

Florida League of Cities

ALERT

FAST
Federal
Action Strike Team

TO: Key Officials
FLC Board of Directors
Members, Federal Action Strike Team
Directors, Local and Regional Leagues

FROM: John Charles Thomas, Director
Policy and Political Affairs

DATE: February 6, 2009

RE: Economic Stimulus Plan Update

Today, the U.S. Senate resumes debate on the Senate version of the Federal Economic Stimulus bill. Efforts are underway by Republican leadership and some moderate Democrats to cut \$100 billion they deem inappropriate economic stimulus projects. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) has called for a vote on the bill between the hours of 5pm and 7pm this evening.

The stimulus package is expected to go to House/Senate Conference next week to iron out differences between the two bills. The Florida League of Cities continues to monitor the actions of the U.S. Senate and the differences between the House and Senate bills.

Also this week, Governor Charlie Crist took specific action to better prepare the state government for receiving federal stimulus funding. Specifically, the Governor outlined for President Obama and congressional leaders the transportation, education and health care funding needs for the state of Florida.

On Monday, Governor Crist convened the State of Florida federal stimulus working group which consists of:

- Lieutenant Governor Jeff Kottkamp
- Governor's Chief of Staff
- Budget Director
- Policy Director

- Director, Agency for Health Care Administration
- Secretary, Department of Children and Families
- Secretary, Department of Community Affairs
- Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection
- Secretary, Department of Transportation
- Secretary, Department of Education
- Secretary, Department of Health
- Director, Agency for Workforce Innovation
- Director, Governor's Office of Policy and Budget
- Director, Governor's Energy Office
- Director, Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development
- Director, State of Florida's Washington DC Office

The federal stimulus working group will continue to concentrate on Governor Crist's [Accelerate Florida](#) initiative to speed up billions of dollars in approved construction and capital outlay projects through expedited approval and contracting. The Florida League of Cities will continue to monitor the state's progress and identify the important role that municipalities play.

As mentioned in previous alerts, the Florida League of Cities has engaged John Dailey with JDA Strategies to consult with member cities regarding how a federal stimulus package could impact them.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact John Dailey, JDA Strategies (john_dailey@comcast.net) or Allison Payne at the League at 850-701-3602 or e-mail: apayne@flcities.com.

To access this and other information on the stimulus plan, please also visit the League's website at www.flcities.com/legislative/economicstimulus.asp.