

**2016 County Ballot Issues
General Election – November**

Alachua County

<p><i>Renewal of the Existing One Mill Ad Valorem Tax for School District Operating Expenses</i></p>	<p>Shall the Alachua County School District’s existing one mill ad valorem tax be renewed, beginning July 1, 2017, and ending four years later on June 30, 2021, for necessary operating expenses to fund school nurses, elementary music and art programs, K-12 school library programs, K-12 guidance programs, middle and high school band and chorus programs, academic/career technical magnet programs and to update classroom technology, with oversight by an independent citizens’ committee?</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
<p><i>Environmental Lands, Parks and Recreation One-Half Percent Sales Tax</i></p>	<p>Shall Alachua County be authorized to extend the Alachua County Forever program to acquire and improve environmentally sensitive lands to protect drinking water sources, water quality, and wildlife habitat, and; to create, improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities in all cities and the county, with citizen oversight and independent audit, by the levy of a one-half percent (1/2%) sales tax for eight (8) years starting January 1, 2017?</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>

Bay County

<p><i>Bay County’s One Half Cent Local Government Infrastructure Sales Surtax</i></p>	<p>Shall the half-cent sales surtax be levied for ten years in Bay County to provide for the repair of local roads, reduce traffic congestion, increase neighborhood safety with pedestrian paths, build sidewalks near schools, reduce local flooding and other similar uses authorized</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
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	<p>under Florida law and to seek matching state and federal funds for these purposes, subject to a citizen's oversight committee and, to ensure that all dollars are spent in Bay County?</p>	
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Brevard County		
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<p><i>Save Our Indian River Lagoon ½ Cent Sales Tax Referendum</i></p>	<p>To restore the Indian River Lagoon through financing, planning, constructing, maintaining, and operating capital improvements and capital maintenance projects and programs designed to improve water quality, fish, wildlife and marine habitat, remove muck and reduce pollution, shall an ordinance be approved levying a ½ cent sales tax for ten years and requiring deposit of all revenue to a Save Our Lagoon Trust Fund solely for such projects, with citizen committee oversight and annual independent audits?</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
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Broward County		
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<p><i>Regional Transportation System Sales Surtax</i></p>	<p>Shall countrywide transportation improvements to reduce traffic congestion, implement rail systems along key corridors, improve local roads, enhance traffic signal synchronization, develop safe sidewalks and bicycle pathways, expand bus and special needs transportation, and implement emerging transportation technologies including alternative fueling, be funded by levying a 30-year, one percent sales surtax, paid by residents and visitors, with proceeds held in trust and</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
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	expenditures overseen by an independent oversight board?	
<i>Funding for Local Government Infrastructure Projects Through Levy of a One-Half Percent Sales Surtax</i>	Shall construction and improvement of public buildings, facilities and roads, transportation projects, pedestrian safety projects, purchase of equipment and public safety vehicles, and recreation/conservation land acquisition be funded by levying a 30-year, 0.5% sales surtax, paid by residents and visitors, with all proceeds held in trust, expenditures overseen by an independent oversight board, and this levy effective only if the transportation surtax ballot question immediately above is voter-approved and in effect?	FAILED
<i>Broward County Charter Review Commission Member Terms and Future Appointment</i>	Shall Broward County Charter provisions relating to the Charter Review Commission be amended (1) to reconcile conflicting provisions relating to current members' terms, allowing them to serve until the day after the November 2018 general election, and (2) to provide that future Charter Review Commission members shall be appointed every 12 years commencing in January 2027 and serve until the day after the November general election in the year following appointment?	PASSED
<i>Amending Broward County Charter to Eliminate the Management and Efficiency Study Committee</i>	Shall the Broward County Charter be amended to eliminate Article X and Section 10.01, which established the Management and Efficiency Study Committee, which is scheduled to convene in June 2020 and every ten years thereafter?	PASSED

