

## 2020-21 FAC President & Association Leadership Announced

Palm Beach County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay was elected as President of the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) during the Association's virtual Annual Business Meeting in June. Commissioner McKinlay previously served as President-Elect, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President for the Association.

As President, Commissioner McKinlay will lead the Association by directly overseeing and governing the legislative policy and advocacy strategy, including the adoption of the Association's priorities for the 2021 Legislative Session and appointment of policy committee chairpersons and at-large positions on the Board of Directors. McKinlay will also have input on the Association's administrative functions.

To view a complete list of FAC's 2020/2021 Executive Committee and Board of Directors, click here.

Commissioner Kathryn Starkey (Pasco County) was appointed to serve as Chair of FAC's Federal Policy Committee and Commissioner Viviana Janer (Osceola County) was appointed to Vice Chair by President McKinlay. The Federal Policy Committee addresses similar policy issues encountered at the state level but that are initiated at the federal level. To view a full list of the Federal Committee, <u>click here</u>.

## County Best Practices for Implementation of CARES Act Funding

As Florida counties continue to mitigate the risks of the coronavirus pandemic, they have developed and are continuing to develop best practices and distribution plans for the funds received from the Coronavirus Relief Fund. FAC has been collecting these plans and making them available through our COVID-19 website so that counties, stakeholders and constituents can have a sense of how counties are planning to distribute the funds and where they are in the decision making process. Plans include funding for small business grants, assistance to families and individuals as well as public health measures related to COVID-19. For a more complete list of county plans, click here.

## **LOCAL Infrastructure Act**

Joining our colleagues at the National Association of Counties (NACo), FAC wrote to Senator Rubio and Senator Scott in support of the LOCAL Infrastructure Act (S. 4129) introduced by Senator Wicker (R-MS) and Senator Stabenow (D-MI) and the American Infrastructure Bonds Act (S. 4203), introduced in the Senate by Senator Wicker and Senator Bennet (D-CO).

Tax-exempt bonds are valuable tools for Florida's state and local government entities. The debt issued for capital projects assists Florida's governmental entities in financing the construction or improvement of schools, streets, highways, hospitals, bridges, water and sewer systems, ports, airports and other critical public works. These projects both enhance our communities and create jobs. Between 2012-2017 Florida had 247 advanced refunding issuances totaling \$24.7 billion and estimated minimum savings from advance refunding of \$743 million. To view the full letter, click here.

**Restoring Resilient Reefs Act (RRRA)** 

FAC sent a letter to Florida's Congressional Delegation in support of H.R. 4160, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act (RRRA), introduced in the House by Representative Darren Soto and co-sponsored by ten other bi-partisan members of Congress from Florida, as well as several Representatives from other states. We believe coral reefs deserve the same broad support from the Florida Congressional delegation as other issues like Florida's Everglades or opposition to offshore drilling do. To view the full letter from President McKinlay, click here.

**Restore the Partnership Act** 

Joining our colleagues at the National Association of Counties (NACo), FAC wrote to Senator Scott urging his support in cosponsoring the Restore the Partnership Act (H.R. 3883/S. 2967), a bipartisan bill that would reconstitute and reform the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) to increase transparency, to reduce regulatory burden, foster intergovernmental dialogue and unite all levels of government in supporting our unparalleled system of federalism. To view the full letter, click here.

## Florida Counties Continued Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

The Florida Association of Counties (FAC), continues to focus on the Coronavirus pandemic and its impact to local government. We are continuing to track counties and how they are operating during this time. Our COVID-19 website contains all information relating to Florida's 67 counties including ordinances and orders, local state of emergency declarations, curfews and reopening information as well as a section for county CARES Act funding distribution plans. FAC has also hosted a series of COVID-19 related webinars to keep our members informed of federal and state issues. Please visit the website for all things pertaining to Florida counties during the COVID-19 pandemic. Click here to visit the website.





Questions? Contact Tiffany Henderson at thenderson@flcounties.com

Total Entries

67

Counties on the Frontline

Report

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67