

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public notices by local  
3           governmental entities; amending s. 50.011, F.S.;  
4           providing that publication of a notice or  
5           advertisement on a county's or municipality's publicly  
6           accessible website constitutes legal notice; amending  
7           s. 50.021, F.S.; authorizing a county, municipality,  
8           or dependent special district to publish legally  
9           required advertisements on a publicly accessible  
10          website; amending ss. 50.0211 and 50.031, F.S.;  
11          providing that a notice or advertisement published on  
12          a county's or municipality's publicly accessible  
13          website constitutes legal notice; creating s. 50.0311,  
14          F.S.; providing a definition; authorizing the  
15          publication of legally required notices and  
16          advertisements on a county's or municipality's  
17          official website under certain circumstances;  
18          providing requirements for publication of such notices  
19          and advertisements; amending ss. 50.051 and 50.061,  
20          F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the  
21          act; amending s. 100.342, F.S.; authorizing the  
22          publication of a notice of a special election or  
23          referendum on a publicly accessible website; amending  
24          s. 125.66, F.S.; authorizing the publication of a  
25          notice of intent to consider an ordinance by a board

26 of county commissioners on a publicly accessible  
27 website; requiring that such notice be continuously  
28 posted on the website for a specified period;  
29 conforming provisions; amending s. 129.03, F.S.;  
30 authorizing the publication of a county's summary  
31 statement of adopted tentative budgets on a publicly  
32 accessible website; amending s. 129.06, F.S.;  
33 authorizing the publication of notice of a public  
34 hearing relating to the amendment of a county budget  
35 on a publicly accessible website; amending s. 153.79,  
36 F.S.; authorizing the publication of certain water  
37 system or sewer system projects on a publicly  
38 accessible website; requiring that such publication be  
39 continuously posted for a specified period; amending  
40 s. 159.32, F.S.; authorizing the advertisement of  
41 competitive bids for certain construction contracts on  
42 a publicly accessible website; amending s. 162.12,  
43 F.S.; authorizing the publication of notice of a  
44 county or municipal code enforcement board hearing on  
45 a publicly accessible website; amending s. 163.3184,  
46 F.S.; authorizing the publication of notice for  
47 adoption of a local government comprehensive plan or  
48 plan amendment, or the approval of a compliance  
49 agreement, on a publicly accessible website; providing  
50 requirements for such publication; amending s.

51 166.041, F.S.; authorizing the publication of notice  
52 for adoption of municipal ordinances on a publicly  
53 accessible website; conforming provisions; amending s.  
54 170.05, F.S.; authorizing the publication of a  
55 municipal resolution relating to public improvements  
56 financed by special assessments on a publicly  
57 accessible website; amending s. 170.07, F.S.;

58 authorizing the publication of notice of a hearing on  
59 such public improvements on a publicly accessible  
60 website; amending s. 180.24, F.S.; authorizing the  
61 publication of certain contracts for construction of  
62 utilities on a publicly accessible website; requiring  
63 that such publication be posted for a specified  
64 period; amending s. 197.3632, F.S.; authorizing  
65 certain local governmental entities to publish a  
66 notice of intent relating to the use the uniform  
67 method of collecting non-ad valorem assessments on a  
68 publicly accessible website; providing requirements  
69 for such publication; amending s. 200.065, F.S.;

70 authorizing certain local governmental entities to  
71 advertise a notice of intent to adopt a millage rate  
72 and budget on a publicly accessible website; providing  
73 requirements for such advertisement; amending s.  
74 255.0525, F.S.; authorizing the advertisement of the  
75 solicitation of competitive bids or proposals for

76 certain construction projects on a publicly accessible  
77 website; providing requirements for such  
78 advertisement; amending s. 380.06, F.S.; authorizing  
79 the publication of an advertisement for a public  
80 hearing relating to an areawide development-of-  
81 regional-impact plan review on a publicly accessible  
82 website; conforming provisions; amending s. 403.973,  
83 F.S.; revising a definition to conform to changes made  
84 by the act; amending s. 420.9075, F.S.; authorizing  
85 the advertisement of a notice of funding availability  
86 under local housing assistance plans on a publicly  
87 accessible website; providing an effective date.

88  
89 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

90  
91 Section 1. Section 50.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
92 read:

93 50.011 Where and in what language legal notices to be  
94 published.—Whenever by statute an official or legal  
95 advertisement or a publication, or notice in a newspaper has  
96 been or is directed or permitted in the nature of or in lieu of  
97 process, or for constructive service, or in initiating,  
98 assuming, reviewing, exercising or enforcing jurisdiction or  
99 power, or for any purpose, including all legal notices and  
100 advertisements of sheriffs and tax collectors, the

101 contemporaneous and continuous intent and meaning of such  
 102 legislation all and singular, existing or repealed, is and has  
 103 been and is hereby declared to be and to have been, and the rule  
 104 of interpretation is and has been, a publication in a newspaper  
 105 printed and published periodically once a week or oftener,  
 106 containing at least 25 percent of its words in the English  
 107 language, entered or qualified to be admitted and entered as  
 108 periodicals matter at a post office in the county where  
 109 published, for sale to the public generally, available to the  
 110 public generally for the publication of official or other  
 111 notices and customarily containing information of a public  
 112 character or of interest or of value to the residents or owners  
 113 of property in the county where published, or of interest or of  
 114 value to the general public. Notwithstanding any other provision  
 115 of law, the publication of a notice or advertisement on a  
 116 publicly accessible website maintained by a county or  
 117 municipality as authorized by s. 50.0311 constitutes legal  
 118 notice for purposes of this section.

119 Section 2. Section 50.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 120 read:

121 50.021 Publication when no newspaper in county.—When any  
 122 law, or order or decree of court, shall direct advertisements to  
 123 be made in any county and there is ~~be~~ no newspaper published in  
 124 the ~~said~~ county, the advertisement may be made by posting three  
 125 copies thereof in three different places in the ~~said~~ county, one

126 of which shall be at the front door of the courthouse, and by  
127 publication in the nearest county in which a newspaper is  
128 published. A county, municipality, or dependent special district  
129 may publish such advertisements on a publicly accessible website  
130 maintained by the county or municipality responsible for  
131 publication as authorized by s. 50.0311.

