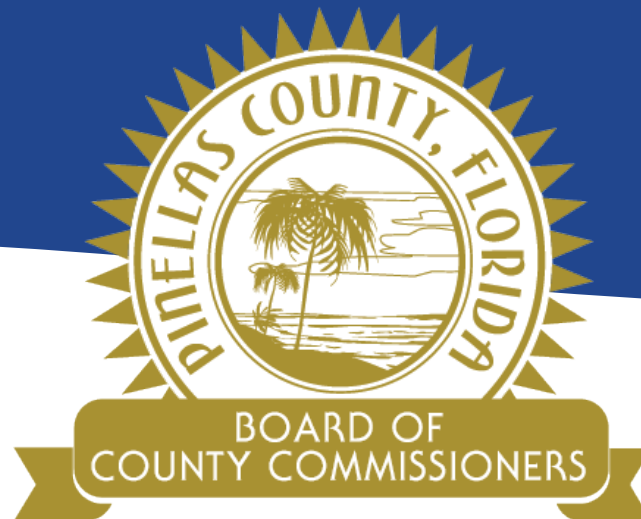


MSTU Grant Program Update

Presented by Amy Davis

Audrey Ables, BJ Gavin, and Amy Davis - Community Coordinators



Our Vision:
To Be the Standard for
Public Service in America

Purpose of Today's Presentation

- **Provide an overview of the MSTU \$20K grant Program**
- **Share a program overview and current funding structure**
- **Present proposed modifications for Board consideration**
- **Outline next steps and timeline**

Program Overview



- **This program began in FY16**
- **The purpose of the program is to provide nonprofits in the Unincorporated areas with funding for community enhancements**
- **Each fiscal year, nonprofit groups can apply for funding up to \$20,000**
- **From FY16-FY25 the BCC has approved a total of 103 funding applications for a total of \$2M**

Funding Overview



- **This program is funded by the Pinellas County Unincorporated Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU)**
- **The MSTU tax enables the County to provide the unincorporated areas with similar services to that provided by cities**
- **The current annual budget for this program is \$220,000**
- **The maximum funding is up to \$20,000**

Purpose of the Proposed Updates

- 1. To formalize policy from practice**
 - 2. To clarify guidelines and processes for applicants**
 - 3. To address the increasing competitiveness of the funding moving forward**
- Goal: To formalize the program via resolution in January**

Purposed Changes for Consideration



1. To formalize policy from practice

- Clarifying this funding is not for community events, but community enhancements or assets
- Updating the language to state projects must be in unincorporated Pinellas County (Funded by Unincorporated MSTU)
- Adding that the project must align with the County's Strategic Plan
- Clarifying that the project cannot start prior to BCC approval

Purposed Changes for Consideration



2. To clarify guidelines and processes for applicants

- Clarifying that multiple entities will not receive funding for different components of the same project
- Clarifying that applicants may only submit one application per fiscal year
- The addition of a new section to clarify with applicants the process for payments should they be awarded funding

Purposed Changes for Consideration



3. To address the increasing competitiveness of the funding moving forward

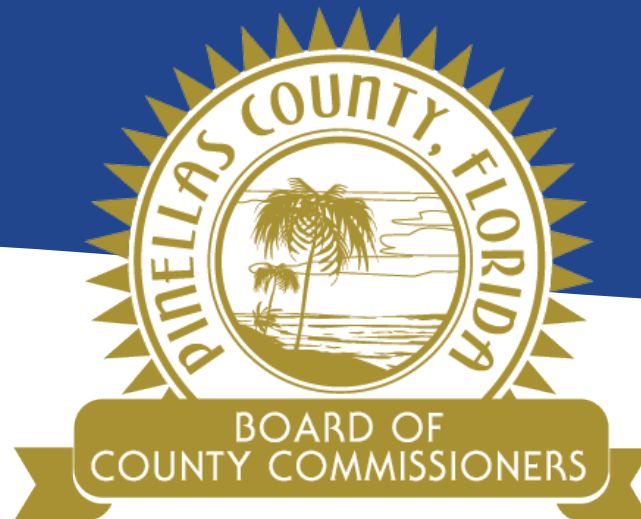
- Establishment of a grant application period:
 - Opens October 1 and closes December 31st
 - January-February the Community Coordinators will review the submitted applications
 - The projects recommended for funding will be presented to the BCC for approval with a goal of March

Next Steps



- **A resolution for BCC consideration will be presented in January based on today's feedback**

Thank you



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