October 2018 Volume 11, Issue 10

Ocean Ridge Tidings

A monthly e-newsletter for the residents of Ocean Ridge, Florida

Garbage/Trash & Alarm Monitoring Billing

Town Hall will be mailing the annual garbage/trash and alarm bills to our residents for the fiscal year 2018/19 around mid to late October. The rates for garbage/trash for single family is $231.00 and multi-family is $161.70 per unit. The annual alarm monitoring fee will continue to be $202.00. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call Town Hall at 561-732-2635.

Save the Date:

Ocean Ridge's
Holiday Celebration
will be held on
Friday, November 30th from
5:30PM—7:30PM at Town Hall.
All Ocean Ridge
residents are welcome!

General Election Information

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6 from 7AM-7PM in the town's community room. Early voting begins October 22 and ends November 4 at various early voting sites in Palm Beach County (Ocean Ridge is not an early voting site.) For a list of sites, please visit the Supervisor of Elections Office's website at pbcelections.org. For a sample ballot, vote-by-mail request, and more, please contact the Supervisor of Elections office directly at 561-656-6200.

Building Department FAQ

Why do I need a permit?
Per Chapter 1 of the Florida Building Code (FBC) Sec. 105.1 and Section 553.79 (1), Florida Statutes: Any owner, authorized agent, or contractor who desires to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish, or change the occupancy or occupant content of a building or structure, or any outside area being used as part of the building's designated occupancy (single or mixed) or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing systems, the installation of which is regulated by the technical codes, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the building official and obtain the required permit for the work.

How long does it take to get a permit?
While approval times may vary, we generally attempt to review permit applications within 30 working days (per FBC 105.3.1).

What type of work requires a permit?
If you are not sure what type of work requires a permit, please call the Building Department at 561-732-2635 prior to the start of any work. You may also view our General Permitting Information Guide as helpful tool. Should you have any questions, please call the Building Department.

General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd.,
Ocean Ridge, FL 33435

www.oceanridgeflorida.com

@OceanRidgeFL

Town Hall
561-732-2635 (main) ◊ 561-737-8359 (fax)
561-732-ORFL (Citizen Information Line)
General Email: info@oceanridgeflorida.com
Town Hall Hours: 8:30am-3:00pm

Police
Non-emergency: 561-732-8331
Emergency: 9-1-1
Public Records Hours: 8:30am-2:30pm

Town Officials

Town Manager
James Titcomb
jtitcomb@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Clerk
Tracey Stevens
tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com

Police Chief
Hal Hutchins
hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com

Building Official
Wayne Cameron
wcameron@oceanridgeflorida.com

Mayor
James Bonfiglio
jbonfiglio@oceanridgeflorida.com

Vice Mayor
Don MaGruder
dmagruder@oceanridgeflorida.com

Commissioners
Phil Besler
pbesler@oceanridgeflorida.com

Steve Coz
scoz@oceanridgeflorida.com

Kristine de Haseth
kdehaseth@oceanridgeflorida.com

Numbers to Know

EMERGENCY	
Police, Fire, Ambulance	911
NON-EMERGENCY	
Ocean Ridge Police Dept.	561-732-8331
Boynton Beach Fire Dept.	561-742-6600
TOWN HALL	
Building Dept., Town Clerk, Town Mgr.	561-732-2635
Fax	561-737-8359
OTHERS	
Abuse Hotline	800-962-2873
Animal Control	561-233-1200
Army Corp of Engineers	561-683-1577
Beach Conditions	561-966-6600
Boynton Beach City Hall	561-742-6000
Boynton Beach Water Dept.	561-742-6300
Clarke Environmental Services	800-203-6485
Comcast	800-266-2278
Declare Domicile	561-355-2962
Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP)	561-245-2118
DEP—Christian Lambert	561-313-9007
Dept. of Motor Vehicles (DMV)	561-681-6333
Elder Affairs	866-882-2991
FEMA	800-621-3362
FL Dept. of Transportation (DOT)	866-374-3368
FL Dept. of Transportation Traffic Line	511
Florida Fish & Wildlife Comm.	888-404-FWCC
Florida Power & Light (FPL)	561-697-8000
Florida Power & Light (report outage)	800-4-OUTAGE
Marriage Licenses & Ceremonies	561-355-2986
Oceanfront Park Beach Conditions	561-742-6775
Oceanfront Park Events/Weddings	561-742-6240
Palm Beach County Building Dept.	561-233-5100
Palm Beach County EOC	561-712-6400
Palm Beach County Health Dept	561-840-4500
Palm Beach County Inspector General	877-283-7068
Palm Beach County Mosquito Control	561-642-8775
Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation	561-966-6600
Palm Beach County Property Appraiser	561-355-3230
Palm Beach County Tax Collector	561-355-2266
Palm Beach County White Fly	561-276-1260
Republic Services (trash collection)	561-478-9590
So. FL Water Management	561-686-8800
Solid Waste Authority	561-640-4000
Supervisor of Elections	561-656-6200
Tides	561-742-6776

CLIP AND SAVE!

Calendar of Events

October
1: Regular Town Commission meeting begins at 6PM in the Commission Chambers.
3: Book Club meeting begins at 5:45PM in the Community Room.
4: Special Town Commission meeting begins at 2PM in the Commission Chambers.
6: Sand Sifters Beach clean up begins at 10AM in Oceanfront park
8: Columbus Day — Town Hall is closed. There will be no inspections but contractor's may work.
15: Planning and Zoning meeting begins at 8:30AM in the Commission Chambers.
18: Special Town Commission meeting begins at 5PM in the Commission Chambers.
20: Ocean Ridge Police Department: Beach Cleanup begins at 8:30AM at Oceanfront Park.
27: Sea Angels Beach cleanup from 8AM-10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park.

November
3: Sand Sifters Beach clean up begins at 10AM in Oceanfront park
5: Regular Town Commission meeting begins at 6PM in the Commission Chambers.
6: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the Commission Chambers. (tentative)
6: Election Day is from 7AM-7PM in the Community Room.
7: Book Club meeting begins at 5:45PM in the Community Room.
12: Veteran's Day—Town Hall closed. There will be no inspections and but contractor's may work.
14: Coffee with a Cop will be held from 7:30AM-9AM at Town Hall.
19: Planning & Zoning Commission meeting begins at 8:30AM in the Commission Chambers.
22: Thanksgiving Day — Town Hall closed. There will be no inspections and no contractor work.
23: Thanksgiving Holiday—Town Hall closed. There will be no inspections but contractor's may work.
24: Sea Angels Beach cleanup from 8AM–10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park.
30: Ocean Ridge's Holiday Celebration begins at 5:30PM until 7:30PM at Town Hall.

Agendas, minutes, and updates to the calendar
are available on the town's website and will be posted as they become available.

Meeting Information

Regular Town Commission meetings are generally held on the first Monday of every month at 6:00pm. Code Enforcement Special Magistrate holds hearing on demand on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00am. Board of Adjustment meets on demand on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:30am and the Planning & Zoning Commission meets on demand on the second Monday of the month at 8:30am. Any special meetings added to the calendar, date and time changes, as well as agendas and minutes will be updated on the Town's website at www.oceanridgeflorida.com and on Twitter @OceanRidgeFL as they occur.

Privacy Policy

The following is the Town's privacy policy that is noted in Town email signatures and a variation is on the Town's website.

"Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from the Town of Ocean Ridge officials and employees regarding public business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communications may be subject to public disclosure. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. The views expressed in this message may not necessarily reflect those of the Town of Ocean Ridge. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by replying to this message, and please delete it from your computer. Thank you."

Town Manager's Report

Below is The Town Manager's Report—October's Commission Meeting:

Oceanfront Park

Striving to avoid legal/logistical conflict serving the public in operations and events at Boynton Beach's Oceanfront Park; the Town Attorney, Engineer and staff are researching official boundary and jurisdiction on the property as determined in historical documents, deeds and intergovernmental agreements. The search has revealed discrepancies in official boundaries of the beachfront park. We are working with Boynton Beach to provide additional documentation and proof of the actual legal description and boundaries of the park. They have submitted conflicting documents in applications for permits, events and use in the past, as well as in regards for liability cases. The Town Clerk and Attorney found pertinent information embedded in the "Special Acts adopted by the Legislature of Florida" (1931) and we're progressing it forward though documents to create the current map.

Light the Lights

The Garden Club requested Friday, November 30th as our Light the Lights holiday event, which is the traditional time slot utilized the last several years, a week after Thanksgiving. This gives the organization optimal set-up and decoration time compatible in their schedules. It does not conflict with other area holiday events by surrounding municipalities.

A-1-A Waterline Break Repaving Contract to Let

Based upon estimates provided by Boynton Beach Utility subcontractors, and Town of Ocean Ridge Codes and purchasing policies, we will have to request quotes to competitively award repaving of the section of FDOT's A-1-A (near Ocean Ave.) disrupted by this summer's waterline break and repair job. With Commission consensus, this will be the first Capital Project expenditure project to be authorized in the FY19 cycle.

Respectfully,
Town Manager

October's Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the October 1, 2018 Regular Town Commission Meeting:

1. Announced that the Town Commission will hold a Special Meeting/Workshop on October 4, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at Town Hall with Boynton Beach Staff to discuss water utility service agreements and sewer utility requests.

2. Announced that Town Hall will be closed on Monday, October 8, 2018 in observance of Columbus Day.

3. Announced that the next Planning & Zoning Commission (P&Z) meeting will be held on Monday, October 15 at 8:30 a.m.

4. Announced that the next Regular Town Commission meeting will be held on Monday, November 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

5. Adopted the Minutes of the Regular Town Commission Meeting of September 6, 2018.

6. Adopted the Minutes of the Special Town Commission Meeting of September 17, 2018.

7. Signed an Engagement Letter for FY18 Audit Services with Town Auditors Nowlen, Holt and Miner, PA.

8. Signed the Town Manager's Annual Contract.

9. Adopted on Second Reading Ordinance No. 634: An Ordinance of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Its Code of Ordinances by Amending Chapter 63, "General and Administrative Provisions", Article IV, "Site Plan Review Procedures:, Section 63-56 "Concept Development Plan Review", to Clarify the Notice Requirements; Providing for Codification, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, and an Effective Date.

10. Adopted on Second Reading Ordinance No. 635: An Ordinance of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Its Code of Ordinances by Amending Chapter 63, "General and Administrative Provisions", Article III, "Development Review Procedures", Section 63-31 "Planning and Zoning Commission Established; Powers and Duties" and Section 63-34 "Board of Adjustment", To Modify the Date Requirements Regarding Appointments to the Boards, to Clarify Who Administers Oaths, Quorum Requirements, Removal From Office and Required Time Periods Between Submitting Applications; Providing for Codification, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, and an Effective Date.

11. Adopted on First Reading Ordinance No. 636: An Ordinance of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Its Code of Ordinances By Amending Chapter 66 "Environmental Regulations", Article IV "Landscaping", Division 3 "Tree Permits", Section 66-151 "Tree Permits", To Provide For Increased Landscaping Requirements; Providing for Codification, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, and an Effective Date.

12. Deferred Ordinance No. 637 for First Reading at a Special Town Commission Meeting to be Determined, after review by the Planning & Zoning Commission at its October 15, 2018 Meeting: An Ordinance of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Its Code of Ordinances By Amending Chapter 66 "Environmental Regulations", Article I "General Provisions, Sea Turtles and Wetlands", Section 66-1 "General Provisions", to Change the Pervious Area Requirements from 25% to 35%, Amending Chapter 67 "Buildings and Building Regulations", Article III "Technical Codes and Other Construction Standards", Section 67-33 "Drainage, Required; Swales; Construction of Driveways", to Provide for the Connection of Trench Drains; Providing for Codification, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, and an Effective Date.

13. Directed Planning Consultant Marty Minor to provide graphics showing existing and proposed conditions for 12,000 square foot lots, 10,000 square foot lots, and 7,500 square foot lots at the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting on October 15, 2018 and the following Special Town Commission Meeting to be Determined.

14. Adopted on First Reading Ordinance No. 638: An Ordinance of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Its Code of Ordinances by Amending Chapter 64 "Zoning", Article III "Supplemental Regulations" Section 64-46 "Off-Street Parking", to Require One Parking Space Per Bedroom and to Require That Some of Those Spaces Must Be Located in a Garage; Amending Section 64-60 "Decks, Patios, Steps, Stoops, and Terraces (Unenclosed and Uncovered)", to Increase the Setback Requirements of Impervious Areas From a Property Line; Providing for Codification, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, an Effective Date and Termination of the Moratorium Ordinance.

15. Adopted on First Reading Ordinance No. 639: An Ordinance Of The Town Commission Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Submitting To Referendum Amendments To The Town Of Ocean Ridge Town Charter; Amending Article III "Legislative", Section 3.02 "Qualifications", To Modify Candidate Qualifying Periods And To Remove Language Regarding Qualifications And A Forfeiture Process; Amending Section 3.03 "Election And Terms", To Modify The Start Of A Commission Term And The Date Of The Election; Amending Article V "Nominations And Elections", Section 5.01 "Electors", To Provide That Electors Must Also Meet Town Requirements; Amending Section 5.04 "Form Of Ballot", To Provide That The Form Of Ballots Shall Be Determined By Law; Amending Section 5.05 "Elections", To Provide For A Change In The Municipal Election Date To Coincide With Countywide Or Statewide Elections And To Provide Procedures In The Event Of A Tie Vote; Amending Article VII "Finance And Taxation", Section 7.02 "Fund Transfers; Fund Equity", To Correct Certain Spelling Errors; Establishing The Date Of March 12, 2019, For The Referendum; Providing A Ballot Title And Question; Providing For Notice And Advertising Of The Referendum; Providing For Codification; Providing For Severability; Providing For The Repeal Of Laws In Conflict; And Providing For An Effective Date.

16. Deferred Ordinance No. 640 for First Reading at a Special Town Commission Meeting to be Determined: An Ordinance Of The Town Commission Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Submitting To Referendum Amendments To The Town Of Ocean Ridge Town Charter; Amending Article IV "Administrative", Section 4.01 "Town Manager", To Clarify That The Town Manager Is Not Required To Be A Resident Of The Town; Amending Section 4.02 "Appointment; Removal; Compensation", To Provide That The Affirmative Vote Of A Majority Of The Town Commission Is Required; Amending Section 4.03 "Acting Town Manager", To Modify The Designation Process For An Acting Town Manager; Amending Section 4.04 "Powers And Duties Of The Town Manager", To Provide That The Town Manager Has The Authority To Hire And Remove Or Suspend All Employees Without Confirmation Or Appeal To The Commission And To Remove The Process That Requires A Hearing To Be Held By The Town Manager Within 72 Hours Of The Suspension Of A Police Department Employee; Establishing The Date Of March 12, 2019, For The Referendum; Providing A Ballot Title And Question; Providing For Notice And Advertising Of The Referendum; Providing For Codification; Providing For Severability; Providing For The Repeal Of Laws In Conflict; And Providing For An Effective Date.

