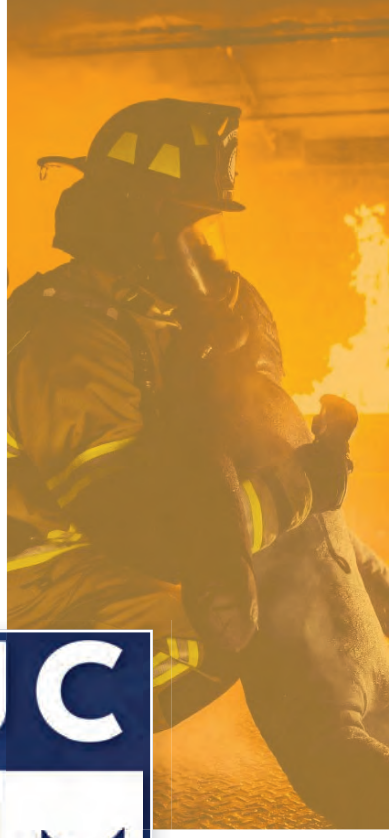




LEGISLATIVE ACTION
PLAN 2026





St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Ongoing 2025 Initiatives

State Road 16 / County Road 16A Corridor

This project will widen a vital gateway corridor with connections to I-95 and the future First Coast Expressway. A two-lane high-speed arterial from International Golf Parkway to I-95 will be upgraded to a four-lane divided highway, greatly enhancing the safety, mobility, and economic competitiveness of St. Johns County.

Strategy

Appropriations & Competitive Funds

FDOT Work Program



State Road 16 at International Golf Parkway

Senate Bill 180

Request the Legislature conduct a thorough review of the provisions of Senate Bill 180 and consider modifying current law to mitigate its impacts on local governments. Specifically, provide counties with greater flexibility to better align post-disaster recovery with the unique needs and challenges of each community.

Strategy

Legislation to Modify Current Law

Ongoing 2025 Initiatives

Florida Museum of Black History

Request the Legislature fund the planning, design, and construction of the museum campus in St. Johns County and codify into law a governance plan for the state museum, to include the establishment of a board of directors to oversee the commission, construction, operation, and administration of the museum.

Strategy

Legislation & Appropriations

Partnerships & Private Capital



Priorities by Policy Area

Transportation Infrastructure

County Road 2209

This project consists of upgrading the roadway from State Road 9B to County Road 210 and extending the Central Segment of County Road 2209 from State Road 16 to County Road 208.

Critically, this project will overhaul the CR 2209 / CR 210 intersection and provide a state-mandated alternative north-south route that parallels I-95.

Strategy
Competitive Funds & Appropriations

US 1/FEC Corridor

Request matching federal funds from USDOT to complete projects along a critical north-south freight corridor, such as the US-1/CR 210 interchange and the US-1/Race Track Road intersection improvements.

These projects eliminate or upgrade dangerous railroad crossings, such as the crossing at Alternate County Road 210, where a train collision occurred most recently in September 2024.

Strategy
Competitive Funds & Appropriations

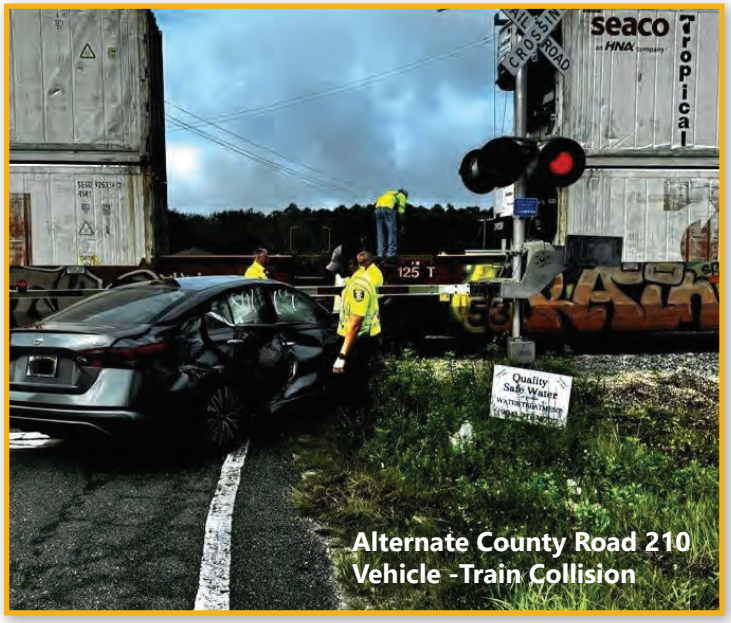


County Road 2209

International Golf Parkway at I-95

This project will improve the safety, capacity and traffic flow of the existing interchange, which is insufficient to support the growth of the region and the additional traffic from the First Coast Expressway and I-95.

