

PBC Legislative Update



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IN THIS ISSUE:

*Committee Week
February 2-6th*

STATE ISSUES

1. *PB Delegation Passes Local Bill on Spring Training*
2. *Appropriations*
3. *Enterprise Zones*
4. *Communications Services Tax*
5. *Tax on Commercial Leases*
6. *Emergency Fire Rescue Tax*
7. *Sin Tax*
8. *Amendment 1*
9. *FRS*
10. *Local Preference*
11. *Public Private Partnerships*
12. *Public Records*
13. *County Traffic Enforcement*
14. *Freight Logistics Zones*
15. *Transportation*
16. *Public Records Exemption for Public Transit*
17. *Grandparents Rights*

FEDERAL ISSUES

1. *President Obama Releases FY 16 Budget*
 - a. *Agriculture*
 - b. *Commerce*
 - c. *Education*
 - d. *Energy*
 - e. *EPA*
 - f. *HHS*
 - g. *Homeland Security*
 - h. *HUD*
 - i. *Interior*
 - j. *Justice*
 - k. *Transportation*

Committee Week February 2-6, 2015

STATE ISSUES

PALM BEACH DELEGATION PASSES LOCAL BILL RELATED TO SPRING TRAINING

By: County Staff and News Service of Florida

Palm Beach County's legislative delegation vote 10-0 Friday to introduce a bill needed by West Palm Beach and Palm Beach County for a new two-team spring training facility. During the special meeting of the Legislative Delegation, members expressed support for the economic impacts of the proposed spring training facility while pointing to some potential environmental impacts of the deal. Rep. Lori Berman said she will support the request from the local governments, but "we will look at the environmental study, and if there are any problems, the bill will not proceed forward." The local governments have agreed to a series of land swaps needed for the planned 160-acre, \$135 million stadium complex. The site would house spring-training facilities for the Houston Astros and Washington Nationals and a number of multi-purpose fields. The local bill requires about 400 feet to be removed from an existing 450-foot easement along the M-canal. This can only be accomplished by a special act of the legislature. The land would be used for recreation fields during the year and for grass parking no more than 45 days of the year during spring training season and special events. West Palm Beach officials said they would ensure the canal wouldn't be negatively impacted by development on the site. But they also noted that the land, having previously served as a landfill, is not a pristine wetland and doesn't serve as a water storage area.

APPROPRIATIONS

By: Ericks Consultants

The Senate and House Appropriations Committees heard an overview from the Governors Office of Policy & Budget on the Governor's \$77 billion proposed budget, which includes \$673 million in tax cuts. This week, each individual agency presented the details of Governor Scott's proposal to appropriations subcommittees to which their budgets are assigned in both chambers. Committee members mostly listened to details rather than engaging in discussion.

ENTERPRISE ZONES

By: Ericks Consultants

Discussions on the fate of Enterprise Zones continued in both the House and Senate while a new report from Florida Tax Watch was made public this week to add to the conversation. OPPAGA and the Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) presented to the Senate Finance & Tax Committee and the House Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee on studies conducted on the State's ROI for the Enterprise Zone program. The House Committee also heard from Florida Tax Watch on its recommendations for the program as well as the Beacon Council, the Economic Council of Palm Beach County and the Small County Coalition on the benefits of the program and the potential consequences of its elimination. OPPAGA, EDR, and Florida Tax Watch all

seemed to be in agreement that –were the program extended- that marketing and awareness among businesses must improve in order to produce better results. Tax Watch also recommended that the incentives be focused more on “Second Stage” companies with more potential for job growth, that the program be more transparent and that the application process be streamlined. Members of the Senate Committee noted the program’s success in areas such as Miami-Dade and Palm Beach County and expressed a desire to retool the program rather than eliminate it. Sen. Abruzzo specifically pled to the committee on behalf of the Glades area, stating the area needed all of the tools possible to enable revitalization.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX

By: Ericks Consultants

As part of its workplan for tax reform, the House Finance & Tax Committee held a discussion on the Communications Services Tax, including the Governor’s proposal to cut the tax by \$470 million. The Governor’s office gave an overview of the CST and its challenges to the committee, as did Florida Tax Watch. Members were concerned with how the tax cut would directly generate jobs and also noted that a straight reduction would not solve one of the tax’s main problems, which is its varied and inequitable application. However, the committee also expressed alarm that the rate was the highest in the nation. The discussion did not involve reducing local government revenues. Chairman Gaetz stated that transparency and participation of local government would be points for members to think about as discussions continued. The Governor’s office has indicated that the State would absorb the full cut in his proposal.

