



The total for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget is \$90.98 billion. The General Revenue portion is \$33.93 billion. The amount of state funds per capita decreased from \$2,716 in Fiscal Year 2018-19 to \$2,690 in Fiscal Year 2019-20. The General Revenue funds available for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget year increased \$600 million from the previous fiscal year, a 1.8 percent increase. Florida's total reserves are \$5.40 billion.

Budget Savings

The budget includes \$566.7 million in savings and a reduction of 755 positions. Notable savings contained in the budget include:

- Administrative and operational efficiencies of \$234.4 million
- State Group Health Insurance Formulary Savings of \$22.9 million
- Savings resulting from contract and lease renegotiations are \$6.1 million
- Debt service savings of \$56.3 million as a result of refinancing efforts
- Reduced excess budget authority of \$247.0 million

Taxpayer Savings

Currently, Florida's per capita state tax burden of \$1,822 is the second lowest among all states. Governor DeSantis is committed to reducing Floridians' tax burden even further and making Florida the most dynamic economy in the nation. The budget will save Floridians almost \$400 million:

- **Property Tax Cut \$272.3 Million** – The budget reduces the school property tax millage rate by 0.148 in the required local effort in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) for an overall annual tax savings of \$272.3 million.
- **Sales Tax Holidays to Save Families \$47.2 Million** – The budget funds two sales tax holidays which will provide Florida families with the following savings in the upcoming fiscal year
 - \$41.7 million from a 5-day back-to-school sales tax holiday helping Florida families prepare for the upcoming school year;
 - \$5.5 million from one-week disaster preparedness sales tax holidays to encourage Floridians to be prepared for the hurricane season.
- **Commercial Rent Reduction \$64.5 Million** – The budget reduces the state tax rate on the rental or lease of commercial real property from 5.7 percent to 5.5 percent generating annual savings of \$64.5 million beginning January 1, 2020.
- **Hurricane Michael Relief \$1.0 Million** – The budget includes relief from certain sales, fuel, and property taxes for areas affected by Hurricane Michael.
 - \$0.5 million from sales tax refunds on fences and building materials, and fuel tax refunds for agricultural shipments and debris cleanup.



- \$0.5 million from property tax relief from tangible personal property rendered unusable for at least 60 days due to the effects of Hurricane Michael in affected counties.

Various other Reductions \$8.4 Million – The budget included various other reductions including a sales tax exemption on the purchase of goods later donated to non-profits organizations and a doubling of the discount on civil penalties offered to individuals choosing to attend a traffic school traffic school saving Floridian’s a total of \$8.4 million.

Florida Retirement System

Pension Unfunded Liability – The unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) Defined Benefit Program amounted to \$29.9 billion on June 30, 2018. Based on an actuarial liability of \$186.0 billion and an actuarial value of assets of \$156.1 billion, the program is 83.9 percent funded as of June 30, 2018.

The budget implements the recommendations of the independent actuary and proposes to fully fund the recommended contributions to both the normal cost and the UAL for state employees. This helps Florida continue to have one of the best funded pension plans of the largest states in the nation.

Florida Reserves

Florida continues to maintain strong reserves. Reserve amounts included in the budget are:

- \$1.17 billion in unallocated General Revenue
- \$1.57 billion in the Budget Stabilization Fund
- \$1.61 billion in unallocated Trust Funds
- \$0.88 billion in Tobacco Reserves
- \$0.18 billion in anticipated Hurricane Reimbursements
- \$5.41 billion Total Reserves

A BOLD VISION FOR PROTECTING ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

The budget supports major reforms to ensure the protection of Florida’s environment and water quality, which are the foundation of our communities, economy and way of life. Governor DeSantis strongly believes the protection of water resources is one of the most pressing issues facing our state and therefore this budget focuses on sound science to protect our natural treasures. As part of a more than \$4 billion investment to protect our environment, agriculture and natural resources, the budget includes more than \$1.8 billion specifically for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).



Rapid Improvement for Water Quality, Quantity and Supply

On his second full day in office, Governor DeSantis signed Executive Order 19-12, implementing major reforms to achieve more now for Florida's environment. Governor DeSantis called for \$2.5 billion to be invested over the next four years for Everglades restoration and the protection of water resources, the highest level of funding for restoration in Florida's history and a \$1 billion increase over the previous four years. The budget takes the important first step toward that goal, investing over \$625 million in Everglades restoration and major initiatives to protect our valuable water resources statewide. On top of this critical investment, this year's funding supports additional specific water resource projects, such as \$10 million for the St. Johns River and Keystone Heights Lake Region and \$6 million for the Florida Keys.

