

## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** Lugo, Jo A  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2024 10:55 AM  
**To:** BCC Agenda Comments  
**Subject:** FW:

FYI

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**From:** noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:37 AM  
**To:** Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>  
**Subject:**

### Live Form

Topic	Rays stadium funding
BCC Agenda Date	
Your Stand on the Issue	
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Mary Caesar
Address	3031 BRADFORD CIR Palm harbor, FL 34685
Phone	+17274214120
Email	<a href="mailto:mary.caesar9@gmail.com">mary.caesar9@gmail.com</a>

## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** Jon Harris <jharris1974.jh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 12:10 PM  
**To:** BCC Agenda Comments  
**Subject:** Stadium Deal

**Categories:** DOWNLOADED, UPLOADED

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Nobody could have foreseen back to back hurricanes or the damage that was done to the stadiums in Pinellas County. For that the Rays are forced to play in Tampa. It's a mere 30 minute drive. It is unfair to punish the Tampa Bay Rays or the citizens of St Pete or Pinellas County to not award a new stadium and risk losing our team because they had to make a business decision on minimizing the financial losses they would have gotten at the other two stadiums. Tampa stadium seats well more than the others. The Toronto Blue Jays playing in Dunedin during 2020 proved it's not capable of handling the day-to-day operations of a Major League baseball team. So I ask you to put your business sense to work here in understand the decision to move to Tampa was the best move for the Tampa Bay Rays and minimizing their financial losses for simply one season. I know there are other mitigating factors that at least one of you on your board is not publicly addressing when it comes to the Phillies organization but don't allow his vote sway the rest of you. We love this team and last season the attendance was well above what it used to be. And the nine games that I went to there was no less than 17,000 and one of those games was a Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.

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**Categories:** DOWNLOADED, UPLOADED

### Live Form

Topic Rays stadium funding

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue

Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]

Citizen Name Mary Caesar

Address 3031 BRADFORD CIR  
Palm harbor, FL 34685

Phone +17274214120

Email mary.caesar9@gmail.com

## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of srnohlgren at gmail.com  
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 4:12 PM  
**To:** Eggers, Dave  
**Subject:** Contact Form: Legends Fuedl/bonds from Steve Nohlgren #30514791

**Categories:** DOWNLOADED, UPLOADED

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**Direction of Inquiry** Commissioner Janet C. Long - District 1  
Commissioner Brian Scott - District 2 (2024 Vice-Chair)  
Commissioner Charlie Justice - District 3  
Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4  
Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5  
Commissioner Kathleen Peters - District 6 (2024 Chair)  
Commissioner René Flowers - District 7

**Your Name** Steve Nohlgren

**Subject** Legends Fuedl/bonds

**Message** I'm a Rays fan who lives in st pete. I cannot understand the parochial thinking of threatening bonds for Trop redevelopment because the team will play in Tampa for a year. Bighthouse and Legends are 15 minutes apart and I can get to one as easily as the other. In fact, with 3,000 more seats, Legebds gives me a better chance to see my team. Tourists coming down to watch their team will still stay on Pinellas beaches. I could see it if the rays relocated to Orlando but Tampa? For this you risk losing our team altogether? Puh-lease.

**Your Street Address** 176 4th Ave NE, unit 802

**City/Unincorporated County** St petrsburg

**Zip Code** 33701

**Your Phone Number** 727-709-1751

**Your Email Address** [srnohlgren@gmail.com](mailto:srnohlgren@gmail.com)

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## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of RClarkTIP at gmail.com  
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:09 PM  
**To:** Eggers, Dave  
**Subject:** Contact Form: New Stadium vs Pinellas Quality of Life from Hewitt and Rebecca Clark # 30511207

**Categories:** DOWNLOADED, UPLOADED

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- Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4
- Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5
- Commissioner Kathleen Peters - District 6 (2024 Chair)
- Commissioner René Flowers - District 7
- County Administrator

**Your Name** Hewitt and Rebecca Clark

**Subject** New Stadium vs Pinellas Quality of Life

**Message**

Dear Pinellas County Commissioners

We are so enjoying living in Pinellas County. We love walking the waterfront parks, its beaches, and so appreciate all the events of the area. We also enjoy sailing on the Gulf of Mexico and enjoying the entire coast of our county and its beautiful parks.

