

# Legislative Positions 2014



LAKE COUNTY  
FLORIDA

# Legislative Positions for 2014

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# LAKE COUNTY FLORIDA

## Legislative Position

### **Support the Funding for Lake Tech Center for Advanced Manufacturing**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners (LCBCC) requests the Lake County Delegation request / support funding for the Lake Tech Center for Advanced Manufacturing

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

Over the last year and half Lake County Economic Development Staff has visited over 500 local businesses to determine their workforce needs. The site visits revealed one very consistent theme. Lake County is in desperate need of skilled manufacturing labor. Specific skills in extremely high demand are welders, CNC machinists, fabricators, shop workers, quality control and production supervisors. Florida manufacturers are a prevailing economic engine for the state's economy. Many Florida manufacturing operations benefit from the presence of advanced research facilities at Florida's universities and colleges, military installations and NASA. The industry cluster counts nearly 18,000 manufacturers who employ some 311,300 workers across the state. Florida's manufacturing industries are diverse and include companies in traditional manufacturing industries, such as plastics, food processing and printing, as well as those that are engaged in breakthrough technologies such as electronics, medical devices and aviation/aerospace.

With the highest concentration of manufacturing employees in all of Central Florida, Lake County's economy is especially sensitive to the needs of the manufacturing sector, which currently accounts for almost 7 percent of Lake County's workforce, making it Lake County's second-largest industry sector. Lake County always has had a strong manufacturing heritage and manufacturing has played and will continue to play a vital role in Lake County's economic development strategy. Unfortunately, however, there is a serious shortage of skilled workers/technicians in the manufacturing field, which is inhibiting the growth potential in the sector.

Manufacturing, machining and welding are increasingly high-tech skills requiring postsecondary training/certifications. Welders and machinists must be able to operate robots and other automated systems that use lasers, electronic beams, highly computerized machines and complex software programs that are vital to the successful operation of the processes. More and more companies are searching for workers who are skilled in these new systems as the technology continues to evolve and as the aging workforce enters retirement.

Lake County's proposed solution to the workforce issues facing Central Florida and the State of Florida is to develop a regionally serving manufacturing incubator and advanced manufacturing and IT training program within the county. This would enable Lake County to support local manufacturing and IT businesses and attract new manufacturing employers to the region in a way that historically has been unachievable. Such a program could be further enhanced through a partnership with Lake County's Lake Technical Center (Lake Tech), which would create a seamless strategy for providing workers with state-of-the-art training, early-stage manufacturing and IT companies with the tools, training and infrastructure they need to create financially stable companies.

The goal will be job creation and business development, and the skilled workforce will be ready for employment. In addition, the training provided in the facility will also provide a skilled workforce for those manufacturing and IT companies that already are established in the region, but who are searching for workers. The combination of classroom and workplace learning is the ideal instructional strategy in order to prepare the 21st-century middle skilled employee. The Center will use 3-D simulators as much as feasibly possible to make the training as economical as possible.

**APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$2,000,000 for the Lake Technical Center (Lake Tech) main campus in Eustis, Florida for the Center for Advanced Manufacturing.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

\$2,000,000.00

**STAFF CONTACT**

Name: Robert Chandler  
Department: Lake County Economic Development & Tourism Department  
Phone: (352) 742-3918  
Email: [rhandler@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:rhandler@lakecountyfl.gov)



### Legislative Position

#### **Funding for Wellness Way - 4 lane road capacity project from US 27 to SR 429**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Delegation support funding for the new Wellness Way corridor from US 27 to SR 429.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$1,250,000.00 from the Florida Legislature for the PD&E phase for Wellness Way. The Wellness Way corridor is in the City of Clermont, unincorporated Lake County, and Orange County, and will connect US 27 to the SR 429 Expressway in Orange County. This project will improve traffic circulation and most importantly will support a regionally significant employment center in South Lake County. Lake County is currently conducting a 16,000 acre sector plan. The proposed 4 lanes Wellness Way will be the major arterial roadway supported by other collector roads in the 16,000 acre sector plan that will provide economic benefit to Lake County and surrounding counties

Lake County is requesting funding for the Wellness Way PD&E Study phase from US 27 to SR 429 in Orange County.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$1,250,000.00 for the Wellness Way PD&E Study phase from US 27 to SR 429 in Orange County. Requests for other funding sources will be based on feedback from the Florida Legislature.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

\$1,250,000.00

#### **STAFF CONTACT**

Noble Olasimbo, AICP  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9092  
Email: [nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov)

#### **PROJECT DIRECTOR**

Mr. Jim Stivender, Director of Public Works  
Phone: 352-483-9000,  
437 Ardice Avenue, Eustis, Florida, 32726



# LAKE COUNTY

## FLORIDA

### Legislative Position

#### **Maintain State Aid to Libraries Operating Grant Appropriations**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Legislative Delegation's continued support of the State Aid to Libraries Operating Grant program funding. The Board of County Commissioners understands how difficult it has been to balance the state budget over the past few years and greatly appreciates the efforts of the Lake County Delegation to maintain its support of State Aid funding.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The State Aid to Libraries Operating Grant program is a continuing State grant program, authorized under Chapter 257, Florida Statutes. State Aid provides financial encouragement for all 67 counties to provide freely accessible public library services to those taxed for the service. It fosters the growth and innovation of new ideas to provide library and information services to the residents of Florida based on local service plans. The law authorizes a match of up to 25 cents on each dollar of local expenditure for library services. The state match reached a high of 11 cents on the dollar in FY 98/99 and has steadily declined since then to about 2.5 cents on the dollar. Last year the appropriation for the entire state was \$22,298,834. Thanks to the support of the Florida Legislature during the last session, the allocation to Lake County actually increases from \$197,421 in FY 12/13 to an estimated \$200,000 for FY 13/14.

In Lake County the State Aid grant funds are used to support system-wide technology infrastructure including public access computers, subscriptions to online reference databases for public use, and county-wide literacy programs. At the same time that citizens are in greater need of government services, public libraries are increasingly the "go to" place when Floridians need to access the internet and receive government services. This money also supports education and reading as libraries are the safety net that insures school and life success for learners of all ages. With this money, libraries also help the local economy and growth by providing economic development resources to small businesses and job seekers, and by implementing new technology and innovative solutions.

Additionally, an appropriation at last year's level makes it possible for the state to receive approximately \$8 million in federal Library Services and Technology Act grants. This money funds many statewide services that directly affect local citizens, such as the Florida Electronic Library reference web site and the Ask-A-Librarian chat reference service.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

At a minimum, the funding level should be maintained at \$22,298,834 in recurring and non-recurring funds. We strongly support working towards the restoration of State Aid to \$33.4 million, the level last appropriated in FY 2001.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Any additional reduction of State Aid to Libraries would further endanger Lake County's ability to provide online services to the public and to continue programming to children, teenagers, and adults.

## **STAFF CONTACT**

Name: Wendy R. Breeden, Director  
Department: Lake County Public Resources Department  
Phone: (352) 253-6150  
E-mail: [wbreeden@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:wbreeden@lakecountyfl.gov)

Name: Paul Alford, Library Services Division Manager  
Department: Lake County Public Resources Department  
Phone: (352) 253-6180  
E-Mail: [palford@lakeline.lib.fl.us](mailto:palford@lakeline.lib.fl.us)



# LAKE COUNTY FLORIDA

## Legislative Position

### **Provide Adequate Funding to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities for the Medicaid-Waiver Program**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests that the Legislature adequately fund the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) so it will be able to pay the rates for the Medicaid-Waiver clients that are established in the transportation disadvantaged service plans or the negotiated statewide contract pursuant to Chapter 427.0135.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

Florida Statute Chapter 427.0135 (2) states that “Purchasing Agencies are required to pay the rates established in the service plan or negotiated statewide contract, unless the purchasing agency has completed the procedure for using an alternative provider and demonstrated that a proposed alternative provider can provide a more cost-effective transportation service of comparable quality and standards or unless the agency has satisfied the requirements of subsection 3.”

(3) Not procure transportation disadvantaged services without initially negotiating with the commission, as provided in s. 287.057(5)(f)13, or unless otherwise authorized by statute. If the purchasing agency, after consultation with the commission, determines that it cannot reach mutually acceptable contract terms with the commission, the purchasing agency may contract for the same transportation services provided in a more cost-effective manner and of comparable or higher quality and standards. The Medicaid agency shall implement this subsection in a manner consistent with s. 409.908(18) and as otherwise limited or directed by the General Appropriations Act.

