



AIF President & CEO Barney Bishop participates alongside Sen. Mike Fasano (R-New Port Richey) and other business leaders in a press conference on AIF proposals to create jobs.

Chair: Linda Shelley, Esq.
 Vice-Chair: Bill Hunter
 Lobbyists:
 Richard Gentry
 Stephen Shiver

Development & Infrastructure

AIF has created the Florida Development & Infrastructure Council (FDIC) to address issues related to growth management in Florida, as well as aggregate mining, transportation and other infrastructure issues. AIF's FDIC will focus on issues of concern to this industry segment so that Florida and our economy will be better positioned to prosper in the future.

The FDIC steps into an arena that, for growth management issues, is unlike any other year in recent memory. Any consideration of policies for the development industry must be made in the shadow of the Amendment 4's (Hometown Democracy) presence on the November 2010 general election ballot.

The ongoing economic downturn has underscored Florida's reliance on growth and development and its impact on all business sectors. AIF understands there are several ways that Florida's economy can be supported, including the expansion of infrastructure projects, tax incentives for emerging and existing companies, and the creation of high wage jobs. Additionally, the FDIC will work to single out superfluous regulatory measures while seeking legislative relief through expedited measures that streamline licensing and permitting processes.

The FDIC has been created to address these issues and modernize business practices that will stimulate growth in the state of Florida. Florida's economic turn-around depends on the ability to grow in a responsible and predictable manner and the FDIC looks forward to providing a business perspective to the debate.

Council Position

AIF and the FDIC will focus on efforts to streamline and improve Florida's growth management laws in order to foster smart and responsible development across the state of Florida. Support of funding for transportation and port infrastructure projects will also be a top priority for the Council.

Council Priorities

In the areas of growth management and infrastructure, the FDIC will:

- Support efforts to bring efficiency and innovation to the growth management process in Florida.
- Support funding for all types of infrastructure projects to help promote much needed job growth and development in Florida.
- Support legislation that seeks to streamline the permitting and licensing processes that are redundant, cumbersome and hinder job creation.
- Develop proposals that will lead to smart growth in Florida.
- Encourage the increase of funding for affordable housing projects.