To achieve more now to restore Florida's treasured Everglades, we must keep our foot on the gas, completing and accelerating critical water resource projects. That is why the budget invests a record \$417 million for Everglades restoration projects, a level of funding which will put Florida on track to complete the C-44 Reservoir and stormwater treatment area, the C-43 Reservoir, and 20 additional projects over the next five years. These projects will provide 672,000 acre-feet of storage and remove almost 200,000 pounds of total phosphorus annually, a major source of nutrient pollution, and will significantly reduce harmful discharges from Lake Okeechobee. In addition, the EAA Reservoir project will receive \$107 million: \$43 million above the annual \$64 million to ensure that we are moving forward with this crucial project needed to move water south. The budget also invests \$40 million through the Department of Transportation's work program to speed up and complete the final phase to raise the Tamiami Trail, which will restore the flow of more than 900 million gallons per day of water south. Governor DeSantis has also requested that the federal government provide their final piece of funding for this project, which will ultimately bring the Tamiami Trail project to completion. The budget also includes \$50 million for specified projects in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Lake Okeechobee Restoration Project to achieve the greatest reductions in harmful discharges to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries.

The budget supports a more than \$25 million total investment to improve water quality and combat the effects and impacts of harmful algal blooms, including blue-green algae and red tide. Specifically, \$10 million is included for innovative technologies and short-term solutions to address the impacts of algae blooms. This includes the continuation of DEP's emergency red tide grant program and may also address water quality treatment technologies surrounding Lake Okeechobee. \$10.8 million is included to increase water quality monitoring, support the Blue-Green Algae Task Force, and to develop a water quality public information portal. This portal will be focused on accountability and transparency, providing monitoring data for all of Florida's outstanding springs and key waterbodies, as well as allow the public to track the investment in projects and progress in attaining water quality goals. \$4.2 million is included to establish the Center for Red Tide Research within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and to support the Harmful Algal Bloom Task Force and partnerships for mitigation and technology development with a renewed focus on red tide. An additional \$650,000 is provided



for the Department of Health to conduct a study on the long-term health impacts of red tide and blue-green algae.

The budget also includes \$50 million in General Revenue for targeted water quality improvements to achieve significant, meaningful and measurable nutrient reductions in key waterbodies across the State of Florida. This includes \$25 million for cost-share grant funds for water quality improvements, including septic conversions and upgrades, other wastewater improvements, and rural and urban stormwater system upgrades and \$25 million to accelerate projects to meet scientific nutrient reduction goals (called Total Maximum Daily Loads). This funding supports projects identified by DEP, the Blue-Green Algae Task Force and its partners to reduce nutrient pollution and harmful algal blooms in our treasured waterways. The budget additionally includes more than \$49 million for specific projects to assist local governments in improving water quality and conservation in their respective communities. On top of the investment in targeted water quality improvements, the budget includes \$100 million to restore Florida's world-renowned springs. This funding may also be used for land acquisition to protect springsheds and will be crucial to supporting homeowners and local communities as they work with the state to achieve the septic and nutrient reduction requirements of the 2016 Water Bill.

The Budget includes \$40 million for an alternative water supply grant program to help communities plan for and implement vital conservation, reuse and other alternative water supply projects. DEP will engage local governments, industry, universities and water management districts to identify and research all viable alternative water supply sources and is working to provide an assessment of funding needs critical to supporting Florida's growing economy.

Executive Order 19-12 called for the transfer of the Environmental Crimes Enforcement Unit from FWC to DEP to align resources focused on environmental protection, allowing DEP to address both civil and criminal investigations for the environmental laws that fall under their purview. The budget, consistent with House Bill 5401, includes the transfer of 19 positions which compose the Environmental Crimes Enforcement Unit ensuring DEP can comprehensively protect the environment from criminal environmental actions, while maintaining record compliance and its investment in public education.

Protect our Valuable and Vulnerable Coastlines

With approximately 1,300 miles of coastline, Florida's beaches and coasts define our state. As a leading attraction for Florida's visitors, protecting our beaches is critical to our growing economy. The budget is investing \$50 million in beach renourishment funding to continue to address Florida's critically eroded shorelines.

Coastal communities must be able to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of hurricanes, storm surge and sea level rise while protecting our citizen's quality of life and our water quality and supply. This is why the budget invests more than \$5.5 million for the Resilient Coastlines Program within DEP's new Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection. This program helps



prepare Florida's communities and habitats for changes resulting from sea level rise by providing funding and technical assistance and continuing to promote and ensure a coordinated approach to planning among state, regional and local agencies. The increased funding for coastal resiliency grants will also help protect Florida's coral reefs, which serve as the state's first line of defense from storm surge and are a major tourism attraction, and support emergency sand placement to help fortify coastal areas ahead of storms. In addition, the budget includes \$4.5 million to protect our coral reef ecosystems. This includes \$2.5 million for removal of tires and other solid waste impacting the reefs, an additional \$1.4 million through FWC to grow endangered and threatened reef building coral species, and \$600,000 for artificial reef planning and development which will provide additional habitat to protect marine reef fish and enhance coastal community economies.

