



## Appropriations

### • **Town of Oakland**

- **Oakland Water Reclamation Project (\$2M, Sewer System);** Westside to Eastside needs source for reclaimed water and storm water harvesting. The Town of Oakland has relied on high quality drinking water to meet irrigation demands and is looking for a lower quality water source that will help meet those demands. The Town is developing a project that will harvest storm-water before it would be discharged to Lake Apopka and treating it to use for irrigation. This will ensure that the Town stays in compliance with the current Consumptive Use Permit and the standards of the Central Florida Water Initiative. Seeking for project.

### • **City of Ocoee**

- **Ocoee Regional Law Enforcement Training Facility (\$4M);** partial funding. The city is looking for supplemental funding for the completion of a regional scale law enforcement training facility to be used by multiple agencies and cities. The city is asking for this appropriation to go along with the \$5 million budgeted by the Ocoee City Commission. Having the new facility will assist with keeping law enforcement and first responders current with certifications, training and reducing associated costs. This project is supported by 17 additional cities, agencies and educational institutions.

### • **Town of Windermere**

- **Windermere Water Master Plan (North, Central and South phases, \$10.281M)**  
The drivers for this project are safety, environmental protection, and reliability. This project will improve safety by providing a monitored, safe drinking water supply and by improving fire protection capabilities. This project will protect the environment by reducing the number of wells around the Town's Outstanding Florida Water Bodies. This project will improve reliability by providing a pressurized system that does not require electricity to operate residential well pumps.
- **Multi-Modal Trail – (Town Square to Windermere Elementary, \$1M)** The purpose of this request is to accelerate the implementation of projects that support student and pedestrian safety within the Town and to adjacent areas, while improving multi-modal safety. This phase in particular will allow residents to safely use the pathways to get to civic, recreational, commercial, and educational facilities. Windermere Elementary Students use this particular area for direct access to the school.
- **Roundabout Improvement/Addition (Chase/Main, Windermere Rd/Main and 6th/Main, \$5.5M)**  
Continued growth to the southwest of Windermere has increased the cut-through traffic through Town. 75% of the cut-through traffic is generated by neighboring communities. Traffic congestion continues to increase along roads such as 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Main Street, and Chase Road. Congestion has become an unavoidable problem for drivers, particularly during peak hours. The goal of this project will be to reduce the cut-through traffic on local roads and ease the traffic congestion that currently exists.
- **Wastewater Study – (Windermere Entire Town Limits, \$375K)**  
The Town of Windermere is surrounded by Florida Outstanding Water Bodies. Over 80% of the homes both lakefront and in the lake basins are on septic. The Town would like to study how to bring in a centralized wastewater system and how this infrastructure would improve the lake's water quality.

### • **City of Winter Garden**

- **Tucker Ranch Holistic Health and Wellness Park & Teaching Farm - Multi Phase Pilot Program (\$2.5M)**  
The City of Winter Garden, in partnership with Healthy West Orange and Advent Health, is requesting this appropriation to build a state-of-the-art holistic health and wellness park with a working and teaching farm at Tucker Ranch with a certified health and nutrition curriculum. New facilities to be built include an outdoor

kitchen, greenhouse, a retreat center for health and wellness programming along with fitness courses and gardens.

- **Apopka Regional Trails Connections Project (\$8M)**

This project will fill in the missing trail gaps for two, major trail systems: 1) to connect the Coast-to-Coast Trail with the Wekiva Trail, and 2) to complete the Lake Apopka Loop Trail. This project will provide regional trail access in Central Florida from Clermont through Oakland, Winter Garden, Ocoee, Apopka and ending in Sanford. It will connect 140 miles of trails in Lake, Orange, and Seminole Counties.

## Education

- **Support investments in school personnel** by increasing Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) funding to allow districts flexibility to maintain minimum salary levels, address the impacts of salary compression, and reward experienced employees who demonstrate a sustained level of effectiveness. Categoricals need to be boosted as well as more funding that can be directed to remedy major hiring shortages and retention issues in all areas, especially substitute teachers.

## Environment

- **SB 882** authorizes SJRWMD to purchase environmentally sensitive lands. One of the parcels on this year's list is a 28-acre parcel of wetlands between Magnolia Park and the North Shore Restoration Area. The purchase of this parcel will provide continuity of environmentally preserved tracts.
- **Lake Apopka Hydrilla (FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Budget)**. For the 2023 FWC budget, request Central Florida Legislative Delegation ask FWC to propose, plan and treat 8,000 acres of hydrilla in Lake Apopka this year (2023). Last year 14,000 acres of the invasive aquatic weed hydrilla infested the 30,000 acres (*approximately 47%*) of Florida's 4th largest lake. FWC effectively treated 6,600 acres, but the untreated portion grew dramatically. To contain and curb the spread, FWC will need to treat at least 8,000 acres this year. SJRWMD intends to replace the invasive weed with native aquatic vegetation.

## Health

- **Preserve Medicaid** hospital reimbursements at their current levels for inpatient and outpatient care, and ensure continuous coverage for eligible families and individuals throughout the Medicaid redetermination process.
- **Continue funding** for programs, like LINE, that train Florida's next frontline health care professionals.

## Judicial/Legal

- **Tort Reform**  
Florida's bottom-5 legal climate is costing Florida families and local businesses an additional \$5,065 a year in increased costs of goods and services. The WO Chamber partners with the Florida Chamber to support efforts to rein in unnecessary litigation, reduce costs and prevent additional avenues to sue in Florida law. This includes, but is not limited to, addressing inflated medical damages, eliminating Florida's reputation as a haven for "bad faith," and ending the incentive to litigate resulting from Florida's one-way attorney's fees.

## Tourism

- **Visit Florida Funding**  
Increase funding for Visit Florida in the amount of \$100 million. Following Hurricane Ian, funding will be especially important to ensure Florida continues to be top of mind as a leading vacation destination.

## MONITOR

### Insurance

- **Property Insurance** – Monitor property insurance and continue to advance reform.