17. Adopted on First Reading Ordinance No. 641: An Ordinance Of The Town Commission Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Submitting To Referendum Amendments To The Town Of Ocean Ridge Town Charter; Amending Article III "Legislative", Section 3.05 "Mayor And Vice-Mayor", To Modify The Selection Of Mayor And Vice-Mayor; Amending Section 3.06 "Vacancies; Forfeitures Of Office; Filling Of Vacancies", To Modify When A Vacancy Occurs, How To Fill The Vacancy And When A Special Election Would Be Required And Providing The Requirements

18. Deferred Ordinance No. 642 for First Reading at a Special Town Commission Meeting to be Determined: An Ordinance Of The Town Commission Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Submitting To Referendum Amendments To The Town Of Ocean Ridge Town Charter; Amending Article III "Legislative", Section 3.03 "Election And Terms", To Provide For Term Limits Not To Exceed Three Consecutive Terms And To Provide That A Three Year Hiatus Must Occur If A Person Has Served The Maximum Amount Of Consecutive Terms; Establishing The Date Of March 12, 2019, For The Referendum; Providing A Ballot Title And Question; Providing For Notice And Advertising Of The Referendum; Providing For Codification; Providing For Severability; Providing For The Repeal Of Laws In Conflict; And Providing For An Effective Date.

19. Adopted on First Reading Ordinance No. 643: An Ordinance Of The Town Commission Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Submitting To Referendum Amendments To The Town Of Ocean Ridge Town Charter; Amending Article III "Legislative", Section 3.07 "Procedure", To Provide That There Must Be The Affirmative Vote Of Four Commissioners To Adopt Any Ordinance Or Resolution That Increases The Maximum Allowable Density, Building Height Or Floor Area Ratio; Establishing The Date Of March 12, 2019, For The Referendum; Providing A Ballot Title And Question; Providing For Notice And Advertising Of The Referendum; Providing For Codification; Providing For Severability; Providing For The Repeal Of Laws In Conflict; And Providing For An Effective Date.

20. Adopted on First Reading Ordinance No. 644: An Ordinance Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending Its Code Of Ordinances By Amending Chapter 1, "General Provisions", By Creating Section 1-14 "Civil Rights", Providing For Non-Discrimination Within The Town Of Ocean Ridge; Providing For Codification, Repeal Of Conflicting Ordinances And Resolutions, Severability, And An Effective Date.

21. Adopted Resolution No. 2018-15: Authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to Execute the Agreement for Vote Processing Equipment Use and Election Services by and Between the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections and the Town of Ocean Ridge.

22. Adopted Resolution No. 2018-16: Recognizing Florida City Government Week.

23. Extended the Hy-Byrd Contract for a period of one year.

24. Directed Town Staff to Write a Letter to the Army Corp of Engineers in Reference to the Property Owned by Waterfront ICW Properties, LLC.

25. Directed Staff to Move Forward on an Invitation to Bid for Repaving a Section of A1A Near Ocean Avenue that was Damaged Due to a Water Main Break.

26. Urged Residents to Review the "Summary of Constitutional Amendments Certified for the 2018 Ballot" Booklet that is Available at Town Hall and on the Town Website.

27. Approved a $250 Bonus for Outgoing Employee Karla Armstrong for her Volunteer Work as an Intern Before She Became an Employee; Directed the Town Clerk to Write a Letter of Commendation for Ms. Armstrong; and a Notice to FAU Seeking Another Intern.

A SPECIAL TOWN COMMISSION MEETING ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL;
AND A REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. AT TOWN HALL

Criminal Activity

Here is a listing of significant crime/code enforcement/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in September 2018 for Ocean Ridge:

Type of Incident	Report Date	Time Frame	Location	Synopsis
Theft from Storage Room	9/7/2018	9/7/2018 between 6:00pm and 10:30 pm	5500 blk. N. Ocean Blvd.	Theft of Bicycle from Condo Storage Room
Theft from Storage Room	9/12/2018	Between 9/11/2018 and 9/12/2018	5500 blk. N. Ocean Blvd.	Theft of Bicycle from Condo Storage Room
From Yard	9/12/2018	Between 9/8/2018 and 9/11/2018	Fayette Drive	Two Bicycles taken from under tarp in yard.
Recovered Stolen Vehicle	9/16/2018	9/16/2018 @ 11:00 am	6690 N. Ocean Blvd.	Alerted to stolen vehicle entering Town. Vehicle located /recovered for PBSO at Inlet Park
Vehicle Burglary	9/18/2018	Between 9/17/2018 and 9/18/2018	Island Dr. South	Report of I-Phone cord and vehicle registration missing from vehicle. No signs of forced entry found.
Firearm/Drug Violation	9/20/2018	9/20/2018 @ 4:00 pm	6300 N. Ocean Blvd.	Traffic stop results in drug arrest and possession of firearm by convicted felon
Drug Overdose	9/25/2018	9/25/2018 @ 2:00 pm	Old Ocean Blvd.	Overdose victim discovered. Revived w/Narcan and treated.

In addition to the above activity, officers conducted normal traffic, security, and code enforcement activities.

Please note: The above listed activity is just a snapshot and not a total accounting of the activity officers of your police department engage in on a monthly basis. This snapshot is to help raise awareness and prevent crime thorough information sharing and proactive involvement with security, such as locking vehicle doors, closing garage doors and using alarms.

Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police

Security and safety are a regular topic of discussion. As part of the discussions, those present often hear that the Town of Ocean Ridge has an excellent safety record, and through its Police Department, Town Hall, Maintenance Department, Building Department and code compliance/enforcement efforts, strives to maintain a safe and pleasant small town environment for our residents to enjoy.

As we approach the winter season and see the normal influx of seasonal residents, we will also see the return of those wishing to exploit our residents. Please keep your guard up and be aware of your surroundings.

We urge you not to let strangers posing as workers, or as individuals in need, distract you, allowing their accomplices the ability to enter your home and take your valuables. Now more than ever, it is important to lock your doors, secure your valuables, and set your alarm. Remember if you do not know the person who is at your door, and if you did not request them to come to your home, caution and concern should exist. If you feel unsure please do not open your door; answer through the door and if you are still uncertain contact us and we will send someone to assist you in verification of the persons true purpose.

As we enter the winter season, we often see an influx of travelling door-to-door sales forces. These individuals are required to be licensed through the Town, and in general, a call to the police department is appropriate to report this type of activity. If the business is one of the licensed few we will inform you, if not or there is any uncertainty we will immediately respond to investigate the activity.

KEEPING OUR TOWN BEAUTIFUL

With the upcoming season we are seeing an increase in garbage and trash placed roadside. Please be aware that garbage and trash should be placed as close to the curbside as possible on the property from which the trash and garbage was generated so as not to obstruct the roadway or public right of way. Yard trash created as the result of yard services or contractors should be removed by the contractor.

Please remember that it is your responsibility as a property owner to maintain your property in accordance with all town codes especially those relating to maintenance and appearance standards.

Additional information on these and many other subjects is available on the Town website at http://www.oceanridgeflorida.com in the new resident information handbook. This handbook is also a great source of information regarding many activities and goings on within the Town.

