




Spring Board Meeting & Legislative Forum ITINERARY



Tuesday, January 30 – Thursday, February 1, 2024

Hotel Indigo
Tallahassee, Florida

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Seaport Environmental Management Committee Meeting	St. Marks Board room Hotel Indigo	
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Florida Ports Council Board of Directors' Legislative Dinner <i>By Invitation Only/Dress Business Casual Transportation Provided</i>	Orchard Pond Plantation	Dinner Sponsored by: 

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 – Seaports Day at the Capitol

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Breakfast	Magnolia Hotel Indigo	Breakfast Sponsored by: 
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	FSTED Meeting	Cypress Hotel Indigo	
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Luncheon	Magnolia Hotel Indigo	Luncheon Sponsored by:  LLW LEWIS LONGMAN WALKER
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	FPC Board Meeting	Cypress Hotel Indigo	
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Legislative Reception <i>Transportation Provided</i>	Poco Vino 225 S. Adams Street	Reception Sponsored by: 
	Dinner On Your Own		

Thursday, February 1, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Port Director's Breakfast <i>(Port Directors Only)</i>	R&R Eatery Private Room Hotel Indigo
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast – all others	Magnolia Hotel Indigo

**Dress for all meetings is business attire*

For more information contact: Christy Gandy at (850) 222-8028 or christy.gandy@flaports.org



We would like to thank the following for sponsoring our meeting events:



Tab 1

Call to Order

Chairman's Welcome



2024 FPC LEGISLATIVE FORUM BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, January 31st – 1:00 p.m.
Hotel Indigo Tallahassee

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Chairman's Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Port Director Opening Comments
4. Governance and Membership
5. Administration
 - A. Approval of the Minutes: August 3, 2023, Annual Board Meeting
 - B. Budget Report -- FY 23/24 Budget and Financial Statements, and Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Annual Audit
 - C. President's Comments
 - D. Program Administration
 - i. FSTED
 - ii. FPFC
 - iii. SEMC
 - iv. Security Committee
 - E. Other Issues
 - i. TPM Conference/FPC Reception March 5, 2024.
 - ii. FPC Board Virtual Summer Meeting?
 - iii. FPC/FSTED Annual Meeting: August 27-29, 2024, Pensacola
6. Communications/Marketing Update
7. Legislative
 - A. State
 - i. 2023 Legislative Session
 - a. Budget/Port Funding/Transportation Package
 - b. Port-Related:
 - Deepwater Port Dredging
 - Special Districts Reform

- Cash Payments Requirement

- c. Partner Issues
- d. Environmental

- ii. Miscellaneous

- B. Federal

- i. Initiatives

- a. Congressional LD Tour
- b. FPC 2024 Washington DC Fly-In

- ii. Issues:

- a. Infrastructure Legislation/Funding
- b. WRDA/HMTF/Port Investment
- c. CBP
- d. Right and Rice's Whales
- e. Miscellaneous

8. Partner Updates

American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA)
Associated Industries of Florida (AIF)
Coalition for Americas Gateways & Trade Corridors (CAGTC)
Florida Chamber of Commerce (FCC)
Florida Commerce
Select Florida
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Florida Department of Transportation (DOT)
Florida Ocean Alliance (FOA)
VISIT Florida

9. Other Issues

- A. New Business
- B. Port Director Closing Comments

10. Adjournment

Tab 2

Roll Call



ROLL CALL

MEMBER:

DESIGNEE:

JOHN MURRAY, CANAVERAL

GLENN WILTSHIRE, EVERGLADES

MIRIAM HILL, FERNANDINA

JOSHUA REVORD, FT. PIERCE

ERIC GREEN, JACKSONVILLE

STEVEN MCALEARNEY, KEY WEST

CARLOS BUQUERAS, MANATEE

HYDI WEBB, MIAMI

MICHAEL MEEKINS, PALM BEACH

ALEX KING, PANAMA CITY

CLARK MERRITT, PENSACOLA

SAM SULLIVAN, PUTNAM

GUERRY MAGIDSON, PORT ST. JOE

DAVID WIRTH, ST. PETERSBURG

PAUL ANDERSON, TAMPA

Tab 3

Port Director Opening Comments

Tab 4

Governance and Membership

Executive Transition Plan For The Florida Ports Council

The Board of Directors of the Florida Ports Council (FPC) recognizes that this is a plan for contingencies due to the illness, disability, death, or departure of the President and CEO. If the organization is faced with the unlikely event of an untimely vacancy, FPC has in place an emergency plan to facilitate the transition to both interim and longer-term leadership.

While the players, the environment the organization functions in, and the rules of engagement are likely to change, the need for a strong, constructive relationship between the Board and President and CEO does not.

A critical component of this Executive Transition Plan is agreeing in advance on a formal chief executive assessment process, as part of the transition planning process to clarify expectations between the Board and the President and CEO on roles, responsibilities, and job expectations.

The job description of the President and CEO is attached. The Board of Directors should review this document and ensure it has a clear understanding of the President and CEO's role in organizational leadership, program development, program administration, operations, Board of Directors relationships, financial operations, resource development and relationship management.

<p>Executive Transition Plan in Event of a Temporary, Unplanned Absence: Short-Term</p>
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A temporary absence is one of less than three months in which it is expected that the President and CEO will return to his/her position once the events precipitating the absence are resolved. An unplanned absence is one that arises unexpectedly, in contrast to a planned leave, such as a vacation or sick leave.

In the event of an unplanned absence of the President and CEO, the President and CEO should immediately notify the Chairman of the Board. If unable to do so, the highest-ranking staff member (or highest-ranking volunteer board member who is aware of the situation) is to immediately inform the Chairman of the Board. As soon as it is feasible, the Chairman should convene a meeting of the Board of Directors to affirm the procedures prescribed in this plan or to make modifications as the Board deems appropriate.

It should be noted that before any decision is made on how to proceed, the Chairman of the Board should meet with the Vice President of Operations to determine what “costs” may be incurred during the absence of the President and CEO. This may include hiring temporary staff; accountant fees if they are selected to manage the financial affairs during the absence; attorney fees when they are consulted on communication plans, short term agreements, etc.; technology costs to forward emails, or set up a remote account; etc. Keep in mind that the President and CEO will most likely have leave that they will utilize during their absence, therefore there would be no “salary savings” until that leave runs out. If, however, the President and CEO chooses to make a short term/long term disability claim, this could potentially result in a savings if they are not utilizing their leave balances.

If the President and CEO can still work in some capacity, but will be absent from the office:

The Board President and President and CEO should confidentially discuss the following:

- 1) The nature of the short-term absence
- 2) The ability of the President and CEO to work in any capacity during the short term
- 3) The impending work of the Association and whether that work can be accomplished in the absence of the President and CEO
- 4) An estimated time of return for the President and CEO
- 5) If a reduced work schedule is required

There should be a mutual decision reached about the extent of the President and CEO’s absence and the needs of the Association, and a determination reached based on this.

If the President and CEO cannot work in a decision-making capacity, and will be absent from the office, with some level of uncertainty of when they may return to work:

The Chairman of the Board and President and CEO (or President and CEO’s family) should confidentially discuss the following:

- 1) The nature of the short-term absence
- 2) The ability of the President and CEO to work in any capacity during the short term
- 3) The impending work of the Association and whether that work can be accomplished in the absence of the President and CEO
- 4) An estimated time of return for the President and CEO
- 5) If a reduced work schedule is required

There should be a mutual decision reached about the extent of the President and CEO’s absence and the needs of the Association, and a determination reached based on this.

The Board of Directors may wish to consider the following options in the case that the President and CEO is incapacitated and cannot be present at the office for a length of time:

- 1) Identify a senior staff member to assume the role of Acting President and CEO
- 2) Identify a senior staff member to be responsible for keeping the office running while still consulting on decision making with the existing President and CEO

- 3) Identify a board member to temporarily be responsible for decision making normally accomplished by the President and CEO
- 4) Contract with an individual for temporary leadership of the staff during the President and CEO absence
- 5) Have the Board Chairman be responsible for all decision making and remaining staff would continue to function in their existing roles and would communicate to the Chairman on a regular basis.

Authority and Compensation of the Acting President and CEO

If an individual is appointed as Acting President and CEO, the Board shall establish the scope of authority for independent decision-making during the interim period.

Depending on the situation and length of time the President and CEO will be absent, the Board may want to consider offering the Acting President and CEO a temporary salary increase, or a bonus.

Board Oversight

The FPC Executive Committee shall be responsible for monitoring the work of the Acting President and CEO and should be sensitive to the special support needs of the Acting President and CEO in this temporary leadership role.

Communications Plan

Immediately upon transferring the responsibilities to the Acting President and CEO, the Chairman (or highest-ranking Board member) will notify staff members, members of the Board of Directors and key volunteers of the delegation of authority.

As soon as possible after the Acting President and CEO has begun covering the unplanned absence, Board members and the Acting President and CEO shall communicate the temporary leadership structure to key external FPC stakeholders. Depending upon the decision of the Board to temporarily appoint someone to fulfill the duties of the President and CEO, they may desire to notify local association leaders, vendors, allied organizations, etc. This decision should be made after determining if the President and CEO's absence will have any impact on activities with these organizations. If not, no notification would be necessary.

<p style="text-align: center;">Executive Transition Plan in Event of a Temporary, Unplanned Absence: Long-Term</p>

A long-term absence is one that is expected to last more than three months. The procedures and conditions to be followed should be the same as for a short-term absence with one addition:

If a staff member was named Acting President and CEO, the Board of Directors will give immediate consideration, in consultation with the Acting President and CEO, to temporarily filling the staff position left vacant by the Acting President and CEO. This is in recognition of the fact that for a term of more than three months, it may not be reasonable to expect the Acting President and CEO to carry out the duties of both positions. The position description should focus on covering the priority areas in which the Acting President and CEO needs assistance.

Completion of Long-Term Emergency Transition Period

The decision about when the absent President and CEO returns to lead FPC should be determined by the President and CEO and the Chairman of the Board. They will decide upon a mutually agreed upon schedule and start date. A reduced schedule for a set period can be allowed, by approval of the Chairman, with the intention of working up to a full-time commitment.

Privacy and Confidentiality

The Chairman of the Board should be aware of the legal issues surrounding the communication of information that may be part of the consideration of how to proceed with any health-related absence of the President and CEO.

<p style="text-align: center;">Executive Transition Plan in Event of a Permanent Change in President and CEO</p>

A permanent change is one in which it is firmly determined that the President and CEO will not be returning to the position. The procedures and conditions should be the same as for a long-term temporary absence with two additions:

The Board of Directors will appoint a Search Committee within 30 days to plan and carry out a transition to a new permanent President and CEO. (The Board may also wish to appoint a separate Transition Committee or have the Search Committee also be available to serve in that capacity). The Board will also consider the need for outside consulting assistance depending on the circumstances of the transition and the board's capacity to plan and manage the transition and search. The Search Committee will also determine

whether the Acting President and CEO (as identified above) can serve in an "acting" capacity until the search for a permanent President and CEO is conducted or whether they need to plan for the recruitment and selection of an Interim President and CEO.

Loss of President and CEO –

In the event that the Executive Director passes away, the senior staff member (or other board member who is aware of the situation) shall immediately notify the FPC Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Chairman should communicate to the Association's Accounting firm to secure direction on how to proceed with financial procedures. It should be noted that the Accountant will work with FPC staff to ensure necessary action is taken to address legal and financial concerns of the Association.

Arrangements should be made with the family for them to retrieve any personal items from the Executive Office.

Arrangements should be made with the family to collect any property of the Association such as:

Laptop computer – if this was taken home by the Executive Director.

Keys to the Executive Office and any storage facilities.

Credit cards that are in the name of the Association. Note that if the Executive Director used personal cards for FPC business, the family should be advised what steps to take to remit the bill for payment once it is received.

Signatures of Approval

Adopted by Florida Ports Council Board of Directors _____
Date

Chairman of the Board Date

President and CEO Date

Checklist for Acceptance of FPC Transition Plan

- ☐ **Transition Plan approval.** This Transition Plan will be approved by the Executive Committee and forwarded to the full Board of Directors for its vote and approval. This plan should be reviewed annually.
- ☐ **Signatories.** The Chairman of the Board and President and CEO shall sign it.
- ☐ **Important Organizational Information.** The attached *Information and Contact Inventory* will remain a part of this document and will be updated no less than annually.
- ☐ **Copies.** Copies of this Executive Transition Plan along with the corresponding documentation shall be maintained by the sitting Chairman of the Board and the President and CEO.

Information and Contact Inventory for FPC

	Onsite Location	Offsite Location
Nonprofit Status		
IRS Determination Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Office, File Cabinets (FPC)	
Tax Forms/Filings	<input type="checkbox"/> Office, File Cabinets (FPC)	<input type="checkbox"/> CPA, Carr Riggs
Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/> Office, File Cabinets, Office Shared Computer Network	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer (insert file name)	
Mission Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Office Shared Computer Network	
Board Minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> Office, File Cabinets, Office Shared Computer Network	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Board Members	
Financial Information FPC		
FPC Employer Identification Number (EIN) #: 59-3267382		
Current and previous audited financial statements	<input type="checkbox"/> FPC File Cabinets (FPC)	<input type="checkbox"/> CPA, Carr Riggs
Financial Statements	<input type="checkbox"/> QuickBooks, Computer Network	<input type="checkbox"/> CPA, Carr Riggs
Blank Checks	<input type="checkbox"/> Locked Desk Drawer	
Computer passwords	<input type="checkbox"/> President and CEO	<input type="checkbox"/> 850-443-0722
Member Records	<input type="checkbox"/> Shared Office Computer Network, Back Up	
Vendor Records	<input type="checkbox"/> QuickBooks, Computer Network, Notebooks	

FPC Information

Accountant

Banking Information

Insurance –

Commercial Policy –

Group Health -

Group Dental -

Group Disability -

Crime Policy -

D&O –

Workers Compensation-

Retirement Accounts for Staff and Long Term



Position Description

President and CEO

Duties and Responsibilities

Purpose

The President and CEO will provide leadership and management in all areas of the Florida Ports Council (FPC) operations.

