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Issue 4 | 2012

The Power of Unity:

Amendment 4 will forever be known as the first advocacy issue that the **Coalition worked together on to successfully defeat.**

Here is a summary compiled by Beth Rawlins, FLGC Advocacy Committee Chair:

Of the 11 Constitutional Amendments the state legislature placed on this November's ballot, only 3 were supported by more than 60% of the voters.

Florida voters adopted additional homestead exemptions for veterans disabled in combat, the surviving spouse of first responders or military personnel killed in the line of duty, and low income seniors.

Voters overwhelmingly rejected revenue limitations commonly known as TABOR and property tax restrictions outlined in the controversial Amendment 4. Amendment 4 would have placed a 5% cap on non-homesteaded property, offered a super exemption to new homesteaders, and repealed the Save Our Homes recapture provision.

On June 20th of this year, the Florida Local Government Coalition took a stand opposing Amendment 4 and worked hard to defeat it. FLGC representatives spoke against the Amendment at many of our member organizations' conferences and meetings. Appearances included: several regional League of Cities, Florida Association of City Clerks, Florida Sheriffs Association, Florida Redevelopment Association, City and County Managers and many, many more. League of Cities and Association of Counties staff traveled the state for months - meeting with Councils and Commissions, editorial boards, Chambers of Commerce and civic organizations.

And the results were stunning. Millions were spent on the Tax Your Assets Off ad campaign in favor of Amendment 4 but we defeated the proposal with a 57.6% rejection rate.

On behalf of the FLGC Advocacy Committee, let me offer a huge thank you to all our member organizations that hosted the informational presentations, and an even bigger thank you to all our speakers who hit the road for local government.

This is what we can do when we work together. This is our first victory as a Coalition. And this is why we need to keep nurturing FLGC, solidify the ties between our associations, and unite in our common goals.

Additional information:

[Statewide Election Results on all questions](#)

[County-by-County Results of Amendment 4](#)

Amendment 4 specific articles - post election:

[Sarasota Herald Tribune](#)
[Sun Sentinel](#)

General summary of all Constitutional Amendments - post election:

[WESH Orlando NBC](#)
[Tampa Bay Times](#)
[Gainesville Sun](#)
[Palm Beach Post](#)
[Tampa Tribune](#)
[Naples News Press](#)
[Florida Center for Investigative Reporting](#)

FLGC Strategic Planning Outcome:

Steering Committee members (and a few other representatives) met in Central Florida on October 12, 2012 for a strategic planning session.

With the help of facilitator [John Streitmatter](#), the group spent the day assessing the Coalition's accomplishments and determining a clear direction for the FLGC in 2013.

The exercise used to determine and prioritize the Coalition's next steps was called "Continue, Stop, Start."

Each person submitted suggestions for activities that the Coalition should continue doing, should stop doing and should start doing.

Attendees were then asked to prioritize the activities, which helped the group decide which activities hold the most value for members and determine what to focus on in the future.



Here's a link to the [Strategic Plan-of-Action](#) - the outcome of the planning session.

Calendar Events:

Please have a representative from your association continue to [email](#) any upcoming conferences, webinars and training opportunities to update the FLGC shared calendar.

Survey Comin' Atcha!

The Communications Framework Committee has developed a brief survey for FLGC members. We want to learn more about

your communication preferences and develop an effective strategy for future communications. Look for this in your inbox next week, and please - take a minute to fill it out!

Need a Blurb?

Here's a quick recap to share with your staff and/or Board of Directors:

Constitutional Amendments:

On June 20th of this year, the Florida Local Government Coalition took a stand opposing Amendment 4 and worked hard to defeat it. The Coalition also expressed concern with Amendments 3 and 10.

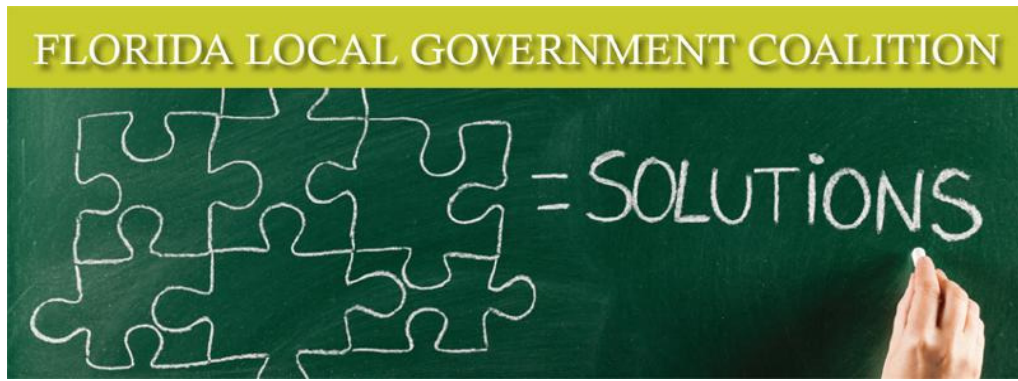
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Strategic Planning:

FLGC Steering Committee members (and a few other representatives) met on October 12, 2012 to determine the Coalition's next steps. The group worked with facilitator John Streitmatter to assess the Coalition's accomplishments and develop a clear direction for the upcoming year. Here's a link to the FLGC [Strategic Plan-Of-Action](#).



We'd love to hear from you. Contact [us](#) at anytime.

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