



## 2019 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### 1. SUPPORT RE-AUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) THAT PROTECTS AFFORDABILITY

- As a coastal community, Monroe County is highly reliant upon the continuation of the NFIP program and its affordability.
- **Affordable flood insurance protects property owners, property values, local tax revenue, and economic activity.**
- Coastal communities generate **80% of the State of Florida's GDP** and **46% of the entire national GDP**. NFIP is important because it is protective of the economic engines that coastal communities represent to the State of Florida and nationwide.
- The State of Florida is the most impacted by changes to NFIP with **1.7m of NFIP's 5m policies, with \$430B** in insured value.
- Monroe County supports the following reforms:
  - Maintain focus on *affordability* - provide a more reasonable glide path for all properties;
  - Ensure rates are *consistent* for all properties, including second homes and businesses;
  - Ensure NFIP rates are not excessive or unfair by making the rate-setting process more *transparent*;
  - Reduce *commissions* for Write-Your-Owns and incentivize their NFIP policy sales efforts;
  - Encourage *greater participation* by those outside of the 100-year floodplain via expanded use of the Preferred Risk Policy;
  - *Enforce* flood insurance coverage for properties in the 100-year floodplain;
  - Ensure that any increased *privatization must protect affordability* and consumer protections, and requires whole profile of risk (no cherry picking);
  - Increase federal investment in *flood mitigation* (up to a 6:1 return on investment).

### 2. SECURE FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT FOR HURRICANE IRMA RECOVERY

- Monroe County incurred and submitted for reimbursement \$45M in emergency Category A and Category B expenses. To date, 17 months after Category 4 Hurricane Irma, the County has received only \$6.6M.

### 3. NRCS EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS TO MONROE

- All 172 approved canals will be completed on time and under budget. Monroe requests approval for additional debris and sediment removal projects, **utilizing the remaining unspent, allocated grant funds.**

### 4. SUPPORT 2020 FUNDING CRITICAL TO PROTECTING THE FLORIDA KEYS

- **PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES:** *Support* full and long-term mandatory funding of PILT program.
- **FLORIDA KEYS WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM:** *Support* full funding of the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Program via the Army Corps of Engineers annual Work Plans.
- **FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM:** *Support* full funding of the South Florida Geographic Program/Florida Keys Water National Marine Sanctuary Quality Protection Program in annual Interior and Environment Appropriations bills.
- **EVERGLADES RESTORATION:** *Support* funding for EAA Reservoir and CEPP and construction of the other elements of Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project to improve water flow to Florida Bay.

### 5. OPPOSE OIL DRILLING AND EXPLORATION, LEASE EXPANSION AND SEISMIC TESTING

- Protect federal lands in Florida, including the Everglades, federal waters on Florida's Outer Continental Shelf, along the Atlantic seaboard of the United States, east of the Military Mission Line in the Gulf of Mexico, and within the boundaries of Florida's territorial seas from oil drilling, exploration and testing.