

*Annual Report
2005 - 2006*



2005-2006 Executive Committee



Commissioner Welton Cadwell
President, Lake County



Commissioner Susan Latvala
President-Elect, Pinellas County



Commissioner Teresa Jacobs
First Vice President, Orange County



Commissioner Randy Hatch
Second Vice President, Suwannee County



Commissioner Cliff Thael
Immediate Past President, Leon County



Christopher L. Holley
Executive Director, Florida Association of Counties

A Letter from the President

Dear fellow member,

My hat is off to you for an outstanding year. It's been quite a ride with memories I will never forget. To serve as your president this past year has been an honor and privilege. I cannot thank you enough for your active participation and dedication to the mission of the Florida Association of Counties. Together, we, the 67 counties of Florida tackled important statewide issues and persevered to ensure Florida continues to be a great place to live and work. Together, we proved we are "All About Florida."

Your efforts and those of our FAC staff have been realized throughout the association and the state. We successfully defeated county preemption legislation that would have fundamentally changed the way local governments operate in Florida. We passed Community Redevelopment Agency Reform legislation, which we have actively pursued for the past four years. FAC's Enterprise Programs continue to grow and exceed expectations.

Financially, we're stronger than ever. The association has nearly reached its reserve goal as outlined in the 2004 Strategic Plan. On the education front, more than 130 commissioners have graduated from the Certified County Commissioner (CCC) program. We also launched an advanced leadership series for our CCC graduates.

I encourage you to remain active in your association. Thank you again for your support and the good work you do every day as public servants to make counties and our state truly great.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Welton Cadwell", is written over a large, light blue, semi-transparent watermark that says "All About Florida".

Commissioner Welton Cadwell

Lake County

2005-2006 FAC President

All About Florida

Major Accomplishments

MINIMIZED IMPACT TO HOME RULE : Impact fee legislation, which was opposed in FAC's Legislative Priorities Program, passed in the last days of the Legislative Session incorporating the Impact Fee Review Task Force recommendations for statutory guidance on impact fees. Fortunately, the bill, as passed, minimized the erosion on home rule authority, as compared to past proposals and other 2006 amendments. The bill only included statutory guidelines for administrative fees; most recent, localized data; delay in effective date of new fees; and state reporting. The Senate amended out the requirement that a significant affordable housing provision be included in the impact fee ordinance – a real victory for counties.



ACHIEVED SUCCESS IN AFFORDABLE

HOUSING: Affordable housing legislation passed late in the Session. The bill created a new \$50 million non-recurring program, the Community Workforce Housing Incentive Program (CWHIP), which allows counties to compete for workforce housing grants from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation. In addition, it included \$166.4 million for SHIP; \$7.9 million for the homeless; \$92.9 million for hurricane rental; \$15 million for the farm workers program and other special hurricane housing; and \$30 million for extremely low-income housing. FAC also successfully fought off a last minute attempt to add an amendment that would have preempted counties' authority for county-wide land use regulations.

STOOD STRONG AGAINST COUNTY PREEMPTION LEGISLATION: SB 1608 by Sen. Bennett (R-Manatee) and HB 949 by Rep. Arza (R- Miami-Dade) preempting counties' power to enact countywide land use measures died in committee during the last week of Legislative Session due to the strong, unified efforts of FAC members and staff. Many thanks go to the county commissioners and staff who traveled to Tallahassee to meet with legislators and to testify in opposition to these bad bills. The bills would have allowed cities to opt out of any countywide charter provision or countywide ordinance governing the use, development or redevelopment of land. The bills also would have applied to both existing and future charter provisions and county ordinances.

ACCOMPLISHED COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY REFORM: FAC achieved a long-sought legislative goal during the 2006 Legislative Session with unanimous passage of the CRA Reform bill—legislation the Association had pursued for the past four years. HB 1583 by Rep. Mike Davis (R-Collier) limits the amount of tax increment non-charter counties will contribute to new or expanded CRAs. The bill also provides for additional intergovernmental coordination prior to the creation or expansion of CRAs in non-charter counties. Finally, the bill limits all CRAs created before 2002 to a total of 60 years.



Rep. Ray Sansom addresses commissioners at Annual Conference.

and Rep. David Russell; and County Partner Awards for Rep. Ken Sorensen and Rep. Mike Davis.

RECOGNIZED KEY LEGISLATORS: Key legislators who demonstrated their commitment to Florida’s counties during the 2006 Legislative Session were publicly recognized at the FAC 2006 Annual Conference. During an awards luncheon, FAC announced the following awards: Exemplary Public Service Award for House Speaker Allen Bense; William “Doc” Myers Lifetime County Advocate Award for Sen. Lee Constantine; County Champion Awards for Sen. Carey Baker, Rep. Curtis Richardson, Rep. Denise Grimsley, Rep. Ray Sansom, Rep. Dave Aronberg, Sen. Rod Smith

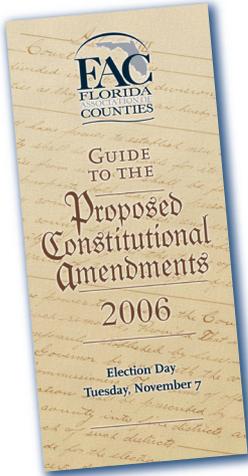


Rep. Ray Sansom and Rep. Carey Baker chat during FAC Annual Conference.

