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**October 24, 2024**

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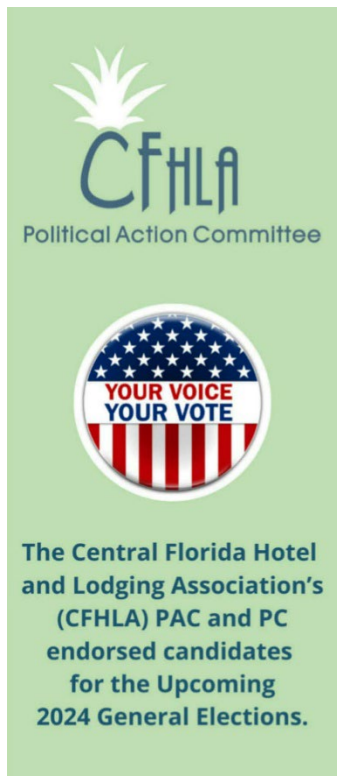
### **2024 GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE AND CFHLA PAC & PC ENDORSEMENTS**

As a reminder, Florida's General Election will be held on **Tuesday, November 5, 2024**. On behalf of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association's PAC and PC, we are proud to **endorse and support each of the following 21 candidates for the upcoming 2024 General Election**.

This **bi-partisan slate** includes the endorsements of candidates running for local and state office across the Central Florida region. Additionally, we are supporting two critically

important local sales tax renewals. This includes renewing the half-cent sales tax for school funding in Orange County and the one-cent sales tax infrastructure renewal in Seminole County. (Please see the story below for details on both of these ballot questions.)

**[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE 2024 CFHLA PAC & PC VOTER GUIDE](#) and please share this guide with your co-workers, family members, and friends.**



**CFHLA is proud to stand with each of these pro-hospitality candidates, and we strongly encourage each of our members to do the same.**

**Remember one vote can make the difference and together, let's get out the vote and support these Hospitality Champions!**

<p><b>FLORIDA SENATE</b></p>  <p><b>Keith Truenow (R)</b> <i>Senate District 13</i></p>  <p><b>Kristen Arrington (D)</b> <i>Senate District 25</i></p>	 <p><b>Doug Bankson (R)</b> <i>House District 39</i></p>  <p><b>LaVon Bracy Davis (D)</b> <i>House District 40</i></p>	<p><b>ORANGE COUNTY</b></p>  <p><b>Austin Arthur</b> <i>Orange County Commission, District 1</i></p>  <p><b>Linda Stewart</b> <i>Orange County Commission, District 3</i></p>
<p><b>FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES</b></p>  <p><b>Nan Cobb (R)</b> <i>House District 26</i></p>  <p><b>Erika Booth (R)</b> <i>House District 35</i></p>	 <p><b>Johanna Lopez (D)</b> <i>House District 43</i></p>  <p><b>Leonard Spencer (D)</b> <i>House District 45</i></p>  <p><b>Jose Alvarez (D)</b> <i>House District 46</i></p>	 <p><b>Steve Leary</b> <i>Orange County Commission, District 5</i></p>  <p><b>Kyle Goudy</b> <i>Orange County School Board, District 4</i></p>
 <p><b>Rachel Plakon (R)</b> <i>House District 36</i></p>  <p><b>Susan Plasencia (R)</b> <i>House District 37</i></p>	<p><b>ORANGE COUNTY</b></p>  <p><b>Scott Randolph (D)</b> <i>Orange County Tax Collector</i></p>	<p><b>OSCEOLA COUNTY</b></p>  <p><b>Katrina Scarborough (D)</b> <i>Osceola County Property Appraiser</i></p>  <p><b>Peggy Choudhry (D)</b> <i>Osceola County Commission, District 1</i></p>
 <p><b>David Smith (R)</b> <i>House District 38</i></p>	 <p><b>Karen Castor Dentel (D)</b> <i>Orange County Supervisor of Elections</i></p>	 <p><b>Brandon Arrington (D)</b> <i>Osceola County Commission, District 3</i></p>

**If you have any questions regarding your voting precinct, voting locations and hours, items on the ballot, etc. for the upcoming Primary Election, please visit the Supervisor of Elections website, for the county that you reside within.**

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Website.

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Osceola County Supervisor of Elections Website.

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Seminole County Supervisor of Elections Website.

