

Thursday, December 4, 2025 10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. ET

Meeting Room: Orange Biscayne Renaissance Orlando SeaWorld 6677 Sea Harbor Dr. Orlando, FL 32821

FLC Staff Contact: David Cruz





## Agenda



#### Development, Code Compliance, and Redevelopment Legislative Policy Committee Thursday, December 4, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Renaissance Orlando SeaWorld – Meeting Room: Biscayne 6677 Sea Harbor Dr, Orlando, Florida

#### **AGENDA**

	HGE (DA)						
I.	Introduction and Opening Remarks	Chair Joshua D. Fuller Council Member, Town of Bay Harbor Islands					
II.	Recap of the Remaining Two Issues	David Cruz, FLC Staff					
	a. Housing						
	b. Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRA	As)					
III.	Committee Discussion on Language of Recommended Priority						
IV.	Committee Discussion on Policy Statement Language						
V.	Additional Information	David Cruz, FLC Staff					
VI.	Closing Remarks	Councilmember, Town of Bay Harbor Islands					

#### WiFi Information:

VII.

Adjournment

If you are staying at the Renaissance, the instructions you received to connect to wireless in your room should also work in the meeting space. If you have any issues with that, or if you are <u>not</u> staying on-site, please connect to the **Renaissance\_Conference** network and open your internet browser. If you are not automatically redirected to the Renaissance login page, please type in any non-secure internet website.

When prompted, enter **FLCLC25** as the password.



## Committee Roster



### 2025-2026 Development, Code Compliance, and Redevelopment Policy Committee

Staffed by: David Cruz, Legislative Counsel

#### **CHAIR:**

The Honorable Joshua D. Fuller

Councilmember, Town of Bay Harbor Islands

VICE CHAIR:

The Honorable Melissa Castro

Commissioner, City of Coral Gables

**MEMBERS:** 

The Honorable Antonio Arserio

Vice Mayor, City of Margate

The Honorable Sarah Baker

Commissioner, City of Winter Springs

The Honorable Vincent Barile

Vice Mayor, Town of Sewall's Point

The Honorable Rick Belhumeur

Commissioner, City of Flagler Beach

The Honorable Samuel Berrien

Mayor, City of Fort Meade

The Honorable Liston Bochette

Councilman, City of Fort Myers

The Honorable Dorothea Taylor

**Bogert** 

Mayor, City of Auburndale

**Michael Bornstein** 

Village Manager, Village of Palm Springs The Honorable Nancy Bowen

Vice Mayor, City of Coral Springs

The Honorable Michael Broderick

Commissioner, City of Fort Pierce

The Honorable Woody Brown

Mayor, City of Largo

The Honorable Cynthia Burton

Commissioner, City of Crescent City

**Patrick Callahan** 

Community Development
Director/Building Official, City of
Satellite Beach

**Carmen Capezzuto** 

Director of Neighborhood Services, City of Port St. Lucie

The Honorable Jolien Caraballo

Vice Mayor, City of Port St. Lucie

The Honorable John Carroll

Councilmember, City of Vero Beach

The Honorable Kristin Church

Commissioner, City of Dade City

The Honorable Jeremy Clark

Vice Mayor, City of Davenport

The Honorable Gary Coffin

Commissioner, Town of Longboat Key

The Honorable Tequella Collins

Commissioner, City of Belle Glade

#### **Nick Colonna**

Community Development Administrator, City of Pinellas Park

#### **Dana Crosby Collier**

Senior Assistant Attorney, City of Tampa

#### The Honorable Bradley Dantzler

Commissioner, City of Winter Haven

#### The Honorable Dennis Dawson

Councilmember, City of Mount Dora

#### The Honorable Jack Dearmin

Commissioner, City of Lake Alfred

#### The Honorable Gloria DeBerry

Council Member, City of Fort Walton Beach

#### **Pamela Durrance**

City Manager, City of Bowling Green

#### The Honorable Bryan Eastman

Commissioner, City of Gainesville

#### Krista Ellingson

Building Department Administrator, City of Satellite Beach

#### **Antranette Forbes**

Director, Economic Development, City of Apopka

#### The Honorable Shawn Goepfert

Councilman, City of Port Orange

#### The Honorable Easton Harrison

Commissioner, City of Lauderdale Lakes

#### The Honorable Jhelecia Hawkins

Councilmember, City of Jasper

#### **Alex Hernandez**

Chief Building Official, City of Coral Springs

#### The Honorable Marge Herzog

Vice Mayor, Town of Loxahatchee Groves

#### The Honorable Darfeness Hinds

Council Vice President, City of Williston

#### The Honorable Tim Horvath

Councilor, City of Neptune Beach

#### Jeremy Hubsch

Community Development Director, Village of Tequesta

#### **Heather Ireland**

Director, Planning and Development Dept., City of Jacksonville Beach

#### The Honorable Dan Janson

Vice Mayor, City of Jacksonville Beach

#### The Honorable Rahman Johnson

Councilmember, City of Jacksonville

#### **Lynsey Jones**

Deputy Building Official, City of Melbourne

#### The Honorable Barbara Langdon

Commissioner, City of North Port

#### The Honorable Greg Langowski

Vice Mayor, City of Westlake

#### The Honorable Shirley Lanier

Councilperson, City of Riviera Beach

#### Sandra Leone

Planning and Sustainability Manager, City of Satellite Beach

#### R. Max Lohman

City Attorney, City of Palm Beach Gardens

#### The Honorable Karen Lythgoe

Mayor, Town of Lantana

#### The Honorable Lisa Martin

Vice Mayor, City of New Smyrna Beach

#### The Honorable Sarai "Ray" Martin

Vice Mayor, City of Lauderhill

#### **Dan Matthys**

Deputy City Manager, City of Clermont

#### The Honorable Matthew McMillan

Commissioner, City of Longwood

#### The Honorable Joseph McMullen

Commissioner, Town of Oakland

#### The Honorable Genece Minshew

Commissioner, City of Fernandina Beach

#### Juliet Misconi

Deputy City Manager, City of Palm Bay

#### The Honorable Fran Nachlas

Deputy Mayor, City of Boca Raton

#### The Honorable Danny Nugent

Commissioner, City of Starke

#### The Honorable Karen Ostrand

Mayor, Town of Ocean Breeze

#### Lucia Panica

Director of Development Services Department, City of Sarasota

#### The Honorable Karen Rafferty

Commissioner, City of Belleair Bluffs

#### The Honorable Chelsea Reed

Councilmember, City of Palm Beach Gardens

#### The Honorable Patti Reed

Councilmember, City of Pinellas Park

#### The Honorable Alan Reisman

Mayor, City of Leesburg

#### The Honorable Betty Resch

Mayor, City of Lake Worth Beach

#### The Honorable Cora Roberson

Councilmember, Town of Lake Hamilton

#### The Honorable Dylan Rumrell

Mayor, City of St. Augustine Beach

#### The Honorable Seth Salver

Vice Mayor, Bal Harbour Village

#### The Honorable Steven Sandbergen

Commissioner, City of Dunedin

#### The Honorable Travis Sargent

Commissioner, City of Ormond Beach

#### The Honorable Bill Schaetzle

Mayor Pro Tem, City of Niceville

#### The Honorable Marlene Shaw

Councilmember, City of Gulport

#### **Brian Sherman**

City Attorney, Goren, Cherof, Doody, and Ezrol PA

#### The Honorable Alan Shields

Councilor, City of Seminole

#### **Shari Simmans**

Director, Economic Development, Communications & Government Affairs, City of DeBary

