

## Exhibit 2

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## **Governor Ron DeSantis Announces State of Florida to Begin Disbursement of CARES Act Funds to Counties**

On June 10, 2020, in [News Releases](#), by Staff

*Funding will be disbursed to counties with populations below 500,000*

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced the State of Florida’s plan to disburse up to \$1.275 billion in CARES Act funds to counties with a population below 500,000. The United States Treasury previously disbursed over \$2.472 billion in funding to all counties whose populations exceed 500,000 in Florida. Using a phased approach, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) will distribute funds to the remaining counties, beginning with an initial disbursement of 25% of each county’s allocation.

“Starting in March when we initiated our response to COVID-19, we knew that the only way to keep Floridians safe was to work closely with our partners at the local level,” **said Governor DeSantis**. “As we have reopened in a safe, smart, step-by-step way, we have had local support at every juncture. I’m proud that today, we are able to provide funding back to these counties, so that they can really begin their recovery from this virus. We thank President Trump and our federal partners for providing this relief to Florida.”

“From the beginning of this administration, we have shown our commitment to cutting red tape and getting funding out the door, as demonstrated by paying out more than \$2.4 billion in hurricane recovery funding since January 2019, and more than \$450 million since March 15,” **said FDEM Director Jared Moskowitz**. “Throughout our COVID-19 response, we have once again used every available resource to keep Floridians safe and support our local partners. We are ready to hit the ground running on this CARES Act funding, which we know will be a critical resource to Florida’s recovery.”

To receive the disbursement, county governments must sign a funding agreement with the Division of Emergency Management stating:

- The County will use the fund disbursement on eligible expenditures as defined by the CARES Act, and related guidance from the U.S. Department of the Treasury;
- The County agrees to repay the State of Florida any portion of the disbursed funds that is unused, or is not utilized in accordance with the CARES act stipulations; and
- The County agrees to submit quarterly reports to FDEM detailing the expenditure of disbursed funds as well as projections of eligible expenditures.

Counties should contact the Division of Emergency Management to enter into the funding agreement to receive the disbursement of funds. Counties may also submit a request to FDEM for additional funds in excess of their 25% initial disbursement on a reimbursement basis for expenditures eligible under the CARES Act.

All counties, including counties that already received direct payment from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, should provide funds to municipalities located within their jurisdiction on a reimbursement basis for expenditures eligible under the CARES Act and related guidance.

April 17, 2020

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The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor, State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

On behalf of Florida's 67 counties and 412 cities, the Florida League of Cities and the Florida Association of Counties want to thank you for your leadership during this unprecedented pandemic. Our two organizations greatly appreciate the flexibility and authority you have given local governments to deal locally with the issues that are most affecting their neighborhoods and business communities.

With the passage of the Coronavirus Aid Response and Economic Security (CARES) Act on March 27, Congress and President Trump committed over \$8 billion in federal stabilization funds for Florida's state and local governments as we respond to COVID-19. The CARES Act funding that is allocated for local governments provides direct federal assistance to local governments with populations over 500,000. In Florida, this excludes 55 of 67 counties and all (411) but one city (Jacksonville). The remaining funds will be given to the state for distribution.

County and city governments have been, and remain, on the front line in direct response to the COVID-19 emergency. They are supporting county health departments and authority-owned hospitals; funding and equipping of first responders and other public safety officials; conducting emergency management operations; maintaining critical infrastructure; increasing funding for coroners/medical examiners and indigent burial; and addressing the needs of seniors citizens, homeless and our jail population. Local governments are also incurring significant overtime costs for essential workers, especially among our public safety and public health employees, due to the increased demand for their services and a shortage of available staff as a result of increased sick leave from exposures or illness.

At the same time as these increased service and financial demands, city and county governments (like the state) are likely to soon see substantial revenue losses, particularly from lower sales tax collections due to the dramatic and ongoing downturn in economic activity.