Strategy
Appropriations
Competitive Funds



Alternate County Road 210
Vehicle -Train Collision

Upgrade and Protect State Road A1A

Secure a federal-state partnership to address the long-term needs on this iconic roadway, including intersection improvements from SR 312 to the Duval County line, and the application of green and grey infrastructure along vulnerable sections of the roadway, such as the Vilano Beach and Marineland critical erosion areas.

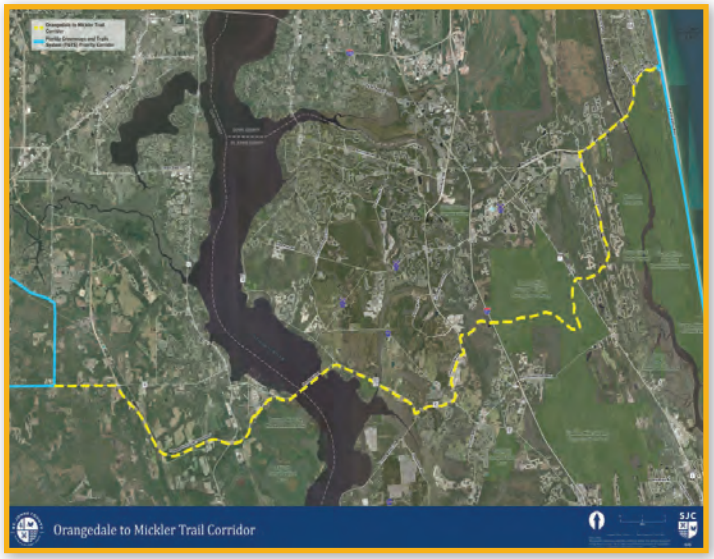
Strategy
FDOT Work Program
Competitive Funding



Evacuation Routes

Request FDOT provide greater priority to upgrading evacuation routes, such as State Road 206, and complete the PD&E process to evaluate options for improving the capacity and safety of the State Road 206/I-95 Interchange.

Strategy
FDOT Work Program
Appropriations



Trails and Greenways

Pursue state and federal resources to implement projects consistent with the statewide priority trail corridors, such as the Orangedale to Mickler Trail, the River to Sea Loop I-95 Overpass, and the North A1A Trail to the Duval County Line.

Strategy
FDOT Work Program
Competitive Funding

Other Priority Corridors

Identify opportunities to relieve traffic congestion on US 1 and improve north-south regional connectivity.

Expedite planned capacity and/or safety improvements to State Road 207, State Road 312, County Road 210, County Road 208, Race Track Road, Holmes Boulevard, and other primary connectors or minor collectors.

Strategy
TPO Collaboration
Appropriations

Community Resilience

Hastings/Deep Creek Flood Control Mitigation System

Phase 1 of the project will improve essential mitigation system components in the Hastings community, including upsizing culverts, raising roadways, and modernizing the stormwater collection process. In coordination with state and federal partners, Phase 2 will explore options to increase conveyance capacity of Deep Creek from CR-13 bridge north to the SR 207 bridge.



Strategy
Appropriations
Regional Collaboration

Advocating for Children Today Initiative

IMPACT seeks to identify the needs, resources and partnerships to improve the lives of St. Johns County children. The County requests the Legislature further the strategic objectives of this initiative through an initial matching state appropriation.



Strategy
Appropriations
Non-profit Collaboration

San Sebastian Regional Park

Located on the San Sebastian River, this 31-acre site will include a public boat ramp, public safety water access, and passive recreational elements.

Strategy: Appropriations & Competitive Funding



Flagler Estates Flooding

Septic to Sewer & Water Projects

Secure funds to expedite projects identified in countywide septic to sewer plan, such as the St. Augustine South, Treasure Beach, Dolphin Cove and Vermont Heights communities. In partnership with the City of St. Augustine, prioritize West Augustine water and sewer projects that may facilitate economic development.



Strategy
Appropriations
Competitive Funding

Guana Flood Mitigation System

The project reconstructs the system to provide an increased level of protection and mitigation capacity through the replacement of weirs, modification of existing conveyance channels, and the addition of erosion control measures.



Strategy
Appropriations
Competitive Funding

Other Critically Vulnerable Assets

Secure funding to implement projects that enhance the resiliency of vulnerable assets, such as the International Golf Parkway realignment, the shoreline stabilization of Porpoise Point and Oyster Creek, and the elevation of Jack Wright Island Road.

Strategy
Competitive Funding

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Projects

Request the Congress appropriate funds in the amount equal to the federal cost share for the planning, engineering, design, and construction of the Ponte Vedra Coastal Storm Risk Management Project.