We would like for you to reconsider supporting the repairs of the current Tropicana Field and the idea of a new stadium. Our two recent visitors, Helene and Milton, have shown us that we have much more critically important priorities than a new stadium.

- We cannot continue to have inadequate sewage treatment as you encourage further development of coastal homesteads and high rises.
- People and tourists come to Pinellas for our amazing art, cultural, beaches, clean waterways, boating, fishing, swimming, and the scenic beauty of Tampa Bay waters and the Gulf.
- We were out boating on Tampa Bay recently and I had tell our guests that they couldn't swim in these waters due to the water quality being so poor where it is a danger to their health.
- As you well know, all of us in the Tampa Bay area are fortunate that Milton came in with its center south of us.

- Even with Milton coming in as it did, it illustrated how much we need to continue building the resilience of our beautiful Pinellas Peninsula.
  - We also have much greater use for all that Tropicana stadium/parking land than another facility that sits empty most of the time.
  - What happened to the concept of housing (regular and affordable) for working people and all of the businesses and industries that want to locate here in an innovation district?
  - We realize that the owners of the Rays will not be happy to have the city/county rethink its priorities.
  - However, this is a pivotal point for the future of our city/county, you must lead us in a new direction that ensure that we have a Pinellas County with a livable, healthy, resilient, and engaging environment.
- We want to thank you for considering our opinion. We will continue to watch what you do for those of us who love being here and want to have a long tenure in this unique and remarkable area of Florida.

Sincerely,  
 Hewitt "Rusty" and Rebecca "Becky" Clark  
 199 Dali Blvd, Unit 905  
 St Petersburg FL 33701

<b>Your Street Address</b>	199 Dali Blvd.
<b>City/Unincorporated County</b>	St Petersburg
<b>Zip Code</b>	33701
<b>Your Phone Number</b>	813-494-8233
<b>Your Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:RClarkTIP@gmail.com">RClarkTIP@gmail.com</a>

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## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** Lugo, Jo A  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2024 10:55 AM  
**To:** BCC Agenda Comments  
**Subject:** FW:

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

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**From:** noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:37 AM  
**To:** Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>  
**Subject:**

### Live Form

Topic Rays stadium funding

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue

Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]

Citizen Name Mary Caesar

Address 3031 BRADFORD CIR  
Palm harbor, FL 34685

Phone +17274214120

Email [mary.caesar9@gmail.com](mailto:mary.caesar9@gmail.com)



## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of brmatt63 at aol.com  
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 2:40 PM  
**To:** Eggers, Dave  
**Subject:** Contact Form: The Rays from Matthew Brooks #30523585

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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- Commissioner Brian Scott - District 2 (2024 Vice-Chair)
- Commissioner Charlie Justice - District 3
- Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4
- Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5
- Commissioner Kathleen Peters - District 6 (2024 Chair)
- Commissioner René Flowers - District 7

**Your Name** Matthew Brooks

**Subject** The Rays

**Message**

Unethical to approve funding for a new stadium, and then posture against it. Commissioner Latvala should be ashamed, and removed ASAP if the Ray's now leave town permanently. You cannot blame them for seeking an MLB approved temporary stadium following the destruction caused by a hurricane. How dare you play games with the future of MLB in St. Pete. THIS IS A DISGRACE, AND MAKES ST. PETE LOOK LIKE A THIRD RATE TOWN.

Sincerely,  
Matt Brooks

**Your Street Address** 3512 Savanna Palms Ct.

**City/Unincorporated County** Bradenton

**Zip Code** 33498

**Your Email Address** [brmatt63@aol.com](mailto:brmatt63@aol.com)

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## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** Matthew Faustini <matt@mattfaustini.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 7:31 PM  
**To:** Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenmowicki.com  
**Cc:** Matthew Faustini  
**Subject:** Rays Stadium Bond Issuance Vote

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Matthew Faustini  
Acting Chair - Largo Planning Board\*  
1015 Lake Palms Drive  
Largo, FL 33771  
(727) 282-3065  
[matt@mattfaustini.com](mailto:matt@mattfaustini.com)

Madam Chair, fellow Commissioners & Commissioners-elect,

I'm writing today, as a lifelong Pinellas resident, born at St. Anthony's Hospital in 1989. I've lived in Largo since I was one. My dad was from New York and my mom is from Canada. So our family was a "Yankee's" family.

However, my dad knew how important having baseball was to a community and proudly welcomed me supporting the Rays and supported them coming here, mainly, so it would be easier for him to watch the Yankee, small progress but progress nonetheless.

Unfortunately, he passed away when I was 12 in 2001 and couldn't see the Rays become the team they are today.

I remember where I was on the night of Game 142 & my first time I was able to buy playoff tickets. I love this team and have loved it since I was a kid. Below is a picture of a 7 year old me wearing a "We Built It, They Came" Devil Rays shirt at Niagara Falls with my mom followed by a picture of us from a couple years ago.



I want the Rays to stay in Pinellas county but I also expect and demand they be decent, honest and respectful partners when we are giving substantial public money to build a private sports stadium.

I'm very troubled that the Rays have resisted calls by this commission to come and address it, so we can start to envision what the future will look like.

I don't want to lose the Rays over them playing one season in Tampa but I do expect them and the City of St. Petersburg to have a solid plan on how they can get the Rays back in the Trop or some location in Pinellas before the end of the 2026 season.

I want to thank you all for your service and I apologize for the disgusting nature of the behavior some of you have been put through and that some think is appropriate to send or publicly write.

In these politically anxious times we must always send a clear message against anyone wanting to use violence or intimidation to impact the decisions of our elected officials and I know Sheriff Gualtieri, with your help, will make sure that never happens.

I think like most of you, I wish I had the perfect solution or the perfect answer. I wish the Rays would show up and talk to us, without that I would sadly urge the commission to vote again to delay the bonds.

However, if the Rays do come to Tuesday's meeting with an apology, acceptance that they have to communicate better and a realistic plan with the City of St. Petersburg to bring baseball back to Pinellas by the end of 2026, then I would urge a yes vote.

I know these decisions aren't easy. The Rays said they were here to stay, while, like others have said, now is the time to prove it. Especially when Pinellas needs every bit of non-beach bed tax revenue to make up for the damage caused by Milton and Helene to support Pinellas's tourism industry and economy.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email and I hope you all have a blessed rest of the weekend and thank you all again for your service to our community.

Thank you,

Matthew Faustini  
Acting Chair - Largo Planning Board\*

\*Please note this letter reflect only my personal views and do not reflect the Largo Planning Board or the City of Largo.

## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** Suzanne Andrew <suzannemandrew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2024 11:15 AM  
**To:** Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenmowicki.com  
**Subject:** Bonds for new Rays Stadium

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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Good Morning Commissioners:

I urge to vote 'Not No, but Not Now' on issuing bonds to pay for the new Rays stadium in St. Pete.

Pinellas County is still mired in the aftermath of 2 major disasters, and we don't yet know how the county tax base is going to recover? How much bed tax will be lost due to a slow down in tourism? How much property tax will be lost due to the 50,000+ damaged homes getting tax adjustments? We are no longer in a strong position to get the best rates on new bonds.

