



The Governor's total recommendation for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget is \$91.3 billion. The General Revenue portion is \$33.8 billion. The General Revenue funds available for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget year increased \$1.0 billion from the previous fiscal year, a 3.1 percent increase. Florida's total reserves are \$5.2 billion.

Budget Savings

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$98.2 million in savings and a reduction of 94 positions. Notable savings contained in the Governor's recommended budget include:

- Administrative and operational efficiencies of \$16.5 million
- Savings resulting from contract and lease renegotiations are \$3.3 million
- Debt service savings of \$55.0 million as a result of refinancing efforts
- Reduced excess budget authority of \$22.9 million

Taxpayer Savings

Governor DeSantis is committed to continue to cut Floridians' tax burden. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget proposes to cut taxes by \$335 million. Florida's per capita state tax burden of \$1,822 currently is the second lowest among all states. Governor DeSantis' \$335 million tax cut package includes:

- **Sales Tax Holidays to Save Families \$45.3 Million** – This includes funding for two sales tax holidays which will save Florida families an estimated \$45.3 million in the upcoming fiscal year, including:
 - \$39.5 million from a 3-day back-to-school sales tax holiday helping Florida families prepare for the upcoming school year;
 - \$5.8 million from one-week disaster preparedness sales tax holidays to encourage Floridians to be prepared for the hurricane season.
- **Property Tax Cut Worth Nearly \$300 million** – The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget reduces the property tax millage rate by 0.157 in the required local effort in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) for an overall property tax cut of \$289.7 million.

Florida Reserves

Florida continues to maintain strong reserves. Reserve amounts included in the Governor's budget recommendation are:

- \$1.4 billion in unallocated General Revenue
- \$1.6 billion in the Budget Stabilization Fund
- \$1.5 billion in unallocated Trust Funds
- \$0.7 billion in Tobacco Reserves



Florida Retirement System

Pension Unfunded Liability – The unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) Defined Benefit Program amounted to \$29.9 billion on June 30, 2018. Based on an actuarial liability of \$186.0 billion and an actuarial value of assets of \$156.1 billion, the program is 83.9 percent funded as of June 30, 2018.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget implements the recommendations of the independent actuary and proposes to fully fund the recommended contributions to both the normal cost and the UAL for state employees. This helps Florida continue to have one of the best funded pension plans of the largest states in the nation.

A BOLD VISION FOR PROTECTING ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends major reforms to ensure the protection of Florida's environment and water quality, which are the foundation of our communities, economy and way of life. Governor DeSantis strongly believes the protection of water resources is one of the most pressing issues facing our state and therefore this budget focuses on sound science to protect our natural treasures. As part of a more than \$4 billion investment to protect our environment, agriculture and natural resources, Governor DeSantis recommends nearly \$1.9 billion specifically for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Rapid Improvement for Water Quality, Quantity and Supply

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends more than \$625 million for Everglades restoration and protection of our valuable water resources. By investing \$625 million each year, more than \$2.5 billion will be invested by the end of Governor DeSantis' first term. This would be \$1 billion more than was invested in the previous four years in Everglades and protecting water resources.

This Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes a record \$360 million for Everglades restoration projects, a level of funding which will put Florida on track to complete the C-44 Reservoir and stormwater treatment area, the C-43 Reservoir, and 20 additional projects over the next five years. These projects will provide 672,000 acre-feet of storage and remove almost 200,000 pounds of total phosphorus annually, a major source of nutrient pollution. In addition, these projects will significantly reduce discharges from Lake Okeechobee when combined with updates to the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule, as requested by Governor DeSantis in his January 4th letter to the President. The EAA Reservoir project will receive \$107 million: \$43 million above the annual \$64 million to ensure that we are moving forward with the



projects needed to move water south. In addition, \$40 million through the Department of Transportation's work program is provided to speed up and complete the final phase to raise the Tamiami Trail, which will restore the flow of more than 900 million gallons per day of water south.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget supports a more than \$25 million total investment to improve water quality and combat the effects and impacts of harmful algal blooms, including blue-green algae and red tide. Specifically, \$10 million is recommended for innovative technologies and short-term solutions to address the impacts of algae blooms. This includes the continuation of DEP's emergency red tide grant program and may also address water quality treatment technologies surrounding Lake Okeechobee. \$10.8 million is recommended to increase water quality monitoring, support the Blue-Green Algae Task Force, and to develop a water quality public information portal. This portal will be focused on accountability and transparency, providing monitoring data for all of Florida's outstanding springs and key waterbodies, as well as allow the public to track the investment in projects and progress in attaining water quality goals. \$4.2 million is recommended to establish the Center for Red Tide Research within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and to support the Harmful Algal Bloom Task Force and partnerships for mitigation and technology development with a renewed focus on red tide. An additional \$1 million is recommended for the Department of Health to conduct a study on the long-term health impacts of red tide and blue-green algae.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget also includes \$150 million in General Revenue for targeted water quality improvements to achieve significant, meaningful and measurable nutrient reductions in key waterbodies across the State of Florida. This includes \$100 million for cost-share grant funds for water quality improvements, including septic conversions and upgrades, other wastewater improvements, and rural and urban stormwater system upgrades. \$50 million is included to accelerate projects to meet scientific nutrient reduction goals (called Total Maximum Daily Loads), which may include green infrastructure investments or land conservation to protect our water resources. This funding will support projects identified by DEP, the Blue-Green Algae Task Force and its partners to reduce nutrient pollution and harmful algal blooms in our treasured waterways. On top of the investment in targeted water quality improvements, the budget includes \$50 million to restore Florida's world-renowned springs. This funding may also be used for land acquisition to protect springsheds and will be crucial to supporting homeowners and local communities as they work with the state to achieve the septic and nutrient reduction requirements of the 2016 Water Bill.



