



2570 W. International  
Speedway Blvd., Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

**CHAIRMAN**  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

**VICE CHAIR**  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Board Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER**  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

## AMENDED VCOG GOVERNING BOARD

### AGENDA

5:00 PM  
Monday, February 26, 2007

MPO/VCOG/WAV Conference Room  
2570 W. International Speedway Blvd., Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Chair - Mayor James Vandergriff  
Vice Chair - Mayor Robert Apgar  
Secretary/Treasurer - County Councilmember Art Giles

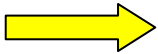
- I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Determination of a Quorum
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Public Comments/Participation
- IV. Chair's Comments/Recognition of  
VCOG Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial  
Reporting - Presented to Herbert Seely
- V. VCOG Executive Director's Briefing
- VI. Consent Agenda  
All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and are not expected to require review or discussion. Items will be acted upon by one motion unless a Board member requests a separate discussion of the item(s); whereupon, the Chair will announce the item is removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.
  - A. Approval of the January 22, 2007, Regular Meeting Minutes (page 3)
  - B. Approval of the Treasurer's Report ending January 31, 2007 (page 10)
  - C. Approval to move May 2007 meeting from Tuesday, May 29, 2007 to Monday, May 21, 2007 (page 14)

**VII. Old Business**

- A. Smart Growth Committee Update - Mayor Greg Northrup (page 15)

**VIII. New Business**

- A. Endorse a Budget Summit for Wednesday, May 30, 2007 (page 18)
- B. Proposed Property Tax solutions - Morgan Gilreath, Volusia County Property Appraiser (page 18)



- C. Board's Position on Proposed Property Tax Legislation - Jim Vandergriff

**IX. Board Members' Comments****X. Adjournment**

NOTE: If any person decides to appeal any decision made by said body with respect to any matter considered at such meeting they will need a record of the proceedings, including all testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. To that end, such person will want to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made.

NOTE: Individuals covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, in need of accommodations for this meeting should contact the VCOG Office, 2570 W. International Speedway Blvd., Suite 120, Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145, 386/226-0422 ext 32, at least five (5) days prior to the meeting

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Tuesday, March 6, 2007 - First day of 2007 Florida Legislative Session
- Thursday, March 8, 2007 -4:00 PM Volusia League of Cities Executive Committee at and VCOG Executive Committee at 5:00 PM - VCOG Conference Room
- Thursday, March 22, 2007 - Volusia League of Cities Dinner - Town of Ponce Inlet
- Monday, March 26, 2007, at 5:00 PM - VCOG Board Meeting - VCOG Conference Room
- Wednesday, March 28, 2007 - FLC Legislative Action Day - Tallahassee
- Thursday, March 29, 2007 - Volusia Day - Tallahassee

**UPCOMING AGENDA PRESENTATIONS**

MARCH 2007	SMART GROWTH COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
APRIL 2007	WORKING WATER FRONTS & BEACH RE-NOURISHMENT
MAY 2007	CHANGES IN NATIONAL AND STATE FUNDING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT
JUNE 2007	EMBRY-RIDDLE - PLANS FOR THE FUTURE
AUGUST 2007	GREEN COMMUNITIES
SEPTEMBER 2007	ACCIDENT PREVENTION IN JURISDICTIONS
OCTOBER 2007	
NOVEMBER 2007	



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Senator James E. "Jim" King Jr.  
District 8  
9485 Regency Square Blvd; Ste. 108  
Jacksonville, FL 32225-8145

Dear Senator King:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Senator Evelyn Lynn  
District 7  
536 N. Halifax Ave., Suite 101  
Daytona Beach, FL 32118

Dear Senator Lynn:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Senator Anthony "Tony" Hill, Sr.  
District 1  
5600 New Kings Road, Suite 5  
Jacksonville, FL 32209-2146

Dear Senator Hill:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Senator Carey Baker  
District 20  
301 W. Ward Avenue  
Eustis, FL 32726-4024

Dear Senator Baker:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Representative Joe Pickens  
District 21  
3841 Reid Street, #5  
Palatka, FL 32177-2509

Dear Representative Pickens:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Representative Joyce Cusack  
District 27  
224 N. Woodland Blvd.  
DeLand, FL 32720-4219

Dear Representative Cusack:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Representative Pat Patterson  
District 26  
230 N. Woodland Blvd., Rm. 222  
DeLand, FL 32720

Dear Representative Patterson:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Representative Dorothy L. Hukill  
District 28  
2990 S. Atlantic Ave., Suite 100  
Daytona Beach Shores, FL 32118

Dear Representative Hukill:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Representative D. Alan Hays  
District 25  
P. O. Box 2270  
Umatilla, FL 32784

Dear Representative Hays:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties



2570 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
Suite 120  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-8145

Telephone: 386-226-0422  
Fax: 386-226-0428  
Sun Com: 380-0422

Mary J. Swiderski  
Executive Director  
mswiderski@co.volusia.fl.us

2007 CHAIRMAN  
Mayor Jim Vandergriff  
New Smyrna Beach

VICE CHAIR  
Mayor Robert Apgar  
DeLand

SECRETARY/TREASURER  
Council Member  
Art Giles  
County of Volusia

Commissioner  
Cassandra Reynolds  
Daytona Beach

Mayor Greg Northrup  
Daytona Beach Shores

Mayor George Coleman  
DeBary

Mayor Dennis Mulder  
Deltona

Mayor Mike Thomas  
Edgewater

Mayor Roland Via  
Holly Hill

Mayor Mark Shuttleworth  
Lake Helen

Mayor Mike Thompson  
Oak Hill

Mayor Ted Erwin  
Orange City

Mayor Fred Costello  
Ormond Beach

Mayor Jim Sowell  
Pierson

Mayor Nancy Epps  
Ponce Inlet

Mayor Allen Green  
Port Orange

Mayor Blaine O'Neal  
South Daytona

Member  
Candace Lankford  
Volusia County Schools

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
Mike Mellon  
EVAC

February 26, 2007

Representative Sandra "Sandy" Adams  
District 33  
2074 Winter Springs Blvd.  
Oviedo, FL 32765

Dear Representative Adams:

The VCOG Governing Board; consisting of the sixteen Volusia cities, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board unanimously agree that property tax reform is necessary and that you understand our unified stand on this issue.

Priding ourselves on the cooperative working relationships which both city and County officials have maintained with you in the past, we are asking for your support in reforming the State Property Tax System. We all agree that the System is broken and repair, if done fairly, is welcome.

Please be aware, however, that while we encourage tax reform, we are against any legislation which dictates to local government how to spend its money. Any proposal which places a cap on local government expenditures would be extremely detrimental to municipal and county services.

In order to continue our solid support of your elected position, we ask you to vote against legislation which removes the responsibility of local spending from local government.

Please join with us in our struggle to keep taxes local and preserve Home Rule!

Sincerely,

James L. Vandergriff  
Chair  
VCOG, Inc.

cc:  
Florida League of Cities  
Volusia League of Cities  
Florida Association of Counties