OCEAN RIDGE PD

BEACH CLEAN-UP

When: Saturday, OCTOBER 20, 2018

Where: 6415 N Ocean Blvd
Lower level parking lot

When: 8:30AM - 11:30AM

RSVP by: October 13, 2018

RSVP to: dboyle@oceanridgeflorida.com

TRASH BAGS, BUCKETS & GLOVES PROVIDED

Continental breakfast provided

October's Crime Prevention Information From Lieutenant Richard Jones

On The Road Safety

One of the best methods to combating crime is prevention. One of the places we think the least about security is when we are on the road. This can include traveling to far-away places or simply going to Boynton to purchase groceries or to use an ATM.

To be best prepared, you should plan in advance. Planning includes preparation and knowledge of your surroundings. Planning should include purchasing or creating a standard safety kit which includes the following items: a battery operated flashlight, extra batteries, jumper cables, traffic safety triangles, at least one can of "fix a flat" or similar tire inflation solution.

Your safety kit should also include a copy of your car insurance company's phone number, your roadside assistance provider's phone number and a list of emergency contact numbers for immediate family or friends. These items will help you stay safe and be prepared in the event of an emergency.

Frequent scheduled service on your vehicle is also another great way to prevent a dangerous situation from occurring. Service should include frequent tire inspections as well as safety equipment checks (such as your hazard lights, air compressor, etc).

Aside from maintenance and general safety, you should always maintain adequate fuel levels in your vehicles. You should never let your vehicle's fuel supply drop below ¼ tank.

Now that we have covered basic safety topics, let's talk about security. When in your vehicle, you should always keep your vehicles doors locked and your windows rolled up at least ¾ of the way. This prevents quick access to your vehicle when stopped at traffic lights or stop signs. When stopping or preparing to stop, you should be very alert and aware of your surroundings.

Do not carry large sums of cash on your person. If you carry cash inside your vehicle, make sure it is in a safe and secure location which is out of sight. I would also caution you to not leave cash in your vehicle unattended at any time.

When using cash at fast food restaurants, gas stations, convenience stores and even grocery stores you should avoid displaying large bills or a large quantity of any denominations.

If you should experience car problems or your vehicle breaks down, try to make it to a populated, well-lit and known location. Safer places include; Police Stations, Fire Stations, Hospitals or large 24 hours shopping centers such as Wal-Mart. If these places are not nearby or you are unable to make it to one of these locations, the next best location would be well-lit rest area with security, a turnpike service plaza or a 24 hour convenience store that is manned 24 hours a day and allows their customers to enter the store rather than doing business through an after-hours or walk-up window.

Avoid the use of after-hours or walk-up windows as these locations place you in a vulnerable and un-safe environment. This includes walk-up ATM locations.

continued on next page

When using ATM Machines, the safest locations to use include those that you can access without leaving the safety of your vehicle or those that are located within a secure area of a bank. If you are unable to locate one of these ATM locations and need cash immediately, you should search for one that is located inside a convenience store or shopping center and is under the direct supervision of a clerk/employee. These are less likely to be compromised than those which are unsupervised.

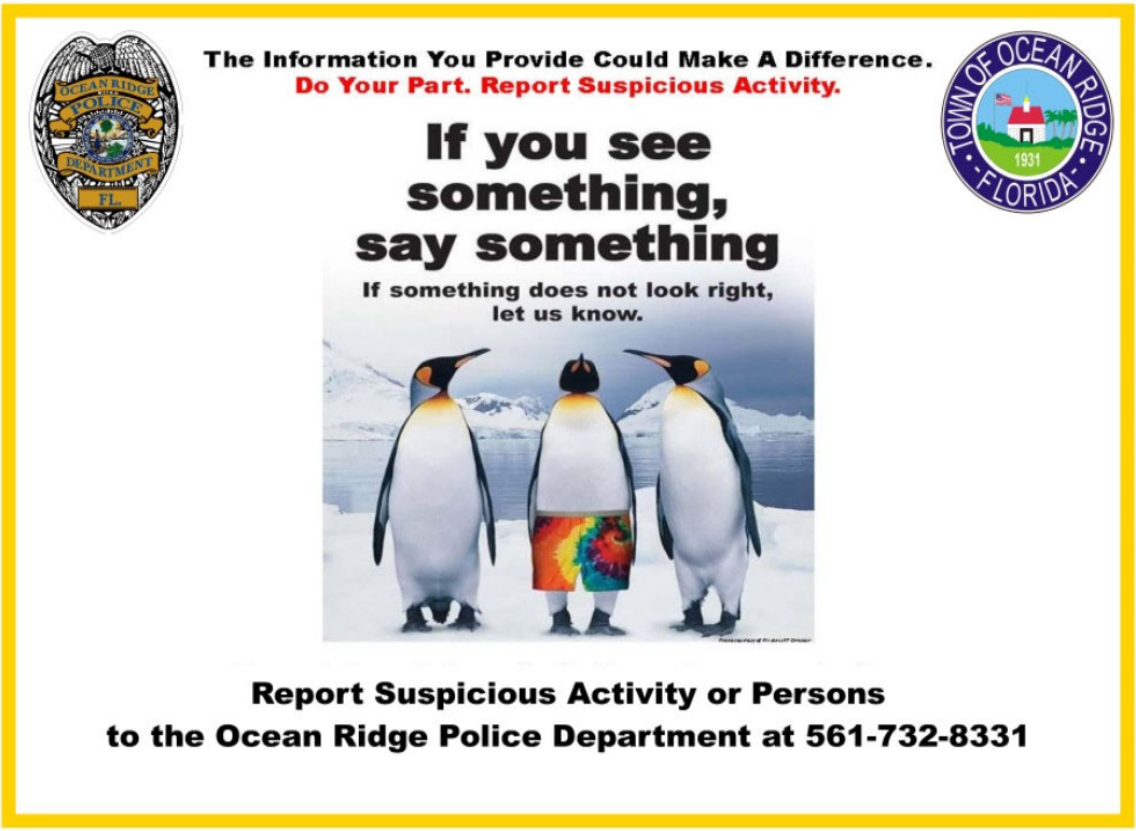
While driving, avoid engaging in aggressive driving which can lead to “road rage”. If someone becomes aggressive or displays “road rage” with you, you should become concerned and immediately contact law enforcement before the situation gets out of control. If you do not know the phone number for your local law enforcement agency, use 911 or *FHP for assistance.

As always, should you have questions or concerns, I and every member of your Police Department are available and you are welcome to call or stop in anytime and visit.

And finally,

Please report any suspicious person or activity as soon as possible.

