FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
All About Florida

67 Counties. 67 Communities.

ONE FLORIDA

2026 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

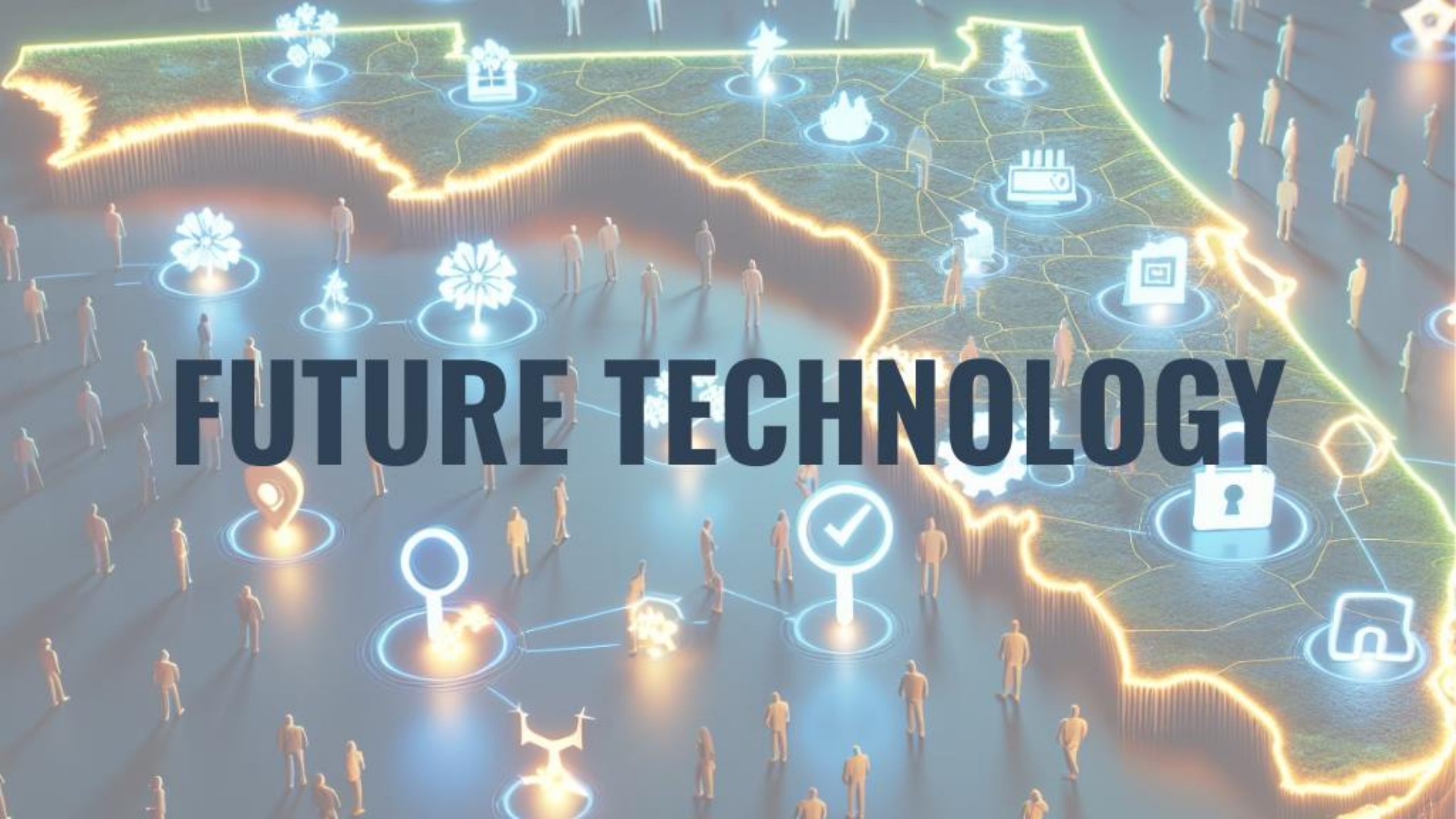
December 2-4

Sawgrass Marriott

Ponte Vedra Florida

St. Johns County




FUTURE TECHNOLOGY

Future Technology Committee



CHAIR

Rick Minor

Leon County



VICE-CHAIR

Ramon Iglesias

Hendry County



VICE-CHAIR

Tal Siddique

Manatee County

ROLL CALL



67 Counties. 67 Communities.

NDA

HOUSING GROUP

Platinum Corporate Partner

Reminder

Only members of the committee can make motions and vote.

However, all commissioners and staff can make comments, ask questions, and debate during the discussion of each action item.

The Charge to Review and Restructure FAC's Guiding Principles

PRESIDENT FLOWERS' DIRECTIVE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE

A full review, front to back

The first comprehensive review and restructuring of the Guiding Principles in many years, announced by President Flowers at the June Annual Conference.

Commissioners leading the work

A Select Committee of county commissioners and staff from across the state, formally appointed by the President.

WHAT GUIDING PRINCIPLES ARE

Enduring policy, not session positions

The long-term foundation that holds while individual positions evolve year to year.

The lens for advocacy

FAC uses to evaluate legislation and communicate county priorities.

TECH 02 – Private Utility/Water Providers

Submitted by Putnam County

Proposal

Protect the public and local governments when private water systems are created, operated, and fail or go defunct.

Key Points

- Proactive monitoring: systemic audits, plus asset management and reserve requirements.
- Emergency intervention: receivership and temporary step-in authority with immunity.
- Cost recovery: lien authority and bonding or escrow requirements.

Staff Notes:

- Currently, an owner abandoning a system must give 60 days' notice, and the county must petition the court for a receiver (s. 367.165, F.S.).
- No bonds or reserves are required, the county has no lien to recover its costs, and there is no clear way to step in before formal abandonment.

TECH 03 – Florida Plug-In Solar Access

Submitted by Alachua County

Proposal

Treat certified plug-in solar systems that connect to a standard household outlet as household appliances rather than conventional solar installations.

Key Points

- Qualifying systems would need no utility interconnection agreement, building permit, inspection, or fee.
- Utilities could not require added equipment, a power generation contract, or a recurring fee.
- Systems must be certified and meet electrical and safety standards; conventional solar keeps existing permitting.

Staff Notes:

- Currently, plug-in devices have no separate category, so they face the same permits, inspections, fees, and utility contracts as rooftop systems.
- Utah enacted the first exemption in 2025; the submission reports nine states have since followed.

TECH 04 – Digital Literacy for Seniors

Submitted by Leon County

Proposal

Create a state grant program, run by FloridaCommerce with the Department of Elder Affairs, to help local governments train older adults to recognize, avoid, and report scams, phishing, and AI-enabled fraud.

Key Points

- Grants, subject to appropriation, cover curriculum, instructors, sessions, online content, accessible materials, and outreach.
- The state develops an optional model curriculum that counties can use, adapt, or replace.
- Training is delivered through libraries, senior centers, and local partners, building on Leon County's SafeSense workshop.

Staff Notes:

- Currently, no state program funds local fraud-prevention training. Federal grants that would have provided $30 million for digital literacy were terminated in May 2025.
- In 2025, Floridians 60 and older reported nearly $710 million in losses, second nationally.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM



Closing Breakfast

Friday, December 4 from 8:30 - 10:30 AM

Champions D-E

Be sure to stay for Closing Breakfast for the 2027 calendar reveal and adoption of the 2027 Legislative Action Plan.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

Committee Meeting:

HEALTH, SAFETY, & JUSTICE

1:00 - 2:50 PM

Champions D-E

Sponsored by: COMCAST

