

***INDIAN RIVER COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS***



**2019 State Legislative Program  
DRAFT**

## INDIAN RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Vice Chairwoman Susan Adams  
District 1  
(772) 226-1442  
sadams@ircgov.com



Commissioner Joseph E. Flescher  
District 2  
(772) 226-1919  
jflescher@ircgov.com



Commissioner Tim Zorc  
District 3  
(772) 226-1919  
tzorc@ircgov.com



Commissioner Peter D. O'Bryan  
District 4  
(772) 226-1442  
pobryan@ircgov.com



Chairman Bob Solari  
District 5  
(772) 226-1440  
bsolari@ircgov.com

# Table of Contents

<b>Guiding Principles</b>	4
<b>Priorities</b>	
Indian River Lagoon	5
High Speed Passenger Rail	6
Biosolids	7
Recycling	8
Foreign Trade Zone	9
Beach Restoration and Nourishment	10
Texting While Driving	11
Short-Term Vacation Rentals	12
State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Funds and Affordable Housing	13
<b>Appropriations</b>	14
<b>Concerns</b>	
<u>Finance and Tax Policies</u>	16
Millage Rates	16
Communications Service Tax	16
Shared Revenue Sources	16
Tax Reform	16
Local Preemption on Business Regulations and Taxes	16
Local Government Fiscal Responsibility	16
Constitutional Officers	16
Economic Development	16
Tourist Development Tax	16
Fuel Taxes	16
County Funding of Court-Related Costs	17
Funding Judicial Responsibilities	17
<u>Administration Policies</u>	17
Local Government Accountability and Transparency	17
Local Government Administration	17
State of Emergency	17
<u>Health, Human Services and Public Safety Policies</u>	17
Medicaid Services	17
Coverage for Emergency Services	17
Medical Examiners	17
Firefighters	17
First Responders	18
Emergency Shelters– Reimbursements	18
Housing Assistance	18
Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN)	18
School Resource Officers	18
<u>Environmental Resources and Water Policies</u>	18
Fracking	18
Septic to Sewer	18
Water Infrastructure Grant	18
Derelict Vessels	18
Green Space Funding	18
<u>Growth Management and Infrastructure Policies</u>	19
Growth Management	19
Florida Building Commission	19
Impact Fees	19
Municipal Service Areas	19
Historic Dodgertown	19

## **Guiding Principles**

The ability to maintain home rule and to avoid unfunded mandates are central to Indian River County's state legislative priorities and concerns. Indian River County works with the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) and other local governments across the State of Florida to advocate for these ideals. In general, Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) supports FAC's legislative policy statements.

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** maintaining the integrity of county home rule power, both administrative and fiscal, which allows counties to develop and implement community-based solutions to local problems.
- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** any unfunded mandate legislation which would compel local governments to provide a service, program, or benefit without providing the appropriate monies or a funding source.

# Legislative Priorities And The County's Position

## 1. Indian River Lagoon

**Background:** The 156-mile-long Indian River Lagoon ("Lagoon") is one of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the nation and is a treasure for the State of Florida. The Lagoon provides an economic benefit by promoting tourism and creating recreational opportunities for residents. The Lagoon is also an important element in the protection of our environment, including endangered and protected plant and animal populations.

As guardian of 22 miles of the Lagoon, Indian River County ("County") has been a pioneer for the development and deployment of new water quality technologies. Using a mixture of Optional Sales Tax, Utilities funds, and grant funding, the County has invested over \$29 million dollars on four infrastructure projects aimed at improving the health of the Lagoon. Collectively, the County's projects have removed over 128,000 pounds of Total Nitrogen and over 29,000 pounds of Total Phosphorus from canals which lead to the Lagoon.

The County hopes to continue its partnership with the State of Florida on future ventures that will reduce the nutrient load in the Lagoon so future generations can enjoy this natural wonder.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that will enhance the economic wellbeing of Indian River County by treating and monitoring the health of the Lagoon; and **SUPPORTS** the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Legislative Budget Request for \$50 million granted to septic to sewer conversion projects near Florida's estuaries.