As you know, Florida's allocation from the CARES Act is approximately \$8.328 billion or 6% of total funds set aside for states (although Florida's population is approximately 6.6% of the total U.S. population). The legislation provides that of each state allocation, 55% is reserved for the state and 45% of the allocation is reserved for direct payments to eligible local government jurisdictions (that exceed 500,000 in population). However, if the 45% reserved for eligible local government jurisdictions is not completely distributed, any remaining balance of this sub-allocation reverts back to the state, in addition to the original 55% reserved for use at its discretion.

Below is a calculation of the distribution of the CARES Act funds for Florida and the 12 direct assistance recipients:

**\$8,328,221,072 for Florida**

**55% Reserved for State of Florida: \$4,580,521,590**

**45% Reserved for Eligible Local Governments: \$3,747,699,482**

The direct local assistance allocations reduce the allocation made to the state government (keeping the state allocation constant) and are equal to the product of

- ▶ the state or territory allocation amount;
- ▶ the percentage of the state or territory population served by the local government; and
- ▶ 45%.

Jurisdiction	2019 Population	% of State	x	State Allocation	=	Product 1	x	45% Factor	=	Jurisdiction Allocation
<i>Miami-Dade County</i>	<b>2,716,940</b>	12.65%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>1,053,522,397</b>		45%		<b>454,085,079</b>
<i>Broward County</i>	<b>1,952,778</b>	9.09%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>757,210,450</b>		45%		<b>340,744,702</b>
<i>Palm Beach County</i>	<b>1,496,770</b>	6.97%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>580,388,495</b>		45%		<b>261,174,823</b>
<i>Hillsborough County</i>	<b>1,471,968</b>	6.85%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>570,771,256</b>		45%		<b>256,847,065</b>
<i>Orange County</i>	<b>1,393,452</b>	6.49%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>540,325,841</b>		45%		<b>243,146,628</b>
<i>Pinellas County</i>	<b>974,996</b>	4.54%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>378,065,074</b>		45%		<b>170,129,283</b>
<i>Duval County</i>	<b>957,755</b>	4.46%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>371,379,693</b>		45%		<b>167,120,862</b>
<i>Lee County</i>	<b>770,577</b>	3.59%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>298,799,432</b>		45%		<b>134,459,744</b>
<i>Polk County</i>	<b>724,777</b>	3.37%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>281,039,994</b>		45%		<b>126,467,997</b>
<i>Brevard County</i>	<b>601,942</b>	2.80%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>233,409,416</b>		45%		<b>105,034,237</b>
<i>Pasco County</i>	<b>553,947</b>	2.58%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>214,798,844</b>		45%		<b>96,659,480</b>
<i>Volusia County</i>	<b>553,284</b>	2.58%		8,328,221,072.10		<b>214,541,759</b>		45%		<b>96,543,791</b>
										<b>2,472,413,692</b>

Based on the above chart, eligible Florida local governments would be able to receive approximately \$2.472 billion in direct federal assistance. However, this sum is approximately \$1.275 billion less than the total sub-allocation reserved for eligible Florida local governments of \$3.747 billion. According to the provisions of the CARES Act, the remaining balance of approximately \$1.275 billion would revert to the State of Florida for use at its discretion.

It is this \$1.275 billion that the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities write to you about. We respectfully request that you earmark or set aside this money to provide direct assistance to local governments that were not direct beneficiaries of CARES Act dollars. This would provide these non-direct-allocation governmental bodies the funding necessary to make payments for programs that comport with the requirements and restrictions of the CARES Act funds.

The Florida League of Cities and the Florida Association of Counties are working together to develop a recommended distribution formula for this \$1.275 billion and will be providing that to your office shortly.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of this important matter, and we look forward to working with you to address the concerns of the 466 local government bodies in Florida that did not receive direct funding from the CARES Act.