Strategy
Appropriations

Summer Haven Estuary Protection Area

Designate the Summer Haven and Old Matanzas River as a Regional Estuary Protection Area to coordinate with regional, state, and federal partners in developing comprehensive protection and restoration plans that preserve the area's ecological integrity and resilience.

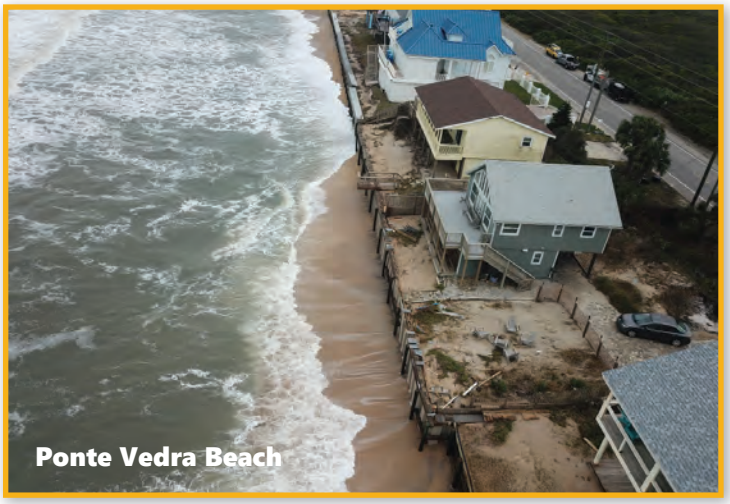
Strategy: Legislation & Partnership Collaboration

Coastal Easements

Request the St. Johns County Federal Delegation facilitate a more collaborative implementation of coastal easement guidance issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Beach Restoration Mandates

The Florida Legislature should oppose new regulations related to contracting that may increase permit processing times and monitoring costs for beach restoration projects.



Ponte Vedra Beach



Matanzas Inlet & Summer Haven River

Agriculture & Conservation


Agriculture Production in Hastings

Water First North Florida

Request the Legislature provide phased funding for this aquifer recharge project with regional and statewide significance.

Long-term benefits of the project include restoring flows to protect the region's rivers and springs and ensuring a sustainable and affordable water supply for the region's current and future needs. The project will also augment wetlands that support wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.

Strategy
Appropriations
Regional Collaboration

Nutrient Management

Collaborate with FDEP leadership to better understand the application and interpretation of current statutes related to Nutrient Management.

Protecting Working Lands

Request the Legislature and the U.S. Congress prioritize funding for the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program. As a participating partner in the conservation of working lands, the County supports opportunities to expand the utilization of the programs to preserve generational family farms.

Rural Renaissance

St. Johns County supports legislation that prioritizes the improvement of infrastructure and quality of life in rural communities. Further, the County encourages the Legislature to revise the statutory definition of rural community to include the farming communities of St. Johns County.

Florida Forever

Request the Department of Environmental Protection apply a more comprehensive approach to conservation and restoration efforts for Summer Haven, the Summer Haven River, and the Matanzas River Estuary, including opportunities to extend the boundary of the Northeast Florida Blueway.

Strategy:
Agency Policy Change


GTM National Estuarine Research Reserve

Government Operations

Emergency Responders

Request the Florida Legislature fund the Parkinson's Disease Research Act, which directs the University of South Florida to research the causes, mechanisms, and potential treatments for Parkinson's disease and the prevalence of Parkinson's disease in first responders.

Comprehensive research is a crucial first step in expanding presumptive disability provisions to include neurogenerative disease and neurogenerative disorders, which may occur as a result of routine exposure to toxic chemicals.

Strategy
Appropriations

Libraries

Request the Congress and the Florida Legislature continue to invest in programs critical to public libraries, such as capital construction, materials acquisition, and technical assistance.

Unfunded Mandates

Request the Legislature oppose policies that require:

1) local governments to fund the relocation of infrastructure for private and public utilities.

2) public utilities to expend funds to provide information, reports, or other documents to the State without providing a funding source for development of those reports.

3) unfunded regulations that increase the cost of operating and processing biomass facilities.

Strengthen SB 64

Request the Legislature extend the 2032 compliance deadline established under SB 64 to allow for realistic implementation timelines for eliminating surface water discharges.

In addition, the Legislature should modify SB 64 to extend the final compliance deadline to 2036. The Legislature should also align timelines with available funding to ensure affordability for ratepayers.



2011 BP Oil Fire

Community-Based Care Lead Agencies

Revise HB 7089 (2024) to clarify that local government agencies are exempt from certain requirements related to entities providing more than 40% direct services.

Strategy:
Legislation
Collaborative Advocacy

Confidential Information

Request the Legislature create a new public records exemption to protect the personal information of child welfare staff. Current law provides a public records exemption for Guardian Ad Litem and investigators in the Department of Children and Families.



St. Johns County Day 2026



