



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2025

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

Stormwater Infrastructure Assessment and Rehabilitation: Increasing stormwater delivery capacity for resiliency is necessary to continue protecting the community, property and the environment, while preserving drainage basins and mitigating flood risks.

Amount Requested: \$500,000

Wastewater Digester 2 Rehabilitation Project: Rehabilitating and upgrading Digester Tank 2 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant will improve wastewater treatment efficiency, enhance operational reliability, extend infrastructure lifespan, and ensure compliance with regulatory standards. The upgrades will help prevent system failures, reduce maintenance costs, and maintain environmental and public health protections.

Amount Requested: \$700,000

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.
- 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 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 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 Arlene R. Schwartz

Vice Mayor Antonio V. Arserio

Commissioner Tommy Ruzzano

Commissioner Anthony N. Caggiano

Commissioner Joanne Simone

Cale Curtis, City Manager

Larry Vignola, Assistant City Manager

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