Investing in Clean Lands and Air

The budget includes \$125 million for the cleanup of contaminated sites with a focus on encouraging redevelopment of these areas once cleanup has been completed. Working with federal and local partners, cleanup and redevelopment of these sites will ensure Florida's new businesses and growing communities can safely develop and our economy can continue to grow. Specific investments include: \$110 million for Petroleum Tanks Cleanup, \$8.5 million for Drycleaning Solvent Contaminated Site Cleanup, \$5.5 million for Hazardous Waste Contaminated Site Cleanup and \$600,000 for Cleanup of State Owned contaminated sites.

The budget also includes \$10 million for year one of the implementation of the State Mitigation Plan for the \$166 million Volkswagen Clean Air Act settlement. This plan will be submitted in the coming months and the projects will address the reduction of diesel emissions, support electric vehicle infrastructure, and will further improve Florida's air quality.

A Commitment to Florida's Prized Properties

The budget includes \$73 million to protect our prized properties in Florida. This funding will ensure all Floridians have access to enjoy our pristine natural environment, while protecting these unique natural resources and investing in the management of our state-owned lands. The budget includes \$37.5 million for land acquisition projects across the state. \$33 million is provided specifically for Florida Forever through the Division of State Lands to acquire and conserve land statewide, with an additional \$3 million for a land acquisition project in Orange County and \$1.5 million for the Working Waterfronts program. Florida's State Parks have won the National Gold Medal a record three times for having the best park system nationally, while no other state has won more than once. The budget invests \$35.5 million into infrastructure improvements and resource management with the goal of maintaining this high standard, aiming for an unprecedented fourth Gold Medal and ensuring all visitors and residents alike have access to these prized properties for generations to come.



Investing in Florida's Agriculture

The budget includes more than \$1.7 billion for Florida's agricultural industry. In order to preserve Florida's iconic citrus industry, the budget invests \$15.9 million for citrus research, the Citrus Health Response Program and for consumer awareness marketing efforts. Also, recognizing how important it is to effectively combat wildfires, the budget invests more than \$16 million, including \$6.5 million for wildfire suppression equipment, \$4.9 million to replace a helicopter used for wildfire response and suppression, and \$4.4 million for road and bridge maintenance to allow for better access for land management and wildfire suppression activities.

A BOLD VISION FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

As a product of Florida's public school system and a parent of two future Florida students, Governor DeSantis knows the importance of ensuring all Florida students have the opportunity to attend a great school and get a high quality education. Governor DeSantis believes that every student, regardless of their zip code or family circumstances, should have the opportunity to get a great education. That is why the budget includes key investments in K-12, workforce, and higher education to build a high quality education system that prepares all Florida students for the future. Key investments include:

- Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) is funded at \$402.3 million
- K-12 public schools has the highest total and state funding of all time with \$21.8 billion in total funding and \$12.5 billion in state funding
- In addition, K-12 per student funding of \$7,672 exceeds the current year's record funding by \$242 per student
- The Florida College System state operating funds is funded at \$1.3 billion
- Total operating funding for the State University System of \$4.4 billion and total state operating funding of \$2.6 billion

Early Learning

As a father of two young children, Governor DeSantis recognizes a child's early years of education provide a strong foundation for their future learning. That is why the Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget provides more than \$1.2 billion in funding, an increase of \$132.6 million over Fiscal Year 2018-19 for early child education.

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)

The budget provides an additional \$3.8 million for a total of more than \$402 million for Florida's VPK program, a quality, free education initiative, which serves 160,000 four and five-year olds. VPK prepares each child for kindergarten by building a strong foundation for school and focusing on early literacy skills.

School Readiness

The budget provides an increase of \$130 million in federal funding to serve additional children in



the School Readiness program, meet additional federal requirements for the School Readiness Program, and reward School Readiness providers who participate in program assessment and implement quality improvement strategies.

In addition, the following initiatives that support early learning are included:

- T.E.A.C.H. – \$10 million for early childhood teacher scholarships;
- Help Me Grow – \$1.8 million to connect children and families with information, resources and developmental services to enhance health, behavior and learning in the development of young children;
- Teacher Training – \$3 million for statewide professional development that improves child care instructor quality; and
- Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) – \$3.9 million to deliver high quality School Readiness curriculum directly to parents so they may strengthen the cognitive and early literacy skills of at-risk children.

K-12 Public Education

After two decades of education reforms, Florida now ranks fourth in the nation on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) for K-12 achievement and has a graduation rate of 86.1 percent. To build on Florida's successful turn-around efforts, the budget invests a record \$21.8 billion in total funding for the Florida Educational Finance Program (FEFP). This budget provides a per student funding amount of \$7,672, an increase of \$242 per student. The base student allocation grows by \$75 per student.

To achieve the \$21.8 billion in total funding, \$523.1 million in additional state funding and \$142.5 million in additional required local effort (RLE) revenue is provided. The increase in RLE revenue is generated from new construction only.