Scope

The President and CEO will oversee all areas of the Florida Ports Council, including Administration, to include Budget and Personnel; Government Affairs; Public Affairs; Administration of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development (FSTED) Program and the Florida Ports Financing Commission (FPFC).

Supervising Structure

Supervisor: Board of Directors

Supervising: VP of Operations and VP of Programs & Planning.

Education

Bachelor's degree and minimum of seven years of relevant and progressive work experience.

Position Responsibilities

- Act as the chief staff executive for the Florida Ports Council in day-to-day management of all aspects of the FPC, including Government Affairs, Public Affairs, Programs and Planning, and all other areas of association management including Budgeting/Accounting, Human Resources, Facilities Management and Board Outreach.
- Provide appropriate management, administration, support, and resources to staff in their management and administration of the Government Affairs program, which includes legislative and regulatory advocacy and outreach efforts at the state and federal levels.
- Provide appropriate management, administration, support, and resources to the marketing team in their management and administration of the Public Affairs Program, which includes all aspects of communications and marketing on behalf of the FPC and Florida Seaports.
- Provide appropriate management, administration, support and resources to the VP of Programs and

Planning in their management and administration of the FSTED Program, including coordinating seaport planning and development efforts in partnership with state agency partners and providing support for the FPFC, which includes monitoring compliance and accountability for all aspects of the program.

- Provide appropriate management, administration, support, and resources to the VP of Operations in their management of day-to-day operations involved in maintaining a professional and productive office environment for the FPC, including Human Resources, Meeting Planning, and Accounting.
- Maintain positive relationships and regular communications with port directors & staff; state and federal agency partners and elected officials, including the Executive Office of the Governor; state Legislators and members of Congress and their staff; the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT); the FloridaCommerce; and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and others as necessary.
- Develop and maintain relationships with relevant associations to maximize partnership opportunities focused on achieving industry and advocacy goals and objectives.
- Represent the FPC at a variety of meetings and events, including international trade missions, industry conferences, speaking engagements, press events and other public appearances.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Proven leadership skills and experience working with diverse groups, individuals and philosophies and gaining consensus in an effort to achieve progress on initiatives related to FPC issues.
- Extensive experience promoting public policy and knowledge of the legislative processes at the state and federal levels.
- Effective public speaking and presentation skills, including testifying in committee hearings, participating in panel discussions, meetings and conferences on FPC issues.
- Ability to prepare a variety of correspondence, including summaries, reports and presentations, using prescribed format(s) and conforming to all rules of punctuation, grammar and style.
- Proficient in use of a variety of common computer programs and utilities including word processing, Excel, Internet/search engines, PowerPoint, and a working knowledge of LobbyTools or other bill tracking services, as well as social media forums.

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Tab 5

Administration

Tab 5A

Approval of the Minutes

August 3, 2023 Annual Board Meeting



2023 Annual Florida Ports Council Board Meeting
Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. EST
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Chairman's Welcome:** Florida Ports Council Chairman and Port Director of Port Everglades, Jonathan Daniels, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. EST. Chairman Daniels thanked the board for hosting the meeting at Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale. As this is his last meeting, the Chairman recognized and thanked his successor, SeaPort Manatee Port Director, Carlos Buqueras,
2. **Roll Call:** Chairman Daniels recognized Mike Rubin, President & CEO of the Florida Ports Council, to call roll. The members present were as follows and a quorum was confirmed:
 - Captain John Murray, Port Canaveral
 - Jonathan Daniels, Port Everglades
 - David Kaufman, Port of Fernandina
 - Joshua Revord, Port of Ft. Pierce
 - Eric Green, JAXPORT
 - Steven McAlearney, Port of Key West
 - Carlos Buqueras, SeaPort Manatee
 - Sam Sullivan, Port Putnam
 - Hydi Webb, PortMiami
 - Michael Meekins, Port of Palm Beach
 - Alex King, Port Panama City
 - Clark Merritt, Port of Pensacola
 - David Wirth, Port of St. Petersburg
 - Paul Anderson, Port Tampa Bay
3. **Board of Directors Nominations/Election:** Chairman Daniels opened the floor for any board of directors' nominations. Chairman Daniels put forth a slate for consideration that would include Carlos Buqueras as Chairman, Hydi Webb as Vice Chairman and David Wirth as Secretary/Treasurer. A motion was made by Joshua Revord to adopt this slate of officers as suggested by Jonathan Daniels, seconded by David Kaufman, and passed unanimously. Chairman Daniels then officially turned the meeting over to new Florida Ports Council Chairman Carlos Buqueras to continue the remainder of the meeting.
4. **Port Director Opening Comments:** Chairman Buqueras recommended that the board skip their individual port comments to help save time for the various speakers at the meeting.
5. **Presentation on Employer's Support of the Guard and Reserve:** Chairman Buqueras recognized Peter Caspari, Director of Employer Outreach at the Department of Defense. Caspari spoke about the collaboration between service members and port employers, highlighting the importance of supporting National Guard and Reserve members in the workforce.

6. **Governance and Membership:** Chairman Buqueras turned the meeting's focus to governance and membership updates. This section addressed membership issues, including the potential discontinuation of Port of Port St. Joe due to financial difficulties.

Chairman Buqueras introduced J. Alex Kelly, Secretary of FloridaCommerce. Secretary Kelly spoke to the board regarding their interest in continued partnership with the Florida Ports and having a regular presence in meetings to discuss economic development, international networks, and workforce.

7. **Administration**

- A. **Approval of the Minutes: March 21, 2023, Spring Board Meeting:** Chairman Buqueras requested a motion for the approval of the March 21, 2023, Florida Ports Council meeting minutes. A motion was made by Alex King, seconded by Clark Merritt, and passed unanimously.
- B. **Budget Report and Recommendations – FY 22/23 Financial Statements and FY 23/24 Budget Recommendations:** Chairman Buqueras recognized Mike Rubin to speak to the upcoming budget. Rubin advised that the budget documents and information were in the meeting packet provided ahead of the meeting. A motion was made by David Kaufman to approve the FY23/24 Florida Ports Council Budget as seen in the meeting packet, seconded by Michael Meekins, and passed unanimously.
- C. **President's Comments:** Chairman Buqueras recognized Mike Rubin to give his President's Comments. Rubin detailed that the FSTED council would be hosting another meeting virtually in September or October.
- D. **Program Administration:** Chairman Buqueras moved passed program updates due to meetings being held the day prior.
- E. **Other Issues:** Chairman Buqueras recognized Christy Gandy, Vice President of Operations at the Florida Ports Council to provide an update on all upcoming events.
- i. **TPM Reception – Long Beach, March 2-6, 2024:** Gandy detailed that the 2023 TPM reception was very successful, and the team is secured to host another successful reception, as an official TPM sponsor in March 2024.
 - ii. **Other Global Initiatives/Functions:** Nothing was discussed here.
 - iii. **FPC Spring Board Meeting & Legislative Forum Meeting – Tallahassee, January 30-February 1, 2024:** Gandy detailed the spring board meeting will be held at the same hotel as last year, the Hotel Indigo in Tallahassee. Also, the itinerary will be a little different than years past; there will be a private board dinner hosted the first evening on January 30.
 - iv. **Seaports Day at the Capitol:** Gandy addressed that the Seaports Day at the Capitol will be hosted in a reception format at Poco Vino downtown Tallahassee on the evening of January 31.
 - v. **FPC/FSTED Annual Board Meeting – Pensacola, Dates TBD:** Gandy detailed the 2024 annual board meeting will be held at Pensacola's Hilton Garden Inn on August 26-28, 2024.

8. **U.S. Army Corps Update:** The U.S. Army Corps were not in attendance at this meeting.
9. **U.S. Customs and Border Protection Update:** Chairman Buqueras recognized the U.S. Customs and Border Protections team from Washington D.C., including Don Stakes, and other field officers throughout Florida. Their team individually introduced themselves and gave the board an update on what is happening in specific field offices around Florida.
10. **Communications/Marketing Discussion:** Chairman Buqueras recognized Edie Ousley, owner of Yellow Finch Strategies, and marketing consultant for the Florida Ports Council, to provide an update on the Florida Ports Council strategic communications activities and new marketing campaign for 2024. Ousley detailed the new marketing campaign slogan as *Seas the Opportunities* and elaborated more on that.

- 11. Legislative:** Chairman Buqueras recognized Mike Rubin to discuss current legislative issues in Florida. Rubin mentioned that at the request of agency secretaries, the Florida Ports Council is to provide a priority project list with cargo and supply chain projects. Also, there was an in-depth discussion on the harbor pilots. Additionally, Rubin discussed the idea for a Washington D.C. Fly-In again in the spring of 2024.
- 12. Partner Updates:** Chairman Buqueras recognized Mike Rubin to mention any partner updates. Rubin advised that he added upcoming partner event flyers in the materials.
- 13. Other Issues:** Chairman Buqueras opened the floor to discuss other issues.
- A. New Business:** No new business was discussed.
 - B. Board Member Closing Comments:** No closing comments were made.
- 14. Adjournment:** Chairman Buqueras adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m. ET.

Tab 5B
Budget Report

11:20 AM

01/24/24

Accrual Basis

Florida Seaports Council, Inc
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
October 2023 through September 2024

	Oct '23 - Sep 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
601 · FPC Dues	637,000.00	637,000.00	0.00	100.0%
602 · FSTED Prog. Admin/Chapter 311	0.00	434,000.00	-434,000.00	0.0%
605 · FSTED Security Admin Fees	0.00	17,500.00	-17,500.00	0.0%
610 · INTEREST INCOME	7,839.93	5,000.00	2,839.93	156.8%
615 · SPONSORSHIP REVENUES	28,000.00	15,000.00	13,000.00	186.7%
640 · MISC NON DUES REVENUE	4,375.00	13,000.00	-8,625.00	33.7%
Total Income	677,214.93	1,121,500.00	-444,285.07	60.4%
Expense				
6560 · PAYROLL EXPENSES	7,823.85	32,000.00	-24,176.15	24.4%
701 · PRESIDENT				
701.1 · Health Insurance	7,708.08	30,500.01	-22,791.93	25.3%
701.2 · Retirement Plan	4,812.50	11,550.00	-6,737.50	41.7%
701.3 · Salary	64,166.68	192,500.04	-128,333.36	33.3%
Total 701 · PRESIDENT	76,687.26	234,550.05	-157,862.79	32.7%
704 · VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS				
704.1 · Health Insurance	4,003.89	15,600.00	-11,596.11	25.7%
704.2 · Retirement Plan	1,972.40	5,200.00	-3,227.60	37.9%
704.3 · Salary	29,585.79	85,470.00	-55,884.21	34.6%
Total 704 · VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS	35,562.08	106,270.00	-70,707.92	33.5%
706 · VP PROGRAMS & PLANNING				
706.1 · Health Insurance	1,517.73	6,100.00	-4,582.27	24.9%
706.2 · Retirement Plan	1,815.00	4,718.70	-2,903.70	38.5%
706.3 · Salary	27,223.29	78,645.00	-51,421.71	34.6%
Total 706 · VP PROGRAMS & PLANNING	30,556.02	89,463.70	-58,907.68	34.2%
707 · EMPLOYEE BONUS POOL	7,500.00	10,000.00	-2,500.00	75.0%
710 · CONSULTANTS				
710.1 · Communications/Media Services	20,000.00	60,000.00	-40,000.00	33.3%
710.3 · Environmental & Growth Mgmt	10,000.00	32,500.00	-22,500.00	30.8%
Total 710 · CONSULTANTS	30,000.00	92,500.00	-62,500.00	32.4%
715 · INSURANCE				
715.1 · Worker's Compensation	804.00	2,082.00	-1,278.00	38.6%
715.2 · Directors' E&O	0.00	3,062.04	-3,062.04	0.0%
Total 715 · INSURANCE	804.00	5,144.04	-4,340.04	15.6%

11:20 AM

01/24/24

Accrual Basis

Florida Seaports Council, Inc
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
October 2023 through September 2024

	Oct '23 - Sep 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
720 · ACCOUNTING				
720.1 · Annual Audit & Financial Svcs	0.00	13,000.00	-13,000.00	0.0%
720.2 · Management of 401K	420.00	1,545.00	-1,125.00	27.2%
Total 720 · ACCOUNTING	420.00	14,545.00	-14,125.00	2.9%
730 · BANK CHARGES/INTEREST	168.97	100.00	68.97	169.0%
732 · COMMUNICATIONS				
732.1 · Telephone/Fax/Internet/Cable	377.00	4,500.00	-4,123.00	8.4%
732.2 · Cell Phones	195.00	4,000.00	-3,805.00	4.9%
732.3 · Printing	1,056.37	1,500.00	-443.63	70.4%
732.4 · Postage, Overnight Delivery	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
732.7 · Community Service	2,260.00	3,500.00	-1,240.00	64.6%
732.8 · Miscellaneous/Administrative	1,545.90	1,200.00	345.90	128.8%
Total 732 · COMMUNICATIONS	5,434.27	15,700.00	-10,265.73	34.6%
733 · OUTREACH				
733.1 · Marketing/Branding	56,013.71	80,000.00	-23,986.29	70.0%
733.2 · Memberships	4,154.92	14,500.00	-10,345.08	28.7%
733.3 · Sponsorships	5,000.00	12,500.00	-7,500.00	40.0%
733.4 · Lobbying	5,050.00	5,000.00	50.00	101.0%
Total 733 · OUTREACH	70,218.63	112,000.00	-41,781.37	62.7%
750 · EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES				
750.1 · Office Equipment	208.69	3,500.00	-3,291.31	6.0%
750.2 · Computer, Hardware & Software	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
750.3 · IT Services	967.09	10,000.00	-9,032.91	9.7%
750.4 · Office Supplies	7.46	4,500.00	-4,492.54	0.2%
750.6 · Miscellaneous	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
Total 750 · EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES	1,183.24	22,300.00	-21,116.76	5.3%
755 · FSTED & FFPC Court Reporter	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
777 · BUILDING EXPENSES				
777.2 · Maintenance/Repairs	-17,988.50	6,000.00	-23,988.50	-299.8%
777.3 · Pest/Security/Lawn/Housekeeping	2,886.81	6,000.00	-3,113.19	48.1%
777.4 · Insurance & Taxes	9,617.35	10,300.00	-682.65	93.4%
777.5 · Utilities	2,205.54	4,500.00	-2,294.46	49.0%
777.6 · Miscellaneous	253.00	6,000.00	-5,747.00	4.2%
Total 777 · BUILDING EXPENSES	-3,025.80	32,800.00	-35,825.80	-9.2%

