



The Briefing for August 29, 2024

The Last Briefing was August 23, 2024

Big Games this Weekend

UF vs Canes

Clemson vs Georgia

Boston College at FSU

Notre Dame vs Texas A&M

Here's the complete season schedule!

[Here's the complete College Football schedule!](#)

Florida Chamber issues mid-year progress report.

The 2024 Florida Business & Economic Mid-Year Report, just released by the [Florida Chamber](#), delves into Florida's economic landscape, identifying five crucial factors that could shape the state's trajectory through 2030. Florida aims to rank among the top 10 global economies by 2030, emphasizing strategic growth and awareness of local and national economic impacts. The report praises strides in diversifying the economy, with significant progress in sectors like technology and manufacturing, and notes an improvement in housing supply, suggesting potential for more affordable market conditions in the future. You can read the full report [here](#).

State Rural Infrastructure Fund Is Open for Applications

The Rural Infrastructure Fund (RIF) Grant program is now open for applications. The application period will end on September 16th.

Guidelines and Information are available [here](#).

A total of \$20 million in funding is available through RIF for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025. Funding in the amount of \$15 million is available for eligible rural communities statewide. Additionally, \$5 million is available to Panhandle Specific counties including Calhoun, Gadsden, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, and Washington. This is a state grant offered by FloridaCommerce. This grant can be used for planning, engineering, and construction activities.

Examples of previously funded planning projects include downtown redevelopment plans, infrastructure planning & feasibility studies, stormwater management, road inventories, and other design and

engineering projects. **No match is required for planning projects.** The maximum award per planning project is \$300,000.

Special Facility Construction Program Committee to Meet

Baker, DeSoto, Holmes, and Union school districts will be presenting

The Special Facility Construction Committee meeting to review district submissions will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, 5 September 2024 on the 17th floor of the Turlington Building in Tallahassee (325 W. Gaines Street). During the meeting, committee members will review project requests from Baker, DeSoto, Holmes, and Union school districts, evaluate the ability of each to relieve critical needs, and rank the requests in priority order. The committee is composed of two representatives from the Florida Department of Education, a representative from the Executive Office of the Governor, a representative selected by district school boards and a representative selected by district superintendents. The meeting is open to the public and expected to be finished by 5:00 p.m.

FSBA Legislative Proposal Submission

Proposals for the legislative platform are due by September 6 at 5pmET. The submission form [HERE](#). All submissions are considered by the Legislative Priority Workgroup and then reviewed by the Legislative Subcommittee to develop a proposed platform. The final platform is adopted by the full FSBA Advocacy Committee which includes representatives from each member district.

Headlines Around the State

Times: Is DeSantis losing his grip on Florida?

Herald: In Miami, a call for Caribbean and African women to rally behind Kamala Harris

WUSF: Biden administration fires a return shot in a Florida gun sales lawsuit

TCPalm: Mayor asks Rubio about national park status for Jonathan Dickinson State Park

The Floridian: Laurel Lee Responds to Meta's Zuckerberg Feeling Pressured to Censor COVID-19 Content

The Floridian: Mucarsel-Powell Launches '75 Stop Tour' Against Rick Scott

FlaPol: Lois Frankel backs Amendment 3, says recreational pot initiative 'will save lives'

Herald Tribune: Sarasota congressman Steube cosponsors bill to outlaw IRS direct tax filing program

News-Press: Congressman Byron Donalds holds closed-door water meeting in Fort Myers, bars press and public

WUSF: Ruling on gender-affirming care is 'cruel' to the transgender community, advocates say

WUSF: New laws intensify harsh reality for Florida's undocumented community

WLRN: Millions of Floridians in need of affordable housing, says new report

The Capitolist: Injunction sought in cultivated meat case

WLRN: Obesity is weighing down Florida's economy

Floridian: Scott Pushes for Nobel Peace Prize Award to Venezuela's Machado

Times-Union: Mayor Deegan says Kamala Harris' affordable housing plan complements Jacksonville efforts

FlaPol: Pollster M3 Strategies makes push into Florida after correctly calling HD 72 Primary winner

The Floridian: Florida Slips into Bottom Ten for Public Safety and Infrastructure, Report Reveals

Sun-Sentinel: Appeals court to weigh dismissed case against former Superintendent Runcie

The Capitolist: University of Florida, Florida State University ranked among top public universities by Forbes

FlaPol: Miami women to lead abortion-focused GOTV rally at Bayfront Park

News-Press: Florida killer Wade Wilson's timeline: The troubled path that led him to death row

News4Jax: Shift in Florida's lizard population could influence the spread of mosquito-borne diseases, UF scientists say

WUSF: Probe is closed into the owners of Pulse nightclub, where 49 people died in a mass shooting

News4Jax: Gov. DeSantis says Florida state parks development plans not approved by him, FDEP will go 'back to the drawing board'

WLRN: DeSantis blames 'left-wing group' for stirring controversy over state park plans

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis sidesteps Randy Fine's critique of trip to 'antisemitic' Ireland, rips legislator for taking 'lobbyist' money

The Floridian: Fine Says DeSantis' 'Petulance Isn't Worthy of a Response': Ireland Debate Fuels Republican Feud

FlaPol: Randy Fine ready to cut positions from Ron DeSantis' staff after they personally attack him

The Floridian: Trump Ally Fine Calls for Investigation Into DeSantis 'Clown Show' Staffers After Harvard Job

Ledger: DeSantis spotlights the border and fentanyl trafficking during Polk County media show

The Capitolist: Florida's DeSantis says public safety is key to states economic success

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis defends appointed State Attorneys as election season heats up

WUSF: Plans for pickleball courts in a park steeped in Black history draws outcry in Broward

News4Jax: 'Irreversible damage': Northeast Florida leaders speak out against Anastasia State Park development plans

Democrat: Satanic Temple to 'raise hell' over Florida school chaplain program. Its reaction to new rules

PNJ: Santa Rosa Republicans call for forensic audit after minor glitches on election sites

Axios: Corcoran's high New College salary tees USF president up for raise

The Capitolist: Visit Florida to seek funding boost

Herald: Levine Cava calls on Florida lawmakers to prioritize condo reforms next year

Today: Brevard school board bans LGBTQ book despite saying text not in violation of state statute

Times: Pinellas County has a new film program. Would it welcome a Jaws remake?

Democrat: Didn't get a text from Leon Schools? What we know about the emergency alert's bumpy test

Herald: Doral candidate claims political persecution by mayor after PAC spending revelations

WUSF: Tampa General Hospital invests \$162 million in USF Health as part of a renewed partnership

Sentinel: Alleged victim seeks to force sale of homes tied to Regina Hill

Today: Judge throws out 'Wheel of Fugitive' defamation case against Wayne Ivey

WLRN: Two decades of civilian police oversight in Miami is coming to an end

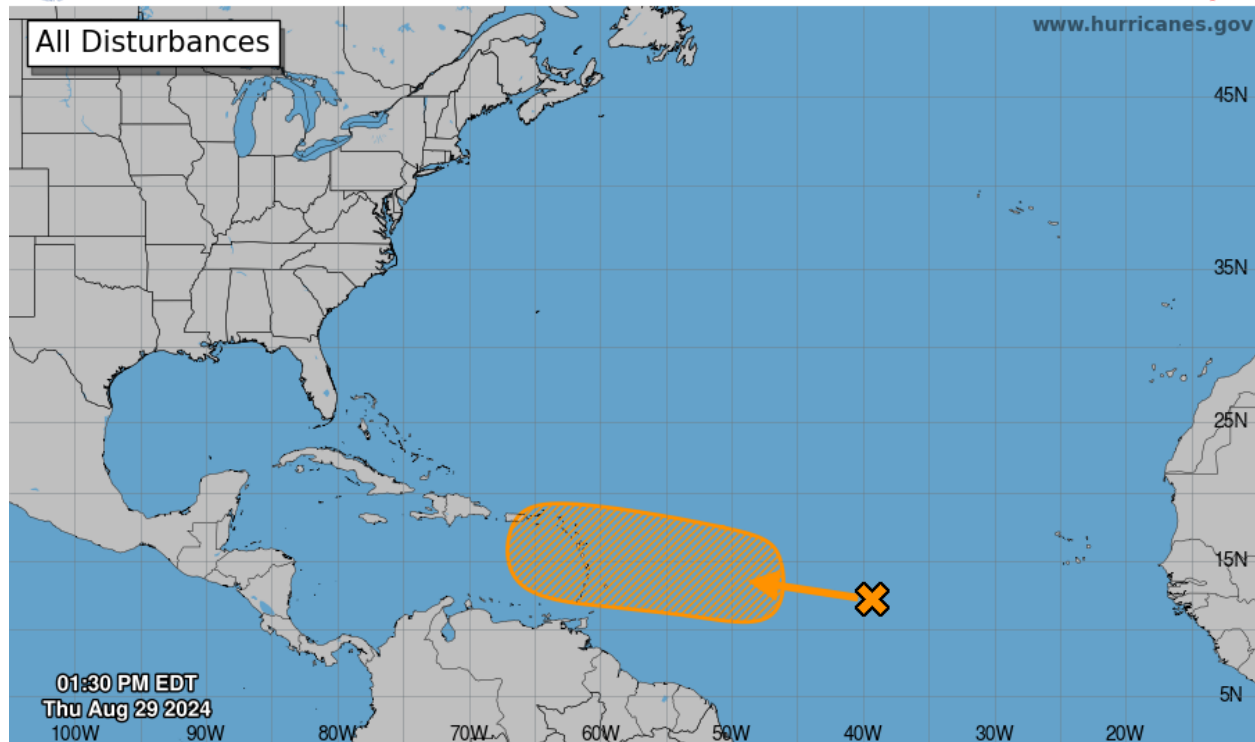
Tropical Outlook

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



Current Disturbances and Seven-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%
 Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane
 Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

On The Docket

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2024

- GAMBLING ISSUES - Friday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Gaming Control Commission will meet. - Information at <https://flgaming.gov/meetings/>
- FINANCE REPORTS DUE - State candidates and political committees face a Friday deadline for filing reports showing finance activity through Aug. 23.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES PROJECTED FOR FY 24-25

Activities listed involve local elected county commissioners, school board members and school superintendents.

2024

- Sept. 18-19- FAC Policy Conference – Pensacola
- November 5 - General Election Day
- November 19 - Newly Elected local officials take office
- November 20-22 Rural Economic Development Summit
- December 3-6 - FSBA/FADSS - Winter Meeting – Tampa
- December 4 - Small County Coalition Legislative Meeting - Tampa
- December 5 - Small District Meeting – Tampa
- December 4-6 FAC Legislative Conference – Tampa

2025

- January-February - Legislative Committee Weeks
- February 2 - Deadline for release of Governors recommended budget

- March 4 Regular Session Begins
- March 18 - Small County Coalition Legislative Briefing/Reception
- March 19- FAC Day in the Legislature
- March 19 – 20 FSBA 38th Annual Day in the Legislature, Tallahassee, FL
- March 19 Small School District Legislative Briefing
- March 19 -20 Rural Counties Day in the Legislature
- May 2 - Regular Session Ends
- June 11 – 13 FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference, Tampa, FL
- June 12 - Small School District Breakfast Meeting
- June 24-27 FAC Annual Summer Meeting - Orlando
- June 25 Small County Coalition Annual Business Meeting - Orlando

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin

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The Briefing is compiled to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red Briefing button

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