The CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee met on Wednesday, July 14th at the Signia by Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek (Thank you, Fred Sawyers!), with guest Florida State Representative Daisy Morales.

During this meeting, members of the CFHLA GA Committee had the opportunity to educate Representative Morales (as one of our newly-elected legislators) on the most important issues to the Hospitality and Tourism Industries in Central Florida, including the protection of the Tourist Development Tax and the long-term funding of VISIT FLORIDA.

Representative Morales shared with the Committee her perspective on her first legislative session, her desire to work with members from both parties, and some creative strategies that she hopes will continue to bring tourism to our destination.
The next Governmental Affairs Committee is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 11th** at the [GrayRobinson](#) Offices.

**TIGER BAY**

On Monday, July 19th the [Tiger Bay Club of Central Florida](#) hosted, "**Be Our Guest: Tourism’s Valiant Return to Central Florida**" at the Citrus Club featuring panelists representing the tourism industry in the region. Panelists included [Visit Orlando President/CEO Casandra Matej](#), [Orange County Convention Center Executive Director Mark Tester](#), and [Canaveral Port Authority Port Director and CEO Captain John W. Murray](#).

This discussion centered around the industry's initial response to the
COVID-19 pandemic, their current status, and strategies moving into the future. These industry leaders discussed the importance of trust in the safety of the Orlando destination throughout the past year. Additionally, they shared positive trends being seen across the region in leisure travel, meetings, and convention business as well as the long road to recovery for the cruise industry at Port Canaveral.

Moderator and CFHLA President/CEO Robert Agrusa, Panelists Port Director/CEO of Canaveral Port Authority Captain John W. Murray, President/CEO of Visit Orlando Casandra Matej, and Executive Director of the Orange County Convention Center Mark Tester.

CFHLA PAC Board Chairman and General Manager of the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Jay Leonard, John Stine of Beacq, Pete Crotty of Tradewinds Resort Specialists of Central Florida, and CFHLA President/CEO Robert Agrusa with the panelists.

TEE-IT-UP FOR TOURISM

On Thursday, August 12th the CFHLA PAC/PC Boards of Directors will host the "Tee-it-Up for Tourism" PC Fundraiser at TopGolf Orlando.
The event is open to anyone who would like to support the tourism and hospitality industries, and if you are interested in attending single tickets and full bays are still available. **100%** of the proceeds raised during this exciting event will help the **CFHLA-PC** raise the necessary resources to identify and support "pro-tourism" candidates for local and statewide elected office in 2022.

![Image](image.jpg)

Help Support Our **CFHLA-PC** by Registering TODAY

To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).

For more information, please contact **CFHLA Staff Member Madison Youngman** at madison.youngman@cfhla.org

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**EV CHARGING**

On Monday, July 19th the **City of Orlando** Commission approved a Land Ordinance Amendment to mandate the inclusion of **Electric Vehicle Charging infrastructure** and stations on new developments and substantial enlargements for commercial, multi-family, single-family, and hotel developments in the City of Orlando.

This was the first hearing and CFHLA spoke in opposition to this unfunded mandate. CFHLA joined BOMA, NAIOP, and AAGO in a letter sharing our industry’s concerns and asked the city to encourage EV charging incentive programs rather than an unfunded mandate.

Thank you to the commissioners who expressed their interest in
continuing to explore incentive options before a final passage. Ultimately, the amendment was approved on Monday by a vote of 5-2.

CFHLA looks forward to continuing to work with the city on this issue before the second reading as we continue to support our lodging and allied members who own or operate properties in the City of Orlando.

DONATE

**CFHLA MEMBERS** - Please consider making a donation of $50 via the link below to the **CFHLA-PAC** to support its efforts in supporting and endorsing Hospitality-Friendly candidates in the State of Florida.

As a reminder, all CFHLA Board Members, PAC Board Members, and ARC Board Members have committed to contributing $100 to the CFHLA-PAC in 2021. If you are a part of one or more of these groups, please fulfill your invoice today, or pay via the link above.

IN THE NEWS

[Central Florida Tourism Leaders See High Hopes, Challenges in Post-Pandemic](#)

[Disney announces plans to open new regional campus in Lake Nona](#)

[Canada Border Changes Could Help Florida Tourism](#)

[A look at the 2022 Ballot Initiatives on Betting](#)

[Comeback Travel Destinations 2021](#)