TAX ON COMMERCIAL LEASES

By: Ericks Consultants

As part of its workplan for tax reform, the House Finance & Tax Committee held a discussion on reducing the State’s tax on Commercial Leases. Chairman Gaetz proposed three ways to approach the issue: a reduction, an elimination, or to disincentivize the creation of LLCs which leads to the taxable relationship. Representatives from the commercial real estate industry and retail industry testified on the burden the tax places on the business community in terms of giving competing States an unfair advantage to welcome new businesses and impeding the expansion of current business, especially franchises. The industry representatives originally asked for “any relief,” but put forward a request for a 1% reduction in the rate and possible phase out when pressed to be more specific. Members of the committee were particularly concerned with the tangible benefits that would directly result from a 1% reduction (equal to \$230 million of general revenue). The committee members also wanted an accurate picture of how Florida stacks up against other states by considering the net burden of all of the taxes levied on businesses and not just the difference of one tax. The Chairman also suggested looking into authorizing Enterprise Florida to waive the tax based upon individual businesses meeting certain incentive goals.

EMERGENCY FIRE RESCUE AND FACILITIES SURTAX

By: Ericks Consultants

The Chairman of House Finance & Tax requested on of his freshmen members to present a list of taxes that may be obsolete or unusable. One tax identified as possibly obsolete was the Emergency Fire Rescue and Facilities Surtax on account of no Counties opting to levy this tax. However, Representative Artiles and testimony from a representative of the Palm Beach Firefighters countered that the tax was not obsolete, but unusable based upon the current wording of the statute that requires inequitable distribution among providers. HB 209 by Artiles and SB 668 by Latvala have been filed to correct the statute.

SIN TAX

By: County Staff and News Service of Florida

The House Finance & Tax Committee, which is usually more averse to tax hikes, agreed Tuesday to further consider separate “sin tax” bills.

One proposal would impose entry requirements on adult establishments, including a \$10 fee on top of any other existing admission charges. Also, it would require the business to keep records of customers. Rep. Lori Berman presented the proposal to committee members.

WATER AND AMENDMENT 1 FUNDING

By: Ericks Consultants

The House State Affairs Committee held a workshop on a draft water policy package. The committee heard from each Water Management District, the Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association of Counties, the Everglades Foundation, representatives from the agricultural industry, environmentalists and others. The committee plans on taking the draft up again next week to continue its discussions.

FRS

By: Ericks Consultants

The Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability voted unanimously to pass a bill which would provide for additional death benefits for benefactors of law enforcement and correctional officers and firefighters employed by state agencies who are killed in the line of duty or otherwise killed due to his or her employment. The bill would also authorize local governments to provide the same type benefit, however the Florida League of Cities requested a technical amendment to remove the authorization language as municipalities already have the authority to provide the benefits and the language could preempt them from going beyond the statute. The bill has two more committees of reference before it goes before the full Senate. Its House companion has not yet been heard in its first of three committees of reference.

LOCAL PREFERENCE

By: Anfield and Ericks Consultants

The House Government Operations Subcommittee voted along party lines to further a bill that would preempt local ordinances that give preference to local businesses on projects that the State funds 20% or more of. The bill is a priority for the Florida Associated Builders & Contractors. Last year, the legislation was amended to a 50% threshold but still failed to pass. Supporters contended that the practice of local preferences in awarding contracts was detrimental to State taxpayers, causing them to pay higher prices and be discriminated against in a competitive solicitation based upon their business location. Opponents of the bill included the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Counties, who contended the ordinances help grow local economies and support small businesses. Some members of the committee who voted against the bill expressed the possibility of later supporting the legislation should the threshold be raised to a higher percentage. The bill has three more committees of reference before going before the full House with its next committee being Local Government Affairs. Its Senate companion has yet to be filed.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

By: Anfield and Ericks Consultants

The House Government Operations Subcommittee voted unanimously to pass a pair of bills dealing with Public Private Partnerships. HB 63 would codify recommendations by the Partnership for Public Facilities and Infrastructure Act Guidelines Task Force report. Among the changes, the bill would clarify that the P3 process is cumulative and supplemental rather than preemptive to the authority of the public entity. The bill would allow the majority vote of the governing body of a responsible public entity to adopt an alternative time frame for accepting proposals. It would require that a vendor, when submitting an unsolicited proposal, submit application fees set by the responsible public entity concurrently and specify when any pricing terms in the proposal expire. It would also provide a process to collect a higher fee if needed to review the proposal. It would clarify that the public entity be required to own the project upon

expiration of the agreement and would eliminate the requirement that the public entity notify affected local jurisdictions of a project. HB 65 would exempt from public records requirements unsolicited proposals received by public entities for a designated period of time depending on the public entity's decisions to pursue the RFP process. The Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Builders and Contractors and Florida Association of Industries and Architects supported the bills. HB 65 has two more committee stops in the House, while HB 63 has three. Neither bill's Senate companion has been filed as of yet.