#### C. Howard Smith

Director, Community Redevelopment Agency, City of Bartow

#### The Honorable Jordan Smith

Commissioner, City of Lake Mary

#### The Honorable Bill Steinke

Councilmember, City of Cape Coral

#### The Honorable Larisa Svechin

Mayor, City of Sunny Isles Beach

#### The Honorable Christa Tanner

Mayor, City of Brooksville

#### The Honorable Judith Thomas

Commissioner, Town of Lake Park

#### The Honorable Johnnie Tieche

Councilmember, Village of Palm Springs

#### The Honorable Debbie Trice

Vice Mayor, City of Sarasota

#### The Honorable Kenneth Vogel

Councilman, Town of Orange Park

#### The Honorable Morris West

Mayor, City of Haines City

#### The Honorable Don Willis

Councilmember, City of Cape Canaveral

#### The Honorable Rosemary Wilsen

Commissioner, City of Ocoee

#### The Honorable Janet Wilson

Vice Mayor, City of Indian Rocks Beach

#### **Latricia Wright**

City Clerk, City of Williston



# Housing



#### Housing

#### **Draft Priority Statement:**

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that fosters a collaborative approach balancing the urgent need to address Florida's housing shortage with preserving the authority of local governments to manage growth consistent with each community's capacity, resources, and long-term planning. Cities must retain the ability to decide where new housing is located to maintain their unique identity—without additional state preemptions or expanded administrative approval requirements that erode public participation and residents' democratic ability to influence how their cities grow.

#### **Background:**

Florida's housing shortage remains one of the most urgent and far-reaching challenges facing communities across the state. Cities are confronting rising land and construction costs, limited developable land, and record population growth—all while striving to maintain infrastructure capacity and preserve community character. However, state lawmakers continue to pursue top-down housing preemptions that often limit local flexibility to balance growth, affordability, and the ability to preserve each city's unique identity.

#### The Live Local Act (2023–2025):

Originally enacted in 2023, the Live Local Act aimed to increase the supply of affordable and workforce housing through incentives, preemptions, and funding support. The law requires local governments to approve high-density multifamily developments in certain commercial, industrial, or mixed-use zones if a portion of the units are set aside for affordable housing. The Act was subsequently amended in 2024 and 2025 to further refine its land use, density, and implementation provisions.

In 2025, the Legislature enacted additional amendments to clarify and expand the Act's provisions. Some of these revisions included:

- **Expanded Applicability:** Authorizes Live Local projects in "flexibly zoned areas" (including PUDs) permitted for commercial, industrial, or mixed-use development, without the need for a density transfer or amendment to a development of regional impact.
- **Height and Density Standards:** Prohibits local governments from limiting project height below the highest allowed (or allowed as of July 1, 2023) within one mile of the site; defines floor area ratio broadly to include floor lot ratio and lot coverage.
- Historic Districts: Allows height restrictions only for projects involving contributing structures within National Register historic districts, but not below the highest allowed within ¾ mile or three stories, whichever is greater.
- **Administrative Approval:** Requires Live Local projects that meet multifamily zoning and comprehensive plan standards to receive administrative approval without hearings or board action.

- Parking and Mixed Use: Mandates a 15% parking reduction for projects near transit and limits nonresidential use in mixed-use projects to 10% of total square footage.
- **Religious Property Development:** Allows—but does not require—local governments to permit affordable housing on parcels owned by religious institutions that contain a house of worship, with at least 10% of units affordable.
- Moratorium Restrictions: Prohibits building moratoria that delay Live Local projects, except for limited infrastructure or flooding concerns; such moratoria may last no more than 90 days every three years and must include a local housing needs assessment.
- **Litigation and Reporting:** Requires attorney fees (up to \$250,000) for prevailing parties in enforcement actions; mandates annual local reporting to DEO on approved Live Local projects beginning November 1, 2026.

#### Accessory Dwelling Units SB 48 (Gaetz) and HB 313 (Nix):

**SB 48** and **HB 313** (2026 Session), which would require that every local government adopt an ordinance by December 1, 2026, allowing accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all areas zoned for single-family residential use. The bills would:

- Require, rather than authorize, local governments to permit ADUs in single-family zones.
- Prohibit local governments from imposing owner-occupancy requirements or restricting ADUs rentals if rented for one month or longer.
- Prohibit local governments from requiring replacement parking when a garage or driveway is converted to an accessory dwelling unit.
- Require that ADUs providing affordable rental housing count toward a city's affordable housing component under its comprehensive plan.
- Clarify that property owners will not lose their homestead exemption due to the presence of a rented ADU, although the ADU portion of the property would be separately assessed and taxed.

#### Sadowski Coalition 2026 Priorities:

The Sadowski Housing Coalition represents cities, counties, housing advocates, and private-sector partners committed to preserving dedicated state funding for affordable housing. In 2026 the Coalition is calling for:

- Full funding of the SHIP and SAIL trust funds from documentary stamp revenues;
- \$150 million for the Live Local SAIL Program; and
- \$100 million for the Hometown Heroes homeownership program.