Governor DeSantis recommends \$40 million in General Revenue for an alternative water supply grant program to help communities plan for and implement vital conservation, reuse and other alternative water supply projects. DEP will engage local governments, industry, universities and water management districts to identify and research all viable alternative water supply sources and is working to provide an assessment of funding needs critical to supporting Florida's growing economy.

Governor DeSantis also recommends a transfer of 19 positions, composing the Environmental Crimes Enforcement Unit, from FWC to DEP. This will move the investigations and criminal enforcement back to DEP to align resources focused on environmental protection, allowing DEP to address both civil and criminal investigations for the environmental laws that fall under their purview. This will allow DEP to comprehensively protect the environment from criminal environmental actions, while maintaining record compliance and its investment in public education.

Protect our Valuable and Vulnerable Coastlines

With approximately 1,300 miles of coastline, Florida's beaches and coasts define our state. As a leading attraction for Florida's visitors, protecting our beaches is critical to our growing economy. Governor DeSantis' Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget is recommending \$50 million in beach renourishment funding to continue to address Florida's critically eroded shorelines. Governor DeSantis looks forward to working with stakeholders and the Legislature to address additional needs once data becomes available on the most recent beach assessments, including damages from Hurricane Michael.

Coastal communities must be able to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of hurricanes, storm surge and sea level rise while protecting our citizen's quality of life and our water quality and supply. This is why Governor DeSantis is recommending \$6 million for the Resilient Coastlines Program within the new Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection within DEP. This program helps prepare Florida's communities and habitats for changes resulting from sea level rise by providing funding and technical assistance and continuing to promote and ensure a coordinated approach to planning among state, regional and local agencies. The increased funding for coastal resiliency grants will also help protect Florida's coral reefs, which serve as the state's first line of defense from storm surge and are a major tourism attraction, and support emergency sand placement to help fortify coastal areas ahead of storms. In addition, Governor DeSantis' budget includes an additional \$2.5 million to protect our coral reefs by removing tires and other solid waste impacting them.

Investing in Clean Lands and Air



The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$125 million for the cleanup of contaminated sites with a focus on encouraging redevelopment of these areas once cleanup has been completed. Working with federal and local partners, cleanup and redevelopment of these sites will ensure Florida's new businesses and growing communities can safely develop and our economy can continue to grow. Specific recommended investments include: \$110 million for Petroleum Tanks Cleanup, \$8.5 million for Drycleaning Solvent Contaminated Site Cleanup, \$5.5 million for Hazardous Waste Contaminated Site Cleanup and \$600,000 for Cleanup of State Owned contaminated sites.

The budget also recommends \$10 million for year one of the implementation of the State Mitigation Plan for the \$166 million Volkswagen Clean Air Act settlement. This plan will be submitted early this year and the projects will address the reduction of diesel emissions and will further improve Florida's air quality.

A Commitment to Florida's Prized Properties

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$154 million to protect our prized properties in Florida. This funding will ensure all Floridians have access to enjoy our pristine natural environment, while protecting these unique natural resources and investing in the management of our state-owned lands.

As land acquisition is vital to both our economic growth and environmental protection, Governor DeSantis recommends \$100 million for Florida Forever through the Division of State Lands to acquire land with a focus on protecting our water resources for Floridians and visitors.

Florida's State Parks have won the National Gold Medal a record three times for having the best park system nationally. Governor DeSantis recommends devoting \$54 million to infrastructure improvements and resource management with the goal of maintaining this high standard, aiming for an unprecedented fourth Gold Medal and ensuring all visitors and residents alike have access to these prized properties for generations to come.

Investing in Florida's Agriculture

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends more than \$1.7 billion for Florida's agricultural industry. In order to preserve Florida's iconic citrus industry, Governor DeSantis recommends investing \$20 million for citrus research, the Citrus Health Response Program and for consumer awareness marketing efforts. Also, recognizing how important it is to effectively combat wildfires, the Governor recommends more than \$7.4 million, including \$3 million for wildfire suppression



equipment and \$4.4 million for road and bridge maintenance to allow for better access for land management and wildfire suppression activities.