PUBLIC RECORDS

By: Ericks Consultants

The Senate Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability voted unanimously to pass an amended version of a bill that would revise the responsibilities for retention of public records by private contractors that contract with public agencies as a result of recent litigation involving a private contractor not producing requested records. The Florida League of Cities expressed support for the amended version of the bill, however the bill could potentially cause local governments to be liable for attorneys fees in the event a private contractor fails to produce requested records. The bill would also require contracts be revised to provide a designated contact for the private companies to be responsible for public records requests. The bill has two more committees of reference before being heard by the full Senate. Its House companion has yet to be heard in its first of three committees of reference.

COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

By: Ericks Consultants

The Senate Transportation committee voted unanimously to pass a bill that would prohibit the Department of Transportation, county sheriffs' offices, and police departments of chartered municipalities from establishing traffic citation quotas. The bill would require that any municipality or county whose traffic citation revenue exceeds 50% of the cost of running the program to submit a report to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee. The bill has three more committee stops before going to the full Senate. Its House companion has not yet been heard in its first of three committees of reference.

FREIGHT LOGISTICS ZONES

By: Anfield and Ericks Consultants

The House Transportation and Ports Committee voted unanimously to pass a bill that would allow one or more counties to designate an area as a Freight Logistic Zone and provides that these designated areas may be eligible for priority funding should they be found to be consistent with the State's Freight Mobility and Trade Plan. The bill provides requirements for the county or counties designating the areas as well as evaluation requirements for the State to determine the eligibility of the FLZ for priority funding. The bill has two more committees of reference before going before the full House. Its Senate companion has not yet been filed.

TRANSPORTATION

By: Ericks Consultants

The Chairman of the House Transportation & Ports Committee stated in this week's meeting that they would be working on a committee bill to address the Florida Department of Transportation's Legislative Proposals for 2015. The proposals include an increase in FSTED funding from \$15 million to \$25 million as well as an annual transfer from the State Transportation Trust Fund to the State Economic Enhancement and Development Trust Fund. Transportation Appropriations Committees in both the House and Senate listened to Sec. Boxhold present the Governor's proposed 9.9 billion dollar budget for DOT, which would fully fund the work program.

PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT PROVIDERS

By: Ericks Consultants

The Senate Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability unanimously passed a bill with no debate after adopting a PCS that reflected technical changes. The bill would exempt personal identifying information held by a public transit provider to facilitate prepaid transit fare cards. The South Florida Regional Transportation Authority and the Florida Public Transit Association waived in support of the bill. The bill is now in its final committee of reference. Its House companion has not yet been filed.

GRANDPARENT RIGHTS

By: Ericks Consultants

The House Civil Justice Committee voted unanimously to pass a bill, which would give grandparents standing in court to petition for visitation rights. The committee listened to emotional testimony from several members of the public before voting on the bill. The bill sponsor stated that the bill would preserve the superiority of parental rights by its narrow scope while still addressing the best interest of the children. The bill has two more committee stops before going before the full House. Its Senate companion has yet to be heard in its first of three committees of reference.

FEDERAL ISSUES

President Obama Release FY 16 Budget

By: Alcalde and Fay

The Obama Administration's Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Budget was released on February 2, 2015; we have reviewed budgetary analysis and information from relevant Federal Agencies. The Administration's recommendations are intended to serve as a guide to funding levels for Congress to enact through the annual appropriations process. Proposed funding allocations for programs generally of interest to local governments have been highlighted below as provided in the Agencies' congressional justifications and Budget summaries.

The Administration's FY 2016 Budget includes the following funding and policy proposals:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

\$25 billion in Department of Agriculture discretionary budget authority, an increase of about \$1 billion above the FY 2015 enacted level, to fund programs and operating expenses. This amount includes funding for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Rural Development, food safety, Forest Service, research and conservation activities. Funding for mandatory programs is estimated at \$131 billion, about \$3 billion above the FY 2015 level, which largely reflects increases in the Commodity Credit Corporation Fund.

Food and Nutrition Service

- \$6.6 billion for WIC to fully support projected participation of 8.5 million participants per month in 2016. The proposed Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is increased from \$82 billion to \$84 billion, and Child Nutrition Programs are proposed to increase from \$21 billion in FY 2015 to \$22 billion.

Natural Resources and Environment

- No funding is requested for the Watershed Rehabilitation program, the Water Bank Program, or the Emergency Watershed Protection Program, which are managed by NRCS within USDA.

Water and Wastewater Grants

- The FY 2016 Budget would keep level funds for loans but decrease funds for grants for rural water and wastewater projects. \$1.2 billion is requested for water/wastewater loans, which is the same as FY 2015 levels. Grants would be funded at \$452 million, a decrease from \$455 million in FY 2015.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

\$9.8 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Commerce, an increase of \$1.3 billion over the FY 2015 enacted level.