132 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 50.0211, Florida  
133 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that  
134 section, to read:

135 50.0211 Internet website publication.—

136 (2) If a legal notice is published in a newspaper, each  
137 legal notice must be posted on the newspaper's website on the  
138 same day that the printed notice appears in the newspaper, at no  
139 additional charge, in a separate web page titled "Legal  
140 Notices," "Legal Advertising," or comparable identifying  
141 language. A link to the legal notices web page shall be provided  
142 on the front page of the newspaper's website that provides  
143 access to the legal notices. If there is a specified size and  
144 placement required for a printed legal notice, the size and  
145 placement of the notice on the newspaper's website must optimize  
146 its online visibility in keeping with the print requirements.  
147 The newspaper's web pages that contain legal notices must  
148 present the legal notices as the dominant and leading subject  
149 matter of those pages. The newspaper's website must contain a  
150 search function to facilitate searching the legal notices. A fee

151 may not be charged, and registration may not be required, for  
152 viewing or searching legal notices on a newspaper's website if  
153 the legal notice is published in a newspaper.

154 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the  
155 publication of a notice or advertisement on a publicly  
156 accessible website maintained by a county or municipality as  
157 authorized by s. 50.0311 constitutes legal notice for purposes  
158 of this section.

159 Section 4. Section 50.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
160 read:

161 50.031 Newspapers in which legal notices and process may  
162 be published.—No notice or publication required to be published  
163 in a newspaper in the nature of or in lieu of process of any  
164 kind, nature, character or description provided for under any  
165 law of the state, whether heretofore or hereafter enacted, and  
166 whether pertaining to constructive service, or the initiating,  
167 assuming, reviewing, exercising or enforcing jurisdiction or  
168 power, by any court in this state, or any notice of sale of  
169 property, real or personal, for taxes, state, county or  
170 municipal, or sheriff's, guardian's or administrator's or any  
171 sale made pursuant to any judicial order, decree or statute or  
172 any other publication or notice pertaining to any affairs of the  
173 state, or any county, municipality or other political  
174 subdivision thereof, shall be deemed to have been published in  
175 accordance with the statutes providing for such publication,

176 unless the same shall have been published for the prescribed  
 177 period of time required for such publication, in a newspaper  
 178 which at the time of such publication shall have been in  
 179 existence for 1 year and shall have been entered as periodicals  
 180 matter at a post office in the county where published, or in a  
 181 newspaper which is a direct successor of a newspaper which  
 182 together have been so published; provided, however, that nothing  
 183 herein contained shall apply where in any county there shall be  
 184 no newspaper in existence which shall have been published for  
 185 the length of time above prescribed. No legal publication of any  
 186 kind, nature or description, as herein defined, shall be valid  
 187 or binding or held to be in compliance with the statutes  
 188 providing for such publication unless the same shall have been  
 189 published in accordance with the provisions of this section.  
 190 Proof of such publication shall be made by uniform affidavit.  
 191 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the publication of a  
 192 notice or advertisement on a publicly accessible website  
 193 maintained by a county or municipality as authorized by s.  
 194 50.0311 constitutes legal notice for purposes of this section.

195 Section 5. Section 50.0311, Florida Statutes, is created  
 196 to read:

197 50.0311 Publication of notices and advertisements on a  
 198 publicly accessible website maintained by a county or  
 199 municipality.—

200 (1) For purposes of notices and advertisements legally



201 required to be published by a county, municipality, or dependent  
202 special district, the term "publicly accessible website" means  
203 the official website of a county or municipality that is  
204 accessible via the Internet.

205 (2) A county or municipality may publish legally required  
206 notices and advertisements on its publicly accessible website,  
207 if expressly authorized by ordinance and:

208 (a) A public library or other governmental facility  
209 providing free access to the Internet during regular business  
210 hours exists within the jurisdictional boundaries of the county  
211 or municipality;

212 (b) The county or municipality publishes notice at least  
213 once per year in a newspaper of general circulation, the  
214 county's or municipality's newsletter or periodical, or another  
215 publication that is mailed or delivered to all residents or  
216 property owners throughout the county or municipality, which  
217 notifies residents or property owners that they may receive  
218 legally required notices and advertisements from the county or  
219 municipality by first-class mail or e-mail upon registering  
220 their names and addresses or e-mail addresses with the county or  
221 municipality; and

222 (c) The county or municipality maintains a registry of the  
223 names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of residents and property  
224 owners who have requested in writing that they receive legally  
225 required notices and advertisements from the county or

226 municipality by first-class mail or e-mail.

227 (3) Any legally required notice or advertisement that is  
228 published on a county's or municipality's publicly accessible  
229 website must be conspicuously placed on the website's homepage  
230 or made accessible through a direct link from the homepage. The  
231 website's homepage or linked page must contain an index  
232 including a list of all the county's or municipality's current  
233 legal notices or advertisements, with hyperlinks to the full  
234 text of such notices or advertisements. The page where the index  
235 is located must also contain a search function to improve public  
236 accessibility to legal notices or advertisements. Each notice or  
237 advertisement listed in the index must indicate the date on  
238 which it was first published on the website.

239 (4) For each legally required notice or advertisement  
240 published on a publicly accessible website, the county or  
241 municipality responsible for publication shall complete, sign,  
242 and maintain on file an electronic-based or paper-based  
243 affidavit of posting. The affidavit shall state the initial  
244 publication date of the notice or advertisement and that the  
245 notice or advertisement was posted from the initial publication  
246 date through either the last posting date required by law or the  
247 date when the event described in the notice takes place,  
248 whichever occurs later.

249 Section 6. Section 50.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
250 read:

251           50.051 Proof of publication; form of uniform affidavit.—  
 252 The printed form upon which all such affidavits establishing  
 253 proof of publication in a newspaper are to be executed shall be  
 254 substantially as follows:

255                                   NAME OF NEWSPAPER

256                                   Published (Weekly or Daily)

257                                   (Town or City)   (County)   FLORIDA

258 STATE OF FLORIDA

259 COUNTY OF .....:

260           Before the undersigned authority personally appeared .....,  
 261 who on oath says that he or she is .... of the ....., a ....  
 262 newspaper published at .... in .... County, Florida; that the  
 263 attached copy of advertisement, being a .... in the matter of  
 264 .... in the .... Court, was published in said newspaper in the  
 265 issues of .....

