TO: PRESIDENT John Dunton & MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FROM: David S. Wilkison, P.E., Government Affairs Committee (GAC) Chair
DATE: February 1, 2020
RE: GAC - REPORT

Written Report:

We have been monitoring the legislative session and as always its been interesting. Here is an excerpt from the Florida Stormwater Association Legislative Update page:

Following up on his Executive Order 19-12 - Achieving More Now For Florida's Environment - Governor Ron DeSantis appointed a Chief Science Officer, Dr. Thomas Fraser, and a Chief Resiliency Officer, Dr. Julia Nesheiwat, and created a five-member Blue Green Algae Task Force. The Task Force met six times and published its recommendations in Consensus Document #1 which concerned six areas: basin management action plans, agriculture and best management practices, onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, sanitary sewer overflows, stormwater treatment systems, and innovative technologies and applications. Consistent with the Task Force recommendations and his commitment expressed in the Executive Order, Governor DeSantis announced that he will propose legislation to "expedite water quality improvements." As of this writing, legislation is being drafted to move forward with the Task Force recommendations. In the meantime, we've seen some legislation proposed to address SSO's, stormwater criteria and agricultural practices (see SB 686 and SB 712). This year promises to be an active year on the environmental front.

In addition, some of the bills we are tracking are seeking to accomplish the following:

- Increase CCNA continuing contracts construction cost and fee limits
- Deregulation of occupational licensing including Professional Engineering
- Moving regulation of septic systems from DOH to FDEP
- Increasing civil penalties for pollution incidents
- Biosolids application practices regulation

Again, there is local government preemption sentiment like last year. Lisa Baker will be reaching out to Senator Perry’s legislative aide, Kayla, to find out when would be a good time to visit Senator Perry during the session. We were going to attend the PE Legislative Days but those were this week and it was too much travel with the EC meeting occurring this week as well.

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Wilkison