

Date: September 8, 2025

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Sean O'Keefe, Town Manager

Re: Consideration and Approval: Local Option Gas Tax Letter of Support

Objective:

To consider a formal letter of support for the adoption of the Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT) by the Lake County Board of County Commissioners via vote, rather than by referendum.

Summary:

On Monday, September 23, 2025, the Lake County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to vote on whether to adopt the Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT) by supermajority or to defer the decision to a countywide referendum. The LOGT is a widely used mechanism in Florida for addressing road infrastructure needs, allowing counties to levy up to an additional five cents per gallon of fuel sold to fund transportation-related projects.

The Town has received a request from the Lake 100 organization to join other municipalities and stakeholders in urging the County Commission to exercise its legislative authority and adopt the LOGT. Proponents argue that deferring the decision to referendum could result in delay or failure, further worsening Lake County's already severe transportation funding deficit. For consideration, Lake County currently faces a \$710 million transportation funding gap. Revenues would be used exclusively for transportation infrastructure, including roads, bridges, sidewalks, and safety improvements.

Fiscal Impact:

None directly to the Town at this time. However, adoption of the LOGT could result in increased availability of County and intergovernmental transportation funding.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommend approval to send a letter of support.