



FINANCE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

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

**Meeting Room: Longboat
Renaissance Orlando SeaWorld
6677 Sea Harbor Dr.
Orlando, FL 32821**

FLC Staff Contact: Charles Chapman



Agenda



Finance and Taxation Legislative Policy Committee
Thursday, December 4, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Renaissance Orlando SeaWorld – Meeting Room: Longboat
6677 Sea Harbor Dr, Orlando, Florida

AGENDA

- I.** Introduction & Opening Remarks **Chair Molly Young**
Mayor, Village of Tequesta
- II.** Recap of Remaining Issue **Charles Chapman, FLC Staff**
 - a. Ad Valorem (Property) Taxes
- III.** Committee Discussion and Vote on Language
of Recommended Priority **Chair Molly Young**
Mayor, Village of Tequesta
- IV.** Additional Information **Charles Chapman, FLC Staff**
 - a. Key Legislative Dates
 - b. Key Contacts – [Click HERE to sign-up](#)
- V.** Closing Remarks **Chair Molly Young**
Mayor Village of Tequesta
- VI.** Adjournment

WiFi Information:

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 **not** 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 Finance and Taxation Policy Committee

Staffed by: Charles Chapman, Legislative Consultant

CHAIR:

The Honorable Molly Young
Mayor, Village of Tequesta

VICE CHAIR:

The Honorable Diana Adams
Councilmember, City of West Melbourne

MEMBERS:

The Honorable Robert "Bob" Auwaerter
Vice Mayor, Town of Indian River Shores

The Honorable Joseph Barkley
Commissioner, City of Belleair Bluffs

The Honorable Thomas Barnhorn
Councilor, City of Seminole

The Honorable Thomas Bronson
Vice Mayor, City of Brooksville

Melinda Brown
Comptroller, City of Satellite Beach

The Honorable Fitz Budhoo
Commissioner, City of Oakland Park

The Honorable Michael Cadore
Councilman, City of Rockledge

Cale Curtis
City Manager, City of Margate

The Honorable Carmen Demanche
Councilmember, Town of Lake Hamilton

The Honorable Alison Dennington
Mayor, Town of Melbourne Beach

The Honorable Susy Diaz
Deputy Mayor, City of Greenacres

The Honorable Michael DiBrizzi
Commissioner, City of Largo

The Honorable Kevin Docherty
Council President, Town of Ocean Breeze

The Honorable Ed Dodd
Councilmember, City of Sebastian

The Honorable Brent Eden
Commissioner, City of Lake Alfred

The Honorable Maureen Freaney
Mayor, City of Dunedin

The Honorable Ed Freeman
Mayor, Town of Lady Lake

The Honorable Judith Goldberg
Commissioner, Town of Highland Beach

The Honorable Mimi Hanley
Councilmember, City of Melbourne

The Honorable Danise 'DeeDee' Henriquez
Mayor, City of Key West

The Honorable Jeff Hmara
Mayor, Village of Royal Palm Beach

Lori Houghton
Finance Director, City of Tavares

The Honorable Michael Howard
Councilor, Town of Indian Shores

The Honorable Linda Hudson
Mayor, City of Fort Pierce

The Honorable Anita Kane
Mayor, Town of Loxahatchee Groves

The Honorable Sarah Karon
Commissioner, Town of Longboat Key

David Keller
Special Projects Administrator, City of Hollywood

The Honorable Kathy Kelley Ohlrich
Commissioner, City of Sarasota

Kelly Layman
Legislative & External Relations, Town of Jupiter Island

Peter Lear
Director of Finance, City of Bartow

John Lege
Assistant City Manager, City of Fort Myers

Joseph F. Lo Bello
Town Manager, Town of Lake Clarke Shores

The Honorable Shayla Macias
Councilwoman, City of Fellsmere

The Honorable Lisa Mallozzi
Commissioner, City of Cooper City

David Margolis
City Attorney, City of Clearwater

The Honorable Mimi May
Commissioner, City of Lake Worth Beach

The Honorable Kevin McCann
Mayor, City of Winter Springs

The Honorable Roger Michaud
Mayor, Town of Lake Park

The Honorable Mike Miller
Mayor, City of Sanibel

Stephen Okiye
Finance Director / Treasurer, City of Port St. Lucie

The Honorable Nick Pachota
Mayor, City of Venice

The Honorable Monica Paris
Commissioner, City of Daytona Beach

The Honorable Allison Patton
Councilmember, City of Pensacola

The Honorable Demetrius Petrow
Commissioner, City of North Port

The Honorable Tom Plaut
Commissioner, City of Deerfield Beach

The Honorable Orlando Puyol
Councilmember, Village of North Palm Beach

The Honorable Gary Ready
Mayor Pro Tem, Village of Palm Springs

The Honorable Tom Reid
Vice Mayor, City of South Pasadena

Brittany Retherford

City Manager, City of Satellite Beach

Dennis Rogero

Chief Financial Officer, City of Tampa

Carmen Rosamonda

City Manager, City of DeBary

The Honorable Brian Sackett

Mayor, City of Longwood

The Honorable Winnette Sandlin

Vice Mayor, Town of Orange Park

The Honorable Megan Sladek

Mayor, City of Oviedo

The Honorable Vernel Smith

Vice Mayor, City of Haines City

The Honorable Fortuna Smukler

Commissioner, City of North Miami Beach

Kelly Strickland

Director of Financial Administration,
City of Sarasota

The Honorable Fabiola Stuyvesant

Commissioner, City of Sunny Isles Beach

Debra Sullivan

City Administrator, City of Belleair Bluffs

The Honorable Colleen Taylor

Commissioner, City of Lake Mary

Ann Toney-Deal

City Manager, City of Seminole

The Honorable John Wagner

Councilman, City of Jacksonville Beach

The Honorable Kathy Washington

Mayor, Town of Welaka

The Honorable Patricia Weeks

Deputy Mayor, City of Cocoa

The Honorable Judy Wertz Strickland

Mayor, City of Arcadia

The Honorable Aqueria Wester

Legislative Aide, City of Riviera Beach

The Honorable Marc Wigder

Councilmember, City of Boca Raton

The Honorable Julie Wilkins

Mayor, City of LaBelle

The Honorable Robert Yaffe

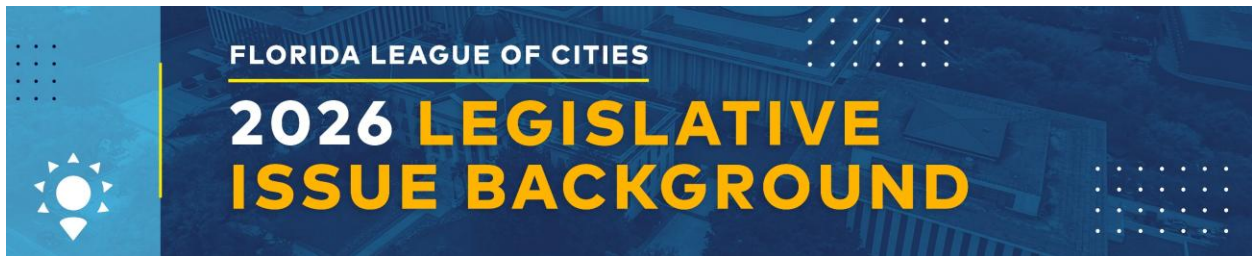
Councilmember, Town of Bay Harbor Islands

The Honorable Brian Yates

Mayor Pro Tem, City of Winter Haven



Ad Valorem (Property) Taxes



Property Taxes

Draft Priority Statement:

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS preserving local authority over property tax decisions that fund essential services like public safety, infrastructure, parks, and other programs that define a community's quality of life. Reducing or eliminating this revenue without a reasonable replacement would destabilize city budgets, threaten creditworthiness, and undermine local priorities. Cities are created by residents to protect their communities and quality of life, and local tax decisions are essential to fulfilling that responsibility.

Background:

In Florida and nationwide, property owners and interested parties desiring to own a home face a variety of obstacles. Most notably is the cost of housing in Florida. Additional obstacles include the price of insurance, available inventory of properties for sale or rent, and high interest rates for loans. Often the rate and amount of property taxes are identified as an obstacle as well.

In recent legislative sessions, bills have been filed to either increase the dollar amount of homestead exemptions, add homestead exemptions, provide property tax exemptions for first responders, essential workers, veterans (spouses of deceased veterans), or to commission a study to eliminate property taxes altogether and replace them with consumption taxes. The League has consistently opposed these efforts.

On the 2024 ballot the voters approved Amendment 5 (HJR 7017-2024). This amendment placed an adjustment to the second homestead exemption to account for inflation year after year when inflation increases.

During the 2025 Legislative Session, conversations continued regarding property tax reform. The Governor took the lead by calling for the complete elimination of property taxes. This call for repeal has been narrowed to target only homestead properties in recent press events. No official proposal from the Governor has been provided.

The State Legislature has taken two different courses of action in response to the Governor's call for reform or repeal. The House of Representatives has formed the Select Committee on Property Taxes to gather information and present proposals for property tax reform to be considered. The goal of this Select committee is to reduce the proposals to bill form and to have them ready for consideration and a vote early in the 2026 Legislative Session.

The Senate were proponents of a formal study into how property taxes work and what alternatives may readily exist. However, the efforts at a formal study were vetoed in the 2025 State of Florida Budget by Governor DeSantis. Recently, the Senate President's office has spoken about taking a very judicious and cautious approach to property tax reform and assuring fiscally constrained communities that they are being considered due to the negative impacts they would face budgetarily.

For most of the proposals being discussed, reform may only be achieved through a constitutional amendment, voted on by the electorate of the State of Florida, and achieve a minimum of 60% approval.



Key Dates



2025-2026 Key Legislative Dates

December 2025

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| 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

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| 7 | FLC Legislative Session Preview Webinar, 2:00 p.m. ET |
| 13 | 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

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| 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

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| 28-29 | FLC FAST Fly-In, Washington, D.C. |
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For further details about the mentioned events or legislative information, contact medenfield@flicities.com.



Notes

