Florida’s Water Infrastructure Needs Legislative Update

Treasure Coast and South Florida Regional Planning Councils

By
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Florida Water Advocates
Florida’s Challenge

• $53.81 Billion needed over the next 20 years for infrastructure associated with drinking water, wastewater management, flood control and environmental restoration.

• This estimate excludes:
  – Costs associated with new recommendations intended to address Florida’s growing water quality problems, and
  – Estimated $3 Trillion coastal infrastructure which will be impacted by Sea Level Rise. (Florida Oceans and Coastal Council / 2010 [DEP & FWC Co-chairs] & Climate Works Foundation / 2009)
Historic Sources of Funding Support

(1) Water Management District Funding
   • District controlled revenues have decreased by 50% from pre-recession (2007) levels.

(2) State Budget / Programmatic Funding
   • Although some programs (Everglades Restoration) have benefitted from significant increases over the past 10 years collectively they represent 0.0064% of the State budget.

(3) Member Water Projects
   • $86.6 m average / 25% veto
WMD Ad valorem Revenues (Millions)
State Programmatic Funding

DWSRL
WWSRL
EVER
SPRINGS
AG BMP's
TMDL's
Percent of State Budget Allocated for Water Resources

• In FY 2005/06 the total State budget was $65.43 Billion.
• In FY 2019/20 the total State budget is $90.98 Billion.
• The State budget has increased by $25.55 Billion over that period, but spending on water has only grown by $268.3 million.
• Water has only captured 1.05%
Challenge Requires Recurring Funding Support (Billions)
2016: SB 552

403.928 Assessment of water resources and conservation lands.—The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall conduct an annual assessment of Florida’s water resources and conservation lands.
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Doc Stamp Revenues*</td>
<td>$615.87</td>
<td>$615.26</td>
<td>$624.44</td>
<td>$625.92</td>
<td>$627.84</td>
<td>$632.40</td>
<td>$635.39</td>
<td>$638.61</td>
<td>$641.87</td>
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<td>Doc Stamps Water-Related Statutory Distributions to LATF</td>
<td>$304.75</td>
<td>$313.18</td>
<td>$319.00</td>
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<td>$314.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Potential Revenue Available</td>
<td>$1,049.24</td>
<td>$1,057.05</td>
<td>$1,072.06</td>
<td>$1,073.54</td>
<td>$1,075.46</td>
<td>$1,080.02</td>
<td>$1,083.01</td>
<td>$1,081.23</td>
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<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Projected Water Resource Expenditures</td>
<td>$1,152.14</td>
<td>$1,225.03</td>
<td>$1,284.41</td>
<td>$1,335.51</td>
<td>$1,375.15</td>
<td>$1,406.91</td>
<td>$1,432.53</td>
<td>$1,452.41</td>
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<td>Gap (Revenues minus Expenditures)</td>
<td>($102.90)</td>
<td>($167.97)</td>
<td>($212.35)</td>
<td>($261.97)</td>
<td>($299.69)</td>
<td>($326.89)</td>
<td>($349.52)</td>
<td>($371.18)</td>
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| Other Revenues Potentially Available to Close the Gap LATF Doc Stamps Statutorily Uncommitted | $438.25 | $463.53 | $513.47 | $558.52 | $612.64 | $647.02 | $705.32 | $767.09 | $820.17 |

*This row consists of the "Total Non-Documentary Stamp Tax Revenues" shown in Table 4.3.4 plus the total revenues available for water supply shown in Table 4.3.1. As discussed in subsection 4.3, these revenues include both state and federal sources that are appropriated by the Legislature.
“EDR’s forecasts indicate that the recent levels of increases in expenditures cannot be sustained into the future using only the implied revenue shares historically allocated to water resources. In this regard, a gap exists in every future year, growing to $383.6 million by the end of the ten-year forecast period”
HB 147 Water Infrastructure Funding Bill

- Requires DEP to:
  
  • Document the State of Florida’s combined infrastructure funding needs on a 5 and 20 year horizon and to regularly update these estimates.
  
  • Evaluate funding mechanisms being used by other state’s and countries and compile a list of potential sources which may be available to address the future need.
HB 139 / SB 168 Drinking Water In Schools

- Intended to address levels of lead in drinking water. Specifically the bill requires public schools to:
  
  • Install water filters that meet certain specifications.
  
  • Place warning signs for sources not subject to filtration.
  
  • Publish information on their website regarding their compliance with this law.
  
  • Subject to state appropriation. ($3 million proposed)
2020 Legislative Update

SB 454 Discharge of Domestic Wastewater

– Prohibits the construction of new deep injection wells for domestic WW or the expansion of existing wells.

– Limits the discharge capacity of deep injection wells.

– Requires utilities to install a reuse system to distribute 60% of base flow. If using deep well injection by Dec. 31, 2023 or ocean outfalls by Dec. 31, 2020.
HB 153  IRL State Matching Grant Program

– Provides that facility upgrades to advanced WW treatment, WW system expansion and septic to sewer conversions are eligible for state funding on a 50-50 match basis.

– Directs DEP to coordinate with the SJRWMD and SFWMD to identify projects and recipients.

– Requiring the Districts and local governments to submit annual reports to the Legislature and the Governor.
SB 438  Land Acquisition Trust Fund

– Requires $50 million per year be appropriated on a re-curing basis to projects dedicated to the conservation and management of the IRL.

– Directs DEP to use the funds to implement projects identified in the IRL Comp. Conservation and Management Plan.

– Gives priority consideration to specific kinds of projects including those that monitor ecosystems, restore habitat and minimize the impact of septic tanks.
2020 Legislative Update

Additional Anticipated Proposals

- Regulation of Biosolids
- Illegal Discharges of Wastewater
- Blue-green Algae Task Force Recommendations

  * BMAPs
  * Septic Tanks
  * Stormwater Trmt.

  * Agricultural BMPs
  * Sewer Overflows
  * WQ Health Criteria
Questions?