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01/24/24

Accrual Basis

Florida Seaports Council, Inc
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
October 2023 through September 2024

	Oct '23 - Sep 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
791 · TRAVEL - CONFERENCES				
791.1 · Conferences - Meals	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
791.2 · Conferences - Hotel	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
791.3 · Conferences - Airfare	427.31	2,500.00	-2,072.69	17.1%
791.4 · Conferences - Rental Car/Gas	28.60	2,100.00	-2,071.40	1.4%
791.5 · Conferences - Fees	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
791.6 · Conferences - Miscellaneous	0.00	400.00	-400.00	0.0%
Total 791 · TRAVEL - CONFERENCES	455.91	15,000.00	-14,544.09	3.0%
792 · TRAVEL - GENERAL				
792.1 · Travel - Meals & Entertainment	298.30	6,000.00	-5,701.70	5.0%
792.2 · Travel - Hotel	0.00	6,000.00	-6,000.00	0.0%
792.3 · Travel - Airfare	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
792.4 · Travel - Rental Car/Gas/Parking	1,660.68	3,000.00	-1,339.32	55.4%
792.5 · Travel - Speaking Engagements	0.00	750.00	-750.00	0.0%
792.6 · Travel - Miscellaneous	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
Total 792 · TRAVEL - GENERAL	1,958.98	19,000.00	-17,041.02	10.3%
793 · MEETING EXPENSES				
793.1 · Meeting Expenses - MEALS	0.00	40,000.00	-40,000.00	0.0%
793.2 · Meeting Expenses - ROOM RENTAL	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
793.3 · Meeting Expenses - AUDIO/VISUAL	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
793.4 · Meeting Expenses - PRINTING	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
793.6 · Meeting Expenses - MISC	51,159.00	70,000.00	-18,841.00	73.1%
793.7 · Meeting Expenses - NOTICES(FAW)	126.56	500.00	-373.44	25.3%
Total 793 · MEETING EXPENSES	51,285.56	112,750.00	-61,464.44	45.5%
806 · PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	235.00	2,000.00	-1,765.00	11.8%
930 · WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT	0.87	1,000.00	-999.13	0.1%
Total Expense	317,268.84	921,122.79	-603,853.95	34.4%
Net Income	359,946.09	200,377.21	159,568.88	179.6%

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01/24/24

Accrual Basis

Florida Seaports Council, Inc
Balance Sheet
As of January 24, 2024

	Jan 24, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Hancock Bank CD 91-179	200,000.00
Hancock Bank CD - 30-90	202,219.87
HANCOCK BANK MONEY MARKET ACCT	416,097.10
HANCOCK BANK OPERATING ACCT	104,981.04
SYNOVUS MONEY MARKET ACCT#2	203,517.42
110 · PETTY CASH ACCT	101.31
Total Checking/Savings	1,126,916.74
Accounts Receivable	
200 · Administrative Fees Receivable	64,632.31
Total Accounts Receivable	64,632.31
Other Current Assets	
226 · Miscellaneous Receivable	-23.87
220 · Prepaid Expenses	7,040.02
Total Other Current Assets	7,016.15
Total Current Assets	1,198,565.20
Fixed Assets	
250 · Equipment & Furnishings	47,355.34
251 · Building	
252 · Building Improvements	159,211.87
251 · Building - Other	287,641.83
Total 251 · Building	446,853.70
253 · Land	
253.1 · Land Improvements	9,480.00
253 · Land - Other	200,000.00
Total 253 · Land	209,480.00
255 · Accumulated Depreciation	-257,442.00
Total Fixed Assets	446,247.04
Other Assets	
260 · Deposits	250.00
265 · Prepaid IRS Interest Payments	-0.44
Total Other Assets	249.56
TOTAL ASSETS	1,645,061.80

11:21 AM

01/24/24

Accrual Basis

Florida Seaports Council, Inc
Balance Sheet
As of January 24, 2024

	Jan 24, 24
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
300 · Accounts Payable	49,658.95
Total Accounts Payable	49,658.95
Credit Cards	
First Bankcard - MR	-37,270.21
Total Credit Cards	-37,270.21
Other Current Liabilities	
315 · Accrued Leave	8,615.00
301 · PAYROLL LIABILITIES	
301.2 · Direct Deposit Liabilities	4,777.02
301.3 · 401K Payable	-2,448.91
301 · PAYROLL LIABILITIES - Other	20,303.60
Total 301 · PAYROLL LIABILITIES	22,631.71
Total Other Current Liabilities	31,246.71
Total Current Liabilities	43,635.45
Total Liabilities	43,635.45
Equity	
3900 · Unrestricted Net Assets	1,229,222.48
Net Income	372,203.87
Total Equity	1,601,426.35
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,645,061.80

Tab 5C

President's Comments

Tab 5D

Program Administration



Florida Seaport Transportation and
Economic Development Council

AGENDA

Hotel Indigo Tallahassee
Wednesday, January 31, 2024
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order, Chairman's Welcome and Opening Comments
2. Roll Call
3. Administrative Issues
 - a. Approval of the October 25, 2023, Virtual Meeting Summary
 - b. Report on Seaport Environmental Management Committee (SEMC) Meeting
 - c. Report on Florida Ports Financing Commission (FPFC) Meeting
4. Agency Reports
 - a. FloridaCommerce
 - b. Florida Department of Transportation
5. Reports and Studies
 - a. 2023/2024 Seaport Mission Plan
 - b. Economic Impact Analysis
6. Legislative Report
7. Program Funding
 - a. Discussion and Review of Seaport Funding Spend Downs
 - b. Approval of FSTED Program Fund Reallocations
 - c. FSTED SeaCIP Program Application Timeline
 - d. Federal Funding Opportunities
 - e. State Funding Opportunities
8. New Business
9. Adjournment



Florida Seaport Transportation and
Economic Development Council

**Seaport Environmental Management Committee
AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 30, 2024
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
St. Marks Board Room
Hotel Indigo, Tallahassee, FL**

1. Call to Order, Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the August 2, 2023, SEMC Annual Meeting Minutes
4. Florida Ports Council Update
5. Agency Updates
 - a. Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
 - b. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
 - c. FloridaCommerce
 - d. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Civil Works and Regulatory Divisions
 - e. Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND)
 - f. Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
6. Partner Updates
 - a. AAPA
 - b. Florida Ocean Alliance
 - c. Florida Recycling Partnership
7. Legislative Update
8. Open Discussion
 - a. Rice's Whale and Right Whale Speed Rule Update
 - b. FDEP Clean Waterways Act Stormwater Rulemaking
 - c. Federal Updates (WOTUS, NEPA, etc.)
 - d. Other Issues
9. Adjourn

Tab 5E

Other Issues

Tab 6

Communications/Marketing Update

MARKETING UPDATE



TO: Florida Ports Council Board of Directors

CC: Mike Rubin, President & CEO, Florida Ports Council

FROM: Edie Ousley, President

DATE: January 23, 2024

RE: Marketing and Communications Update

Thank you for the opportunity to continue providing the Florida Ports Council (FPC) with strategic marketing and communications services.

This memo is intended to provide a high-level overview of the FY 2023-24 marketing campaign. More detailed information will be provided during the Spring Board meeting in Tallahassee.

FY 2023-24 Marketing Campaign:

During the 2023 Annual Board Meeting held in Fort Lauderdale, the FPC Board of Directors authorized the implementation of marketing efforts designed to support the FPC's system of seaports request for bold investments in Florida's 2024 FY budget.

Yellow Finch Strategies immediately began developing a campaign designed to target the specific audience that can authorize stronger investments in Florida's seaports – the Florida Legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis.

At the request of stakeholders, specifically Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared Perdue, P.E., this campaign incorporates similar imagery from FDOT's 2023 Moving Florida Forward marketing campaign, which was developed to help secure landmark funding for road projects. FDOT's Moving Florida Forward graphics were initially designed to clearly and easily help lawmakers understand how and where additional budget investments would be used. Secretary Perdue believed using similar imagery for the FPC's funding request would be advantageous for overall efforts.

FPC's "Seas the Opportunities" marketing effort incorporates a strong message that amplifies how FPC's system of seaports seized opportunities to correct America's supply chain debacle that erupted following COVID, encouraging shipping lines to avoid California's backlogged ports, and set sail for Florida's reliable, resilient and ready seaports. Further, these efforts hone in on how neighboring state seaports have seen Florida's strong global trade success, and how they are now taking steps to syphon Florida's success for their own benefit.



MARKETING UPDATE



With Texas approving landmark investments of \$200 million for 31 projects, and Georgia expanding its Brunswick facility to become the largest hub for automobile imports, Florida's system of seaports will become less efficient without bold investments to ensure we remain competitive.

YFS has blended a variety of tools around this campaign to deliver this message.

- New, dynamic photography taken at two of Florida's ports, has been incorporated into existing photography to blend into digital and print advertisements and collateral materials.
- FDOT's Moving Florida Forward graphics have been recreated to outline specific port projects, connecting those projects to show how they will help Florida cement its role as America's supply chain solution.
- Dedicated campaign messaging and display space within the FPC website.
- Multiple collateral materials, including:
 - One-pager handout,
 - Display signage,
 - Graphics for use across multiple platforms
- Advertising:
 - Florida Trend:
 - Florida 500 edition
 - Legislative Session edition
 - Transportation edition
 - Daily Pulse digital during Legislative Session
 - WFLA-FM The Morning Show with Preston Scott
 - 6 a.m. – 9 a.m. conservative talk radio
 - The Tallahassee regions number one station that lawmakers listen to
- Social Media
- Influencer Articles
 - Florida Politics
 - The Floridian

Again, this is a high-level overview. In-depth details will be provided during the upcoming board meeting.

Thank you



Tab 7

Legislative

Tab 7A

State

SECTION 5 - NATURAL RESOURCES/ENVIRONMENT/GROWTH MANAGEMENT/TRANSPORTATION

2023 SPECIAL CATEGORIES
 GRANTS AND AIDS - TRANSPORTATION
 DISADVANTAGED
 FROM TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
 TRUST FUND 59,356,668

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 2023, \$4,000,000 shall be used by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for an innovative grant program. Funds shall be used to provide competitive grants to community transportation coordinators for innovative service delivery that is more cost efficient for the program and time efficient for the users. Grants may be for projects in which a community transportation coordinator works with a non-traditional service provider, such as a transportation network company or other entity that provides door-to-door, on-demand, or scheduled transportation services. A county may submit one project that encompasses multiple goals or a single goal, such as providing cross-county mobility or reducing service gaps between existing routes and the user's final destination. A county may not receive more than one award and may receive a maximum award of \$750,000. Multiple counties may partner for a grant of up to \$1,500,000 provided that the project includes a goal of providing regional mobility in addition to any other goals. A ten percent local match is required for all grants. All funds shall be used to provide direct services to transportation disadvantaged clients.

2024 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING CONSULTANTS
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 90,913,254

2025 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 AVIATION DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 334,407,354

2026 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 PUBLIC TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 689,961,635

2027 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 RIGHT-OF-WAY LAND ACQUISITION
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 346,904,816
 FROM RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION AND
 BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION TRUST FUND 95,331,880

2028 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 SEAPORT - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 15,000,000

2029 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 SEAPORTS ACCESS PROGRAM
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 10,000,000

2030 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 SEAPORT GRANTS
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 74,596,958

2031 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 SEAPORT INVESTMENT PROGRAM
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 10,000,000

2032 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 RAIL DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 49,446,743

2033 FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY
 INTERMODAL DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS
 FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION
 (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND 43,071,234

SECTION 5 - NATURAL RESOURCES/ENVIRONMENT/GROWTH MANAGEMENT/TRANSPORTATION

	FROM TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED TRUST FUND	3,830
2023	SPECIAL CATEGORIES GRANTS AND AIDS - TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED FROM TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED TRUST FUND	59,356,668
<p>From the funds in Specific Appropriation 2023, \$4,000,000 shall be used by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to continue the innovative grant program. Funds shall be used to provide competitive grants to community transportation coordinators for innovative service delivery that is more cost efficient for the program and time efficient for the users. Grants may be for projects in which a community transportation coordinator works with a non-traditional service provider, such as a transportation network company or other entity that provides door-to-door, on-demand, or scheduled transportation services. A county may submit one project that encompasses multiple goals or a single goal, such as providing cross-county mobility or reducing service gaps between existing routes and the user's final destination. A county may not receive more than one award and may receive a maximum award of \$750,000. Multiple counties may partner for a grant of up to \$1,500,000 provided that the project includes a goal of providing regional mobility in addition to any other goals. A ten percent local match is required for all grants. All funds shall be used to provide direct services to transportation disadvantaged clients.</p>		
2024	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING CONSULTANTS FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	90,913,254
2025	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY AVIATION DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	334,407,354
2026	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY PUBLIC TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	653,672,017
2027	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY RIGHT-OF-WAY LAND ACQUISITION FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND FROM RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION TRUST FUND	308,195,891 95,331,880
2028	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY SEAPORT - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	15,000,000
2029	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY SEAPORTS ACCESS PROGRAM FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	10,000,000
2030	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY SEAPORT GRANTS FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	74,596,958
2031	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY SEAPORT INVESTMENT PROGRAM FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	10,000,000
2032	FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY RAIL DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION (PRIMARY) TRUST FUND	49,446,743

151 ~~and its disposition shall be handled by~~ the Department of
152 Financial Services shall handle the disposition of the account
153 in accordance with all applicable provisions of chapter 717
154 relating to the disposition of unclaimed property, and the
155 department shall close the ~~prepaid toll account shall be closed~~
156 ~~by the department.~~

157 Section 5. Subsection (5) is added to section 339.08,
158 Florida Statutes, to read:

159 339.08 Use of moneys in State Transportation Trust Fund.—

160 (5)(a) The department may not expend any state funds as
161 described in s. 215.31 to support a project or program of:

- 162 1. A public transit provider as defined in s. 341.031(1);
163 2. An authority created pursuant to chapter 343, chapter
164 348, or chapter 349;
165 3. A public-use airport as defined in s. 332.004; or
166 4. A port enumerated in s. 311.09(1)

167
168 which is found in violation of s. 381.00316. The department
169 shall withhold state funds until the public transit provider,
170 authority, public-use airport, or port is found in compliance
171 with s. 381.00316.

