



# **CITY OF TAMARAC, FLORIDA**

## **2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

Michelle J. Gomez, Mayor

Marlon D. Bolton, Commissioner/Vice Mayor

E. Mike Gelin, Commissioner

Julie Fishman, Commissioner

Debra Placko, Commissioner

Michael C. Cernech, City Manager

Samuel S. Goren, City Attorney

January 21, 2020

## **Economic Development**

The City of Tamarac supports the Federal programs that promote economic development, creation of jobs that pay a living wage, business attraction, retention and growth, and ongoing assistance to small businesses. Towards that end the City supports the following:

- Continued renewal of the New Markets Tax Credit;
- The expansion of Federal Opportunity Zone program to additional low-income neighborhoods

## **Infrastructure**

The City of Tamarac supports investment in addressing the existing and future infrastructure needs, including support for the following

- Preservation of the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, which serve as the primary financing mechanism for state and local infrastructure projects and are critical to local government's ability to address the infrastructure needs and fund infrastructure projects by utilizing public funds in a prudent and equitable manner;
- Adequate and reliable long-term funding for infrastructure projects reflecting local needs and priorities;
- Funding for the development of a convenient and connected transportation network, including a variety of transit options, as a means to reduce congestion, protect the environment, and stimulate economic development;
- Continuous reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act and funding for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act and the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund Program with a higher level of support for water infrastructure projects, including projects that ensure the safety of drinking water, with the exception of a requirement for biannual consumer confidence reports. The City is committed to continuously ensuring the quality and safety of drinking water provided to its consumers and to annually publishing a Water Quality Report to ensure transparency. Compliance with the biannual reporting rule would place an undue burden on the cities due to the significant monetary and human resources required to collect an extensive set of data twice a year.

## **Sustaining the Affordable Housing Stock via HUD Programs**

The City supports recurring and increased funding for CDBG and HOME programs, that help municipalities to provide quality housing, preserve and sustain existing housing stock for low to moderate income households while contributing the vitality of neighborhoods and communities.

## **Public Safety**

The City of Tamarac supports federal funding through Department of Justice grants to support community oriented policing strategies.

The City of Tamarac supports federal funding through grants to improve fire rescue response times and serve emergency operations needs.

## **Disaster Preparedness and Recovery**

The City of Tamarac supports and encourages sustained and increased funding for FEMA to ensure the full and timely reimbursement of expenditures incurred by local governments in response to emergencies. The City further supports FEMA's ongoing efforts aimed at assisting the local emergency preparedness efforts through grants.

## **National Flood Insurance Program**

The City supports policies that ensure all property owners receive affordable flood insurance within a framework that helps NFIP become financially stable.

## **Parks and Open Space**

The City supports grants and federal investment in land acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and enhancement of new and existing parks.

## **Green Initiatives**

The City of Tamarac supports policies that fund programs, grants and initiatives that promote environmental protection and sustainable practices. To that end, the City supports legislation that allocates funding and resources to encourage projects aimed at increasing energy efficiency, clean, renewable energy, sustainability and resiliency to extreme weather events.