REMEMBER



Volunteer Opportunities

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup!
When: First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup**: October 6**
Where: Oceanfront Park, 6415 N. Ocean Blvd. On A1A, just north of the Ocean Ave. bridge in Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot.
Time: 8-10:30AM
Who: Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages.
What's provided: Free parking, bags, gloves, and refreshments available to participants only. School and community service volunteer credit forms available.
What to bring: Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.
Contact: Jeff at JeffLev02@gmail.com / **Social Media:** facebook.com/SWATJIL

Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!
When: Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **October 27**

Where: Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N. Ocean Blvd. Check in is at the picnic tables next to the snack bar.
Time: 8-10:30AM
Who: Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages. Volunteer hours awarded for students.
What to bring: Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.
Contact: info@seaangels.org / **Website:** seaangels.org

Anthrax Committee

What: Should Ocean Ridge be exposed to an aerosolized airborne anthrax event, Ocean Ridge and FL Dept. of Health will provide needed antibiotics at no cost as part of a program under the auspices of the CDC. Residents are encouraged to become dispensing volunteers.
When: Attend two hours of meetings per year.
Where/Time: TBD.
Who: Ocean Ridge Residents—no experience necessary
Contact: Terri Vinas at vinasfam@aol.com / Volunteer Form

Town Hall Library

What: Shelve and organize books in the Town Library.
When: **Ongoing**
Where: 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. at Town Hall.
Time: Any time between 8:30AM—3PM, Monday—Friday.
Who: Residents of all ages welcome. Those with library experience are encouraged to volunteer.
What's provided: School and community service volunteer credit available.
Contact: Town Hall 561-732-2635

SUMMARY OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS CERTIFIED FOR THE 2018 BALLOT

2018 General Election

September 2018

There were originally 13 proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution certified for the 2018 General Election ballot on November 6, 2018. The proposed amendments are summarized in numeric order.

At this time, three proposed amendments have been reviewed and approved by the Florida Supreme Court, one was removed, and three are currently under review. They are noted in this publication.

Copies of these proposed constitutional amendments are available on the Florida Department of State Division of Elections' website at *dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives*.

AMENDMENT 1:
Homestead Exemption Increase (Gen 2018)

Currently, the Florida Constitution provides an exemption on portions of the assessed value of homesteaded properties. As of 2018, the exemption applies to the portion of a home's assessed value between (1) $0 and $25,000 and (2) $50,000 and $75,000. So, if your home's assessed value is $75,000 or $200,000, the maximum homestead exemption under current law is $50,000 for either home. Amendment 1 would provide an additional homestead exemption on the portion of a home's assessed value between $100,000 and $125,000 – raising the maximum homestead exemption to $75,000. This exemption applies to all levies other than school district levies and would take effect January 1, 2019.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote supports exempting the portion of assessed home values between $100,000 and $125,000 from property taxes other than school taxes, bringing the maximum homestead exemption up to $75,000.

SUPPORTERS:

Florida House of Representatives vote:
83 to 35, 2 not voting
Florida Senate vote:
28 to 10, 1 not voting

"Making homes more affordable, we're going to allow people to move from rental units back into homes. And in doing so, it's going to give us the ability to generate revenue for doc stamps, the tangible tax and a whole host of other things that go along with home ownership."
– Sen. Tom Lee (R-20)

"... Democratic supporters said the proposal will make it easier for first-time home buyers and that lawmakers shouldn't underestimate the ability of voters to understand the proposal's potential impacts on local governments."
– Palm Beach Post

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote opposes exempting the portion of assessed home values between $100,000 and $125,000 from property taxes other than school taxes, keeping the maximum homestead exemption at $50,000. If passed, Amendment 1 is expected to cost municipalities, counties and special districts $644.7 million per year.

OPPONENTS:

Florida League of Cities; Florida Association of Counties; Florida City and County Management Association; Florida Policy Institute; *Tampa Bay Times; Sun Sentinal; St. Augustine Record*

"Amendment 1 isn't what it seems. The politicians call it a tax break, but it's really a tax SHIFT that will leave millions of hardworking homeowners with a bigger share of the property tax burden."
– Florida League of Cities

"That would exacerbate the inequities in Florida's tax code and cost millions that local governments need for basic services such as parks, libraries and public safety. ... This constitutional amendment is unnecessary, and it is nothing more than an attempt to curry election-year favor with voters."
– Tampa Bay Times

AMENDMENT 2:
Permanent Cap on Nonhomestead Parcel Assessment Increases (Gen 2018)

Currently, the Florida Constitution limits property tax assessment increases to 10 percent a year for specified non-homesteaded property. However, the 10 percent cap is set to expire January 1, 2019. Amendment 2 would make the 10 percent cap permanent. The non-homesteaded properties the measure applies to include non-homesteaded residential properties, such as second homes, rental apartments and nonresidential property, such as commercial property and vacant land. The cap does not apply to school district taxes.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote would make permanent the cap of 10 percent on annual nonhomestead parcel assessment increases set to expire on January 1, 2019.

SUPPORTERS:

Florida House of Representatives Vote:
110 to 3, 7 not voting
Florida Senate Vote
35 to 0, 4 not voting

Amendment 2 is For Everybody; Florida Association of Realtors; Florida Policy Institute

"Amendment 2 really is good for everybody because if the non-homestead tax cap expires in 2019, every Floridian will be negatively impacted in some way. Whether it's a business having to increase the cost of their goods and services or tenants having their rent go up a significant amount, communities across the state will suffer."
– **Maria Wells,** president of **Florida Association of Realtors**

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would allow the cap of 10 percent on annual nonhomestead parcel assessment increases to expire on January 1, 2019.

OPPONENTS:

Unknown at this time

AMENDMENT 3:
Voter Approval of Casino Gambling (Gen 2018)

Amendment 3 would provide voters the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling in the state of Florida. If passed, the Florida Legislature would not be allowed to authorize casino gambling through statute or through referring a constitutional amendment to the ballot. The measure defines "casino gambling" as card games, casino games and slot machines. Pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing, dog racing or jai alai exhibitions is not included in the measure's definition of casino gambling. The measure would not impact casino gambling on Native American tribal lands established through state-tribe compacts.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote would provide voters, through citizen-initiated ballot measures, with the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling in Florida.

SUPPORTERS:

Voter in Charge; Disney World Services, Inc.; Seminole Tribe of Florida

"Amendment 3 is about who should have the authority to authorize casino gambling in Florida. Politicians and lobbyists in Tallahassee or Florida voters? For nearly a century, approval of casino gambling was strictly left for voters to decide. Only in the last few years have Tallahassee politicians decided they can legalize casinos without voter approval. Amendment 3 seeks to give that ultimate authority back to Florida voters where it belongs."
– Voters in Charge

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would not provide voters, through citizen-initiated ballot measures, with the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling in Florida.

OPPONENTS:

Vote NO on 3; Sen. Bill Galvano (R-21); Isadore "Izzy" Havenick

"It's game over for the Legislature if that (constitutional) amendment gets on the ballot and passes. And at that point, we'll just be spectators in the world of gaming, which will essentially be a monopoly for the Seminole Tribe."
– Sen. Bill Galvano (R-21)

"I think it will have a huge impact on our industry, because as opposed to the Legislature regulating us, we'll need 60 percent of the residents of Florida to regulate us in the future. And, as the most regulated business in the state, that just makes anything we want to do to grow our business in the future more difficult."
– Isadore "Izzy" Havenick, owner of dog racing tracks in Naples and Miami

AMENDMENT 4:
Restoration for Felon's Voting Rights (Gen 2018)

Currently, the law requires individuals with prior felonies to go before a state board to restore their individual voting rights. Amendment 4 would automatically restore the right to vote for people with prior felony convictions upon completion of their sentences. Sentences include prison, parole and probation. The amendment does not restore voting rights for individuals convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote would automatically restore the right to vote for people with prior felony convictions, except those convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense, upon completion of their sentences, including prison, parole and probation.

