



Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

2020 State Legislative Program



Guiding Principles

1. *Maintain the integrity of home rule power which allows the development and implementation of community-based solutions to local problems, without state limitations.*
2. *Oppose unfunded mandates that impact local government's ability to control its budget.*
3. *Support adequate state funding for constitutional officers required to perform duties on behalf of the state.*
4. *Support Sadowski Affordable Housing Trust Fund be used exclusively for housing.*
5. *Support a dedicated recurring source of funding for beach nourishment.*
6. *Support the development of a Statewide Climate Resiliency Plan.*
7. *Oppose any and all oil drilling or exploration efforts in state waters.*
8. *Maintain the integrity of Tampa Bay Water as the regional water supplier.*
9. *Support state funding for the Arts and cultural institutions.*
10. *Support priorities of our partner organizations and agencies when aligned with the Board's priorities.*

Priorities

Tampa Bay Innovation Center \$2,000,000

Design and construction of 45,000-square-foot purpose built, state-of-the-art facility to house the Tampa Bay Innovation Center incubator. The project will lead to the formation of new high-wage primary employers throughout the Tampa Bay area and the creation of quality jobs for citizens of Florida. The U.S. Economic Development Administration recently awarded a \$7.5 million grant to support the project which will total \$12 million.

Pinellas County Marchman Act \$1,549,025

Support Central Florida Behavioral Health Network's funding request for ten (10) secure Marchman beds in Pinellas County.

Highpoint Community Recreation Complex \$800,000

In partnership with Pinellas County School Board and the City of Largo construct a recreation facility to include multi-purpose fields, park shelters, and playground equipment to serve a low-income community which currently lacks access to recreational opportunities. The need for recreation fields is the number one priority in the Highpoint community.

Private Provider Audits

As a result of HB 7103 which was passed in 2019, under F.S. 553.791(18) a local building agency may only perform up to four inspections on work performed by a private provider per year. This provision severely diminishes the local building agency's ability to ensure Florida building codes are being followed. The Board supports the removal of this cap as a critical step for accountability and consumer protection.

