GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

On Wednesday, February 13, the Governmental Affairs Committee met with Osceola County Commissioner Peggy Choudhry. Commissioner Choudhry represents District 1 which includes the 192 Tourism Corridor, Celebration, and other highly visited areas within Osceola. The Committee spoke with the Commissioner on a range of issues including regional transportation, homelessness, and the potential sales tax increase. Commissioner Choudhry also shared her excitement for her upcoming 2020 re-election campaign and shared her vision for the future of Osceola County.
TOURISM CALCULATOR

The Central Florida Tourism Calculator is NOW LIVE and available on the CFHLA website. This interactive educational tool will allow our members, elected leaders, and the general public to simulate the economic impact tourism has in Central Florida. The Calculator will determine the potential economic gains or losses in the Three-County Metro Region of Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties, as well as, the Florida House and Senate Districts within the Central Florida region.

TOURISM DAY

The CFHLA Tourism Day Delegation Trip is now open! Tourism Day will take place on Wednesday, March 13 in the State Capitol. The Delegation will depart from the CFHLA office at 5:00AM and take meetings with Central Florida lawmakers to share the importance of tourism. Thank you to Mears Transportation Group for sponsoring the delegation bus transportation! If you are interested in attending, please contact CFHLA Staff Person: Rico Pasamba at publicpolicy@cfhla.org.

BILLS FILED

A number of bills have been introduced leading up to the 2019 Legislative Session which will convene on Tuesday, March 5 and conclude on Friday.
and hospitality industry in Florida:

**Senate Bill 178/House Bill 6031: “Florida Tourism Marketing”**
- This bill would remove the expiring clause for VISIT FLORIDA and would establish the group as a permanent entity within the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

**Senate Bill 726: “Tourist Development Tax”**
- This bill would open up Tourist Development Tax dollars for use on film, video game, television, and commercial production throughout the State of Florida.

**Senate Bill 540/House Bill 651: “Human Trafficking”**
- This bill would mandate human trafficking prevention and awareness training for employees of hotel and lodging establishments. This bill does not include a cause of action section that would hold lodging establishments liable for human trafficking that occurs on their premises.

Additionally, a number of bills have also been introduced that would impact the vacation rental and vacation ownership industry. CFHLA Staff will continue to monitor these bills as they progress through their respective committees.

### TDT GRAPHS

For your information, the TDT Collections and Allocations for Fiscal Year 2018 have been released by Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties. The following graphs indicate the total TDT revenue for the county and the allocations of TDT funds throughout Fiscal Year 2018.
OSCEOLA COUNTY
Tourism Development Tax (FY2018)*

TDT Revenue: $58,441,712

TDT Expenditures: $89,756,586**

SEMINOLE COUNTY
Tourism Development Tax (FY2018)*

TDT Revenue: $5,797,652

TDT Rate: 5%

DANA YOUNG

A select group of CFHLA representatives will be meeting with Dana Young this Friday, February 22. Dana Young, the newly appointed CEO of Visit Florida will be meeting with Central Florida community leaders at the
The delegation looks forward to learning more about Young’s vision for Florida Tourism and creating a productive partnership between our organizations.

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**CITY OF ORLANDO**

The **City of Orlando** will be conducting their election cycle for **City of Orlando Mayor** and **City Commissioners** in **District 2, District 4,** and **District 6.**

The City will hold **Election Day** on **Tuesday, November 5, 2019.** In the event that there are more than 2 candidates and no one candidate receives a majority of the votes, a **Run-Off Election Day** will be held on **Tuesday, December 3, 2019.**

Currently, **Commissioner Tony Ortiz, District 2** has filed for re-election and is currently unopposed. Additionally, **Commissioner Patty Sheehan, District 4** has filed for re-election and is also unopposed. Commissioner Samuel Ings, District 6 has not yet filed for re-election, however there are no contenders who have filed for the District 6 seat.

**City of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer** has filed for re-election and will be running against three contenders: Shantele Bennett, Jentri Casaberry, and Aretha Simons.

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**LINKS**

Below please find news articles relating to the political interests of the Hospitality Industry:

[VISIT FLORIDA announces record setting year for tourism](#)

[Autonomous Shuttle Buses in Lake Nona](#)
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