## 2. High-Speed Passenger Rail

**Background:** For at least a decade, high-speed passenger rail has been discussed and proposed within the State of Florida. While Brightline (aka Virgin Trains) is the most recent passenger rail service being proposed, it is not the first and it certainly will not be the last. It is imperative that the State of Florida implement the statutory structure to hold railroads operating passenger rail service accountable for the highest degree of safety improvements.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** any state, federal or local funding for private passenger rail projects proposing to traverse through its jurisdiction including, but not limited to, Brightline (aka Virgin Trains); **SUPPORTS** legislative and executive branch advocacy efforts to regulate passenger rail in order to protect the State of Florida's citizens, local governments, wildlife, waterways, and natural environment; and **OPPOSES** any effort to shift the cost burden of operating and maintaining passenger rail onto local governments or the State of Florida.

### 3. Biosolids

**Background:** One of the by-products or residuals of the wastewater treatment process is called biosolids or the wet sludge that is left behind after initial processing, which is then collected for further treatment and processing. Today, Florida's central sewer wastewater treatment facilities produce approximately 340,000 dry tons of biosolids. Approximately 100,000 dry tons of biosolids qualify as Class B biosolids, which are treated sewage sludge meeting U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines for land application as fertilizer with restrictions, and are allowed to have detectable levels of pathogens. There is concern statewide that excess nutrients from land application of human waste biosolids reach surface waters as a result of rainfall runoff and continue to increase the occurrence of chronic harmful algal blooms.

Land application of Class B biosolids has been restricted in various areas throughout the State of Florida. Most recently, in 2013, land application of Class B biosolids was banned in the watersheds containing Lake Okeechobee and St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Rivers.

At the 2016 UF Water Symposium, St. Johns River Water Management District's staff reported that there are significant increases in phosphorus and incidences of harmful, potentially toxic algal outbreaks in Blue Cypress Lake, one Florida's most pristine lakes, a Class I waterbody. In 2018, cyanobacteria (commonly referred to as blue-green algae) was confirmed in Blue Cypress Lake, which is the headwaters of the St. Johns River and is located the Upper Basin watershed. Cyanobacteria was also reported in the Lower Basin in Duval County, and in the Okeechobee watershed which in turn has impacted the St. Lucie watershed and the Caloosahatchee watershed.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that restrict or ban the land application of Class B biosolids within the following watersheds that impact the St. Johns River: the Upper Basin, the Middle Basin, and the Lower Basin; and **SUPPORTS** establishing a pilot project program for funding new state of the art wastewater technologies to improve recover and afford more efficient use of human wastewater biosolids.

## 4. Recycling

**Background:** The Energy, Climate Change and Economic Security Act of 2008 (“Act”) established a statewide weight-based recycling goal of 75% by 2020. The Act directed the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish a reporting protocol and directed counties to report annually. The Legislature also established interim recycling goals: 40% by 2012, 50% by 2014, 60% by 2016 and 70% by 2018. The legislation also provided that large counties (counties over 100,000 in population) not achieving the recycling goals could be directed to develop a plan to expand recycling programs.

Recently, DEP issued a 2018 report where it acknowledged that while the recycling goal is “aspirational” the current approach needs significant changes or else Florida’s recycling rate will likely fall short of the 2020 goal of 75%. This is because there have been many challenges that inhibit the State of Florida from being able to obtain and sustain the 75% recycling goal including, but not limited to, collection methods, shifts in recycling markets, and new and lighter weight packaging. It is important to note that there has actually been a decrease in Florida’s recycling rate from 56% in 2016 to 52% in 2017. In addition to the declining recycling rate, there is a significant new challenge that concerns a decline in the global demand for recycled materials. In January of 2018, China restricted its receipt of recycling materials. The referenced restrictions make it no longer financially viable to send recyclable goods to China from the United States.

Industry stake holders and scientists are currently discussing ideas for a new program that could lead to improving Florida’s recycling efforts at the state and local level. One of the top suggestions is to shift the focus from weight to energy-efficiency.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** the modification of the State of Florida’s existing 2020 75% recycling goal in Section 403.7032, Florida Statutes, to reflect a statewide goal that is based on energy efficiency rather than weight; and **OPPOSES** any fines or consequences associated with contamination or not meeting the recycling goal.



