



ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

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Memorandum

TO: Mayor & Town Council

FROM: Kenneth S. Cohen, Acting Town Administrator 

SUBJECT: Legislative Issue Outline

DATE: March 3, 2006

The attached Legislative Issue Outline has been prepared and will be presented to you at the March 29th Town Council meeting as a presentation by David Sigerson with Erick's Consulting.

Please review and advise if there are issues you wish to remove as no longer a priority of the Town, or if there are any new issues you would like to add to the current list.

KSC:cmo
Attachment

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 28, 2006

TO: Ken Cohen, Acting Town Manager
Town of Davie

FROM: David K. Sigerson, Jr., Dave Ericks & Candice Ericks

SUBJECT: Legislative Issue Outline

The following is a brief overview and outline of issues that could have an impact or are historically matters of interest to the Town of Davie. This outline is a work in progress and will continue to be updated as legislative events unfold.

I. Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA).

- A. Substantive Law proposed changes. For several years now the Florida Association of Counties has been attempting to change the CRA law (ch. 163, F.S.) to either limit municipal CRAs or assert a greater degree of county control over them.
- B. Eminent Domain – As a result of the *Kelo* decision, the Legislature is looking a ways to protect Florida property owners from what is viewed as the excessive use of eminent domain by municipalities (through CRA's) for what is viewed as economic development purposes.

II. Emergency Preparedness/Storm cleanup reimbursement.

- A. The Governor has unveiled a major emergency preparedness initiative and budget proposals, including a reorganization of regions and availability of competitive grant money.
- B. Storm cleanup – House and Senate Domestic Security committees have indicated a willingness to consider continuation of the local government storm cleanup reimbursement program. However, the source of funding for this program could be an issue for cities and counties.

III. Workforce and Affordable Housing. Due to the dramatic increase in property values and the resulting cost increase of housing and the Fed generated increase in housing finance, the Legislature is reviewing its affordable housing programs and strategies. The emergence of the term "workforce housing" is recognition of the fact that traditional approaches have been either

ineffective or insufficient.

IV. Growth Management/Transportation. Last year the Legislature passed SB 360 a major growth management initiative (and funding). This year SB 360 is being reviewed (for glitches) and new policy issues will be discussed. Ken Cohen brought the 595 corridor issue to our attention and we will follow up with appropriate agencies (and the Legislature if appropriate). The sound wall issue was also discussed at our recent meeting with staff concerning the MPO's recent adoption of a resolution to ask that decibel level be used to determine need (vs using road widening). Although this is a Federal issue we will contact congressional contacts to follow up.

V. Other Issues (will be discussed in updated memo):

A. Water & wastewater policy and regulation.

We are constantly on the lookout for legislation that might be used to bring about reform to the state's surcharge law.

B. Windstorm insurance rates.

Two big issues: 1. Coastal Zone Boundary adjustment

2. Citizens Insurance Co. Actuarial Stabilization. Task Force considering Million-dollar policy limit as means of reducing exposure. Also need for cash infusion, as reserve level is low.

C. Statewide building code & municipal code enforcement.

Ken Cohen has alerted us to the need for reform of Broward County's local rules regarding licensure of building inspectors.

D. Impact fees.

Legislative discussions continue with respect to impact fee reform, which bears monitoring.

E. Economic development.

Dave Ericks is working on appropriations with FAU that would benefit the Education complex within Davie consistent with the RAC designation achieved several years ago.

F. Franchise fees & siting for utilities & communications.

Legislation affecting the siting of electronic substations will be considered that could limit local government control. Legislation affecting communication franchising will also be considered this session involving cable companies and phone companies that will bear close watching.

G. Portability of "Save our Homes" is an issue that will generate much discussion this up coming Legislative Session. Although Council may be sympathetic with the problem, this issue has the potential to limit local ad valorem revenue.

H. Another issue that will come up this Session is the sex offender/predator 2500-foot legislation.

VI. Local Bills – Broadview Park.

The timing of the implementation of this local bill is a concern. A provision added to the bill by

Rep. Ryan requires that the county must enter into an interlocal agreement with Davie prior to the bill becoming effective.

VII State Appropriations Requests.

- A. Pine Island Park Water Play Area: \$200,000 – FRDAP
- B. 100 KW Portable Generator: \$49,000 – Emergency Management Preparedness Assistance Trust Fund (seek at least \$5 million EMPA state funding – return to 2003 level.
- C. Guardrail Installation for 8 canal roads: \$3.3 million – Community Budget Request. Rep. Ryan/Sen. Geller. Rep's Sobel, Davis and other Delegation members will be contacted.
- D. Portable Generator (100 KW) for emergency response purposes: \$50,000. Rep.'s Goldstein and Ryan and Sen's Geller and Rich.