A BOLD VISION FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

As a product of Florida's public school system and a parent of two future Florida students, Governor DeSantis knows the importance of ensuring all Florida students have the opportunity to attend a great school and get a high quality education. Governor DeSantis believes that every student, regardless of their zip code or family circumstances, should have the opportunity to get a great education. That is why the Governor's recommended budget includes key investments in K-12, workforce, and higher education to build a high quality education system that prepares all Florida students for the future. Key investments include:

- Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) is funded at \$405.4 million
- K-12 public schools has the highest total and state funding of all time with \$21.7 billion in total funding and \$12.3 billion in state funding
- In addition, K-12 per student funding of \$7,653 exceeds the current year's record funding by \$224 per student
- The Florida College System state operating funds is funded at \$1.28 billion
- Total funding for the State University System operating funds of \$4.4 billion and total state operating funding of \$2.6 billion

Early Learning

As a father of two young children, Governor DeSantis recognizes a child's early years of education provides a strong foundation for their future learning. That is why the Governor's recommended budget provides more than \$1.2 billion in funding, an increase of \$135.3 million over Fiscal Year 2018-19 for early child education.

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends an additional \$7 million for a total of more than \$405.4 million for Florida's VPK program, a quality, free education initiative, which serves more than 160,000 four and five-year olds. VPK prepares each child for kindergarten by building a strong foundation for school and focusing on early literacy skills.

School Readiness

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends an increase of \$130 million in federal funding to serve additional children in the School Readiness program, meet additional federal requirements for the School Readiness Program, and reward School Readiness providers who participate in program assessment and implement quality



improvement strategies.

In addition, the Governor's recommended budget provides funds in Fiscal Year 2019-20 for the following initiatives that support early learning:

- T.E.A.C.H. – \$10 million for early childhood teacher scholarships;
- Help Me Grow – \$1.8 million to connect children and families with information, resources and developmental services to enhance health, behavior and learning in the development of young children;
- Teacher Training – \$3 million for statewide professional development that improves child care instructor quality; and
- Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) – \$3.9 million to deliver high quality School Readiness curriculum directly to parents so they may strengthen the cognitive and early literacy skills of at-risk children.

K-12 Public Education

After two decades of education reforms, Florida now ranks fourth in the nation on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) for K-12 achievement and has a graduation rate of 86.1 percent. To build on Florida's successful turn-around efforts, Governor DeSantis will continue to build a high quality K-12 education system by making key investments in Florida's public school system. The Governor is recommending \$21.7 billion in total funding for the Florida Educational Finance Program (FEFP). This recommendation results in a per student funding amount of \$7,653, an increase of \$224. The base student allocation grows by \$50 per student.

To achieve the \$21.7 billion in total funding, \$425 million in additional state funding and \$142.3 million in required local effort (RLE) revenue is provided. The increase in RLE revenue is generated from new construction.

Highlights of the FEFP Increases include:

- \$50 million. of the \$211.9 million, in total funding for school safety initiatives,
- \$10 million, of the \$79.2 million, in total funding for mental health initiatives;
- \$423 million for a new initiative to recruit and retain great teachers and principals.

Protecting Florida's Jewish Day Schools

In response to safety concerns for Florida's Jewish communities after they received hateful threats recently, Governor DeSantis is providing \$2.5 million in recurring funding to provide additional security to ensure children at Florida Jewish Day Schools can learn in a safe environment. This funding will help provide security and counter-terrorism upgrades such as video cameras, fences, bullet-proof glass, alarm systems and other safety equipment.

Promoting Computer Science



The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes \$10 million to establish a program to cover the cost of training for teachers to earn educator certificates or industry certifications in computer science. The program would also provide bonuses to teachers who earned an educator certificate or industry certification who are teaching computer science courses.

Higher Education

In higher education, Florida now boasts five of the top 100 public universities in the country, including one in the top 10, while maintaining the second lowest tuition in the country for public four-year institutions. To continue building on Florida's success, Governor DeSantis will support and expand higher education programs that ensure Florida's state colleges and universities offer students a high quality education at an affordable rate. That is why the Governor's budget includes state operating funding for Florida's higher education system of more than \$1.2 billion for Florida colleges, and more than \$2.6 billion for Florida universities.

Performance Funding

Governor DeSantis will increase performance funding to encourage Florida's career technical centers, the Florida College System, and the State University System to continue investing in initiatives that have proven effective in: increasing the number of industry certifications awarded, increasing the four-year graduation rates, increasing student retention rates, lowering student costs, and reducing student debt.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes the following performance funding at career technical centers, state colleges and state universities:

- Provides \$6.5 million for students earning industry certifications in high-skill, high-demand areas at career technical centers. This is an increase of \$2 million over FY 2018-19.
- Provides \$120 million in performance funding for the 28 state colleges, which is an increase in state investment of \$30 million over current year. The recommended budget also provides \$14 million for students earning industry certifications in high-skill, high-demand areas at Florida colleges, which is an increase \$4 million over Fiscal Year 2018-19.
- Provides \$620 million in performance funding for state universities, which is an increase in state investment of \$30 million over current year.