266           Affiant further says that the said .... is a newspaper  
 267 published at ....., in said .... County, Florida, and that the  
 268 said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in  
 269 said .... County, Florida, each .... and has been entered as  
 270 periodicals matter at the post office in ....., in said ....  
 271 County, Florida, for a period of 1 year next preceding the first  
 272 publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant  
 273 further says that he or she has neither paid nor promised any  
 274 person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or  
 275 refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for

276 publication in the said newspaper.  
 277 Sworn to and subscribed before me this .... day of .....,  
 278 ...(year)..., by ....., who is personally known to me or who has  
 279 produced (type of identification) as identification.  
 280 ...(Signature of Notary Public)...  
 281 ...(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)...  
 282 ...(Notary Public)...

283 Section 7. Subsection (6) of section 50.061, Florida  
 284 Statutes, is amended to read:

285 50.061 Amounts chargeable.—

286 (6) All official public notices and legal advertisements  
 287 published in a newspaper shall be charged and paid for on the  
 288 basis of 6-point type on 6-point body, unless otherwise  
 289 specified by statute.

290 Section 8. Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 291 to read:

292 100.342 Notice of special election or referendum.—In any  
 293 special election or referendum not otherwise provided for there  
 294 shall be at least 30 days' notice of the election or referendum  
 295 by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the  
 296 respective county, district, or municipality, or on a publicly  
 297 accessible website that is maintained by the county or  
 298 municipality responsible for publication in accordance with s.  
 299 50.0311, which must be continuously posted during the 5 weeks  
 300 immediately preceding the election or referendum, ~~as the case~~

301 ~~may be.~~ If advertised in the newspaper, the publication shall be  
 302 made at least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the  
 303 third week before ~~prior to~~ the week in which the election or  
 304 referendum is to be held. If there is no newspaper of general  
 305 circulation in the county, district, or municipality or publicly  
 306 accessible website, the notice shall be posted in no fewer ~~less~~  
 307 than five places within the territorial limits of the county,  
 308 district, or municipality.

309 Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph  
 310 (b) of subsection (4) of section 125.66, Florida Statutes, are  
 311 amended to read:

312 125.66 Ordinances; enactment procedure; emergency  
 313 ordinances; rezoning or change of land use ordinances or  
 314 resolutions.—

315 (2) (a) The regular enactment procedure shall be as  
 316 follows: The board of county commissioners at any regular or  
 317 special meeting may enact or amend any ordinance, except as  
 318 provided in subsection (4), if notice of intent to consider such  
 319 ordinance is published ~~given~~ at least 10 days before the ~~prior~~  
 320 ~~to said meeting by publication~~ in a newspaper of general  
 321 circulation in the county or continuously posted during the 10  
 322 days immediately preceding the meeting on a publicly accessible  
 323 website maintained by the county in accordance with s. 50.0311.  
 324 A copy of such notice shall be kept available for public  
 325 inspection during the regular business hours of the office of

326 the clerk of the board of county commissioners. The notice of  
327 proposed enactment shall state the date, time, and place of the  
328 meeting; the title or titles of proposed ordinances; and the  
329 place or places within the county where such proposed ordinances  
330 may be inspected by the public. The notice shall also advise  
331 that interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard  
332 with respect to the proposed ordinance.

333 (4) Ordinances or resolutions, initiated by other than the  
334 county, that change the actual zoning map designation of a  
335 parcel or parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to  
336 subsection (2). Ordinances or resolutions that change the actual  
337 list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within a  
338 zoning category, or ordinances or resolutions initiated by the  
339 county that change the actual zoning map designation of a parcel  
340 or parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to the following  
341 procedure:

342 (b) In cases in which the proposed ordinance or resolution  
343 changes the actual list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited  
344 uses within a zoning category, or changes the actual zoning map  
345 designation of a parcel or parcels of land involving 10  
346 contiguous acres or more, the board of county commissioners  
347 shall provide for public notice and hearings as follows:

348 1. The board of county commissioners shall hold two  
349 advertised public hearings on the proposed ordinance or  
350 resolution. At least one hearing shall be held after 5 p.m. on a

351 weekday, unless the board of county commissioners, by a majority  
352 plus one vote, elects to conduct that hearing at another time of  
353 day. The first public hearing shall be held at least 7 days  
354 after the day that the first advertisement is published. The  
355 second hearing shall be held at least 10 days after the first  
356 hearing and shall be advertised at least 5 days before ~~prior to~~  
357 the public hearing.

358 2. The required newspaper advertisements shall be no less  
359 than 2 columns wide by 10 inches long in a standard size or a  
360 tabloid size newspaper, and the headline in the advertisement  
361 shall be in a type no smaller than 18 point. The newspaper  
362 advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of the  
363 newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements  
364 appear. The newspaper advertisement shall be placed in a  
365 newspaper of general paid circulation in the county and of  
366 general interest and readership in the community pursuant to  
367 chapter 50, not one of limited subject matter. It is the  
368 legislative intent that, whenever possible, the newspaper  
369 advertisement shall appear in a newspaper that is published at  
370 least 5 days a week unless the only newspaper in the community  
371 is published less than 5 days a week. The newspaper  
372 advertisement shall be in substantially the following form:

373 NOTICE OF (TYPE OF) CHANGE

374 The ...(name of local governmental unit)... proposes to  
375 adopt the following by ordinance or resolution:...(title of

376 ordinance or resolution)....

377 A public hearing on the ordinance or resolution will be  
 378 held on ...(date and time)... at ...(meeting place)....

379  
 380 Except for amendments which change the actual list of permitted,  
 381 conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, the  
 382 newspaper advertisement shall contain a geographic location map  
 383 which clearly indicates the area within the local government  
 384 covered by the proposed ordinance or resolution. The map shall  
 385 include major street names as a means of identification of the  
 386 general area. In addition to being published in the newspaper,  
 387 the map must be part of the online notice required pursuant to  
 388 s. 50.0211.

389 3. In lieu of publishing the newspaper advertisements set  
 390 out in this paragraph, the board of county commissioners may  
 391 mail a notice to each person owning real property within the  
 392 area covered by the ordinance or resolution. Such notice shall  
 393 clearly explain the proposed ordinance or resolution and shall  
 394 notify the person of the time, place, and location of both  
 395 public hearings on the proposed ordinance or resolution.

396 Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
 397 129.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

398 129.03 Preparation and adoption of budget.—

399 (3) The county budget officer, after tentatively  
 400 ascertaining the proposed fiscal policies of the board for the



401 next fiscal year, shall prepare and present to the board a  
402 tentative budget for the next fiscal year for each of the funds  
403 provided in this chapter, including all estimated receipts,  
404 taxes to be levied, and balances expected to be brought forward  
405 and all estimated expenditures, reserves, and balances to be  
406 carried over at the end of the year.

407 (b) Upon receipt of the tentative budgets and completion  
408 of any revisions, the board shall prepare a statement  
409 summarizing all of the adopted tentative budgets. The summary  
410 statement must show, for each budget and the total of all  
411 budgets, the proposed tax millages, balances, reserves, and the  
412 total of each major classification of receipts and expenditures,  
413 classified according to the uniform classification of accounts  
414 adopted by the appropriate state agency. The board shall cause  
415 the ~~this~~ summary statement to be advertised one time in a  
416 newspaper of general circulation published in the county, posted  
417 on a publicly accessible website maintained by the county in  
418 accordance with s. 50.0311, or posted ~~by posting~~ at the  
419 courthouse door if there is no such newspaper or website, and  
420 the advertisement must appear adjacent to the advertisement  
421 required pursuant to s. 200.065.

422 Section 11. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section  
423 129.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

424 129.06 Execution and amendment of budget.—

425 (2) The board at any time within a fiscal year may amend a

426 budget for that year, and may within the first 60 days of a  
427 fiscal year amend the budget for the prior fiscal year, as  
428 follows:

429 (f) Unless otherwise prohibited by law, if an amendment to  
430 a budget is required for a purpose not specifically authorized  
431 in paragraphs (a)-(e), the amendment may be authorized by  
432 resolution or ordinance of the board of county commissioners  
433 adopted following a public hearing.

434 1. The public hearing must be advertised ~~at least 2 days,~~  
435 ~~but not more than 5 days, before the date of the hearing. The~~  
436 ~~advertisement must appear~~ in a newspaper of paid general  
437 circulation or on a publicly accessible website maintained by  
438 the county in accordance with s. 50.0311. Such advertisement and  
439 must identify the name of the taxing authority; ~~the date,~~  
440 place, and time of the hearing; ~~and the purpose of the hearing.~~  
441 If the public hearing is advertised in a newspaper, such  
442 advertisement must appear in the newspaper at least 2 days, but  
443 not more than 5 days, before the date of the hearing. If the  
444 public hearing is advertised on a publicly accessible website,  
445 such advertisement must be continuously posted on the website  
446 during the 5 days immediately preceding the hearing. The  
447 advertisement must also identify each budgetary fund to be  
448 amended, the source of the funds, the use of the funds, and the  
449 total amount of each fund's appropriations.

450 2. If the board amends the budget pursuant to this

451 paragraph, the adopted amendment must be posted on the county's  
452 official website within 5 days after adoption.

453 Section 12. Section 153.79, Florida Statutes, is amended  
454 to read:

455 153.79 Contracts for construction of improvements;~~;~~ sealed  
456 bids.—All contracts let, awarded~~,~~ or entered into by the  
457 district for the construction, reconstruction~~,~~ or acquisition or  
458 improvement of a water system or a sewer system~~,~~ or both~~,~~ or any  
459 part thereof, if the amount thereof shall exceed \$1,000, shall  
460 be awarded only after public advertisement and call for sealed  
461 bids therefor~~,~~ in a newspaper published in the county  
462 circulating in the district or on a publicly accessible website  
463 maintained by the county in accordance with s. 50.0311~~,~~ or, if  
464 there is ~~be~~ no such newspaper or website, ~~then~~ in a newspaper  
465 published in the state and circulating in the district. If  
466 advertised in a newspaper, such advertisement shall ~~to~~ be  
467 published at least once at least 3 weeks before the date set for  
468 the receipt of such bids. If advertised on a publicly accessible  
469 website, such advertisement must be continuously posted on the  
470 website during the 3 weeks immediately preceding the date set  
471 for the receipt of such bids. Such advertisements for bids in  
472 addition to the other necessary and pertinent matter shall state  
473 in general terms the nature and description of the improvement  
474 or improvements to be undertaken and shall state that detailed  
475 plans and specifications for such work are on file for

476 inspection in the office of the district clerk and copies  
477 thereof shall be furnished to any interested party upon payment  
478 of reasonable charges to reimburse the district for its expenses  
479 in providing such copies. The award shall be made to the  
480 responsible and competent bidder or bidders who shall offer to  
481 undertake the improvements at the lowest cost to the district  
482 and such bidder or bidders shall be required to file bond for  
483 the full and faithful performance of such work and the execution  
484 of any such contract in such amount as the district board shall  
485 determine, and in all other respects the letting of such  
486 construction contracts shall comply with applicable provisions  
487 of the general laws relating to the letting of public contracts.  
488 Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the district  
489 from hiring or retaining such consulting engineers, attorneys,  
490 financial experts or other technicians as it shall determine, in  
491 its discretion, or from undertaking any construction work with  
492 its own resources, without any such public advertisement.

493 Section 13. Section 159.32, Florida Statutes, is amended  
494 to read:

495 159.32 Construction contracts.—Contracts for the  
496 construction of the project may be awarded by the local agency  
497 in such manner as in its judgment will best promote free and  
498 open competition, including advertisement for competitive bids  
499 in a newspaper of general circulation within the boundaries of  
500 the local agency or on a publicly accessible website maintained

501 by the county or municipality responsible for publication in  
502 accordance with s. 50.0311; however, if the local agency shall  
503 determine that the purposes of this part will be more  
504 effectively served, the local agency in its discretion may award  
505 or cause to be awarded contracts for the construction of any  
506 project, or any part thereof, upon a negotiated basis as  
507 determined by the local agency. The local agency shall prescribe  
508 bid security requirements and other procedures in connection  
509 with the award of such contracts as in its judgment shall  
510 protect the public interest. The local agency may by written  
511 contract engage the services of the lessee, purchaser, or  
512 prospective lessee or purchaser of any project in the  
513 construction of the project and may provide in the contract that  
514 the lessee, purchaser, or prospective lessee or purchaser may  
515 act as an agent of, or an independent contractor for, the local  
516 agency for the performance of the functions described therein,  
517 subject to such conditions and requirements consistent with the  
518 provisions of this part as shall be prescribed in the contract,  
519 including functions such as the acquisition of the site and  
520 other real property for the project; the preparation of plans,  
521 specifications, and contract documents; the award of  
522 construction and other contracts upon a competitive or  
523 negotiated basis; the construction of the project, or any part  
524 thereof, directly by the lessee, purchaser, or prospective  
525 lessee or purchaser; the inspection and supervision of

526 construction; the employment of engineers, architects, builders,  
 527 and other contractors; and the provision of money to pay the  
 528 cost thereof pending reimbursement by the local agency. Any such  
 529 contract may provide that the local agency may, out of proceeds  
 530 of bonds, make advances to or reimburse the lessee, purchaser,  
 531 or prospective lessee or purchaser for its costs incurred in the  
 532 performance of those functions, and shall set forth the  
 533 supporting documents required to be submitted to the local  
 534 agency and the reviews, examinations, and audits that shall be  
 535 required in connection therewith to assure compliance with the  
 536 provisions of this part and the contract.

537 Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
 538 162.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

539 162.12 Notices.—

540 (2) In addition to providing notice as set forth in  
 541 subsection (1), at the option of the code enforcement board or  
 542 the local government, notice may be served by publication or  
 543 posting, as follows:

544 (a)1. Such notice shall be published once during each week  
 545 for 4 consecutive weeks (four publications being sufficient) in  
 546 a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the code  
 547 enforcement board is located or continuously posted during the 4  
 548 weeks immediately preceding the hearing on a publicly accessible  
 549 website maintained by the county or municipality responsible for  
 550 publication in accordance with s. 50.0311. The newspaper or

551 website shall meet such requirements as are prescribed under  
552 chapter 50 for legal and official advertisements.

553 2. Proof of newspaper publication shall be made as  
554 provided in ss. 50.041 and 50.051.

555 Section 15. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) and paragraph  
556 (b) of subsection (11) of section 163.3184, Florida Statutes,  
557 are amended to read:

558 163.3184 Process for adoption of comprehensive plan or  
559 plan amendment.—

560 (6) COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT.—

561 (c) Before its execution of a compliance agreement, the  
562 local government must approve the compliance agreement at a  
563 public hearing advertised at least 10 days before the public  
564 hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the area or  
565 continuously posted during the 10 days immediately preceding the  
566 hearing on a publicly accessible website maintained by the  
567 county or municipality responsible for publication in accordance  
568 with s. 50.0311 and the advertisement requirements in ~~of~~ chapter  
569 125 or chapter 166, as applicable.

570 (11) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—

571 (b) The local governing body shall hold at least two  
572 advertised public hearings on the proposed comprehensive plan or  
573 plan amendment as follows:

574 1. The first public hearing shall be held at the  
575 transmittal stage. It shall be held on a weekday at least 7 days

576 after the day that the first advertisement is published in a  
577 newspaper or initially posted on a publicly accessible website  
578 in accordance with s. 50.0311 and ~~pursuant to~~ the requirements  
579 in ~~of~~ chapter 125 or chapter 166, as applicable.

580 2. The second public hearing shall be held at the adoption  
581 stage. It shall be held on a weekday at least 5 days after the  
582 day that the second advertisement is published in a newspaper or  
583 initially posted on a publicly accessible website in accordance  
584 with s. 50.0311 and ~~pursuant to~~ the requirements in ~~of~~ chapter  
585 125 or chapter 166, as applicable.

586 Section 16. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (3) of  
587 section 166.041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

588 166.041 Procedures for adoption of ordinances and  
589 resolutions.—

590 (3) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (c), a proposed  
591 ordinance may be read by title, or in full, on at least 2  
592 separate days and shall, at least 10 days before ~~prior to~~  
593 adoption, be noticed once in a newspaper of general circulation  
594 in the municipality or continuously posted during the 10 days  
595 immediately preceding adoption on a publicly accessible website  
596 maintained by the municipality in accordance with s. 50.0311.  
597 The notice of proposed enactment shall state the date, time, and  
598 place of the meeting; the title or titles of proposed  
599 ordinances; and the place or places within the municipality  
600 where such proposed ordinances may be inspected by the public.



601 The notice shall also advise that interested parties may appear  
602 at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed  
603 ordinance.

604 (c) Ordinances initiated by other than the municipality  
605 that change the actual zoning map designation of a parcel or  
606 parcels of land shall be enacted pursuant to paragraph (a).  
607 Ordinances that change the actual list of permitted,  
608 conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, or  
609 ordinances initiated by the municipality that change the actual  
610 zoning map designation of a parcel or parcels of land shall be  
611 enacted pursuant to the following procedure:

612 1. In cases in which the proposed ordinance changes the  
613 actual zoning map designation for a parcel or parcels of land  
614 involving less than 10 contiguous acres, the governing body  
615 shall direct the clerk of the governing body to notify by mail  
616 each real property owner whose land the municipality will  
617 redesignate by enactment of the ordinance and whose address is  
618 known by reference to the latest ad valorem tax records. The  
619 notice shall state the substance of the proposed ordinance as it  
620 affects that property owner and shall set a time and place for  
621 one or more public hearings on such ordinance. Such notice shall  
622 be given at least 30 days prior to the date set for the public  
623 hearing, and a copy of the notice shall be kept available for  
624 public inspection during the regular business hours of the  
625 office of the clerk of the governing body. The governing body

626 shall hold a public hearing on the proposed ordinance and may,  
627 upon the conclusion of the hearing, immediately adopt the  
628 ordinance.