Currently Lake County provides trips under the Medicaid-Waiver Program for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD). Lake County is being reimbursed at a rate far lower than its actual trip costs.

During the 2012/13 State fiscal year Lake County provided 11,912 trips to Med-Waiver clients. The County paid their contractor, MV Transportation, \$210,246.80 for providing those trips and received \$122,997.35 in reimbursement from the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

Based upon the Rate Model established by the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged the County’s actual trip cost for those trips was \$258,371.28 (\$21.69 per trip x 11,912 trips).

Based on the County’s reimbursements of \$122,997.35 the County will have a deficit of \$135,373.93. The County has continued to support this program because it serves some of its most vulnerable residents, however, the County is requesting that the Agency for Persons with Disabilities pay the fully allocated trip cost of this service.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

To comply with the mandate of Chapter 427.0135 to ensure that adequate funds are appropriated on a statewide level for each Community Transportation Coordinator to be paid the rates established in their Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan for transporting Med-Waiver clients.

The County is requesting that the Legislature fund Lake County Med-Waiver clients at a minimum \$258,371.28 to sustain this service.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The estimated fiscal impact for Lake County is estimated at \$258,371.28.

**STAFF CONTACT**

Name: Kenneth Harley, Public Transportation Manager  
Department: Lake County Community Services Department  
Phone: (352) 323-5713  
Email: [Kharley@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:Kharley@lakecountyfl.gov)



# LAKE COUNTY FLORIDA

## Legislative Position Housing Trust Fund Monies to Housing Programs

### POSITION

Lake County is advocating for the appropriation of housing trust fund monies to housing programs. In FY 2013 the money in the housing trust funds was swept into general revenue. Putting housing trust fund money into housing will raise sales tax revenue as the unemployed go back to work in the construction industry, buying materials to refurbish homes and having their own money to buy goods and services. This is in addition to the sales revenues generated by the buyers of the refurbished homes who purchase appliances and furnishings.

### BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION

The landmark William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act, passed in 1992, created a dedicated revenue source by increasing the documentary stamp tax paid on real estate transactions and directing that revenue into Florida's state and local housing trust funds to support housing programs such as SHIP and SAIL. Beginning in 2007, a cap went into effect which statutorily redirected the doc stamp money intended for housing into general revenue, so that once \$243 million had flowed into the housing trust funds all additional monies would automatically be diverted away from housing.

Florida Housing administers the State Housing Initiatives Partnership program (SHIP), which provides funds to local governments as an incentive to create partnerships that produce and preserve affordable homeownership and multifamily housing. The program was designed to serve very low, low and moderate income families. SHIP funds are distributed on an entitlement basis to all 67 counties and 53 Community Development Block Grant entitlement cities in Florida. The minimum allocation is \$350,000 and the maximum allocation is over \$8.8 million. Funding for this program was established by the passage of the 1992 William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act. Funds are allocated to local governments each month on a population-based formula.

### APPROPRIATION

\$243,000,000 Annually from documentary stamp tax revenues statewide.

### FISCAL IMPACT

The annual allocation of SHIP funds for Lake County was \$2,200,000 for FY 13.

### STAFF CONTACT

Name: Dottie Keedy  
Department: Lake County Community Services Department  
Phone: (352) 742-6589  
Email: [dkeedy@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:dkeedy@lakecountyfl.gov)



# LAKE COUNTY

## FLORIDA

### Legislative Position

### **Request for Fuel Spill Remediation and Cleanup Phase II Construction**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners) requests the Lake County Delegation support funding the Fuel Spill Remediation and Cleanup Phase II Construction. This project will assist Lake County to clean up a hazardous fuel spill affecting ground water in Tavares, FL.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The fuel spill occurred in the 1980's due to an underground gasoline storage tank leakage at the county vehicle fueling facility. The fuel contamination has spread rapidly over the last few years and has also reached deep into the surficial aquifer. The fuel spill currently lies wholly on county property located at the County's Solid Waste Facility in Tavares, FL. The County has already invested \$1,000,000 into the project and of that has received \$300,000 from FDEP for the cleanup. These funds have been expended on ground water testing and evaluation, design, and construction of Phase I of the facility. There are no other grant funds available from FDEP or other sources to assist Lake County at this time.