**CFHLA PAC & PC ENCOURAGES YOU TO VOTE NO ON FL AMENDMENT #3; VOTE YES ON ORANGE HALF-PENNY SALES TAX RENEWAL; VOTE YES ON SEMINOLE ONE PENNY RENEWAL**



CFHLA  
Political Action Committee

**NO**

CFHLA PAC  
OPPOSED  
INITIATIVE

**FL AMENDMENT #3  
ADULT PERSONAL  
USE OF MARIJUANA**



CFHLA  
Political Action Committee

**YES**

CFHLA PAC  
ENDORSED  
INITIATIVE

**SEMINOLE COUNTY  
ONE PENNY  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
SALES TAX RENEWAL**



CFHLA  
Political Action Committee

**YES**

CFHLA PAC  
ENDORSED  
INITIATIVE

**ORANGE COUNTY  
HALF PENNY SALES  
TAX RENEWAL FOR  
SCHOOLS**

Today, the **CFHLA Board of Directors** voted to oppose **Florida's Constitutional Amendment #3, Recreational Marijuana**. The board believes passing this proposed amendment would irreversibly harm Florida's brand as a "family-friendly" state and would allow the possession and use of recreational marijuana everywhere – just like it is already in Colorado and California. Recreational use of marijuana could result in a significant decrease in tourism to our destination and reduce the quality of life for Central Florida families. It could also raise enforcement issues on hotel properties and at resorts. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the resolution in opposition to Amendment 3.

Additionally, the **CFHLA PAC and PC Board** supports renewing the **Orange County half-cent sales tax renewal for schools**. Supporters say the money would be used to improve technologies, boost school security; and renovate or rebuild existing schools.

Lastly, the CFHLA PAC and PC board supports renewing the **Seminole County one-cent sales tax renewal** to pay for new streets, sidewalks, intersection improvements, school facilities and public parks.

Please share this information with family and friends before they vote.

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## **GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**

On Wednesday, October 16th, the **CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee** held its monthly committee meeting at the [Mall at Millenia](#). (Thank you, **Kevin Cedick**). Our guest speaker was [Orange County Clerk of Courts Tiffany Moore Russell](#).

The Committee provided Clerk Russell with an update on the strong economic impact the hospitality and tourism industry provides to our Central Florida economy, including jobs and significant tax revenue. Members of the Committee also outlined initiatives that our CFHLA partners are taking to attract young workers into our industry.

Clerk Russell also explained she believes Tourist Development Tax revenues should continue to be used as they were originally allocated. She also said there should be more regulation of short-term rental companies in the future.





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## **Disney's New Affordable Housing Project in Horizon West Gets Green Light to Move Forward**

**Disney's** new affordable housing project in Horizon West has received the green light to move forward with construction, after **Orange County Commissioners voted 6-1** to approve the project on Hartzog Road. Disney first announced plans for the concept in April, 2022. The community will be located on 80 acres within a short drive of the Magic Kingdom Park.

Disney is working with property developer **The Michaels Organization** to build up to 1,369 units of mixed-income housing. At least 1,000 of the units will be designated affordable housing. Project managers hope to break ground in 2025 with construction completed in late 2027.

CFHLA salutes our partners who are working to alleviate the critical shortage of affordable housing in Central Florida.



## **2025 CFHLA PAC & PC BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS**

Nominations for the **2025 CFHLA PAC & PC Board** will **conclude on October 31, 2024**. If you are interested in being part of the CFHLA PAC/PC Board of Directors or would like to nominate someone, please [CLICK HERE](#) for the form.

