



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2026

***The City of Margate urges Governor Ron DeSantis and the members of the Florida Legislature to provide for the following legislative priorities of the City of Margate.***

### LOCAL PROJECT FUNDING

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**Stormwater Infrastructure Assessment and Rehabilitation:** Increasing stormwater delivery capacity and reducing the development of depressions and cracks on other right of way improvements (i.e. asphalt surfaces, swales, curb/gutters, and sidewalks) due to subsurface settlement. This project is necessary to continue protecting the community, property and the environment, while preserving drainage basins and mitigating flood risks.

**Amount Requested: \$350,000**

### The City of Margate **SUPPORTS:**

- Local authority over property tax decisions that fund essential services like public safety, infrastructure, parks, and programs that define a community. Reducing or eliminating this revenue without a reasonable replacement would destabilize city budgets, threaten creditworthiness, and undermine local priorities. Cities are created by residents to protect their communities and quality of life, and local tax decisions are essential to fulfilling that responsibility.
- Legislation that requires full funding of the Sadowski State and Local Housing Trust Funds be used only for Florida's affordable housing programs.
- Legislation that provides for collaboration between the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and cities to ensure that short-term rental properties abide by state and local regulations, are properly licensed and insured, and comply with state and local taxation requirements as well as industry-accepted safety practices.
- Legislation that provides for new or amended existing ordinances for regulation of the location of municipal short-term vacation rentals.
- Legislation that provides cities the ability to regulate development and zoning within the municipality.



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### The City of Margate **OPPOSES:**

- Legislation that eliminates revenue sources for municipalities without a reasonable revenue replacement, destabilizing communities, undermining local priorities, and threatening the safety and quality of life for our residents.
- Legislation creating unfunded mandates that would require action on/by municipalities without allocation of State resources to accomplish said action.
- Legislation that terminates, limits, or bans Community Redevelopment Agencies.
- Any funding reduction in the Florida Digital Cybergrant. The grant helps municipalities protect their networks, allows the sharing of data between awarded agencies, and allows cities to benefit from the state's bulk purchasing.
- Legislation increasing the per occurrence limits on the collectability of judgments against government entities and eliminating the per claimant limit. If such legislation is passed, it would force local governments to increase property taxes to pay for the higher liability amounts, as well as the likely increase in the number of lawsuits filed against government entities, and lead to higher insurance premiums.
- Legislation which preempts local business regulations and prohibits local governments from imposing or adopting any new regulations on businesses, including a local business tax, unless expressly authorized by the Legislature.
- Legislation reducing the local Communication Services Tax (CST) rate.

#### **Margate City Commission**

*Mayor Antonio V. Arserio*

*Vice Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano*

*Commissioner Tommy Ruzzano*

*Commissioner Arlene R. Schwartz*

*Commissioner Joanne Simone*

*Cale Curtis, City Manager*

*Larry Vignola, Assistant City Manager*

*Ronald L. Book, P.A., City Lobbyist*