Phase I of the facility has built a curtain wall of wells to pump ground water to a remediation facility which removes the pollutants from the water. The operation of the Phase I program is approximately \$165,000 annually. This operation will never cease until the source of the pollutants is removed at the old storage tank site. The estimated cost over a ten year period to remove the pollutants from the ground water is \$2,500,000. This will include construction of Phase II and operation and maintenance of the system for ten years to finally remove all of the pollutants to an acceptable concentration in the groundwater.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$2.5 Million for a fuel spill remediation and cleanup on County owned property in Tavares.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

\$ 2,500,000.

#### **STAFF CONTACT**

Jim Stivender, Jr.  
Director  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9005  
Email: [jstivender@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:jstivender@lakecountyfl.gov)

Fred Schneider, P.E.  
County Engineer  
Lake County Public Works Dept.  
Phone: (352) 483-9040  
Email: [fschneider@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:fschneider@lakecountyfl.gov)



# LAKE COUNTY FLORIDA

## Legislative Position

### **Funding for Big Prairie Watershed Management Plan**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners wishes to thank the Florida Legislature for its support in funding the Big Prairie Watershed Management Plan. This project will develop an understanding of the capacity of the watershed and conducting an alternative analysis for best management practices to address deficiencies.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners will require funding assistance for the Big Prairie Watershed Management Plan. The improvements will reduce the flooding potential for the residents and enhance the water quality for the watershed.

Big Prairie is generally located in southwest Lake County and extends into Sumter County. The watershed is also divided among two water management districts. The County has submitted a 2015 cooperative funding initiative application to the Southwest Florida Water Management District to cost share within the 4.19 square miles of the watershed within their jurisdiction. The remaining 53.00 square miles are within the St Johns River Water Management District and the purpose of this request is to cost share for the area within their jurisdiction. Sumter County is another partner in this project with Southwest Florida Water Management District and they have completed the work within the 45.94 square miles within Sumter County.

Legislative funding is requested for the watershed management plan which includes the following tasks: survey, data management and development of watershed parameters, GIS processing, computer modeling, floodplain analysis, surface water resource assessment (water quality), establishment of level of service (los), and a best management practice (bmp) alternative analysis.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$370,000 for the Big Prairie Watershed Management Plan. Requests for other sources of funding have been made through the Southwest Florida and St Johns River Water Management Districts.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The total preliminary project cost estimate is \$740,000.

#### **STAFF CONTACT**

Mary Hamilton

Lake County Department of Public Works, Environmental Services Division

Phone: (352)483-9006

Email: [mhamilton@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:mhamilton@lakecountyfl.gov)



# LAKE COUNTY FLORIDA

## Legislative Position

### **Support the Continued Funding for the Aquatic Plant Management Program**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners wishes to thank the Florida Legislature for its continued support for funding the Aquatic Plant Management Program through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Funding of the Aquatic Plant Management Program enables us to continue performing our mandated duties and continues the important eradication and management of invasive exotic aquatic plant species throughout the county.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners will require continued funding assistance for the Aquatic Plant Management Program. The funds will allow us to continue to keep our waterways navigable for residents and tourism.

The **Aquatic Plant Management section** is charged with managing invasive exotic and problematic aquatic plants to minimize flooding situations, restore navigation, and helping to maintain the natural flora of Lake County's aquatic systems.

Legislative funding is requested to continue funding this vital program.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$784,665.00 for the continuation of the Aquatic Plant Management Program.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The total project cost estimate is \$784,665.00

#### **STAFF CONTACT**

Mary Hamilton

Lake County Department of Public Works, Environmental Services Division

Phone: (352)483-9006

Email: [mhamilton@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:mhamilton@lakecountyfl.gov)



# LAKE COUNTY

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## FLORIDA

### Legislative Position

#### **Funding for a Master Plan for South Lake Water Initiative**

#### **POSITION**

Lake County is advocating for the appropriation of monies to fund a Master Plan for the South Lake Water Initiative, a subset of the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI). South Lake County has been identified in the CFWI by the St. Johns River Water Management District. Lake County does not have the staff expertise to adequately monitor the development of the CFWI and therefore needs to hire a consultant to represent the interest of Lake County. Through the development of a Master Plan, Lake County will have evidence to support those initiatives.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The CFWI builds on the prior work of the Central Florida Coordination Area (CFCA). Both efforts focus on an area that includes southern Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Polk counties. The three water management districts, along with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS), regional public water supply utilities and other stakeholders are collaborating to develop a unified process to address central Florida's current and long-term water supply needs.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

\$250,000,000

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **STAFF CONTACT**

Name: Amye King, Director  
Department: Lake County Growth Management Department  
Phone: (352) 343-9647  
Email: [aking@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:aking@lakecountyfl.gov)



# LAKE COUNTY

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## FLORIDA

### Legislative Position

#### **Continued Funding for Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation Program**

#### **POSITION**

Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Legislature continue to appropriate funding at the current level of \$916,228 for the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation (NET) program through the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged.

