



DRAFT
CITY OF HALLANDALE BEACH
2026 STATE LEGISLATIVE
PROGRAM

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The City of Hallandale Beach 2026 State Legislative Program focuses on preserving local governance, environmental sustainability, financial stability, growth management, public safety, and cultural investment.

The Program is divided into two parts – Legislative Priorities and Direct Appropriation Requests.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

1. HOME RULE AUTHORITY – SUPPORT LOCAL CONTROL

SUPPORT Legislation **preserving municipal Home Rule authority** and opposing further state preemptions that limit local governance over key areas such as plastics, employment standards, and zoning under statewide housing mandates. Emphasize that local flexibility is essential for responsive government, protecting community character, and empowering locally elected officials to meet residents' needs on issues best handled at the municipal level.

SUPPORT legislation that will allow cities to consider and implement strategies to protect public safety through **common sense gun regulations**.

SUPPORT legislation that will **protect and improve municipalities' use of community redevelopment agencies** to effectively carry out redevelopment and community revitalization in accordance with Home Rule.

OPPOSE legislation that would prevent cities from banning the **retail sale of dogs and cats**.

SUPPORT legislation **reestablishing municipal authority or creating a statewide standard for regulating single-use plastics and polystyrene products**, enabling cities to adopt waste-reduction policies suited to local conditions.

SUPPORT legislation that protects municipalities' Home Rule powers to set and fund **municipal employee benefit levels**.

2. ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SUPPORT legislation encouraging renewable energy and the development of a unified **statewide plan to generate the state's energy from reliable sources** by a specified date.

SUPPORT legislation expanding **renewable energy opportunities and environmental resilience for municipalities**, including municipal solar projects, battery storage, and public EV infrastructure, to bolster energy resilience, lower long-term costs, and advance



sustainable communities.

SUPPORT legislation that encourages vulnerability assessments, coordinates resources and supports the **efforts of local governments to mitigate and adapt** to these dynamic environmental conditions including but not limited to sea level rise.

SUPPORT legislation that **establishes funding programs** for flood control, sea level rise adaptation, and drainage improvements.

SUPPORT legislation adopting Circular Economy framework, in which products are designed for durability, reuse, remanufacturing, and recycling to keep components and materials circulating in the economy, and **strategy for comprehensive waste management**.

SUPPORT legislation requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to create a **sargassum seaweed matching grant program**.

SUPPORT legislation that promotes and adopts **rules for mangrove replanting and restoration**.

SUPPORT legislation that **encourages the planting of native plants** (flowers, shrubs, grasses) to create pollinator-friendly spaces, preserve biodiversity of natural ecosystems, and provide climate resilience.

SUPPORT legislation that **establishes funding sources for stormwater-friendly landscaping**, tree planting, and urban cooling initiatives.

SUPPORT legislation that **encourages composting and composting facilities** to reduce waste.

SUPPORT legislation that **provides tax credits, refunds, expedited permitting, and other incentives to promote green business development**.

SUPPORT legislation that **mandates the integration of Green Infrastructures (GI) and Nature Based Solutions (NBS)** into municipal projects and urban planning that can deliver multifaceted benefits, including improved stormwater management, mitigation of urban heat islands, enhanced biodiversity, and increased community resilience.

SUPPORT legislation that funds **green infrastructure and urban heat mitigation initiatives**, such as urban tree canopy expansion, permeable surfaces, shade programs, and cooling projects to reduce flooding and heat stress.

SUPPORT legislation related to amending current Florida Department of Environmental Protection **regulations for hard-bottom monitoring and mitigation related to beach renourishment** projects that make severely needed renourishment projects cost



prohibitive.

SUPPPORT **funding for Beach Renourishment** projects through the US Army Corp of Engineers and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems. Urge the Legislature to approve legislation providing and increase in the funding allocation to support Beach Renourishment Projects throughout the State.

SUPPORT legislation that requires the Department of Environmental Protection to produce a **comprehensive and quantified need-based overview of the state's water resources**.

OPPOSE legislation that **regulates tree trimming, pruning or removal on residential property**.

SUPPORT legislation that **regulates the intentional release of balloons** and related penalties.

3. FINANCE, TAXATION AND PERSONNEL

SUPPORT legislation that supports the **verification of eligibility for homestead exemptions**.

SUPPORT legislation that **promotes competitive pay and retention incentives** for skilled trades like teacher and law enforcement retention bonuses.

SUPPORT legislation and initiatives that **promote workforce development**, focusing on job training, career pathways, and a skills-first approach to employment. Encourage partnerships with local businesses and educational institutions to align workforce needs with training opportunities, particularly in sectors influenced by recent federal laws such as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIP Act.

SUPPORT legislation establishing ethical guidelines and regulatory frameworks for **artificial intelligence** and **cryptocurrency** to enhance municipal efficiency, security, and service delivery, including funding and training for adopting AI and blockchain technologies in public services and secure municipal operations.

MONITOR legislation addressing **cryptocurrency** taxation or usage in municipal transactions to ensure compliance and readiness.