Economic Development Assistance (EDA) Programs

- \$213 million, approximately \$227,000 more than the FY 2015 level, for EDA to support innovative economic development planning, regional capacity building, and capital projects.
- \$25 million is included for the Regional Innovation Strategies Program to promote economic development projects at the regional level.
- \$14 million reduction in funding for the Public Works Program to allow distribution of resources across the range of EDA grant programs to provide a diverse set of options for promoting innovation and economic development.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

\$70.7 billion in total discretionary budget authority for the Department of Education, an increase of \$3.6 billion over the previous year. The request includes increases for preschool development grants, education technology, and a new proposal that would make attending community college free of charge. Notably, the Administration's Budget does not propose new funding for the Race to the Top program.

School Safety

- \$90 million for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) National Activities, an increase of \$20 million more than the FY 2015 level, to expand support for key elements of the President's Now is the Time initiative (NITT), which is designed to protect our children and our communities by reducing gun violence, making schools safer, and increasing access to mental health services. Key activities include the following:
 - **School Climate Transformation Grants:** \$62.4 million to help schools train their teachers to help improve the school climate.
 - **Project Prevent Grants:** \$14.6 million for LEAs to help schools in communities with pervasive violence to break the cycle of violence.
 - **Project SERV (School Emergency Response to Violence):** \$5 million would be awarded to support learning environments that have been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

\$29.9 billion in discretionary funds for the Department of Energy, a 9.2 percent increase over the FY 2015 enacted level of \$27.4 billion.

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE)

- \$2.72 billion, a 42 percent increase from the FY 2015 enacted level of \$1.9 billion, for the EERE program, to increase the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies.

Weatherization and Intergovernmental Grants

- \$318 million, representing a 31 percent increase from the FY 2015 enacted level of \$243 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program, the State Energy Program and a new competitive grants program to form partnerships with local governments for the promotion of clean energy investments.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

\$8.6 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency, a \$452 million increase from the \$8.2 billion FY 2015 enacted level.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)

- \$1.1 billion for the CWSRF program, which provides funding for wastewater infrastructure, nonpoint source pollution control, and estuary management projects. This would represent a \$333 million reduction from the FY 2015 enacted level of \$1.45 billion.

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

- \$1.2 billion for the DWSRF program, \$279 million more than the FY 2015 enacted level of \$907 million. The DWSRF program provides funding for communities to finance infrastructure improvements for public drinking water systems.

Brownfields Program

- **\$110 million for Brownfields** projects, a \$30 million increase from the FY 2015 enacted level of \$80 million. The program provides funding to communities for the clean-up and redevelopment of properties, which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

\$83.8 billion in discretionary budget authority for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), approximately \$4.8 billion above the FY 2015 enacted level.

Grants to States for Medicaid

- \$356.8 billion, an increase of \$18.7 billion above the FY 2015 enacted level. The majority of the increase is attributed to the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion, and the funding consists of \$243.5 billion for FY 2016 and \$113.3 billion in an advance appropriation from FY 2015.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA)

- \$3.66 billion for SAMHSA, an increase of \$45 million above the FY 2015 level. This request is divided, in part, among the following four program partnerships with states, communities, tribal and private not-for-profit organizations to enhance health and reduce the adverse impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities:
 - Substance Abuse Prevention: \$210.9 million, \$35.8 million above the FY 2015 enacted level.
 - Substance Abuse Treatment: \$2.14 billion, \$40.7 million below the FY 2015 enacted level.
 - Health Surveillance and Program Support: \$236.6 million, an increase of \$42.8 million above the FY 2015 enacted level.
 - Mental Health: \$1.078 billion, \$6.8 million above the FY 2015 enacted level.
- \$10 million for a new Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF Rx), to raise public awareness about the dangers of sharing medications and to work with pharmaceutical and medical communities to raise awareness on the risks of overprescribing.
- \$151 million for programs within the President's *Now is the Time* violence prevention initiative, an increase of \$35 million above the FY 2015 enacted level. As outlined below, the requested funding will be allocated among existing programs as well as three new initiatives:
 - \$55 million for Project AWARE to improve mental health awareness increase referrals to behavioral health services and support systems, including \$40 million for Project AWARE State Grants and \$15 million for Mental Health First Aid. Funding will be used to increase awareness of mental health issues and connect young people with behavioral health issues and their families with needed services.

- \$20 million for Healthy Transitions to support youth ages 16 to 25 with mental health and substance abuse problems and their families.
- \$72.25 million for the continuation of workforce-related programs initiative in FY 2015, which includes \$56 million (an increase of \$21 million over the FY 2015 enacted level) for the jointly administered SAMHSA-HRSA Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Grant program to increase the clinical service capacity of the behavioral health workforce.
- \$10 million for a new Peer Professional Workforce Development program, which will award grants to provide tuition support and further the capacity of community colleges to develop and sustain behavioral health paraprofessional training and education programs.
- \$4 million for a new initiative, Science of Changing Social Norms, which includes two components: Building the Evidence, to measure and track attitudes, behaviors and community norms regarding mental health and substance abuse; and Social Norms, to develop and test an array of messages.
- In addition to SAMHSA funding, the President is also requesting additional funding for the *Now is the Time* initiative within his CDC budget, including \$10 million to conduct research on the causes and prevention of gun violence (investigating links between video games, media images, and violence), as well as \$23.6 million to complete expansion to all 50 states of the National Violent Death Report System, which reports anonymous data on all types of violent deaths.