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Charlotte County

<p><i>Reduction of Percentage of Electors Needed to Initiate County Ordinances</i></p>	<p>Shall Article II, Section 2.2.G.(1) of the Charlotte County Charter be amended to reduce the number of electors needed to initiate county ordinances in order to establish new ordinances or amend or repeal existing ordinances upon petition, from ten (10) percent to seven (7) percent of the number of electors qualified to vote as a whole in the last preceding general election?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FAILED</p>
<p><i>Deletion of Restriction of Reestablishment of MSTU/MSBU Advisory Boards Created by Petition of Electors</i></p>	<p>Shall Article II, Sec. 2.2.H. of the Charlotte County Charter be amended to abolish the two (2) year period prohibiting consideration of a petition for the creation of a Municipal Service Taxing or Benefit Unit (MSTU/MSBU) board of advisors upon abolition of a previous board of advisors?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FAILED</p>
<p><i>Annual Report of MSTU/MSBU Advisory Boards</i></p>	<p>Shall Article II, Sec. 2.2.H of the Charlotte County Charter be amended to require Municipal Service Taxing or Benefit Unit (MSTU/MSBU) advisory boards to provide an annual report on the unit’s activities, objectives, work programs and funding requests to the Board of County Commissioners by March 1st of</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PASSED</p>

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	each year?	
<i>Creating Term Limits for Charter Review Commission Members</i>	Shall Article IV, Section 4.2.C(1) of the Charlotte County Charter be amended to limit the number of terms a Charter Review Commission member may serve to three (3) full terms as a voting member?	PASSED

Duval (City of Jacksonville) County

<i>Pension Liability ½ Cent Sales Tax Plan on August 30, 2016 Ballot</i>	Permanently closing up to three of the City’s 31 underfunded defined benefit retirement plans, increasing Amended 5/10/16 - 6 - 1 the employee contribution for those plans to a minimum of 2 10%, and ending the Better Jacksonville ½-cent sales tax 3 are all required to adopt a ½-cent sales tax solely 4 dedicated to reducing the City’s unfunded pension 5 liability. Shall such pension liability sales tax, which 6 ends upon elimination of the unfunded pension liability 7 or in 30 years maximum, be adopted?	PASSED
<i>Authorize Slot Machine Gaming in Licensed Pari-Mutuel Facilities in Duval County</i>	Shall slot machines be authorized within licensed pari-mutuel facilities in Duval County subject to the restrictions of state law including restricting slot machines to persons 21 years of age and older?	PASSED

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Gilchrist County

<p><i>Referendum Amending Time of Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in Unincorporated Areas of Gilchrist County, Florida</i></p>	<p>Presently, under current County Ordinance of Gilchrist County, Florida, alcoholic beverage sales are prohibited in any place holding a state license in the unincorporated areas of Gilchrist County after 2:00 a.m. on Sundays. Should the Board of County Commissioners amend its ordinance to authorize alcoholic beverage sales in the unincorporated areas of the county on Sunday between the hours of 7:00 A.M. to 12:00 midnight?</p>	<p align="center">FAILED</p>
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Hendry County

<p><i>Hendry County Commissioners Should Be Elected At-Large</i></p>	<p>Would you support a proposition on a future ballot to provide that the five members of the board of county commissioners of Hendry County, Florida, shall be elected to office by all electors within the county, instead of by the electors within the district where the candidate resides as is currently done?</p>	<p align="center">YES</p>
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Highlands County

<p><i>Highlands County School Board ½ Cent Sales Tax Referendum on August 30 Ballot</i></p>	<p>Shall the School Board of Highlands County, Florida, levy a one-half cent school capital outlay surtax on sales in Highlands County, Florida, for 20 years, effective January 1, 2017, for the purpose of paying the cost of</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
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	providing school security and technology capital improvements and constructing or renovating school facilities in the County, and/or pay bond debt service?	
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Indian River County

<i>Indian River County, Florida One Cent Sales Tax Extension</i>	Shall the duration of the one-cent surtax levied in Indian River County be extended an additional fifteen years from December 31, 2019, its currently scheduled expiration date, to December 31, 2034 to finance, plan, and construct infrastructure including roads, bridges, jail expansion, libraries, fire/paramedic stations, stormwater improvements, recreation facilities, county administration buildings, closure of landfills, and any other county and municipality infrastructure projects allowed by law?	PASSED
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Lee County

<i>Conservation 20/20 Non-Binding Referendum</i>	Do you approve of Lee County continuing to use general revenue funds to acquire, restore, improve, and manage land for conservation, surface water management, water quality, water recharge and supply, flood control, wildlife habitat, passive public recreation, and open space purposes, pursuant to Lee County Ordinance 15-08 (commonly known as the Lee County Conservation 20/20 Land Program)?	PASSED
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Liberty County

<p><i>Half Cent Sales Tax to provide funding for the Liberty County Volunteer Fire Department Services</i></p>	<p>Shall the Liberty County Board of County Commissioners adopt ordinance 16-05 and levy a 1/2 cent sales tax on all taxable goods sold within Liberty County for a period of 5 years, beginning January 1, 2017 and ending January 1, 2022, with revenues being distributed for Emergency Fire Rescue Services within Liberty County?</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
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Manatee County