Highlights of the FEFP increases include:

- \$18 million, for a total of \$180 million, for school safety initiatives.
- \$5.8 million, for a total of \$75 million for mental health initiatives.
- \$284.5 million for the revised Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal Program.

Protecting Florida's Jewish Day Schools

In response to safety concerns for Florida's Jewish communities after they received hateful threats recently, \$2.5 million is provided for additional security to ensure children at Florida Jewish Day Schools can learn in a safe environment. This funding will help provide security and counter-terrorism upgrades such as video cameras, fences, bullet-proof glass, alarm systems and other safety equipment.

Promoting Computer Science

The budget includes \$10 million to cover the cost of training and provide bonuses to teachers who hold educator certificates or industry certifications in computer science.



Higher Education

In higher education, Florida now boasts five of the top 100 public universities in the country, including one in the top 10, while maintaining the second lowest tuition in the country for public four-year institutions. To continue building on Florida's success, the budget supports and expands higher education programs that ensure Florida's state colleges and universities offer students a high quality education at an affordable rate. The Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget includes state operating funding for Florida's higher education system of \$1.3 billion for Florida colleges, and more than \$2.6 billion for Florida universities.

Performance Funding

The budget includes the following performance funding at career technical centers, state colleges, and state universities:

- Provides \$6.5 million for students earning industry certifications in high-skill, high-demand areas at career technical centers. This is an increase of \$2 million over Fiscal Year 2018-19.
- \$14 million for students earning industry certifications in high-skill, high-demand areas at Florida colleges, which is an increase of \$4 million over Fiscal Year 2018-19.
- Provides \$20 million in performance funding for state colleges through the 2+2 Student Success Incentive Fund.
- Maintains \$560 million in performance funding for state universities.

Holding the Line on Tuition and Student Expenses

The budget does not include any tuition increases for Florida's colleges and universities.

Workforce Initiatives

- **Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program** - \$10 million to establish or expand preapprenticeship and apprenticeship programs for high school and college students.
- **Work Florida Student Success Incentive Fund at State Colleges** – \$10 million in funding to support statewide efforts to align students in Florida to workforce programs, within the Florida College System, to statewide and regional workforce demands and high-wage job opportunities.

Education Infrastructure

The budget provides more than \$413 million in funding to school districts, colleges, and universities, and funds the necessary infrastructure for public charter schools without utilizing any funds from the school districts. Florida's students and teachers at all of Florida's public schools deserve a safe environment in which to learn and work. Specific investments include:

School Safety Grants

- \$50 million for school safety grants are provided to school districts to assist with costs associated with improving the physical security of K-12 school buildings.



Maintenance

- \$158.2 million for public charter school maintenance;
- \$6.6 million for lab school maintenance;
- \$2.8 million for Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind maintenance; and
- \$2.9 million for public broadcasting stations to correct health and safety issues, correct building deficiencies and other project renovations.

Construction

- More than \$32.3 million for Special Facility Construction projects currently under construction in Gilchrist, Jackson and Liberty counties;
- \$82.2 million for construction projects at the state universities;
- \$23 million for Florida Atlantic University and University of Florida lab schools;
- More than \$11.2 million for construction projects at the state colleges; and
- \$44 million in budget authority to the State University System to spend collected student fees on a list of student-approved facility projects.

Transportation and Economic Development

A BOLD VISION FOR HURRICANE RECOVERY

Over the past several years, Florida has taken the brunt of several destructive hurricanes, including Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, Irma and Michael. Although our state was prepared and responded immediately to limit the loss of life and property, the power of these storms continues to impact a great number of Floridians. Many of our communities and their citizens are only beginning to recover from hurricane damage and need assistance with a number of issues such as rebuilding their homes, finding other affordable housing, and getting their businesses up and running again. Assisting our fellow Floridians will require significant efforts across several programs and agencies.

For the two most recent hurricanes to strike Florida – Irma and Michael – the State of Florida is projected to spend \$2.9 billion on hurricane preparedness and recovery: \$1.1 billion for Hurricane Irma, and \$1.8 billion so far for Hurricane Michael.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 provides for hurricane recovery efforts through multiple state agencies. Programs that will be implemented with these funds include:

Division of Emergency Management

- **Open Federally Declared Disasters – Funding to Communities** – \$1.9 billion. Federal funding is provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) so that



communities can respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies as well as mitigate against future disasters or emergencies. Currently, there are a total of 137 hazard mitigation projects and over 35,000 public assistance worksheets open under various disasters and additional hazard mitigation projects and public assistance worksheets under federal review for recent disasters.

- **Open Federally Declared Disasters – State Operations – \$92 million.** A portion of the federal assistance received from FEMA provides funds to leverage the work associated with the state operations relating to federally declared disasters for the Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, and Disaster Activity programs.