Community Health Centers

- \$4.2 billion for Community Health Centers (CHC) is included within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) request, which is approximately \$809 million below the FY 2015 enacted level but which would now include \$2.7 billion in new mandatory resources (also requests \$2.7 billion in mandatory funding in both FY 2017 and FY 2018). This funding is projected to serve approximately 28.6 million patients in 2016, an increase of 1.1 million patients over 2015. The request is projected to support 75 new access point grants, and continuation and quality improvement activities for more than 1,300 health centers operating over 9,000 primary care sites.

Ryan White Grants

- \$2.32 billion for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs, approximately the same as the FY 2015 enacted level. The Budget proposes consolidating the Part D (Children, Youth, Women, and Families) program within the Part C (Early Intervention) program in FY 2016, in order to achieve the following goals: expand the focus on women, infants, children and youth across all the funded grantees; increase points of access for these populations; and reduce duplication of effort and reporting/administrative burden among co-funded grantees.

Precision Medicine Initiative

- The Administration is proposing a new cross-Department initiative, primarily between the NIH and FDA, to focus on developing treatments, diagnostics, and prevention strategies tailored to the individual genetic characteristics of each patient, also known as precision medicine. The FDA will use approximately \$10 million to modernize the regulatory framework to aid the development and use of molecular diagnostics in precision medicine, and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) will use approximately \$5 million to help develop technology and define standards and certification criteria to enable the exchange of genomic data.
- The majority of the funding would be allocated to the NIH, who would receive approximately \$200 million to be used for the following initiatives:
 - Cancer Genomics: \$70 million to expand current cancer genomics research to initiate new studies of how a tumor's DNA can be used to predict and treat tumor cells that develop resistance to a therapy, apply new non-invasive methods to track response to therapy, and explore the efficacy of new combinations of cancer drugs targeted to specific tumor mutations.

- National Research Cohort: \$130 million to launch a national research cohort of one million or more individuals, who volunteer to share their genetic information in the context of other health data over time.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

\$41.2 billion in Department of Homeland Security (DHS) funding – an overall decrease of \$3 billion below the FY 2015 enacted level. Of this funding, \$1.5 billion, \$577 million more than in FY 2015, is requested for critical state and local programs, such as the prevention of terrorist attacks, border security, aviation security, disaster preparedness, and cyber security.

The Budget also proposes to consolidate and restructure several of the Department's stand-alone FEMA grant programs (State Homeland Security, Urban Area Security Initiative, Port Security) into a new National Preparedness Grant Program to better develop, sustain, and leverage core capabilities across the country while supporting national preparedness and response. Key proposed DHS – FEMA funding includes:

National Preparedness Grant Program

- \$1.043 billion for the new program, which would consist of a mix of formula grants to the states intended to sustain current activities including some Urban Area Security Initiative grants, and competitive grants to states and regions for specific policy areas, including critical infrastructure, counterterrorism, and transportation.

Firefighter Assistance Grants

- \$670 million, identical to FY 2015 enacted levels, for direct grant assistance to local fire departments improve the ability to safeguard the lives of firefighting personnel and citizens.

Emergency Management Performance Grants

- \$350 million, identical to FY 2015 enacted levels, to assist state, local, tribal and territorial governments in preparing for all hazards by providing direction, coordination, guidance, and assistance so that a comprehensive emergency preparedness system exists for all hazards.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

\$49.3 billion in gross discretionary funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), approximately \$4 billion above FY 2015 enacted levels.

Community Development Fund

- \$2.88 billion, of which \$2.8 billion is requested for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, approximately \$200 million less than the FY 2015 enacted level.
- The Administration also recommends a number of CBDG reforms, including; helping grantees target funding to the areas of greatest need; enhancing program accountability; synchronizing program cycles; eliminating the number of small grantees; and providing options for regional coordination, administration, and planning.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

- \$332 million, \$2 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants to local communities, States, and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

Homeless Assistance Grants

- \$2.48 billion, \$345 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, to support new permanent supportive housing and cover wide range of activities to assist homeless persons and prevent future homelessness.

Housing Counseling Assistance

- \$60 million for Housing Counseling Assistance, a \$13 million increase over FY 2015 enacted levels to provide counseling to consumers on seeking, financing, maintaining, renting, or owning a home, and assist homeowners facing foreclosure.

