M	\$40 M	\$40 M
	Springs	\$50 M	\$50 M	\$100 M
	Water Quality Septic to Sewer	\$100 M	\$50 M	\$25 M
	Water Quality Everglades	\$0	\$0	\$50 M
	TMDLs	\$50 M	\$50 M	\$25 M
	State Parks	\$50 M	\$43.5 M	\$15 M
	Drinking Water	\$125.5 M	\$125.5 M	\$59.6 M
	Wastewater	\$181.6 M	\$181.6 M	\$181.6 M
	Small County Wastewater	\$13 M	\$13 M	\$13 M
	Beaches	\$50 M	\$50 M	\$44.5 M
	Dry-cleaning	\$8.5 M	\$8.5 M	\$8.5 M
	Petroleum Tanks	\$110 M	\$121 M	\$90 M
Dept. of Transportation	Transportation Disadvantaged	\$55.8 M	\$55.8 M	\$55.8 M
	Public Transit	\$561.1M \$106.8 M	\$561.1M \$106.8 M	\$561.1M \$106.8 M
	SCRAP	\$29.8 M	\$29.8 M	\$29.8 M
	SCOP	\$72 M	\$72 M	\$72 M
Dept. of Economic Opportunity	SHIP	\$246.9 M	\$49.5 M	\$170 M
	SAIL	\$105.4 M	\$0	\$61.7 M
	Housing Hurricane	\$0	\$75.8 M	\$100 M
	Economic Development Tools	\$36.5 M	\$23.4 M	\$26.7 M
	Visit Florida	\$76 M	\$19 M	\$50 M
	Job Growth Fund	\$85 M	\$0 M	\$0 M

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