

Orlando City Council Workshop  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
400 South Orange Avenue  
Monday, June 5, 2017

In attendance:

Mayor Buddy Dyer  
Commissioner Jim Gray, District 1  
Commissioner Tony Ortiz, District 2  
Commissioner Robert F. Stuart, District 3  
Commissioner Patty Sheehan, District 4 (arrived at 10:05 a.m.)  
Commissioner Regina I. Hill, District 5  
Commissioner Samuel B. Ings, District 6  
Chief Assistant City Attorney Kyle Shephard  
City Clerk Denise Aldridge  
Board Coordinator Stephanie Herdocia  
Police Officers Kevlon Kirkpatrick and James West, Sergeants-at-Arms

Mayor Buddy Dyer called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and introduced Director of Intergovernmental Relations Kathleen Russell to provide an overview of the 2017 City of Orlando Legislative Agenda. Ms. Russell provided a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which has been filed as supplemental papers to the meeting.

Ms. Russell began by introducing the legislative team and lobbyists specializing in different areas: Bill Peebles and John Wayne Smith of Peebles and Smith; Robert Stuart, Jr. and Chris Carmody of GrayRobinson; Chris Dudley and Oscar Anderson of Southern Strategy Group; and Jasmyne Henderson of the Pittman Law Group. Ms. Russell acknowledged former Senator Geraldine Thompson in attendance.

Ms. Russell explained the 2017 Legislative Agenda and the thirteen issues handled by the local government lobbyists. She listed the four major issues as Protect Home Rule Authority, Municipal Local Option Transportation Surtax, Support the Governor's Economic Development Package and securing \$3.9 million in recurring funds for the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center.

Ms. Russell discussed some of the preemptions passed, which included public work project contracts, charter school locations, operation of drones and a construction bill which included preemptions prohibiting the regulation of design and location of gas station signs. Some of the preemptions that would return included vacation rental regulation, municipal election dates, local government towing fees and House Bill 17, which prohibits local government from preempting anything with business, causing a potential \$7 to \$9 million dollar issue a year.

John Wayne Smith provided a recap of the Legislative session and the State Budget. Mr. Smith noted 3,052 bills were filed this year, with the Senate filing 950 bills and the House filing 2,100 bills, and noted the biggest difference was the rule changes made by the House. As a result of the House rule changes which required budget requests to be filed as individual bills, 1,210 bills filed were appropriation requests. Out of the 1,210 bills filed, there were 249 bills passed, 5 concurrent resolutions, 203 general bills, 38 local bills, 2 joint resolutions and 1 memorial.

Mr. Smith spoke on the State Budget as the key bill passed and noted the increase of revenue for the Legislature to spend was different from current year budget of about \$1.8 billion dollars, \$1 billion dollars less in the context of the past three to four years. The State had less money to spend when it came to new revenues. Mr. Smith also noted next year's financial outlook indicates \$118 million dollars less than this Legislative session and the impact to how the State managed the budget available.

Chris Carmody discussed changes to Visit and Enterprise Florida and the "Displaced Homemaker" repeal House Bill 5501. Mr. Carmody mentioned the job growth infrastructure fund being proposed for public infrastructure projects and workforce trainings in targeted industries. Mr. Carmody also mentioned Senate Bill 90, the solar energy constitutional amendment that will provide an 80% property tax and tangible personal property tax abatement on solar equipment installed on non-residential property. 20% would be given back to local government to encourage permitting of solar energy devices.

Robert Stuart, Jr. presented property tax issues including the Super Homestead Exemption, which institutes an additional \$25,000 exemption off the first \$25,000 of the second \$100,000 in taxable value and will go on the ballot for 2018. Mr. Stuart discussed the removal of the sunset from the "Save Our Business Cap" to remove any future repeal of the 10% annual cap on property tax increases for non-homestead properties. Mr. Stuart also discussed House Bill 455 which provides ad valorem exemption for the homestead of a first responder who has a total and permanent line of duty injury and to his or her surviving spouse.

Chris Dudley spoke on transportation policy and Senate Bill 368 Transportation Facility Designations. Mr. Dudley spoke of the five designations created in Orange County including the designation of Lieutenant Debra Clayton Memorial Highway, First Class Deputy Norman Lewis Memorial Highway, Arnold Palmer Expressway, Reverend Kenneth C. Crossman Bridge and Anelie Cadet Way.

Mr. Dudley also discussed House Bill 221 which establishes Transportation Network Companies, House Bill 299 which adds Brevard County to the Central Florida Expressway Authority, and House Bill 1049 which includes a provision that deals with express lanes and statutory limitations. Mr. Dudley mentioned the statutory limitations in House Bill 1049 will implement variable pricing tolls in express lanes and require national engineering standards.

Mr. Dudley mentioned House Bill 865 FDOT Legislative Package that creates the Florida Smart Cities Challenge Grant Program to support and incentivize emerging new technologies. Mr. Dudley mentioned House Bill 695 and the key provision which extended liability and indemnification protection for the All Aboard Florida Program to allow operations of government and CSX lines. Mr. Dudley also reported on the repeal of the Mark Odell Traffic Safety Act for red light cameras.

Oscar Anderson discussed the affordable housing funding passed and the allocations to programs and local governments. Mr. Anderson noted an increase in the amount of funding available to workforce housing projects and to the Task Force on Affordable Housing.

Mr. Anderson also mentioned the issue of gap funding in affordable housing projects in the City of Orlando. Mr. Anderson noted that Florida housing will receive flexibility to solve the problem caused by the gap of funding.

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Mr. Anderson discussed Senate Bill 2502 Budget Implementing Bill and Section 46 creating the Affordable Housing Working Group Members. The Affordable Housing Working Group is tasked with developing recommendations for addressing the State's affordable housing needs.

Jasmyne Henderson discussed Senate Bill 80 and House Bill 111 relating to public records requests.

Bill Peebles discussed Florida Home Rule and changes to Community Redevelopment Agencies. Mr. Peebles discussed the Municipal Local Option Transportation Surtax and the potential to levy county transportation surtax.

Mr. Peebles also discussed small cell wireless attachments and cellular phone companies' national effort to roll out facilities necessary for 5g cellular phone technology. Mr. Peebles discussed the conditions and preservation of ability to control local conflict, color, stealth and concealment requirements.

Kathy Russell presented the local appropriation wins which included Florida Children's Initiative, UCF – PTSD Program, BRIDG/UCF – Sensor Project, and Homelessness. Ms. Russell stated the legislative team will continue to work on the Municipal Local Option Transportation Surtax, Restaurant SRX Alcohol Beverage License, and Department of Children and Families Licensure of City After School Programming.

At 10:54 a.m. the workshop was opened for comments and questions and discussions ensued. At 11:21 a.m. the workshop was adjourned.

Denise Aldridge  
City Clerk