PARTICIPATED DIRECTLY IN APPELLATE

CASES: With the full implementation of the Amicus Brief Policy adopted by the Board of Directors in 2005, FAC directly participated in appellate cases of statewide importance to FAC members. FAC’s General Counsel drafted several of FAC’s own briefs and in one case, presented FAC’s oral argument to the Supreme Court of Florida. The challenge to the Hometown Democracy citizens’ initiative petition proposed constitutional amendment was the first time FAC represented itself at oral argument before the Florida Supreme Court.

PRODUCED POCKET GUIDE TO 2006 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS: The Office of General Counsel in conjunction with the Communications Department produced a Pocket Guide to the 2006 Constitutional Amendments that was distributed to county commissioners, county administrators and county attorneys in time for them to use as a reference prior to Election Day. FAC received numerous requests for additional copies to be distributed by county commissioners to their constituents.



IMPROVED MEMBER SERVICES WITH AN IT STRATEGIC

PLAN: For the first time ever, FAC has outlined steps toward technological advancement through an IT Strategic Plan. The strategic plan is a product that extends beyond the boundaries of information technology; it strives to improve member services on an ongoing basis.

The goals outlined in the plan will transform FAC into an innovator and leader in supporting county governments in Florida.

EXPANDED NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE COMMISSIONER

EXCHANGE PROGRAM: To cultivate an understanding among commissioners of challenges and opportunities present in counties statewide, FAC instituted a Commissioner Exchange Program. The program allowed for the sharing of innovations and best practices by partnering with host counties during the annual and legislative conferences. Commissioners were treated to lunch and a tour of the host county's facilities.



Commissioners tour St. Lucie County.

All About Florida

GAINED MEDIA COVERAGE ON PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: In the months leading up to the 2006 Legislative Session, members of the Executive Committee traveled with FAC staff to meet with editorial boards of major newspapers across the state. The meetings gave Executive Committee members and FAC staff an opportunity to educate editorial staff about the Association's top legislative priorities. As a result, the Association and its 67 member counties enjoyed outstanding editorial support on many of the Association's top issues during session, including home rule authority, charter county preemption, eminent domain, and growth management.

CONDUCTED ALL ABOUT FLORIDA TOUR ACROSS THE STATE: July kicked off the 2006 All About Florida Tour. 2006-07 FAC President Susan Latvala (Pinellas), along with FAC Executive Director Chris Holley and other staff, traveled across the state to meet county officials and hear ideas about how the association can better serve member needs. Attendees were given a preview of issues to watch during the 2007 Legislative Session and learned about what the association is doing to elevate awareness of the great work counties do for Florida.

ACHIEVED RECORD ATTENDANCE AT FAC ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

More than 500 county officials and staff attended the 2006 FAC Annual Conference in Collier County (Marco Island). The conference, titled "County Lines and Leaders," provided attendees with an opportunity to share best practices and ideas, as well as to learn about hot issues happening throughout Florida. Workshops during the conference covered affordable housing issues, hurricane preparedness and recovery, pandemic readiness, and even a panel discussion with members of the Century Commission.



Commissioners network at Annual Conference.

FAC LAUNCHES ADVANCED EDUCATION PROGRAM: The CCC program

continues to gain momentum with an additional 15 commissioners graduating in June, bringing the total of commissioners presently serving who have completed the coursework to more than 130. In addition, FAC and FCF launched a series of advanced leadership seminars for graduates of the County Commissioners' Certification Program. The Florida Forum for County Leaders is organized as a series of of three seminars that emphasize leadership skills important in Florida's dynamic growth and development environment. Commissioners who complete all three seminars receive an advanced certification to complement their CCC designation.



2006 CCC Graduates

leadership skills important in Florida's dynamic growth and development environment. Commissioners who complete all three seminars receive an advanced certification to complement their CCC designation.

EXPANDED FAC'S REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION: FAC's

enterprise programs continue to succeed with a double digit percent increase in revenues for the second year in a row. The increase in enterprise program revenues were led by FAC's loan program portfolio, which reached an all-time high in 2006 and has loaned almost \$1.8 billion to local governments since inception. Sponsorships have also recognized a significant gain and set an all-time high for the FAC Annual Conference. More and more, corporations are seeing the benefits of partnering with Florida's counties. This past year, FAC added two new corporate partners – Jones Edmunds & Associates and Peter Brown Construction. In addition to the many benefits already realized by the corporate partners, FAC has added an e-newsletter to keep the partners up-to-date and informed on FAC happenings.