Department of Economic Opportunity

- **Housing Repair – \$273.3 million.** Rehabilitation or replacement program for low- and moderate-income families impacted by Hurricane Irma.
- **Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Leveraged Financing – \$44 million.** Partnership between the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) to manage the construction of new affordable rental housing in areas impacted by Hurricane Irma. Funds would be leveraged with Low Income Housing Tax Credits, local or state Tax-Exempt Bond Financing in limited high-cost areas or other local financing to produce new affordable housing rental units.
- **Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Small Rental Developments – \$20 million.** Stand-alone or the primary source of funds to finance development in rural areas impacted by the storm where leveraging of funds is not feasible. Funds will be provided as zero-interest, forgivable loans. This program is designated for rural and small communities and may be used to finance up to 100 percent of the cost of new construction or rehabilitation for small properties with less than 50 units.
- **Land Acquisition for Affordable Workforce Housing – \$20 million.** Funding to purchase land for the development of affordable housing. DEO, in partnership with FHFC, will manage a program that will provide funding for the purchase of land with a priority for formal public/private commitments to develop affordable housing.
- **Voluntary Home Buyout Program – \$75 million.** To encourage risk reduction through the acquisition of residential property in high flood risk areas. DEO will hire a contracted team to work with counties who are interested in pursuing the buyout projects to support and provide appraisals, title and legal services, environmental review, and related buyout processes.



- **Recovery Workforce Training** – \$20 million. DEO, through its Division of Workforce Services, will utilize existing programs to implement a hurricane recovery workforce training program throughout the state of Florida.
- **Business Recovery Grant** – \$60 million. DEO will create a grant program for eligible business owners who are seeking reimbursement for the cost of replacing equipment and inventory damaged by Hurricane Irma.
- **Business Assistance to New Floridians from Puerto Rico** – \$6 million. DEO will implement a public assistance program for new businesses and entrepreneurs who have migrated from Puerto Rico. This program can include business plan guidance, information about specific regional market, accounting and legal assistance, licensing and permitting guidance, along with seminars and other forms of assistance.
- **Unmet Needs** – \$41.5 million. For additional Workforce Affordable Rental Housing and other recovery needs for Hurricanes Hermine and Matthew, another \$13.6 million is pending approval from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

- **Hurricane Irma Marine Debris Removal** – \$255,417. This federal funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will help to remove trapped debris, displaced and derelict vessels, and other marine debris.
- **Hurricane Irma Marine Fisheries Disaster Recovery** – \$23.7 million. This anticipated federal funding, also from NOAA, will provide relief to the fishing community in Florida—details are still being finalized between FWC and NOAA.

Hurricane Housing Programs

- **Hurricane Housing Recovery Program** – \$115.0 million provided in this budget for affordable housing targeted to areas impacted by Hurricane Michael includes \$65 million for the Hurricane Housing Recovery Program and \$50 million for the Rental Recovery Loan Program.

The Hurricane Housing Recovery Program will be made available to eligible counties and municipalities impacted by Hurricane Michael. Recovery activities that the funds may be used for include, but are not limited to, repair and replacement of housing; assistance to homeowners to pay insurance deductibles; repair, replacement, and relocation assistance for manufactured homes; acquisition of building materials for home repair and construction; housing re-entry assistance, such as security deposits, utility deposits, and temporary storage of household furnishings; foreclosure eviction prevention, including monthly rental assistance for a limited



period of time; or strategies in the approved local housing assistance plan.

The Rental Recovery Loan Program will also be made available to eligible counties and municipalities impacted by Hurricane Michael; funds will be used to make and service mortgage loans for the construction or substantial rehabilitation of affordable rental housing units.

Projects for Communities Impacted by Hurricanes

- **Hurricane Recovery to Communities** – \$37.2 million provided to communities for projects to help with their recovery assistance. Projects include:
 - \$14.2 million to the Department of Education for school districts who experience a reduction in the amount of funding the district received for the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) due to lower student enrollments.
 - \$23.0 million for Transportation and Infrastructure projects mostly to repair or rebuild roads and buildings that were damaged or destroyed.

A BOLD VISION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKFORCE

Florida's ability to be able to grow and prosper is due in no small part to having one of the best transportation systems in the country. From our top-ranked roads to our record setting seaports and international airports, our state's transportation system allows for the safe and timely movement of people and goods from one place to another. Still, the nature and speed of Florida's growth means we must continue to make significant investments in our transportation infrastructure to relieve traffic congestion, ensure efficiency and improve safety.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 provides \$9.7 billion for the State Transportation Work Program. The Work Program is based on a five-year plan for the implementation and completion of transportation infrastructure projects throughout the state. The Fiscal Year 2019-20, Work Program includes:

- \$3.8 billion to increase system-wide infrastructure capacity which includes 125.7 new lane miles.
- \$2.7 billion for highway construction.
- \$40 million for the Tamiami Trail Restoration Project, which will assist with drawing down a \$60 million federal grant to complete the project.
- \$160.8 million in seaport infrastructure improvements.
- \$278 million for aviation improvements.
- \$1.1 billion for scheduled repairs of 84 bridges and replacement of 22 bridges.
- \$1.1 billion for maintenance and operation of existing facilities.
- \$668.1 million for transit program improvements.
- \$230.5 million for additional safety initiatives.



