

LOCAL VOICES MAKING LOCAL CHOICES

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, MOBILITY, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING DETAILS

DATE	Thursday, December 3, 2026
TIME	10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. ET
ROOM	Longboat
VENUE	Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld
ADDRESS	6677 Sea Harbor Dr., Orlando, Florida 32821

FLC STAFF CONTACT

Rebecca O'Hara



Agenda

Intergovernmental Relations, Mobility, and Emergency Management
Legislative Policy Committee
Thursday, December 3, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. ET
Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld – Meeting Room: Longboat
6677 Sea Harbor Dr., Orlando, Florida 32821

AGENDA

I. Introduction and Opening Remarks..... **Chair Shaun Ferguson**
Councilman, City of Rockledge

II. Recap and Discussion of Remaining Issues ..... **Rebecca O'Hara, FLC Staff**

a. Clarification of SB 180

b. Municipal Recall

III. Vote on Recommended Priority..... **Chair Ferguson**

IV. Committee Discussion on Language of Recommended Priority ..... **Chair Ferguson**

V. Vote on Whether to have a Policy Position ..... **Chair Ferguson**

VI. Committee Discussion on Policy Position Language (if needed)..... **Chair Ferguson**

VII. Additional Information ..... **Chair Ferguson**

a. Key Legislative Dates

b. Key Contacts – Click HERE to sign up

c. State Municipal Reporting Requirements

VIII. Closing Remarks..... **Chair Ferguson**

IX. Adjournment

Wi-Fi is 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 **FLCLC26** as the password.



Committee Roster

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

2026-2027 Intergovernmental Relations and Emergency Management Committee



CHAIR
Shaun Ferguson
Councilman
City of Rockledge



VICE CHAIR
Trish Pfeiffer
Commissioner
City of Bartow



STAFF SUPPORT
Rebecca O'Hara
FLC Deputy General Counsel

Molly Alleger
City Clerk
City of Jacksonville Beach

Linda Allen
Councilmember
Town of Hypoluxo



Liz Alpert
Commissioner
City of Sarasota



Michael Blake
Mayor
City of Cocoa

Keith Britton
Councilmember
City of Oviedo

Tonja Brown
Mayor
Town of Winter Springs

Debon Campbell
Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison
City of Miramar