Holding the Line on Tuition and Student Expenses

Governor DeSantis will work with the Legislature to keep tuition as low as possible by looking for administrative spending reduction opportunities while also supporting Bright Futures Scholarships and other programs that reduce the financial burden on Florida's students. That is why the Governor has not included any tuition increases in his budget recommendation.



Workforce Initiatives

- **Pathways to a Career Opportunity Grants** - \$10 million in funding for school districts and Florida College institutions to develop high-quality workforce, apprenticeships and other industry specific learning opportunities for students. Programs will promote partnerships between high schools, postsecondary institutions, and local businesses that align Florida's graduates to job market demands.
- **Work Florida Initiative at State Colleges** - \$26 million in funding to support statewide efforts to align students in Florida to workforce programs, within the Florida College System, that lead to jobs. This initiative will focus on aligning our graduates to the job market needs by utilizing job growth reports and industry partner feedback to expand existing programs to meet workforce demands. Institutions should engage in a variety of innovative partnerships that will result in programs designed to meet local workforce needs.

College Completion

The Governor establishes the Last Mile College Completion Program by providing \$1.5 million to fund an incentive program to assist up to 1,000 students who have dropped out of their associate's or bachelor's degree program to be able to return to school and graduate. The program will allow colleges to identify students who need ten percent or less credits to complete their degree and offer the students tuition waivers to continue working towards earning their degree.

Education Infrastructure

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides \$510.4 million in funding to school districts, colleges, and universities, and funds the necessary infrastructure for public charter schools without utilizing any funds from the school districts. Governor DeSantis believes that students and teachers at all of Florida's public schools deserve a safe environment in which to learn and work. Specific recommendations include:

School Safety Grants

- More than \$98.9 million for school safety grants provided to school districts to assist with costs associated with improving the physical security of K-12 school buildings.

Maintenance

- \$50 million for traditional public school maintenance;
- \$155.5 million for public charter school maintenance;
- \$6.6 million for lab school maintenance;
- \$2.8 million for Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind maintenance;
- \$2.9 million for public broadcasting stations to correct health and safety issues, correct building deficiencies and other project renovations;



- \$35.7 million for Florida College System maintenance; and
- \$48.4 million for State University System maintenance.

Construction

- More than \$45.5 million for Special Facility Construction projects. This funding is for critical infrastructure needs in Bradford, Gilchrist, Jackson and Liberty counties;
- More than \$19.9 million to complete construction projects at the state colleges and state universities; and
- \$44 million in budget authority to the State University System to spend collected student fees on a list of student-approved facility projects.

Transportation and Economic Development

A BOLD VISION FOR HURRICANE RECOVERY

Over the past several years, Florida has taken the brunt of several destructive hurricanes, including Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, Irma and Michael. Although our state was prepared and responded immediately to limit the loss of life and property, the power of these storms continues to impact a great number of Floridians. Many of our communities and their citizens are only beginning to recover from hurricane damage and need assistance with a number of issues such as rebuilding their homes, finding other affordable housing, and getting their businesses up and running again. Assisting our fellow Floridians will require significant efforts across several programs and agencies.

For the two most recent hurricanes to strike Florida - Irma and Michael - the State of Florida is projected to spend \$1.7 billion on hurricane preparedness and recovery: \$636.6 million for Hurricane Irma, and \$1.1 billion so far for Hurricane Michael.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends significant funding be directed towards hurricane recovery efforts through multiple state agencies. Programs that would be implemented with these funds include:

Division of Emergency Management

- **Open Federally Declared Disasters – Funding to Communities - \$1.9 billion.** Federal funding is provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) so that communities can respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies as well as mitigate against future disasters or emergencies. Currently, there are a total of 137 hazard mitigation projects and over 35,000 public assistance



worksheets open under various disasters and additional hazard mitigation projects and public assistance worksheets under federal review for recent disasters.

- **Open Federally Declared Disasters – State Operations - \$92 million.** A portion of the federal assistance received from FEMA provides funds to leverage the work associated with the state operations relating to federally declared disasters for the Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, and Disaster Activity programs.

Department of Economic Opportunity

- **Housing Repair - \$273.3 million.** Rehabilitation or replacement program for low- and moderate-income families impacted by Hurricane Irma.
- **Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Leveraged Financing - \$44 million.** Partnership between the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) to manage the construction of new affordable rental housing in areas impacted by Hurricane Irma. Funds would be leveraged with Low Income Housing Tax Credits, local or state Tax-Exempt Bond Financing in limited high-cost areas or other local financing to produce new affordable housing rental units.
- **Workforce Affordable Rental New Construction Program: Small Rental Developments - \$20 million.** Stand-alone or the primary source of funds to finance development in rural areas impacted by the storm where leveraging of funds is not feasible. Funds will be provided as zero-interest, forgivable loans. This program is designated for rural and small communities and may be used to finance up to 100 percent of the cost of new construction or rehabilitation for small properties with less than 50 units.
- **Land Acquisition for Affordable Workforce Housing - \$20 million.** Funding to purchase land for the development of affordable housing. DEO, in partnership with FHFC, will manage a program that will provide funding for the purchase of land with a priority for formal public/private commitments to develop affordable housing.
- **Voluntary Home Buyout Program - \$75 million.** To encourage risk reduction through the acquisition of residential property in high flood risk areas. DEO will hire a contracted team to work with counties who are interested in pursuing the buyout projects to support and provide appraisals, title and legal services, environmental review, and related buyout processes.
- **Recovery Workforce Training - \$20 million.** DEO, through its Division of Workforce Services, will utilize existing programs to implement a hurricane recovery workforce training program throughout the state of Florida.