Increased Employment through Rapid Development of a Skilled Workforce and Improved Infrastructure for Key Priorities

While Florida has and will continue to experience a high level of job creation and economic development, it is wise to continue investing in infrastructure projects and workforce training initiatives that allow our economy to diversify and support the kinds of 21st Century businesses and jobs that will increasingly be created.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 includes \$40 million for the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund provides funding for job training and public infrastructure projects that support growth and employment in Florida. Specifically, the program is designed to support economic diversification, economic recovery, or economic enhancement in targeted industries. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI), both identify projects, solicit proposals, and make funding recommendations to the Governor.

Maintaining a Foundational Industry

While Florida continues to grow and diversify economically, it is undeniable that the tourism industry is one of our state's economic foundations. Florida's prosperity in recent years is due in no small part to the economic activity generated by over 100 million visitors to Florida every year. Although our state has much to offer, we cannot rest on our laurels and hope that our tourism success will continue without a strong state-level marketing program.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 includes \$50 million for VISIT FLORIDA. VISIT FLORIDA serves as the state's official tourism marketing corporation and Florida's official source for travel planning to visitors across the globe. The organization, along with its partners, facilitates tourism industry participation through various domestic and international marketing opportunities (e.g. domestic and international trade shows and consumer shows and media missions.) to top global visitor markets. VISIT FLORIDA also works closely with tour operators, travel agents and event planners as part of its marketing activities. In addition, the state's four Official Welcome Centers are staffed by VISIT FLORIDA.

Ensuring Fair and Free Elections

It is no secret that because of close elections Florida is often the subject of intense scrutiny. Although Florida elections are administered at the local level, the state plays an important role in ensuring elections are conducted fairly and accurately and helps to make sure that Florida's voting and registration systems are safe from cybersecurity threats. Currently, Florida's Division of Elections within the Department of State is partially funded with federal dollars provided under the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA). However, federal HAVA funding is expected to end in Fiscal Year 2019-20.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 provides \$14.8 million for state-level election oversight activities, with a focus on cybersecurity enhancements to Florida's election system. A total of \$2.8 million will be available to Supervisors of Elections to continue cybersecurity initiatives and improvements to their systems.



Ensuring Entrepreneurs and Businesses can Count on Us

The Division of Corporations within the Department of State administers important filing and record keeping functions on behalf of Florida's companies and businesses. The Division serves as the state's central depository for a variety of commercial activities, and processes over 400,000 new business filings and registrations per year. The Division filed more than 3.7 million commercial documents, provided over 845,000 copies, certifications, and authentication services and collects over \$373 million in revenue. If any issues with maintaining this system occur, not only would the state experience a significant revenue loss, but there would be significant negative impacts on Florida's business community, law enforcement agencies, the general public, and other agencies which depend on the Division's commercial data and business activities.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 provides \$6.2 million for replacement of the current commercial registry with a new cloud-based information technology system. The new system will be customer friendly, ensure the ongoing security of Florida's business filings, and will have the capacity to accommodate an ever-increasing number of filings as the number of companies and businesses with a presence in Florida continues to grow.

Ensuring Housing Availability for Working Families

Since the end of the Great Recession, Florida has enjoyed a level of economic growth and prosperity that is the envy of many other states. Although this growth has included the recovery of Florida's construction industry and the creation of housing throughout the state, the fact remains that many Floridians have difficulty finding homes and apartments that are affordable within their family budgets.

In addition to the housing funding mentioned previously related to Hurricane Michael, the budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 provides \$85.6 million to fund Workforce and Affordable Housing Programs. This amount includes \$31.0 million for the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program and \$46.6 million for the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program. These programs are administered by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), from a portion of the revenues received from documentary stamp taxes on real estate transfers. The funds provided for the SHIP Program in this budget include \$1 million for grants to nonprofit organizations that build, modify, maintain, transfer, and enhance homes for Florida veterans.

A BOLD VISION FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Governor DeSantis hopes that all Floridians are able to lead long, healthy and productive lives and understands the importance of helping those in need including our most vulnerable who are unable to help themselves. The budget supports the increased need in child welfare funding and supports funding for seniors and the developmentally disabled. The budget also includes additional funding to help fight the opioid epidemic and funding to assist our veterans in employment opportunities. The budget will make significant investments in improving the lives of all Floridians in the future.



Opioid Epidemic and Behavioral Health Services

Governor DeSantis understands the importance of fighting the national opioid epidemic by working with our local partners to ensure that the needs of individuals struggling with opioid addiction are met. The budget includes more than \$123 million in total funding to fight the opioid epidemic in Florida. The budget provides \$83.3 million in federal funding from the State Opioid Response Grant to address the opioid crisis by providing evidence-based prevention, medication-assisted treatment and recovery. The budget provides more than \$30 million to continue funding the Community Action Teams (CAT) that provide community based behavioral health services for individuals ages 11-21 with mental health and/or substance abuse disorders. These CAT teams strive to strengthen the family and support systems for youth and young adults to assist them in living successfully in the community.

