

**Agenda Item:** 2.d

**Meeting Date:** September 2, 2025

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** City Commission

**Through:** Jennifer K. Bramley, City Manager

**From:** Nicole Delfino

**Date:** 2025-09-02

**Subject:** 2026 Legislative Priorities Discussion

**Presenter(s):** Nicole Delfino, Strategy & Sustainability Manager

**Staff Recommendation:** Review and approve 2026 Legislative Agenda

**Strategic Themes:** Good Governance

**Boards & Committees:** N/A

**Budget Impact:** N/A

**Past Action:** Approval of past year's Legislative Agendas

**Next Action:** Advocacy & Appropriations Requests

**Attachments:** [A. 2026 Legislative Priority Review Presentation.pdf](#)  
[B. 2025 Dunedin Legislative Priorities.pdf](#)

**Background:** In an effort to protect the quality of life for the City of Dunedin residents, the City established Legislative Priorities in February of 2019, producing documentation of our most pressing state and federal legislative priorities. Subsequently, priorities have been updated each year.

In 2024, City staff, with support of the City Commission, engaged Legislative Lobbyist, The Southern Group (TSG) through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Within TSG, our primary legislative lobbyist is Laura Boehmer. The TSG agreement commenced just ahead of the 2024 Legislative session, allowing staff to work with Ms. Boehmer and TSG to advocate for the City of Dunedin.

During the 2024 and 2025 Legislative sessions, TSG facilitated meetings and coordination occurred both in and outside of Tallahassee with City

staff, elected officials, and state agencies. TSG together with City Staff coordinates submission and provides the required documentation for state appropriation requests.

Our legislative impact and advocacy continue to grow as we engage and build our relationships with Senator Ed Hooper, Representative Adam Anderson, and Representative Kim Berfield and the larger Pinellas County delegation. Developing concise and direct priorities and requests is key to advocacy. As we look ahead to the 2026 Legislative session, staff would like to review our current legislative position, request Commission discussion and direction on 2026 priorities and amend the Legislative advocacy document. Staff will coordinate connecting with delegation during off-session season and visits to Tallahassee for advocacy and as part of the 2026 Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Days.

Advocacy, appropriations requests, and grant requests through State agencies are key to advancing the City's priorities. TSG maintains an office and presence in Tallahassee for the duration of the legislative session and pre-session committee hearings. City Staff and TSG will track key bills throughout the legislative session.