And even if the bonds can be floated at the best interest rates, will there be the same tax base to pay for them? And what are the opportunity costs in the future? If this money is tied up in stadium bonds, what other major projects won't be funded that may be of higher priority now after those 2 storms?

While the timing isn't ideal, do not vote in approval of new bonds for the new stadium at this time.

Thank you,

Suzanne Andrew  
236 21st Ave N.  
St. Petersburg, FL 33704  
727-641-6941

## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** Debbie Ritschel <debbie.ritschel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2024 11:49 AM  
**To:** Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; vince@vincenowicki.co; chris@schererforpinellas.com; cynthia.sheppard@stpete.org  
**Cc:** Rusty Clark; Stephanie Maurer  
**Subject:** Upcoming Rays Stadium Bond Vote

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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All,

As a resident and taxpayer of St Petersburg, Pinellas County, I urge the leadership of the City and County to delay the votes for stadium bonding and the funding until a better more balanced deal can be struck. I understand that would mean a NO vote at this time.

The City and County have been overly generous, in my opinion, both on the bonding and infrastructure funding as well as the ultimate development rites with the Rays. I hope you would all consider delaying these votes until a more balanced structure can be agreed upon. Keep talking. If not, the City owned 83 acres are still available for development, minus the stadium. I ask that Ms Cynthia Sheppard of the City of St Petersburg please send my email message to all members of the St. Petersburg City Council and place in the record.

This hurricane season has proven that our area is not prepared for the infrastructure challenges of climate changes, and these should be our first priority. In the end, the economic impact of no beaches and a struggling infrastructure will outweigh not having a baseball stadium in our City.

Taking more time now on this momentous deal seems the right choice. Again I suggest, keep talking.

Thank you,

Debbie Ritschel

Sent from my iPad

Debbie Ritschel  
309-453-7483

136 8th Ave NE  
St Petersburg, FL 33701

## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** Tom Rask <tom@rask.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2024 12:45 PM  
**To:** Scherer, Chris; Scott, Brian; Nowicki, Vince; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene  
**Cc:** White, Jewel  
**Subject:** Latest article - MLB admits brand new stadium not needed

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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To: The Pinellas County Commissioners Scott, Latvala and Peters (Districts 2, 5 and 6, respectively)  
cc: County Attorney Jewel White  
Bcc: Concerned citizens of Pinellas County

Here is an 1,100 word article that just went live on TampaBayGuardian.Com:

[Rays' agreement for the Trop extends an additional year, MLB admits brand new stadium not needed — are Rays leaving?](#)

There will be one more email from me today about tomorrow's agenda item 22 (item #24-1955A) on the funding to a new baseball stadium.

Regards,

**Tom Rask**



## Eres, Christian L

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**From:** noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of rob.bergin at icloud.com  
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2024 1:35 PM  
**To:** Eggers, Dave  
**Subject:** Contact Form: Tropicana Field Vote from Robert Bergin #30527683

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4  
Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5  
Commissioner Kathleen Peters - District 6 (2024 Chair)  
Commissioner René Flowers - District 7  
County Administrator

**Your Name** Robert Bergin

**Subject** Tropicana Field Vote

**Message** I have been a Major League Baseball fan since I was 6 years old. I'm currently 75. I am asking (begging) you to vote against the current proposal to build a new stadium. Be advised that I am all for the redevelopment of the gas plant district and I have no problem with an eventual new stadium being built on the site but NOT under the tentative agreement as currently exists. By approving this you are bleeding the taxpayers of the City of St. Petersburg and the residents of Pinellas County. This is as sweet as any sweetheart deal ever conceived. It benefits Rays ownership at the expense of the common taxpayer. Please follow your conscience on this and represent the interests of the people you were elected to represent.

**Your Street Address** 2525 Madrid Way S

**City/Unincorporated County** St. Petersburg

**Zip Code** 33712

Your Phone Number 2032405849

Your Email Address [rob.bergin@icloud.com](mailto:rob.bergin@icloud.com)

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