172 (b) The department may not expend any state funds as
173 described in s. 215.31 to support a project or program of:

- 174 1. A public transit provider as defined in s. 341.031(1);
175 2. An authority created pursuant to chapter 343, chapter

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2024

176 348, or chapter 349;

177 3. A public-use airport as defined in s. 332.004; or

178 4. A port enumerated in s. 311.09(1)

179
180 which is found advertising, enforcing, promoting, or displaying
181 a recommendation, requirement, or mandate relating to COVID-19
182 or any variant thereof which is produced, recommended, or
183 enacted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the
184 United States Department of Health and Human Services, the
185 Transportation Security Administration, the United States
186 Department of Transportation and any operating administration
187 thereof, or any other governmental entity. The department shall
188 withhold state funds until the public transit provider,
189 authority, public-use airport, or port is found no longer
190 advertising, enforcing, promoting, or displaying such
191 recommendation, requirement, or mandate.

192 Section 6. Section 339.0803, Florida Statutes, is amended
193 to read:

194 339.0803 Allocation of increased revenues derived from
195 amendments to s. 320.08 by ch. 2019-43.—

196 (1) Beginning in the 2021-2022 fiscal year and each fiscal
197 year thereafter, funds that result from increased revenues to
198 the State Transportation Trust Fund derived from the amendments
199 to s. 320.08 made by chapter 2019-43, Laws of Florida, and
200 deposited into the fund pursuant to s. 320.20(5)(a) must be used

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 1301 (2024)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED AS AMENDED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION _____ (Y/N)

FAILED TO ADOPT _____ (Y/N)

WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)

OTHER _____

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Transportation & Modals
Subcommittee

Representative Berfield offered the following:

Amendment

Remove lines 271-297 and insert:

(1) (a) There is created the Supply Chain Innovation Grant
Program within the Department of Commerce. Subject to
appropriation by the Legislature and in collaboration with the
Department of Transportation, the Department of Commerce shall
annually consider applications submitted under the program by
ports listed in s. 311.09(1); class I, II, or III freight
railroads; public airports as defined in s. 330.27, and
intermodal logistics centers or inland ports as defined in s.
311.101(2) to fund proposed projects that support supply chain
innovation. Project selection shall be based on projects that

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Amendment No.

create strategic investments in infrastructure to increase capacity and address freight mobility to meet the economic development goals of the state. Project criteria shall include consideration of:

1. Consistency with plans and studies produced by the Department of Commerce and the Department of Transportation.

2. Projects that directly increase efficiency in the delivery of goods.

3. Improved freight mobility access while reducing congestion, including, but not limited to, overnight truck parking at rest areas, weight stations, and intermodal logistics centers.

4. Increased fuel storage capacity and reliable distribution across the state, including, but not limited to, alternative fuel.

5. Securing a sustainable logistics transportation network throughout this state.

6. Developing connections to multimodal transportation systems.

7. Addressing emerging supply chain and transportation industry challenges.

(b) The Department of Commerce and the Department of Transportation shall also consider applications for funding submitted by public and private entities seeking to develop and establish vertiports in this state. Each award made for

Amendment No.

vertiport development shall be matched dollar-for-dollar by nonstate funds. For purposes of this subsection, the term "vertiport" means a system or infrastructure with supporting services and equipment used for landing, ground handling, and takeoff of manned or unmanned vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) aircraft.

(2) Awardees under this program shall be selected jointly by the Department of Transportation and the Department of Commerce, and grants awarded under this program shall be administered by the Department of Commerce. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Commerce may adopt rules to implement this section.

(3) The Department of Commerce in conjunction with the Department of Transportation shall generate a Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program report which shall include a list of each Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program project awarded and the benefit of each project toward meeting the Supply Chain Innovation Grant Program goals and objectives. The Department of Commerce must provide the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by October 1, 2025, and biennially thereafter.

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to dredging and beach restoration
3 projects; amending s. 403.816, F.S.; directing the
4 Department of Environmental Protection to require, as
5 a condition of permits issued for certain dredging and
6 beach restoration projects, that any adverse impact
7 analysis conducted for the activity meet certain
8 requirements; requiring a local government to provide
9 notice of its intent to conduct an analysis to certain
10 adjacent local governments; providing applicability;
11 providing a specified fine for violations; providing
12 an effective date.

13
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15
16 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 403.816, Florida
17 Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (4), and a new
18 subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

19 403.816 Permits for maintenance dredging of deepwater
20 ports and beach restoration projects.—

21 (3) As a condition of a permit issued for a project
22 pursuant to this section, the department shall require that any
23 analysis to determine the adverse impacts of the activity on the
24 natural habitat be conducted by an independent contractor
25 selected by the local government and in a manner prescribed by

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to special districts; repealing s.
3 163.3756, F.S., relating to inactive community
4 redevelopment agencies; amending s. 163.504, F.S.;
5 prohibiting the creation of new neighborhood
6 improvement districts after a date certain; repealing
7 s. 165.0615 F.S., relating to municipal conversion of
8 independent special districts upon elector-initiated
9 and approved referendum; creating s. 189.0312, F.S.;
10 providing term limits for elected members of governing
11 bodies of independent special districts; providing an
12 exception; providing construction; creating s.
13 189.0313, F.S.; providing the method for changing
14 boundaries of an independent special district;
15 providing an exception; amending s. 189.062, F.S.;
16 providing additional criteria for declaring a special
17 district inactive; requiring certain special districts
18 to provide notice of a proposed declaration of
19 inactive status in the county or municipality under
20 certain circumstances; revising the time period for
21 filing an objection to a proposed declaration;
22 authorizing a specific objection; providing that a
23 district declared inactive may only expend funds as
24 necessary to service outstanding debt and to comply
25 with existing bond covenants and contractual

obligations; creating s. 189.0694, F.S.; requiring special districts to establish performance measures to assess performance; requiring special districts to publish an annual report concerning performance measures; amending s. 189.0695, F.S.; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Governmental Accountability to conduct performance reviews; amending s. 190.005, F.S.; requiring the petition for creation of a community development district to contain specified information; repealing s. 190.047, F.S., relating to incorporation or annexation of a district; amending s. 191.013, F.S.; requiring independent special fire control districts to annually report training information to the Division of State Fire Marshal; amending s. 388.211, F.S.; providing the boundaries of a mosquito control district may only be changed by special act; amending s. 388.221, F.S.; reducing the maximum millage rate for mosquito control districts; amending s. 388.271, F.S.; requiring, instead of authorizing, special districts to file tentative work plans and work plan budgets at specified intervals; requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to report to the Department of Commerce if certain special districts fail to submit specified information; amending s.

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388.46, F.S.; requiring the Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control to establish model measures to assist districts in conducting performance monitoring; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 163.3756, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 2. Section 163.504, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.504 Safe neighborhood improvement districts; formation authorized by ordinance; jurisdictional boundaries; prohibition on future creation.—

(1) The governing body of any municipality or county may authorize the formation of safe neighborhood improvement districts through the adoption of a planning ordinance which specifies that such districts may be created by one or more of the methods established in ss. 163.506, 163.508, 163.511, and 163.512. No district may overlap the jurisdictional boundaries of a municipality and the unincorporated area of a county, except by interlocal agreement.

(2) A safe neighborhood improvement district may not be created on or after July 1, 2024. A safe neighborhood improvement district in existence before July 1, 2024, may

76 continue to operate as provided in this part.

77 Section 3. Section 165.0615, Florida Statutes, is
78 repealed.

79 Section 4. Section 189.0312, Florida Statutes, is created
80 to read:

81 189.0312 Independent special districts; term of office.—

82 (1) A member of an elected governing body of an
83 independent special district may not serve for more than 12
84 consecutive years, unless the district's charter provides for
85 more restrictive terms of office. Service of a term of office
86 that commenced before November 5, 2024, does not count toward
87 the limitation imposed by this subsection.

88 (2) This section does not apply to a community development
89 district established under chapter 190, or an independent
90 special district created pursuant to a special act that provides
91 that any amendment to chapter 190 to grant additional powers
92 constitutes a power of the district.

93 (3) This section does not require an independent special
94 district governed by an appointed governing body to convert to
95 an elected governing body.

96 Section 5. Section 189.0313, Florida Statutes, is created
97 to read:

98 189.0313 Independent special districts; boundaries;
99 exception.—Notwithstanding any special law or general law of
100 local application to the contrary, the boundaries of an

independent special district shall only be changed by general law or special act. This section does not apply to a community development district established pursuant to chapter 190.

Section 6. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 189.062, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

189.062 Special procedures for inactive districts.—

(1) The department shall declare inactive any special district in this state by documenting that:

(a) The special district meets one of the following criteria:

1. The registered agent of the district, the chair of the governing body of the district, or the governing body of the appropriate local general-purpose government notifies the department in writing that the district has taken no action for 2 or more years;

2. The registered agent of the district, the chair of the governing body of the district, or the governing body of the appropriate local general-purpose government notifies the department in writing that the district has not had a governing body or a sufficient number of governing body members to constitute a quorum for 2 or more years;

3. The registered agent of the district, the chair of the governing body of the district, or the governing body of the appropriate local general-purpose government fails to respond to an inquiry by the department within 21 days;

126 4. The department determines, pursuant to s. 189.067, that
127 the district has failed to file any of the reports listed in s.
128 189.066;

129 5. The district has not had a registered office and agent
130 on file with the department for 1 or more years; ~~or~~

131 6. The governing body of a special district provides
132 documentation to the department that it has unanimously adopted
133 a resolution declaring the special district inactive. The
134 special district is responsible for payment of any expenses
135 associated with its dissolution;~~or~~

136 7. The district is an independent special district or a
137 community redevelopment district created under part III of
138 chapter 163 that has reported no revenue, no expenditures, and
139 no debt under s. 189.016(9) or s. 218.32 for at least 5
140 consecutive fiscal years beginning no earlier than October 1,
141 2018. This subparagraph does not apply to a community
142 development district established under chapter 190 or to any
143 independent special district operating pursuant to a special act
144 that provides that any amendment to chapter 190 to grant
145 additional powers constitutes a power of that district; or

146 8. For a mosquito control district created pursuant to
147 chapter 388, the department has received notice from the
148 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services that the
149 district has failed to file a tentative work plan and tentative
150 detailed work plan budget as required by s. 388.271.

151 (b) The department, special district, or local general-
152 purpose government has published a notice of proposed
153 declaration of inactive status in a newspaper of general
154 circulation in the county or municipality in which the territory
155 of the special district is located and has sent a copy of such
156 notice by certified mail to the registered agent or chair of the
157 governing body, if any. If the special district is a dependent
158 special district with a governing body that is not identical to
159 the governing body of a single county or a single municipality,
160 a copy of such notice must also be sent by certified mail to the
161 governing body of the county or municipality on which the
162 district is dependent. Such notice must include the name of the
163 special district, the law under which it was organized and
164 operating, a general description of the territory included in
165 the special district, and a statement that any objections must
166 be filed pursuant to chapter 120 within 30 ~~21~~ days after the
167 publication date. The objections may include that the special
168 district has outstanding debt obligations that are not included
169 in reports required under s. 189.016(9) or s. 218.32.

170 (c) Thirty ~~Twenty-one~~ days have elapsed from the
171 publication date of the notice of proposed declaration of
172 inactive status and no administrative appeals were filed.

173 (2) If any special district is declared inactive pursuant
174 to this section, the district may only expend funds as necessary
175 to service outstanding debt and to comply with existing bond

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covenants and other contractual obligations. The property or assets of the special district are subject to legal process for payment of any debts of the district. After the payment of all the debts of said inactive special district, the remainder of its property or assets shall escheat to the county or municipality wherein located. If, however, it shall be necessary, in order to pay any such debt, to levy any tax or taxes on the property in the territory or limits of the inactive special district, the same may be assessed and levied by order of the local general-purpose government wherein the same is situated and shall be assessed by the county property appraiser and collected by the county tax collector.

Section 7. Section 189.0694, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

189.0694 Special districts; performance measures and standards.-

(1) Beginning October 1, 2024, or by the end of the first full fiscal year after its creation, whichever is later, each special district must establish goals and objectives for each program and activity undertaken by the district, as well as performance measures and standards to determine if the district's goals and objectives are being achieved.

(2) By December 1 of each year thereafter, each special district must publish an annual report on the district's website describing:

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201 (a) The goals and objectives achieved by the district, as
202 well as the performance measures and standards used by the
203 district to make this determination.

204 (b) Any goals or objectives the district failed to
205 achieve.

206 Section 8. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (3) of
207 section 189.0695, Florida Statutes, to read:

208 189.0695 Independent special districts; performance
209 reviews.—

210 (3) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
211 Accountability must conduct a performance review of all
212 independent special districts within the classifications
213 described in paragraphs (a), ~~and~~ (b), and (c) and may contract
214 as needed to complete the requirements of this subsection. The
215 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability
216 shall submit the final report of the performance review to the
217 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
218 Representatives as follows:

219 (c) For all safe neighborhood improvement districts as
220 defined in s. 163.503(1), no later than September 30, 2025.

