



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: December 5, 2023

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Date: November 29, 2023

SUBJECT: 2024 Legislative Priorities

BACKGROUND:

1. **2024 Legislative Priorities** – Included in the agenda packet for this item is the updated 2024 Legislative Priorities for the City. Since the last City Council meeting, the following updates have been made:
 - Priority #1 – Florida Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan – This request has been resolved as the State Legislature, during their September 2023 Special Session, amended the repayment terms for the City's Emergency Bridge Loan from 2 years to 5 years.
 - Priority #3 – FEMA Project Worksheet Loan Funding – This request has been resolved as The City has received the loan agreement for the \$28 million awarded to Sanibel from the 2023/2024 Hurricane Legislative Appropriation Program (\$350 million) created during the 2023 regular Legislative Session. The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) informed the City that the \$28 million loan can be used to fund the approximately \$60 million in projects the City submitted for funding. Repayment of the loan will be repaid from the last \$28 million of reimbursement funding from FEMA.

There is no action to be taken as the 2024 Legislative Priorities remain consistent with the approval the City Council provided on November 7, 2023.

2. Lee County Legislative Delegation Bills – As City Councilmembers know, the Lee County Legislative Delegation held a meeting on November 30th (7 am) where draft Bills proposed by local Legislative Delegation members were discussed. The draft Bills are related to Lee County governance matters.

This memorandum was prepared before the November 30th meeting so I cannot report the results of the meeting. Mayor Johnson planned to attend, and he will provide the City Council with an update.

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary

This matter has been placed on the City Council agenda to provide City Councilmembers with an opportunity to discuss the draft Bills and determine if the City Council wishes to take a formal position on any of the draft Bills. The Bill to create the Captiva Conservation Area is not included in this agenda item as it will be discussed under a separate agenda item.

The draft Bills included in the agenda packet for this item are:

1. Referendum Merger of the Fort Myers Beach Mosquito Control and Lee County Mosquito Control Districts
2. Referendum Merger of the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control and Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue Districts
3. Lee County Single Member District
4. Lee County Elected Mayor

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion and direction.

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary