

South Indian River Water Control District

Proposed Timeline for
Review and Amendment
of the District's Enabling
Legislation



Purpose of Discussion

Objective

Develop, review, and obtain Board consensus on proposed framework to consider amendments to the District's enabling legislation for submission to the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation during the Fall 2027 legislative bill request cycle.

Requested Board Action

- A. Review proposed timeline
- B. Discuss proposed approach
- C. Provide direction and feedback
- D. Consider establishing the review as a standing agenda item beginning October 2026

Key Reasons for Conducting a Legislative Review

- A. Ensure legislation reflects current District operations
- B. Identify outdated or obsolete provisions
- C. Improve administrative and operational efficiency
- D. Enhance transparency and accountability
- E. Ensure consistency with Chapter 298, Florida Statutes
- F. Prepare the District for future challenges and opportunities

Framework

- A. Monthly review at regularly scheduled Board meetings
- B. One topic area reviewed each month
- C. Open discussion by Supervisors, staff, and legal counsel
- D. Public input opportunities throughout the process
- E. Final legislative package developed through Board consensus

Timeline

October 2026 – August 2027

- Maintain transparency through publicly noticed meetings
- Ensure consistency with Chapter 298, Florida Statutes and applicable laws
- Improve operational efficiency while preserving accountability
- Modernize outdated provisions without unnecessarily expanding District authority
- Provide meaningful opportunities for public participation

Staff recommends commissioning a comprehensive Charter modernization rather than piecemeal amendments.

Monthly Review Schedule Part 1



October 2026

- Introduction to legislative review process
- Establish goals and timeline
- Review Current Charter and Solicit initial ideas from Supervisors and staff
- District purpose, mission, and powers
- Identify outdated statutory provisions

November 2026 (no meeting)

December 2026

- Board composition
- Qualifications and elections
- Vacancies and terms of office

January 2027

- Assessments
- Financing mechanisms
- Bonding authority

Monthly Review Schedule Part 2



February 2027

- Drainage and water management
- Environmental protection
- Canal maintenance authority

March 2027

- Road construction and maintenance authority
- Transportation-related provisions

April 2027

- Procurement
- Contracting authority
- Emergency powers
- Operational efficiencies

Monthly Review Schedule Part 3



May 2027

- Governance provisions
- Ethics and transparency
- Administrative procedures
- Public participation

June 2027

- Presentation of consolidated draft amendments
- Board discussion and revisions

July 2027

- Public workshop
- Stakeholder and agency input

August 2027

- Incorporate public comments
- District Attorney prepares final legislative language
- Board review of final draft
- Board adopts resolution approving legislative package
- Authorize transmittal to Legislative Delegation

Fall 2027

- Submit legislative package to Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation
- Request consideration during the 2028 Legislative Session

Stakeholder Outreach

- District landowners
- Partner agencies
- Transportation and utility stakeholders

Public Input Opportunities

- Regular Board meetings
- Public workshop
- Written comments
- Direct landowner engagement

By Fall 2027, the District will have:

- Comprehensive review of existing enabling legislation
- Recommended amendments with supporting rationale
- Public workshop and stakeholder input process
- Final legislative package adopted by Board resolution
- Legislative submission to the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation

Outcomes

- Modernized and effective enabling legislation
- Clearer governance framework
- Improved operational flexibility
- Enhanced transparency and accountability
- Stronger alignment with current law and District needs

A Special Act could be drafted with the stated legislative finding that:

"The South Indian River Water Control District has evolved from a predominantly agricultural drainage and reclamation district into a rural residential community consisting primarily of single-family residential lots of one acre or greater.

The charter should therefore be updated to reflect contemporary land use patterns, residential representation, infrastructure responsibilities, and modern governmental best practices."

Questions for the Board

- Is the proposed timeline appropriate?
- Are there additional topics that should be included?
- Are the guiding principles appropriate?
- Is the Board supportive of initiating this review in October 2026?

Requested Direction

Provide guidance to staff and legal counsel regarding implementation of the proposed legislative review process.

Closing Statement

"This process provides the Board with an organized, transparent, and deliberate approach to reviewing the District's enabling legislation, ensuring it remains relevant, effective, and responsive to the needs of the District and its landowners for years to come."