221 Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
222 190.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

223 190.005 Establishment of district.—

224 (1) The exclusive and uniform method for the establishment
225 of a community development district with a size of 2,500 acres

226 or more shall be pursuant to a rule, adopted under chapter 120
227 by the Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission, granting
228 a petition for the establishment of a community development
229 district.

230 (a) A petition for the establishment of a community
231 development district shall be filed by the petitioner with the
232 Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory Commission. The petition
233 shall contain:

234 1. A metes and bounds description of the external
235 boundaries of the district. Any real property within the
236 external boundaries of the district which is to be excluded from
237 the district shall be specifically described, and the last known
238 address of all owners of such real property shall be listed. The
239 petition shall also address the impact of the proposed district
240 on any real property within the external boundaries of the
241 district which is to be excluded from the district.

242 2. The written consent to the establishment of the
243 district by all landowners whose real property is to be included
244 in the district or documentation demonstrating that the
245 petitioner has control by deed, trust agreement, contract, or
246 option of 100 percent of the real property to be included in the
247 district, and when real property to be included in the district
248 is owned by a governmental entity and subject to a ground lease
249 as described in s. 190.003(14), the written consent by such
250 governmental entity.

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251 3. A designation of five persons to be the initial members
252 of the board of supervisors, who shall serve in that office
253 until replaced by elected members as provided in s. 190.006.

254 4. The proposed name of the district.

255 5. A map of the proposed district showing current major
256 trunk water mains and sewer interceptors and outfalls if in
257 existence.

258 6. Based upon available data, the proposed timetable for
259 construction of the district services and the estimated cost of
260 constructing the proposed services. These estimates shall be
261 submitted in good faith but are not binding and may be subject
262 to change.

263 7. A designation of the future general distribution,
264 location, and extent of public and private uses of land proposed
265 for the area within the district by the future land use plan
266 element of the effective local government comprehensive plan of
267 which all mandatory elements have been adopted by the applicable
268 general-purpose local government in compliance with the
269 Community Planning Act.

270 8. A statement of estimated regulatory costs in accordance
271 with the requirements of s. 120.541.

272 9. A sworn affidavit, signed by the petitioner, attesting
273 that a majority of the acreage within the district will be used
274 for residential development.

275 Section 10. Section 190.047, Florida Statutes, is

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276 repealed.

277 Section 11. Subsection (3) is added to section 191.013,
278 Florida Statutes, to read:

279 191.013 Intergovernmental coordination.—

280 (3) By October 1 of each year, each independent special
281 fire control district shall report to the Division of State Fire
282 Marshal whether each of the district's firefighters and
283 volunteer firefighters have completed the required trainings and
284 certifications established by the division pursuant to s.
285 633.408.

286 Section 12. Section 388.211, Florida Statutes, is amended
287 to read:

288 388.211 Change in district boundaries.—

289 ~~(1) The boundaries of each district may only be changed by~~
290 ~~a special act of the Legislature The board of commissioners of~~
291 ~~any district formed prior to July 1, 1980, may, for and on~~
292 ~~behalf of the district or the qualified electors within or~~
293 ~~without the district, request that the board of county~~
294 ~~commissioners in each county having land within the district~~
295 ~~approve a change in the boundaries of the district.~~

296 ~~(2) If the board of county commissioners approves such~~
297 ~~change, an amendment shall be made to the order creating the~~
298 ~~district to conform with the boundary change.~~

299 Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 388.221, Florida
300 Statutes, is amended to read:

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301 388.221 Tax levy.—

302 (1) The board of commissioners of such district may levy
303 upon all of the real and personal taxable property in said
304 district a special tax not exceeding 1 mill ~~10 mills~~ on the
305 dollar during each year as maintenance tax to be used solely for
306 the purposes authorized and prescribed by this chapter. Said
307 board shall by resolution certify to the property appraiser of
308 the county in which the property is situate, timely for the
309 preparation of the tax roll, the tax rate to be applied in
310 determining the amount of the district's annual maintenance tax.
311 Certified copies of such resolution executed in the name of said
312 board by its chair and secretary and under its corporate seal
313 shall be made and delivered to the property appraiser and the
314 board of county commissioners of the county in which such
315 district is located, and to the Department of Revenue not later
316 than September 30 of such year. The property appraiser of said
317 county shall assess and the tax collector of said county shall
318 collect the amount of taxes so assessed and levied by said board
319 of commissioners of said district upon all of the taxable real
320 and personal property in said district at the rate of taxation
321 adopted by said board for said year and included in said
322 resolution, and said levy shall be included in the warrants of
323 the property appraiser and attached to the assessment roll of
324 taxes for said county each year. The tax collector shall collect
325 such taxes so levied by said board in the same manner as other

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taxes are collected and shall pay the same within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to the treasurer of said board. The Department of Revenue shall assess and levy on all the railroad lines and railroad property and telegraph and telephone lines and telegraph and telephone property situated in said district in the amount of each such levy as in case of other state and county taxes and shall collect said taxes thereon in the same manner as it is required by law to assess and collect taxes for state and county purposes and remit the same to the treasurer of said board. All such taxes shall be held by said treasurer for the credit of said board and paid out by him or her as ordered by said board.

Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 388.271, Florida Statutes, is amended and subsection (3) of that section is added, to read:

388.271 Prerequisites to participation.—

(1) When state funds are involved, it is the duty of the department to guide, review, approve, and coordinate the activities of all county governments and special districts receiving state funds in furtherance of the goal of integrated arthropod control. Each county ~~or district~~ eligible to participate ~~hereunder~~ may, and each district must, begin participation on October 1 of any year by filing with the department not later than July 15 a tentative work plan and tentative detailed work plan budget providing for the control of

arthropods. Following approval of the plan and budget by the department, two copies of the county's or district's certified budget based on the approved work plan and detailed work plan budget shall be submitted to the department by September 30 following. State funds, supplies, and services shall be made available to such county or district by and through the department immediately upon release of funds by the Executive Office of the Governor.

(3) If a special district fails to submit a tentative work plan and tentative detailed work plan budget as required by subsection (1), the department shall send notice of such failure to the Department of Commerce within 30 days.

Section 15. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 388.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

388.46 Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control; establishment; membership; organization; responsibilities.—

(2) MEMBERSHIP, ORGANIZATION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(c) Responsibilities.—The council shall:

1. Develop and implement guidelines to assist the department in resolving disputes arising over the control of arthropods on publicly owned lands.

2. Develop and recommend to the department a request for proposal process for arthropod control research.

3. Identify potential funding sources for research or implementation projects and evaluate and prioritize proposals

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376 upon request by the funding source.

377 4. Prepare and present reports, as needed, on arthropod
378 control activities in the state to other governmental
379 organizations, as appropriate.

380 5. By August 30, 2024, develop model goals, objectives,
381 and performance measures and standards to assist mosquito
382 control districts in conducting performance monitoring pursuant
383 to s. 189.0694.

384 Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

26 the department. The independent contractor conducting the
27 analysis may not be associated with any project of the
28 contractor performing the activity for the local government for
29 a period of 1 year before the commencement of the analysis or
30 for a period of 1 year after the completion of the analysis. The
31 local government shall provide written notice of its intent to
32 have an analysis conducted to adjacent local governments that
33 may be impacted by the activity. However, this subsection does
34 not apply to any deepwater port maintenance dredging currently
35 permitted or maintained by the United States Army Corps of
36 Engineers. A violation of this subsection is punishable by a
37 fine of 10 percent of the total project cost or an amount
38 determined by the department or the United States Army Corps of
39 Engineers, whichever is greater.

40 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Tab 7B

Federal

DIPLOMAT: \$15,000

Three (3) separate Four-hour rentals or One (1) Eight-hour rental of Florida House that can be transferred to partners (dependent upon availability – catering costs are not included)

Sponsor Recognition and Four (4) Invitations to Two (2) Florida-based Trustee Event

Two (2) Invitations to attend The Gathering – a reception for Florida House Trustees in Washington, D.C., each Fall

Three (3) Invitations to attend Florida Congressional Member Networking Event at Florida House

Invitation to Attend Three (3) Quarterly Florida House Chief of Staff Networking Events in Washington, D.C.

Present at Three (3) Industry Briefings to Congressional Delegation & Staff (2023)

Quarterly Newsletter for up to Eight (8) Points of Contact

Logo Recognition on Florida House website, Quarterly Newsletter, Annual Report, and on donor wall at Florida House



ENVOY: \$10,000

Two (2) Four-hour rentals or One (1) Eight-hour rental of Florida House (dependent upon availability – catering costs are not included)

Sponsor Recognition and Two (2) Invitations to one (1) Florida-based Trustee Event

One (1) Invitations to attend Florida Congressional Member Networking Event at Florida House

Invitation to attend Two (2) Quarterly Florida House Chief of Staff Networking Events in Washington, D.C.

Present at up to Two (2) Industry Briefings to Congressional Delegation & Staff (Starting 2023)

Quarterly Newsletter for up to Five (5) Points of Contact

Logo Recognition on Florida House website, Quarterly Newsletter, Annual Report, and at Florida House

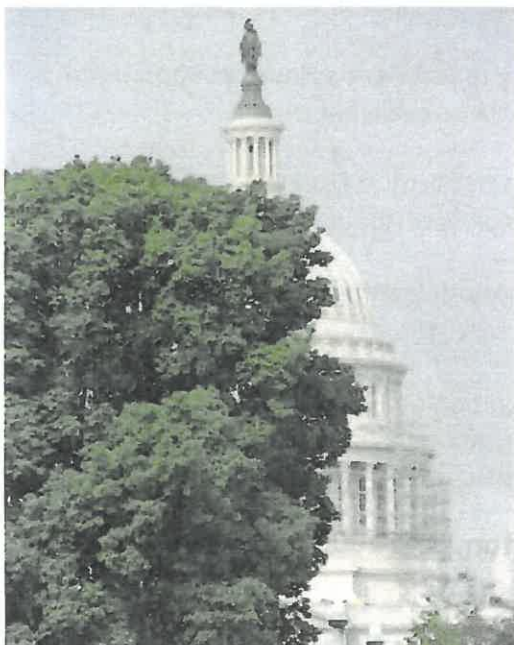
ATTACHÉ: \$5,000

One (1) Four-hour Rental of Florida House (dependent upon availability – catering costs are not included)

Invitation to attend one (1) Quarterly Florida House Chief of Staff Networking Event in Washington, D.C.

Present at One (1) Industry Briefings to Congressional Delegation & Staff (Starting 2023)

Name recognition on Florida House website, Quarterly Newsletter, Annual Report, and at Florida House



From: [Lee Sandler](#)
To: [Mike Rubin](#)
Cc: [Tiffany Martinez](#)
Subject: Cold treatment issue
Date: Friday, January 12, 2024 7:36:51 AM
Attachments: [Cold Treatment.pdf](#)

Great to see you in Tallahassee....hope this is a good year for you and the Ports Council.

Following up on our discussions ,USDA officials visiting Miami recently suggested that this is a time where the rules could be liberalized to allow Florida ports to compete under the same rules enjoyed by all other ports.

Attached is the proposal from 2020 to allow Florida ports to compete with other ports for perishable products subject to USDA “cold treatment” requirements. We had success in allowing those imports under a limited “pilot” program that required completion of the long cold treatment process while the products were in transit...ie., cold treatment could not be completed at Florida ports as is allowed at non-Florida ports such as Savannah.

The efforts in the past were supported by the Council along with many of its members, including Port Everglades, PortMiami, Tampa Bay, Manatee, Canaveral and Jacksonville. We believe that if this resonates as an opportunity valuable to members of the Florida Ports Council, the Council should consider a limited preliminary effort to test this possibility, and if it appears viable, to engage a broader coalition as in the past.

We would be happy to discuss this further or provide more detailed information

Also note that the Coalition members (which included at various times had identified the following products for increased import activity:

1. First Phase
 - a. Argentina – cherries, grapes, plums, pomegranates
 - b. Brazil – apples, grapes
 - c. Colombia – blueberries, gooseberries, and grapes
 - d. Italy – grapes, kiwi
 - e. Panama – citrus
 - f. Uruguay – citrus, apples
2. Second phase
 - a. Australia – citrus
 - b. China – apples, citrus
 - c. Egypt – grapes
 - d. France – apples, kiwi, pears
 - e. Greece – citrus, kiwi
 - f. Israel – citrus, dates, persimmons
3. Final phase

- a. Morocco – blueberries, citrus, grapes
- b. Spain – citrus, grapes, persimmons
- c. South Africa – apples, citrus, grapes, pears

FLORIDA PERISHABLES TRADE COALITION, INC.

December 2020

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COLD TREATMENT PILOT PROGRAM – EXPANSION/COMPLETION ON PORT

- Our goal is to eliminate the “pilot” program status for Florida and allow all cold treated products currently allowed import into the US to come through Florida ports as the “pilot” was eliminated for all states except Florida in the first quarter of 2019.
- On March 14, 2018, the Final Rule Standardizing Phytosanitary Treatments (APHIS 2013-0081- Rule – Standardizing Treatment Regulations) became effective, but Florida has not yet been allowed to take part in this new protocol.
- This Rule requires Florida Agriculture to agree on strategy to resolve pest risk concerns prior to APHIS approval of a cold treatment facility in any location in Florida. Since early April 2018, APHIS and Florida Agriculture representatives have discussed moving forward with in-transit cold treatments at ports of entry in Florida. Florida Agriculture was to provide APHIS with its list of conditions or restrictions in order to proceed. To date it has not provided such restrictions/conditions to APHIS. This delay has caused Florida to lose market share to ports outside of Florida, such as Savannah, which is able to complete cold treatment on port as well as not being restricted to the “pilot” protocol. We will endeavor to press Florida Agriculture for its conditions from which we can negotiate to bring Florida on par with the perishable industry standards in other states.
- Recently USDA/APHIS implemented a pilot program in the Port of Hueneme in California allowing cold treatment to finish on port. This pilot model could be a major factor in leveraging Florida Agriculture to move forward with easing its reluctance in allowing cold treated product to finish on Florida ports.
- With the Covid-19 restrictions impacting travel, less passenger travel has proven that pathogens come mostly from passengers and not maritime shipments proving that our protocols work and now we have hard data collected by USDA/APHIS to demonstrate this fact.

