

Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item Request

Date of Meeting: April 19, 2010

Date Submitted: April 2, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator
Jennifer Langston, Special Projects Coordinator

Subject: Board Update of 2010 Legislative Session Activities.

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item provides an update to the Board regarding the 2010 Legislative Session.

Background:

On January 25, 2010 the Board approved the 2010 Legislative priorities which included the following:

Legislative Priority
Wakulla Gardens Sewer Expansion- Request for collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater and elimination of private septic systems.
Comprehensive Storm Water Study & Implementation -Request for a study to be conducted to identify storm water issues with proposed remedies including funding for implementation.
Right of Way Acquisition and Expansion of Hwy 319
Wakulla Community Center- Request for funding of construction & establishment of the first and only community center to provide recreational and community service events to the public.
Wakulla Courthouse Expansion- Request for expansion and renovation of the historical Wakulla County courthouse. Enabling court functions to continue and provide for future growth due to the county's rapid growth.
Sewer Expansion to Live Oak Island- The Island is surrounded by the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge and adjacent to Shell Point. All existing homes are on septic tanks located on small lot sizes combined with the high water table and extremely close proximity to coastal water directly contributes to local and federal water degradation.
Improvements to US 98 & US 319 Intersection- Improvement of traffic flow and safety on two federal highways, US 98 and US 319 in Wakulla County.

In addition, the Board included:

- ✓ Seeking Amendment One Offset Funding for Wakulla County, a fiscally constrained county
- ✓ Construction of a New Fire & EMS Facility

- ✓ Build upon the 2009 Approved Legislative List
- ✓ Inclusive of the Adopted FY 09/10 CIP project list
- ✓ Reflective of approved 2010 Board Priorities recently compiled at annual retreat
- ✓ Inclusive of Statewide priorities set by FAC and the SCC

Analysis:

This agenda item provides an update to the Board regarding the 2010 Legislative Session. Staff has been monitoring the legislative priorities, budget issues, and legislation that may impact Wakulla County, and has prepared a thorough analysis of the recent legislative actions to date as provided in Attachment #1. The update includes a recap of staff's participation, budget implications, legislation including a summary of the "Priority Bills" and "Bills of Interest" being tracked through the lobbytools subscription service, ballot issues slated for November, and issues at the federal level.

At the conclusion of Session staff will prepare an End of Session Report to keep the Board apprised of the final session actions.

Options:

1. Approve the 2010 Legislative Session Update.
2. Do Not Approve the 2010 Legislative Session Update
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Option #1.

Attachments:

1. 2010 Legislative Session Update
2. Bill Tracking Documents