629 2. In cases in which the proposed ordinance changes the  
630 actual list of permitted, conditional, or prohibited uses within  
631 a zoning category, or changes the actual zoning map designation  
632 of a parcel or parcels of land involving 10 contiguous acres or  
633 more, the governing body shall provide for public notice and  
634 hearings as follows:

635 a. The local governing body shall hold two advertised  
636 public hearings on the proposed ordinance. At least one hearing  
637 shall be held after 5 p.m. on a weekday, unless the local  
638 governing body, by a majority plus one vote, elects to conduct  
639 that hearing at another time of day. The first public hearing  
640 shall be held at least 7 days after the day that the first  
641 advertisement is published. The second hearing shall be held at  
642 least 10 days after the first hearing and shall be advertised at  
643 least 5 days prior to the public hearing.

644 b. The newspaper ~~required~~ advertisements shall be no less  
645 than 2 columns wide by 10 inches long in a standard size or a  
646 tabloid size newspaper, and the headline in the newspaper  
647 advertisement shall be in a type no smaller than 18 point. The  
648 newspaper advertisement shall not be placed in that portion of  
649 the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements  
650 appear. The newspaper advertisement shall be placed in a

651 newspaper of general paid circulation in the municipality and of  
652 general interest and readership in the municipality, not one of  
653 limited subject matter, pursuant to chapter 50. It is the  
654 legislative intent that, whenever possible, the newspaper  
655 advertisement appear in a newspaper that is published at least 5  
656 days a week unless the only newspaper in the municipality is  
657 published less than 5 days a week. The newspaper advertisement  
658 shall be in substantially the following form:

659 NOTICE OF (TYPE OF) CHANGE

660 The ...(name of local governmental unit)... proposes to  
661 adopt the following ordinance:... (title of the ordinance)....

662 A public hearing on the ordinance will be held on ...(date  
663 and time)... at ...(meeting place)....

664  
665 Except for amendments which change the actual list of permitted,  
666 conditional, or prohibited uses within a zoning category, the  
667 newspaper advertisement shall contain a geographic location map  
668 which clearly indicates the area covered by the proposed  
669 ordinance. The map shall include major street names as a means  
670 of identification of the general area. In addition to being  
671 published in the newspaper, the map must be part of the online  
672 notice required pursuant to s. 50.0211.

673 c. In lieu of publishing the advertisement set out in this  
674 paragraph, the municipality may mail a notice to each person  
675 owning real property within the area covered by the ordinance.

676 Such notice shall clearly explain the proposed ordinance and  
677 shall notify the person of the time, place, and location of any  
678 public hearing on the proposed ordinance.

679 Section 17. Section 170.05, Florida Statutes, is amended  
680 to read:

681 170.05 Publication of resolution.—Upon the adoption of the  
682 resolution provided for in s. 170.03, the municipality shall  
683 cause such ~~said~~ resolution to be published one time in a  
684 newspaper of general circulation published in the ~~said~~  
685 municipality or on a publicly accessible website maintained by  
686 the municipality in accordance with s. 50.0311., ~~and~~ If there is  
687 ~~be~~ no such newspaper or website published in ~~said~~ municipality,  
688 the governing authority of the ~~said~~ municipality shall cause the  
689 ~~said~~ resolution to be published once a week for a period of 2  
690 weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the  
691 county or on a publicly accessible website maintained by the  
692 county in which the ~~said~~ municipality is located.

693 Section 18. Section 170.07, Florida Statutes, is amended  
694 to read:

695 170.07 Publication of preliminary assessment roll.—Upon  
696 the completion of a ~~said~~ preliminary assessment roll, the  
697 governing authority of a ~~the~~ municipality shall by resolution  
698 fix a time and place at which the owners of the property to be  
699 assessed or any other persons interested therein may appear  
700 before such ~~said~~ governing authority and be heard as to the

701 propriety and advisability of making such improvements, as to  
702 the cost thereof, as to the manner of payment therefor, and as  
703 to the amount thereof to be assessed against each property so  
704 improved. Thirty days' notice in writing of such time and place  
705 shall be given to such property owners. The notice shall include  
706 the amount of the assessment and shall be served by mailing a  
707 copy to each of such property owners at his or her last known  
708 address, the names and addresses of such property owners to be  
709 obtained from the records of the property appraiser or from such  
710 other sources as the city or town clerk or engineer deems  
711 reliable, proof of such mailing to be made by the affidavit of  
712 the clerk or deputy clerk of the said municipality, or by the  
713 engineer, such said proof to be filed with the clerk, provided,  
714 that failure to mail the said notice or notices shall not  
715 invalidate any of the proceedings hereunder. Notice of the time  
716 and place of such hearing shall also be given by two  
717 publications a week apart in a newspaper of general circulation  
718 in the said municipality or continuously posted for 2 weeks on a  
719 publicly accessible website maintained by the municipality in  
720 accordance with s. 50.0311.7 ~~and~~ If there is ~~be~~ no such  
721 newspaper or website, ~~published in said municipality~~ the  
722 governing authority of the said municipality shall cause ~~said~~  
723 notice to be published in like manner in a newspaper of general  
724 circulation published in the county or on a publicly accessible  
725 website maintained by the county in which the said municipality

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726 is located,<sup>†</sup> provided that the last publication shall be at  
727 least 1 week before ~~prior to~~ the date of the hearing. Such ~~Said~~  
728 notice shall describe the streets or other areas to be improved  
729 and advise all persons interested that the description of each  
730 property to be assessed and the amount to be assessed to each  
731 piece or parcel of property may be ascertained at the office of  
732 the clerk of the municipality. Such service by publication shall  
733 be verified by the affidavit of the publisher and filed with the  
734 clerk of the ~~said~~ municipality.