## **REGIONAL TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX UPDATE**

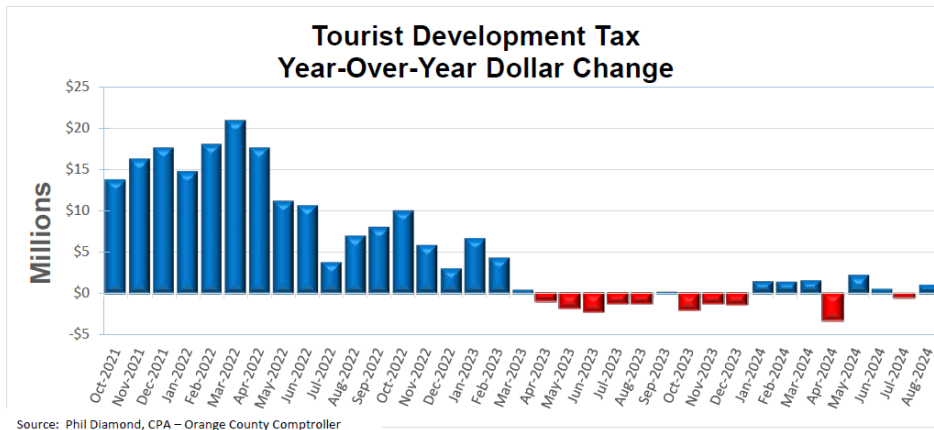
**Orange County**



The Tourist Development Tax (TDT) collections received by Orange County for the month of **August** was **\$23,162,000**. That is a **13% decrease compared to July, 2024**.

Compared to last August, **the 2024 collections were higher by \$989,300 or 4.5%**.

The chart below shows monthly TDT collections for the current fiscal year and the previous three fiscal years.



## Osceola County

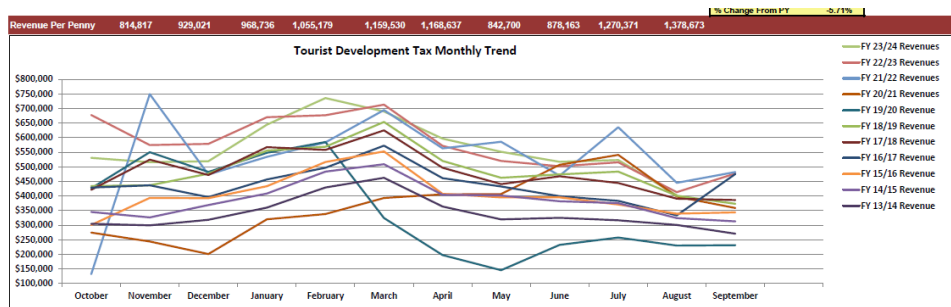
Osceola County collected **\$5.6 million in TDT for the month of August, 2024, representing 5% increase from July, 2023**. Year to date TDT collections are **flat compared to last year, down only 0.8%**.



**Seminole County**

Seminole County announced that the **Tourist Development Tax (TDT) collection for August, 2024 was \$402,727. That is a decrease of almost 23% from July, 2024.**

For the current FY 2023 - 2024, **Seminole County has now collected over \$6.23 million in TDT revenue.**



**REMINDER: 2024 ELECTION SCHEDULE**

**General Election:**

- **Early Voting Period is October 21st - November 3rd**

- Election Date is November 5th



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### **UPCOMING GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS MEETING**

The next Governmental Affairs meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 13th at 12 pm at [SeaWorld Orlando](#)** (thank you Sarah Nemes) with special guest, State Representative Jennifer Canady of Lakeland, FL.

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### **DONATE**

CFHLA MEMBERS - Please **consider making a small donation of \$50** via the link below to the CFHLA PAC/PC. All contributions help CFHLA expand its efforts to support these Hospitality-Friendly candidates who are running for local and state offices. **In the 2024 Election Cycle, all 16 CFHLA Primary Endorsed candidates were either successfully elected into office or moved onto the general election.**

### **DONATE NOW!**

**Your help is needed, and as a reminder, all CFHLA Board Members, PAC/PC Board Members, and ARC Board Members have committed to contributing \$200 to the CFHLA PAC/PC in 2024.** If you are part of one or more of these groups, please consider fulfilling your commitment today.

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## IN THE NEWS

[Florida Chamber of Commerce Poll Suggests Support for Recreational Marijuana Use May be Slipping - Florida Politics](#)

[Central Florida Sample Ballots: View Your County Ballot - Fox 35 News](#)

[Wesh 2 News Looks at 6 FL Constitutional Amendment Questions on your November Ballot - WESH 2 News](#)

[Early Voting is Creating a Red Wave in Florida with GOP Maintaining Almost 2 to 1 Lead over Democrats - Florida Politics](#)

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## CONNECT WITH CFHLA



[WWW.CFHLA.ORG](http://WWW.CFHLA.ORG)

About CFHLA

6675 Westwood Blvd #210, Orlando, FL 32821

The mission of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association is to represent the Central Florida Hospitality Industry, by setting the standard of excellence through advocacy, collaboration, education, recognition, and service.