SUPPORTERS:

U.S. Rep. Charlie Crist (D-13); Former U.S. Rep. Gwen Graham (D-2); Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum (D); Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine (D); Gubernatorial Candidate Christopher King (D); Florida Rights Restoration Coalition; American Civil Liberties Union; Our Revolution; New Approach PAC; Floridians for a Fair Democracy; Reentry Alliance Pensacola

"Americans believe in second chances. We need to make sure that Florida Law does too. Nearly 1.5 million people in Florida are permanently excluded from voting because of a prior felony conviction. Florida is one of only four states that still has a system that excludes so many people from voting. These are our family members, friends, and neighbors who have already repaid their debts to society. Now is the time to restore the ability to vote to Floridians who have earned the opportunity to participate in and give back to their communities."
– Floridians for a Fair Democracy

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would NOT automatically restore the right to vote for people with prior felony convictions, except those convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense, upon completion of their sentences, including prison, parole and probation.

OPPONENTS:

Floridians For A Sensible Voting Rights Policy; Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam; Rep. Richard Corcoran (R-37)

"Other than murder and sexual felonies, it [the initiative] treats all other felonies as though they were the same. It's a blanket, automatic restoration of voting rights. If it gets on the ballot, your only choice will be an all or nothing, yes or no vote on the amendment. If it passes, neither you nor anyone else will ever be allowed to consider the specifics of the crime or the post-release history of the criminal before that new voter registration card is issued."
– Richard Harrison, executive director of **Floridians For A Sensible Voting Rights Policy**

AMENDMENT 5:
Two-Thirds Vote of Legislature to Increase Taxes or Fees (Gen 2018)

Currently, the Florida Legislature can pass new taxes or fees, and it can increase existing ones (except the corporate income tax), through a simple majority vote in each chamber. It can also pass new taxes or fees, and increase existing ones, using multi-subject bills. If Amendment 5 passes, the legislature would need a two-thirds vote in each chamber to pass a new tax or fee, or increase an existing one. In addition, if a bill enacts a new tax or fee, or increases existing ones, it must not contain any other subject. This voting requirement would not apply to any tax or fee imposed by a county, municipality, school board or special district.

ARGUMENTS FOR:
A "yes" vote supports requiring a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Florida Legislature to enact new taxes or fees or increase existing ones.

SUPPORTERS:
Florida House of Representatives Vote:
80 to 29, 7 Not Voting
Florida Senate Vote:
25 to 13

Gov. Rick Scott; Rep. Tom Leek (R-25); Rep. Dane Eagle (R-77); Rep. Larry Metz (R-32); Rep. Richard Corcoran (R-37); Sen. Rob Bradley (R-5)

"We should always make it much more difficult to raise taxes than it is to cut them. This amendment will secure and protect that legacy from future legislatures bent on raising taxes."
– Rep. Richard Corcoran (R-37)

"I believe that taking a citizen's hard-earned money should not be taken lightly."
– Rep. Tom Leek (R-25), a legislative sponsor of the amendment

"Politicians should not have the authority to raise taxes when they feel like it. There should be a higher threshold."
– Rep. Kionne McGhee (D-117)

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:
A "no" vote would allow the Legislature to continue to enact new taxes or fees or increase existing ones, except the corporate income tax, through a simple majority vote.

OPPONENTS:
Florida Policy Institute; Tax Policy Center; Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum (D);Rep. Joseph Geller (D-100); Rep. Sean Shaw (D-61); Sen. Jose Javier Rodriguez (D-27);

"I think this is a short-sighted idea. There's simply no need for this. Have some confidence in the people who will sit in these seats after you are gone."
– Rep. Joseph Geller (D-100)

"Each and every Session, there's a different tension between taxes and revenue and what we want to spend money on and what we don't. I'm no smarter than someone who's going to come here 10 years from now to vote. And so I don't think I ought to have more power than that person that sits in this seat 10 years from now to vote. They should be able to vote up or down on tax policy, up and down on revenues, just like I do."
– Rep. Sean Shaw (D-61)

"This legislature would be constrained from raising funds going into the future but when it comes time – like this legislature does every year – to carve special exemptions out of the tax base, there would not be a heightened threshold. What that does is make our tax code more and more and more regressive."
– Sen. Jose Javier Rodriguez (D-27)

AMENDMENT 6:

Marsy's Law Crime Victim Rights, Judicial Retirement Age and Judicial Interpretation of Laws and Rules (Gen 2018)

Amendment 6 would provide crime victims, their families and their lawful representatives with a series of rights including a right to due process; a right to be treated with fairness and respect; freedom from intimidation, harassment and abuse; a right to be protected, within reason, from the accused and persons acting on behalf of the accused; a right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay; and more. In addition, Amendment 6 would increase the judicial retirement age from 70 to 75 years of age. The amendment would also prohibit state courts from deferring to an administrative agency's interpretation of a state statute or rule in lawsuits.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote would add specific rights of crime victims to Florida's Constitution, increase the judicial retirement age and prohibit state courts from deferring to an administrative agency's interpretation of a state statute or rule in lawsuits.

SUPPORTERS:

Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) Vote: *34 to 3*

Marsy's Law for All Foundation; Florida Smart Justice Alliance; CRC Commissioner Darlene Jordan; Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca

"Like most Floridians, I believe that victims of crime and their families should be treated with fairness, dignity and respect. That is why I am proud to co-sponsor Marsy's Law for Florida."
– Darlene Jordan, CRC commissioner

"There is no reason vulnerable victims of crime should not have enumerated rights in our state's most valuable legal document – yet that is currently the case in Florida."
– Chip LaMarca, Broward County commissioner

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would NOT add specific rights of crime victims to Florida's Constitution or increase the judicial retirement age, and it would allow state courts to continue to defer to an administrative agency's interpretation of a state statute or rule in lawsuits.

OPPONENTS:

Sun Sentinel; **CRC Commissioners Hank Coxe, Arthenia Joyner and Bob Solari**

"It would create endless conflicts between the stipulated rights of victims and the constitutional rights of defendants. These are already inherent in the system and they're best left for judges to resolve."
– Sun Sentinel

Court reviewed and approved.

AMENDMENT 7:

Florida First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits, Supermajority Board Votes for College Fees and State College System (Gen 2018)

Amendment 7 would require employers of first responders to provide death benefits to surviving spouses if the first responders lost their lives on official duty. Regarding the military, the state would have to provide certain death benefits to surviving spouses of military members accidentally, unlawfully or intentionally killed. In addition, the state would have to waive certain educational expenses for surviving children or spouses who are pursuing a career-certificate, undergraduate education or postgraduate education. The amendment also makes it more difficult to raise college fees by requiring a supermajority vote by both a university's board of trustees and the state board of governors, as opposed to the simple majority needed under current law. Finally, the amendment would place the current structure of the state's system of higher education in the Florida Constitution.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote would require death benefits for first responders and military members, make it more difficult to increase college fees and place the current structure of the state's system of higher education in the Florida Constitution.

SUPPORTERS:

Constitution Revision Commission Vote:

30 to 7

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would NOT require death benefits for first responders and military members, make it more difficult to increase college fees or place the current structure of the state's system of higher education in the Florida Constitution.

OPPONENTS:

Unknown at this time

UNDER REVIEW

AMENDMENT 8:
School Board Term Limits, Allow State to Operate Non-Board Established Schools and Civic Literacy (Gen 2018)

Currently, there is no state law limiting how long a person could serve on a school board. Amendment 8 would limit school board members to two consecutive four-year terms and would change the constitution so that school boards only have authority to operate, control and supervise the public schools they themselves established. Currently, school boards operate, control and supervise all free public schools within their jurisdiction, but the measure would allow a different state institution to have oversight of public schools not established by school boards. Non-board established schools could include privately organized charter schools, lab schools, collegiate high schools and other types of schools. The amendment would also add language to the Florida Constitution stating that "education is essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people" and require the Florida Legislature to pass laws to ensure public school students "understand and are prepared to exercise their rights and responsibilities as citizens of a constitutional republic."

