

# Florida Legislature 2020 Regular Session - Environmental Resources Report

Prepared for: Palm Beach County  
Water Resources Task Force

Date: July 23, 2020

# Environmental Bills that Passed

## ➤ Water Quality (SB 712)

- Moves regulation of septic tanks from DOH to DEP.
- Creates Wastewater Grant Program - 50% Match.
  - Prioritizes facilities in areas where BMAPs document this is a source of water quality violations.
- Requires update of stormwater rules & increased enforcement.
- Strengthens agricultural Best Management Practices verification and enforcement.
- Increases regulation of Biosolids application.
- Directs DEP to promulgate Direct Potable Reuse rule.

# Environmental Legislation that Passed

## ➤ Solid Waste Management (HB 73)

- Addresses “contaminated recyclable materials”.
- Requires strategies and procedures for the management and handling of that waste stream.

## ➤ Environmental Enforcement (HB 1091)

- Increases penalty schedule for a wide variety of environmental violations.
- Emphasis on unlawful discharge of wastewater.
- Authorizes voluntary sanitary sewer lateral program which would include a new disclosure at time of sale if inspections reveal problems.

# Environmental Legislation that Passed (cont'd)

- Public Financing of Construction (SB 178)
  - Requires Sea Level Rise Projection (SLIP) studies for new projects in the coastal construction zone using state funds BEFORE construction.
  - Takes effect 1 year after DEP completes new rule.
- Public Construction (HB 101)
  - Reduces the retainage a public entity or local government can withhold from a private contractor from 10% to 5%. This amount may be withheld throughout the entirety of the project until final completion.
- Public Procurement of Services / CCNA (HB 441)
  - Raises the limit from \$2 to \$4 million for construction projects, and \$200,000 to \$500,000 for individual case studies.

# Water Resources Bills that Failed...

- Land Acquisition Trust Fund (SB 332 & SB 438)
- Advance Well Stimulation / Fracking Ban (HB 547)
- Water & Wastewater Systems (SB 658)
- Reclaimed Water (HB 715)
- Everglades Protection Area - Comp Plans (HB 775)
- Environmental Protection Recurring Funding (SB 1878)
- Statewide Office of Resiliency (HB 7016)

# Environmental Appropriations supported by the County...

- Everglades Restoration - \$318.6 million
  - Restoration Strategies - \$32.7 million
  - EAA Reservoir - \$64 million
  - CERP Implementation - \$168.2 million
  - Northern Everglades and Estuaries - \$47 million
- Water Quality Improvements - \$236.6 million
  - Septic-to-Sewer/Wastewater Treatment - \$25 million
  - Total Maximum Daily Loads - \$25 million
  - Water Quality Improvements Everglades - \$50 million
  - Indian River Lagoon Water Quality Improvements - \$25 million
  - St. Johns, Suwannee, Apalachicola Rivers Watersheds and Springs Coast Watershed Water Quality Improvements - \$25 million
  - Coral Reef Protection and Restoration - \$10.0 million
- Alternative Water Supply Development - \$40 million

# Environmental Appropriations supported by the County...

- Blue Green Algae Task Force - \$10.8 million
- Innovative Tech. Grants for HAB - \$10 million
- Drinking Water SRL Program - \$130.7 million
- Wastewater SRL Program - \$228.6 million
- Florida Resilient Coastline Initiative - \$10 million
- Florida Forever - \$100 million
  - Fla. Communities Trust - \$10 million
  - FRDAP - \$12.3 million
- Petroleum Tanks Cleanup - \$125 million

# Environmental Appropriations secured by the County that were vetoed...

## ➤ Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative

▪ Pennock Industrial Park Stormwater Improv. / Town of Jupiter	\$150,000
▪ Cypress Creek Floodplain Restoration Project Phase I / Martin County	\$100,000
▪ Section 7 Drainage Improvements / South Indian River Improvement	\$150,000
▪ Seminole Avenue Stormwater Basin / Town of Jupiter	\$250,000
▪ Sims Creek Preserve Hydrologic Restoration / Town of Jupiter	<u>\$150,000</u>
TOTAL	\$800,000

## ➤ Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative

▪ Singer Island Submerged Land Acquisition / Palm Beach County	\$150,000
▪ Lake Worth Lagoon Monitoring / Palm Beach County	\$500,000
▪ Hypoluxo Septic to Sewer Conversion / Town of Hypoluxo	<u>\$200,000</u>
TOTAL	\$850,000