NEW FAC ONLINE HURRICANE CENTER: In 2006, FAC launched the new Hurricane Central – an online resource for members to refer to for valuable information and resources relating to emergency preparedness, disaster recovery and assistance. FAC updated the Hurricane Central web page regularly with information from local, state and federal organizations.

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Dear fellow member:

As we look ahead to the challenges and possibilities of next year, I feel confident our association is poised for greatness. With your commitment as members, the support of our experienced and capable FAC staff, and the resources to facilitate our programs, our year ahead is sure to be a success.

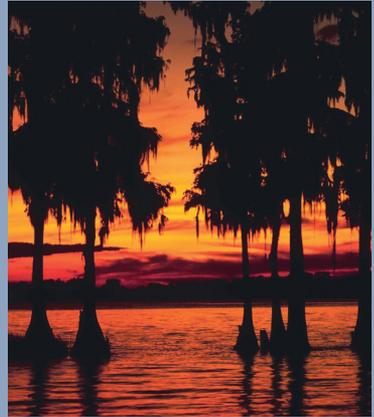
As always, this is your association. I encourage each of you to become an active participant because it not only improves your ability to serve your constituents, it strengthens your association. Your shared ideas and experiences make it possible for FAC to effectively advocate for the priorities of Florida's 67 counties.

I look forward to serving as your President. Together, we are *"All About Florida."*

Sincerely,



Commissioner Susan Latvala
Pinellas County
2006-2007 FAC President



Looking ahead...

- **PROPERTY TAXES** – The FAC Property Tax Workgroup and FAC staff will continue to proactively address this key issue for the upcoming legislative session.
- **PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN** – FAC plans to implement a public education initiative, which will be the next step in carrying forward the message that Florida counties are All About Florida.
- **ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS** – FAC is continuing to seek out and implement new and innovative programs tailored to meet the needs of counties such as a pooled workers' compensation program and other programs.
- **MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SUCCESS** – The FAC Management Team will begin an initiative intended to take the association from "good to great." The management team will evaluate effective habits within top associations across the country and develop a plan that guides FAC toward greatness.

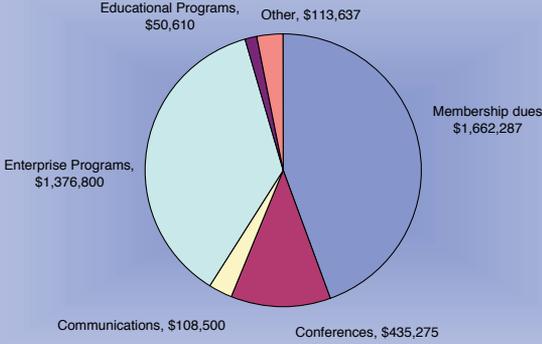
The Year In Review

FAC'S 2005-06 FISCAL YEAR FURTHER SOLIDIFIED THE FINANCIAL STRENGTH OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Healthy revenues, boosted by successful conferences, growth in enterprise programs and favorable investment returns, resulted in an overall revenue stream that exceeded budget in excess of 5 percent. Significant investments were made in increasing the visibility of the association through expanded outreach and public awareness efforts. In addition, FAC dedicated resources to cultivating outstanding county leaders through our expanded educational programs. Financially, the end result was another year of net asset growth for the Association, while at the same time accomplishing goals of the organization as set forth in the Strategic Plan.

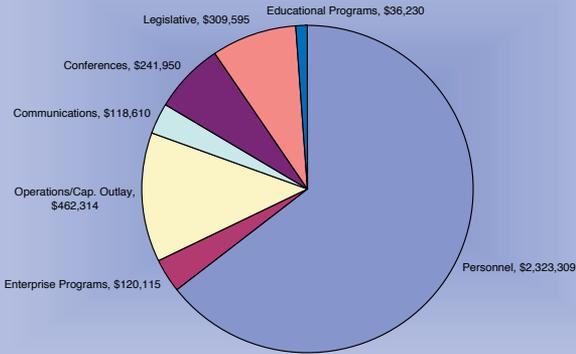
The association enjoys a strong financial position at the end of the fiscal year 2005/06. Liabilities are minimal, with no long term commitments. Assets remain strong with a mixed concentration of short and long term investments laddered to meet the on going needs of the organization. The Association's reserves are fully funded by cash balances and are anticipated to total approximately 48 weeks of operations, with an ultimate goals of 52 weeks.

**Florida Association of Counties
FY 2005-2006
Sources of Revenue**



■ Membership dues ■ Conferences ■ Communications ■ Enterprise Programs ■ Educational Programs ■ Other

**Florida Association of Counties
FY 2005-2006
Expenditures by Program**



■ Personnel ■ Enterprise Programs ■ Operations/Cap. Outlay ■ Communications ■ Conferences ■ Legislative ■ Educational Programs

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