## 5. Foreign Trade Zone

**Background:** A foreign-trade zone (FTZ) in the United States is a geographical area, in (or adjacent to) a United States Port of Entry where commercial merchandise, both domestic and foreign, receives the same Customs treatment it would if it were outside the commerce of the United States. Merchandise of every description may be held in the Zone without being subject to Customs duties and other taxes. This tariff and tax relief is designed to lower the costs of U.S.-based operations engaged in international trade and thereby create and retain the employment and capital investment opportunities that result from those operations. These special geographic areas - Foreign-Trade Zones - are established "in or adjacent to" U.S. Ports of Entry and are under the supervision of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection under the United States Homeland Security Council.

For a number of years Indian River County has been interested in being included in a foreign trade zone. The benefits include (a) a reduction of duties for manufacturers if they use foreign components in their finished products, (b) a duty exemption on imported goods that are later re-exported, (c) a delayed payment of duties for goods until they enter the U.S. Market, (d) an elimination of duties on waste, scrap and rejected or defective parts, and (e) a possible reduction in merchandise processing fees (U.S. Customs Processing fees).

Currently, the Treasure Coast Foreign Trade Zone No. 218 is designated as a Traditional Site Framework or general purpose zone, which is a warehouse, industrial park or port that has been designated as an FTZ. Multiple companies can use general purpose zones simultaneously for the purpose of storing merchandise, equipment, parts and other goods. These sites include, Treasure Coast International Airport and Industrial Park, Crossroads Commerce Park, Kings Highway Industrial Park, and the St. Lucie West Commerce Park.

Recently, the US Department of Commerce has developed another zone purpose known as the Alternative Site Framework (ASF). The ASF allows grantees to establish additional sites geared towards specific companies either as a "Subzone" or a "Usage-Driven" site. These sites enable grantees to locate zone designation where companies' needs actually arise. By bringing zone designation to firms, Subzones/Usage-Driven sites help grantees respond to growth opportunities in the local economy and diminish the need to try to anticipate where future activity may occur. A Subzone (or Usage-Driven site) under the ASF can be added, removed, or modified using a quick and simple minor action rather than the longer and more complex reorganization/expansion or Subzone application process that is required under the Traditional Site Framework.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** the expansion of the Treasure Coast Foreign Trade Zone #218 to include the geographic area of St. Lucie, Martin and Indian River Counties.

## 6. Beach Restoration and Renourishment

**Background:** The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has a Beach Management Funding Assistance Program to protect and restore the state's beaches. Erosion leaves miles of beaches, public infrastructure and upland development vulnerable to the next storm event as well as impacting tourism. Currently, beach renourishment is funded via documentary stamps along with countless other programs. This leaves beach renourishment projects fighting every year for a very small piece of a large pie.

Indian River County, like its sister counties to the north and to the south on Florida's east coast, has a natural nearshore hardbottom resource. This resource is classified as an essential fish habitat. It provides foraging and breeding grounds for juvenile fish. Indian River County's beach management plan is specifically customized to maximize the fill while minimizing the impact to the nearshore hardbottom resource.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** the creation of a newly dedicated and reoccurring statutory funding source for beach restoration and renourishment projects; and **OPPOSES** policies that would change or modify the criteria used by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to rank eligible beach renourishment projects that would negatively impact communities interested in protecting nearshore hardbottom resources.

## 7. Texting While Driving

**Background:** As of January 2017, texting while driving violations are enforced as primary offenses in 41 states. Florida is one of four states where texting while driving is a secondary offense when an operator of a motor vehicle has been detained for a suspected violation of another law.

Specifically, Florida law bans driving while sending or reading data on a wireless cell phone for the purpose of non-voice interpersonal communication. The ban does not apply to a stationary motor vehicle or to a motor vehicle operator who is using it for official duties as an operator of an authorized emergency vehicle, law enforcement or fire service professional, or an emergency medical services professional. It also does not apply to those who are using the wireless communication device for navigation purposes.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that would make texting while driving a primary offense.

## 8. Short Term Vacation Rentals

**Background:** Section 509.013, Florida Statutes, defines a transient public lodging establishment (aka short-term vacation rental) as a property that is rented more than three times a year for less than 30 days at a time. Local governments were preempted from regulating vacation rentals in 2011. This legislation included a provision that “grandfathered” any ordinance regulating vacation rentals prior to June 1, 2011. The language was amended in 2014 to allow local governments to regulate short-term rentals through life safety and building codes, as well as other codes specific to vacation rentals. However, local governments are still prohibited from regulating the duration and frequency of these rentals.