Child Welfare

The budget includes more than \$106 million to provide increased funding for services to children and families who depend on Florida's child welfare system. The budget includes more than \$59 million for community based care core services and safety management services, training to ensure staff are adequately prepared to provide child protective investigations, foster care parents who serve as caregivers for children who have been removed from their home and early intervention efforts for substance affected infants. Additionally, the budget includes funding to mitigate the financial shortfall of the expiration of the federal Title IV-E waiver which is set to expire September 30, 2019. The budget invests more than \$47 million for maintenance adoption subsidies and post adoption services for children who are adopted from foster care. Governor DeSantis knows that adoption can change children's lives and enhance the life of a family.

Employment Opportunities

Supported employment for individuals with developmental disabilities and behavioral health needs helps to maintain competitive employment and participation in meaningful internships that are likely to result in competitive employment. The budget includes \$900,000 to serve individuals with developmental disabilities and \$700,000 to serve individuals with behavioral health needs. Additionally, the budget provides \$1.7 million to assist veterans in mentoring, training and networking throughout the State of Florida.

Seniors

Governor DeSantis hopes that all Floridians are able to lead long, healthy and productive lives. The budget includes nearly \$4 million in funding to meeting the needs of our seniors in the community. This funding provides services for individuals and caregivers who have been impacted by Alzheimer's disease, and other memory disorders, and will allow individuals and their families to receive respite services. This investment also allows individuals to receive adult day care and case management services through the Community Care for the Elderly Program.

Veterans

As a veteran, Governor DeSantis believes deeply in honoring those who served our country in the United States Armed Forces. The budget includes funding for staff and start-up operations



at two new state veteran nursing homes. The budget invests more than \$7 million for operations and 124 positions for initial staffing of the Ardie R. Copas State Veterans' Nursing Home in St. Lucie County and \$3.4 million for operations of the Lake Baldwin State Veterans' Nursing Home in Orange County. Additionally, the budget provides more than \$5 million for capital improvements, equipment updates and 21 additional nurses and certified nursing assistants for Florida's existing State veteran nursing homes.

Persons with Disabilities

The budget provides more than \$70 million to serve individuals on the Agency for Person with Disabilities home and community based waiver program. The Agency works in partnership with local communities and providers to provide services and assistance for individuals and their families that have a developmental disability. By funding the Agency for Persons Disabilities waiver program, people with developmental disabilities will be able to live, learn and work in their communities.

A BOLD VISION FOR SAFE COMMUNITIES

Governor DeSantis believes that keeping Florida safe is one of his most important responsibilities as Governor. Keeping criminals off the streets and protecting our communities is a top priority. And thanks to the hard work of Florida's law enforcement officers, Florida is safer now than it has been in many years and our crime rate is at a 47-year low. The budget builds on this success by making significant investments in public safety.

Expanding and Enhancing Florida's Crime Databases

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is responsible for maintaining a variety of databases that law enforcement uses daily to solve crimes. Many of these resources are also accessible to the public, which helps keep Floridians safe. The budget invests more than \$18.6 million to expand and enhance these databases, including:

- \$1.5 million to complete the upgrades to the Sexual Offender and Predator Registry;
- \$10.2 million to continue the transition to incident-based crime reporting (FIBRS);
- \$1 million to complete the DNA database expansion; and
- \$5.9 million to centralize criminal justice data and make it more transparent to the public.

Ensuring Compliance for Inmate Health Care

The Department of Corrections is responsible for the care and supervision of more than 95,000 inmates. The budget includes \$135.1 million which ensures compliance with requirements for inmate health care. This includes:

- \$13.9 million for the increased costs of pharmaceuticals;
- \$34.6 million to better-treat inmates with Hepatitis C; and
- \$86.6 million for enhancements to contracted inmate health services.

Complying with Inmate Mental Health Service Requirements



The budget also provides \$23.1 million and 285 positions to better serve inmates with mental illness per pending litigation. These funds will be used to consolidate and renovate mental health facilities, to increase the medical and security staff to ensure that inmates with mental health issues are provided prompt and effective treatment, and to begin designing and constructing an inmate mental health treatment facility.

Treating Disabled Inmates Appropriately

The budget provides over \$1.7 million and 12 positions to better serve inmates with disabilities. These funds will be used to provide Americans with Disabilities Act modifications to current facilities; and lighting notification systems, message boards, and sign language interpreters for hearing impaired inmates.

Safer Correctional Facilities

The budget provides \$16.5 million to make critical repairs and renovations to correctional and juvenile facilities. This investment in Florida's infrastructure not only enhances the safety and security of Florida's correctional and juvenile officers, inmates, and youth, but will also result in long-term energy and maintenance savings.