James Carter
Councilmember
City of Lake City



Christopher Cloudman
Mayor
City of DeLand



Nancy Daley
Vice Mayor
City of Lake Alfred



Lisa DeVitto
Commissioner
City of Crescent City



Clifton Dollison
Commissioner
City of Winter Haven



Pete Emrich
Mayor
City of North Port



Mary Estimé-Irvin
Councilwoman
City of North Miami



Penelope Gold
Vice Mayor
Town of Longboat Key



Adam W. Greenway
Councilmember
City of Frostproof



Chevelle Hall
Village Clerk
Village of Wellington



Peter Hernandez
Commissioner
City of Hollywood



Steven M. Hunnicutt
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Dundee



Curtis Johnson
Commissioner
City of Ft. Pierce



Lekia Johnson
Commissioner
City of Haines City



Rahman Johnson
Councilmember
City of Jacksonville



Richard Johnson
Councilmember
City of Sanibel



Debra Jones
Council Vice President
City of Williston



Allan Kaulbach
Councilor
City of Atlantis



Joseph L. Kelley
Vice Mayor
City of Opa-locka



Heather Lindsay
Mayor
City of Milton



Rachelle Litt
Councilmember
City of Palm Beach Gardens

Kem Mason
Councilmember
Town of Lantana



David McAuley
Councilmember
City of Okeechobee

JohnPaul O'Connor
Mayor
City of Westlake

Marisol Ortega
Councilmember
Town of Lake Hamilton



Steve Osmer
Mayor
City of Satellite Beach



Nikesh Patel
Director of Public Works
City of Sarasota



William Petersen
Councilmember
City of Clermont

David Pickett
Councilman
City of Port St. Lucie

Cade Resnick
Deputy Mayor
City of Winter Springs



Daphnee Sainvil
Intergovernmental Affairs Manager
City of Fort Lauderdale



Kimberly Schmitz
Councilmember
Village of Palm Springs

James Sherman
Commissioner
City of Flagler Beach



Dan Shimasaki
Councilman
City of Center Hill



Jacob Smith
Assistant City Manager
City of DeBary



Michael Smith
Commissioner
City of Largo



Latisha Springer
Councilor
City of Seminole



April Sutton
Councilmember
City of Mary Esther



Greg Sutton
Councilman
City of Jacksonville Beach



Claudia Thomas
Commissioner
City of Sanford



David Thompson
Director of Government Affairs
City of St. Petersburg



Mary Lou Tighe
Executive Director
Broward League of Cities



Marieke vanErven
City Manager
City of Dade City



Lan Vaughan
Mayor
City of Indian Rocks Beach



Robert Walker
Vice Mayor
City of Dunedin



Nick Walsh
Assistant City Manager
City of Satellite Beach



Billy Weinshank
Emergency Operations Division Director
City of Port St. Lucie



Ian Whitney
Associate Director of Government Affairs
City of Tampa



Dianne Williams-Cox
Commissioner
City of Tallahassee



Don Willis
Councilmember
City of Cape Canaveral



Steve Wilson
Mayor
City of Belle Glade



Andrea Young
Mayor
City of West Melbourne



Brandon Young
Councilman
City of South Daytona



Clarification of SB 180

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

2027 LEGISLATIVE ISSUE BACKGROUND

Revising Sections 18 and 28 of Ch. 2025-190, Laws of Florida (SB 180 – Emergencies)

Draft Statement:
The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to clarify sections 18 and 28 of Ch. 2025-190, Laws of Florida, to limit applicability of this law to jurisdictions that experience measurable impacts from hurricanes, provide definitions for overbroad and vague terms, limit applicability of the preemptive language to storm-damaged properties, and clarify provisions relating to legal standing, pre-suit notice, and opportunity to cure.

Background:
SB 180, passed in the 2025 Legislative Session and signed into law, has sparked controversy throughout Florida due to its sweeping restrictions on local government authority. SB 180 was introduced by House and Senate sponsors as a hurricane preparedness and response measure. The bulk of SB 180 achieved these aims, and those provisions were supported by the League. Unfortunately, sections 18 and 28 of SB 180 as written do not support these purposes.

According to the bill sponsors, sections 18 and 28 were included because the sponsors were concerned that some local governments were using the cover of hurricane response to increase building permit fees and enact regulations that make it harder for storm-damaged properties to rebuild. As such, the sponsors wanted to include measures to protect the owners of storm-damaged properties from local regulations that impeded their repair and rebuild efforts. The express language of sections 18 and 28 goes much farther than that.

Section 18 creates a "rolling preemption" that applies prospectively and in perpetuity to all cities and counties entirely or partially within 100 miles of a hurricane's "track." For one year after "landfall," these governments are prohibited from adopting or enforcing any development moratorium, as well as more "restrictive or burdensome" comprehensive plan amendments, land development regulations, and procedures. It authorizes a cause of action against local governments for "any person" to enjoin local government actions alleged to violate this section. The plaintiff must notify the local government before filing suit, and the local government has 14 calendar days to withdraw the regulation. It awards attorney fees to a prevailing plaintiff.

Section 28 applies retroactively to every county (and municipalities within them) listed in the federal disaster declaration for hurricanes Milton, Debby, and Helene. It applies similar prohibitions on moratoria, comprehensive plan amendments, land development regulations, and procedures as Section 18. The prohibitions apply retroactively to August 1, 2024, and until October 1, 2027. It declares any local regulation in violation of this section void. It provides a

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similar cause of action (limited to "businesses and residents" and attorney fee recovery as Section 18.