In 2015, Indian River County formed a committee which included a vacation rental owner and a real estate agent to discuss short-term vacation rentals and the impact they have on our community. Based upon the committee’s recommendations, the Board of County Commissioners approved an ordinance that requires short-term vacation rentals to register with the County, show proof of registration with the DBPR and pass a simple inspection performed by a code enforcement officer to verify that the vacation rental has working smoke alarms (carbon monoxide detector also if they have gas appliances), a charged fire extinguisher and an emergency light if the power goes out. The vacation rental is inspected to make sure it has the basic “good neighbor” information such as days of the week for trash collection and recycling, parking restrictions and owner/agent contact information. Parking is restricted to the existing garages and driveways, just as with an ordinary residence. Enforcement, including noise complaints, is carried out through the County’s code enforcement process, just like complaints from an ordinary residence.

Last year, a bill was introduced at the Florida Legislature which would have preempted all local ordinances as they relate to short-term vacation rentals. While the bill was unsuccessful, it will likely be reintroduced in the 2019 legislative session.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would preempt a local government’s ability to have local ordinances related to vacation rentals.

## 9. State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Funds and Affordable Housing

**Background:** The Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) is a public corporation that is housed within the Department of Economic Opportunity. The goal of the FHFC is to increase the supply of safe, affordable housing for individuals and families with very low to moderate incomes. To do this, the FHFC uses federal and state resources to finance the development of affordable homes and assist first-time homebuyers through various programs. Some of the key programs that are administered by the FHFC include the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program, which receives approximately two-thirds of the funding; the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program, which receives about 20 percent of the funding, and other programs, including the Predevelopment Loan Program (PLP), the Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP), the Affordable Housing Guarantee Program, and the Catalyst Training and Technical Assistance Program.

The FHFC receives funding for its affordable housing programs from documentary stamp tax revenues pursuant to the William E. Sadowski Act ("Act"). The Act calls for funds to be generated from: (a) additional revenues from a 10-cent increase in the documentary stamp tax rate imposed on real estate transfers; and (b) a re-allocation of ten cents of the existing documentary stamp tax revenues from general revenue to the affordable housing trust funds beginning in FY 1995-96. The funds are then distributed to the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund.

In years past, the Florida Legislature has transferred the unused funds in the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund to the General Revenue Fund pursuant to Section 215.32(2)(b) 4.a., Florida Statutes. This has significantly impacted local governments and their ability to assist their constituents by providing the above-referenced programs as they were designed.

**Position:** Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** allocating the full amount of dedicated documentary tax revenues for state and local affordable housing programs; **SUPPORTS** investing in affordable housing to create jobs in home repair, hardening homes, retrofitting and constructing affordable rental units, and lowering the energy costs to make housing more affordable; and **SUPPORTS** exempting the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund from a provision authorizing the Legislature, in the General Appropriations Act, to transfer unappropriated cash balances from specified trust funds to the Budget Stabilization Fund and General Revenue Fund, etc.

## **Ranked Appropriations**

### **1. Beach Renourishment– Sector 5**

Indian River County BCC respectfully requests that you **SUPPORT** an appropriation of \$1,934,151 in matching funds for a beach restoration project to Indian River County's Sector 5 beach. Sector 5 is within the City of Vero Beach and is a 3.1 mile section of shoreline. The Sector 5 project area sustained damage from Hurricane Matthew (2016) and Hurricane Irma (2017) and is in need of a large scale beach and dune nourishment project to maintain protection to upland properties and infrastructure. Approximately 200,000 cubic yards of sand are required to restore the project area. Anticipated Construction November 2019 – April 2020.

- \$71,500 in matching funds for a feasibility
- \$91,901 in matching funds for design of the beach project,
- \$1,537,500 in matching funds for the construction of the beach project, and
- \$233,250 in matching funds for the monitoring of the beach project.

### **2. North Sebastian Septic to Sewer Phase II**

Indian River County BCC respectfully requests you **SUPPORT** an appropriation of \$2,400,000 in matching funds to construct the North Sebastian Septic to Sewer Phase II project.

Indian River County has more than 30,000 septic tanks. According to the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service, most of Indian River County's sandy soil is not conducive for the use of septic tank systems. This limitation, combined with the high water table, creates a high potential for groundwater contamination. This is especially true in areas where development preceded septic tank regulation. In many cases, septic systems do not have the required separation of 2 feet depth between the drain field and the groundwater. Indian River County has made it a priority to protect the Indian River Lagoon and to take steps to convert properties off of septic systems and onto public sewer.