Tab 8

Partner Updates

2024 AAPA Legislative Summit

March 18 – 21 | Washington D.C.
Salamander Washington, DC
1330 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20024

Monday, March 18 All Times Listed are in EDT	
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom Foyer</i>	Registration Open
12:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. <i>Location TBD</i>	Offshore Wind Committee Meeting
3:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. <i>Location TBD</i>	Bootcamp – <i>More details to come</i>
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. <i>Marina Room</i>	Reception: Welcome to Washington!

Tuesday, March 19 All Times Listed are in EDT	
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom Foyer</i>	Registration
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom A</i>	LPC Meeting
10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom B</i>	SCP Meeting
11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. <i>Corcoran</i>	PPM In-Brief
1:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Welcome from the American Association of Port Authorities Featuring: Cary Davis, President and CEO, AAPA
1:20 p.m. to 1:25 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	AAPA Lifetime Achievement Award Presentation
1:25 p.m. to 1:55 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Opening Keynote: To be announced soon!

1:55 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	AAPA Conversation on the Main Stage
2:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom Foyer</i>	Networking Break
2:30 p.m. to 2:55 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Keynote Address by: Allison Dane Camden, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Freight Infrastructure & Policy In conversation with: Lisa Lefeber, CEO and Executive Director, Port of Everett
2:55 p.m. to 3:25 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Keynote on the Mainstage
3:25 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Main Stage Session - Conversation on Nearshoring - Leila Afas, Director, Global Public Policy, Toyota In conversation with: To be announced soon
4:25 p.m. to 5:10 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Fireside Chat with Eric Beightel, Executive Director, FPISC In conversation with: To be announced soon
5:10 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Final Thoughts Featuring: Paul Anderson, CEO, Port Tampa Bay
5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. <i>TBD</i>	CEO Reception

Wednesday, March 20 All Times Listed are in EDT	
7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. <i>Room TBD</i>	Board of Directors Breakfast Meeting
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom Foyer</i>	Breakfast
8:55 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Welcome Back!

9:00 a.m. to 9:05 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Port Person of the Year Presentation Ceremony Powered by DCLI
9:05 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Keynote on the Mainstage
9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Keynote on the Mainstage
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Main Stage Panel Discussion: Pacific Island Issues & Conversation <i>Panelists to be announced soon!</i>
10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom Foyer</i>	Networking Break
10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Main Stage Panel Discussion: Permitting Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jamie McCurry, Chief Administrative Officer, Georgia Ports Authority - Bill Hanson, Senior Vice President, Market Development, Great Lakes Dredge and Dock - Steve Ribuffo, MBA, MSLM, AMPE, Director, Port of Alaska <p>In conversation with: Dan Ronan, Managing Producer Multimedia/Senior Reporter at Transport Topics and Anchor Transport Topics Radio SiriusXM/Road/Channel 146</p>
11:30 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Keynote to be Announced Soon!
11:50 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom Foyer</i>	Networking Lunch
12:50 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Main Stage Panel: Topic to Come!
1:20 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Keynote on the Mainstage

1:45 p.m. to 2:25 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Main Stage Panel: Offshore Wind – Projects in the Pipeline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chett Chiasson, Executive Director, Port Fourchon - Nathan McKenzie, Technology Manager Offshore Wind (R&D), Department of Energy <p>In conversation with: To be announced soon</p>
2:25 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Fireside Chat: Port Electrification Conversation
2:50 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom Foyer</i>	Networking Break
3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Keynote Address by: Peter Levesque, President & CEO, CMA CGM (America) LLC, America President Lines, LLC <p>In conversation with: To be announced soon</p>
3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	The Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Speaker Series Presents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rob Portman, Former U.S. Senator (OH) <p>In conversation with: Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Representative</p>
4:30 p.m. to 4:40 p.m. <i>Grand Ballroom C</i>	Closing Remarks from the AAPA Board of Directors
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. <i>Salamander Lawn</i>	Port Industry Social

Thursday, March 21 All Times Listed are in EDT	
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Hill Day Breakfast
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	All Day on Capitol Hill

2024 Session Priorities

ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA



We are proud to stand up for the issues relevant to our members and work to create a business-friendly climate to benefit our state.

The Voice of Florida Business Since 1920

WATER RUNOFF

FINANCE LITIGATION

TECHNOLOGY

AGRICULTURE

HEALTH CARE

TAXATION

Economic Development

Economic Opportunity Grants

The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund is authorized to award grant funds to projects that “promote economic opportunity by improving public infrastructure and enhancing workforce training.” The Florida Department of Commerce is responsible for soliciting proposals and making funding recommendations to the Governor.

The following types of projects are eligible for approval:

- State or local public infrastructure projects that promote economic recovery in specific regions of the state, economic diversification, or economic enhancement in a targeted industry; and
- Workforce training grants to support programs at state colleges and state technical centers that provide participants with transferable, sustainable workforce skills applicable to more than a single employer, and grants for equipment associated with these programs.

AIF SUPPORTS targeted infrastructure investments to catalyze certain regions and/or sectors. For example, we support the rapid growth of the emerging Florida commercial aerospace industry by focusing on projects such as the rebuilding of decaying bridges along State Road 401 entering Cape Canaveral Space Force Station.

VISIT FLORIDA Funding

AIF SUPPORTS investment in building a world-class marketing engine with top talent, analytics, and funding that develops and executes data-driven branding strategies. Tourism is our state’s leading industry. Not only does our state revenue rely on tourism, but many other businesses in our state also rely heavily on out-of-state visitors for revenue. We must ensure that VISIT FLORIDA is fully funded so it can continue to assist in bringing visitors to our state.

Capital Investment Projects

AIF SUPPORTS legislative efforts to modernize the capital investment tax credit program to help Florida compete for sustainable high-wage jobs for the development of leading-edge intellectual property projects.

Energy

Energy Efficiency and Conservation

AIF SUPPORTS efforts by the legislature to promote energy efficiency and conservation through cost-effective incentives. Additionally, **AIF OPPOSES** any legislation that expands incentives for individuals that result in long-term, higher energy prices for all other customers.



AIF’s President & CEO Brewster Bevis welcomes attendees to the 2023 Florida Business Forum in Tallahassee.

Onshore Exploration and Production

Onshore exploration and production in Florida are valuable contributors to Florida’s economy and tax base. **AIF SUPPORTS** maintaining appropriate permitting laws to protect the environment, to enhance efficiency between industry and the state, and to ensure appropriate standards are clearly communicated.

AIF SUPPORTS the regulatory, permitting, and zoning authority associated with the exploration and production of oil and natural gas being maintained solely by the state. Onshore oil and gas production in Florida can be performed safely while fully protecting water resources and the environment. **AIF OPPOSES** bills or regulations that prohibit well stimulation techniques and hydraulic fracturing, limit technological advances, and infringe on private property rights.

Expansion and Protection of All Energy Infrastructure

AIF SUPPORTS the building of future pipelines that provide safe, cost-effective energy infrastructure across the country. Further, **AIF SUPPORTS** any legislation that facilitates environmentally responsible construction of natural gas, liquid fuel, hydrogen and carbon pipelines to enhance energy reliability and affordability for Floridians. AIF also recognizes the importance of delivering energy products to the state during hurricane season through the supply channel pipelines.

The U.S. has been a net exporter of oil and natural gas because of the tremendous success of hydraulic fracturing. Liquefied natural



(From left to right) Representatives Joel Rudman (R-Navarre) and Kim Berfield (R-Clearwater), Senator Corey Simon (R-Tallahassee) and Representative Philip Griffiths (R-Panama City) at AIF's New Legislators' Reception in Tallahassee.

gas (LNG) exports offer new opportunities for ports and shippers. **AIF SUPPORTS** development of infrastructure for small and large-scale LNG and hydrogen ventures.

AIF SUPPORTS legislation that enhances state prosecution for attempts to “damage or shut down” critical infrastructure, such as pipelines, that can deprive communities of services, put lives at risk, cost taxpayers millions of dollars, and threaten the environment. Sunshine 811 was developed to identify underground infrastructure before digging. However, poor construction practices still lead to damaged infrastructure that cause unnecessary service interruptions, safety issues, and increasing repair costs. **AIF SUPPORTS** concepts that enhance the 811 program and penalties.

Opposition to Proposed Expansion of U.S. EPA Air Regulations

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) data indicates Florida’s ambient air quality has improved dramatically over the past twenty-five years. Ozone and fine particulate matter, two of the major air quality indexes monitored by the FDEP and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), have been comfortably within limits of the already tight standards. The downward trends of these two indices are expected to continue as companies adopt new technologies that enhance efficiency while reducing emissions.

AIF OPPOSES further reductions by the U.S. EPA in the National Ambient Air Quality Standards ozone levels and further reductions in methane emissions. These proposals will add unnecessary costs to the industry while offering nominal health benefits.

Expansion of Natural Gas Fleet and Alternate Fueling for Transportation

Hydraulic fracturing has provided ample domestic supplies of natural gas and an alternative to diesel and gasoline for fleet transportation fuel. **AIF SUPPORTS** funding that has been successful in converting fleets to natural gas while ensuring the Transportation Trust Fund remains funded at adequate levels for road construction and maintenance. Emphasis should be placed on fully supporting policies that lead to the continued success of natural gas as an alternative fuel—an alternative that does not require mandates for success. **AIF SUPPORTS** the continued market development expansion of natural gas fleets including ships and barges, as well as the continued expansion of infrastructure for electric vehicles, both for public and private use.

Offshore Exploration and Production of Oil and Natural Gas

AIF SUPPORTS seismic testing in the Atlantic Ocean and Eastern Gulf of Mexico to ascertain the volume and location of future sources of oil and natural gas.

AIF SUPPORTS the passage of legislation that establishes a process by which the State of Florida can begin considering proposals for safe, offshore drilling in federal waters. Florida’s economic recovery is heavily dependent on reasonably priced and reliable sources of petroleum. Florida typically consumes more than 30 million gallons of gasoline and diesel each day for transportation and generates more than half of its electricity from clean-burning natural gas.

Allowing safe and environmentally sensitive access to these

regulatory agencies have fostered with the private sector historically, and **AIF SUPPORTS** the continued strengthening of the public-private partnerships to protect and conserve species.

State Stormwater Rule

Creating consistency with rules and regulations provides direct benefits to the protection of our environmental resources while also providing regulatory certainty and predictability for regulated interests throughout the state. As Florida's population continues to grow, the need for updated stormwater rules is essential for businesses, communities, and residents. However, the need for updated rules cannot exceed the practical and technological capabilities which are currently available.

AIF OPPOSES proposed rules and policies which create confusion in their application, or which are technologically and economically unfeasible to implement. Further, **AIF OPPOSES** any rules which fail to recognize and provide regulatory relief for the planning, design, engineering, construction, and operation of existing stormwater management systems.

Agricultural Housing

Labor supply and availability is a struggle for all Florida businesses, especially within the Florida agricultural sector. In the absence of available and dependable domestic workers, agriculture businesses will utilize the legal process of bringing guest workers into the country to work. To secure guest workers, the agricultural employer must provide housing to accommodate workers yet, there are a growing number of instances where local jurisdictions deny or delay construction of legal agricultural worker housing.

AIF SUPPORTS legislation which creates a reasonable and predictable framework for agricultural employers to provide housing for legal guest workers.

Heat Illness Regulations

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is currently working through new guidelines and regulations regarding workplace heat related illness. To this end, Florida employers as well as employers around the country continue to provide feedback and suggestions for predictable, feasible and practical safety measures to further protect the workforce. Unfortunately, some local jurisdictions have been pushed to get ahead of the new federal standards and adopt ordinances which, arguably, do little to increase worker safety while opening the doors to perpetual litigation for employers.

AIF SUPPORTS regulatory consistency in workplace safety regulations that prevents a patchwork of local regulations that could include unattainable standards which do little to protect employees while opening an onslaught of fines, penalties, and other punitive measures.

AIF OPPOSES local, state, and federal regulations that create a private right of action, thus enabling the cottage lawsuit industry.

Wetland Mitigation

Under the current regulatory practices through the Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) there are instances where the agency duplicates the protection of mitigation projects from future disturbance under existing rules by imposing a requirement for permanent conservation easements on the mitigation areas. By requiring the easements, the department exacerbates the challenges of managing scattered, fragmented conservation lands, unduly burdens the owner of the mitigation project land, and reduces the taxable value of the mitigation project land. These requirements are particularly problematic where there are leases or other land title issues tied to a parcel of land. In addition, these requirements, which are unrelated to the actual mitigation activities, also seem to disregard any financial responsibilities demonstrated through the permitting process nor do they factor in the value of the underlying mitigation project.

AIF SUPPORTS legislation which clarifies the requirements for mitigation by preserving the ability of permittees to mitigate activities through the construction and implementation of appropriate mitigation projects, recognizes the demonstrated financial responsibility of the permittee, does not discount the value of a mitigation project, and prevents the direct or indirect imposition of a conservation easement on mitigation projects.

Supply Chain Security

Global events over the past three years have highlighted vulnerabilities in the global supply chain impacting both the United States and Florida economies. Most notably, the supply chain crisis has demonstrated an over-dependency of international sources of goods. To the maximum extent practical, Florida needs to be economically self-secure.

AIF SUPPORTS legislation that protects Florida's critical agricultural, energy and supply chain security from unnecessary overregulation and radical anti-business agendas.

Insurance

For years, Florida has been identified as an outlier on civil justice. Florida remains an outlier now, but for an entirely different reason. During the 2023 Legislative Session, Florida passed the most transformational and comprehensive tort reform package in a generation. This action was on the heels of significant property insurance reforms only a few months prior. Both of these reform packages will become fully effective by 2024, unleashing significant economic opportunities for businesses and consumers that have struggled mightily with the increasing cost of insurance as a result of excessive litigation, nuclear verdicts, and other civil justice imbalances.