- **Business Recovery Grant - \$60 million.** DEO will create a grant program for eligible business owners who are seeking reimbursement for the cost of replacing equipment and inventory damaged by Hurricane Irma.
- **Business Assistance to New Floridians from Puerto Rico - \$6 million.** DEO will implement a public assistance program for new businesses and entrepreneurs who have migrated from Puerto Rico. This program can include business plan guidance, information about specific regional market, accounting and legal assistance, licensing and permitting guidance, along with seminars and other forms of assistance.
- **Unmet Needs - \$185.6 million.** For additional Workforce Affordable Rental Housing and other recovery needs, based on pending approval from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

- **Hurricane Irma Marine Debris Removal - \$4.5 million.** This federal funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will help to remove trapped debris, displaced and derelict vessels, and other marine debris.
- **Hurricane Irma Marine Fisheries Disaster Recovery - \$44.4 million.** This anticipated federal funding, also from NOAA, will provide relief to the fishing community in Florida-details are still being finalized between FWC and NOAA.

Ensuring Housing Availability for Working Families

Since the end of the Great Recession, Florida has enjoyed a level of economic growth and prosperity that is the envy of many other states. Although this growth has included the recovery of Florida's construction industry and the creation of housing throughout the state, the fact remains that many Floridians find it difficult to find homes and apartments that are affordable within their family budgets.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides \$338.4 million to fully fund Workforce and Affordable Housing Programs. Full funding of the program has not occurred in over a decade, since FY 2007-2008. This amount includes \$95.4 million for the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program and \$242.9 million for the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program. Both programs are administered by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), from a portion of the revenues received from documentary stamp taxes on real estate transfers.

The SAIL Program, funded by the State Housing Trust Fund, provides low-interest loans on a competitive basis to developers of affordable rental housing. SAIL funds serve to



bridge the gap between development primary financing and the total cost of the development, which allows developers to obtain the full financing needed to construct or rehabilitate affordable multifamily units.

The SHIP Program, funded by the Local Government Housing Trust Fund, provides funds to local governments on a population-based formula as an incentive to produce and preserve affordable housing for very low, low, and moderate-income families. SHIP funds are distributed on an entitlement basis to all 67 counties and to 52 Community Development Block Grant entitlement cities in Florida. SHIP funds may be used to fund emergency repairs, new construction, rehabilitation, down payment and closing cost assistance, impact fees, construction and gap financing, mortgage buy-downs, acquisitions of property for affordable housing, matching dollars for federal housing grants and programs, and homeownership counseling.

A BOLD VISION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKFORCE

Florida's ability to be able to grow and prosper is due in no small part to having one of the best transportation systems in the country. From our top-ranked roads to our record setting seaports and international airports, our state's transportation system allows for the safe and timely movement of people and goods from one place to another. Still, the nature and speed of Florida's growth means we must continue to make significant investments in our transportation infrastructure to relieve traffic congestion, ensure efficiency and improve safety.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides \$9.92 billion for the State Transportation Work Program. The Work Program is based on a five-year plan for the implementation and completion of transportation infrastructure projects throughout the state. The Fiscal Year 2019-20, Work Program includes:

- \$3.2 billion to expand transportation system capacity which includes 102 new lane miles.
- \$2.7 billion for highway construction.
- \$160.8 million in seaport infrastructure improvements.
- \$ 277.4 million for aviation improvements.
- \$ 1.1 billion for scheduled repairs of 85 bridges and replacement of 22 bridges.
- \$ 1.1 billion for maintenance and operation of existing facilities.
- \$ 667.9 million for transit program improvements.
- \$ 229 million for additional safety initiatives.

Increased Employment through Rapid Development of a Skilled Workforce and Improved Infrastructure for Key Priorities

While Florida has and will continue to experience a high level of job creation and economic development, it is wise to continue our policy of investing in infrastructure



projects and workforce training initiatives that allow our economy to diversify and support the kinds of 21st Century businesses and jobs that will increasingly be created.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes \$85 million for the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund provides funding for job training and public infrastructure projects that support growth and employment in Florida. Specifically, the program is designed to support economic diversification, economic recovery, or economic enhancement in targeted industries. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI), both identify projects, solicit proposals, and make funding recommendations to the Governor. Projects will be primarily focused on increased workforce training investments to rapidly develop a more highly-skilled workforce and on initiatives that can rapidly improve our water quality and supply projects such as “green” infrastructure.