The project proposes to connect 185 parcels to the public sewer system. The project also proposes to connect 187 parcels to public water. This will not only help the environment and increase the value of the underlying property, but it will stimulate economic growth by promoting new business to develop and allow existing business to expand.

### **3. North Relief Canal Aquatic Plants Project**

Indian River County BCC respectfully requests you **SUPPORT** an appropriation of \$2,000,000 in matching funds to construct the North Relief Canal Project.

The requested funds will be used to construct a passive remediation system using aquatic plants to remove nitrogen and phosphates from the North Relief Canal which leads directly to the Indian River Lagoon. Passive remediation systems are by far the most cost effective systems to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus from a water body. They reduce nitrogen and phosphorus at a lower cost per pound compared to any other system.

#### 4. Jones' Pier Conservation Area

Indian River County BCC respectfully requests that you **SUPPORT** an appropriation of \$120,000 in matching funds for a restoration project at the Jones' Pier Conservation Area (JPCA). Specifically, the County is proposing to implement a management plan for the site that restores ecological value, while at the same time utilizes the existing buildings on the property for public access and display of educational and historical exhibits. To this end, the County has developed a Master Plan for the site that includes elements such as: (1) the design of public access facilities including buildings, restrooms, trails and parking; (2) the restoration of wetlands and native uplands on-site; (3) the development of an outdoor classroom for use by local schools and other organizations; (4) the conservation and habitat enhancement of an existing Florida gopher tortoise population; (5) the establishment of community gardens to promote environmentally sensitive & sustainable practices; (6) the establishment of native planting corridors along the trails, and (7) the possible development of a native plant nursery (where feasible).

## Legislative Concerns And The County's Position

### *Finance and Tax Policies*

#### 1. Millage Rates

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that will negatively change the formula for calculating a local government's maximum millage rate; and **OPPOSES** policies that prohibit local governments from redeeming earned rolled back credits.

#### 2. Communications Service Tax

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that (1) modernize the Communication Service Tax in a manner that is revenue neutral; (2) simplify administration and collection of the tax; (3) provide for a broad and equitable tax base; provide for enhanced stability and reliability; and (4) provide the opportunity for market-based application.

#### 3. Shared Revenue Sources

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that consider impacts to the state revenues shared with counties for the provision of local services; and **OPPOSES** permanent modifications to state shared revenue sources or related funding formulas that would significantly impact the counties' ability to continue to fund local services.

#### 4. Tax Reform

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** tax reform measures that simplify administration, enhance effectiveness to meet current and future public service demands, and provide an economic boost to Florida's taxpayers while at the same time consider and minimize the collective and cumulative negative impacts on local revenues.

#### 5. Local Preemption on Business Regulation and Taxes

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would remove the authority for counties and municipalities to increase business tax rates or to impose additional business taxes in the future.

#### 6. Local Government Fiscal Responsibility

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would negatively impact the collection of ad valorem taxes and other revenue sources.

#### 7. Constitutional Officers

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that provide adequate state funding for constitutionally prescribed county officers that are required to perform duties on behalf of the State of Florida.

#### 8. Tourist Development Tax

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that mandate tourist development funds be diverted away from local communities, or impair the County's use of the funds for local tourist development.

#### 9. Fuel Taxes

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** indexing local option fuel taxes to annual adjustments of the Consumer Price Index.



#### 10. County Funding of Court–Related Costs

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies to remove the automatic 1.5% increase in funding for Court related functions; and **SUPPORTS** policies to increase the service fee charged for recording documents and instruments pursuant to s. 28.24(12)(e), F.S., from \$4.00 to \$8.00, so that \$6.00 of the fee distributed to county commissions to help fund court-related technology and technology needs as mandated by s. 29.008(1)(f)(2), F.S.

#### 11. Funding Judicial Responsibilities

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** the use of local revenue sources to fund the State of Florida’s judicial responsibilities.

### *Administration Policies*

#### 12. Local Government Accountability and Transparency

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that promote the provision of accurate and accessible administrative and fiscal public information in a manner that is fiscally responsible, publically comprehensible, technologically efficient, and that does not constrain the effective administration of local services.

