FY26 Budget Development Budget Workshop August 14, 2024





Today's Discussion Topics



Reserves

Board of County Commissioners' Budget

Board of County Commissioners' Decision Packages

Reserves



Government Finance Officers Association Reserve Recommendation

• Each local government should maintain an unrestricted budgetary fund balance in their general fund of no less than two months (which equates to 16.7%) of regular general fund operating revenues

Pinellas County – Reserve Policy

 Since 2023, "The General Fund Budgeted Reserve (intended end of year fund balance) should be budgeted at a level of no less than 20.8% of the current year revenues (two and one-half months) with additional contingency reserves for known future expenditures."

Reserves



Pinellas County – Recent Reserve Thoughts

- Used \$78.4M of Reserves in FY25 for storm-related costs
- The unrestricted reserve level in the Pinellas County General Fund in FY25 is \$111.1M or 12.1% of total revenues
- The unrestricted reserve level in the Pinellas County General Fund in FY26 is projected to be \$168.5M or 17.9% of total revenues (anticipating \$19.8M of FEMA reimbursement – would be 16.1% without these reimbursements)

Reserves



Pinellas County – Current Reserves (all funds)

See the Handout

Board of County Commissioners' Budget



- The FY26 Budget for the Board of County Commissioners is entirely within the General Fund and is increasing by \$42,440 or 1.5% (from \$2.8M to \$2.9M).
- Each district office budget remains the same in FY26 as it was in FY25 at \$11,400. District 7 has \$3,500 more for FAC travel.
- Operating Expenses in the shared cost center decreases by \$22,270
 (20.8%) to \$84,580. The decrease is primarily due to expenses for the
 annual PC Business Technology Services (BTS) replacement program
 decreasing by \$18,770 to \$0. Other operational line items decreases
 \$3,500 and consolidate under Office Supplies.

Board of County Commissioners' Budget



- Personnel Services increases by \$64,710 or 2.4% to \$2.8M due to an assumption of the State determined salary increase for elected positions and Florida Retirement System (FRS) actuarial retirement contributions for the County. There is a 3.0% general salary increase programmed in for non-elected employees.
- The number of FTE remains flat at 15.0.

BCC Decision Packages



Three requests were received from Commissioners during FY26 Budget Development

Next Steps



- August 18 TRIM notices mailed to all property owners
- August 28 Budget Workshop
- September 4 First Public Budget Hearing
- September 18 Second Public Budget Hearing
- October 1 Fiscal Year 2026 begins