



State Legislative Priorities 2007

The Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County has established the following state legislative economic development issues as priorities for the 2007 legislative session:

1. Support funding **key tools** as **economic development** investments: Economic Development Transportation Fund without offsets for individual projects; the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program (QTI); the Quick Response Training Program and Incumbent Worker Training.
2. Support legislation that reduces the costs and increases the availability of **property and casualty insurance**, including windstorm, to Florida businesses.
3. Support legislation that preserves the dedicated doc stamp collection as the funding source for the **State Housing Trust Fund** and that assures this trust fund is not eliminated nor funding awards capped or reduced.
4. Support **transportation** legislation and funding that:
 - a. Develops regional transportation and transit strategies that benefit Sarasota County.
 - b. Accelerates funding for the widening of I-75 throughout Sarasota County.
 - c. Keeps the State of Florida's Transportation Trust Fund intact and dedicated to transportation and transit projects
 - d. Seeks to maximize the return of Federal Gas Tax Dollars to the state.
5. Support funding and legislation for the early detection of **red tide** and for research and development that will reduce or eliminate ride tide effects on our beaches.
6. Support an expanded **entertainment industry tax credit program** to promote and encourage Florida as a site for increased entertainment, film and video production.
7. Support revisions to the **Florida property tax structure** that do not inequitably burden Florida businesses.