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

Florida has led the nation as the model for coordinated transportation systems. With the implications of Medicaid Reform it appears that there are some unforeseen consequences on small urban and rural Community Transportation Coordinators (CTC's) which use their Medicaid allocation as a match for their federal grants.

We are making this request because we are able to see some of the adverse effects that removing Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation (NET) from within the managed care model will have on Lake County. We are certainly aware, and supportive, of the benefits of "one stop" care, however, there are some unintended consequences to the coordinated transportation system that should be addressed.

While initially serving as the CTC responsible for all transportation disadvantaged trips, we have gone further for our citizens and developed a wide range of transportation services. To keep costs down, while also increasing services to our population, the County expanded into a fixed route transit system in 2007. LakeXpress, the county's fixed route system currently has four routes. During the 2011/12 fiscal year LakeXpress provided just fewer than 300,000 trips. Rather than utilizing the more expensive door to door service, many transportation disadvantaged riders were able to use LakeXpress to access their jobs, medical appointments, educational opportunities, and training.

Sixty percent of our Medicaid NET trips are shared rides. Shared rides have enabled our county to reduce our cost per trip from \$22.45 in 2010 to \$20.94 in 2012, even in the face of rising fuel and maintenance costs.

Without having the Medicaid trips in the coordinated system, we can document that our costs per trip will increase substantially. In Lake County we provided over 31,000 Medicaid trips in 2012 out of 247,000 total paratransit trips.

Federal rules currently allow Lake County to utilize Medicaid transportation funding as a dollar for dollar match for its federal 5307 grants. These funds provide the County with roughly \$916,228 annually and they are used as part of our local match to leverage our grant funds, and provide a better return on investment to our transit program. The unavailability of these Medicaid dollars means our matching 5307 funds will be lost, resulting in the possibility of the discontinuation of three out of our four fixed routes if we are not able to find local funds to cover this loss of revenue. This will adversely affect over 160,000 passengers.

Without funding to meet this additional need, we anticipate a large increase in unmet trip requests for people who are elderly, and disabled.

We are aware that the State has seen a significant escalation of costs in healthcare and we realize proactive steps have to be taken. However, while overall healthcare costs have grown, the coordinated system has reduced statewide Medicaid NET costs by 13.6% over the previous five years while increasing the number of trips by

21.6%, as determined by annual studies conducted by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. The return on investment is significant.

**APPROPRIATION**

The fiscal impact to Lake County is \$916,228 in Medicaid funds, however, because the funds are being used as a match for the County's Section 5307 funds the overall fiscal impact is \$1,832,456.

State the fiscal impact.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

\$916,228 in Medicaid funds (overall fiscal impact is \$1,832,456)

**STAFF CONTACT**

Name: Kenneth Harley, Public Transportation Manager  
Department: Lake County Community Services Department  
Phone: (352) 323-5713  
Email: [Kharley@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:Kharley@lakecountyfl.gov)



### **Legislative Position**

#### **Funding for N. Hancock Road north from Florida Turnpike (SR 91) interchange to CR 561A**

#### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Delegation support funding for the N. Hancock Road Extension north of the Minneola Turnpike interchange (SR 91)

#### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$10,000,000.00 from the Florida Legislature for the right of way and construction of N. Hancock Road from the Florida Turnpike Minneola Interchange (SR 91) to CR 561A. The North Hancock Road Extension improvement is within the City of Minneola and unincorporated Lake County, and will connect to SR 91. This project will improve traffic circulation for the Hills of Minneola development and other areas of Lake County and most importantly will support a regionally significant employment center in South Lake County and Orange County. The N. Hancock Road project is a vital economic development project for Lake County and Central Florida region. These road improvements are necessary to connect the new Minneola Interchange on the Turnpike to the planned development in the area. The future development adjacent to this interchange has the potential to create 7,400 direct and indirect jobs and over \$1 Billion of economic impact for the region at its completion.

