

CITIES 101

- Florida League of Cities' Conference

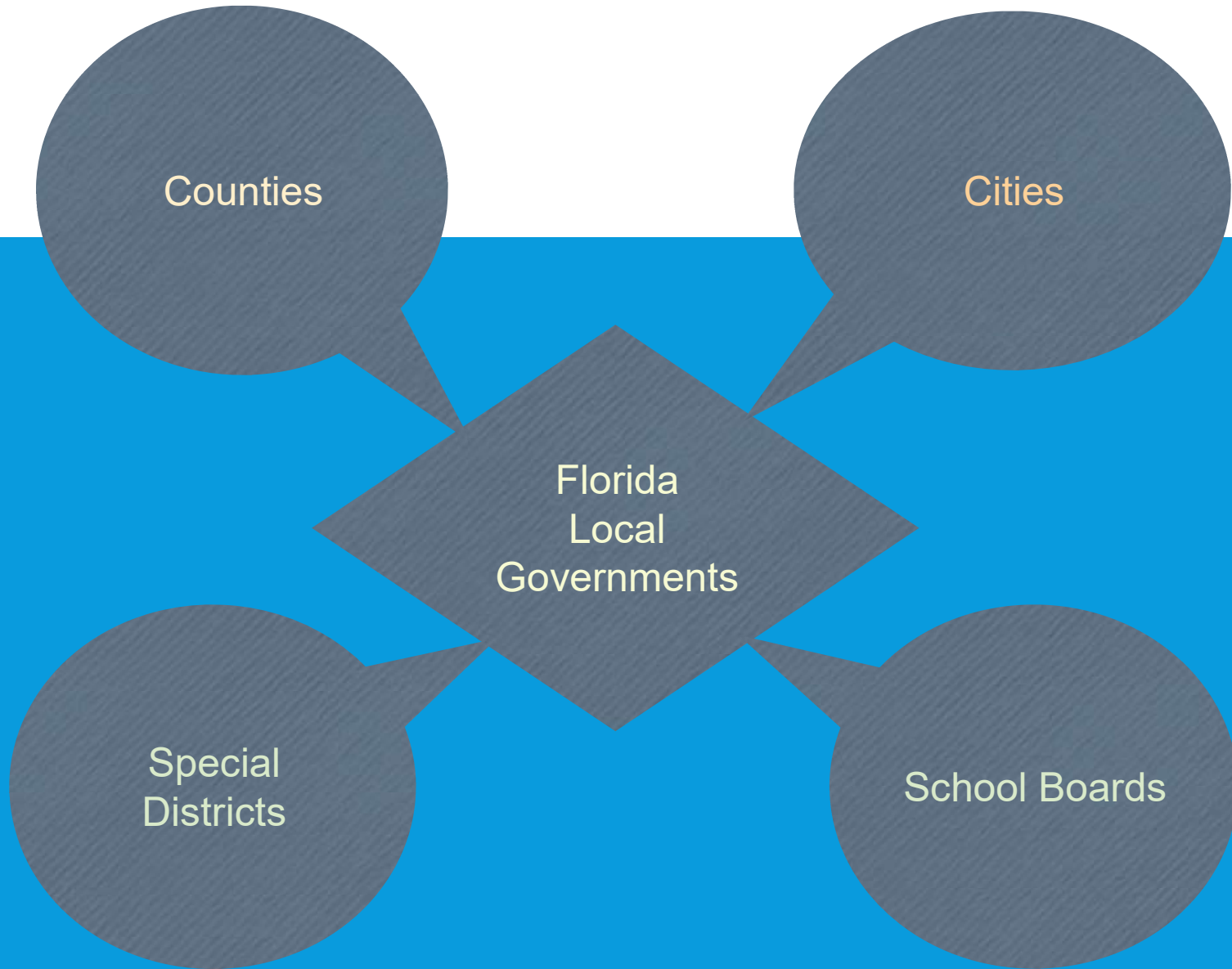
- August 17, 2017



- Presented by

- Robert E. Lee, DPA, ICMA-CM

- Assistant Professor at Florida Gulf Coast University and Executive Director of the Center for Florida Local Government Excellence