These initiatives remain Florida's primary tools for producing and preserving affordable housing.



# Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs)



#### **Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs)**

#### **Draft Policy Position Statement:**

The Florida League of Cities OPPOSES legislation that limits the authority or operation of Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs), which are essential tools for revitalizing neighborhoods and driving local economic growth. CRAs fund critical projects such as infrastructure, roads, drainage, and public spaces that improve communities statewide. The League supports continued accountability and transparency but cautions against efforts to weaken or eliminate CRAs.

#### **Background:**

Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs), established under Chapter 163, Part III, Florida Statutes, are among the most effective local tools for reversing blight, attracting private investment, and improving quality of life. CRAs are funded through Tax Increment Financing (TIF), a mechanism that reinvests the increase in local property tax revenues generated within a redevelopment area back into that community. CRAs operate entirely with local funds, not state appropriations, and do not raise tax rates.

During the 2025 Legislative Session, legislation was filed that would have significantly restricted the authority and long-term viability of CRAs. **CS/CS/HB 991** (Giallombardo) and **CS/SB 1242** (McClain) initially sought to require all existing CRAs to sunset by September 30, 2045, prohibit the creation of new CRAs, and bar existing agencies from initiating new projects or issuing debt after October 1, 2025.

The Senate bill was later amended to remove the mandatory sunset and permit the creation of new CRAs but imposed several new restrictions, including:

- Requiring newly created CRAs to be governed by municipal elected officials, with up to two additional members on a seven-member board;
- Prohibiting changes to existing CRA boundaries; and
- Restricting CRA expenditures for community events such as festivals, concerts, and parades.

Although the proposed legislation did not pass, these bills demonstrated a continued legislative effort to curtail local control over CRAs and their use of TIF funds. The League anticipates similar proposals during the 2026 Legislative Session.

CRAs remain an important redevelopment for many cities across the state for some of these reasons:

- **Locally Funded No New Taxes:** CRAs rely solely on local TIF revenues that reinvest property tax growth into community improvements without raising taxes or using state funds. Eliminating CRAs could force cities to seek alternative revenue sources, potentially leading to higher taxes or greater reliance on state aid.
- Private Investment and Job Creation: CRAs attract private-sector investment, revitalize business
  districts, support small businesses, and create local jobs—reducing government dependency through
  private economic growth.

Rev. 11/21/2025

- Addressing Florida's Housing Crisis: CRAs promote workforce and affordable housing development without additional state dollars, helping alleviate the housing shortage through targeted local reinvestment.
- **Strong Oversight Already in Place:** The Legislature enacted **HB 9 (2019)** to enhance CRA accountability, requiring annual reporting, ethics training, and spending restrictions. Rather than dismantling CRAs, lawmakers should refine these reforms to strengthen oversight while preserving this successful redevelopment tool.

CRAs are fiscally responsible, market-driven instruments that promote local investment, job creation, and affordable housing—without raising taxes or expanding state spending. The Florida League of Cities urges the Legislature to focus on improving oversight and accountability, not eliminating or restricting CRAs, to ensure continued revitalization of Florida's communities through local decision-making and private-sector partnership.



# Key Dates



#### 2025-2026 Key Legislative Dates

December 2025

1-5 Legislative Interim Committee Meetings

4-5 FLC Legislative Conference, Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld, 6677 Sea

Harbor Dr, Orlando, FL 32821

8-12 Legislative Interim Committee Meetings

January 2026

7 FLC Legislative Session Preview Webinar, 2:00 p.m. ET

Regular Legislative Session Convenes

20 FLC Legislative Action Days Know Before You Go Webinar, 2:00 p.m. ET

26-28 FLC Legislative Action Days, Tallahassee, FL

March 2026

13 Last Day of Regular Legislative Session

16-18 NLC Congressional City Conference, Washington, D.C.

24 FLC Legislative Session Review, 2:00 p.m. ET

April 2026

28-29 FLC FAST Fly-In, Washington, D.C.

For further details about the mentioned events or legislative information, contact <u>medenfield@flcities.com.</u>



## Notes



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