SUPPORT legislation that promotes **property insurance market stability and consumer relief** by requiring transparent rate-setting, stronger oversight of cancellations, and incentives for property mitigation and home hardening. These reforms will help stabilize costs for homeowners and condominium associations and strengthen community

resilience.

SUPPORT legislation providing **state assistance for condominium safety and repair compliance**, including grants, low-interest loans, or tax incentives to help associations meet structural inspection and maintenance obligations efficiently, while expanding eligibility to include moderate-income and working residents who may not qualify under current program guidelines but require support to sustain safe, resilient, and affordable housing.

SUPPORT legislation that enhances **local government cybersecurity and data privacy** by providing grants, technical assistance, and public record protections for municipal systems. Cybersecurity investments ensure the security and continuity of essential City services.

OPPOSE legislation that would **reduce and/or limit the amount of revenue** to municipalities. Such reduction proposals limit the City's ability to provide the current level of programs and services. This includes the Communication Service Tax, Business Tax Receipts, reductions in the corporate income taxes on manufacturing, manufacturing machinery, and retail, and commercial lease taxes.

OPPOSE legislation that would **prevent municipalities from collecting local business taxes**.

OPPOSE legislation that imposes **unfunded mandates on municipalities**. Such mandates can place a financial strain on the City's budget and resources, diverting funds from essential local services. Advocate for state legislation that provides adequate funding for any new requirements imposed on local governments.

MONITOR legislation and RESPOND to any changes in state legislation regarding **municipal bonds and borrowing**. Such changes can significantly impact the City's financial strategies for funding infrastructure and other large-scale projects. Advocate for maintaining or enhancing the City's ability to responsibly manage its debt and finance necessary community developments.

4. GROWTH MANAGEMENT, TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS:

SUPPORT legislation that, in Broward County and in the State, **clarifies or consistently applies the prohibition or non-prohibition on inspectors' and plan reviewers' use of their Certificates** in order to work outside of their government employment.

SUPPORT the **development of mass transit and multimodal transportation systems**, as well as the establishment of a more stable funding source and funding allocation



directly to local governments, for transit operations, mass transit, transit infrastructure, and transit policy implementation.

OPPOSE legislation that preempts municipalities from **regulating EV parking and charging stations** or from setting standards including required number of spaces, or types of EV infrastructures for development projects, etc.

SUPPORT legislation that expands initiatives to include **broader infrastructure and transportation projects**, leveraging federal funding opportunities to further promote modernization of transportation infrastructure, and foster the development of sustainable, resilient urban environments.

SUPPORT legislation that **expands broadband and last-mile connectivity** through funding, streamlined permitting, and municipal partnership to close digital access gaps.

SUPPORT legislation that provides economic development tools, such as **tax incentives and grants, to cities**. These tools are crucial for attracting and retaining businesses, stimulating local economic growth, and ultimately enhancing the City's revenue base.

SUPPORT the intended purpose of the legislature's **Sadowski funds solely for affordable housing** initiatives including condo ownership.

SUPPORT the "**Florida Competitive Workforce Act**" adding sexual orientation and gender identity as impermissible grounds for discrimination in public lodging establishments and public food service establishments.

SUPPORT legislation **creating Condominium Fraud Investigation Programs**.

SUPPORT **Hate Crime Legislation** for Hate Free Florida.

SUPPORT legislation that promotes and supports **affordable housing**.

SUPPORT legislation that ensures **sustainable and diversified local revenue sources to replace property taxes if eliminated**, including authorization for municipalities to establish alternative funding mechanisms such as local option sales taxes, user fees, service assessments, impact fees, and revenue-sharing programs with the state.

OPPOSE legislation that **eliminates property taxes without providing equivalent, reliable, and controlled revenue streams** that preserve municipal operations, staffing levels, and essential public services.

SUPPORT legislation **refining the Live Local Act's implementation** to safeguard municipal authority over parking, height transitions, neighborhood compatibility, and growth planning. Advocate for technical fixes that preserve cities' ability to balance development with community character, local infrastructure capacity, and quality-of-life

goals.

OPPOSE legislation that imposes **unreasonable process restrictions and review deadlines related to development and permit applications**, which undermine local governments' ability to conduct thorough technical and regulatory reviews.

OPPOSE legislation that **infringes on local governments' ability to regulate zoning and development**, including the authority to adopt, implement, and enforce land use plans, zoning codes, development standards, and design guidelines consistent with community priorities and local conditions.

SUPPORT legislation that would **modernize public notice requirements** by allowing the use of digital platforms, online postings, and email notifications, thereby increasing accessibility, reducing costs, and improving public engagement.

OPPOSE laws that **retroactively invalidate local comprehensive plan amendments** or land-development regulations adopted after August 2024, creating legal uncertainty and potential challenges to local growth management decisions.

OPPOSE legislation that **restrict local land-use, planning, and development authority following natural disasters**—particularly those that prohibit municipalities from amending comprehensive plans, zoning codes, or land-development regulations deemed “more restrictive or burdensome.”