#### 13. Local Government Administration

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies related to retirement, workers’ compensation and other administrative systems based on sound and accurate data analyzed with consideration for state and local fiscal impact, fairness and accessibility for state and local employees, as well as, predictability and stability relative to market forces for the long-term effective management of state and local financial plans.

#### 14. State of Emergency

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would inhibit the County’s ability to provide services to the community immediately following a natural disaster including, but not limited to, employment policies.

### *Health, Human Services and Public Safety Policies*

#### 15. Medicaid Services

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies to establish a 3% cap on growth in the individual county Medicaid costs under s. 409.915, F.S., **SUPPORTS** the provision determining the rate of overall growth of the County Medicaid cost share be maintained at 50% and not be changed to 100% of the rate of growth in the State Medicaid expenditures; and **OPPOSES** efforts to further shift state Medicaid costs to counties.

#### 16. Coverage For Emergency Services

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would negatively impact the Indian River County Emergency Services District’s ability to be reimbursed for providing advance life services and basic life services to patients who have out-of-network providers.

#### 17. Medical Examiners

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that prohibit medical examiners from charging a fee for examination and autopsy services that a medical examiner is required to perform by law for cremation services.

#### 18. Firefighters

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that do not use competent evidence when determining whether a disability or death was caused by a firefighter’s employment.

#### 19. First Responders

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** the use of Critical Incident Stress Management Plans to assist first responders with psychological traumas including post-traumatic stress syndrome.

#### 20. Emergency Shelters– Reimbursements

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policy changes that allow school boards, municipalities, or other emergency sheltering entities to directly seek reimbursement from FEMA for emergency sheltering.

#### 21. Housing Assistance

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that require the establishment of a local government risk mitigation program.

#### 22. Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN)

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies relating to COPCNs which would negatively impact the County's Emergency Services District's ability to provide services.

#### 23. School Resource Officers

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** the creation of a new dedicated and recurring statutory funding source to fully fund School Resources Officers (SRO) positions in all public schools.

### ***Environmental Resources and Water Policies***

#### 24. Fracking

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** state preemption of fracking activities; **OPPOSES** policies that create a public records exemption for proprietary information provided by drilling companies to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("FDEP") through FDEP's online chemical disclosure registry; and **SUPPORTS** the ability of local governments to adopt local moratoriums on all new well stimulation activities, including hydraulic fracturing and acidization.

#### 25. Septic to Sewer

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** an Indian River Lagoon and Caloosahatchee River 50/50 grant matching program in support of septic to sewer conversions to include all of the communities along the Indian River Lagoon.

#### 26. Water Infrastructure Grant

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** the Department of Environmental Protection's budget request for \$50 Million from General Revenue for projects that will address septic system and stormwater pollution in the Indian River Lagoon, and ensure that our coastal communities have a resilient water supply.

#### 27. Derelict Vessels

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that would streamline the process to remove derelict vessels from the waterways of the State of Florida; and **SUPPORTS** revised statutory authority and continued state funding for the enforcement and removal of derelict vessels, with emphasis on chronic offenders.

#### 28. Green Space Funds

- Indian River County **SUPPORTS** policies that add conservation lands to the list of greenspace areas eligible for funding related to management and the removal of exotic and nuisance native vegetation.

## ***Growth Management and Infrastructure Policies***

### 29. Growth Management

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would require local governments to incorporate additional goals, objectives, policies or elements into its comprehensive plan.

### 30. Florida Building Commission

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that promote a fair and balanced Florida Building Commission which includes members from all of the industries regulated by the Florida Building Code, and **OPPOSES** policies that seek to limit the representatives on the Florida Building Commission.

### 31. Impact Fees

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would prohibit the collection of impact fees no earlier than the issuance of the certificate of occupancy.

### 32. Municipal Service Areas

- Indian River County BCC **SUPPORTS** policies that provide where a county has, by ordinance, established one or more utility service areas in the unincorporated area and where the county has the current ability to provide service, a municipality may not provide utility services within such county service area(s) without consent of the county.

### 33. Historic Dodgertown

- Indian River County BCC **OPPOSES** policies that would (1) inhibit the County's ownership rights or ability to use the Historic Dodgertown or (2) negatively impact the County's bonds associated with the Historic Dodgertown.