SB 180 has largely brought comprehensive planning, flooding and stormwater management, and land use planning to a standstill. It prevents local governments from implementing statutorily-mandated updates to comprehensive plans and land development regulations, prevents enactment of measures to protect property owners from flooding due to hurricanes and other natural events, impedes local government compliance with state-mandated nutrient reduction requirements, prohibits concurrency-related moratoria, and jeopardizes measures to ensure growth pays for itself, such as impact and mobility fees. Moreover, the bill authorizes virtually any person, regardless of cognizable legal injury, to sue a local government and recover attorney's fees. The bill grants an illusory 14-day window for local governments to rescind a challenged regulation to avoid a suit. This window is illusory because statutory public notice and meeting requirements cannot be met within this 14-day period. The legal status of thousands of local regulations is uncertain because the bill voids all of them.

The bill abdicates policy-setting to the judiciary by failing to define several subjective and vague terms, including the following: landfall, the track of a hurricane, and burdensome and restrictive. The bill is overbroad (Section 28 applies to every city and county in Florida), granting carte blanche for the unchecked development of vacant land with zero storm damage. The bill's failure to provide an objective basis for local governments and property owners to decide whether the bill's terms apply to a situation means the judicial branch will be forced to define these terms. Local taxpayers will underwrite the cost of adjudicating the meaning of SB 180, lawsuit by lawsuit.

Status
SB 840 (DiCeglie) (supported by FLC) would have amended sections 18 and 28 of SB 180 (Chapter 2025-190). The bills took different approaches to refining those limitations, resulting in distinct municipal impacts

SB 840 would have narrowed the definition of "impacted local government" from counties within 100 miles of a hurricane's track to those within 50 miles, and limited applicability to counties included in a federal major disaster declaration and municipalities within those counties. The bill also clarified the scope of actions an impacted local government may not enforce for one year after landfall to be:

- Actions that delayed the repair or reconstruction of hurricane-damaged improvements;
- Required repair or reconstruction of a hurricane-damaged property to comply with any comprehensive plan or land development regulation amendment that first became effective after landfall; or
- More restrictive procedural changes that extended development review timelines.

SB 840 clarified circumstances under which post-storm land use actions may still be enforced, including when an application was initiated by a private property owner for property they

owned, when adoption was required to comply with state or federal law, when approved for an area of critical state concern, or when implementing floodplain management standards consistent with the National Flood Insurance Program. The bill further limited these prohibitions to properties damaged to an extent that required a repair or reconstruction permit, and authorized local governments to require documentation demonstrating hurricane damage.

SB 840 removed the private right of action, injunctive relief, and one-sided attorney fee provisions previously included in section 18. The bill also clarified that this section may not be construed to restrict a local government from adopting or enforcing changes to the Florida Building Code or local technical amendments.

For section 28 of SB 180, SB 840 revised the temporary land-use freeze applicable to counties and municipalities affected by Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton. The bill shortened the prohibition period, moving the end date for the moratorium and "more restrictive or burdensome" land-use and procedural restrictions from October 1, 2027, to June 30, 2026, and revised the section's expiration date accordingly. All other elements of section 28, including retroactive application to August 1, 2024, the nullification of noncompliant local actions, and the existing notice-and-cure framework, remained in place.

SB 840 passed the Senate but did not advance in the House.

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Municipal Recall

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

2027 LEGISLATIVE ISSUE BACKGROUND

Municipal Recall

Draft Statement:
The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation to amend section 100.361, Florida Statutes, relating to municipal recall, to require that recall petitions be accompanied by a sworn affidavit, prior to circulating a recall petition, attesting that the facts alleged in the petition are true.

Background:
Section 100.361, Florida Statutes, establishes a single, statewide, uniform process for voters to remove a member of a municipal or charter-county governing body through a petition and recall election. The statute expressly supersedes and repeals any municipal charter or special-act provision that sets out a different recall process — meaning local governments cannot adopt their own alternative recall procedures.