<p><i>Half Cent Sales Surtax for Public Infrastructure</i></p>	<p>To provide for safer neighborhoods, reduce traffic congestion, and improve roadways and public facilities, shall Manatee County levy a half cent sales surtax for a period of fifteen years to fund roadways, sidewalks, intersections, street lights, infrastructure for law enforcement, emergency response, libraries, parks, waterways, public buildings and stormwater, all projects located exclusively in Manatee County, with citizen oversight?</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
<p><i>Extending the Existing School One Half Cent Sales Surtax for Capital Outlay of Educational Facilities</i></p>	<p>Shall the Manatee School Board extend the existing countywide one half cent sales surtax for fifteen additional years, from January 1, 2018, to ending on December 31, 2032, charging its Audit Committee with the</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>

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	<p>oversight of the surtax, thereby maintaining revenues statutorily available to be used for capital expenditures to reduce overcrowding, reduce portable classrooms, renovate existing schools, build new schools where needed, purchase technology, and improve student safety and achievement?</p>	
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Miami-Dade County		
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<p><i>Charter Amendment on Control of Special Purpose Districts in Municipalities</i></p>	<p>Shall the Charter be amended to allow the Board of County Commissioners to provide, by ordinance, that the governing body of any special purpose district located entirely within the boundaries of a municipality be the governing body of the municipality rather than the Board of County Commissioners as is currently required by the Charter?</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
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<p><i>Charter Amendment Including Right to Copy Public Records in the Citizens' Bill of Rights</i></p>	<p>The public records provision of the Charter's Citizens' Bill of Rights, enforced by both private action and the Commission on Ethics and the Public Trust, currently requires public records of the County and the municipalities be open to the public only for inspection. Shall this provision be amended to also require that such records be available for copying by the public in a manner consistent with State</p>	<p align="center">PASSED</p>
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	public records law?	
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Osceola County

<i>One-Half Cent Sales Surtax for Aging School Facilities Reconstruction, Improvements, and Technology Upgrades</i>	Would you support the School Board levying a one-half cent surtax on sales in Osceola County, beginning 1/1/17, for a period of 20 years, to be used exclusively in Osceola County for aging school facility reconstruction and improvement projects, including safety and security, and technology upgrades, and other capital facilities use allowed by law? A needs-based prioritized list of projects has been proposed.	PASSED
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<i>Length of time between appointments of the Charter Review Advisory Commission</i>	Shall the Osceola County Charter be amended to provide that the Charter Review Advisory Commission be appointed every six (6) years?	PASSED
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Orange County

<i>Reforming Initiative Process to Provide Clarity, Accountability, and Transparency, and Ensure Equal Treatment of Voters</i>	Reforming the charter initiative process by providing single subject, legal review, Comptroller-prepared financial impact statement, and public hearing requirements; ensuring equal percentage of signatures from all commission districts rather than only the majority of the districts; enhancing disclosure of gatherer's paid/volunteer status, requiring gatherer's affidavit and badge, adding signature withdrawal process, deadlines and other	PASSED
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	procedural reforms; and protecting successful amendments for one year. Comptroller estimated financial impact: \$7,000 per proposed ballot question.	
<i>Changing County Constitutional Officers to Charter Officers and Providing for Nonpartisan Elections and Term Limits</i>	Amending the Orange County Charter to make the Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections, Clerk of Circuit Court, and Comptroller into nonpartisan, elected charter officers subject to term limits of four consecutive 4-year terms, abolishing their status as constitutional officers, and specifying they are not subject to county commission or mayoral authority and shall have all rights and privileges of corresponding constitutional officers, except as expressly provided by charter. No financial impact.	PASSED
<i>Preserving Term Limits and Nonpartisan Elections for County Constitutional and Charter Officers</i>	Amending the Orange County Charter to provide that if any charter provision specifying term limits or nonpartisan elections for county constitutional or charter officers is or has ever been rendered unenforceable by court action for any reason, and a later court action or legislative enactment renders such provision lawful and enforceable, then such provision shall be immediately revived and enforced to the extent permitted by law. No financial impact.	PASSED