Counties

Cities

Florida
Local
Governments

Special
Districts

School Boards

Forms of Local Government

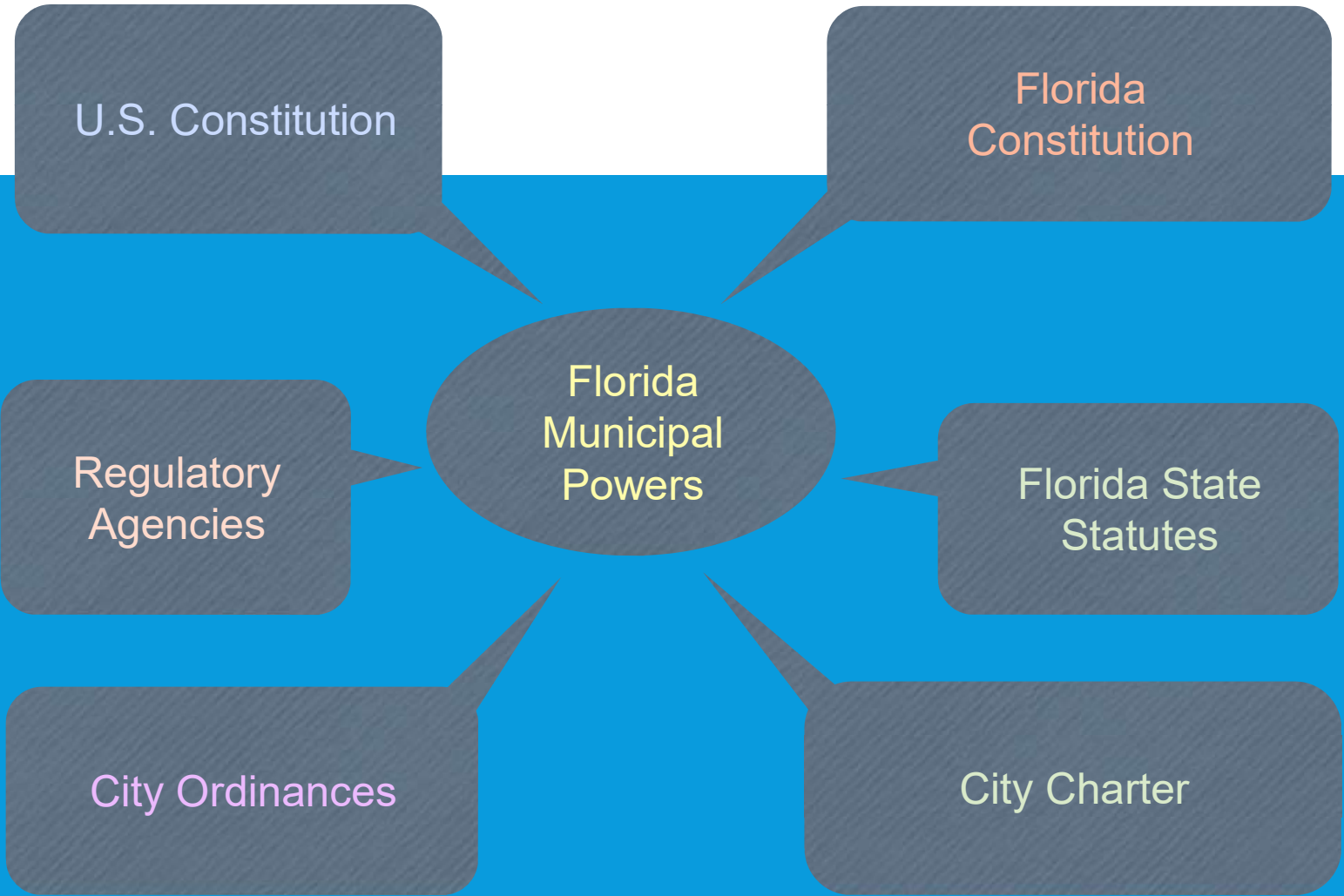
Council or Commission

Council/Manager

*Strong Mayor/
Council*

*Hybrid forms of
Government*





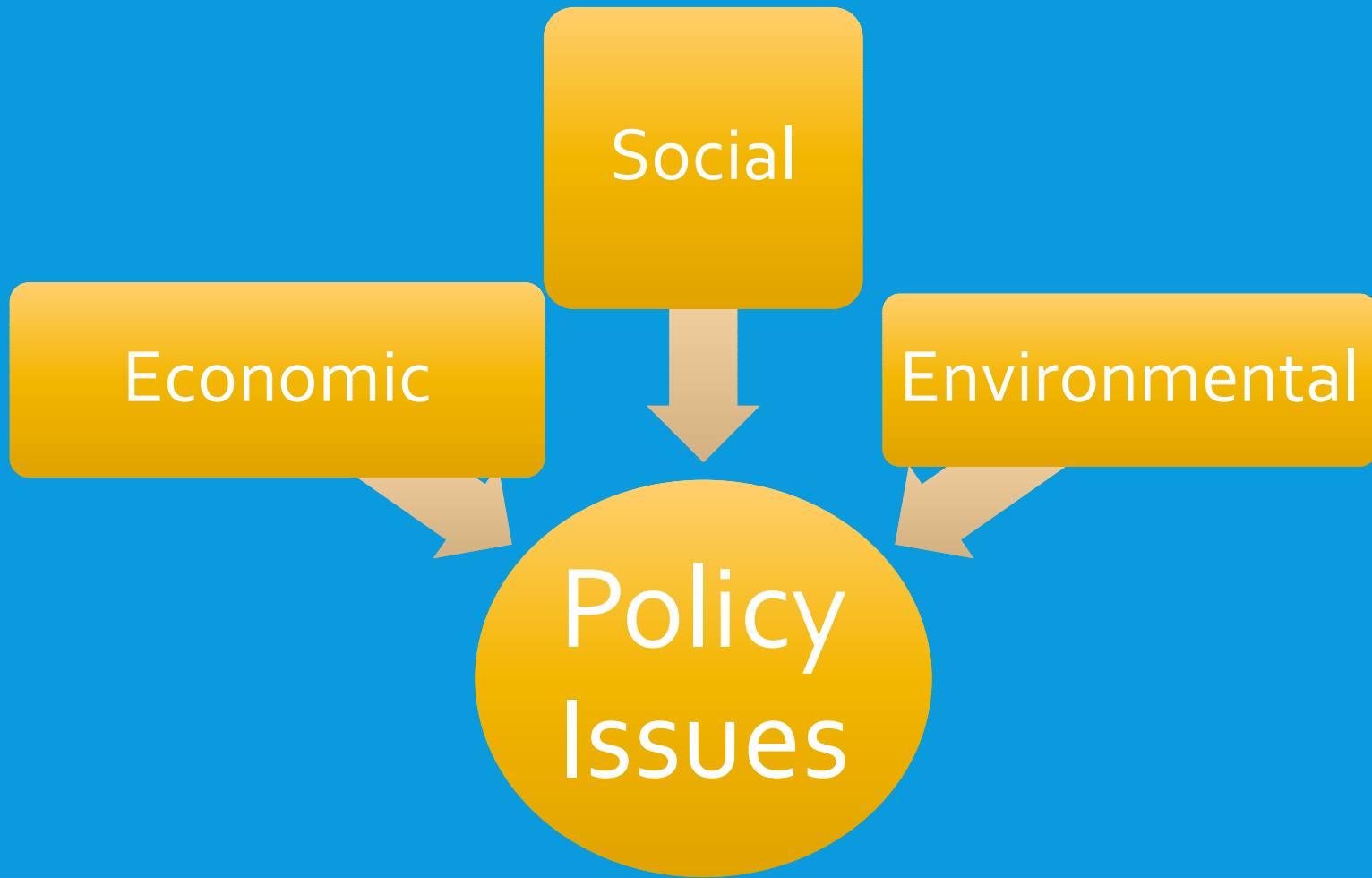
News/Social
Media

Local
Government
Policy
Making

Neighborhood
Associations

Special
Interest
Groups

Advisory
Committees



IMPORTANCE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING

"Remember, when you are dealing with people you are not dealing with creatures of logic, but creatures of emotion."

Dale Carnegie

A CONVERSATION ON CIVILITY...”

Cities 101

FLC Annual Conference
World Center Marriott Hotel
August 17, 2017



Agenda for Today

- Welcome!
- Course designed for newly elected and newly appointed officials
- Discussion: philosophies of public policy, Home Rule, citizen engagement and public service
- Fundamentals of municipal government structure and function
- Resources and FL-specific information



Speakers

- Dr. Bob Lee – former city manager, faculty at FGCU and director of CFLGE – Center for Florida Local Government Excellence; also ICMA-Credentialed Manager
- Lynn Tipton – FLC staff (25 years) and trainer/presenter with FLC University



Orientations – What to Cover

- Newly elected: public meeting process; agenda item requests; budget, audit and CAFR overview; visit all facilities; review Ethics/Sunshine with attorney
- Newly appointed: same as above, plus employee handbook, policies & procedures, take a tour; learn area history



Your Materials

- Packet includes:
- Power points from both presenters
- Resource pages
- Glossary of terms and abbreviations
- Intergovernmental Piece – “Know the Players”
- Brochures for other training on back table



Florida Specific Information

- Who and What are Florida's municipalities?
- Independent, public corporations – great definition
