



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2024

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

Margate 800MHz Radio Tower Repair and Upgrades: Funding will provide for upgrades and repairs to the existing radio tower including engineering to meet current code, radio equipment, and software. The city opted to have Broward County manage their 9-1-1 Communications and terminated the city PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point). Since that time, issues have occurred due to the inability to have interlocal government communications between departments. FCC licensing for 800MHz was secured and maintenance was done on City radio tower to enable the use of local government communications. The City is seeking funds to address the communication needs within the City.

Amount Requested: \$300,000

Margate Front Line Rescue and Aerial Truck: Department call responses have surged due to the county's CUR Agreements & Coconut Creek's decision to end a 20+ yr association with Margate, causing a deficit in fire apparatus, leading Margate to lose five front-line vehicles, aging our fleet. Repair costs since 2021 have reached \$394,660, which is not regular maintenance. Funding will provide for a 2019 Custom Wheel Coach Type 9, Rescue Transport Vehicle and a 2020 E-One HP78 Aerial to ensure our first responders are able to respond to emergencies.

Amount Requested: \$744,014

The City of Margate SUPPORTS:

- Legislation that strengthens municipal self-governing powers.
- 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.



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- 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.

The City of Margate **OPPOSES:**

- 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 that reduces funding for school safety and school resource officers and/or that creates an unfunded mandate for municipalities to increase their funding of school resource officers.
- Legislation creating unfunded mandates that would require action on/by municipalities without allocation of State resources to accomplish said action.
- Legislation reducing the local Communication Services Tax (CST) rate.

Margate City Commission

Mayor Tommy Ruzzano

Vice Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz

Commissioner Antonio V. Arserio

Commissioner Anthony N. Caggiano

Commissioner Joanne Simone

Cale Curtis, City Manager

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