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Palm Beach County

<i>Palm Beach County District Schools, Cities and County Government Infrastructure One-Cent Sales Surtax</i>	To enhanced education by improving district-owned school buildings, equipment, technology and security; purchase school buses, public safety vehicles and equipment; and equip, construct and repair roads, bridges, signals, streetlights, sidewalks, parks, drainage, shoreline and wastewater infrastructure, recreational and governmental facilities; shall the County levy a one-cent sales surtax beginning January 1, 2017 and automatically ending on or before December 31, 2026, with independent oversight by citizen committees?	PASSED
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Pinellas County

<i>Lowering Signature Percentage and Expanding Time Period for Petition Drive to Propose County Charter Amendments</i>	Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to lower the number of signed petitions necessary to propose an amendment to the Pinellas County Charter from ten (10) percent of the registered voters in the county to eight (8) percent, and to expand the length of time during which petitions can be gathered from 180 days to 240 days?	PASSED
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<p><i>Financial Impact Statement for Proposed Charter Amendments</i></p>	<p>Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to provide that for each proposed charter amendment placed on the ballot, a brief financial impact statement prepared by the county auditor shall be placed after the ballot summary for the amendment, estimating the increase or decrease in revenues or costs to the county resulting from approval of the proposed charter amendment?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PASSED</p>
<p><i>Creation of County Redistricting Board</i></p>	<p>Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to create a County Redistricting Board, appointed by the County Commission every ten years after the Census, to provide advisory recommendations to the County Commission on redrawing county commission districts, and providing parameters for such recommendations, including not favoring political parties or incumbents, not denying racial or language minorities equal opportunity for political participation, and where feasible, consideration of unincorporated areas and municipal boundaries?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PASSED</p>
<p><i>Selection, Termination, and Annual Review of County Attorney by County Commissioners and Constitutional Officers</i></p>	<p>Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to provide that the County Attorney shall be selected by, serve at the pleasure of, and be subject to annual review by, a committee consisting of the seven county commissioners and the five county constitutional officers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PASSED</p>

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	(sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, clerk of the circuit court and comptroller) rather than the board of county commissioners alone?	
<i>Charter Review Commission Members Residence Requirements</i>	Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to specify that each of the seven county commissioners shall nominate to the Charter Review Commission a member who resides in the commissioner’s district?	PASSED
<i>Pinellas Charter Cleanup Amendment</i>	Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to remove certain provisions found unconstitutional by court ruling, remove certain transitional provisions that have since occurred, revise certain references to be consistent with Florida Statutes, and remove references to certain organizations that no longer exist?	PASSED
Polk County		
<i>Continuation of Existing Countywide One-Half Cent Sales Tax for Health Care to Qualified Residents</i>	Shall Polk County continue the existing one-half cent indigent care surtax to provide access to basic healthcare for indigent residents of Polk County? The 25-year extension will fund a broad range of health care services for low income Polk County residents, including the elderly and children.	PASSED

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Santa Rosa County

<i>Sales Tax for Courthouse on August 30, 2016 Ballot</i>	Shall a one half cent sales tax be levied to fund the construction of a new Courthouse/Judicial Center adjacent to the existing courthouse. The tax will be levied for a period of Five (5) years and generate, by present estimate, approximately \$35 million.	FAILED
<i>Sales Tax for Infrastructure on August 30, 2016 Ballot</i>	Shall a one half cent sales tax be levied to fund law enforcement/fire and public safety facilities and equipment, transportation and drainage improvements, infrastructure projects/public facilities, recreation/natural resources and capital equipment. The tax will be levied for a period of five (5) years.	PASSED

St. Lucie County

<i>Half-Cent Local Government Surtax</i>	To provide for projects exclusively in St. Lucie County to improve local roads, reduce traffic congestion, improve public safety, improve local water quality and other similar uses authorized under Florida law and to seek matching funds for these purposes, shall St. Lucie County levy a half-cent sales tax for twenty years, subject to review by a citizens advisory committee to ensure that all dollars are spent on St. Lucie County projects.	FAILED
<i>Slot Machines at Licensed Pari-Mutuel Facilities Located in St. Lucie County</i>	Shall slot machines be authorized within licensed pari-mutuel facilities in St. Lucie	PASSED

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	County subject to the restrictions of state law?	
Wakulla County		
<i>Extension of One Cent Local Government Infrastructure Sales Surtax</i>	Shall Wakulla County fund road paving and transportation improvements, a new regional recreational park and improvements to existing parks and recreational facilities, fire trucks, ambulances, and other public safety vehicles and facilities, public facilities, and other public purposes authorized by law by continuing to levy a one cent sales surtax from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2037 with the surtax maintained in a dedicated fund and spending monitored by a citizen's oversight committee?	PASSED