Improving Residential Programs for At-Risk Youth

Recent reforms at the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) have culminated in the lowest juvenile arrest rate in more than 43 years. To build on this success, the budget provides \$4.3 million to improve staffing and evidence-based services in its residential facilities.

Increasing Accountability in Juvenile Facilities

The budget provides \$1.1 million and 10 positions to improve contract monitoring and oversight of DJJ programs. These funds will help ensure that DJJ's residential programs are providing effective treatment services to youth and quickly correcting deficiencies if and when they are found. They will also help to improve education services for at-risk youth.

At-Risk Youth Programs and Prevention Services

Governor DeSantis recognizes that effective prevention programs reduce the likelihood that a child will have future involvement with the juvenile justice system. Recent investments in such programs have played a critical role in reducing juvenile arrest rates to the lowest in 43 years. The budget provides more than \$28.0 million to fund prevention programs for at-risk youth. The budget includes funding for the following programs:

- **Youth ChalleNGe Program** – \$5.5 million for a residential program at Camp Blanding that provides 16-18 year-olds who withdraw or are removed from school with opportunities such as high school credit recovery, career-technical education, and life preparation classes.
- **Florida Jobs ChalleNGe** – \$4 million to provide life, educational, and employment skills in a military-based environment to at-risk youth that range in age from 16-18.
- **Mentoring Initiatives** – \$7.1 million for the Department of Education to contract with mentoring programs throughout the State.



- **Contracted Prevention Funding for DJJ** – \$11.4 million for DJJ to contract with evidence-based prevention programs.

Better Supervision for Delinquent Youth

The budget also includes more than \$3.2 million to improve the supervision of delinquent youth. These funds will ensure that youth who are awaiting adjudication while in the community are better supervised, which will keep communities safer and lower the chances of re-offense.

Enhancing Services for Crime Victims

The budget also includes funding that will improve services for victims of crime. This includes providing the Department of Legal Affairs \$500,000 and 7 positions to better respond to victims and resolve their compensation claims more efficiently. It also includes more than \$113,943 and 2 positions to enhance victim services grants oversight.

Improving Court Services

The budget also invests in the State Court System. It provides \$315,000 to upgrade and expand Florida's Problem-Solving Court database, which will result in better services to those participating in drug, mental health, and veteran's courts. The budget also provides approximately \$200,000 to continue the development and expansion of the "Do It Yourself Florida" project, which assists pro se litigants in drafting and filing court documents.

Problem-Solving Courts

Problem-solving courts, such as drug courts and mental health courts, address the root causes of justice system involvement through specialized dockets, multidisciplinary teams, and a non-adversarial approach. These courts use evidence-based treatment and increased judicial supervision to provide individualized interventions for participants, which reduces recidivism. The budget provides more than \$11.3 million to continue the operation of problem-solving courts throughout the State.

Veterans Treatment Courts are used to divert veterans with mental health and substance abuse treatment needs from the criminal justice system. The budget reflects Governor DeSantis's support of Veterans Treatment Courts and provides more than \$1.4 million to continue funding these courts throughout Florida.

Supporting Military and their Families – The budget provides \$22.5 million for Florida's military presence and families, which funds the State's support of military research and development. This includes the following:

- \$2 million for the Florida Defense Support Task Force;
- \$1.6 million for the Defense Infrastructure Program;
- \$3 million for military base protection, including additional security measures for National Guard armories;
- \$1.1 million for armory maintenance;



- \$3.7 million to support Florida National Guardsmen seeking higher education degrees;
- \$7.3 million to support scholarships for children and spouses of deceased or disabled veterans;
- \$100,000 for search and rescue vessels for National Guardsmen to use during storm-related missions and duties; and
- \$133,000 for protective equipment to be used by National Guardsmen during deployment.

General Government

Maintaining a safe and healthy environment for residents and visitors

The budget provides \$1.7 million for hotels and restaurant inspectors within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. Ensuring the quality of eating and lodging establishments is essential to tourism for the State of Florida as well as the health and wellbeing of residents.

Moving forward in establishing essential business systems

The budget provides \$22.7 million for the Florida Planning, Accounting, and Ledger Management System (FL PALM). This funding provides for the second year of software and system integrator contract, project administration, and 4 additional full-time positions to design, configure and perform vital testing efforts of the new financial management system solution in FY 2019-20. This system is an integral part of the finance and accounting backbone of the state.

Ensuring Transparency within State Government

The budget provides \$350,000 for maintaining public viewing capabilities of the Statewide Travel Management System. This system, which is utilized by all state agencies, is a central repository for all travel performed by state employees. The system will allow for public viewing access for all agencies in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Maintaining and improving the Florida Facilities Pool

It is essential for ensuring the state provides safe and efficient working environments for state employees and visitors to state owned buildings. The budget invests \$47.3 million in the Florida Facilities Pool which will improve Life Safety issues, address ADA compliance and address building deficiencies.