



TOWN OF CUTLER BAY

2020

STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Mayor Tim Meerbott
Vice Mayor Sue Ellen Loyzelle
Council Member Robert “BJ” Duncan
Council Member Michael P. Callahan
Council Member Roger Coriat
Town Manager Rafael G. Casals



Photo Courtesy of Florida Politics



TOWN OF CUTLER BAY LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

- ❖ State Government should focus on state-level issues and allow local governments to operate with minimal state interference. The Town of Cutler Bay will oppose legislation that increases the involvement of state government in municipal affairs and preempts local governing prerogatives.
- ❖ For Florida's economy to prosper, cities need to succeed. The Town of Cutler Bay will promote state investments in municipal infrastructure in order to create jobs and promote municipal revitalization. This will include funding for wastewater and stormwater improvements, local transportation projects, park and recreational activities, green technologies, and energy-saving initiatives.
- ❖ State Government should not be allowed to continue disrupting the relationship between citizens and their city elected officials' authority to make decisions impacting the provision of municipal services and quality of life. The Town of Cutler Bay will oppose additional arbitrary limits on property assessments, municipal expenditures, and local revenues.
- ❖ State mandates should be funded with state resources and should not seek to access local tax dollars. The Town of Cutler Bay will oppose unfunded mandates and support policies that require full funding of state initiatives and mandates to cities.



LEGISLATION SUPPORTS

- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** the South Florida Water Management District **AND** the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project. The Cutler Wetlands re-establishes connectivity between coastal and near shore wetlands and hydrates areas susceptible to hyper saline conditions including a pump station, culverts and a spreader canal. The intent of the South Florida Water Management District and the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project is to rehydrate coastal wetlands and reduce freshwater point source discharges to Biscayne Bay. In addition, the project will replace lost overland flow and partially compensate for the reduction in groundwater seepage by redistributing available surface water entering the area from regional canals through a spreader canal system.
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** legislation that strengthens Municipal Home Rule which is essential in reflecting the needs and desires of local communities. (Town Resolution No. 17-19). Furthermore, the Town of Cutler Bay **supports** legislation that allows local municipalities to regulate businesses such as short-term rental platforms such as Airbnb, HomeAway, Craigslist, etc.
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** state and local economic development efforts and urges Enterprise Florida, the Small Business Development Network, and other similar state entities to focus on the needs of local communities with regard to the revitalization of their business core and job creation efforts.
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** urges the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to continue funding the Urban Forestry Program to provide technical assistance and funding for the greening of communities.
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** the urging of the Florida Legislature to propose an amendment to Florida Statute § 403.7033 to allow local legislative efforts to address and regulate auxiliary containers, wrappings, and disposable bags and adopt the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's "Retail Bags Report for the Florida Legislature" (Town Resolution No. 19-69).

- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** legislation to reform Florida’s sales and use tax that apply to online sales from out of state retailers.
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** the legalization and regulation of marijuana for recreational use (Town Resolution No. 19-52).
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** the urging of the State Legislature to initiate a study of the health effects of small cell towers built to accommodate 5G technology and to develop installation guidelines protecting the health and welfare of residents (Town Resolution No. 19-33).
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** its policy statement, seeking to control and manage its Ordinance process with regard to short term rentals and the ability to enact reasonable standards supported by the community.
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** strengthening the prohibition on existing and new unfunded mandates, requires enhanced staff analyses of quantification of the costs to cities, and ensures full state funding sources be assigned whenever unfunded mandates are identified.
- ❖ The Town of Cutler Bay **supports** the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Board’s 2020 State of Florida Legislative Program (Town Resolution No. 19-82).

2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES SESSION DATES

November 4 – 8, 2019:	Interim Committee Week
November 12 – 15, 2019:	Interim Committee Week
November 15, 2019:	House Appropriations Bill Deadline
December 9 – 13, 2019:	Interim Committee Week
January 14, 2020 – March 13, 2020:	Legislative Session