Lake County would like to have the funding in place for the construction of North Hancock Road before the SR 19 Minneola Interchange opening in FY 2016.

#### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$10,000,000 for N. Hancock Road from a new SR 91 (Minneola Interchange) to CR 561A. Requests for other funding sources will be based on feedback from the Florida Legislature.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

\$10,000,000.00

#### **STAFF CONTACT**

Noble Olasimbo, AICP  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9092  
Email: [nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov)

#### **PROJECT DIRECTOR**

Mr. Jim Stivender, Director of Public Works  
Phone: 352-483-9000,  
437 Ardice Avenue, Eustis, Florida, 32726



**Legislative Position**  
**Funding for Wekiva Trail (15 mile multi-use trail)**

**POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Delegation support funding for the proposed Wekiva Trail, a 15-mile, multi-use trail from Mt. Dora in Lake County to Seminole County

**BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$3,250,000.00 from the Florida Legislature for the preliminary engineering phase for the Wekiva Multi Use Trail. The proposed Wekiva Trail project, is a 15-mile, multi-use trail that will provide hikers, cyclists and nature enthusiasts a regional connection between Lake, Seminole and Orange Counties. This trail will ultimately provide a gateway to the shops, restaurants and cultural destinations of the City of Mount Dora, and connect existing trails to thousands of acres of preservation land and destinations such as Rock Springs Run and the Wekiva Springs State Park.

Lake County is requesting funding for the Wekiva Trail Project Preliminary Engineering phase.

**APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$3,250,000 for the Wekiva Trail Project Preliminary Engineering phase. Requests for other funding sources will be based on feedback from the Florida Legislature.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

\$3,250,000.00

**STAFF CONTACT**

Noble Olasimbo, AICP  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9092  
Email: [nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov)

**PROJECT DIRECTOR**

Mr. Jim Stivender, Director of Public Works  
Phone: 352-483-9000,  
437 Ardice Avenue, Eustis, Florida, 32726



### **Legislative Position**

## **Funding for Citrus Grove Road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes from US 27 to the Florida Turnpike SR 91 (Minneola Interchange)**

### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Delegation support funding for Citrus Grove Road from US 27 to Florida Turnpike SR 91 (Minneola interchange).

### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$13,000,000.00 from the Florida Legislature for the design, right of way and construction phase for Citrus Grove Road from US 27 to Florida Turnpike SR 91 (Minneola interchange.)The Citrus Grove Road 2 lanes to 4 lanes improvement is within the City of Minneola and unincorporated Lake County, and will connect the Florida Turnpike SR 91. This project will improve traffic circulation for the Hills of Minneola development and other area of Lake County and most importantly will support a regionally significant employment center in South Lake County and Orange County. The Minneola Interchange project is a vital economic development project for Lake County and the Central Florida region. The future development adjacent to this interchange has the potential to create of 7,400 direct and indirect jobs and over \$1 Billion of economic impact to the region at its completion.

Lake County would like to have the funding in place for the design, acquire any right of way needs and construct Citrus Grove Road from US 27 to Florida Turnpike SR 91 (Minneola interchange) to accommodate roadway capacity need by 2016.

### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$13,000,000 for the design, right of way and construction of Citrus Grove Road from US 27 to SR 91 (Minneola interchange). Requests for other funding sources will be based on feedback from the Florida Legislature.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

\$13,000,000.00

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Noble Olasimbo, AICP  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9092  
Email: [nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov)

### **PROJECT DIRECTOR**

Mr. Jim Stivender, Director of Public Works  
Phone: 352-483-9000  
437 Ardice Avenue, Eustis, Florida, 32726



### **Legislative Position**

## **Funding for N. Hancock Road from CR 50 to Southwest End Florida Turnpike (SR 91) interchange at Milepost 276**

### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Delegation support funding for the N. Hancock Road Extension from the southwest end of the Minneola Turnpike interchange (SR 91).

### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$16,500,000.00 from the Florida Legislature for the right of way and construction of N. Hancock Road from CR 50 to the southwest end of the Florida Turnpike Minneola Interchange (SR 91). The North Hancock Road Extension improvement is within the City of Minneola and unincorporated Lake County, and will connect to SR 91. This project will improve traffic circulation for the Hills of Minneola development and other areas of Lake County and most importantly will support a regionally significant employment center in South Lake County and Orange County. The N. Hancock Road project is a vital economic development project for Lake County and Central Florida region. These road improvements are necessary to connect the new Minneola Interchange on the Turnpike to the planned development in the area. The future development adjacent to this interchange has the potential to create of 7,400 direct and indirect jobs and over \$1 Billion of economic impact for the region upon its completion.

Lake County would like to have the funding in place for the construction of North Hancock Road before the SR 19 Minneola Interchange opening in FY 2016.

### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$16,500,000 for N. Hancock Road from CR 50 to Southwest End of the Florida Turnpike Minneola Interchange (SR 91). Requests for other funding sources will be based on feedback from the Florida Legislature.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

\$16,500,000.00

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Noble Olasimbo, AICP  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9092  
Email: [nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov)

### **PROJECT DIRECTOR**

Mr. Jim Stivender, Director of Public Works  
Phone: 352-483-9000,  
437 Ardice Avenue, Eustis, Florida, 32726



### **Legislative Position**

## **Funding for 2 lanes to 4 lanes Improvement on CR 48/470 Road from Royal Palm Drive to Sumter County line**

### **POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Delegation support funding for CR 48/470 (2 lanes to 4 lanes improvement) from Royal Palm Drive to Sumter County Line.

### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$45,500,000.00 from the Florida Legislature for the right of way and construction of CR 48/470 (2 lanes to 4 lanes improvement) from Royal Palm Drive to Sumter County Line. The CR 48/470 corridor is an east - west corridor within the City of Leesburg in Lake County. The CR 470/48 also provides access to the Federal Correctional Facility in Sumter County. The CR 470 project is a critical economic development project for Lake County and Central Florida. The City of Leesburg owned CR 470 Commerce Park has the potential of creating over 9,000 permanent jobs and over \$ 3 Billion of new economic impact in our region.

Lake County is requesting for funding support for the construction of CR 48/470 from Royal Palm Drive to Sumter County Line.

### **APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$45,500,000 for the CR 48/470 (2 lanes to 4 lanes) improvement from Royal Palm Drive to Sumter County Line. Requests for other funding sources will be based on feedback from the Florida Legislature.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

\$45,500,000.00

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Noble Olasimbo, AICP  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9092  
Email: [nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov)

### **PROJECT DIRECTOR**

Mr. Jim Stivender, Director of Public Works  
Phone: 352-483-9000,  
437 Ardice Avenue, Eustis, Florida, 32726



**Legislative Position**  
**Funding for Eudora/Old 441 CR 19A Roundabout**  
**(Safe Route to School Program)**

**POSITION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners requests the Lake County Delegation support funding for Eudora/CR 441 CR 19A roundabout with sidewalk connections (Safe Route to School Program).

**BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requests \$2,000,000.00 from the Florida Legislature under the Safe Route to School Transportation System Program that will enhance the walkability for Lake County Schools' students along the intersection of CR 441/CR 19A. The intersection of CR 441 at CR 19A is classified as a hazardous walking condition for elementary school students in Lake County.

Lake County would like to eliminate hazardous walking conditions for school students along CR 441 and CR 19A. The County plans to design, acquire right of way where applicable, and construct roundabout improvement with sidewalks at CR 441 and CR 19A. There is a missing link of sidewalk connections along the CR 441 Corridor and CR 19A which are necessary for students to walk safely to school.

**APPROPRIATION**

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners is requesting \$2,000,000.00 for the Eudora/CR 441 and CR 19A roundabout and sidewalks (Safe Route to School Program). Requests for other funding sources will be based on feedback from the Florida Legislature.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

\$2,000,000.00

**STAFF CONTACT**

Noble Olasimbo, AICP  
Lake County Public Works Department  
Phone: (352) 483-9092  
Email: [nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:nolasimbo@lakecountyfl.gov)

**PROJECT DIRECTOR**

Mr. Jim Stivender, Director of Public Works  
Phone: 352-483-9000,  
437 Ardice Avenue, Eustis, Florida, 32726

315 W. Main St., Tavares, Florida 32778 • [www.lakecountyfl.gov](http://www.lakecountyfl.gov)