MONITOR all **gaming legislation** related to decoupling, portability, and the Seminole Gaming Compact.

5. PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

SUPPORT legislation that provides **resources and funding for smart cities, license plate readers, cameras, unmanned arial vehicles, gunshot detection systems, and real time crime centers**. Including the integration of AI technology to improve municipal governance, public safety, and resource efficiency.

SUPPORT legislation that **allocates resources and funding to enhance emergency management**, preparedness, disaster response, and relief efforts.

SUPPORT legislation creating a dedicated and recurring state revenue stream for cities providing **School Resource Officers** (SROs) to schools.

SUPPORT legislation **prohibiting possession or use of a firearm in sensitive locations** to include houses of worship, municipal buildings and meetings, parks, recreational facilities or areas, or playgrounds owned or controlled by governmental entities.



SUPPORT legislation that **provides resources and funding for active shooter training** programs.

SUPPORT legislation that **promotes the safety of childcare facilities** by requiring law enforcement agencies to notify childcare facilities of certain incidents at nearby schools.

SUPPORT legislation that divests funding to colleges and universities that create unsafe environments for Jewish students.

SUPPORT legislation that **promotes water safety for children** such as the Kareem Angel Green Act and the Swimming Lesson Voucher program.

SUPPORT legislation to **require building safety inspections of buildings that are 25 years of age and older**, and every ten years thereafter for repairs to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

SUPPORT legislation that increases **resources and funding for pre-disaster and hazard mitigation** projects.

SUPPORT legislation that **allows the courts to stall evictions during a State of Emergency** and prevent law enforcement from assisting landlords with processing evictions during a State of Emergency.

SUPPORT legislation to **require emergency response plans for the humane handling of animals** during natural and manmade disasters.

SUPPORT legislation that provides **funding and flexibility to implement homelessness/public camping law (HB 1365, 2024)** while ensuring municipalities have capacity for shelters, services, and liability protections.

6. ARTS AND CULTURE

SUPPORT legislation that **promotes investment in arts and culture grants** to fuel economic growth and quality of life.



APPROPRIATION REQUESTS

1. AUSTIN HEPBURN SENIOR MINI CENTER FUNDING - \$111,006

The Austin Hepburn Senior Center continues to enrich the lives of South Florida seniors by providing critically needed community-based services, activities, and transportation. Adults over 60 have year-round access to full-time social workers, engaging classes, exercise programs, nutritious meals, and social activities. This renewal request supports the ongoing operations and expansion of programs that have served the community for more than 40 years, helping seniors stay active, avoid social isolation and depression, and prevent more costly placement in Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs) and nursing homes. The programming and wrap-around supportive social services provided by the City of Hallandale Beach Human Services Department enable seniors to maintain independence and age with dignity in their homes.

2. NORTHEAST QUADRANT INJECTION WELLS SYSTEM - \$2,000,000

Flooding in the Northeast Quadrant of Hallandale Beach threatens evacuation routes, disrupts businesses, and damages homes. This request seeks additional funding to advance the next phase of the City's Northeast Quadrant Flood Mitigation Project, a major effort to enhance long-term resilience. Planned improvements include two new pump stations, 16 pressurized wells, and more than 3,400 feet of gravity storm pipes to expand system capacity and reliability. These upgrades not only safeguard critical infrastructure but also align with Florida's statewide resilience and flood mitigation priorities by reducing roadway flooding, lowering stormwater levels, and maintaining economic stability. Continued investment in this project protects the lives and livelihoods of residents, reduces post-storm recovery costs, and strengthens the region's ability to withstand severe weather events. Support will directly contribute to making Hallandale Beach a model for sustainable urban water management.

3. COMPREHENSIVE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND FLOODING MITIGATION PROJECT – FOSTER ROAD AND SURROUNDING AREAS - \$2,000,000

The Foster Road Stormwater Improvement Project is a major, multi-phase² initiative to reduce flooding and strengthen resilience in one of Hallandale Beach's most vulnerable areas. The Foster Road area, home to vital evacuation routes and residential neighborhoods, remains highly susceptible to stormwater runoff and flooding. This request seeks additional funding to advance the next phase of work, building upon prior investments that installed major trunk lines. Upcoming improvements will expand drainage capacity through additional storm pipes, manhole structures, and collection systems. By reducing flood risks and protecting key assets such as homes and roads,



this continued effort enhances public safety, safeguards property values, and supports long-term community resilience.

4. HALLANDALE BEACH 8TH AVENUE ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT PHASE 2 - \$1,988,034

Phase 2 of the NW/SW 8th Avenue Reconstruction Projects continues the City's effort to modernize this critical north–south corridor. This phase will reconstruct the remaining southern segment with upgraded utilities, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and landscaping to improve drainage, visibility, and pedestrian safety. By addressing aging infrastructure and multimodal needs, Phase 2 will enhance roadway durability, reduce crash risks, and improve connectivity for residents, businesses, and commuters throughout Hallandale Beach.