Grounds for Recall
A recall petition must include a statement of grounds, limited to 200 words, and the grounds must be limited to one or more of the following seven statutory categories:

- Malfeasance
- Misfeasance
- Neglect of duty
- Drunkenness
- Incompetence
- Permanent inability to perform official duties
- Conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude

A Noted Gap in the Statute
Section 100.361 does not require a recall petition to include a sworn affidavit or other proof that an elected official meets one of the seven statutory grounds for recall. As a result, voters may sign petitions containing false or unsubstantiated claims, and the municipality bears the full cost of any resulting recall election. Fort Myers Beach, for example, a town with less than 6,000 residents, recently expended over $100,000 on a single recall election. A person subject to the recall petition may challenge the sufficiency of the petition in court, either at their own expense (if the conduct is outside of the person's official duties) or at taxpayer expense (if the conduct occurs in the course of the person's official duties). Judicial review does not protect an official or taxpayers from false allegations. Courts review the allegations to determine whether the allegations satisfy one of the specified statutory grounds for recall. Courts do not rule on the truth or falsity of the charges.

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Rev. 11/19/2026

Petition and Signature Requirements

- Municipalities with population under 25,000 - Petition must be signed by 10% of registered electors
- Municipalities with population over 25,000 - Petition must be signed by 5% of registered electors

Signature Validity Requirements

- Each signature must be made under oath, in ink or indelible pencil.
- Each signer must include a printed name, street address, and the date it was signed.
- Each signer must include a voter registration number, or alternatively a date of birth.

Timing and Filing Rules

- All signatures must be obtained within a 30-day period; petition forms must be filed at the same time, no later than 30 days after the first signature is obtained.
- Petitions may not be amended after being filed with the clerk.
- No petition for municipal recall may be filed during the first quarter of the official's term of office.

Election and Post-Recall Restrictions

- If the petition obtains the requisite number of signatures and the official subject to recall does not resign, a judge assigns a date for the recall election, which may coincide with a scheduled general or special election or may be set separately.
- No person removed from office by recall, or who resigns after a recall petition has been filed against them, is eligible to be appointed to the governing body within two years after the date of the recall or resignation.

The State of Georgia's recall process provides an example for how Florida's recall statute can be revised to provide greater accountability. Georgia's recall statute requires an application for a petition for recall to be accompanied by a sworn affidavit. See GA Code 21-4-5. Under the League's proposed revision, a municipal clerk may reject a recall petition if it is not accompanied by a sworn affidavit. The clerk is not required or authorized to assess the veracity of the statements in the petition or affidavit. Under current law, an official who is the subject of a recall petition may seek declaratory and injunctive relief if the official believes the petition does not meet statutory requirements. In such a proceeding, the circuit court could subject the affiant to fines for perjury if the sworn allegations are false. The penalty of perjury may be sufficient to deter frivolous petitions or petitions motivated solely by political or personal animus.

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Key Dates

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

2026 - 2027 Key Legislative Dates

November 2026

30-Dec. 3	Florida House and Senate Interim Committee Meetings

December 2026

3-4	FLC Legislative Conference, Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld, 6677 Sea Harbor Dr, Orlando, FL 32821 (Round 3 of Legislative Policy Committees will be on Dec. 3)

January 2027

4-7	Florida House and Senate Interim Committee Meetings
11-14	Florida House and Senate Interim Committee Meetings

February 2027

1-4	Florida House and Senate Interim Committee Meetings
8-11	Florida House and Senate Interim Committee Meetings
10-11	FAST Fly-In, Washington, D.C.
15-18	Florida House and Senate Interim Committee Meetings
23	FLC Legislative Session Preview Webinar, 2:00 p.m. ET

March 2027

2	Regular Legislative Session Convenes
8-10	FLC Legislative Action Days, Tallahassee, FL
15-17	NLC Congressional City Conference, Washington, DC

April 2027

30	Last Day of Regular Legislative Session

May 2027

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

For further details about the mentioned events or legislative information, contact *medenfield@flcities.com*.



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