735 Section 19. Subsection (1) of section 180.24, Florida  
736 Statutes, is amended to read:

737 180.24 Contracts for construction; bond; publication of  
738 notice; bids.—

739 (1) Any municipality desiring the accomplishment of any or  
740 all of the purposes of this chapter may make contracts for the  
741 construction of any of the utilities mentioned in this chapter,  
742 or any extension or extensions to any previously constructed  
743 utility, which said contracts shall be in writing, and the  
744 contractor shall be required to give bond, which said bond shall  
745 be executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the  
746 state; provided, however, construction contracts in excess of  
747 \$25,000 shall be advertised by the publication of a notice in a  
748 newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the ~~said~~  
749 municipality is located at least once each week for 2  
750 consecutive weeks, by continuously posting the notice for 2

751 consecutive weeks on a publicly accessible website maintained by  
 752 the municipality in accordance with s. 50.0311, or by posting  
 753 three notices in three conspicuous places in the ~~said~~  
 754 municipality, one of which shall be on the door of the city  
 755 hall; and that at least 10 days shall elapse between the date of  
 756 the first publication or posting of such notice and the date of  
 757 receiving bids and the execution of such contract documents. For  
 758 municipal construction projects identified in s. 255.0525, the  
 759 notice provision of that section supersedes and replaces the  
 760 notice provisions in this section.

761 Section 20. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
 762 197.3632, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

763 197.3632 Uniform method for the levy, collection, and  
 764 enforcement of non-ad valorem assessments.—

765 (3) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
 766 contrary, a local government which is authorized to impose a  
 767 non-ad valorem assessment and which elects to use the uniform  
 768 method of collecting such assessment for the first time as  
 769 authorized in this section shall adopt a resolution at a public  
 770 hearing before ~~prior to~~ January 1 or, if the property appraiser,  
 771 tax collector, and local government agree, March 1. The  
 772 resolution shall clearly state its intent to use the uniform  
 773 method of collecting such assessment. The local government shall  
 774 publish notice of its intent to use the uniform method for  
 775 collecting such assessment weekly in a newspaper of general

776 circulation within each county contained in the boundaries of  
777 the local government for 4 consecutive weeks preceding the  
778 hearing. A county, municipality, or dependent special district  
779 may continuously post such notice of intent during the 4  
780 consecutive weeks immediately preceding the hearing on a  
781 publicly accessible website maintained by the county or  
782 municipality responsible for publication in accordance with s.  
783 50.0311. The resolution shall state the need for the levy and  
784 shall include a legal description of the boundaries of the real  
785 property subject to the levy. If the resolution is adopted, the  
786 local governing board shall send a copy of it by United States  
787 mail to the property appraiser, the tax collector, and the  
788 department by January 10 or, if the property appraiser, tax  
789 collector, and local government agree, March 10.

790 Section 21. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) and subsection  
791 (12) of section 200.065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

792 200.065 Method of fixing millage.—

793 (2) No millage shall be levied until a resolution or  
794 ordinance has been approved by the governing board of the taxing  
795 authority which resolution or ordinance must be approved by the  
796 taxing authority according to the following procedure:

797 (d) Within 15 days after the meeting adopting the  
798 tentative budget, the taxing authority shall advertise in a  
799 newspaper of general circulation in the county as provided in  
800 subsection (3), its intent to finally adopt a millage rate and



801 budget. A county, municipality, or dependent special district  
802 may continuously post such notice of intent until completion of  
803 the hearing on a publicly accessible website maintained by the  
804 county or municipality responsible for publication in accordance  
805 with s. 50.0311. A public hearing to finalize the budget and  
806 adopt a millage rate shall be held not less than 2 days nor more  
807 than 5 days after the day that the advertisement is first  
808 published. During the hearing, the governing body of the taxing  
809 authority shall amend the adopted tentative budget as it sees  
810 fit, adopt a final budget, and adopt a resolution or ordinance  
811 stating the millage rate to be levied. The resolution or  
812 ordinance shall state the percent, if any, by which the millage  
813 rate to be levied exceeds the rolled-back rate computed pursuant  
814 to subsection (1), which shall be characterized as the  
815 percentage increase in property taxes adopted by the governing  
816 body. The adoption of the budget and the millage-levy resolution  
817 or ordinance shall be by separate votes. For each taxing  
818 authority levying millage, the name of the taxing authority, the  
819 rolled-back rate, the percentage increase, and the millage rate  
820 to be levied shall be publicly announced before ~~prior to~~ the  
821 adoption of the millage-levy resolution or ordinance. ~~In no~~  
822 ~~event may~~ The millage rate adopted pursuant to this paragraph  
823 may not exceed the millage rate tentatively adopted pursuant to  
824 paragraph (c). If the rate tentatively adopted pursuant to  
825 paragraph (c) exceeds the proposed rate provided to the property

826 appraiser pursuant to paragraph (b), or as subsequently adjusted  
827 pursuant to subsection (11), each taxpayer within the  
828 jurisdiction of the taxing authority shall be sent notice by  
829 first-class mail of his or her taxes under the tentatively  
830 adopted millage rate and his or her taxes under the previously  
831 proposed rate. The notice must be prepared by the property  
832 appraiser, at the expense of the taxing authority, and must  
833 generally conform to the requirements of s. 200.069. If such  
834 additional notice is necessary, its mailing must precede the  
835 hearing held pursuant to this paragraph by not less than 10 days  
836 and not more than 15 days.

837 (12) The time periods specified in this section shall be  
838 determined by using the date of certification of value pursuant  
839 to subsection (1) or July 1, whichever date is later, as day 1.  
840 The time periods shall be considered directory and may be  
841 shortened, provided:

842 (a) No public hearing which is preceded by a mailed notice  
843 occurs earlier than 10 days following the mailing of such  
844 notice;

845 (b) Any public hearing preceded by a newspaper  
846 advertisement or posting of notice on a publicly accessible  
847 website is held not less than 2 days or more than 5 days after  
848 ~~following~~ publication of such newspaper advertisement or the  
849 initial posting of notice on the website; and

850 (c) The property appraiser coordinates such shortening of

851 time periods and gives written notice to all affected taxing  
852 authorities; however, no taxing authority shall be denied its  
853 right to the full time periods allowed in this section.