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance/Housing Choice Vouchers

- \$21.125 billion, \$1.821 billion more than FY 2015 enacted levels to assist very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market.

Project-Based Rental Assistance

- \$10.76 billion, \$1.03 billion more than FY 2015 enacted levels, to provide rental subsidies for eligible tenant families residing in newly constructed, rehabilitated and existing rental and cooperative apartment projects.

Public Housing Capital Fund

- \$1.97 billion, \$95 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for the capital and management activities of Public Housing Agencies.

Public Housing Operating Fund

- \$4.461 billion, \$112 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for the operation, management, and maintenance of publicly owned affordable rental housing.

HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program

- \$75 million, identical to the FY 2015 enacted level, for new rental assistance vouchers for homeless Veterans.

HOME Investments Partnerships Program

- \$1.06 billion, \$160 million above FY 2015 enacted levels, for formula grants to States and localities to fund a wide range of activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership or providing direct rental assistance to low-income people.

Housing for the Elderly

- \$455 million, \$35 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels for project rental assistance for the elderly.

The Choice Neighborhoods Initiative

- \$250 million, \$170 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for competitive grants to transform, rehabilitate and replace public housing in distressed neighborhoods.

Housing for People with Disabilities

- \$177 million, \$42 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for project rental assistance for supportive housing for persons with disabilities.

Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)

- \$72 million, \$175 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, for the purpose of stabilizing communities that have suffered from foreclosures and abandonment, through the purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed, abandoned and short sale homes.

Revitalization of Severely Distressed Public Housing (HOPE VI)

- \$80 million, \$10 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, for broad range transformative investments in high-poverty neighborhoods where public housing and other HUD-assisted housing are located.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

\$13 billion in Department of the Interior discretionary funding, a \$753 million increase from the FY 2015 enacted level of \$12.3 billion.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

- \$900 million for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) programs in the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, a \$594 million increase from the FY 2015 enacted level. Of that total, \$672 million for the Interior Department alone, a \$467 million increase from the FY 2015 enacted level. The Fund would, in part, provide conservation grants under the National Park Service, including \$100 million for State Assistance Grants, a \$52 million increase from the FY 2015 enacted level, and \$25 million for the Urban Parks and Recreation Fund, which has not been funded since 2002.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

\$28.7 billion, approximately \$1.3 billion above the FY 2015 enacted levels, in Department of Justice discretionary funding. This funding includes \$3.511 billion, \$1.039 billion less than FY 2015 enacted levels, for State and Local Programs.

Community Oriented Policing Services

\$303 million, \$95 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants to enable state and local law enforcement agencies to increase the number of officers available for targeted patrol and other proven strategies to prevent and reduce crime. This funding includes \$249.5 million, \$69.5 million more than FY 2015, for the COPS Hiring Program.

Office of Justice Programs

The Budget requests more than \$1.142 billion, \$98.7 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, for Office of Justice Programs (OJP) State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance. Within that allocation are the following programs:

- **Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG):** \$388 million, \$12 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, to support law enforcement, prosecution and courts, crime prevention, corrections, drug treatment and other important initiatives. This funding includes \$30 million for a Body Worn Camera Demonstration project and \$22.5 million for the Bulletproof Vests Program.
- **Byrne Incentive Grants:** \$15 million in new funding for supplementary grants to State and local governments to implement proven, evidence-based, public safety strategies.
- **Byrne Competitive Grants:** \$15 million in new funding to state and local governments, non-profit and community-based organizations to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system and assist victims of crime.
- **Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program:** \$14 million, \$4 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, to assist States and units of local government in developing and implementing residential substance abuse treatment programs in State and local correctional and detention facilities and to create and maintain community-based aftercare services for offenders.
- **Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program:** \$29.5 million in new funding to work with local leadership in high-poverty communities to invest and engage more intensely to create jobs, leverage private investment, increase economic activity, reduce violence and expand educational opportunities.
- **Drug Court Programs:** \$36 million, \$5 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants, training and technical assistance to state, local, and tribal governments to support the development, expansion, and enhancement of effective drug courts.
- **Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program:** \$14 million, \$5.5 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants, training, and technical and strategic planning assistance to help state, local, and tribal

governments develop multi-faceted strategies that bring together criminal justice, social services, and public health agencies, as well as community organizations, to develop system-wide responses to the needs of mentally ill individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

