



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: December 2, 2025

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Date: November 21, 2025

SUBJECT: Florida Legislative Session 2026

BACKGROUND:

The 2026 Florida Legislative Session will begin on January 13, 2025; however, several committees have met, the in district Legislative Delegation meetings have been held and Bills have been filed.

In order for the City Council to discuss pending Bills and to consider taking a formal position on those matters most important to Sanibel, a discussion topic for the 2026 Florida Legislative Session will be placed on each City Council meeting agenda through the end of the session.

Items for the City Council to consider for discussion at the December 2, 2025, meeting:

1. Lee County Legislative Delegation Meeting – held on October 28, 2025.

The meeting packet is included in the City Council agenda for this discussion item. Local Bills introduced are:

- Amendments to the Makeup of the Lee County Tourist Development Council – A Bill that would:
 - o Increase the number of council seats from 9 total members to 11 total members.
 - o Revises the makeup of the council by:
 - Increasing the number of elected officials from 2 members to 3 members.
 - Adds language so that an elected official from the most populous municipality in the County will have a voting seat. This guarantees an elected official from Cape Coral will have a seat.
 - Maintains a seat for an elected official from the municipality that generates the highest revenues from the tourist tax in the most recent fiscal year.

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- In the event that the municipality generating the highest revenues from the tourist tax is the same as the most populous municipality, then the seat would be filled by an elected official from the municipality that generated the second highest revenues from the tourist tax in the most recent fiscal year
 - Seats reserved for persons from tourist industry is increased from 6 members to 7 members. No less than 3 of those members and no more than 5 of those members (increased from 4), are to be owners or operators of motels, hotels, recreational vehicle parks or other tourist accommodations.
 - Specifying that one seat shall be filled by an elected official from the most populous municipality within the county is consistent with [Florida Statutes, Section 125.0104](#).
2. Tax Reform – With the number of Bills offered in the House related to tax reform, the City will be receiving weekly updates on the Bills filed, amended, etc., from PooleMcKinley throughout the session. The update is included in the agenda packet for this item.
 3. Local Business Taxes – Bills have been introduced in the House and Senate related to Local Business Taxes. The Bills propose that municipalities collecting business taxes measured by gross receipts of businesses (sale of merchandise or services) may continue. Those that do not would be prohibited from collecting business taxes under their current methodology and would not be able to change to a collection methodology based on gross receipts. The Bills, if approved by the Legislature and Governor, will cause the City to lose between \$275,000 - \$350,000 annually, based on pre-lan revenues. Bills attached included HB 103 (Botana), SB 122 and SB 650.
 4. Auxiliary Containers (single use plastic) - Senate Bill 240, Auxiliary Containers, is the Bill Lyman Welch asked the City Council to consider supporting. [Click here](#) to see the current version of the Bill (11/19/2025). The Bill focuses on DEP developing a uniform ordinance for the use and disposal of single-use containers. The Senate staff analysis is included in the agenda packet.
 5. Florida League of Cities Legislative Bill Summaries – [Click here](#) to view the FLC legislative session information.

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion and direction.

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