From fair settlement to transparency in damages, one-way fee reform to premises liability fairness, construction defect

Services Tax

AIF OPPOSES any legislation, administrative rule or proposed constitutional amendment that would attempt to create a new tax on services. Any tax on services would put Florida businesses at a competitive disadvantage and would discourage new businesses from coming to the state.

Production Industry Programs

AIF SUPPORTS the production industry tax credit/rebate program, including sales tax exemptions for motion picture, sound, and video equipment. This economic development program and tax exemption allows Florida to compete with other states and international locations for economic development generated by attracting feature films, high impact television, and digital media productions.

Urban and Rural Jobs Tax Credit Programs

AIF SUPPORTS the Urban and Rural Jobs Tax Credit Programs as they encourage economic activity and job creation in areas designated as high crime areas and Qualified Rural Areas.

Salary Tax Credit

AIF OPPOSES legislation that would remove the insurance salary tax credit. Repeal of this credit would cause a nearly \$300 million tax increase on Florida's insurance industry, resulting in an increase in insurance premiums for Florida's business community. Florida is one of only a few states that have two separate taxes for insurers—a corporate income tax paid by all businesses and a second, punitive tax on the insurance premiums paid by Floridians. This premium tax credit was created in 1987 to lessen the burden on insurers while also allowing them to reinvest these funds back into their business. Repealing this insurance salary tax credit would remove the mechanism that helps keep insurance rates for everyday Floridians as low as possible.

Water Extraction Tax

According to the International Bottled Water Association, bottled water usage represents only .004% of water usage in the U.S. Enacting a tax on bottled water would mark the first time a severance tax is imposed on a renewable resource. As such, **AIF OPPOSES** legislation imposing an excise tax on bottled water.

Documentary Stamp Tax Exemption for No Interest Notes

AIF SUPPORTS legislation that would exempt promissory notes, nonnegotiable notes, and written obligations to pay money from the documentary stamp tax when such documents provide that no interest will be charged.

Tourist Development Tax

AIF OPPOSES expanded uses of Tourist Development Tax (TDT) revenues unrelated to the promotion and marketing of

tourism. Providing local governments with the authority to spend TDT revenues for new uses will hinder the effectiveness of these limited revenues and negatively impact the ability to promote Florida's tourism industry.

Transportation & Maritime

Transportation Trust Fund and Dedicated Funding

In a state as large and populous as the state of Florida, transportation and infrastructure funding must remain at the forefront of public policy and will always be one of the most important pieces of the state budget. Over the years, partnerships with local governments and alternative financing mechanisms have played a role in meeting the state's demands. Fundamentally, however, Florida still relies almost entirely on the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF) as the primary source for funding state infrastructure. Necessary infrastructure needs such as bridges, ports, airports and roads all require complex, long-term planning to ensure maximum efficiency in serving Floridian's transportation needs. Any disruption to funding these projects would have significant effects on the state's ability to keep pace with the demands of growth. The fact remains that infrastructure projects produce important economic activity in Florida. For this to continue, policymakers must invest in this industry.

The Florida Legislature and the DeSantis Administration funded over \$12 billion in infrastructure projects in the 2022-2023 budget. **AIF SUPPORTS** this level of funding for the FY 2023-2024 budget for transportation. Additionally, **AIF SUPPORTS** the Florida Legislature and the DeSantis Administration to work with transportation leaders across the state to utilize a portion of state reserves for large, forward-thinking infrastructure projects that are currently outside the state's work program.

AIF OPPOSES redirecting financial resources and STTF commitments to any areas other than the STTF or sweeping funds from the STTF to areas outside of transportation infrastructure.

Alternatives for Funding Florida's Transportation Infrastructure

Funding mechanisms for the state's transportation needs vary with a number of funding sources dedicated to infrastructure projects, both at the state level and local level, with the heaviest reliance on the STTF. Gas tax revenues have long been the primary source of these funds, leveraging the state's robust tourism industry to help in this regard. Yet experts in infrastructure policy have long warned that with the emergence of fuel efficiency standards, vehicle technology and electric vehicle sales, Florida's dependence on gas tax revenues as a major source of infrastructure funding is not as sustainable as it appeared to have been a decade ago.

Additionally, the pandemic caused a change in work environments and a decline in the commute of Florida's massive

workforce in some areas of the state. To that end, public policy makers and state officials must continue to seek alternative funding mechanisms intended to complement the gas tax as the primary source of funding. With the technological vehicle advancements siphoning tax dollars away from the gas tax, Florida must ensure the drivers of those vehicles are paying their share of transportation funding. Other states have advanced user fees for these type vehicles, and Florida should explore all options.

AIF continues to **SUPPORT** exploring alternative solutions to the state's current reliance on a declining gas tax revenue for state infrastructure needs.

Autonomous Vehicles

Autonomous vehicles (AVs) represent the most progressive of all innovations in the transportation industry today. Since 2012, Florida has tested and formed public policy to advance the use of AVs so that companies can have predictability as they enter the Florida marketplace. While comfort and convenience are important factors in Floridians choosing this innovation, a driving factor that is occasionally overlooked is the public safety aspect of AVs on the roadways. In 2016, 40,000 people died in vehicle-related crashes across America—a 6% increase from 2015. There were over two million crashes, many with serious injuries and property damage. Of these crashes, 94% were the result of human error. AVs should be part of the solution to save lives and prevent injuries and property damage. AVs also have tremendous potential to benefit underserved communities that do not have access to mass transit and can provide independence to people who have not been able to drive a vehicle due to disabilities. In addition to the societal benefits, AVs will provide economic benefits such as reshaped and reduced land use and roadway infrastructure, reduced traffic congestion, saved time, and reduced energy consumption.

Although Florida already has broad authority for AV operation in the state, there are certain provisions within the existing motor vehicle laws that require or presume there is a human driver behind the wheel. Florida has multiple communications companies that have deployed both wireline and wireless broadband networks to support AV operation and further investments. Upgrades to these networks should not face delays by unnecessary and overly burdensome regulatory, operational, or financial barriers and costs imposed by local governments. **AIF SUPPORTS** modernizing state law to accommodate self-driving technologies that open the door for safe, reliable modes of AVs in a competitive marketplace with clear, limited government regulations.

Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program (FSTED)

Florida's unique geographic proximity to the Americas requires a certain level of commitment from local, state, and federal governments to maximize the effectiveness of the port system around the state and ensure a steady pace of economic

growth. Florida has successfully advanced the maritime industry by ensuring high quality representation on port authorities across the state, reducing regulations, and fostering strategic partnerships within the port system. The Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program (FSTED) is a notable example of a program that continues to support ports around the state. FSTED provides crucial funds which serve as an important mechanism for seaport capital improvement projects that will continue to grow the state's seaport footprint at home and abroad. In recent years, deep water ports have had a challenge acquiring the land necessary to grow the port system, making the continuation of this program even more necessary for the expansion of Florida's maritime activity.

AIF SUPPORTS increased funding to support Florida's ports including maintaining (and ultimately increasing) \$25 million in funding for the FSTED program and an increase to \$70 million in the FDOT Strategic Port Investment Initiative.

Also, **AIF SUPPORTS** the FDOT Business Development Program as a mechanism to help educate and provide expertise to small Florida businesses looking to work within the Department's often complex procurement process.

Supply Chain and Logistical Issues

Supply chains are essential in providing critical supplies throughout the United States. Currently, the country is experiencing severe back-ups in the supply chains due to the pandemic and an overall lack of employees physically present at ports across the nation. Though most imports brought into the U.S. come into California ports, Florida has an opportunity under the leadership of Governor DeSantis to utilize our port capacities to bring in cargo by way of welcoming the reroute of cargo ships. Florida must curate a specific plan to bring cargo of all sizes to our ports.

AIF SUPPORTS working with the Governor and FDOT to find key solutions that address the supply chain crisis and urge the use of Florida ports to alleviate the severe back-up of cargo into the U.S.

Infrastructure Work Zone Safety

There has been an increase in the number of severe injuries and fatalities across Florida's infrastructure sector. Along roadway construction sites or projects in our ports, the men and women who play a vital role in the state's infrastructure industry are subject to the perilous hazards of distracted or impaired drivers. In the asphalt roadbuilding industry alone, there were a number of fatalities in 2019 all along Florida's roadways. AIF's position has always been that a single fatality is simply one too many. There have been various proposals over the years to reclaim safety in these working environments, and AIF will continue to support these measures.

Both local and state governments should seek stiffer penalties for distracted or impaired drivers. Speed cameras in construction zones and higher monetary fines should all be considered.



Attendees at the 2023 Florida Business Forum in Tallahassee.

The state should also consider increasing safety driving course requirements and a statewide educational campaign centered around safe driving measures.

AIF SUPPORTS promoting increased safety measures intended to curb distracted or impaired driving around Florida's infrastructure work zones and projects. Increasing enforcement, monetary fines and additional safe driving efforts should all be considered.

Emergency Declarations

From hurricanes to pandemics, emergency situations have significant impacts on Florida's businesses. Working through these emergencies has helped Florida become a leader in emergency management. As Florida is particularly susceptible to hurricanes, the state needs to continue to improve its response.

AIF SUPPORTS measures to reasonably streamline emergency functions during a State of Emergency. **AIF SUPPORTS** automatic statutory extensions for the payment of state taxes upon the issuance of a State of Emergency by the Governor.

Liquefied Natural Gas

Federal and international maritime regulations are beginning to shift fueling demands for shipping and cruise vessels. To help meet those demands in a safe, effective, cost-saving manner, **AIF SUPPORTS** efforts to study and promote the supply of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Florida's ports.

Critical Habitat Designation for Rice's Whale

In 2021, the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS), a division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) under the U.S. Department of Commerce, recently issued a proposed rule that would expand the critical habitat for the Rice's whale from Florida all the way across Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas over to the U.S./Mexico border. This newly proposed zone encompasses approximately 6 million acres and intersects with key shipping lanes for Florida's ports.

The impacts of expanding this habitat will be felt across the

Gulf of Mexico from vessels supporting offshore oil and gas operations, commercial fisheries, renewable energy developers, cruise lines, port and cargo operations, not to mention the U.S. economy. Much of Florida's business community could face increased regulatory processes as it relates to the critical habitat area, with consumers likely bearing the brunt of the cost.

AIF OPPOSES the proposed rule to expand the critical habitat of the Rice's whale because of the limited and questionable scientific data and the negative impacts of increased regulations for businesses and consumers.

Infrastructure Funding

Roadways and bridges are critical links to communities and essential connections for consumers, commerce, and trade. Strategic investments in this infrastructure are fundamental to building resiliency and promoting economic growth. **AIF SUPPORTS** targeted infrastructure investments in roads and bridges to ensure Florida remains competitive in a regional, national, and global economy.

AIF SUPPORTS working with the Governor and FDOT to prioritize funding to advance critical infrastructure projects that are long overdue and/or trailing far behind regional or industry growth due. A lack of funding or bureaucratic red tape will erode Florida's position in industry as the leading solution to supply chain issues and logistics.

For example, widening SR 528 eastbound and replacing State Road 401's functionally obsolete bridges will provide reliable, unencumbered access for military personnel and material, ensure the flow of strategic fuel supplies for the state's commercial space and military defense operations at NASA, Kennedy Space Center, and military installations e.g., Cape Canaveral Space Force Station and U.S. Navy Naval Ordnance Test Unit.

Visit [AIF.com](https://aif.com) for more.

From: [Cecile Entleitner](#)
Subject: CAGTC: Registration Now Open for the 2024 CAGTC Annual Meeting!
Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 12:38:50 PM

Dear CAGTC Members,

-
Join us in Washington, DC on May 15 & 16 for CAGTC's 2024 Annual Meeting! Our meeting will take place at the AC Hotel Washington DC Capitol Hill Navy Yard, just blocks from USDOT and Capitol Hill. May 15 will be open to the public, with our rooftop Goods Movement Reception taking place that evening. May 16 is reserved for CAGTC members only (that includes your Board of Directors and any staff at your organization as well as your Washington-based representation). Both days are free to attend. As always, we will have an exciting schedule of events planned for you – please stay tuned for agenda updates and other event details!

Register for the 2024 CAGTC Annual Meeting by clicking [here](#).

Hotel information

CAGTC has secured a block of rooms at the AC Hotel Washington DC Capitol Hill Navy Yard (a Marriott property) on the evenings of May 14 and May 15. The guaranteed rate is \$309 per night for bookings made under the block through April 19, 2024. *Please note that our hotel block sold out quickly last year; we encourage you to make your arrangements as soon as possible.* **Reservations can be made online [here](#) or by calling 202-984-2454.** If you are reserving by phone, please identify yourself as a member of the Coalition for America's Gateways & Trade Corridors Annual Event group.

Sponsorship for the 2024 Annual Meeting: Your sponsorship allows us to keep the Annual Meeting free and open to the public, ensuring that our freight message is heard by transportation decision makers in Washington D.C. and across the country. Please see the list of available sponsorships, as well as the benefits each levels receives, below and please let me know if your organization can contribute. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

- **Platinum Sponsorship: \$6,000**
 - Prominent display on all meeting materials and signage
 - Special recognition as a Platinum Sponsor in CAGTC remarks
 - Speaking/Introductory role for VIP attendee
 - Platinum sponsors will also have their organization logos placed on conference keepsake
- **Gold Sponsorship: \$4,000**
 - Prominent display on all meeting materials and signage
 - Special recognition as a Gold Sponsor in CAGTC remarks
 - Speaking/Introductory role for VIP attendee
- **Silver Sponsorship: \$2,500**
 - Prominent display on all meeting materials and signage
 - Special recognition as a Silver Sponsor in CAGTC remarks
- **Bronze Sponsorship: \$1,500**
 - Prominent display on all meeting materials and signage

We look forward to seeing you in Washington!

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Florida Secretary of Commerce J. Alex Kelly Appoints Seven to the SelectFlorida Board of Director

Dec 20, 2023

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Today, Florida Secretary of Commerce J. Alex Kelly announced the first SelectFlorida Board of Directors, appointing Greg Britton chair and Jennifer Conoley, Beth Kigel, Nick Primrose, Michael Simas, Kelly Smallridge and Mark Wilson to the board.

SelectFlorida was formed and founded in 2023 to lead the state's international commerce functions under FloridaCommerce following the signing of House Bill 5. SelectFlorida serves as a catalyst for economic development by promoting Florida as a premier business destination and expanding the state's economic power through private-sector job creation.

Greg Britton

Greg Britton is the State Director for the Florida Small Business Development Center Network. Britton most recently served as Chief Operations Officer at DEFENSEWERX and the Director of the Division of Strategic Business Development at the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. He received a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from Trine University.

Jennifer Conoley

Jennifer Conoley serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Florida's Great Northwest, the regional economic development organization for the county region of Florida's panhandle. She is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) with the International Economic Development Council and a Master Economic Development Practitioner with the Advanced Economic Development Leadership program. Conoley has been promoting Northwest Florida for economic development, attracting quality companies, and fostering new job creation since 2009. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication from Florida State University.

Beth Kigel

Beth Kigel serves as Vice President and Director of Smart and Connected Solutions at the HNTB corporation. Previously, Kigel served as President and Executive Officer of the Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce, covering a 10-municipality region with 850 member organizations. Kigel received her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida and her Master of Business Administration at the University of Central Florida.

Nick Primrose

Nick Primrose serves as the Chief of Regulatory Compliance at Jacksonville Port Authority. Previously, Primrose served as Deputy General Counsel for Governor Ron DeSantis and General Counsel for the State of Florida's Division of Emergency Management. Primrose received his undergraduate degree from Lake Forest College, a Master of Public Administration from DePaul University and his juris doctor from Barry University.

Michael Simas

Michael Simas is the President & CEO of The Florida Council of 100. Previously, he served as Executive Vice President of the Partnership for New York City. Simas is a corporate and nonprofit executive with nearly 20 years of experience advising Chief Executive Officers and working with public, private and nonprofit partners to mobilize private sector resources in support of economic growth and innovation.

Kelly Smallridge

Kelly Smallridge serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County. Smallridge received her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida.

Mark Wilson

Mark Wilson serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Florida Chamber of Commerce. In his role, Wilson works with business leaders to create a business climate that generates prosperity and high-paying jobs, vibrant communities and global competitiveness. Prior to joining the Florida Chamber of Commerce, Wilson served as vice president of the Chicagoland Chamber and previously served with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Wilson received his undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia and earned the national designation Certified Chamber Executive.



SelectFlorida International Trade Development
FY 2024/2025 Calendar of Events



EXTERNAL - SelectFlorida, International Trade & Development,
FY2023/2024 & 2024/2025 Calendar of Events

START	END	EVENT NAME	LOCATION	REGION	INDUSTRY SECTOR(S)	CONTACT
January 20, 2024	January 28, 2024	Boot Dusseldorf	Dusseldorf, Germany	Europe	Marine Industry	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602
January 29, 2024	February 1, 2024	Arab Health 2024	Dubai, UAE	Africa & The Middle East	Life Sciences	Michael Schiffhauer 407-956-5634
February 20, 2024	February 23, 2024	Singapore Air Show	Singapore	Asia & The Pacific	Aviation, Aeropsce & Defense	Mike Cooney 407-956-5639
February 28, 2024	March 3, 2024	Dubai International Boat Show	Dubai, UAE	Africa & The Middle East	Marine Industry	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602
March 5, 2024	March 7, 2024	Intermodal South America	São Paulo, Brazil	Latin America & The Caribbean	Logistics	Fernando J. Ramon 305-808-3668
April 22, 2024	April 26, 2024	Hannover Industrial Fair	Hannover, Germany	Europe	Best Products	John Diep 561-832-8339
May 21, 2024	May 24, 2024	Hospitalar 2024	São Paulo, Brazil	Latin America & The Caribbean	Life Sciences	Michael Schiffhauer 407-956-5634
May 23, 2024	May 26, 2024	Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show	Sanctuary Cove, Australia	Asia & The Pacific	Marine Industry	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602
June 3, 2024	June 7, 2024	Export Sales Mission to India	Mumbai & Chennai	Asia & The Pacific	Best Prospects	Alejandra Henao 305-808-3670
July 22, 2024	July 26, 2024	Farnbrough Airshow 2024	Farnbrough, UK	Europe	Aviation, Aeropsce & Defense	Mike Cooney 407-956-5639
August 5, 2024	August 8, 2024	Export Sales Mission to Chile (TBA)	Santiago, Chile	Latin America & The Caribbean	Best Prospects	Alejandra Henao 305-808-3670
September 11, 2024	September 13, 2024	Asia Medical Fair - Singapore	Singapore	Asia & The Pacific	Life Sciences	Michael Schiffhauer 407-956-5634
September 16, 2024	September 20, 2024	Export Sales Mission to Vietnam (TBD)	Hanoi, Vietnam	Asia & The Pacific	Best Prospects	John Diep 561-832-8339
October 23, 2024	October 24, 2024	MRO Europe	Barcelona, Spain	Europe	Aviation, Aeropsce & Defense	Mike Cooney 407-956-5639
November 11, 2024	November 14, 2024	Medica 2024	Dusseldorf, Germany	Europe	Life Sciences	Michael Schiffhauer 407-956-5634
November 19, 2024	November 21, 2024	Marine Equipment Trade Show (METS)	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Europe	Marine Industry	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602



SelectFlorida International Trade Development FY 2024/2025 Calendar of Events

START	END	EVENT NAME	LOCATION	REGION	INDUSTRY SECTOR(S)	CONTACT
January 18, 2025	January 26, 2025	Boot Dusseldorf	Dusseldorf, Germany	Europe	Marine Industry	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602
January 27, 2025	January 30, 2025	Arab Health 2025	Dubai, UAE	Africa & The Middle East	Life Sciences	Michael Schiffhauer 407-956-5634
February 10, 2025	February 12, 2025	Export Sales Mission to Trinidad & Tobago (TBA)	Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago	Latin America & The Caribbean	Best Prospects	Fernando J. Ramon 305-808-3668
February 26, 2025	March 2, 2025	Dubai International Boat Show	Dubai, UAE	Africa & The Middle East	Marine Industry	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602
March 11, 2025	March 15, 2025	Export Sales Mission to Argentina	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Latin America & The Caribbean	Best Prospects	Alejandra Henao 305-808-3670
March 31, 2025	April 4, 2025	Hannover Industrial Fair	Hannover, Germany	Europe	Machinery, Industrial technology	John Diep 561-832-8339
April 7, 2025	April 8, 2025	Intermodal South America (TBA)	São Paulo, Brazil	Latin America & The Caribbean	Logistics	Fernando J. Ramon 305-808-3668
April 22, 2025	April 25, 2025	Export Sales Mission to UAE	Dubai & Abu Dhabi, UAE	Middle east	Best Prospects	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602
May 22, 2025	May 25, 2025	Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show (TBA)	Sanctuary Cove, Australia	Asia & The Pacific	Marine Industry	Joseph Bell 407-956-5602
May 20, 2025	May 23, 2025	Hospitalar 2025	São Paulo, Brazil	Latin America & The Caribbean	Life Sciences	Michael Schiffhauer 407-956-5634
May 26, 2025	May 28, 2025	Export Sales Mission to the Dominican Republic (TBD)	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	Latin America & The Caribbean	Best Prospects	Alejandra Henao 305-808-3670
June 16, 2025	June 20, 2025	Paris Airshow 2025	Paris, France	Europe	Aviation, Aerospace & Defense	Mike Cooney 407-956-5639

WHERE WE STAND

UNITING BUSINESS FOR GOOD

The Florida Chamber's 2024
Jobs and Competitiveness Agenda

**FLORIDA
CHAMBER**
of Commerce

2024

Florida is Made for Trade: Make More, Move More and Multiply the Impacts

The Florida Chamber has led the effort to increase international trade, increase the number of exports and increase foreign direct investment by releasing recommendations and goals in the Florida 2030 Blueprint and by building on previous policy objectives in the Trade & Logistics 2030 report. In order to double goods exports and triple services exports by 2030, the Florida Chamber supports increasing state funding to support international trade and marketing, strengthening and growing Florida's manufacturing sector (which now is top 10 in the nation), and focusing the attention of state policy makers on the importance of international trade, manufacturing and its supply chain. Additionally, with the continued disruption of the supply chain, labor market concerns and international tensions, the Florida Chamber supports opportunities to attract domestic and foreign manufacturers, new trade routes and other key industries to Florida.

Kevin Carr, CEO, *FloridaMakes* and Adrian Little, Founder & CEO, *JSI Metal Fabrication* discuss Manufacturing in Florida at the 2023 Florida Transportation, Growth & Infrastructure Solution Summit.



Florida Trade & Logistics 2030 study sets the course for Florida's continued leadership in trade, logistics, exported-oriented manufacturing activities, and rural economic growth

Opportunities to make more and move more include:

- Maintaining and expanding investments in Florida's ports, airports, spaceports and intermodal logistics centers to ensure Florida can take advantage of technological advancements and trade routes.
- Strengthening and growing manufacturing in Florida by improving the talent pipeline, relieving regulatory and financial burdens, and providing support services for small and medium-sized manufacturers.
- Supporting the recommendations contained within the Florida Chamber Foundation's Trade & Logistics 2030 report, including the creation of a Chief Manufacturing Officer within Florida's leadership to coordinate and respond to the opportunities and challenges facing the industry's continued growth.
- Increasing the annual allocation for the state Research & Development Tax Credit so more qualified companies can participate as a further incentive to innovate here in Florida.
- Increasing funding to support the state's international programs, including export diversification and expansion programs and the creation of export marketing plans for small and medium-sized businesses.
- Taking advantage of current market disruptions to bring new manufacturers, supply chains and trade routes to Florida.

“The trade and logistics industry is quickly evolving, and the strength and well-being of Florida's manufacturing economy is inextricably connected to its success.”

Kevin Carr, CEO, *FloridaMakes*

Improving Florida's Infrastructure for Smart Growth and Development

Transportation & Infrastructure Investments: Moving Millions More People and Goods

As Florida continues to grow both in population and economic activity, the Florida Chamber will continue to promote a robust, safe, resilient, and modern transportation system that responds to the latest technological advancements and emerging trends. The Florida Chamber supports a wide range of mobility options – from walkable communities to shared vehicles to passenger rail – to resourcefully move Floridians and visitors around the state and goods to markets. For years, local and state governments have prioritized our infrastructure system, which ranks among the best in the nation. However, the projected addition of 2.5 million more drivers on our roads by 2030 and millions more goods being delivered with the rise of e-commerce requires forward-thinking investments in our logistics and transportation systems to keep Florida competitive and connected.



The Florida Chamber supports:

- Investing in our roadways, railways, airports, seaports, and spaceports to accommodate growth in demand for trade, talent, and visitors.
- Leading in the research and deployment of new transportation technologies and modes, such as autonomous, connected, and electric vehicles, through impactful Florida Chamber coalitions like Autonomous Florida with our partners.
- Co-located corridor developments to expand trade capacity and better connect rural communities with the urban centers of the state to promote rural economic prosperity.

- Minimizing regulatory roadblocks on all infrastructure projects to lower costs and increase efficiency.
- Reducing congestion and maintaining roadways through updated funding, pricing, or smarter data sharing models.
- Resiliency efforts that incentivize private sector contributions and protect Florida's critical infrastructure, including but not limited to the electric grid, pipeline and transmission systems, water supply and telecommunications from cyber and physical threats.
- Linking Florida's trade and visitor gateways to inland corridors to enable efficient global supply chains and delivery networks.
- The implementation of the recommendations of the *Trade and Logistics 2030 Report*.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce opposes raids on Florida's Transportation Trust Fund to be used for non- transportation related purposes.



Beth Kigel, Chair of Autonomous Florida and VP, *HNTB*, and **Michelle Maikisch**, Executive Director, *Central Florida Expressway Authority* discussing the future of transportation and innovation during the 2023 Florida Chamber Foundation Future of Florida Forum.

Florida Ports Council - Portfolio Partnership Proposal

Prepared by Brenna Dacks, Regional Partnership Manager, VISIT FLORIDA
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Account Name	Affiliation Level	Physical City	County	Annual Partnership Investment	* Annual Portfolio Partnership Investment (15% discounted rate)
Florida Ports Council	Small Business Partnership	Tallahassee	Leon	\$ 475.00	\$ -
Port Everglades	Port Partnership	Fort Lauderdale	Broward	\$ 600.00	\$ 510.00
Tampa Port Authority	Port Partnership	Tampa	Hillsborough	\$ 600.00	\$ 510.00
Port of Key West	Port Partnership	Key West	Monroe	\$ 600.00	\$ 510.00
Port of Palm Beach	Port Partnership	Riviera Beach	Palm Beach	\$ 600.00	\$ 510.00
PortMiami	Port Partnership	Miami	Miami-Dade	\$ 600.00	\$ 510.00
** Canaveral Port Authority	Port Partnership	Cape Canaveral	Brevard	\$ 600.00	\$ 510.00
Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT)	Port Partnership	Jacksonville	Duval	\$ 600.00	\$ 510.00
Total				\$ 4,675.00	\$ 3,570.00

A full list of Partner benefits can be found at [VISITFLORIDA.org/benefits](https://www.visitflorida.org/benefits). Please note that Ports have a special enrollment rate of \$600 (instead of the Premier Partnership rate of \$1,795 that is outlined on the benefits sheet).

* 15% portfolio discounted rate and complimentary Partnership for the Florida Ports Council is contingent upon entire portfolio enrolling under one invoice.

** Note - Canaveral Port Authority is currently a VISIT FLORIDA Partner paid through 1/31/2024. If they renew on their own prior to the portfolio joining, we can work with you to adjust their enrollment accordingly.

Tab 9

Other Issues

Tab 10

Adjournment