854 Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 255.0525, Florida  
855 Statutes, is amended to read:

856 255.0525 Advertising for competitive bids or proposals.—

857 (2) The solicitation of competitive bids or proposals for  
858 any county, municipality, or other political subdivision  
859 construction project that is projected to cost more than  
860 \$200,000 shall be publicly advertised at least once in a  
861 newspaper of general circulation in the county where the project  
862 is located at least 21 days before ~~prior to~~ the established bid  
863 opening and at least 5 days before ~~prior to~~ any scheduled prebid  
864 conference, or continuously posted during the 21-day period  
865 immediately preceding the established bid opening date and  
866 during the 5-day period immediately preceding any scheduled  
867 prebid conference on a publicly accessible website maintained by  
868 the county or municipality responsible for publication in  
869 accordance with s. 50.0311. The solicitation of competitive bids  
870 or proposals for any county, municipality, or other political  
871 subdivision construction project that is projected to cost more  
872 than \$500,000 shall be publicly advertised at least once in a  
873 newspaper of general circulation in the county where the project  
874 is located at least 30 days before ~~prior to~~ the established bid  
875 opening and at least 5 days before ~~prior to~~ any scheduled prebid

876 conference, or continuously posted during the 30-day period  
877 immediately preceding the established bid opening date and  
878 during the 5-day period immediately preceding any scheduled  
879 prebid conference on a publicly accessible website maintained by  
880 the county or municipality responsible for publication in  
881 accordance with s. 50.0311. Bids or proposals shall be received  
882 and opened at the location, date, and time established in the  
883 bid or proposal advertisement. In cases of emergency, the  
884 procedures required in this section may be altered by the local  
885 governmental entity in any manner that is reasonable under the  
886 emergency circumstances.

887 Section 23. Paragraph (e) of subsection (25) of section  
888 380.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

889 380.06 Developments of regional impact.—

890 (25) AREAWIDE DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT.—

891 (e) The local government shall schedule a public hearing  
892 within 60 days after receipt of the petition. The public hearing  
893 shall be advertised at least 30 days before ~~prior to~~ the  
894 hearing. In addition to the public hearing notice by the local  
895 government, the petitioner, except when the petitioner is a  
896 local government, shall provide actual notice to each person  
897 owning land within the proposed areawide development plan at  
898 least 30 days before ~~prior to~~ the hearing. If the petitioner is  
899 a local government, or local governments pursuant to an  
900 interlocal agreement, notice of the public hearing shall be

901 provided by the publication of an advertisement in a newspaper  
902 of general circulation that meets the requirements of this  
903 paragraph or on a publicly accessible website maintained by the  
904 county or municipality responsible for publication in accordance  
905 with s. 50.0311. The newspaper advertisement must be no less  
906 than one-quarter page in a standard size or tabloid size  
907 newspaper, and the headline in the newspaper advertisement must  
908 be in type no smaller than 18 point. The newspaper advertisement  
909 may shall not be published in that portion of the newspaper  
910 where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The  
911 advertisement must be published in a newspaper of general paid  
912 circulation in the county and of general interest and readership  
913 in the community, not one of limited subject matter, or on a  
914 publicly accessible website maintained by the county or  
915 municipality responsible for publication pursuant to chapter 50.  
916 Whenever possible, the newspaper advertisement must appear in a  
917 newspaper that is published at least 5 days a week, unless the  
918 only newspaper in the community is published less than 5 days a  
919 week. The newspaper advertisement must be in substantially the  
920 form used to advertise amendments to comprehensive plans  
921 pursuant to s. 163.3184. The local government shall specifically  
922 notify in writing the regional planning agency and the state  
923 land planning agency at least 30 days before ~~prior to~~ the public  
924 hearing. At the public hearing, all interested parties may  
925 testify and submit evidence regarding the petitioner's

926 | qualifications, the need for and benefits of an areawide  
 927 | development of regional impact, and such other issues relevant  
 928 | to a full consideration of the petition. If more than one local  
 929 | government has jurisdiction over the defined planning area in an  
 930 | areawide development plan, the local governments shall hold a  
 931 | joint public hearing. Such hearing shall address, at a minimum,  
 932 | the need to resolve conflicting ordinances or comprehensive  
 933 | plans, if any. The local government holding the joint hearing  
 934 | shall comply with the following additional requirements:

935 |         1. The notice of the hearing shall be published at least  
 936 | 60 days in advance of the hearing and shall specify where the  
 937 | petition may be reviewed.

938 |         2. The notice shall be given to the state land planning  
 939 | agency, to the applicable regional planning agency, and to such  
 940 | other persons as may have been designated by the state land  
 941 | planning agency as entitled to receive such notices.

942 |         3. A public hearing date shall be set by the appropriate  
 943 | local government at the next scheduled meeting.

944 |         Section 24. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
 945 | 403.973, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

946 |         403.973 Expedited permitting; amendments to comprehensive  
 947 | plans.—

948 |         (2) As used in this section, the term:

949 |         (a) "Duly noticed" means publication in a newspaper of  
 950 | general circulation in the municipality or county having ~~with~~

951 jurisdiction or on a publicly accessible website maintained by  
952 the county or municipality having jurisdiction in accordance  
953 with s. 50.0311. If published in a newspaper, the notice shall  
954 appear on at least 2 separate days, one of which shall be at  
955 least 7 days before the meeting. If published on a publicly  
956 accessible website, the notice shall be continuously posted  
957 during the 7 days immediately preceding the meeting. The notice  
958 shall state the date, time, and place of the meeting scheduled  
959 to discuss or enact the memorandum of agreement, and the places  
960 within the municipality or county where such proposed memorandum  
961 of agreement may be inspected by the public. The newspaper  
962 notice must be one-eighth of a page in size and must be  
963 published in a portion of the paper other than the legal notices  
964 section. The notice shall also advise that interested parties  
965 may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the  
966 memorandum of agreement.

967 Section 25. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section  
968 420.9075, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

969 420.9075 Local housing assistance plans; partnerships.—

970 (4) Each local housing assistance plan is governed by the  
971 following criteria and administrative procedures:

972 (b) The county or eligible municipality or its  
973 administrative representative shall advertise the notice of  
974 funding availability in a newspaper of general circulation and  
975 periodicals serving ethnic and diverse neighborhoods, at least

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976 | 30 days before the beginning of the application period or  
977 | continuously post such notice during the 30 days immediately  
978 | preceding the application period on a publicly accessible  
979 | website maintained by the county or eligible municipality in  
980 | accordance with s. 50.0311. If no funding is available due to a  
981 | waiting list, no notice of funding availability is required.

982 |       Section 26. This act shall take effect October 1, 2017.