



**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
ANNUAL
REPORT**



THIS PAST FISCAL YEAR
TESTED CITIES
AND THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES STAFF, BUT
IT ENDED AS A **STRONG YEAR**
FOR THE LEAGUE. THE REASON WAS **YOU,**
OUR **MEMBERS,** WHO WERE
ACTIVE AND ENGAGED.



FAST FLY-IN

In the fall, a record number of 43 municipal officials participated in the **FAST Fly-in** to Washington, D.C.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION

You were by our side fighting preemption bills in the **2020 Legislative Session**. With your help, only five preemption bills passed. The redesigned **Legislative Action Days** had 222 delegates, the largest number we've seen in years. We are so grateful for our **Home Rule Heroes** who joined in the fight. We look forward to assistance from all of you during the 2021 session.



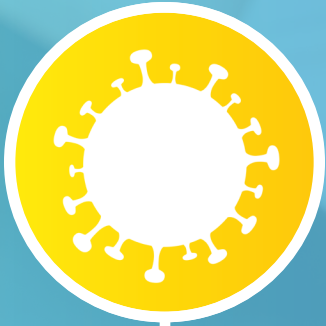
118

Home Rule Heroes recognized

222

delegates attended the redesigned Legislative Action Days

LOCAL VOICES MAKING LOCAL CHOICES



COVID-19

When the pandemic struck, you quickly changed how you operate, and so did we. We quickly compiled a **COVID-19 webpage** on *flcities.com* and were overwhelmed by your response. Later we added **Reopening + Recovery Resources**.



FLC GOES VIRTUAL

We switched to virtual learning. More than 3,500 members received in-person or virtual training through **FLC University** in 2019-2020. **FLCitiesStrong webinars** offer a podcast-like format. We switched to free online, live, interactive **ethics classes** so that you could meet the annual state requirement.



61,613

views of the COVID-19 webpage indicated the usefulness of *flcities.com*

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FLORIDA MUNICIPAL INVESTMENT TRUST

The effects of the global pandemic will be felt by cities for years. We will continue to assist you financially. One way is with the **Florida Municipal Investment Trust**. Economies of scale allow us to offer lower administrative costs while still offering you professionally managed investment portfolios. There are 53 municipalities participating, but we think the FMIVT can benefit all of our members.



FLORIDA MUNICIPAL LOAN COUNCIL

We continue to offer loans through our **Florida Municipal Loan Council**. This year, the FMLC offered \$17.5 million in bank loans for capital improvements and handled \$15.7 million in bond issues including \$9 million toward new projects.



FLORIDA MUNICIPAL PENSION TRUST FUND

We continue to help you with retirement planning through the **Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund**. We have more than 4,500 participants.



FLORIDA MUNICIPAL INSURANCE TRUST

We offer risk-management services through the **Florida Municipal Insurance Trust**. This past year, the FMIT launched the **FMIT Community Connection**, an online community of FMIT members helping members address common risk management issues. We expanded the **Safety Grant Program** to allow FMIT members to secure personal protective equipment for COVID-19. Eighty-nine suspected insurance fraud cases have been actively investigated this year by the **Special Investigation Unit**. These efforts helped contribute to an FMIT member retention rate of over 97%.

We collected \$298,508 through the collection of delinquent business license fees from insurance companies selling policies within the city limits of 287 municipalities.



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

In 2020, we faced more challenges than the pandemic. This year has brought to light racial inequalities in our country and caused widespread protests calling for change. The League is here to help you address these issues. We offer **diversity and inclusion training** for League members. We also held a session on creating conversations about race and equity in March for the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials.

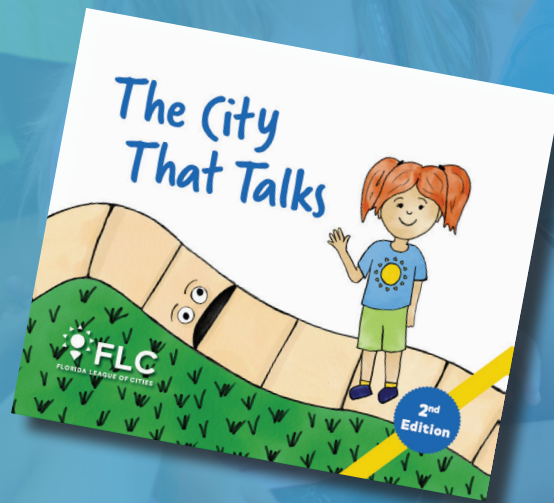
We're also focusing on race relations internally. The League held a race relations and equity session for staff that was facilitated by Clarence Anthony, CEO and executive director of the National League of Cities. League staff also created a monthly group called START – Start Talking About Race Together – to learn more about racial issues and inequities and to create open discussion among co-workers. The League also provides mandatory annual diversity and inclusion training for all staff. We will continue to use the crises in 2020 as stepping-stones to grow, learn and heal.

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READERS2LEADERS

In one of the year's high points, 411 cities received copies of *The City That Talks* children's book as part of President Isaac Salver's Readers2Leaders initiative. Thank you for continuing to share these books through virtual readings.



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I appreciate your support for me as your newly elected executive director. On behalf of the League staff, we are here to serve you. The staff members are wonderful resources of information; 40% of them have worked here for more than 10 years. Our ambassadors are keeping in touch with you through phone calls, emails and attendance at your outdoor events. Our *Quality Cities* staff will continue to spotlight your great work in the magazine.

Thank you for your service and commitment to your city and the League. Your leadership ensures our continued success.



Jeannie Garner
Executive Director

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