

Business Impact Estimate Form (see F.S. § 125.66(3)(a))

For:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PINELLAS COUNTY CODE

This Ordinance amendment is scheduled for consideration for adoption (1st public hearing) by the Pinellas County Commission on January 28, 2025 at 2:00 pm at 333 Chestnut Street, Palm Room, Clearwater, Florida 33756

** Unless an attachment is expressly referenced, the content in this Form encompasses the entire Business Impact Estimate for the Ordinance.*

1. Summary of the Ordinance, including a statement of the public purpose to be served by the Ordinance, such as serving the public health, safety, morals, and welfare of the County:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF PINELLAS, PROVIDING FOR CREATION OF THE DOWNTOWN PALM HARBOR STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR DESCRIPTION OF THE DOWNTOWN PALM HARBOR STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING FOR OTHER MODIFICATIONS THAT MAY ARISE FROM REVIEW OF THE ORDINANCE AT THE PUBLIC HEARINGS AND WITH RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE PINELLAS COUNTY CODE.

Background:

- In May of 2024, a group of stakeholders represented by an Advisory Committee and the Downtown Palm Harbor Merchant Association requested an application for non-ad valorem assessment for a street light district (SLD) in downtown Palm Harbor.
- The assessment would cover the annual cost of the energy and the maintenance and equipment rental for the district.
- The one-time cost of construction of the lighting infrastructure would be funded by MSTU Special Projects reserves.
- The stakeholders achieved the required 75% of interest signatures in the SLD.
- The County then prepared a formal petition which included estimates of costs for the assessment.
- Stakeholders circulated the petition among owners in SLD and exceeded the 60% approval required to advance the project.
- On December 17, 2024, the BCC approved the advertisement of the attached proposed resolution, intending to use the Uniform Method for the servicing of the District within the unincorporated area of Pinellas County as permitted by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, for a public hearing to be held on January 28, 2025. Assessments are intended to begin tax year 2025.
- A second public hearing will be held on or before September 15, 2025 to consider a third resolution to adopt the assessment roll, and initiate the imposition of the assessment beginning in tax year 2025.

Sec. 138-3232 - Legislative intent.

The intent of the ordinance is to provide enhanced level of safety and protection by installing new LED streetlights which will illuminate more streets in the district and increase accessibility to surface parking. The creation of the new streetlight district is supported by the Downtown Palm Harbor Merchant Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the majority of property owners in the downtown business district

WHEREAS Clauses

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners “Board” of Pinellas County, Florida, pursuant to proper legal notice, held a public hearing on January 28, 2025, for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to the provisions of the proposed Downtown Palm Harbor Street Lighting District “District”, within the distinct area described herein below; and

WHEREAS, after having received or heard the recommendations and objections to the proposed said District at this public hearing, the Board hereby determines, on the basis of the evidence and testimony presented, that said District is in the public interest, that the proposed special assessments levied on all properties within the District are equitable, and that the District fulfills the purposes for which it is sought to be created; and

WHEREAS, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners adopted Ordinance No. 04-50 relating to street lighting on July 27, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 04-50 provided a consolidated ordinance for all provisions governing street lighting districts and provided the method for the creation of new districts and the funding of the respective Street Lighting Districts through special assessments levied on all properties within the Street Lighting Districts; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 04-50 included an “Exhibit A” - Schedule of Street Lighting Districts which is to be amended as necessary to reflect the creation of Street Lighting Districts.

2. An estimate of the direct economic impact of the Ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the County, including the following, if any:

- The assessment district is comprised of 42 parcels.
- Two parcels are owned by not-for-profit corporations.
- One parcel is owned by Pinellas County.
- The direct annual economic impact of the Ordinance on private, for-profit businesses is estimated to be \$38,200.52

3. A good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the Proposed Ordinance:

Thirty-nine (39).

4. Any additional information the BCC deems useful: *[This Section is not legally required.]*

NA