- **Veterans Treatment Court Program:** \$4 million, \$1 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants, training and technical assistance to state and local governments to support the creation and development of veteran treatment courts.
- **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP):** \$9 million, \$2 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, to enhance the capacity of regulatory and law enforcement agencies to collect and analyze controlled substance prescription data.
- **Second Chance Act Program:** \$120 million, \$52 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants to establish and expand various adult and juvenile offender reentry programs and funds reentry-related research. Included in this funding is \$10 million for the Smart Probation Program to help states and localities develop comprehensive, innovative probation, as well as parole supervision programs.
- **Victims of Trafficking Program:** \$10.5 million, \$31.75 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, to empower local law enforcement to better identify and rescue trafficking victims.
- **Defending Childhood/Children Exposed to Violence Program:** \$23 million, \$15 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, to support research and provide demonstration grants and training and technical assistance, in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services, to encourage the development of comprehensive intervention and treatment programs to assist children who are victims of, or witnesses to, violence.
- **Implementation of the Adam Walsh Act:** \$20 million, identical to FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants and technical assistance to help state and local governments develop and enhance sex offender registration and notification systems that are in compliance with the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.
- **Community Teams to Reduce the SAK Backlog:** \$41 million, identical to FY 2015 enacted levels, for grants that support community efforts to develop plans and identify the most critical needs to address sexual assault prevention, investigation, prosecution and services, including addressing their untested sexual assault evidence kits (SAKs) at law enforcement agencies or backlogged crime labs.
- **State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP):** As part of its program reduction and consolidation efforts, the Administration's FY 2016 Budget cuts all funding for the SCAAP, which provides federal payments to states and local governments to reimburse correctional officer salary costs incurred for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens.

Office of Juvenile Justice

\$339.4 million, \$87.9 million more than FY 2015, to support state and local efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention juvenile programs. Within that allocation are the following programs:

- **Juvenile Justice Formula Grants:** \$70 million, \$14.5 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, to support state and local efforts to develop and implement comprehensive state juvenile justice plans, as well as provide training and technical assistance.

- **Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Initiatives:** \$42 million, \$27 million more than FY 2015 enacted levels, to support delinquency prevention programs and activities to benefit youth who are at risk of having contact with the juvenile justice system.
- **Youth Mentoring Program:** \$58 million, \$32 million less than FY 2015 enacted levels, to enhance and expand existing community-based mentoring strategies and programs, and develop, implement, and pilot test mentoring strategies and programs designed for youth in the juvenile justice, reentry, and foster care systems.

Office of Violence Against Women (OVW)

\$473.5 million, \$43.5 million more than FY 2015, for OVW programs, which reduce violence against women and administer justice for and strengthen services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

- **Grants to Combat Violence Against Women:** \$193 million, \$2 million less than FY 2015, for Grants to Combat Violence Against Women (STOP).
- **Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies:** \$50 million, identical to previous years for grants to encourage state and localities to treat sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law requiring the coordinated involvement of the entire criminal justice system and community-based victim service organizations.
- **Rural Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Enforcement Assistance:** \$33 million, identical to previous years for to state and local governments to identify, assess, and appropriately respond to child, youth, and adult victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in rural communities.
- **Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault Program:** \$25 million, \$1 million less than FY 2015, to assist victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related supportive services.
- **Grants to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking on Campus Program:** \$26 million, \$14 million more than FY 2015, to strengthen the response of institutions of higher education to the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking on campuses and enhances collaboration among campuses, local law enforcement, and victim advocacy organizations. Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education.
- **Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program:** \$52.5 million, \$10 million more than FY 2015 enacted funding to **strengthen** civil and criminal legal assistance programs for adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- **Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program:** \$27 million, \$3 million less than FY 2015, for grants to states to assist in supporting rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

\$94.7 billion in discretionary and mandatory budgetary resources for the Department of Transportation, an increase of \$22.2 billion above the 2015 funding level.

The centerpiece of the President's FY 2016 budget for the Department is a six-year, \$478 billion surface transportation reauthorization proposal, which builds on the Administration's previous four-year proposal, the GROW AMERICA Act, (submitted to Congress in 2014). The Administration plans to update the GROW AMERICA Act to reflect the longer length of the proposal, along with several policy modifications, and resubmit to Congress in the coming weeks. The proposal would be funded in large part by devoting to the Highway Trust Fund a one-time transition toll charge of 14 percent on the untaxed foreign earnings that U.S. companies have accumulated overseas (repatriation), estimated to generate approximately \$238 billion.

Office of the Secretary

- **TIGER Grants:** \$1.25 billion of mandatory funding to continue the TIGER program, a \$750 million increase over the FY 2015 enacted level, to fund infrastructure projects of national and regional significance, planning grants, and award and oversight expenses.

