



Florida Stormwater Association – Informational Statement on Amendment 3

(August 26, 2026)

Purpose and compliance note. *This statement is intended to provide factual, educational information about issues relevant to stormwater management, local infrastructure, water quality, and public finance. Information in this statement reflects the [official Amendment 3 ballot language](#) and publicly available materials. FSA encourages readers to review the official ballot language, fiscal analyses, and other publicly available materials and to make their own decisions.*

For more than 30 years, the Florida Stormwater Association (FSA) has brought together local governments, stormwater utilities, engineers, public works professionals, and other stormwater practitioners from across Florida. FSA's mission includes sharing information, advancing best practices, and supporting effective stormwater planning, funding, operation, and maintenance. FSA members work in communities of different sizes and conditions, and they understand the practical challenges communities face in reducing flooding, protecting water quality, meeting regulatory requirements, and maintaining public infrastructure while using public resources responsibly.

Amendment 3 is on Florida's 2026 general election ballot and would make changes to the state's property-tax system. A component of Amendment 3 includes provisions governing the use of certain local ad valorem tax revenues. The amendment identifies infrastructure, including stormwater control, and natural-resource projects, including flood control measures, among the specified uses of those revenues. Stormwater systems require stable, predictable, and long-term funding. Many stormwater needs involve ongoing expenses that necessitate multi-year planning, design, permitting, construction, operation, maintenance, and renewal. In February 2026, The Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) published the [2025 Edition of the Annual Assessment of Florida's Water Resources: Infrastructure Investments](#) identifying more than 28 billion dollars is necessary to cover stormwater expenses over the next 20-years. For that reason, public finance decisions affecting local infrastructure revenues, expenditure authority, or financial planning can have detrimental impacts to stormwater programs.

Florida communities use a variety of lawful mechanisms to fund stormwater services, including general funds, stormwater utility fees, special assessments, grants, bonds, and other sources. The appropriate mix varies based on local geography, drainage conditions, water-quality obligations, capital needs, growth pressures, and community priorities. Maintaining local flexibility allows communities to match funding tools to documented infrastructure needs and to respond to emergencies, regulatory requirements, and long-term asset-management obligations.

FSA's role is to provide stormwater and infrastructure expertise and help policymakers, public officials, stormwater professionals, and the public understand these considerations. FSA encourages careful review of the official ballot language and its fiscal implications, consideration of local stormwater needs and funding structures, and continued discussion about how Florida communities can maintain safe, effective, and reliable stormwater systems while meeting public accountability expectations.