


CITY OF
GAINESVILLE
FLORIDA



080901

State of Florida Legislative Update

March 19, 2009

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City of Gainesville Priorities

- **Santa Fe Transit Fee**
 - SB622 (Oelrich) and HB739 (Chestnut)
 - Authorizes Santa Fe College to establish a transportation fee
- **BAA Amendment**
 - HB1039 (Chestnut)
 - Amends the Alachua County Boundary Adjustment Act
- **Clean Car Rule**
 - SB1994 (Constantine) and HB1309 (Rader)
 - Ratifies DEP rule to adopt the California vehicle emissions standards

Tax Reform Legislation

- **Local Government Revenue Limitations –**
 - HJR1263 (Flores) places revenue limits based on inflation and population changes and property tax limits based on population growth.
 - SJR1906 (Haridopolos) limits local government revenue based on changes in local growth.
 - Both bills require excess revenues to be deposited into a budget stabilization fund to reduce future taxes or be refunded.
 - A supermajority vote of the electors is required to impose: new taxes, fees, assessments, or changes in services; or incurring multi-year debts or financial obligations without adequate cash reserves.

Tax Reform Legislation

- **Limit on Ad Valorem Taxes**
 - HJR385 (Rivera) and SJR738 (Bennett)
 - Limits total ad valorem tax on real property to 1.35% of the highest taxable value.
- **Commercial/Rental Property and First-Time Homebuyers**
 - HJR97 (Domino) and SJR532 (Lynn)
 - Limits increase in the assessment of commercial or rental property to the greater of 5% or the average annual percentage growth in property over last three years.
 - Allows first-time homebuyers to exempt 50% of home's just value. Phased out at 20% per year.

Growth Management

- **Community Renewal Act – SB360 (Bennett) Similar to HB1019 (McKeel)**
 - Defines “dense urban land area.”
 - Revises concurrency requirements and creates TCEAs for local governments qualifying as a dense urban land area.
 - Eliminates the DRI requirement for regional developments in dense urban land areas.
 - Provides an opt-out clause for local governments that do not meet the definition for dense urban land areas.

Growth Management

- **Community Renewal Act – Continued**
 - Limits adoption of comprehensive plan amendments to once per year.
 - Eliminates the residential density penalty for local governments that do not meet the school concurrency requirements.
 - Speeds up state review of land use amendments in exemption areas.
 - Extends the deadline for financially feasible capital improvement elements from Dec. 1, 2008 to Dec. 1, 2011.

Growth Management

- Proposed Committee Bill – Military and Local Affairs (PCB MLA 09-01)
- Dismantles the Department of Community Affairs
 - Transfers the following divisions to the Department of State
 - Community Planning
 - Housing and Community Development
 - Florida Housing Finance Corporation
 - Transfers the Division of Emergency Management to the Governor's Office

Public Safety

- Red Light Cameras
 - HB439 (Hooper) and SB2004 (Altman)
 - Allows local governments to enforce red light infractions with red light cameras.
 - Civil penalty enacted by ordinance.
 - House Bill allows a fine of up to \$150 and three-fifths is kept by the enforcing jurisdiction.
 - Senate Bill allows a fine of \$125 which is kept by the jurisdiction enforcing the ordinance.