New Bond Programs

- **America Fast Forward Bonds (AFFB):** A permanent and expanded version of the popular, although short-lived, Build America Bond (BAB) program, AFFB's would be taxable bonds issued by State and local governments for which the federal government makes direct borrowing subsidy payments to those issuers (*through refundable tax credits*) at a subsidy rate equal to 28-percent of the coupon interest on the bonds. This subsidy rate is intended to be approximately revenue neutral relative to the estimated future federal tax expenditures for tax-exempt bonds. Expanding on BABs, AFFBs could be used for those projects typically financed with qualified private activity bonds in order to support a wider variety of public investments.
- **Qualified Public Infrastructure Bonds (QPIBs):** Created as a new category of qualified private activity bond, QPIBs would be a tax-exempt option for financing eligible infrastructure projects, including airports, docks and wharves, mass commuting facilities, facilities for the furnishing of water, sewage facilities, solid waste disposal facilities, and qualified highway or surface freight transfer facilities. The projects must be owned by State or local governments and be available for general public use, and unlike PABs, the QPIB bond program will have no expiration date, no issuance caps, and interest on these bonds will not be subject to the alternative minimum tax.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

\$15.84 billion in FAA budget authority, essentially the same as the FY 2015 enacted funding level. The Budget request also proposes increasing the non-Federal Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) limit from \$4.50 to \$8.00 and eliminates passenger and cargo entitlement funding for large hub airports but maintains discretionary eligibility.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

\$51.3 billion in FY 2016 to invest in the Nation's highway and bridge infrastructure, a \$10.3 billion increase above FY 2015 funding levels.

- **Freight Program:** \$1 billion for a new Multimodal Freight Investment Program (MFIP) that will improve goods movement and advance export and economic development opportunities in the U.S. by funding multimodal or multi-jurisdictional projects to improve goods movement, economic competitiveness and sustainability. The MFIP includes a discretionary grant program (National Freight Infrastructure Program) and an incentive grant program (Multimodal Freight Incentive Grants) based on distributions to States that account for State freight infrastructure and activity.
- **The Critical Immediate Safety Investments Program (CISIP):** \$7.45 billion as part of the "Fix-it-First" initiative to focus on the reconstruction, restoration, rehabilitation, preservation or safety improvement of existing



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County Administrator

Robert Weisman

**Palm Beach County
Legislative Affairs**

301 North Olive Avenue
Suite 1101.4
West Palm Beach, FL
33405

**Todd J. Bonlarron
Director**

Phone
Office (561) 355-3451
Mobile (561) 310-7832

Fax
(561) 355-3982

E-mail
tbonlarr@pbcgov.com

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highway assets.

- **Highway Safety Improvement Program:** \$2.6 billion to fund efforts to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.
- **National Highway Performance Program:** \$22.3 billion to support the condition and performance of the National Highway System.
- **Surface Transportation Program:** \$10.3 billion to provide transportation agencies the ability to target funds toward State and local priorities for the following: projects to improve or preserve the condition and performance on any Federal-aid highway; bridge and safety projects on any public road; facilities for non-motorized transportation; transit capital projects; and public bus terminals and facilities.
- **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program:** \$2.3 billion to help States, local governments, and private sponsors reduce highway congestion and harmful emissions.
- **Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Program:** \$1.0 billion to provide Federal credit assistance funding to support nationally or regionally significant transportation projects.
- **Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program:** \$320 million to provide resources for the improvement of metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes.
- **Transportation Alternatives Program:** \$847 million to increase transportation choices and access to transportation services.
- **Fixing and Accelerating Surface Transportation (FAST):** \$500 million for a new competitive grant program that will encourage innovative solutions to our most pressing transportation challenges. State and local partners will be evaluated on their willingness to commit to performance improvements in important areas such as safety or congestion management.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

\$18.4 billion to construct new public transit systems, improve the condition of transit assets, expand access, and increase transit safety. This amount represents an increase of approximately \$7.4 billion over the FY 2015 enacted level.

- **Formula Grants:** \$13.914 billion for FTA formula grant programs.
- **Capital Investment Grants:** \$3.25 billion for the construction of new fixed guideway systems or extensions to fixed guideway, corridor-based bus systems, and core capacity improvement projects. These projects include heavy rail, light rail, commuter rail, bus rapid transit, ferries, and streetcar systems that are implemented in communities across the country.
- **Rapid Growth Area Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Program:** \$500 million for a new Bus Rapid Transit discretionary grant program to help communities experiencing fast-growing populations by encouraging multi-modal development along corridors, which will be aided by allowing Federal-Aid Highway funding to be used as part of the local match requirement.

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)

\$5 billion as the first year of a proposed six-year \$28.55 billion rail reauthorization included in the Administration's surface transportation proposal, an increase of \$3.4 billion above FY 2015 enacted levels.

- **National High Performance Rail System:** \$4.8 billion to support the National High-Performance Rail System, including two major new programs funded from by a proposed new Rail Account included in the Transportation Trust Fund: 1) Current Passenger Rail Service, \$2.45 billion to return public rail assets to a state of good repair and to make other critical investments needed to maintain current rail services; and 2) Rail Service Improvement Program, \$2.325 billion to develop high-performance passenger rail networks throughout the United States. The program will also fund PTC for commuter railroads and support network development planning.