



MEMORANDUM

Date: Jan 8, 2025
To: Board of Commissioners
From: Robin I. Gomez, City Manager
Subject: 2025 FL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Background

The City has historically applied for and received FL Legislative Grant Distributions through the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation, and through a contract with Shumaker Advisors. Additionally, our partners and contractor work to ensure various legislation to enhance/improve municipal services provision. The City Commission and the public continue to play a very important role in this entire process.

Discussion

The City has been utilizing the services of Shumaker Advisors, a Tampa, FL, firm, to provide professional lobbying services for State of Florida executive and legislative branch matters including favorable municipal legislation and funding for specific capital projects.

Some of the City's recent appropriations include:

1. 2022, \$1.556 million for John's Pass Dredging
2. 2023, \$0.00
3. 2024, \$100,000 for seawall repair/replacement

The City has previously supported legislation to protect homeowners (insurance, building protections, regulating short term rentals, etc), encourage tourism, promote resiliency and shoreline protections as well as seek appropriations as listed as well as for City buildings, undergrounding utilities, and flood control.

The 2025 Florida legislative 60-day session will begin on March 4, 2025, with various committee and other background work already occurring.

The City Commission will be discussing any legislative items and/or appropriations to pursue in the 2025 FL Legislative Session.