- 412; range from 5 to 861,252
- 60% have populations under 10,000
- Median is 5,711



More on Florida's Cities

- City, town or village: no legal difference in aesthetic name
- Incorporated or unincorporated: only two choices; always within a county
- Elected body: council or commission; sizes from 3 to 19 – 5 most common
- Part-time and non-partisan
- Every city has a charter



More on Cities

- 25 incorporations since 1990
- 3 dissolutions since 1980
- Services vary greatly: all have comprehensive plans



City Issues in Common

- Balancing demands with resources
- ‘Doing more with less’ – since the Great Recession
- Intergovernmental issues – storm water fees with school boards, for example
- Financing Infrastructure



City Fiscal Structures

- Property tax is granted through Constitution
- Utility tax, business license tax and sharing in state taxes through Legislature
- About half of each city budget (50%) is fees, charges for service
- No Fiscal Home Rule



Home Rule in Florida

- Citizens put it in FL Constitution in 1968 for cities and counties; Legislature recognized it and passed the Home Rule Powers Act in 1973 – we call that the ‘anniversary’ date
- Under attack: Legislature, and also under review by the Constitution Revision Commission 2017-18



Municipal Challenges in FL

- Intergovernmental – city to county; city to school board; city to state
- Getting heard in Legislature/Congress – battling special interest groups
- Financing Infrastructure
- Doing More with Less
- Growth is back!



Your Resources

- FLC website:
www.floridaleagueofcities.com
- Florida Municipal Officials Manual
- CMRI – Research and Peer Cities
- Training – FLC U, IOG, CFLGE and others
- Local/regional leagues
- Staff: associations for professions



Discussion

- *Thank you* for attending!
- Certificates for those requesting them – clipboard in back of room
- These power points will be posted after August 21st.