If you have questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact Mike Sittig at [msittig@flcities.com](mailto:msittig@flcities.com) or by phone at 850.222.9684 or Ginger Delegal at [gdelegal@fl-counties.com](mailto:gdelegal@fl-counties.com) or 850.294.9295. If we can assist you in any way as we begin to open up the state for business, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Virginia "Ginger" Delegal



FAC Executive Director



Michael Sittig



FLC Executive Director



May 1, 2020

The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor, State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

On behalf of Florida's 67 counties and 412 cities, the Florida League of Cities (FLC) and the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) want to again thank you for your leadership during this historical time. Our two organizations greatly appreciate the flexibility and authority you have given local governments to deal locally with the issues that are most affecting their neighborhoods and business communities. Furthermore, we look forward to working with you diligently to continue to address not only the continuing health crisis but the strategic maintenance and revival of our state economy through the development and implementation of state and local economic relief and sustainability efforts.

### Securing resources for moving all of Florida forward

Florida's allocation for specific state and local government expenses, as well as economic relief and sustainability efforts, from the CARES Act was approximately \$8.328 billion. The federal legislation provided that of this amount, 55% was reserved for the state and 45% of the allocation was reserved for direct payments to eligible local government jurisdictions (that exceed 500,000 in population).

Total Florida Allocation		\$8,328,221,072
Reserved for State	55%	\$4,580,521,590
Reserved for Local Governments	45%	\$3,747,699,482

Based on the federal legislative formula determining the sub-allocation of the reserved "local allocation," eligible Florida local governments (500,000+) would be able to receive approximately \$2.472 billion in direct federal assistance. **However, this sum is approximately \$1.275 billion less than the total allocation reserved for eligible Florida local governments of \$3.747 billion.**

**The Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities respectfully request that this \$1.275 billion be earmarked to provide necessary resources to local governments that were not direct beneficiaries of CARES Act dollars.**

### Funding distribution for eligible local governments

FAC and FLC jointly propose that all municipal and county governments that did not receive direct or indirect funding as a result of the CARES Act are deemed "eligible" local governments to receive distribution from the total requested allocation of \$1.275 billion. The distribution methodology, similar to the federal formula, would utilize each eligible jurisdiction's total population as a share of the total state population to create a factor that would be applied to the total dedicated allocation.

**Example:**

- A)  $(\text{Jurisdiction Population} / \text{Total State Population}) = \text{Allocation Factor}$   
B)  $\text{Allocation Factor} * \text{Total Dedicated Allocation} = \text{Jurisdiction Distribution}$   
a.  $100/1000 = .10$  or 10%  
b.  $10\% * \$1,000,000 = \$100,000$

**Under this distribution, a summary distribution of the dedicated allocation would be as follows:**

A) Florida's Cities would receive an approximate sum of:	\$590,154,219.95
B) Florida's Counties would receive an approximate sum of:	\$430,726,697.19
C) Remaining unspent funds to held for "Contingency Purposes":	\$254,404,872.99
D) Total Local Government Allocation:	\$1,275,285,790.12

The identified contingency funds could be made available to "eligible" local governments that have incurred expenses that are greater than their jurisdiction distribution, **or a number of other eligible uses that would also address your administration's mitigation and recovery priorities at the local level.**

Our organizations recognize that as Governor, you are working to move Florida forward beyond this crisis. We look forward to working with you in protecting the health and safety of our local citizens ***and taking the necessary actions to ensure the strength of our local economies.*** We greatly appreciate your consideration of this important matter and we look forward to working with you to address the concerns of the 466 local government bodies that did not receive funding from the CARES Act.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Scott Dudley at [sdudley@flcities.com](mailto:sdudley@flcities.com) and Davin Suggs at [dsuggs@fl-counties.com](mailto:dsuggs@fl-counties.com).

If we can assist you in any way as we begin to try to open up the state for business, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

**Virginia "Ginger" Delegal**



FAC Executive Director



**Michael Sittig**



FLC Executive Director

