



# 2024 CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

*The State Legislative Agenda serves as a compass, guiding the city's leaders in navigating the complex landscape of policies, legislation, and governance. It reflects the collective aspirations, challenges, and priorities of the St. Petersburg community, addressing a spectrum of issues that span economic development, social justice, environmental sustainability, and beyond.*

## Housing Opportunities For All

**Property Insurance** - The City encourages the Legislature to continue its efforts to address the property insurance crisis and explore innovative ways to relieve the financial strain on residents.

**Live Local Act** - The Live Local Act is a historic investment in affordable housing and the City encourages the continuation of that work with specific investments in affordable housing for those earning under 100% of AMI, and by extending the bills affordable housing tax abatements. The City also encourages the Legislature to invest in and expand programs like the Florida Hometown Heroes Housing Program that make homeownership accessible.

**Local Control** - As the government closest to the people, the City supports legislation that empowers local government to respond to the needs of our residents as it pertains to zoning, short-term rentals, and tenant rights.



## Environment, Infrastructure, Resilience

**Disaster Mitigation** - The City supports continued investments programs and policies empower local governments, business, and homeowners, to prepare for and respond to natural hazards.

**Transportation Safety and Capacity** - The City is committed to reducing traffic fatalities and improving pedestrian safety. We support the continued funding for safety-focused, capacity building transportation projects that relieve congestion and make our community a better place.

**Clean Water** - Healthy water systems are critical to the economy of our region and the health of our residents. The City supports investments that support responsible storm and wastewater management as well as research to address red tide and harmful algal blooms.



## Education and Youth Opportunities

**K-12 Education** - The City supports continued funding for K-12 schools to increase teacher pay, improve student performance, and ensure no child goes hungry at school.

**Higher Education** - As home to two outstanding public institutions, the University of South Florida and St. Petersburg College, the City supports their appropriations requests and encourages the Legislature to implement policies that support student success.

**Workforce Development** - The City supports investments at the state level that support local workforce development programs and help local businesses fill critical workforce shortages.



## Business and Arts Development

**Visual and Performing Arts** - St. Petersburg has a thriving arts community that is a major economic driver and supports our rich cultural fabric. The City supports continued funding for programs that catalyze these organizations and support their work. Additionally, the City would welcome the opportunity to be a home to the state designated Florida Museum of Black History.

**Small Business** - The City supports the continued work of the State to create a business climate that allows small business to thrive and grow, with particular support for urban farmers working to alleviate food insecurity and increase access to nutrition in the community.

**Employment Diversity** - The City supports the work of the State to diversify our economy and attract new business to Florida, providing an array of opportunities and quality, high-paying jobs.



## Neighborhood Health and Safety

**Community Safety** - The City has been proud to support community-led efforts that combat crime and build trust between residents and law enforcement. We encourage the State to support this work and provide funding for the expansion of successful community safety programs.

**Healthcare** - The City encourages the State to pursue policies that increase access to healthcare across the state including access to healthy food, the expansion of Medicaid, and investments in the healthcare workforce.

**Personal Wellness** - The City recognizes the importance of mental health and wellness in creating a safe community. We support continued funding for the work of local organizations that provide mental health care and support those struggling with substance abuse through recovery.



## Appropriations Requests

- North Shore Beach Stabilization
- Cross Bay Ferry Dock
- Public Safety Training Facility
- Willow Marsh Boardwalk Improvements
- St. Pete Fire Ladder Truck Replacement

## Support

- USFSP - Office of Veterans Success
- USFSP - Environmental and Oceanographic Sciences
- SPC - Manufacturing Lab
- SPC - Palladium Theater



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**WE ARE ST. PETE**