Maintaining a Foundational Industry

While Florida continues to grow and diversify economically, it is undeniable that the tourism industry is one of our state’s economic foundations. Florida’s prosperity in recent years is due in no small part to the economic activity generated by over 100 million visitors to Florida every year. Although our state has much to offer, we cannot rest on our laurels and hope that our tourism success will continue without a strong state-level marketing program.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$76 million for VISIT FLORIDA, the same amount as in the current fiscal year. VISIT FLORIDA serves as the state’s official tourism marketing corporation and Florida’s official source for travel planning to visitors across the globe. The organization, along with its partners, facilitates tourism industry participation through various domestic and international marketing opportunities (e.g. domestic and international trade shows and consumer shows and media missions.) to top global visitor markets. VISIT FLORIDA also works closely with tour operators, travel agents and event planners as part of its marketing activities. In addition, the state’s five Official Welcome Centers are staffed by VISIT FLORIDA. At this proposed level of funding, we can be assured that Florida will set another record for the number of tourists visiting our state.

Ensuring Fair and Free Elections

It is no secret that because of close elections Florida is often the subject of intense scrutiny. Although Florida elections are administered at the local level, the state plays an important role in ensuring elections are conducted fairly and accurately and helps to make sure that Florida’s voting and registration systems are safe from cybersecurity threats. Currently, Florida’s Division of Elections within the Department of State is partially funded with federal dollars provided under the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA). However, federal HAVA funding is expected to end in Fiscal Year 2019-20.



The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$12.2 million for state-level election oversight activities, with a focus on cybersecurity enhancements to Florida's election system. \$1.3 million will be used for five cyber security specialists and one project manager who will provide Supervisors of Elections with support and recommendations to combat cyber-security threats. A total of \$3 million will be available to Supervisors of Elections to continue cybersecurity initiatives and improvements to their systems.

Ensuring Entrepreneurs and Businesses can Count on Us

The Division of Corporations within the Department of State administers important filing and record keeping functions on behalf of Florida's companies and businesses. The Division serves as the state's central depository for a variety of commercial activities, and processes over 400,000 new business filings and registrations per year. The Division currently maintains more than 8 million records, annually performs 5 million activities, and collects over \$358 million in revenue. If any issues with maintaining this system occur, not only would the state experience a significant revenue loss, but there would be significant negative impacts on Florida's business community, law enforcement agencies, the general public, and other agencies which depend on the Division's commercial data and business activities.

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$12 million for replacement of the current commercial registry with a new cloud-based information technology system. The new system will be customer friendly, ensure the ongoing security of Florida's business filings, and will have the capacity to accommodate an ever-increasing number of filings as the number of companies and businesses with a presence in Florida continues to grow.

A BOLD VISION FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Governor DeSantis hopes that all Floridians are able to lead long, healthy and productive lives and understands the importance of helping those in need including our most vulnerable who are unable to help themselves. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget supports the increased need in child welfare funding and supports funding for seniors and the developmentally disabled. The budget also includes additional funding to help fight the opioid epidemic and funding to assist our veterans in employment opportunities. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget will make significant investments in improving the lives of all Floridians in the future.

Opioid Epidemic

Governor DeSantis knows that we must do everything to fight the national opioid epidemic by working with our local partners to ensure that the needs of individuals struggling with opioid addiction are met. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$84.6 million in total funding to fight the opioid epidemic in Florida. The



budget provides \$49 million in federal funding from the State Opioid Response Grant to address the opioid crisis by providing evidence-based prevention, medication-assisted treatment and recovery. Additionally, the budget provides \$1.3 million to the Department of Health for increase epidemiology and surveillance to prevent and reduce opioid related morbidity.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides an additional \$25.7 million in funding to support those with behavioral health needs. The budget includes \$6.7 million to expand the capacity of Community Action Teams (CAT) for children ages 11-21 with mental health and/or substance abuse diagnosis and provides \$4.2 million to expand Family Intensive Treatment Teams (FIT) capacity for parents who have a child ages 0-10 who has been determined unsafe. These multidisciplinary teams provide a family centered approach and allow individuals to be served in their community. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget also includes \$4.2 million in new funding for an additional 48 forensic community transition beds and \$3 million for expanding civil bed capacity. The budget includes \$7.5 million in federal funding for services to individuals with behavioral health needs.

Child Welfare

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes \$73.6 million to provide funding for services to children and families who depend on Florida's child welfare system. The budget includes \$42.9 million for safety management services, training to ensure staff are adequately prepared to provide child protective investigations, foster care parents who serve as caregivers for children who have been removed from their home and early intervention efforts for substance affected infants. Additionally, the Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes funding to mitigate the financial shortfall of the expiration of the federal Title IV-E waiver which is set to expire September 30, 2019. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget invests \$30.7 million for maintenance adoption subsidies and post adoption services for children who are adopted from foster care. Governor DeSantis knows that adoption can change children's lives and enhance the life of a family.

Employment Opportunities

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future Budget includes \$1 million to serve approximately 500 individuals with developmental disabilities and \$1.5 million to serve approximately 550 individuals with behavioral health needs. Additionally, The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides \$1.9 million to assist veterans in mentoring, training and networking throughout the State of Florida.

Seniors

Governor DeSantis hopes that all Floridians are able to lead long, healthy and productive lives. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes \$9 million in



funding to meeting the needs of our seniors in the community. This funding provides services for individuals and caregivers who have been impacted by Alzheimer's disease, and other memory disorders, and will allow an additional 250 individuals and their families to receive respite services. This investment also allows an additional 590 individuals to receive adult day care and case management services through the Community Care for the Elderly Program and 240 individuals to receive support for services and supplies through the Home Care for the Elderly Program.

Veterans

As a veteran, Governor DeSantis believes deeply in honoring those who served our country in the United States Armed Forces. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes funding for staff and start-up operations at two new state veteran nursing homes. The budget invests \$7 million for operations and 124 positions for initial staffing of the Ardie R. Copas State Veterans' Nursing Home in St. Lucie County and \$3.4 million for operations of the Lake Baldwin State Veterans' Nursing Home in Orange County. Additionally, the Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$6.5 million for capital improvements, equipment updates and 21 additional nurses and certified nursing assistants for Florida's existing State veteran nursing homes.

Persons with Disabilities

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides \$40.4 million to get approximately 1600 individuals in crisis off the wait list and into the Agency for Persons with Disabilities waiver program. By funding the Agency for Persons Disabilities waiver program, people with developmental disabilities will be able to live, learn and work in their communities.

A BOLD VISION FOR SAFE COMMUNITIES

Governor DeSantis believes that keeping Florida safe is one of his most important responsibilities as Governor. Keeping criminals off the streets and protecting our communities is a top priority. And thanks to the hard work of Florida's law enforcement officers, Florida is safer now than it has been in many years and our crime rate is at a 47-year low. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget builds on this success by making significant investments in public safety.

Expanding and Enhancing Florida's Crime Databases

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is responsible for maintaining a variety of databases that law enforcement uses daily to solve crimes. Many of these resources are also accessible to the public, which helps keep Floridians safe. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget invests more than \$16.5 million to expand and enhance these databases, including:

- \$1.5 million to complete the upgrades to the Sexual Offender and Predator Registry;



- \$11.8 million to continue the transition to incident-based crime reporting (FIBRS);
- \$1.2 million to complete the DNA database expansion; and
- \$2 million to centralize criminal justice data and make it more transparent to the public.

Protecting Law-Abiding Gun Owners While Ensuring Only Legally Qualified Purchasers Can Buy Firearms

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget also includes over \$700,000 and 11 positions to address the increased workload of FDLE's Firearm Purchase Program. This funding will help ensure that only those who are lawfully qualified to purchase a firearm are able to do so.

Ensuring Compliance for Inmate Health Care

The Department of Corrections is responsible for the care and supervision of more than 95,000 inmates. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget includes \$137.5 million which ensures compliance with requirements for inmate health care. This includes:

- \$13.9 million for the increased costs of pharmaceuticals;
- \$37 million to better-treat inmates with Hepatitis C; and
- \$86.6 million for enhancements to contracted inmate health services.

The Governor has directed the secretary of the Department of Corrections to renegotiate existing agreements and to explore all options to reduce inmate healthcare costs.

Complying with Inmate Mental Health Service Requirements

The Governor's recommended budget also provides \$40.5 million and 573 positions to better serve inmates with mental illness per pending litigation. These funds will be used to consolidate and renovate mental health facilities, and increase the medical and security staff to ensure that inmates with mental health issues are provided prompt and effective treatment in a rehabilitative environment.

Treating Disabled Inmates Appropriately

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides over \$1.7 million and 12 positions to better serve inmates with disabilities. These funds will be used to provide Americans with Disabilities Act modifications to current facilities; and lighting notification systems, message boards, and sign language interpreters for hearing impaired inmates.

Safer Correctional Facilities

The Governor's budget provides \$14.5 million to make critical repairs and renovations to correctional and juvenile facilities. This investment in Florida's infrastructure not only enhances the safety and security of Florida's correctional and juvenile officers, inmates, and youth, but will also result in long-term energy and maintenance savings.



Improving Residential Programs for At-Risk Youth

Recent reforms at the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) have culminated in the lowest juvenile arrest rate in more than 43 years. To build on this success, the Governor's recommended budget provides \$7.5 million to add an additional 84 beds in DJJ's residential facilities. The additional beds will allow youth to be placed in an appropriate residential treatment facility while minimizing the time spent in a more costly detention center that has limited treatment services. The budget also includes more than \$4.3 million to improve staffing and evidence-based services in its residential facilities.

Increasing Accountability in Juvenile Facilities

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget provides \$1.1 million and 10 positions to improve contract monitoring and oversight of DJJ programs. These funds will help ensure that DJJ's residential programs are providing effective treatment services to youth and quickly correcting deficiencies if and when they are found. They will also help to improve education services for at-risk youth.

At-Risk Youth Programs and Prevention Services

Governor DeSantis recognizes that effective prevention programs reduce the likelihood that a child will have future involvement with the juvenile justice system. Recent investments in such programs have played a critical role in reducing juvenile arrest rates to the lowest in 43 years. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends more than \$31 million to fund prevention programs for at-risk youth. The budget includes funding for the following programs:

- **About Face Program** – \$1.25 million to provide summer and after-school life preparation programs;
- **Forward March Program** – \$750,000 to provide job readiness services at selected Florida armories for Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency recipients and other qualifying young adults; and
- **Youth Challenge Program** – \$6.1 million for a residential program at Camp Blanding that provides 16-18 year-olds who withdraw or are removed from school with opportunities such as high school credit recovery, career-technical education, and life preparation classes.
- **Florida Jobs Challenge** - \$4 million to provide life, educational, and employment skills in a military-based environment to at-risk youth that range in age from 16-18.
- **Mentoring Initiatives** - \$7.2 million for the Department of Education to contract with mentoring programs throughout the State.
- **Contracted Prevention Funding for DJJ** – \$12.3 million for DJJ to contract with evidence-based prevention programs, such as Prodigy, Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Outward Bound, PACE, and SNAP.



Better Supervision for Delinquent Youth

The Governor's recommended budget also includes more than \$3.2 million to improve the supervision of delinquent youth. These funds will ensure that youth who are awaiting adjudication while in the community are better supervised, which will keep communities safer and lower the chances of re-offense.

Enhancing Services for Crime Victims

The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget also includes funding that will improve services for victims of crime. This includes providing the Department of Legal Affairs \$500,000 and 7 positions to better respond to victims and resolve their compensation claims more efficiently. It also includes more than \$250,000 and 4 positions to ensure victim services grants are properly administered.

Improving Court Services

The Governor's budget also invests in the State Court System. It provides \$315,000 to upgrade and expand Florida's Problem-Solving Court database, which will result in better services to those participating in drug, mental health, and veteran's courts. The budget also provides approximately \$200,000 to continue the development and expansion of the "Do It Yourself Florida" project, which assists pro se litigants in drafting and filing court documents.

Problem-Solving Courts

Problem-solving courts, such as drug courts and mental health courts, address the root causes of justice system involvement through specialized dockets, multidisciplinary teams, and a non-adversarial approach. These courts use evidence-based treatment and increased judicial supervision to provide individualized interventions for participants, which reduces recidivism. The Governor's recommended budget provides more than \$8.9 million to continue the operation of problem-solving courts throughout the State.

Veterans Treatment Courts are used to divert veterans with mental health and substance abuse treatment needs from the criminal justice system. The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget reflects Governor DeSantis's support of Veterans Treatment Courts and recommends more than \$1.4 million to continue funding these courts throughout Florida.

Supporting Military and their Families – The Bold Vision for a Brighter Future budget recommends \$22.5 million for Florida's military presence and families, which funds the State's support of military research and development. This includes the following:

- \$2 million for the Florida Defense Support Task Force;
- \$1.6 million for the Defense Infrastructure Program;



- \$3 million for military base protection, including additional security measures for National Guard armories;
- \$2.5 million for National Guard armories;
- \$1.7 million for armory maintenance;
- \$4.2 million to support Florida National Guardsmen seeking higher education degrees;
- \$7.3 million to support scholarships for children and spouses of deceased or disabled veterans.
- \$100,000 for search and rescue vessels for National Guardsmen to use during storm-related missions and duties; and
- \$133,000 for protective equipment to be used by National Guardsmen during deployment

General Government

Maintaining a safe and healthy environment for residents and visitors, provides \$1.5 million for hotels and restaurant inspectors within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. Ensuring the quality of eating and lodging establishments is essential to tourism for the State of Florida as well as the health and wellbeing of residents.

Moving forward in establishing essential business systems provides \$22.7 million for the Florida Planning, Accounting, and Ledger Management System (FL PALM). This funding provides for the second year of software and system integrator contract, project administration, and 4 additional full-time positions to design, configure and perform vital testing efforts of the new financial management system solution in FY 2019-20. This system is an integral part of the finance and accounting backbone of the state.

Ensuring Transparency within State Government by providing \$350,000 for maintaining public viewing capabilities of the Statewide Travel Management System. This system, which is utilized by all state agencies, is a central repository for all travel performed by state employees. The system will allow for public viewing access for all agencies in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Maintaining and improving the Florida Facilities Pool is essential for ensuring the state provides safe and efficient working environments for state employees and visitors to state owned buildings. Investing \$10.2 million in the Florida Facilities Pool will provide improvement in Life Safety issues, address ADA compliance, and address building deficiencies.