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote establishes term limits for school board members; allows the state government to operate, supervise and control public schools not established by the school board; and requires the legislature to promote civic literacy in public education.

SUPPORTERS:

Constitution Revision Commission Vote:
27 to 10

8isGreat; CRC Commissioner Erika Donalds; Former Senate President Don Gaetz (R); Republican Party of Florida

"... Local school boards have tried to block organizations with proven track records from opening public charter schools ... Like most Floridians, I believe in local control. But local control should never trump individual rights – including the right of parents to access the best possible schools for their children. Parents should hold the ultimate local control."
– Erika Donalds, CRC commissioner

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would NOT establish term limits for school board members; allow the state government to operate, supervise and control public schools not established by the school board; or require the legislature to promote civic literacy in public education.

OPPONENTS:

American Civil Liberties Union of Florida; Common Cause Florida; For Our Future Florida; Florida First Amendment Foundation; Florida AFL-CIO; Florida Alliance of Planned Parenthood Affiliates; Florida Consumer Action Network; Florida Education Association; Florida NOW; Florida Policy Institute; League of Women Voters Florida; National Council of Jewish Women; Progress Florida; Southern Poverty Law Center; *Palm Beach Post*

"... Proposal 71 would allow a politically appointed, unaccountable board in Tallahassee – not local school boards – to decide when and where new charter schools will open. If such a radical change were to stand alone on the ballot, there's little question voters would reject it. That's why the politicians backing it have packaged it with two other proposed amendments they think will be more popular ..."
– Pat Drago, state executive board member of the **League of Women Voters**

"They want to take power away from the elected School Board and give it to an unaccountable group in Tallahassee. And guess who will appoint the members of that group? Those Tallahassee politicians."
– Janet McAliley, former member of the **Miami-Dade School Board**

REMOVED

AMENDMENT 9:
Florida Ban on Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces (Gen 2018)

Amendment 9 would ban offshore oil and gas drilling from Florida's shoreline to the outermost boundaries of the state's territorial seas. It would not affect the transportation of oil and natural gas products produced outside the state's waters. The amendment would also ban the use of vapor-generating electronic devices in indoor workplaces. The measure makes allowances for private residences that are not being used for commercial childcare, adult care or health care; for retail tobacco and vapor-generating device shops; for designed smoking guest rooms in hotels; and in stand-alone bars.

ARGUMENTS FOR:
A "yes" vote would ban offshore drilling for oil and natural gas on lands beneath all state waters and ban the use of vapor-generating electronic devices, such as electronic cigarettes, in enclosed indoor workplaces.

SUPPORTERS:
Constitution Revision Commission Vote:
33 to 3, 1 not voting

Florida Wildlife Federation; reThink Energy Florida

"If we had a disastrous spill in Florida water, our beaches and wildlife would immediately be in peril. The absolute last thing we need in Florida is oil-soaked marshes, bays, mangroves, sea grasses, coral reefs and beaches."
– Manley Fuller, president of the **Florida Wildlife Federation**

"We would be the only state in the nation to have this in our state constitution. This would sound a loud environmental message, forever."
– Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, CRC commissioner

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:
A "no" vote would NOT ban offshore drilling for oil and natural gas on lands beneath all state waters or ban the use of vapor-generating electronic devices, such as electronic cigarettes, in enclosed indoor workplaces.

OPPONENTS:
Vets4Energy Florida; Florida Petroleum Council

"If this amendment passes, we will forego not only a safe process for developing the energy we depend on, but also the opportunity to add more than $2.6 billion to our economy over the next two decades and provide jobs to more than 56,000 people through drilling in state and federal waters."
– C.S. Bennet, member of **Vets4Energy Florida**

"We'll stand on our merits of Floridians being interested in American energy production, creating more energy and more jobs, with the knowledge that the Legislature has already acted on this for the foreseeable future, and why wouldn't that be enough? We just think it's a bad idea to do that (put it in the Constitution), and we think Floridians will agree."
– David Mica, executive director of the **Florida Petroleum Council**

UNDER REVIEW

AMENDMENT 10:
Florida State and Local Government Structure and Operation

The amendment deals with state and local government structure and operation. If passed, it would add the existing State Department of Veteran Affairs to the Florida Constitution; create a state Office of Domestic Security and Counter Terrorism in the constitution; require the Florida Legislature to convene its regular session on the second Tuesday of January in even-numbered years; and prohibit counties from abolishing certain local offices – sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections and clerk of circuit court – and requiring elections for these offices. Amendment 10 would remove authority for a county charter or a special law to provide for choosing specified county officers in a manner other than election.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote would add the existing state Department of Veterans Affairs to the Florida Constitution, create a state Office of Domestic Security and Counter-Terrorism, require the legislature to convene regular session on the second Tuesday of January of even-numbered years, prohibit counties from abolishing certain local offices and require elections for these offices.

SUPPORTERS:

Constitution Revision Commission Vote:
29 to 8

Florida Sheriffs Association; Florida Tax Collectors Association; Florida C.O.R.E.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would NOT add the existing state Department of Veterans Affairs to the Florida Constitution, create a state Office of Domestic Security and Counter-Terrorism, require the legislature to convene regular session on the second Tuesday of January of even-numbered years, prohibit counties from abolishing certain local offices or require elections for these offices.

OPPONENTS:

Florida Association of Counties; Miami-Dade County; Volusia County; Broward County

"[The measure] would eliminate the constitutional right of local citizens to govern their sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, and the management of county finances."
– Florida Association of Counties

Court reviewed and approved.

AMENDMENT 11:

Repeal Prohibition on Aliens' Property Ownership, Delete Obsolete Provision on High-Speed Rail and Repeal of Criminal Statutes' Effect on Prosecution (Gen 2018)

The amendment would remove discriminatory language that states: "... ownership, inheritance, disposition and possession of real property by aliens ineligible for citizenship may be regulated or prohibited by law." It also removed obsolete language repealed by voters regarding high-speed rail and removes a prohibition on the retroactive application of changes in criminal laws to the punishment of previously committed crimes.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote would repeal the prohibition on foreign-born persons ineligible for citizenship from property ownership and remove obsolete language regarding high-speed rail, as well as repeal criminal statutes' effect on prosecution.

SUPPORTERS:

Constitution Revision Commission Vote:
36 to 1

Florida Policy Institute

"Amendment 11, if adopted by voters in November ... would be substantial for both the state and taxpayers. With the possibility of [inmates'] sentences being reduced, the state would cut down on expenses, and those funds could be diverted into crucial re-entry and substance abuse programs that have experienced major cuts this year. ... It would have major fiscal benefits for taxpayers and unprecedented positive effects on Florida's inmate population."
– Tachana Joseph, policy analyst at **Florida Policy Institute**

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote would NOT repeal the prohibition on foreign-born persons ineligible for citizenship from property ownership, remove obsolete language regarding high-speed rail or repeal criminal statutes' effect on prosecution.

OPPONENTS:

Unknown at this time

UNDER REVIEW

AMENDMENT 12:
Lobbying Restrictions for Elected Officials (Gen 2018)

Amendment 12 would prohibit elected municipal officials, judges, statewide elected officers, legislators, county commissioners, county officers, school board members, school superintendents, special district officers with ad valorem taxing authority and state agency heads from paid lobbying while in office and for six years following their term of office. Specifically, Amendment 12 prohibits these officials from PAID lobbying on "issues of policy, appropriations or procurement" before any other governmental entity (federal, state, county, municipal or special district) while in office. The measure also prohibits these officials from PAID lobbying before their former governing body for six years after leaving office. Amendment 12 does not prohibit officials from representing their government before any other governmental entity if such action is within the duties of the office. It also does not define several key terms including "lobby," "issues of policy," "appropriation," and "procurement." The measure does, however, direct the Legislature to enact implementing legislation that may define these terms. The measure also prohibits the abuse of a public position by public officers and employees to obtain a personal benefit. If the amendment passes, the lobbying restrictions would take effect December 31, 2022.

ARGUMENTS FOR:

A "yes" vote supports prohibiting public officials from lobbying for compensation during the official's term in office and for six years after the official leaves office and prohibiting public officials from using the office to obtain a personal benefit.

SUPPORTERS:

Constitution Revision Commission Vote:
30 to 4, 3 not voting

Integrity Florida; CRC Commissioner Don Gaetz

The Amendment would "weed out those who enter public service to benefit themselves in their private lives. It would ensure people go into public service for the right reasons."
– Ben Wilcox, research director for **Integrity Florida**

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

A "no" vote opposes prohibiting public officials from lobbying for compensation during the official's term in office and for six years after the official leaves office and prohibiting public officials from using the office to obtain a personal benefit.

OPPONENTS:

CRC Commissioner Jose Felix Diaz

"My big fear about this legislation is that I think that inadvertently it is going to capture people that it doesn't mean to capture. I also think it's going to discourage people from running or being appointed to positions and we might lose some really good opportunities to have some good people serving in office."
– Jose Felix Diaz, CRC commissioner

AMENDMENT 13:
Florida Ban on Wagering on Dog Races (Gen 2018)

If passed, Amendment 13 would ban gambling on dog races. Specifically, pari-mutuel operations would be prohibited from racing greyhounds or any other dogs for gambling purposes beginning January 1, 2021. In addition, persons in the state would also be prohibited from wagering on the outcome of live dog races occurring in Florida. Civil or criminal penalties for violating this amendment are to be determined by the Legislature.

ARGUMENTS FOR:
A "yes" vote supports banning gambling on dog races, including greyhound races.

SUPPORTERS:
Constitution Revision Commission Vote:
27 to 10

Protect Dogs – Yes on 13; Grey2K USA Worldwide; Elite Greyhound Adoptions; Humane Society of the United States; Committee to Protect Greyhounds; The Greater Tarpon Spring Democratic Club; OurRev305 of Miami; First Congregational United Church of Christ in Ocala; Animal Welfare League of Charlotte County; Edgewater Animal Shelter; Southeast Volusia Humane Society; The Animal Legal Defense Fund; Pets Ad Litem; Imagine Our Florida Inc.; Sen. Tom Lee (R-20); Sen. Dana Young (R-18); Sen Darryl Rouson (D-19); Former State Senate President Don Gaetz (R); Former State Sen. Maria Sachs (D); Former Sewall's Point Mayor Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch (R)

"... This is a major victory for everyone in the state who cares about dogs. Commercial greyhound racing is cruel and inhumane ... The animal protection community is united in its support for this humane proposal. We are prepared to run a formidable campaign, and are confident Floridians will vote 'yes' for the dogs this November."
– Carey M. Theil, executive director of **Grey2K USA Worldwide**

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:
A "no" vote opposes banning gambling on dog races, including greyhound races.

OPPONENTS:
Support Greyhounds; Sanford-Orlando Kennel Club; Palm Beach Kennel Club; Florida Greyhound Association; National Greyhound Association; CRC Commissioners Chris Smith and Arthenia Joyner

"If you make a mistake and misrepresent the facts, you can come back and fix it. You can't fix a constitutional amendment without extraordinary measures."
– Jack Cory, representative for the **Florida Greyhound Association**

"I don't want to deny or take away a person's right to earn a living, when there is a solution, short of putting it in the Constitution."
– Arthenia Joyner, CRC commissioner

Court reviewed and approved.

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Impact Estimate for HJR 7105
2018 Preliminary Values

CITY	Taxing Authority	Parcel Count Affected	Proposed Additional Value Exempted	Estimated Loss of Tax Dollars	2017 Final Millage Rates
02	Atlantis	703	16,975,096	131,014	7.7181
04	Belle Glade	214	3,854,131	25,214	6.5419
06	Boca Raton	20,501	502,156,941	1,847,335	3.6788
08	Boynton Beach	9,302	204,455,880	1,615,201	7.9000
09	Briny Breezes	55	1,159,545	11,595	10.0000
10	Cloud Lake	16	365,311	0	0.0000
12	Delray Beach	9,582	222,584,128	1,578,121	7.0900
14	Glenridge	48	1,127,350	0	0.0000
18	Greenacres	3,478	78,197,039	475,874	6.0854
20	Gulf Stream	332	8,222,301	35,849	4.3600
22	Haverhill	397	8,594,881	38,677	4.5000
24	Highland Beach	1,674	41,629,832	153,864	3.6959
26	Hypoluxo	530	12,372,038	41,040	3.3170
28	Juno Beach	1,080	26,590,311	56,733	2.1337
30	Jupiter	14,612	351,337,709	942,146	2.6815
32	Jupiter Inlet Colony	155	3,875,000	19,375	5.0000
34	Lake Clark Shores	1,017	24,838,320	155,985	6.2798
36	Lake Park	695	12,354,838	74,312	6.0149
38	Lake Worth (O.E.)	2,239	48,331,489	301,801	6.2444
40	Lantana	892	20,036,746	70,129	3.5000
41	Loxahatchee Groves	650	15,019,240	32,291	2.1500
42	Manalapan	133	3,325,000	9,294	2.7950
44	Mangonia Park	3	56,950	558	9.8000
46	Ocean Ridge	581	14,255,746	74,843	5.2500
48	Pahokee	38	627,743	4,107	6.5419
50	Palm Beach	3,168	78,410,861	251,197	3.2037
52	Palm Beach Gardens	14,403	341,735,532	1,936,954	5.6678
54	Palm Beach Shores	326	7,869,057	49,969	6.3500
56	Riviera Beach	3,015	67,828,985	573,291	8.4520
58	South Bay	14	208,661	1,316	6.3089
60	Tequesta	1,817	44,066,019	277,263	6.2920
62	South Palm Beach	454	10,207,864	40,795	3.9965
66	Village of Golf	94	2,350,000	15,004	6.3849
68	North Palm Beach	3,475	81,278,834	595,774	7.3300
70	Palm Springs	1,166	21,153,011	85,804	4.0562
72	Royal Palm Beach	7,373	174,568,847	335,172	1.9200
73	Wellington	13,280	326,250,000	792,787	2.4300
74	West Palm Beach	12,453	286,177,168	2,431,013	8.4946
Total Mun		**129,965**		**15,081,697**	
00	Unincorporated	112,945	2,639,303,308	12,619,829	4.7815
CO	**Palm Beach County**	242,910	5,703,751,712	27,272,489	4.7815

Source: Palm Beach County Property Appraiser, 2018 DR489 Estimate Tax Roll (July 1st)

Dorothy Jacks CFA, AAS

July 1, 2018

Law; Exempting the assessed value of homestead property greater than $100,000 and up to $125,000 for all levies other than school district levies.